

ON INTRODUCTION OF THE TERRORIST RESPONSE TAX EXEMPTION ACT

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, tonight, I rise with my colleague, Congressman VITO FOSSELLA of New York, to introduce the Terrorist Response Tax Exemption Act, which would provide our first responders with the tax benefits that they deserve for serving on the front lines of our war against terrorism.

As we speak, men and women are putting their lives at risk to fight terrorist threats both abroad and at home. For the American military personnel who are overseas, the federal government currently excludes from taxable income the salary they receive in any month they serve in a combat zone. This is a suitable recognition of the increased risk in which they place themselves to protect our freedoms and of the increased burdens on their families given that risk.

But, today, we know that the men and women who serve as fire, rescue, and police personnel can be just as much at risk. Terrorists have brought the frontlines into our communities, and it is these first responders that are first on the scene, first to assess the situation, and first to respond to the needs of the victims. As the World Trade Center attack has proven, they are just as much in jeopardy of losing their lives as the soldiers and sailors engaged overseas—perhaps even more so as our military technology advances. They and their families deserve the same tax benefits for serving in terrorist attack zones.

That is precisely what the Terrorist Response Tax Exemption Act does. It exempts from federal income the basic pay that a uniformed civilian employee earns for any month in which they serve the public in a terrorist attack zone. It provides well-deserved recognition of the hard and dangerous work that these individuals perform. The Senate companion bill, S. 1446, has already been endorsed by the Fraternal Order of Police, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and other organizations that represent our public safety personnel.

It is not that we anticipate that this tax incentive will encourage this kind of heroic public service. In fact, we know for a fact that these men and women perform their duties out of a sense of honor and an overwhelming desire to help others in need. But, we should show them our gratitude with more than words of thanks. I encourage my colleagues to join us in cosponsoring this legislation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ANTHONY T. CAPOZZOLO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the life and

memory of Anthony T. "Capps" Capozzolo, a man who always sought to brighten the horizons for others, especially through increasing educational opportunities.

Born at his father's dairy farm in Pueblo, Colorado, Capps learned what hard work was at a very early age. At one time, he sold newspapers while attending school and tending to the chores of his family's farm. Capps followed his heart, however, and proved to be a fantastic dancer. At the age of 18, Capps left Pueblo and joined his brother in California where he pursued his passion for dancing. It was here that he met his dance partner, Theresa Harmon, who would eventually become his wife. The couple performed in numerous reputable studios like Columbia Pictures and MGM. Capps and Theresa also worked to help raise money for charitable contributions.

Beyond his dancing performances, Capps served his community whenever he could. He was a charter member of the Assistance League in Palm Springs, California, the Desert Hospital Auxiliary and the Opera Guild of the Desert to name only a few. Upon the death of his wife Theresa, he founded a gallery of art at St. Martin's Abbey and College in Lacy, Washington. Furthermore, Capps became a generous donor to the performing arts at the University of Southern Colorado and funded a scholarship and various activities of the University. In August of 1998, his honorable service to others was recognized with the 1998 Pope John XXIII award offered by the Italian Catholic Federation, which recognizes community achievements, civic involvement and religious vitality.

Mr. Speaker, Anthony Capozzolo was an honorable man who will be remembered by many. At this time, I would like to acknowledge the outstanding contributions that Capps made and recognize his selfless acts of kindness. He truly was an example for others to emulate. I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to the Capozzolo family during this time of remembrance and I would like them to know that my thoughts and prayers are with them now and for years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ONE EARTH ONE PEOPLE ON ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize One Earth One People, an organization in Cincinnati, Ohio that will celebrate its 10th Anniversary on October 26, 2001.

One Earth One People was founded by Jane Church in October, 1990. Jane continues to serve as its president, and she has played a key role in making this innovative nonprofit environmental education organization such a success.

The vision of One Earth One People is to "network youth around the world via Interactive Telecommunications to prepare them to preserve their local and global environment." And, its mission is to work with all sectors and

ethnic groups, "offering students hands-on educational experiences to increase their scientific knowledge, enhance their communication, leadership and other lifelong skills and attitudes to protect the environment through sharing, cooperation and cultural understanding."

Although One Earth One People is based in Cincinnati, its work can be seen throughout Ohio, across our nation and around the world. Some of its activities and accomplishments include: running 21 student workshops in local elementary, middle and high schools; publishing "The OEOP Newsletter," which is read by over 1,500 area teachers, students, community organizations and supporters; and attending several seminars and conferences held by Earth Day USA and the United Nations Environment Programme.

One Earth One People's work also includes the Youth Cloth Bag Project, which encourages consumers to use reusable cloth bags when they shop. Just this year, the Youth Cloth Bag Project was expanded so that schools that sell cloth bags can use the proceeds to help preserve wildlife habitats in Adams County, Ohio and in the Maya Mountain Marine Corridor in Belize.

I have enjoyed meeting with the participants involved in One Earth One People. It provides young people with valuable knowledge about the environment and how to work together as team players and communicators. It also offers hands-on experience in organizing, problem solving, decision making and other important life skills.

Mr. Speaker, One Earth One People has been an effective organization in the Cincinnati area. I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking its members for their dedication to our environment and in congratulating the organization on 10 years of community service.

Patriot Act of 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, the House was scheduled to take up H.R. 2975, a bill to give law enforcement greater latitude in finding and combating terrorism. The version that was scheduled to come to the floor was the result of bipartisan negotiations between the Republicans and Democrats on the House Judiciary Committee. The Committee was careful in crafting this bill, since any effort to give law enforcement these greater investigatory powers has an impact on the civil liberties of all Americans.

However, Friday morning, the House Rules Committee reported a measure providing for debate of H.R. 2975 that inserted a substitute measure still warm from printing. With the exception of the Members of Congress directly involved in the substitute's drafting, the majority of the Members of the House had little idea what the 175 pages of this bill would do to our laws. It is crucial that our legislative branch of government has adequate time to scrutinize and debate legislation that could have a drastic effect on the privacy and civil rights of our people.