

require a majority of funds to be locally provided. Consistent with Title XVI limitations on recycling projects as authorized in 1992 and 1996, the projects proposed in my bill require 75 percent local funding. Federal cost sharing is limited to 25 percent. Moreover, this bill specifies that none of the funds can be used for annual operation and maintenance costs. Those annual expenses are the responsibility of the local water districts or management agency.

I strongly believe that water recycling will continue to play an important and growing role in total water management strategies to provide a safe and sustainable water supply in California and in many other parts of the country. The water recycling projects authorized by the legislation I am introducing today are part of a long-term solution to some of California's most difficult challenges. Water recycling is not the only solution. But, water recycling and water reuse can play a significant part as these projects can be designed, built, and placed in service within a short time.

**BAN THE USE OF THE INTERNET
TO OBTAIN OR DISPOSE OF A
FIREARM**

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2001

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, today I re-introduce a bill to ban the use of the internet to obtain or dispose of a firearm.

Internet technology has brought our world closer together. It has made our lives more convenient by having almost anything we want available at our fingertips, literally, by the click of a button. We can purchase items from groceries, a brand new car, or even a semi-automatic weapon from a private seller via the internet.

The Gun Control Act of 1968 was enacted for the purpose of keeping firearms out of the hands of those not legally entitled to possess them because of age, criminal background, or incompetence.

To curb the illegal use of firearms and enforce the Federal firearms laws, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) issues firearms licenses and conducts firearms licensee qualification and compliance inspections.

Use of the internet to dispose or obtain a firearm would bypass these Federal licensing requirements, as well as background checks and waiting periods. Compliance inspections to help identify and apprehend criminals who illegally purchase firearms would also be avoided.

Criminals having access are not all that we should be concerned about. Our children now have universal access to the internet—almost every classroom and many homes have been installed with and public libraries have at least one computer terminal with a modem. Our children must be protected from the ease the internet provides in obtaining firearms.

It may be difficult to track internet firearm purchases due to numerous security precautions available. Terrible damage may al-

ready have been done by the time the unlicensed purchaser and/or seller is detected.

We have an obligation to do all we can to keep our communities safe. This bill will help prevent such weapons from getting into the wrong hands.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

**INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO APPLY THE LOOK-THRU
RULES FOR PURPOSES OF THE
FOREIGN TAX CREDIT LIMITA-
TION TO DIVIDENDS FROM FOR-
EIGN CORPORATIONS NOT CON-
TROLLED BY A DOMESTIC COR-
PORATION**

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2001

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am joined by Representative BOB MATSUI in the introduction of legislation to clarify a provision of our tax code that is needlessly hindering U.S. businesses' ability to efficiently operate in overseas markets.

In some countries, U.S. investors face significant business, legal and political obstacles that prevent them from acquiring a controlling interest in a foreign company. This occurs in particular when the local government has a share in the foreign venture, the industry is heavily regulated (financial services, utilities, and oil and gas exploration, for example), or other business factors necessitate that the U.S. investor hold a minority interest. Consequently, U.S. companies must operate in these foreign countries through corporate joint ventures, many times in partnership with local businesses. U.S. international tax rules, however, tend to discourage corporate joint venture activity, even when these foreign laws require that U.S. companies take minority ownership interest in cooperative arrangements with local companies in order to do business.

In particular, the so-called "10/50 foreign tax credit rules" impose a separate foreign tax credit limitation for each corporate joint venture in which a U.S. company owns at least 10 percent but not more than 50 percent of the stock of the foreign entity.

The 10/50 regime is bad tax policy because it increases the cost of doing business for U.S. companies operating abroad by singling out income earned through a specific type of corporate business for separate foreign tax credit "basket" treatment. This provision inevitably prevents U.S. companies from fully using these tax credits, and thus subjects them to double taxation. Moreover, the current rules impose an unreasonable level of complexity, especially for companies with many foreign corporate joint ventures.

The 1997 Tax Relief Act partially corrected this inequity by eliminating separate baskets for 10/50 companies. Unfortunately, the 1997 act did not make the change effective for such dividends unless they were received after the year 2003. It further complicated the Tax Code by requiring two sets of rules—one from earnings and profits (E&P) generated before the

year 2003 and one for dividends from E&P accumulated after the year 2002.

My legislation will greatly simplify the U.S. tax treatment for U.S. companies subjected to these 10/50 foreign tax credit rules. This bill will accelerate from 2003 to this year the repeal of the separate foreign tax credit basket for these companies. In doing so, so-called "look-thru treatment" will allow them to aggregate income from all such ventures according to the type of earnings from which the dividends are paid, thus conforming the treatment of this joint venture income to other income earned overseas by the U.S. companies. The proposal also ensures that pre-effective date foreign tax credits that are being carried forward also receive this look-thru treatment. Without such a rule, these tax credits will expire, a result that never was intended.

