

Major clothing retailers in the United States that had bought garments sewn on Saipan settled lawsuits by agreeing to establish a \$1.25 million fund to finance monitoring, compensate workers and create a public education program.

Senator Akaka last year won Senate approval of a bill to extend U.S. immigration and minimum-wage laws to the Marianas and allow "Made in the USA" labels only on garments on which more than half the work had been done by American citizens. The measure died in the House.

More recently, a Labor Department investigation has uncovered similar abuses in American Samoa, with work and living conditions so horrid that some garment workers, mostly women from Vietnam, looked like "walking skeletons."

Similar to the situation on Saipan, up to 250 workers had borrowed \$2,000 to \$7,000 each to acquire their jobs and fly from Vietnam or China to Saipan. Investigators found frequent violations of the Samoan minimum wage (\$2.60 an hour) and numerous abuses, including the beating of workers and withholding of meals as a form of punishment.

Daewoosa, a Korean-owned clothing manufacturer that had made apparel for J.C. Penney Co., closed the plant in January. A judge in Samoa placed Daewoosa under receivership after it failed to pay \$600,000 in back wages and fines resulting from the Labor Department investigation.

Penney had canceled contracts with the factory immediately after learning of the abuses. Daewoosa owner Kil Soo Lee now faces charges of involuntary servitude and forced labor in federal court in Honolulu.

While the semiautonomous status of U.S. territories in the Pacific may vary, the conditions that were found on Saipan and Samoa should be condoned on none of them. As leaders of the U.S. community in the Pacific, Hawaii's congressional delegation should promote legislation to end these human-rights abuses.

TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER JOHN FRISTACHI

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding Naval Officer, Commander John C.P. Fristachi, who served with distinction and dedication for almost three years for the Secretary of the Navy and Chief of Naval Operations under the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (FM&C) as a Principle Assistant in the Appropriations Matters Office. It is a privilege for me to recognize his many outstanding achievements and commend him for the superb service he has provided to the Department of the Navy, the Congress, and our great Nation as a whole.

During his tenure in the Appropriations Matters Office, which began in April of 1998, Commander Fristachi has provided members of the House Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee on Defense as well as our professional and associate staffs with timely and accurate support regarding Navy plans, programs and budget decisions. His valuable contributions have enabled the Defense Subcommittee and the Department of the Navy to

strengthen its close working relationship and to ensure the most modern, well-trained and well-equipped naval forces attainable for the defense of our nation.

Mr. Speaker, John Fristachi and his wife Betsy have made many sacrifices during his naval career. His distinguished service has exemplified honor, courage and commitment. As they depart the Appropriations Matters Office to embark on yet another great Navy adventure in the service of a grateful nation, I call upon my colleagues to wish them both every success and the traditional Navy send-off "fair winds and following seas."

NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in Honor of National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. Each year, the second week of April is dedicated to the men and women who serve as public safety telecommunicators.

Telecommunicators are civilians across this country who provide the vital link between the public and emergency service responders, be they police, fire or EMS. They provide the radio, telephone, computer and other communication services that save lives and keep our communities safe and secure. Too often, the importance of this job and the contribution these individuals make, go unnoticed.

Today, I would like to recognize and thank the telecommunicators who serve the 20th District of Illinois. They are: Karen Giese, Lora Furlong, Michelle Tarvin, Teri Roado, Nancy Pohlman, Sarah Richey, DeAnna Fare, Lora C. Furlong, Robert I. Castens, Lillian I. Rutherford, Tammy S. Giacomelli, and Sherri M. Deeder.

Mr. Speaker. I extend my deepest appreciation to these and all telecommunicators for talking distressed callers through CPR, calming hysterical crime victims, and making the difficult decisions using limited information to save lives and reduce property damage on a daily basis.

STRUCTURED SETTLEMENT PROTECTION ACT

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Structured Settlement Protection Act. This legislation protects the Congressional policy underlying structured settlements and brings a final resolution to the issue known as "factoring" of structured settlement payments.

