consideration 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:

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Chairman, had the Kuptur amendment been made in order, I would have supported it. The Kuptur amend- ment would have required that no less than $125 million of the bill’s funds be provided to Ukraine. The bill caps funding to Ukraine at $125 million, 90 percent of which goes to hu- manitarian aid and non-governmental assistance programs. This represents a $44 million reduction in funding from last year. While I support measures to ensure funding for Ukraine, I also have serious concerns about recent events in Ukraine that have impeded steps toward a fully democratic society.

I have been a strong supporter of Ukraine throughout my tenure in Congress. In past years, I have taken a leading role in sup- porting increased funding for Ukraine. These efforts, along with those of my colleagues, have made Ukraine the third-largest recipient of U.S. aid. But, evidence of political corrup- tion, suppression of the media and instability in the Ukrainian government have called this aid into question.

In April, the Communist-dominated Ukrain- ian parliament voted to dismiss Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko and his government. The ouster of Prime Minister Yushchenko and his cabinet, widely viewed as the most successful government since Ukraine gained independ- ence in 1991, is likely to slow down reforms at this most crucial time. This vote comes in the midst of the ongoing political crisis sparked by revelations on secretly recorded tapes impli- cating the involvement of President Leonid Kuchma and high government officials in the case of murdered journalist Heorhiy Gongadze. Most recently, another journalist, Ihor Oleksandrov, who sought to expose corrup- tion and organized crime was brutally mur- dered by four men with clubs.

The State Department Annual Human Rights Country Report on Ukraine cites a mixed human rights record and notes the fail- ure to curb institutional corruption and abuse in the Ukrainian government. One starting ex- ample of government corruption that has come to my attention is the case of U.S. investment fund, New Century Holdings. This investment company has been repeatedly thwarted in its efforts to develop a hotel it owns along with the City of Kiev. Despite owning a controlling interest in the hotel, New Century Holdings has been prevented access to the hotel, as local police have taken over the building for themselves. New Century Holdings has ap- pealed to the Mayor and other local officials to no avail, and the Ukrainian government has been unable or unwilling to help. Meanwhile, the hotel remains undeveloped and the com- pany’s investment in Ukraine remains unreal- ized.

I value the strong relationship between the United States and Ukraine. However, Ukraine will never be a full partner of the United States, unless it fully embraces democracy and human rights. Ukraine has made signifi- cant progress in the ten years since it became independent, but pervasive corruption, lack of media freedoms, and the conduct of the inves-

tigation of the Gongadze case call into ques- tion Ukraine’s commitment to being a fully democratic nation and hold Ukraine back from reaching its immense potential.

It is my hope that the debate on this amend- ment will send a positive message to the gov- ernment of Ukraine, that the U.S. Congress will not simply rubber stamp funding requests for the Ukraine, without also considering the serious issues involved in Ukraine’s demo- cratic development. I am prepared to continue to work with Ukraine to determine how Con- gress can best assist them in staying on the road toward democracy and a free-market economy.

With this in mind, this fall the Congress- Rada Parliamentary Exchange Group will con- vene for the first time here in Washington. I urge all Members concerned about the evident setbacks in Ukraine, to take advantage of this opportunity to meet with our Ukrainian coun- terparts to share views on how both our coun- tries can work to continue Ukraine on its path toward a fully democratic society.

HONORING SAM KADORIAN
HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 25, 2001
Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sam Kadorian for being named “Man of the Year” by the Armenian-American Citizen’s League (A.A.C.L.). Mr. Kadorian re- ceived the award at the A.A.C.L.’s 68th An- nual State Convention held in Van Nuys, CA.

Sam Kadorian is a survivor of the Armenian Genocide of 1915 and a longtime member of the A.A.C.L. Sam was eight years old at the time of the genocide and narrowly escaped death. He was on the bottom of a pile of bod- ies that were being stabbed with swords. One of the swords missed his chest by inches, leaving only a scar on his right cheek. Sam and his mother survived, but unfortunately Sam lost his father, brother, two sisters, and other friends and relatives in the Armenian Genocide.

Sam and his mother eventually boarded a ship for the United States, deciding to settle in Chicago. At the age of 35 Sam joined the United States Army where he served as a photographer. After his time in the U.S. Army, Sam moved to Southern California where he joined the Armenian-American Citizen’s League. Since joining the A.A.C.L. Mr. Kadorian has been very active in the Los Angeles Chapter, serving in many capacities.

Mr. Speaker, I want to honor Sam Kadorian for being named “Man of the Year” by the Ar- menian-American Citizen’s League. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Sam Kadorian many years of continued success.

RECOGNIZING STUDENTS FROM NEW YORK
HON. STEVE ISRAEL
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 25, 2001
Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize four of New York’s outstanding young students: Anne Ca- russo, Megan Lockhart, Arielle Buck, and Re- becca Ambrose. In August, the young women of these names will honor them by bestowing upon them the Girl Scouts Gold Medal.

Since the beginning of this century, the Girls Scouts of America have provided thousands of youngsters each year the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

These awards are presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our na- tion great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. The Gold Award is one of the highest awards attainable by Junior and high school Girl Scouts.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratu- lating the recipients of these awards, as their
activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as a model to their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Anne, Megan, Arielle, and Rebecca, and bring the attention of congress to these successful young women on their day of recognition.

HONORING SUSAN AND JAMES PETROVICH

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay special tribute to two extraordinary citizens of the Santa Barbara community, Susan and James Petrovich. This couple has devoted so much of their time to various community organizations and events that it is difficult to imagine what Santa Barbara would be like without them. Because of their dedication, the United Boys and Girls Club will be honoring them on July 28, 2001.

