the ranchers have pocketed some cash and would be reduced. And it assures the property owners cannot develop the protected property even when the land changes hands; new owners will not change.

The ranchers still own their property, and they “couldn’t swallow the idea of houses built all over it,” said Yates. “Your conscience falls in somewhere.”

The Buckeye is one of the last remaining regions of large, contiguous ranchlands in Larimer County, so it’s an important piece of long-term ranching viability in the county,” Wade said.

The Nature Conservancy of Colorado, which owns a 2,000-acre preserve in the foothills of the Laramie Mountains, has identified northern Larimer County as a priority area for land conservation and contributed most of the money for the Buckeye project. The organization hopes other ranchers will decide to preserve their land.

“We’d love to see some of those big ranches up there in some kind of conservative program,” said John Stokes, the Nature Conservancy’s northeast Colorado program manager.

Conservation easements increasingly are used to preserve valuable open land, and the provisions vary from deal to deal. But most of these legal agreements have one thing in common: Acreage in a conservation easement has been parcelized of development rights and must remain open space forever.

As part of the Buckeye project, the Larimer Land Trust paid participating ranchers for the development rights on their property. But because the ranchers believe in land conservation, they accepted about 30 percent of the value of those development rights and donated the remaining value, Wade said.

“The value of their donation is about $400,000. It’s a significant donation,” she said.

The Larimer Land Trust, which negotiated the easements, spent $234,000 on the Buckeye project, Wade said.

The ranchers still own their property, and its agricultural use—primarily for cattle grazing—will not change. And it assures the property’s eventual sale price will reap tax benefits from the conservation easements. That’s a satisfying financial trade-off, they said.

But more satisfying for these ranchers is knowing their land will remain undeveloped for the enjoyment of heirs or other future owners, they said.

“I’m sure we could make much more money if we sold the land for development, but we didn’t want to do that,” said Kathy DeSmith, 60, who raises hay and cattle. She and her ranching partner put 179 acres in an easement as part of the conservation project.

“It’s the best possible outcome,” she said. “It pleases him to watch his 8-year-old granddaughter ride horses, climb apple trees, fish and wade in the creek on his ranch. He hopes others will someday find the same carefree joys on his land.”

The rancher said he’s been offered more than $1 million for his property. But the money did not entice him or his three children, especially because they knew development would almost certainly follow, Miller said.

“What would I do with a big pile of money, living in town with nothing to do? That doesn’t suit me at all,” he said. “I don’t make a great deal of money—cash—but look at what I’ve got.”

Edie Yates, 53, who with her husband owns the 530-acre Park Creek Ranch, agreed that she has found many rewards living on land that has been unchanged over time. The Yateses put 215 acres in an easement.

The couple knew they could profit from their land, but they couldn’t swallow the idea of houses built all over it,” Yates said.

“You’re conscience falls in somewhere.”

As she led a tour of her ranch, Yates stood on a ridgeline and gazed at the striking landscape of canyons, meadows and towering rock formations.

“To me, to stand out here right now, it’s good for your soul,” she said.

**Equal Pay Day**

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

**OF ILLINOIS**

*IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

*Tuesday, April 3, 2001*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Equal Pay Day. A woman would have to work until today, April 3, 2001 in order to earn the same salary of her male counterpart.

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Mr. Speaker, this is Equal Pay Day. women of working age have 20 cents less for every dollar earned by men in the same occupation. Most of these disparities are the poor explanations used to justify the situation.

Some blame pay inequity on women because they enter less lucrative professions or overpaid. Professions such as teaching and nursing are undervalued because they are traditionally female. Furthermore, the inequity exists within traditionally female fields. For example, female elementary school teachers still make 70 dollars a week less than men in the same position. Clearly, this reason is not a sound one.

Another popular justification assumes that equal pay for women translates into financial disaster and instability for the American family. This persistent myth states that equality will rob men of their jobs, lure women from their children, and is unnecessary for married women who benefit from their husband’s salary.

