of the first trial judges in the state to order a school board and striking teachers to negoti- 
iate daily to end a contract impasse.

Judge Lavelle and his wife have four chil- 
dren, who have every reason to be proud of their father's distinguished career.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the at- 
tention of the House of Representatives the long history of Judge John Lavelle's service to the people of Carbon County and all of Penn- 
sylvania, and I wish him all the best in retire- 
ment.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTIAN JOS.
BECKER, LIFETIME VOLUNTEER 
FIREMAN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize 
one of my constituents, Mr. Christian Jos. 
Becker, for his lifetime of dedicated service to the Westchester County Volunteer Firemen's Association. Mr. Becker began his volunteer work at the age of 42, when he moved from the city of Yonkers to the village of Ardsley. Over his 33 years of service, Chris has 
achieved numerous accomplishments, all of which have greatly improved the Westchester area. In 1971, Mr. Becker received the Ardsley 
Fire Department Fire Fighter of the Year Award for his unwavering dedication in re- 
sponding to nearly every alarm within his vil- 
lage. Also, he served as the Department's first 
Secretary for five years.

Though Mr. Becker's firefighting days were 
caused to come to a close in 1975 due to an illness, his volunteer activities continued on. As Ardsley Fire Department's Delegate to the Firemen's Association in the State of New York and the Westchester County Volunteer Firemen's Association, Chris's services per- 
severed. One of his greatest accomplishments 
ocurred in 1970 when he founded "The Westchester Volunteer," a bimonthly news-
letter which supplies relevant news to fire- 
fighters throughout the county.

Mr. Becker also sits on both the Public Rela- 
tions Committee and the Legislative Com- 
mittee for the Firemen's Association in the state of New York, where he championed no- 
table legislation such as the Cigarette Fire Safety Act and the Requiring of Adoption of the Fire and Building Codes. For all of the 
good he has brought to their community, the 
people of Westchester County will forever be 
indebted to this selfless volunteer.

I am certain that all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives will join me in ex- 
tending a sincere offer of congratulations, as 
well as gratitude, to Mr. Christian Jos. Becker. 
It is a pleasure to recognize such a dedicated man who has used his life to benefit those around him.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS
BACK COUNTRY LANDING STRIP 
ACCESS ACT

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER 
OF IDAHO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the "Back Country Landing Strip Access Act." This bill, which was introduced in the last Con- gress by Chairman Hansen of the Resources 
Committee, will prohibit the federal govern- 
ment from closing airstrips on public lands 
without the consent of the state aviation au- 
thority. I am grateful to Chairman Hansen for 
letting me re-introduce this bill this year, and 
would like to thank him and the 23 other origi- 
inal co-sponsors of this bi-partisan bill. I would 
also like to thank my fellow Idahoan, Senator 
CRAPO, for introducing this legislation in the 
other body.

Last year, Idaho and the other western states were threatened by some of the largest 
firesstorms in the history of this country, in which more than 7 million acres of forest lands 
burned. People around the nation watched as brave firefighters battled on the 
ground and in the sky to protect lives and 
property. Most of those watching may not 
have been aware that the firefighters on the ground in these wilderness areas were sup- 
plied from airstrips on public land. Or that the 
aerial firefighting efforts depended on back 
country airstrips as safe havens in the case of 
emergency. Had back country landing strips not existed, firefighting efforts would have been crippled.

Incredibly, for eight years before the fires the federal government had sought to remove these airstrips. Amazingly, the Departments of Agriculture and Interior had removed numer- ous airstrips on public lands without even con- sulting with pilots, land users or state aviation authorities. This heavy handed land manage- 
ment by the federal bureaucrats has placed innumerous lives in danger. Imagine if you were a pilot and attempted a dead-stick landing onto an airstrip on your chart, only to find a grove of trees planted in your path. Or, if you evacuated a camper with a medical emergency, and the runway you need had been destroyed by government inaction, the results would be devastating. The Back Coun- 
try Landing Strip Access Act is a common 

sense measure that will preserve the closure 
of landing strips, and will require public notice 

and state approval for any such proposal. 

When this bill was introduced in the last 
Congress, many federal officials complained that it would place an unreasonable burden upon land management agencies. But how is 
it unreasonable for the federal government to seek the permission of a state before closing a field that a local community depends upon? 
Why is it unreasonable for rural communities 
to fly in the supplies and equipment they need to survive in winter?

