

tribal court of the Indian child's tribe. If the tribal court agrees to assume the jurisdiction over the proceeding, that tribal court has exclusive jurisdiction and no adoptive placement or proceeding can continue in the state court.

The bill makes conforming technical amendments conditioning an Indian tribe's existing right of intervention.

It clarifies that State and tribal courts are required to accord full faith and credit to tribal court judgments affecting the custody of an Indian child in ICWA child custody proceedings, and in any other proceedings involving the determination of an Indian child's custody, including divorce proceedings.

It clarifies that ICWA applies to voluntary consents to termination of parental rights and voluntary consents to adoptive, preadoptive and foster care placements.

It clarifies and adds exacting details on setting limits on when an Indian birth parent may withdraw his or her consent to an adoption.

It clarifies that tribes are to receive notice of voluntary adoptive placements of Indian children and details the content of notice when an Indian child is placed for an adoption.

It clarifies in detail the intervention by an Indian tribe and sets specific time frames for intervention by a tribe in the voluntary foster care placement proceeding and voluntary adoptive proceeding. It also requires tribes to show why it considers a child to be covered by the ICWA.

It provides for a detailed notice to parents when a child is placed for adoption.

It provides detailed requirements for resumption of jurisdiction over child custody proceedings.

It imposes criminal sanctions on any individual, group or association who knowingly conceals whether a child is an Indian child or whether a parent is an Indian.

Finally, the bill provides further clarification of the definition of "Indian child" and "Indian child's tribe" as applied in child custody proceedings.

I think it is appropriate that Congress further clarifies the ICWA to ensure that American Indian and Alaska Native children are not snatched from their families or tribal communities without cause. In a recent July 1, 2001 article in the San Antonio Express News, the story stated that "This year, the head of the Child Welfare League of America offered American Indians something they have longed to hear for more than three decades: an apology for taking American Indian children." (San Antonio Express News, Sunday, July 1, 2001 Article "Torn from their roots; The unfortunate legacy of the Indian Adoption Project is that it has separated many Native Americans from their culture").

"It was genuinely believed that Indian children were better off in white homes," said Terry Cross, Executive Director of the National Indian Child Welfare Association. (San Antonio Express News, Sunday, July 1, 2001 Article).

That changed in 1978 when Congress passed the Indian Child Welfare Act. "Even now, Cross cites problems. Sometimes social workers are not properly trained to identify children as Indian. Or agencies fail to notify tribes of adoptions". (San Antonio Express News, Sunday, July 1, 2001 Article).

I believe that these FY 2001 ICWA amendments to be acceptable legislation which will

protect the interests of prospective adoptive parents, Native extended families, and most importantly, American Indian and Alaska Native children.

The Committee on Resources will seek additional input from the Department of Justice, the Department of the Interior and the Department of Health and Human Services. I am hopeful that these agencies will again embrace this legislation so that we can affirm this country's commitment to protect Native American families and promote the best interest of Native children.

I urge and welcome support from my colleagues in further clarifying the ICWA to ensure no more American Indian or Alaska Native children are lost.

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FIVE STRAIGHT STATE TITLES  
FOR SIXTH DISTRICT BASEBALL  
TEAM

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**HON. HOWARD COBLE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 25, 2001*

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, on June 25, the Sixth District of North Carolina became the home of the AAU North Carolina State Championship baseball team for the fifth straight year. The Jamestown Jaguars captured the title after five tough games, winning four of them and losing only one. The Jaguars have been the North Carolina State Champions since 1997.

Concord, North Carolina was the site of the final showdown between the Jaguars and the Catawba Valley Storm. The Storm gave the Jaguars their only tournament loss in the third game, by a score of 3-2. The rematch for the Championship ended with the Jaguars winning 5-1.

Coach Dean Sink complemented the team's athletic ability and effort, telling the Jamestown News that "their maturity and camaraderie on and off the field is what really sets them apart."

The Jaguars are in Tennessee to begin the AAU Nationals in Kingsport from July 26 through August 3.

Congratulations are in order for Head Coach Dean Sink and his assistant coaches.

Members of the championship team include Anthony Autry, Chad Baker, T.J. Clegg, Travis High, Gator Lankford, Jessie Lewter, Matt McSwain, Mitch Sailors, Alex Sink, J.K. Whited, and Kunta Hicks. The Jaguars are coached by Dean Sink and his assistants, David Baker, Chuck Sharp, and Tony Clegg.

On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District, we congratulate the Jamestown Jaguars on winning the state title and we wish them the best of luck in the coming national tourney.

H. CON. RES. 197: COPD AWARENESS MONTH—OCTOBER 2001

**HON. CLIFF STEARNS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 25, 2001*

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, today along with my distinguished colleague from Georgia, I rise to introduce a resolution that would designate this October as Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease awareness month. This resolution will address the unmet need of raising the level of national awareness of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, or COPD—a debilitating disease that affects an estimated 32 million Americans, is currently the nation's fourth leading cause of death, but yet little is known about it. In 1998 COPD was responsible for approximately 107,000 deaths and 668,362 hospitalizations. Furthermore, its devastating effects drain the U.S. economy of an estimated \$30.4 billion each year.

COPD is an umbrella term used to describe the airflow obstruction associated mainly with emphysema and chronic bronchitis. Emphysema—which affects three million Americans causes irreversible lung damage by weakening and breaking the air sacs within the lungs. An additional nine million Americans suffer from chronic bronchitis, an inflammatory disease that begins in the smaller airways of the lung and gradually advances to the larger airways. Both conditions decrease the lungs' ability to take in oxygen and remove carbon dioxide. Long-term smoking—the most common cause of COPD—is responsible for 80-90 percent of all cases, while other risk factors include heredity, second-hand smoke, air pollution, and a history of frequent childhood respiratory infections. Common symptoms of COPD include shortness of breath, chronic coughing, chest tightness, and increased effort to breathe.

Mr. Speaker, I have focused on respiratory health care issues for many years, and I receive numerous letters from my constituents back in Florida, who live with progressive chronic respiratory illnesses, asking me to raise their voices on Capitol Hill. COPD is devastating and is not receiving the appropriate amount of attention. In 1999, COPD was the fourth leading cause of death in Florida, and the most current estimates from the National Health Lung and Blood Institute show COPD incident rates to be on the rise—in fact, while incident rates of all other leading causes of death in America are decreasing, COPD is increasing. By 2020, the Center for Disease Control believes COPD will be the third leading cause of death in the United States.

Unfortunately, there is no cure for this progressive and irreversible disease. But, if patients receive early diagnosis, there are treatment plans available to provide symptom relief and slow the progression of COPD. 16 million Americans have been diagnosed with COPD, and an equal number suffer from the disease but have yet to be diagnosed.

It is likely that we all know somebody with COPD—whether we live with it personally, or have a family member, friend or staff member with COPD. Designating the month of October as COPD awareness month is an opportunity