and he recognizes that NET Corps better prepares teachers to address these challenges. I am proud to have him as a colleague, working with him to pass this important legislation.

Finally, let me say that since introducing this legislation, I have been contacted by countless high-tech employees, teachers, and parents who support this legislation. They are part of what I call the NET Corps movement.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in this movement. Our children’s futures depend upon it.

BLACK BERETS FOR U.S. ARMY SHOULD BE MADE IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon to once again bring attention to the issue of the decision by the Army Chief of Staff to issue black berets as standard issue headgear to all Army personnel. Until this decision was made, the black beret had been the outward symbol of the Army Rangers, one of the most elite fighting forces within the United States armed services. While much has been said regarding the decision, I believe that even more needs to be said, particularly regarding the decision to bypass the Barry amendment and purchase the bulk of the berets totaling nearly $35 million from Communist China.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when the small businesses of our Nation are struggling for new business, it is a travesty that our own government has chosen to bypass the Buy American Rule in order to meet an arbitrary deadline. While the 225th birthday of the United States Army should be marked with great celebration, I do not believe that the men and women who so faithfully serve in the Army would want the day marked by having to wear a beret that says “Made in China.”

I recently received a letter written by a small businessman from Sanford, North Carolina, and I will submit this letter for inclusion in the Record.

Mr. Brooks Pomeranz is president of Cascade Fibers Company, a small mill that in a matter of a few short months could convert its cutting and sewing operation into a mill that could have produced at least a part of the beret order for the United States Army. He writes, and I quote him: “With the decline of U.S. textiles and U.S. textile mills closing every month, it is unacceptable that our government is contracting foreign companies to manufacture these berets. With a portion of this business being contracted to Cascade Fibers, would enable us to keep 80 families from losing a vital income for their children. Our quality is outstanding.”

By some, I am being told that this is something that this House in a bipartisan manner can support.

I want to thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Davis) who will follow and speak on this same issue.

Mr. Speaker, I represent a rural area; and much of my district has very limited access to health care. Centers in my district operating in Salem, Vandalia, and Springfield, Illinois, have made vital health services available to the community by serving a specific area, the centers can tailor their services to the specific needs of the community and work with the schools, businesses, churches and community organizations to provide the best care possible.

Community health centers are cost-effective in a viable way to bring quality health care to underserved populations. Increasing Federal funding will enable community health centers to expand and reach more of the uninsured. That is why I support the Reach for Health bill, which would double the budget for community health centers.

But it is also an inexpensive way to get preventative and primary health care to those who have fallen through our health care delivery system. I encourage all our colleagues to support this vital program that helps so many.

URGING SUPPORT FOR H.R. 6, THE MARRIAGE PENALTY AND FAMILY TAX RELIEF ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Crenshaw). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Platts) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will cast a very important vote here in the House. We will take up the second component of the President’s comprehensive tax relief package, H.R. 6,