Mr. Speaker, I know this bill will work if en- 
acted because we in Idaho have been working 
with this system for years. When Congress es- 
tablished the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness Area in 1980, a provision was 
added that prohibited the federal government 
from closing any airstrip in the wilderness 
without the express written concurrence of the State of Idaho. This provision has not ruined the wilderness area. To the contrary, it has al- lowed the elderly, the handicapped and chil- 
dren to enjoy wilderness areas they would oth- erwise be unable to reach. It has preserved the ability of outfitters to bring sportmen to the heart of the wilderness with a minimum of disruption. In short, it is a model for what we seek to accomplish in this bill. 

This bill is a common sense measure to re- 
store cooperation between federal and state 
governments. It does not force the reopening 
of closed airfields. It does not require the fed- 
eral government to spend extra money to 
maintain back country strips. In fact, this bill 
authorizes the Departments of Agriculture and Interior to enter into cooperative agreements with local groups to maintain back country strips.

America's public lands should not be al- 
lowed to become "no-fly zones." I urge my 
colleagues to join me in supporting this vital 
legislation, and I am pleased to introduce it 
today.

HONORING CARLY FITZSIMONS BAKER
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, recently I pub- 
lished a speech in the CONGRESSIONAL 
RECORD celebrating the centennial of Cali- 
fornia Polytechnic State University in San Luis 
Obispo. Today I rise to recognize an extraor- 
dinary leader of the Cal Poly community, Carly 
Fitzsimons Baker.

A graduate of St. Mary's College, Notre 
Dame, Indiana in 1961 and Cal Poly in 1985, Carly Baker has made countless contributions to the university and to the community of San 
Luis Obispo County for the past 22 years. 
While raising 4 children, Mrs. Baker has served as an unsung, yet remarkable partner to 
herself, Warren, President of Cal Poly since 
1979.

During the past decades of exceptional 
growth and achievement of the university, 
Carly Baker has played a central role in the 
university's efforts to strengthen external rela- 
tions. Carly's grace, good humor and attention 
to detail have been evident in every event for 
visiting dignitaries, university board members, 
community leaders, donors and the Presi- 
dent's Cabinet. The welcoming environment 
she has created has nourished an expanding 
circle of university friendships, critical to Cal 
Poly's future.

Carly Baker has made an enormous dif- 
ference in our community's quality of life. She 
has distinguished herself with her contributions to the League of Women's Voters, the Juve- 
nile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Com- 
mision, the Women's Shelter, Children's Pro- 
tective Services, the Children's Center Task 
Force, the Atascadero State Hospital Advisory 
Board, the Organization of State Hospital Ad- 
visory Boards, and the Performing Arts Cen- 
ter.

Mr. Speaker, Carly Baker has admirers 
more numerous than she could ever imagine.
Today, I speak for all of them to proudly recog-
nize someone whose accomplishments and charm have defined them in unique ways. Cal Poly's centennial slogan is "A Cen-
tury of Achievement, A Tradition for the Fu-
ture." Let the record show that Carly has played such a significant role in Cal Poly's remark-
able achievements and will remain as one of the university's crown jewels well into the future.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating Carly Baker on more than two decades of notable achievements.

### TRIBUTE TO PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS SCOTT CHISM & SEAMAN CHRIS FERREBY

**HON. JACK QUINN**

**OF NEW YORK**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I am very sad-
dened to rise today in memory of Petty Officer 2nd Class Scott Chism and Seaman Chris Ferreby.

As seamen assigned to the Coast Guard Station of Niagara, these two young men trag-
ically lost their lives serving their community and their nation. This tragedy happened on a routine patrol voyage in which Scott Chism and Chris Ferreby, along with fellow crew-
members Michael Moss and William Simpson, were tossed into the frigid waters of Lake O-
ntario when their boat was overturned by a large wave.

Scott Chism had served three years and seven months in the Coast Guard. With the upcom-
ing completion of his enlistment, he and his wife had planned to return to California. He leaves behind his wife, Lissa, a daughter, Kelsey, and a son, Caleb.

Chris Ferreby was raised outside of Roch-
ester, in Fairport. He is survived by a wife, Amy and a newborn child, Tyler. Amy recalls her husband as being able to "always make you laugh" and willing to "do anything for his friends."