Despite the calamity theories, equal pay is essential for working families. When we end pay discrimination against women, family incomes will rise. Working parents will have more to spend on household needs and more to save for their children’s education and their own retirement security. Working parents may be able to spend less time at work and more time with their families, a very positive change for parents and children.

Many excuses and theories abound, but the truth overpowers every last excuse. There is no justification for pay discrimination against women. Let’s rectify pay inequity this year, and render Equal Pay Day 2002 obsolete.

**Reintroduction of Hate Crimes Bill**

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

**OF MICHIGAN**

*IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

*Tuesday, April 3, 2001*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2001, along with Representatives GEPHARDT, SKELTON, FRANK, BALDWIN, MORELLA, KOLBE, FOLEY, SHAYS and KELLY. As of today there are 180 orginal co-sponsors.

In the year 2001, there are still too many messages to African-Americans and other minorities that we are not full participants in American democracy. Depract voting machinery in African-American communities disenfranchises our voters. Racial profiling continues unabated. Discrimination continues.

There have been over 50,000 hate crimes reported in the last five years, and nearly 8,000 reported last year alone. The gruesome, hateful murders of James Byrd and Matthew Shepard stand as symbols of the incidence of hate violence that has worsened since their deaths. Hate crimes don’t only visit unspeakable violence on the immediate victims, but also send a message of a desired apartheid that its sponsors want to violently enforce. Today, organized hate and supremacist groups operate with greater sophistication, and across state lines.

While many of these crimes do and should get prosecuted at the state and local levels, many do not. Some local governments lack the resources to track interstate hate groups that perpetrate them. In other places, there may even be a lack of will. Ten states, for example, have no hate crime laws on the books, and another 21 have anemic hate crime laws.

If enacted, this legislation would give the federal government the jurisdictional tools necessary to assist local law enforcement in fight the scourge of hate violence.

In instances where state and local governments do not have the capacity to prosecute such crimes, the legislation creates a federal backstop—the ability for the local U.S. attorney to ensure that justice will be done, deter ring hate violence regardless of whether the victim happens to be in a “federally
HONORING RICO GIRON

HON. TOM UDALL
OF NEW MEXICO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my constituents who has demonstrated great heroism. This extraordinary individual is Mr. Rico Giron, of San Miguel County, who risked his own life to save the lives of two young drowning children.

Upon hearing the cries of the drowning children at a lake, Mr. Giron raced his boat toward the younger brother and sister and dived into the water after them. After pulling the girl ashore, Mr. Giron plunged back into the water to rescue the other boy. Using every last ounce of strength and energy, Mr. Giron was able to pull the boy ashore before collapsing from exhaustion.

Mr. Giron’s valiant efforts saved the lives of these two young children. For this exceptional bravery, the Andrew Carnegie Hero Fund Foundation has awarded Mr. Giron the prestigious Carnegie Medal which recognizes those individuals who risk their own life to save or attempt to save the life of another person. Very few individuals are awarded the Carnegie Medal, hence this is a grand achievement and Mr. Giron deserves a hero’s welcome. The quotation that adorns the Carnegie Medal truly describes Mr. Giron’s act of bravery: Greater love hath no man than that a man lay down his life for his friends. Please join me in recognizing the generous actions of Mr. Giron.

BUY AMERICA LEGISLATION

HON. WALTER B. JONES
OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation crafted to help preserve the U.S. textile industry. This legislation would seek to clarify the existing “Buy America” provision for the Department of Defense, commonly known as the Berry Amendment.

The Berry Amendment currently requires the Department to purchase clothing, specialty steel, textiles, and food that is produced in the United States by U.S. companies. The intent behind the legislation is to guarantee the U.S. military a ready mobilization base of U.S. apparel manufacturers—a critical component for rapid military mobilizations.

This controversial waiver highlighted the need to review the current law and look for ways to improve its effectiveness. The legislation I am introducing today seeks to address this specifically, the bill would add a requirement that for any waiver of the Buy American provision, the Secretary of Defense must notify the House and Senate committees on Appropriations, Armed Services, and Small Business. The legislation also requires that after Congress is notified, 30 days must pass before the contract can be let. Finally, the legislation clarifies and recodifies the Berry Amendment under the permanent section of U.S. code relating to defense procurement.