In 1999, the House of Representatives and the Senate passed the "Taxpayer Refund and Relief Act of 1999." Although former President Clinton vetoed that particular bill, his administration recommended this legislative proposal in its next budget proposal. Consequently, I am confident that this bill will have strong bipartisan support.

I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this important legislation.

**HONORING CHAIRMAN ARTHUR
LEVITT**

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2001

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, last week marked the end of the Honorable Arthur Levitt's tenure as the longest-serving Chairman in the history of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. Arthur has been a good friend of mine for quite some time. More importantly, over the past eight years, he has been a leader in preserving the integrity of our capital markets and protecting America's investors.

I have worked closely with Arthur during his entire tenure on a number of major initiatives, especially the past few years in my capacity as chairman of the former House Commerce Subcommittee on Finance and Hazardous Materials.

Chairman Levitt leaves the Commission with an enviable record of accomplishment. He worked tirelessly to achieve his top priority of protecting investors, conducting more than 40 investor town meetings across the country, listening and responding to their concerns.

He played an important role in the recent financial services debates. The financial modernization legislation—known as the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act—was enacted after decades of futility. It was, in part, the product of Chairman Levitt's hard work and support.

Persuading the nation's stock exchanges to convert to decimal pricing took some prodding from the Commission and Congress, but I am pleased to report that America's investors are already benefiting from the narrower spreads that I envisioned when I introduced the Common Cents Stock Pricing Act of 1997. Chairman Levitt deserves a great deal of credit for helping implement this historic reform.

He played an integral role in passage of the National Securities Markets Improvement Act, which modernized the relationship between state and federal securities regulators and eliminated costly and duplicative state regulation of national securities offerings. More recently, his work on the Commodity Futures Modernization Act, helped us pass historic legislation to provide legal certainty to the trillion-dollar derivatives industry.

Finally, the SEC, under Mr. Levitt's direction, has taken important steps in creating a regulatory framework that embraces new technology and promotes competition.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, let me say that Arthur Levitt is a man of great integrity who has served his nation admirably. He is the quintessential public servant. The American people are better off for his tenure.

HONORING ISADORE TEMKIN ON
HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2001

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I today join the many friends and family members of my dear friend, Isadore Temkin, in extending my warmest wishes as he celebrates his 80th birthday. Throughout his life, he has been an outstanding leader in his community, always demonstrating a deep commitment to public service.

Issie, along with his wife Zena, has been actively involved in Connecticut's political arena for over forty-five years. Many of Connecticut's elected officials have benefitted from his support including former Governor Ella T. Grasso, former Senator Abraham Ribicoff, current Senator CHRISTOPHER DODD and myself. His invaluable friendship is a tremendous gift we have all cherished.

In the many years that I have known Is, I have continually been in awe of the incredible commitment he has to his hometown of Torrington, Connecticut. Though he has never held a public office, there are few that have had a greater impact on this community. For sixty years, he has been at the forefront of every major issue that has faced this eclectic New England city. With an enduring need to enrich this small community, Is was instrumental in the founding of two of the City's most famous treasures. Under the direction of former Parks and Recreation Supervisor Carl Bozenski and Is, the magical charm of Bozenski's Christmas Village came to life. A Christmas tradition for fifty years, this charming village is open only during the month of December offering children a chance to visit with Santa and explore his workshop, complete with elves and live reindeer. As one of the original founders of the Nutmeg Ballet, he helped to bring the love of arts to Litchfield County. Internationally recognized for dance training for twenty years, the Nutmeg also offers instruction in music and drama. Both Christmas Village and the Nutmeg Ballet have become Connecticut landmarks, much in part to Is Temkin's efforts.

Throughout his professional career, Is has practiced dentistry in the Torrington commu-

nity and is continuing to do so today. Serving as a member of the Connecticut State Dental Commission, the regulatory board for dentistry, he ensured that residents received proper care from dentists practicing in Connecticut. Keeping true to his endless efforts to improve his community, he opened a clinic in memory of his brother and brother-in-law, both deceased dentists. For five years, the Dental Clinic at Brooker Memorial has ensured that hundreds of uninsured children are provided with the dental care they need. His unparalleled dedication and compassion is an inspiration to us all.

