

The House bill also returns more tax dollars back to working Americans by accelerating the tax rate cuts we passed earlier this year and by including tax rebate checks for those individuals who didn't receive them in the first round. Returning these dollars will give people more dollars to spend and invest. These actions—as opposed to more government spending and more government programs—will better address the underlying weaknesses in our economy, namely consumer confidence, consumer spending, and the need for renewed and sustained business investment and expansion.

And, early next year, when existing unemployment and health benefits may be depleted, I am confident that we will continue to help those who need it most. In fact the House economic security package includes a provision that provides another \$9 billion in surplus Federal unemployment funds to the states. This translates into approximately \$368 million that will be immediately available for New Jersey to pay for more or to expand regular unemployment benefits. This is real Federal assistance to lend a helping hand to New Jerseyans who are hurting the most.

Prompt Senate action will help get our fellow Americans back in the workforce, not still standing in the unemployment line next Spring. While not every provision of the House bill is perfect, our economic security package is a better starting point than the legislative paralysis in the other body! To the other body, I say, get your job done, and let's get America back to work.

CONGRATULATING MITCH LOUIS  
MANSOUR ON HIS RETIREMENT  
FROM THE GROCERY BUSINESS

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 18, 2001*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Michael Louis "Mitch" Mansour, of Huntington, WV, who, after half a century in the grocery business, retired on November 4, 2001.

For thirty-eight years Mitch owned and operated "Mansour's Market," a family neighborhood grocery market that survived the intense competition brought about by "superstores" and continues to thrive today.

Mitch Mansour's entrepreneurial career began almost from birth. The son of Lebanese immigrants, Mitch was born in 1930 next door to his father's modest grocery store. Even before adolescence Mitch worked alongside his father, Elia, cultivating customer relationships and a solid work ethic. Mitch eventually took over this small store in 1954 after returning home from service during the Korean War.

In 1963, Mitch and his bride, Melanie, began "Mansour's Food Market," which has served as a source of quality foods and employment for hundreds of residents from the local community. From loyal employees that have built careers in catering, meat cutting, grocery management, and customer relations to summer and part-time employees who have pursued professions in law and medicine,

"Mansour's" has been a solid and reassuring pillar in the Huntington community.

An innovator in customer service, Mitch would not just point the customer to the desired aisle, but walk them to the display and personally present the product choices. In the 1960's, "Mansour's" began their grocery home delivery service, which continues to be a valuable service today, especially for elderly and disabled residents. If a customer cannot make it to "Mansour's," "Mansour's" comes to them.

In today's transient world it's rare to find someone who spends their life so closely entwined in their community. Michael Mansour and "Mansour's Market" has been an important part of the Huntington community and will continue to be for a long time.

I ask that my colleagues join me in offering sincere congratulations to Mitch on the event of his retirement and best wishes for the future.

PRESIDENT BUSH'S WITHDRAWAL  
FROM THE ABM TREATY

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 18, 2001*

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, President Bush's decision to withdraw from the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) deserves the applause of every American. For too many years our country has been left undefended from the threat of a ballistic missile attack because of the ABM Treaty. Even Soviet Premier Kosygin supported a ballistic missile defense when he remarked, "Defense is moral, aggression is immoral."

We need to defend our country from ballistic missile attack. Withdrawing from the ABM Treaty with its special prohibition against space-based defenses is a major step toward that goal. The terrorist attacks of September 11 should have taught us that we should not let our guard down.

We need to act decisively to build a ballistic missile defense, especially a space-based defense, taking advantage of the benefits of an orbital defense with its global coverage, multiple opportunities for intercepting a ballistic missile, and boost phase interception capability.

Our lack of a space-based ballistic missile defense reflects a lack of political will to build such a defense. The ABM Treaty limited the United States to an inferior defense using ground-based interceptors. The technology for building a space-based ballistic missile defense has been available for years, even decades, but not the funding.

We need to fully fund our ballistic missile defense programs, particularly for space. This will require an increase in spending. This increase is justified. Our lack of ballistic missile defense is not justified. Freedom has a price. The ballistic missile threat is increasing, whether seen in North Korea's missile program, or China's buildup of its road-mobile DF-31 ICBM and other missiles.

Increased funding, for example, is justified for the Space Based Laser. Instead of being funded annually at between \$50 and \$150 mil-

lion, the Space Based Laser should be funded an order of magnitude greater at \$500-\$1500 million. This will enable the Space Based Laser to be tested and deployed well before 2010, instead of after 2010 as currently scheduled.

Lack of funding, not technology, keeps us from building Space Based Lasers. In 1995, three major aerospace contractors wrote the Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Senator STROM THURMOND, pointing out how funding of about \$1.5 billion over four years could result in a test launch of a Space Based Laser. The Space Based Laser, moreover, with its boost phase interception capability and global coverage, will provide a more effective defense compared to the Mid Course Phase ground-based interceptor currently under development.

We need a robust ballistic missile defense encompassing a variety of technologies and layers. A defense made up of several layers will more easily defend against countermeasures such as China's plan to attack U.S. radar and communication nodes, or Russia's use of ballistic missiles as platforms for launching hypersonic scramjets that travel in the upper atmosphere.

Funding is needed to re-start the Brilliant Pebbles space-based interceptor program that was successfully ground-tested under the elder Bush's administration. Additional spending for research and development into high-energy laser technologies is called for. Nor should high-energy particle beams be neglected, which showed promise as in the 1989 BEAR experiment. Particle beams as well as lasers can provide effective mid-course phase discrimination of decoys from warheads.

With defense spending at one of its lowest levels since before Pearl Harbor, the political will is now needed to ask for an increase in funding for a space-based ballistic missile defense. Do we need to wait for another September 11 using ballistic missiles before we defend our country?

TRIBUTE TO THE ART STUDENTS  
AT CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 18, 2001*

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, the events of September 11th of this year had a great impact on our Country. While the devastating terrorist attacks have caused us great sorrow for the loss of lives, Americans have pulled together like never before.

Those who carried out the attacks thought that they would destroy the American Spirit, but I can tell they did exactly the opposite.

People have come together to show their support for those lost in New York, the Pentagon and Pennsylvania. Recently, art students at Cleveland High School showed their support by creating a mural that depicts the events of September 11th and our resolve to never let this happen again.

This piece of work has been talked and written about in local newspapers and television.

Cleveland High School Art Teacher, Martha Kidwell, created a collage of images from