A TRIBUTE TO KELLY M. RAMIREZ

HON. STEVE ISRAEL
OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2001

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York’s outstanding young students, Kelly M. Ramirez. On September 20, 2001, the women of Girl Scout Troop 801 will recognize Kelly for receiving her gold award.

Since the beginning of the last century, the Girl Scouts of America have provided thousands of young women each year with 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 Nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. The Gold Award represents the highest awards attainable by junior and high school Girl Scouts.

I ask colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipient of this award, as her activity is indeed worthy of praise. Her leadership benefits our community and she serves as a role model for her 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 Kelly, and bring the attention of the families, scout leaders, and countless who continue to devote a large part of their lives to support and enhance the enjoyment, growth and development of this organization.

The Gold Award represents the highest award that can be given to a girl scout in recognition of her leadership, commendations, and achievements. Kelly M. Ramirez, a seventh grade student at Rush-Henrietta Middle School, is the recipient of the Gold Award.

Kelly’s accomplishments include leadership roles in the Girl Scouts, community service projects, and academic excellence. She is an active member of her school’s student council, a leader in the student government, and a member of several academic and extracurricular clubs.

As a member of the Armed Services Committee, I along with my committee colleagues will perform our duty in providing U.S. Armed Forces the necessary resources to deter and defeat the threat of terrorism. I know that our colleagues will support our work.

There is yet considerable work to be done in the days and months ahead. I am confident that our Nation, and our Armed Forces called upon to defend all Americans, will meet the challenges that lie ahead—just as we have from Concord and Lexington through the war in the Persian Gulf.

I strongly urge passage of the Resolution.

A VISION FOR SAGINAW

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA
OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2001

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Saginaw Intermediate School District Superintendent Richard Lane, Board of Education President Joseph W. Powe, Vice President Ruth A. Coppers and members Leola Wilson, Gerald W. Rustem and Richard F. Burmeister, Jr., upon the occasion of the dedication of the Saginaw Intermediate School District Transitions Center. Their hard work, foresight and initiative in building this center has greatly enhanced the educational potential of the district and will do much to improve the future of all residents.

The Transitions Center, the fifth complex owned and operated by the Saginaw Intermediate School District, will house two school programs, each designed to enable students with various disabilities to learn important and vital life skills. The lessons they learn at the Transitions Center are an integral part of the school’s mission to prepare students for productive lives.

The Transitions Center is a model for the type of education that is needed to meet the challenges facing today’s students. It is a testimony to the commitment of the Saginaw Intermediate School District and its partners to provide quality education to all students, regardless of their abilities.

I urge all members of Congress to support this important initiative and to continue to provide the necessary funding to ensure that all students have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

I strongly urge passage of the Resolution.