

to." While her political judgement was always thorough and thoughtful, her message to young people was even more profound.

To young men and women she says, "work for someone whose politics you share because the work is very intense and it is very important that you believe in what you are doing." She tells them that she has been so blessed in her work life to have been able to go to work every day believing in what she is doing, believing she is making a difference and that her work is consistent with her own political beliefs. She says that is the best work a person can have.

Throughout Roberta's career, her professionalism was distinguished with honesty and integrity. I always knew that I could rely on her advice and suggestions because she used her mind, heart and soul in decision making. Because of this, the 9th Congressional District has been served with distinction and with grace. Roberta's forthrightness was appreciated by everyone. I particularly appreciated her tremendous clarity and directness.

Roberta is an American of the finest caliber and this institution will miss her greatly. As Roberta transitions onto new experiences and challenges, we all cheer for her future and success.

HONORING SCHOOL NURSES

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2001*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I share with my colleagues the deep respect and admiration that I have for our nation's school nurses. As you may know, January 6th was National School Nurse Day, and I used that opportunity to extend recognition to those who provide medical care for our children in New Mexico's schools.

As health care professionals, school nurses serve a unique role in our education system. They witness suffering and do their best to calm and help our students. Nurses bring their professional skills to bear, but they also bring their compassion and knowledge to help those at their most vulnerable. I believe that the contribution school nurses make to our students and schools is often overlooked.

Recently, I have been in touch with several school nurses, administrators, and others who have taken the time to inform me about the unique challenges that our rural health care school nurses face. Many of my colleagues would be surprised to learn that many schools in rural New Mexico do not have full-time nurses.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the school nurses that serve McKinley County of my home state. These health care professionals deserved to be recognized for their contributions: Regina Belmont, E.J. Charles, Anna Chavez, Veronica Chavez, Lynne Dennison, Allison Kozeliski, Sara Landavazo, Barbara Lope, Phyllis Lynch, Esther Saucedo, Pam Smith, Camille Quest, and Nancy VanDipien. They have difficult jobs and I want to commend them for their service.

I would also like to recognize Cynthia Greenberg, who is the president of the New

Mexico School Nurses Association, for her commitment to our schools and students.

In closing, I want to thank all the school nurses in New Mexico and around the country for their enthusiasm and dedication. I call on my colleagues to join me in thanking them for their valuable work.

CLINTON EXECUTIVE ORDERS  
CONTINUE TO KILL IDAHO JOBS

**HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2001*

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday one of the largest and most well known employers in Idaho—Boise Cascade—announced plans to close two lumber mills in the First District of Idaho, located in Cascade and Emmett. As a result, almost 400 of my constituents will lose their jobs. Many of these people have worked in the forest industry all of their lives.

Yesterday, I contacted the CEO of Boise Cascade about this unfortunate turn of events. He advised that the Clinton Administration's last minute executive orders squeezed their supply by shutting off access to thousands of acres of productive forest areas, and prevented any reasonable chance to harvest enough to keep their operations going.

I'm pleased that the Bush Administration has pledged to review these damaging executive orders. But reviewing them may not be enough.

I hope that the Bush Administration is just as aggressive with their use of executive orders as the Clinton Administration—in a way that protects the environment, the forests, and the livelihoods of our Idaho families and rural areas.

TRIBUTE TO MESCAL HORNBECK

**HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2001*

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, while I often have the privilege of congratulating outstanding members of our community, I rarely have the honor of recognizing an individual as distinguished as Mescal Hornbeck. Through her work as nurse, teacher, community leader and town councilperson, Mescal has dedicated her life to helping others.

Mescal was instrumental in the development of the Woodstock Senior Recreation Committee, which continues to provide enjoyment for our senior citizens. Mescal's leadership with Meals on Wheels of Woodstock and the Woodstock Community Center is commendable and reflects her life-long commitment to community service. I am particularly grateful for Mescal's involvement with the Woodstock Chapter of Citizens for Universal Health Care where she is a tireless advocate for health care reform.

I have been fortunate to know and work with Mescal and have always found her to be extremely devoted to improving our community

and our country. I am proud to call her my good friend. Mescal Hornbeck is a most deserving honoree and I applaud the creation of Woodstock's "Mescal Appreciation Day."

SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE  
LOCK-BOX ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 13, 2001*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2, The Social Security and Medicare Lockbox Act of 2001, that seeks to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to prevent the surpluses of the Social Security and Medicare Part A, Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund from being used for any purpose other than providing retirement and health security.

Mr. Speaker, during the 106th Congress, the House passed not one, but two, "lock boxes." On May 26, 1999, the House passed H.R. 1259, the "Social Security and Medicare Safe Deposit Box Act of 1999," which set aside just the Social Security surplus, by a vote of 416 to 12 and on June 20, 2000, the House passed H.R. 3859, the "Social Security and Medicare Safe Deposit Box Act of 2000," which set aside both the Social Security and the Medicare surplus, by an even wider margin—420 to 2. Yet, even though neither of those bills became law, we still managed to protect both the Social Security surplus and the Medicare surplus.

Not only is the Republican Leadership covering the same ground by bringing up this bill today, it is also making the same mistakes that it made in the past.

Just as with both "lock boxes" from the 106th Congress, the bill before the House today has not been considered by any of the Committees of jurisdiction, thereby denying Members the opportunity to debate and to improve the bill.

Just as with both "lock boxes" from the 106th Congress, the bill before the House today does nothing to improve the long-term solvency of either Social Security or Medicare. Certainly, it is critical to ensure that these surpluses are not used to finance a huge tax cut or to fund spending on other programs. However, strengthening Social Security and Medicare requires more than simply protecting the surpluses they already possess. It requires actually adding to those surpluses, but this bill would not add a single dollar to either the Social Security Trust Funds or the Medicare Trust Fund.

Just as with both "lock boxes" from the 106th Congress, the bill before the House today will not protect Social Security and Medicare surpluses nearly as stringently as the Republican Leadership would have you believe. Like its predecessors, this vaunted lock box can be "unlocked" by any bill that defines itself as either "Social Security reform legislation" or "Medicare reform legislation." This means that any bill, including bills to privatize Social Security or Medicare, can use the Social Security and Medicare surpluses as long as it designates itself as "reform."