lately. Tax proposals that phase relief in over 2, 5, 10 years provide nothing for today’s economic slowdown. Additionally, legislation that promises a few extra dollars for individuals who do not have a tax liability to begin with, is simply not enough.

As we know, the President has taken the lead in recognizing the fact that returning tax overpayments to taxpayers is the best and most effective way to provide the economy with a shot in the arm. However, when the President established the $1.62 trillion tax cut threshold during his Presidential campaign, our national economy was much stronger. Today, we are at the beginning of an economic emergency. While the tax bills currently moving through Congress provide limited tax relief in the future, these measures are simply not enough to make a real economic difference now. My legislation will provide relief this year and will not breach the $1.6 trillion threshold the President has established for fiscal year 2002 and beyond. My proposals are intended to supplement the initiatives supported by the President and the Congress.

Enacting meaningful tax reductions, that affect all taxpayers across the board, is the only real way we have of stopping the economic down turn. Now is the time for Congress to respond accordingly. I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort and hope we can enact this legislation in the very near future.

BIPARTISAN WORKING GROUP ON YOUTH VIOLENCE

HON. JENNIFER DUNN
OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, parents continue to see tragic examples that reinforce the need for immediate action to stop the violence in our nation’s schools. During the 106th Congress, twenty-four Members—twelve Democrats and twelve Republicans—worked together as part of the Bipartisan Working Group on Youth Violence. As Co-Chair of the Working Group, I was involved in identifying causes and advancing through consensus solutions to fight the rise of youth violence. During our weekly meetings we reviewed studies and listened to testimony from expert witnesses from academia, law enforcement, the judicial system, and advocacy groups.

Today I am re-introducing a school safety measure that emerged as a recommendation during our Working Group discussions. Specifically, my proposal will give schools the flexibility to use their federal education dollars to hire School Resource Officers. The School Resource Officer program sends specially trained police officers into public schools to identify at-risk youth and serve as positive role models to students. One adult can make a difference in the life of a child, students can trust and count on these officers.

Just last week at Granite Hills High School in Southern California, the nation was shocked by another school shooting. The youth offender was ultimately stopped by the campus School Resource Officer. The school principal called the officer his personal hero and said that if he weren’t there, a lot of people would have died.

School Resource Officers clearly play a critical role in keeping schools safe. Nevertheless, local school officials currently face red tape when it comes to spending federal money for School Resource Officers. Under the federal Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act, schools can only spend twenty cents of each federal dollar for School Resource Officers. My initiative would lift this cap and allow schools to spend any portion of its federal funds on School Resource Officers.

Early this year, I joined King County Sheriff Dave Reichert in announcing that Dimmit Middle School in Renton, Washington will receive a School Resource Officer in response to a student firing a gun in the school cafeteria. Our nation’s schools should be safe places. We must expel fear from our classrooms and do everything we can to keep our children out of the judicial system.

School Resource Officers are an important part of any school safety plan, and every effort must be made on the federal level to give schools greater flexibility to hire these officers as a violence prevention measure.

IN HONOR OF FELIX HUJARSKI
HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Felix E. Hujarski, a respected member of the Cleveland community. Felix E. Hujarski will be remembered for his kind heart, his devotion to his family and friends and his dedication to Polonia. Dedicated husband and father, he is survived by his wife, Wanda, daughter, Irene Mastropieri and son, Lawrence. He is the beloved grandfather of nine and great grandfather of six. Wherever Felix went, he left behind his positive spirit, charm and humor. He was a positive life force, always sharing his love and thinking of the needs of others before his own needs. He was a most unique individual, with an obvious commitment to his family, his many friends and to his community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of this remarkable man. He was a man of great passion, a dedicated servant to his community, and a loving husband, father, and grandfather. He will be missed by all.

TRIBUTE TO SHERIFF’S DEPUTY BUDDY PARRISH
HON. IKE SKELTON
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that an outstanding career in law enforcement has come to an end. Buddy Parrish, a Wellington, Missouri, resident, recently retired after 29 years of service as a sheriff’s deputy.

Mr. Parrish has diligently served the people of Lafayette County, for nearly three decades. His dedication to public service and to the citizens of the county is to be commended. A truly distinguished enforcement officer, Buddy was recently honored with a ceremony at the Lafayette County Courthouse. Among his guests, including several respected civic leaders, paid tribute to Buddy’s long and admirable career.

Mr. Speaker, Buddy had an exceptional career in law enforcement. I wish him all the best in the days ahead. I am certain that the Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to this fine Missourian.