Our thoughts and prayers are with the fami-
lies of these two men. Their heroism, bravery and selfless dedication to our country will not be forgotten.

### COMMENDING THE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS OF STUDENTS FROM WILLISTON NORTH-

**AMPTON SCHOOL IN EASTHAMPTON, MA**

**HON. JOHN W. OLVER**

**OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congrat-
ulate the students of Williston Northampton School in Easthampton, MA for their excel-
ence in academic competition. Under the tutel-
age of Mr. Peter Gun, these young people have shown an acute knowledge of the Con-
stitution and its Amendments, in particular the Bill of Rights.

### EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

On April 21–23, 2001 more than 1200 stu-
dents from across the country will be in Wash-
ington, DC to demonstrate their expertise in American government and represent their home states as part of the "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" pro-
gram, sponsored in part by the U.S. Depart-
ment of Education. I am pleased to announce the class from Williston Northampton School will participate on behalf of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Mr. Gun's students have taken a strong in-
terest in the principles that govern our nation. Through their studies, they have become aware of the founders' efforts to fashion an enduring republic. Through their accomplish-
ments, they have shown a keen understanding of the political process, its participants and the laws that will ensure America's continued vital-
ity.

It is an honor to recognize such a meri-
torious group.

### SHED LIGHT ON HIDDEN FEES

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ**

**OF ILLINOIS**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, on March 29 I introduced the "Wire Transfer Fairness and Disclosure Act of 2001," a bill to require addi-
tional disclosures relating to exchange rates in transfers involving international transactions. Sixty-two representatives currently support this important legislation.

Immigrants throughout the United States work hard, save money and send billions of dollars to relatives living in foreign countries. The money sent home helps finance basic needs ranging from food and medicine to edu-
cation to new homes. Unfortunately, cus-
tomers wiring money to Mexico are often los-
ing millions of dollars to undisclosed "currency conversion fees" charged by giant firms such as Western Union and MoneyGram.

Wire Transfer companies aggressively tar-
get audiences in immigrant communities with ads promising low rates for international transfers. However, such promises are grossly mis-
leading particularly for those with ties to Mex-
ico or other Latin American countries, since companies do not always clearly disclose extra fees charged for converting dollars into Mexican pesos. While large wire service com-
panies typically obtain pesos at bulk bargain rates, they charge a significant currency con-
version fee to their U.S. customers. The ex-
change rate charged to customers sending U.S. dollars to Mexico routinely varies from the benchmark rates by as much as 15 per-
cent. The profits from these hidden currency conversion fees are staggering, allowing compa-
nies to reap millions of dollars more than they make from service fees.

To address these problems, this Act re-
quires full disclosure of all fees involved in all money-wiring transactions. More specifically, the bill requires that any financial institution or money transmitting business which initiates an international money transfer on behalf of a consumer (whether or not the consumer main-
tains an account at such institution or busi-
ness) shall provide the following disclosures:

- **(a) Definitions.**
  - (1) **INTERNATIONAL MONEY TRANSFER.**—The term 'international money transfer' means any money transmitting service involving an international transaction which is provided by a financial institution or a money trans-
mittting business.
  - (2) **MONEY TRANSMITTING SERVICE.**—The term 'money transmitting service' has the meaning given to such term in section 5313(b)(2) of title 31, United States Code.
  - (3) **MONEY TRANSMITTING BUSINESS.**—The term 'money transmitting business' means any business which—
    - (A) provides check cashing, currency ex-
change, or money transmitting or remit-
tance services, or issues or redeems money orders, travelers' checks, and other similar instruments; and
    - (B) is not a depository institution (as de-
ined in section 5313(g) of title 31, United States Code).

- **(b) Exchange Rate and Fees Disclo-
sures Required.**
  - (1) **IN GENERAL.**—Any financial institution or money transmitting business which initi-
ates an international money transfer on be-
half of a consumer (whether or not the con-
sumer maintains an account at such institu-
tion or business) shall, provide the following disclosures in the manner required under this section:
    - (A) The exchange rate used by the finan-
cial institution or money transmitting busi-
ness in connection with such transaction.
    - (B) The exchange rate prevailing at a major financial center of the foreign country.