

Swift & Company has been a shining example of what every company must strive for, producing a quality product while maintaining reasonable prices and high safety standards. I applaud the company for its noble effort to become a supplier of the U.S. Military.

As a company located in Colorado's Fourth Congressional District, Swift & Company not only makes its community proud but also those of its state and country. It is a true honor to have such an extraordinary company reside in Colorado and we owe it a debt of gratitude for its service. I ask the House to join me in extending wholehearted congratulations to Swift & Company.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 11, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3061) making appropriations for the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes:

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong opposition to the Istook Amendment.

This Amendment will increase federal spending for abstinence education only. It is imperative that we continue to support not only abstinence, but comprehensive sex education as well. 82% of American parents support a comprehensive approach to sex education being taught in our schools, including birth control, safer sex and abstinence.

We should not just spend taxpayer dollars on abstinence only programs while censoring information and access to information about contraception, which prevents unwanted pregnancies, decreases abortions and prevents sexually transmitted diseases, including the deadly HIV/AIDS virus.

According to Advocates for Youth, 93% of Americans support teaching comprehensive sex education in high schools, while 84% of Americans support sex education being taught in middle/junior high schools.

Also, seven out of ten Americans believe teaching abstinence only prohibits education on the use of condoms, preventing HIV/AIDS, and other sexually transmitted diseases.

In the United States more than 4 million teens acquire a sexually transmitted disease each year. The Centers for Disease Control reported that almost 3000 adolescents between the ages of 13–19 had been diagnosed with AIDS between 1995 and 1997.

We must act responsibly and not fail our children, parents, educators, and medical professions who oppose this amendment.

Research has also shown that 75 percent of the decrease in teen pregnancy between 1988 and 1995 was due to improved contraceptive

use, while 25 percent was due to increased abstinence.

Soon, I will be introducing the "Family Life Education Act of 2001," which would reform the abstinence only provision in the 1996 Welfare Reform Act to allow states to receive money for both abstinence and comprehensive sexual education, including contraception. Currently, states are only allowed to receive this money if they teach abstinence only.

Other supporters of teaching comprehensive sex education in schools include the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the Society of Adolescent Medicine.

I strongly urge my colleagues to join with me in voting no on the Istook Amendment. We must support our young people by providing them with the education necessary to prevent unwanted pregnancies, HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 11, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3061) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise to bring attention to the need for an additional \$5.1 million to the Office of Civil Rights.

The mission of the Office for Civil Rights is to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence throughout the nation through vigorous enforcement of civil rights. They serve student populations facing discrimination and the advocates and institutions promoting systemic solutions to civil rights problems. An important responsibility is resolving complaints of discrimination. The Office for Civil Rights enforces five Federal statutes that prohibit discrimination in education programs and activities that receive Federal financial assistance. Discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin is prohibited by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; sex discrimination is prohibited by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; discrimination on the basis of disability is prohibited by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; and age discrimination is prohibited by the Age Discrimination Act of 1975. The Department of Justice also has delegated OCR responsibility for enforcing Title 11 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The civil rights laws enforced by OCR extend to all state education agencies, elementary and secondary school systems, colleges and universities, vocational schools, proprietary schools,

state vocational rehabilitation agencies, libraries, and museums that receive U.S. Department of Education funds.

Though the Office of Civil Rights is so important, the current budget does not increase its funding.

While public schools remain more integrated today than they were prior to the civil rights movement, they are resegregating at accelerating rates and this spells trouble for minority students. A recent study by The Civil Rights Project of Harvard University found that segregation within the nation's schools has returned. During the 1990s, classrooms grew more segregated. Now, more than seventy percent of Black students attend schools with predominantly minority student bodies, which is a sizable jump from sixty-three percent in 1980, and nearly a third of Black children attend schools that are ninety to one hundred percent minority.

Mr. Chairman, this new segregation certainly undermines the educational prospects of not only Black, but all American children. Now is not the time to allow a retrenchment of segregation in education. I implore that we appropriate more funding to the Office of Civil Rights in the Department of Education in order to provide it with the tools needed to reverse this new found segregation.

