

provision was enacted, post-1976 veterans were a small percentage of all veterans, without much voice to protest this discriminatory change. But, nineteen years later, there are thousands of veterans who have served our nation honorably.

Mr. Speaker, as time goes by, this legislation takes on increasing importance. The State of Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs has informed me that if the cap on veterans bonds is not lifted this year, the State will be forced to disband the program because too few veterans are eligible for the program.

This legislation would simply eliminate the cutoff that exists under current law. Under our proposal, former servicemen and service-women in the five states who served our country beginning before or after January 1, 1977 will be eligible to qualify for a state-financed home mortgage. This legislation does not increase federal discretionary spending by 1 cent. It simply allows the five states that have a mortgage finance program for their veterans to provide mortgages to all veterans regardless of when they served in the military.

There is no justification to allow some veterans to qualify for a home mortgage while others cannot. Mr. Speaker, I urge the House to help those veterans who have served after January 1, 1977 to own a home and pass this important legislation into law.

CELEBRATING THE CALIFORNIA
POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
CENTENNIAL

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize an educational institution that deserves praise for a century of distinguished teaching, research, and public service to the state of California and the nation. On March 8, 2001, California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo will begin an 18-month celebration of its centennial.

Indeed, Cal Poly, as the university is often called, has a great deal to celebrate. In the 1890's, Myron angel, a San Luis Obispo County chronicler, was dismayed by the practical ineptness he experienced in spite of his college education. He campaigned for a local facility that would "teach the hand as well as the head, so that no young man or young woman would be sent off in the world to earn their living poorly equipped for any task." Angel's prominence reinforced an earlier proposition of the district state senator, Sylvester C. Smith, to build a polytechnic institute in San Luis Obispo. Southern Pacific Railroad had just completed the last link in its coastal route and subsequently backed the proposal as an effort to increase business for the new line. On March 8 in the first year of the 20th century, legislation founding the California Polytechnic School was signed into law after six years of debate.

The law included the practical mandate of its founders, "To furnish the young of both sexes mental and manual training in the arts

and sciences, including agriculture, mechanics, engineering, business methods, domestic economics, and others such branches as will fit the students for non-professional walks of life." A great deal changed in the ensuing decades—including the definition of a professional—California Polytechnic School, a vocational high school, grew into California Polytechnic State University, a premier undergraduate institution. The essence of the original charge is still part of the state law, and has remained constant in the university's present philosophy.

A tour of the modern Cal Poly campus traces the progression of ten decades, and confirms the strength of the original "learn by doing" philosophy. Among the facilities spread across the university's 5,051 acres are fourteen research centers and institutes. The founders would be pleased to observe the activity, for example, in the Urban Forest Ecosystems Institute, where students apply their knowledge and research to assist the community's landowners and public agencies in improved urban forest management. They would also marvel at the Dairy Products Technology Center, where hands-on student research provides new and improved safety methods and technologies for the dairy products used by all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, there are a number of relevant facts about Cal Poly that warrant recognition. Its first enrollment of 20 students has grown to 17,000, and the institution has bestowed more than 107,000 bachelor's and master's degrees since 1942. And during World War II, 4,700 cadets were trained at the Navy's pre-flight programs located at Cal Poly. Remarkably, 97 percent of Cal Poly graduates are successfully employed or admitted to graduate school within a year of graduation.

Cal Poly nears the end of its first century still focused on its founding purpose, which is an achievement that has not gone unnoticed. Last year, US News and World Report named California Polytechnic State University the Top Regional Public University in the Western United States for the eighth consecutive year. Cal Poly also received the 2001 designation for Best Undergraduate Computer Engineering Department without a Ph.D. Program awarded by the same publication. The National Science Foundation has recognized Cal Poly's science program as among the most innovative in the nation. And the University Center for Teach Education is the only program in the state selected to join the prestigious National Network for Education renewal.

As California Polytechnic State University rises among the ranks of major American universities, time continues to test and prove the worth of a Cal Poly education. The centennial slogan, "A Century of Achievement, A Tradition for the Future" clearly expresses the school's pride as an evolving institution, while remaining true to the school's original vision. Cal Poly graduates possess the knowledge and skills to step right into professional careers of planning, designing, building, operating and improving whole structures as well as entire communities, of managing farms and businesses, of developing minds and expanding knowledge. In short, Cal Poly and its graduates are making a profound contribution to the quality of life in California, the nation, and the world.

Mr. Speaker I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating California Polytechnic State University on a century of remarkable achievements.

NATIONAL SHAKEN BABY
SYNDROME AWARENESS WEEK

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to establish the last week in April as National Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness Week.

This cause was presented to me by one of my constituents, Joyce Edson. Joyce's son, James, was shaken by his licensed child care provider between March and April of 1998. As a result, James was sent to the emergency room with a skull fracture, subdural hematoma, bilateral retinal hemorrhages and a broken right femur. He was only five months old.

While James survived this tragic period, he unfortunately still experiences periodic seizures, and is under the continual care of a pediatric neurologist and ophthalmologist.

Mr. Speaker, many other children are not so lucky. Each day, more than three children in the United States die from abuse and neglect. Furthermore, over 3,000 babies under the age of one are diagnosed with Shaken Baby Syndrome annually, while thousands more are misdiagnosed or go completely undetected.

Mr. Speaker, it saddens me that this situation even exists. However, I am hopeful with the designation of National Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness Week, Congress can increase the knowledge of and ultimately prevent this dreadful occurrence.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
THOMAS P. EICHLER, FORMER
SECRETARY OF THE STATE OF
DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL
SERVICES AND SERVICES FOR
CHILDREN YOUTH AND THEIR
FAMILIES

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today as Delaware's lone Member of Congress to honor and pay tribute to a leader in the Delaware community, Thomas P. Eichler. Tom Eichler is a dedicated, caring, compassionate, and effective individual who led two state agencies in Delaware during my tenure as Governor and after my departure. I felt fortunate to have him serve with me and I am proud to call him my friend.

As Secretary of Health and Social Services for Delaware, Tom Eichler instituted Welfare Reform before it became popular. Under Tom Eichler's leadership, Delaware's First Step Program was initiated to assist welfare recipients transition from welfare to work. Many of the individuals who participated in this program are now working and providing a brighter