

important difference. In communities large and small all across this nation, the American dream of owning one's home is a powerful force. This bill can help it come true for those who are prepared to make a personal commitment to join in the rescue of our priceless heritage. By their actions they can help to revitalize decaying resources of historic importance, create jobs and stimulate economic development, and restore to our older towns and cities a lost sense of purpose and community.

I urge all Members of the House to review and support this important legislation, and I look forward to working with the Ways and Means Committee to enact this bill.

#### PRESERVING THE CULTURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

### HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 22, 2001*

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise on this occasion to commend an outstanding group of Virgin Islanders—Helen George-Newton, Ava Stagger, Carol Stagger, Kenneth "Cisco" Francis and Renaldo Chinnery, who, as residents of New York, recognized the need to preserve and promote the culture of the Virgin Islands. In March of 1991, they officially established the Virgin Islands Freshwater Yankees, which was later incorporated as the Virgin Islands Freshwater Association, Inc.

The Association has grown to 75 dedicated members, who contribute to their Virgin Islands community through educational scholarships, supplying equipment to the health facilities on all three islands, helping our senior citizens and underprivileged children, and providing supplies during natural disasters or other emergencies occurring in the territory.

Although this organization is involved in many serious endeavors, they also find time to have fun and always take part in the annual carnival activities on St. Thomas, St. Croix and St. John.

They also serve as an oasis for Virgin Islanders on the mainland by sponsoring yearly social events.

Their support and guidance has greatly assisted other Virgin Islands associations throughout the United States to continue to preserve the values that are the roots of their heritage in the cities which they have adopted as their second home.

For the past ten years, in commemoration of the day that the Virgin Islands were transferred from the Danish government to the United States, "Virgin Islands Transfer Day", this organization has honored outstanding citizens of Virgin Island descent in the area of sports, politics, education, health and community involvement. This year, the organization and all of its past honorees will be recognized at the Tenth Anniversary Transfer Day Dinner Dance to be held in New York City on March 31, 2001.

Mr. Speaker, and colleagues, please join me in recognizing and applauding The Virgin Islands Freshwater Association, Inc. as an outstanding model for community involvement and cultural preservation.

#### EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNITION OF 2001 INTEL SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH FINALISTS, ALAN MARK DUNN AND WILLIAM ABRAHAM PASTOR, OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

### HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 22, 2001*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Alan Mark Dunn of Potomac and William Abraham Pastor of Rockville. These young men were finalists in the 2001 Intel Science Talent Search. The Intel Science Talent Search is America's oldest pre-college competition. Beginning in 1942 it was first sponsored by the Westinghouse Foundation. This competition provides an arena in which students are rewarded and recognized for their scientific endeavors.

Alan and William both traveled down a long road to become finalists. First, a team of approximately 100 evaluators, who are experts in their field are assembled to evaluate over 1600 entries. The initial evaluators then recommend approximately 500 entries to the Intel Science Talent Search board of judges. These judges then narrow the field to 300 semi-finalists. The board of judges then has the challenging task of selecting the 40 finalists.

The 40 finalists come to Washington, DC to attend the five-day Science Talent Institute. During these five days students meet with the board of judges to discuss various aspects of their projects. At the end of the Institute a black-tie gala is held in which the top-prize winners are announced.

Alan, who attends Montgomery Blair High School, won fourth place in this competition. He received a \$25,000 scholarship. He competed in the computer sciences by studying ways to optimize five encryption algorithms. His project is entitled "Optimization of Advanced Encryption Standard Candidate Algorithms for the Macintosh G4." The algorithms in his research are being considered for the federal government's Advanced Encryption Standard, which will replace the aging Data Encryption Standard. Alan, who hopes to study computer science or engineering in college, is also involved in many other activities. He is a member of the math and robotics club, plays guitar, takes karate and is an activist in a grass-roots superhighway campaign.

William, who also attends Montgomery Blair High School, was awarded a \$5,000 scholarship and a mobile computer as a finalist. He competed in the biochemistry division. His project studied the formation of fibrils, which are the primary component of the deposits found in the brain of Alzheimer patients. Beta-amyloid proteins combine to form long sheets which stack on top of each other to produce fibrils. He used a combination of experiment and computer modeling to understand and predict the orientation and stacking of beta-amyloid sheets in the fibrils. William, who earned a perfect score of his SATs is very active as president of the Democrats Club and the captain of the It's Academic team. He is also a stream monitor for the Audubon Society and led his school's International Knowledge

*March 22, 2001*

Master Open team to first place in world competition.

I am extremely proud to count these young men among my constituents. Their hard work and interest in the sciences is an example to their peers. I join with their parents, teachers and friends in congratulating them on their outstanding efforts and awards.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. RIC KELLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 22, 2001*

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I had the distinguished honor to welcome the President of the United States to my district of Orlando, Florida.

Together, we attended an event with 4,000 doctors from the American College of Cardiology at the Orange County Convention Center. At this gathering, we discussed the importance of passing a meaningful Patients Bill of Rights which will put doctors and their patients in charge of their medical decisions.

Unfortunately, because I was in Orlando, Florida with the President, I missed Roll Call votes 53, 54, and 55. If I had been present, I would have voted "yea" for all three missed votes.

#### FEDERAL RECOGNITION PROCEDURES FOR CERTAIN INDIAN GROUPS

### HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 22, 2001*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to provide improved administrative procedures for the Federal recognition to certain Indian groups.

Mr. Speaker, I have been working on this issue now for several Congresses. In 1994, the House passed similar legislation but that effort died in the Senate. Last year, the Senate came closer to passing legislation to address this problem than did the House. In an effort to bring the two houses of Congress together, I am introducing a companion bill to S. 504, which was introduced by Senator CAMPBELL on March 9, 2001.

Despite the joint efforts of many Senators and Members of Congress over a period of years, we are still faced with an expensive, unfair process through which Indian groups seeking federal recognition must go. I wish to help address the historical wrongs that the two hundred unrecognized tribes in this nation have faced. This bill streamlines the existing procedures for extending federal recognition to Indian tribes, removes the bureaucratic maze of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and also provides due process, equity and fairness to the whole problem of Indian recognition.

Mr. Speaker, a broad coalition of unrecognized Indian tribes has advocated reform for years for several reasons. First, the BIA's budget limitations over the years have, in fact,