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TRIBUTE TO RON UNDERWOOD,
UNITED STATES PROBATION OFFICER

(Mrs. MYRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Ron Underwood will conclude 23 years of distinguished service to the Federal judiciary as a U.S. Probation Officer on August 31 of this year.

He grew up in Charlotte, North Carolina and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from UNCC and a Master's from North Carolina State. He put his education on hold while he went to serve his country in the U.S. Air Force from 1967 until 1971. He began his career as a U.S. Probation Officer on November 6 of 1978. As an officer, he showed great concern for his community and also compassion for the criminal offenders with which he dealt.

Throughout his military service, employment as a U.S. Probation Officer, family and civic responsibilities, Ron has been a model of integrity, hard work and professionalism. His service to his country has been outstanding and deserving of thanks by all of us in Congress.

THE FLETCHER BILL, THE BEST
HEALTH CARE PLAN FOR AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, one of the goals that I wanted to accomplish as a Member of Congress is to help make health care more affordable and more accessible.

This week we have a choice between two bills. One of them is the Dingell-Norwood-Ganske bill. That bill seems to be an inner baseball game, intramural game between the affluent trial lawyers, the affluent medical community and the affluent insurance companies on who can sue who. As a result, health care costs, of course, are sure to rise.

On the other hand, we have the Fletcher bill that, unlike the other bill, addresses the issues of affordability and accessibility. It offers a Medical Savings Account so that the insured individual will become responsible and have an incentive to save money on his or her health care. That is one element, a key element, that is missing in our health care delivery service today.

It also helps the uninsured. That brickmason back home who has two or three people on his crew, right now he is priced out of health care. Under the Fletcher bill, there will be more com-

petition and more opportunity for him to buy health care.

I urge my colleagues to vote for the Fletcher health care bill for affordability and accessibility.

THE PRESIDENT'S ENERGY POLICY
WILL STEER AMERICA SAFELY
THROUGH ENERGY CRISIS

(Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, America needs more energy. The West needs more electricity. The East will need heating oil this winter, just like it did last year. The entire Nation needs more natural gas.

We saw natural gas prices quadruple last winter. We saw seniors and low-income families struggling to heat their homes and still afford groceries. It is likely to happen again this year.

We must conserve energy. Conservation efforts have already made a big difference. They are part of the reason gasoline prices have been dropping.

Yes, we must rely more heavily on clean, renewable fuels. Yes, we must build our energy future around emerging technologies. Yes, we must produce more energy. We must produce more oil. We must produce more natural gas. Our cars still run on gasoline, and many of our homes are heated with natural gas and heating oil. Virtually all of the new generating plants built in the last 10 years in this country use natural gas.

Next week, the House will consider a comprehensive package that does all of this. The bill implements the President's natural energy policy. It creates a blueprint for steering us safely through the energy challenges we face now and the energy challenges we will face this winter and next summer.

There is only one sure way to prevent spikes in energy prices that hurt us all: ample supply.

URGING THE PRESIDENT TO TAKE
MEANINGFUL ACTION ON GLOBAL
WARMING

(Mr. INSLEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago I was at the Arctic Wildlife Refuge, where the Bush administration wants to drill for oil.

While we will be debating whether to change that precious intact ecosystem, I wanted to advise Members that we are already changing the Arctic Wildlife Refuge. The reason we are changing it is that we are already causing global climate change, global warming.

What I found at the Arctic ocean is that the ice pack in the Arctic Ocean is shrinking significantly, almost a 50

percent reduction in depth, a 10 percent reduction in coverage.

I went to Denali National Park. The rangers told me that the tree line is moving north already due to global climate change. We are already changing the Arctic.

When the world met in Bonn 2 days ago to try to do something about it, the Bush administration sent the United States to the bench and did absolutely nothing. We as a leader in democracy abdicated, due to the Bush administration's ostrich like-proposals to do anything about global climate change.

I am urging the Bush administration to act, to lead the country and lead the world to do something meaningful about climate change so we do not destroy the world.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT
FINANCING, AND RELATED PRO-
GRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2002

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CANTOR). Pursuant to House Resolution 199 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 2506.

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IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2506) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes, with Mr. THORNBERRY in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Thursday, July 19, 2001, the bill had been read through page 1, line 6.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

TITLE I—EXPORT AND INVESTMENT
ASSISTANCE

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

The Export-Import Bank of the United States is authorized to make such expenditures within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to such corporation, and in accordance with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations, as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act, as may be necessary in carrying out the program for the current fiscal year for such corporation: *Provided*, That none of the funds available during the current fiscal year may be used to make expenditures, contracts, or commitments for the export of nuclear equipment, fuel, or technology to any country other than a nuclear-weapon state as defined in Article IX of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons eligible to receive economic or military assistance under this Act that has