Mr. Chairman, we cannot wait another year, five years, or ten years to appropriate additional funds to the Office for Civil Rights. I believe that we know more now than we did a month ago the affect visible isolation and separation can have on our country. Let us not ignore the visible segregation that is going on in our education system. In an effort to leave no child behind, I request my colleagues vote in favor of this amendment to address this new segregation now.

IN RECOGNITION OF AFRICA WEEK
AND THE AFRICAN CULTURAL
EXCHANGE

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the African Cultural Exchange on the 8th Annual 2001 Celebration of Africa Week held at the Hilton University of Houston, Texas, from September 27–October 4, 2001.

The late Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, the first President of Ghana, established the Africa Week program in 1954 to promote onward progress and global unity towards social, economic and cultural awareness. Dr. Kwame Nkrumah encouraged people of African descent all over the world to implement an annual Africa Week event.

Africa Week 2001 is organized by the Houston based Africa Cultural Exchange, Inc. (a nonprofit 501c3), in collaboration with the International Guardian Newspapers, and the African News Digest. This event is supported and co-sponsored by the City of Houston, Alpha Phi Beta fraternity, and the Black Student Union of the University of Houston. In attendance this Africa Week were many members of the academic community, elected officials,

community leaders, foreign embassy officials, youth, and elders all of whom are members of various ethnic backgrounds. Africa Week has become the symbol of international diversity, and this year's honorary guest and keynote speaker, exemplify that diversity.

The Honorary Guest for the 2001 Africa Week Celebration was His Majesty Rukirabasija Agutamba Solomon Gafabusa Iguru I, Omukama of Bunyoro Kitara Uganda. His Majesty Rukirabasija Agutamba Solomon Gafabusa Iguru I has made many valuable contributions to the world community through his unselfish public service. The Keynote Speaker for the 2001 Africa Week Celebration is United States Senator KAY BAILEY HUTCHINSON of Texas.

Again, I want to congratulate The African Cultural Exchange and all of its collaborative partners on the 8th annual Africa Week. I wish them great success in the future, and thank them for their valuable service to the global community.

ECONOMIC STIMULUS AND WORKING FAMILIES

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the urgent need to provide immediate economic stimulus to this country in the form of a payroll tax rebate for working families.

The United States is facing a crisis, and it is not merely a security crisis. There is a visible, pressing need for economic stimulus and worker relief.

We should move quickly to jumpstart the economy by putting money into the hands of the tax paying lower wage workers that are more likely to spend it immediately.

My bill, the Working Families Tax Rebate Act will do just that.

This bill will provide an immediate payroll tax rebate of up to \$300 to people who didn't benefit from the tax cut signed into law in June.

The dramatic decrease in travel and tourism not only affects those workers employed by the airline industry.

Working men and women in the hospitality industry and service sector are also facing massive layoffs.

These people need immediate help with buying their groceries, preparing for the holidays, and paying their heating bills. Our shop keepers need consumers back in the stores.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3015. Because this country needs economic stimulus now.

IN HONOR OF MR. MARTIN VITTARDI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Mr. Martin Vittardi, Clerk

of the City of Parma's Municipal Court and 2001 Honoree of the Year for the Italian American Brotherhood Club.

Mr. Vittardi has a long and distinguished history of public service in the Cleveland area. Upon graduation from John Carroll University in 1977, he took the position of Deputy Clerk for Cuyahoga County Probates Court and later decided to serve as Legislative Representative for the Seafarers International Union until 1988. Throughout his tenure in that position, Mr. Vittardi had the opportunity to lobby on behalf of countless labor issues in not only Columbus, but Washington D.C. as well.