As graduates of the University of California at Santa Barbara, the Petrovichs realized they had stumbled upon their ideal community, and decided to make Santa Barbara their permanent home. After her graduation, Susan attended the Hastings College of Law in San Francisco, but soon returned to the Central Coast to become one of the few female lawyers in Santa Barbara during the 1970s. Throughout her legal career, Susan has consistently dedicated her legal talents to helping others. She helped write the Santa Barbara County Agricultural Element in attempt to preserve agricultural lands, and authored a ballot measure to generate oak trees. She also serves on the site location committee for the Santa Barbara Montessori School, and supports the Legal Aid Foundation, the Santa Barbara Women Lawyers Scholarship Foundation, and the Santa Barbara County Cattlemen’s Association. Her active involvement on all of those committees clearly demonstrates Susan’s dedication.

Susan’s committed dedication to Santa Barbara is only equaled by the involvement her husband James has demonstrated towards the community. James has been a local real estate broker and investor for over 25 years, and his talents in these fields have earned him several national and lifetime achievement awards. His talents have been especially apparent in Santa Barbara, where he has managed to negotiate properties ranging from beachfront motels to the open space that is now Santa Barbara’s largest regional park, Elings Park.

However, James’ community activism doesn’t end with his real estate skills. He is the past president of the Santa Barbara Lions Club and the immediate past president of the Santa Barbara County Sheriff’s Council. He has been an active fund-raiser for the Ben Page Youth Center, and is a member on several boards, including that of the Music Theater of Santa Barbara, the Elings Park Foundation, and the City’s PARC Foundation, which funds many park projects. James has also served on the boards of CALM and is a founding trustee of United Against Crime. He has also co-chaired the committee for the City’s new police headquarters.

Because James and Susan Petrovich truly appreciate how wonderful it is to live in Santa Barbara, they have adopted a unique philosophy about the community, and strive to give back to the community the same amount of joy and success the community has given to them. It is obvious that the Petrovichs have more than adequately given their share back to this community, and have aptly contributed in making Santa Barbara a truly special place to live. I hope all of my colleagues will join me in acknowledging the Petrovichs on their honorable contributions to the Santa Barbara Community.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL KENNETH S. KASPRISIN

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2001

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel Kenneth S. Kasprisin. Three years ago, Ken assumed the position of Commander with the St. Paul District of the Corps of Engineers. During that time, I have come to know Ken not only as a fine, trusted public servant, but also as an extraordinary friend.

Throughout his time with the Corps, Ken has set the highest standards for himself and the people with the St. Paul District. Ken’s drive and determination in working to make Devils Lake Basin and the St. Paul District truly responsive to the needs of the people has resulted in service that is unmatched and pales in comparison to other districts within the Corps of Engineers. He is a man of great integrity, with a deep commitment to the issues he works on. I have been impressed both by his sincerity and his ability to look beyond the box to understand and advocate for proposals that are in the best interests of communities throughout the district. As Ken departs from his service with the Corps, he leaves behind a remarkable record of accomplishments that is matched by the dedication with which he has served.

No matter what challenge is posed, Ken is able to tackle it head on and is always able to meet or exceed it. Ken’s keen ability to sift through complex issues has been well recognized by those within the Corps of Engineers and by Members of Congress. His work ethic has been nothing but top-notch as he has fought for improvements within the district. In particular, Ken has been diligent in his efforts to bring much needed relief to the folks in the Devils Lake Basin who have been plagued by years of flooding. He has fought hand and hand with the North Dakota congressional delegation as we have worked to implement workable solutions to this crisis.

Earlier this year, as communities in North Dakota and Minnesota battled the rising water of the Red River, Ken led efforts coordinating the emergency response to ensure residents and businesses received the vital protection they needed. But his commitment does not end there. Ken has worked with many communities throughout my state of North Dakota in developing long-term flood protection and solutions. Cities from Wahpeton to Grand Forks to my hometown of Valley City, will have the flood protection so desperately needed thanks to the leadership and dedication of Ken Kasprisin. There is no doubt that the Corps and North Dakota has been well-served under his leadership.

While Ken will be leaving the Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Army after a distinguished career of 26 years, we are very fortunate that he will continue in public service with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). FEMA Director Joe Sump could not have made a better choice! As he takes the reins as regional director for Region X at FEMA, Ken will continue to serve as an effective public servant. I have no doubt that Ken will be a true asset to the agency and to the many people who are impacted by natural disasters each year. I wish him all the best in his new position.

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT AMENDMENTS OF 2001

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2001

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation with my colleagues, Congressman J.D. HAYWORTH of Arizona, Congressman DAVE CAMP of Michigan and Congressman CHRIS CANNON of Utah to amend the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). This legislation has been drafted with the input of the Association on American Indian Affairs, Tanana Chiefs Conference, National Indian Child Welfare Association, National Congress of American Indians, tribal attorneys and the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys. It has always been my intent to have all affected parties participate in the legislative process in the drafting of ICWA amendments.

In 2001, we still have American Indian and Alaska Native children being adopted out of families, tribal communities and states. We continue to have the problem that a decade ago could not have been predicted. There are a couple of specific provisions which outline jurisdiction in Alaska since Alaska is not a reservation state (outside of Metlakatla). The bill states that an Indian tribe in Alaska shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the State of Alaska over voluntary and involuntary child custody proceedings involving an Indian child who resides or is domiciled in Alaska. Additionally, a person seeking to adopt an Indian child in the State of Alaska, may file an adoption petition at any time in the