

terrorist acts are legitimate, unfortunately, there have been a few fraudulent fundraising efforts capitalizing on this National tragedy.

As unacceptable as it may be, the September 11th tragedy, as other tragic emergencies, have spun deceit and fraud perpetrated by unscrupulous persons manipulating the emotions of generous citizens so that they may fraudulently line their pockets. Scam artists often use the telephone and Internet to prey on emotions—for example, by being rude when asked for specific information or insinuating that people who decline to give are unpatriotic. By taking advantage of the moment and acting quickly, these criminals are often able to raise thousands of dollars before they are caught. And when they're caught, the FTC has tepid legal authority to make them pay for their offense.

H.R. 2985, the American Spirit Fraud Prevention Act, introduced by Reps. DEAL and BASS, takes measures to prevent scam artists from capitalizing on national tragedies and takes additional steps to penalize those practices. The bill takes the needed step of strengthening the Federal Trade Commission Act so the Commission can punish those unscrupulous scam artists.

The bill gives the Commission the power, during times of presidentially-declared national emergency or natural disaster, to crack down hard on unfair or deceptive acts or practices that take advantage of the emergency or disaster. If the Commission acts to stop the fraud administratively, this bill doubles the civil penalties from \$11,000 to \$22,000 for *each* violation. Alternatively, if the Commission opts to go to federal district court for an injunction to stop the fraud, the bill gives the Commission the authority to demand civil penalties of \$22,000 for *each* violation, a punitive power the FTC currently does not have at their disposal. The increased penalties are available for unfair or deceptive acts or practices committed within one year after the President terminates the emergency period under the National Emergencies Act or within one year of the disaster declaration under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

Those are needed changes to the FTC Act. It is unfortunate that such changes were necessitated by the horrific events of September 11th. Yet, we must put all those engaged in fraud or contemplating fraudulent acts that take advantage of National tragedies on notice that they will pay and pay dearly for their unscrupulous acts. This bill shows that we will not tolerate the manipulation of Americans' goodwill at times of National tragedy.

I wholeheartedly support the American Spirit Fraud Prevention Act and I strongly urge its passage.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DAVID
POLLARD

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize David Pol-

lard of Cedaredge, Colorado, and thank him for his contributions to the people of Kosovo. For the past year, David has been involved with the "Youth With A Mission" organization that helps people throughout the world by building homes and fostering relief projects in troubled areas around the world.

David began his work with YWAM after training in Trinidad, Colorado for several months. His first assignment was to be sent to Kosovo as a member of the outreach team. The team's duties included building housing for families that have been displaced or lost their homes in the recent conflict in Kosovo. Living with a host family, David contributed to his team by providing the labor to construct these homes. David reached out further to the communities by interacting with locals and spreading moral messages based on the Bible and the Koran.

David ended his first mission to Kosovo last summer. Since, he has returned to Trinidad and assisted in the training of more teams to continue with YWAM's mission. After his second round of training, he was instrumental as a co-leader for a new team of volunteers and accompanied them back to Kosovo. Some people might say that two missions are enough in a place that has experienced such devastation and hardship for so long, but David continues his assistance to Kosovo. He is now planning to return to the country, on his own, at his own expense. Once arriving, David hopes to find work with relief organizations and continue his service to the people of Kosovo.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to honor David Pollard and his contributions to a country in a time of need. Like other members of "Youth With A Mission," David has provided his services without compensation. His volunteering efforts are well appreciated and bring great credit to himself, his family, and his community. Thanks David.

IN HONOR OF CARL J. GOLDBERG

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2001

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Carl J. Goldberg. On Friday, November 16, 2001, Mr. Goldberg will be the Honoree at the Deborah Hospital Foundation's 15th Annual Children of the World Humanitarian Award Dinner-Dance. The event will be held at the Sheraton Meadowlands Hotel in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

Carl Goldberg has enjoyed an extensive and successful real estate career that spans over two decades. In 1979, he joined the prestigious real estate firm Bertram Associates as a Project Manager for the development of single-family homes. While at Bertram, he quickly climbed the corporate ranks and became Operating Partner. As Operating Partner, he was instrumental in the construction of more than 2,000 homes throughout New Jersey.

In 1994, Carl Goldberg left Bertram Associates and founded the Roseland Property Company. Since its formation, Roseland has

played a major role in the development of company communities throughout the Northeast. Under Carl Goldberg's guidance, Roseland builds over 1,500 residential units a year.

Currently, Carl Goldberg serves as a member of the National Association of Homebuilders and is the former President of the Community Builders' Association.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Carl Goldberg for his years of distinguished service on behalf of New Jersey residents.

HATE CRIMES IN AMERICA

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2001

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to rise to lend my voice to those who have spoken here today on the issue of hate crimes directed toward those who are Muslims, of middle eastern descent, or who are perceived as belonging to either group. As Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, I know that hate crimes are not new. They are as old as lynchings and as real as bombings. Racial, religious and ethnic minorities have been the victims of hate crimes for a very long time in America and yet we all know that these acts of cowardice are rarely punished, routinely ignored and the victims are often considered the cause of the horror aimed at them.

I know that in other moments of crisis in this country, we have allowed fear to overcome reason and official actions to lead to unfair deprivations. The internment of the Japanese Americans and the slavery and segregation of African Americans were all caused by the interaction of fear, hatred and official action. In the new millennium, this country cannot afford to resort to old patterns of behavior.

In my district, the day after the September 11th attack, there were reports of people who shot into mosques in attempts to harm or terrorize. At that time, I issued a call for calm and reminded my constituents that this country must never resort to vigilante violence. In the wake of the horror that has been visited upon this country, we cannot allow ourselves to forget what it means to be an American. We must not forget that inclusion, diversity and respect for all people regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation and national origin is the cornerstone of America's foundation and the undergirding of our greatness.

The American dream must be kept alive and well within our current nightmare. I am deeply disappointed to hear of the many instances of hate crimes that have occurred throughout the nation. I know that America is greater than this and I know that as always, the forces of fairness will overcome every domestic and international evil because the moral arch of the universe may be long, but it always bends toward justice.