Mr. Vittardi served in many different capacities, and was a true public servant. In 1987, then Councilman Martin Vittardi coordinated the very successful campaign of his good friend Mr. Mike Ries for Mayor. After inauguration, Mayor Ries appointed Mr. Vittardi Public Service Director for the City of Parma, where he oversaw countless city matters, including: community development, engineering, senior citizen programs, public lands and buildings, recreation, streets, and sewers.

In 1982, Mr. Vittardi served as Cuyahoga County Democratic Executive Committeeman. Soon thereafter he was elected Parma Councilman in Ward 3. In 1991, he was elected for a six-year term as Clerk of Court for Parma Municipal Court and re-elected again in 1997. In addition, Mr. Vittardi had the honor of serving as President of the Northeast Ohio Municipal Court Clerks Association in 1996-1997, and is currently serving as the President of the State of Ohio Municipal Clerks Association.

Mr. Vittardi has obviously been a great asset to not only his local community, but also throughout Northeast Ohio. He has earned the respect of his constituents, and served the public selflessly.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and recognizing Mr. Martin Vittardi on his long and distinguished career in public service, and in recognition of the Italian American Brotherhood Club's 2001 Awards.

HONORING CADENCE DESIGN SYSTEMS ON THE OCCASION OF THE NINTH STARS AND STRIKES CHARITY BOWLING TOURNAMENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Cadence Design Systems led by their extraordinary President and Chief Executive Officer, H. Raymond Bingham, on the occasion of their ninth Stars & Strikes Charity Bowling Tournament to be held in San Jose, California on Sunday, October 14, 2001.

Since its inception in 1990, Stars & Strikes has become among the largest fundraisers of its kind in Silicon Valley, with Cadence donating 100% of all proceeds to deserving charitable organizations in the Bay Area. Working in partnership with other local corporations and individuals, Cadence has raised more than \$1.7 million dollars for programs in the Bay Area. This year's event, featuring mem-

bers of the San Jose Sharks hockey team, is expected to raise \$500,000 to benefit the San Jose-based Resource Area for Teachers (RAFT), a non-profit organization serving more than 4500 teachers in Bay Area.

In an unprecedented effort to assist those affected by the recent terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, Cadence has pledged to match all funds raised for RAFT with a contribution to the American Red Cross and to the New York Firefighters' 9-11 Disaster Relief Fund. In doing this the company will build upon a long-standing tradition of community involvement and an abiding sense of corporate and civic responsibility. Under the able stewardship of Ray Bingham, Cadence has transformed itself from a \$369 million supplier of electronic design automation tools to its current \$1.3 billion position as one of the world's leading suppliers of electronic design automation products, methodology services, and design services.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Cadence Design Systems great success with this year's Stars & Strikes Charity Tournament. I pay tribute to and honor Ray Bingham for his special leadership and I thank all Cadence employees for their contributions to our community and our country.

TRIBUTE TO FARMER-CHEF MARKETING ALLIANCE

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to express gratitude and congratulations to the Farmer-Chef Marketing Alliance of Fort Collins, Colorado. The alliance prides itself on bringing together farmers and restaurant chefs to benefit local agriculture and businesses.

The Farmer-Chef Marketing Alliance, coordinated by Colorado State University and the Colorado Department of Agriculture's markets division, has created new opportunities for local farmers to sell fresh vegetables to local chefs. This innovative and unique program has given chefs fresher produce for their restaurants, enhancing the quality of their food while also supporting local farmers. In a recent edition of the Fort Collins Coloradoan, Dawn Thilmany, Associate Professor of Agriculture and Resource Economics at Colorado State University, said, "There's a push for community-supported agriculture, and we think this is a good way to do it."

The Farmer-Chef Marketing Alliance is a shining example of two different sectors coming together to achieve a common goal. I applaud the alliance for its courageous and noble efforts to enhance the quality of community restaurants while also supporting local agriculture through teamwork.

As an exceptional program located in Colorado's Fourth Congressional District, the Farmer-Chef Marketing Alliance not only makes its community proud, but also those of its state and country. It is a true honor to have this alliance reside in Colorado, and we owe it a debt of gratitude for its service. I ask the