Although the legislation does not eliminate the possibility of procuring this category of items overseas, it will improve congressional oversight of any Berry Amendment waivers. By raising the visibility of these waiver decisions, it is my hope that the Department of Defense will increase their level of scrutiny and prevent them from making such poor decisions in the future.

GOVERNORS ISLAND PRESERVATION ACT, H.R. 1334

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce H.R. 1334, the Governors Island Preservation Act. This legislation is a historic opportunity to preserve and protect the historic nature of the island while transforming the southern tip into a 50-acre public park, complete with recreation facilities and stunning views of the Statue of Liberty and the New York Harbor.

New interactive educational facilities, including an aquarium and a historical village, are being planned, as is moderately-priced family lodging and a health center. The awe-inspiring opportunity we have to establish this new public space to complement both Liberty and Ellis Islands is unprecedented and mandates decisive action.

Accordingly, this Governors Island Preservation Act will open the doors to this opportunity by transferring the island back from the Federal Government to the citizens of New York for the same nominal price the Federal Government paid.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to call upon all my colleagues in the House of Representatives, in asking their support for the Governors Island Preservation Act, H.R. 1334. Governor Pataki, our Senators, and Representatives NADLER, MALONEY, and myself, have all worked diligently to address every concern and to develop bipartisan legislation which will open Governors Island up not only to the people of New York, but to our entire Nation.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOUTH SHORE ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CITIZENS

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT
OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to join today with people throughout Southeastern Massachusetts in celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the South Shore Association for Retarded Citizens.

What began in 1950 with a small group of parents in Weymouth seeking options for their PROFESSIONAL 

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce legislation to help preserve the U.S. textile industry. This legislation would seek to clarify the existing “Buy America” provision for the Department of Defense, commonly known as the Berry Amendment. The Berry Amendment currently requires the Department to purchase clothing, specialty steel, textiles, and food that is produced in the United States by U.S. companies. The intent behind the legislation is to guarantee the U.S. military a ready mobilization base of U.S. apparel manufacturers—a critical component for rapid military mobilizations. The language has been a feature of defense procurement for over 50 years.

However, my colleagues may know, the Berry Amendment has recently resurfaced in the media following the decision by the Department of the Army to make the black beret a standard issue item for all Army personnel. The decision was controversial and short-sighted in its own right, but became further troubling when the Defense Logistics Agency decided to waive the Berry Amendment and allow the procurement of the berets from foreign sources—including a substantial number made in Communist China.

The decision was not made because of a lack of existing U.S. suppliers to provide the berets. Nor was it made because of a lack of other textile manufacturers who might be willing to tool up to meet the demand. Instead, it was made because the Army wanted all of its personnel to have the berets by its next birthday. A date important to the Army and the Nation as it relates to the founding of that branch of service, but otherwise arbitrary as it relates to the purchase of berets.

That decision was not just a slap in the face to the men and women who will be wearing the berets made by a potential enemy, but also to the U.S. textile industry who have long supported our men and women in uniform.

This controversial waiver highlighted the need to review the current law and look for ways to improve its effectiveness. The legislation I am introducing today seeks to do just that. Specifically, the bill would add a requirement that for any waiver of the Buy American provision, the Secretary of Defense must notify the House and Senate committees on Appropriations, Armed Services, and Small Business. The legislation also requires that after Congress is notified, 30 days must pass before the contract can be let. Finally, the legislation clarifies and recodifies the Berry Amendment under the permanent section of U.S. code relating to defense procurement.

Although the legislation does not eliminate the possibility of procuring this category of items overseas, it will improve congressional oversight of any Berry Amendment waivers. By raising the visibility of these waiver decisions, it is my hope that the Department of Defense will increase their level of scrutiny and prevent them from making such poor decisions in the future.