Through his innumerable good works, Is has left an indelible mark on the Torrington community and the State of Connecticut. I am honored to rise today and join his wife Zena, his children; Alan, Nan, and Bruce; family, friends, and colleagues in paying tribute to Isadore Temkin as he celebrates this wonderful occasion. My best wishes for many more years of health and happiness. HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

ON BUFFALO, NEW YORK: THE
"CITY WITH HEART"

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2001

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I want to share with my colleagues an article that appeared yesterday in the national newspaper, USA TODAY. After conducting a nationwide search for a "City with Heart", they chose my hometown of Buffalo, New York. In this great, historic city you will find four enjoyable seasons, world-class educational institutions, expansive parklands, and the finest in art and architecture. For sheer quality of life, dollar-for-dollar my money is on Buffalo.

It is with a great deal of pride that I commend to you this article entitled "Lots and Lots of Heart in Buffalo."

[From USA Today, Feb. 13, 2001]

THE CITY WITH HEART

(By Cathy Lynn Grossman)

BUFFALO—We're snowed by Buffalo.

USA Today launched a nationwide search for a "City with Heart"—one with the energy, excitement and community fellowship that make a one-stoplight town or a swarming metropolis a treasured hometown.

Readers responded to our call with notes, poems and a bit of professional public-relations puffery, singing the praises of more than 120 communities from Tacoma, Wash., to Miami, Fla., to Barnes, a cozy English town outside London.

Some listed their towns' tourist-brochure features. But most messages zeroed in on the great, unmappable qualities like generosity of spirit—the social capital that makes people rich in human connection, says political scientist Robert Putnam, author of *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community* (Simon & Schuster, \$26).

Many Americans remember with longing those places and times where we felt those bonds, expressed in "neighborhood parties and get-togethers with friends, the unreflective kindness of strangers, the shared pursuit of the public good."

The people of Buffalo still know these well. And they stuffed the valentine ballot box with the most notes to tell the world the sunny truth about their oft-maligned, blizzard-thumped city.

They managed to be simultaneously proud and humble about their world-class art, architecture and grand urban parks; a great history including two U.S. presidents; and generations of immigrants and their descendants who turn every weekend from May to October into a street festival.

"Don't let the snow fool you," wrote Marge McMillen, listing, as many did, the city's renowned museums and music hall, schools and sports teams. "Buffalo is a warm-hearted lady."

So we winged into town for a day to see.

Eleven Buffalo buffs—eight of them born here—joined us for platters of chicken wings at the Anchor Bar, world famous for the spicy tidbits that legend says were invented here. Friendlier people would be hard to find.

"That's why we all come back here," says Dennis Warzel, one of five in the lunch group who tried living elsewhere and felt Buffalo call him home. He's now rooted here as securely as the lavish Buffalo Botanical Gardens, where he spends hours volunteering.

"That's why my parents, who retired to Florida, returned to be with their old friends," says Bonnie MacGregor, bass drummer in the Celtic Spirit Pipe Band. If Buffalo were a band, its tunes would be drawn from Irish, Scottish, Polish, Italian, German, Slavic, Jewish, Native American and a dozen other cultures.

"This lovable rust-belt city is full of blue-collar guys of every ethnic background who get together on Sunday to watch the Bills and remove their shirts in 35-degree weather. (We) support everything from tractor pulls to the philharmonic—and hardly any drive-by shootings," quips Jim Joslin.

Good neighbors keep this city's heart beating, all agree. Asked for signs of neighborliness in action, Sandra Cochran leapt to mention Friends of Night People. Lodged in a pink and white house on the edge of downtown, it's a 24-hour soup kitchen and shelter of last resort, established 32 years ago when the homeless didn't have the media attention they get today.

"Generosity here is above and beyond anyplace I've ever worked," says director Darren Strickland, watching volunteer Betty Dorio make bologna and cheese sandwiches. The shelter serves 72,000 meals a year and provides eye, foot and health care for 1,600 children, women and elderly annually.

MacGregor noted the Roswell Park Cancer Institute. It was the nation's first such center and one of the largest for research and treatment. Yet it is permeated by positive feelings, she says, "Everyone smiles."

Indeed, that very gray Monday, there was upbeat 17-year-old Dan Zak, a weekly volunteer from Canisius High School, playing the grand piano in the hotel-handsome atrium lobby.

"You can be a workaholic here, but it's optional," says Russell DeFazio, who hikes and plays tennis in Delaware Park. "It's still a laid-back place."

"We work hard, but we make time to enjoy ourselves," echoes Alan Kegler.

With family. With friends. With strangers. "I wake up on a snowy day and my neighbor has already cleared my driveway," says Linda Storz. "You have to catch someone in the act just to thank them."

Ah, snow. Talk turns to that inescapable word, and once again the Buffalonians puff with pride.