

who are migrant or seasonal workers in agriculture. Current labor laws allow children—even those under 10 years of age—to be employed in agriculture. Child farm laborers can work unlimited hours before and after school, and they are not even eligible for overtime pay. At the age of 14, or even earlier, children working in agriculture are using knives and machetes, operate dangerous machinery, and are exposed to dangerous toxic pesticides. In no other industry in this nation are children so exploited as they are in agriculture. These are not children working on family farms, these are children working for agribusiness, these are children exploited by agribusiness.

I want to make it adamantly clear that as supporters of child labor reform we do not oppose young people working. I firmly believe that children must be taught the value of work. They need to learn the important lessons of responsibility, and they need to enjoy the rewards of working. It is not our aim to discourage employers from hiring young people. Rather, our goal is to ensure that the job opportunities available to young people are meaningful, safe and healthy and do not interfere with their important school responsibilities.

Mr. Speaker, let me state unequivocally that we do not oppose children taking on after-school employment. What we oppose are the senseless deaths and needless injuries of our teenagers. We oppose the negative effects on academic achievement that result when children work excessive hours while school is in session. A solid education—not after-school employment—is the key to a successful future.

I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in cosponsoring The Young American Workers' Bill of Rights Act. I urge swift enactment of meaningful child labor law reform legislation during this Congress.

KANE HONORED FOR 47 YEARS IN EDUCATION

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 14, 2001

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my very good friend, Anthony Kane of Sugar Notch, Pennsylvania, who is being honored with a testimonial dinner on March 17 by the Luzerne County Coordinating Council and the Northeastern Region of the Pennsylvania State Education Association for his 47 years of hard work in the field of education.

Tony was born in Sugar Notch, graduated from Sugar Notch High School and went on to continue his education at Wilkes College, Bucknell University and New York University. He obtained his master's degree in music education from Ithaca College.

Tony started teaching in 1954, choosing to work at the Old Edwardsville School district because the pay was, as he put it, "a little better" than elsewhere: \$2,400 a year, the equivalent of just \$15,622 today.

From that humble beginning, Tony has become a singularly important force in elevating the wages and working conditions of teachers in the region and all of Pennsylvania to a level

that recognizes their education, dedication and the importance of the duty with which we entrust them, that of preparing our children for the future.

The right to collective bargaining has been crucial to raising the standard of living for teachers in Pennsylvania. In addition to advocating for the improved wages and benefits, Pennsylvania teachers have also used their voice to secure more education funding.

Mr. Speaker, Tony has been a leader in all those efforts. In 1969, his fellow teachers recognized his abilities as a labor leader and elected him president of the Wyoming Valley West Education Association. He has served in that post ever since, and in 1981, he was elected to the Pennsylvania State Education Association's political action committee. He has chaired numerous state and local task forces and committees.

Tony's dedication to the labor movement and improving the standard of living for his colleague also carried over into his career as an accomplished accordion player. He became secretary of the American Federation of Musicians, Local 140, in 1962, another post he still holds. One of his accomplishments for his fellow musicians was securing a pension plan for the Northeast Philharmonic Orchestra.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the hard work and distinguished career of Anthony Kane, and I join his many friends in wishing him and his wife, Sarah, well.

SECURITY AT THE NATIONAL LABORATORIES: A PROBLEM DEMANDING A REMEDY

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 14, 2001

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member rises to call attention to the continuing threat to U.S. national security posed by lax security standards at our national weapons laboratories. As we have learned in recent years, lax security at our Department of Energy national weapons laboratories has resulted in the loss of some of this nation's most important secrets. This Member had the honor to serve on the select committee tasked with investigating the loss of highly sensitive, classified program technology to the People's Republic of China (the Cox Committee), and can testify that security at our national weapons laboratories had been dangerously compromised. Other investigations have come to similar conclusions.

In 1999, a Presidential Commission led by former Senator Warren Rudman pointed to a dysfunctional culture that rebelled at the notion of addressing security requirements at the labs. In recent days, yet another commission has issued a devastating critique, noting that "there is a dissonance within the system" and that "security people are not talking to scientists."

Mr. Speaker, the issues at stake are too important to ignore. This Member urges President Bush to ensure that proper security becomes a priority at Federally funded institutions, such as the national weapons labora-

tories, which perform classified work. This Member commends to his colleagues an editorial in the February 24, 2001, edition of the Omaha World-Herald. As the editorial notes, "George W. Bush campaigned last year on a pledge that he would make the security of the nation's nuclear labs a priority. In the wake of these ongoing embarrassments, it is essential that his Department of Energy deliver on that promise."

NUCLEAR SECURITY PARTICULARLY URGENT

One of the Clinton administration's greatest failures was the Department of Energy's bumbling efforts to maintain security at the nation's nuclear weapons labs. Last year, after embarrassing security breaches exposed the department's Keystone Kops approach to security, then-Energy Secretary Bill Richardson said his department had finally set things right. Yet, according to a new press report, in his final days in office, Richardson suspended those security measures pending a review, saying they had harmed morale.

Richardson's action was ill-considered and exasperating. If scientists lack the professionalism to accept the security requirements necessary to safeguard the nation's pre-eminent nuclear research labs, those researchers should seek employment elsewhere.

This situation did not come about overnight. For many years, well preceding Clinton, scientists at Los Alamos and other labs tended to display an inappropriate elitist attitude, acting as if they were above the common-sense, if inconvenient, security protocols routinely required of everyone else in the defense establishment. The situation worsened during the Clinton administration as top administrative slots at energy were filled by appointees who exhibited far more enthusiasm for "progressive" endeavors such as unsealing classified documents about past radiation-exposure scandals than in something as passe as buttressing weapons-lab security.

Last week, the chairman of a commission charged with overseeing security at the nuclear labs described ongoing problems. There is "dissonance within the system," he said, and "security people are not talking to scientists." Those are astounding admissions. Even at this late date, after all the scandals and exposes and reviews, the security arrangements for the weapons tabs are still in a shambles?

George W. Bush campaigned last year on a pledge that he would make the security of the nation's nuclear labs a priority. In the wake of these ongoing embarrassments, it is essential that his Department of Energy deliver on that promise.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.