In introducing this legislation, I am joined by my colleague Mr. STARK and by a broad bipartisan group of our colleagues from the Ways and Means Committee, including Mr. HOUGHTON and Mr. COYNE, the Chairman and the

Ranking Minority Member respectively of the Oversight Subcommittee which held a hearing on the structured settlement factoring issue in the last Congress. There are a total of 19 Ways and Means co-sponsors of this important legislation.

I am a long-time supporter of the use of structured settlements to compensate victims of physical injuries. Structured settlements constitute a private sector funding alternative to taxpayer-financed programs to meet the ongoing, long-term medical and living needs of seriously-injured victims and their families. Structured settlements enable these injured people to live with dignity, free of reliance on government. For these reasons, Congress adopted special tax rules to encourage the use of structured settlements to provide long-term financial security to injured victims and their families.

The Structured Settlement Protection Act that I am introducing today addresses concerns which have been raised over the "factoring" of structured settlement payments, in which factoring or settlement purchase companies buy up part or all of the structured settlement recipient's future payments for cash. My legislation is part of a single overall package of complementary Federal and State legislation that has been agreed upon by the structured settlement industry and the factoring industry to resolve these concerns.

Under the Structured Settlement Protection Act, the States are given the consumer protection role. The Act relies upon a State court review process to govern a proposed factoring transaction to ensure that the structured settlement serves the purpose Congress intended—providing long-term financial security for the injured victim and the victim's family—while enabling the victim to get access to future payments should the court determine that such access is in the best interests of the victim, taking into account the welfare and support of the victim's dependents, and does not contravene other applicable statutes and existing court orders.

The complementary State model legislation agreed to by the structured settlement and factoring industries specifies the process for State court review. Legislation similar to the State model has now been enacted in 19 States and is being actively considered in some 20 other States during the current State legislative cycle.

The Structured Settlement Protection Act protects the Congressional policy underlying structured settlements by providing the threat of an excise tax sanction to ensure compliance with State regulation in light of the multi-State nature of the factoring business, as well as resolving Federal tax uncertainties which factoring has created for the other parties to the structured settlement.

The Structured Settlement Protection Act is similar to legislation that I introduced in the last Congress along with Mr. STARK and a similarly broad bipartisan group of our colleagues from the Ways and Means Committee.

This legislation has been agreed to by the National Structured Settlements Trade Association (NSSTA) on behalf of the structured settlement industry and the National Association of Settlement Purchasers (NASP) on behalf of the factoring industry. In light of the

joint support of the structured settlement industry and the factoring industry, I believe that this legislation should be non-controversial. In addition, the identical version of the legislation last year was scored by the Joint Tax Committee as being essentially revenue neutral.

The agreement of the two sides to the provisions of the Structured Settlement Protection Act provides us with a critical opportunity to put the structured settlement factoring issue to rest at long last. We should avail ourselves of that opportunity while it is at hand. Accordingly, I strongly urge the enactment of this important legislation as soon as possible.

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ARC OF DALLAS

**HON. MARTIN FROST**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize and congratulate the Arc of Dallas for its efforts in improving the quality of life of persons with mental retardation and related developmental conditions. The Arc of Dallas will celebrate its 50th anniversary this year and deserves to be recognized for its accomplishments in my district.

The Arc of Dallas formed when a small group of concerned parents met in 1951 to discuss their children's educational needs. This small group was the beginning of an organization that grew into the largest mentally handicapped advocacy group in the Dallas area. Today, there are chapters of the Arc across the United States. While the Arc of Dallas remains connected to the national office, it also works independently to reach the goals of the Dallas community.

The Arc of Dallas works diligently to accomplish its goals and has produced impressive results. Presently, one person in every 10 families in the Dallas area, about 60,000 individuals, has some form of mental retardation and thousands more have related conditions. It is no surprise that in 2000, the Arc of Dallas directly helped nearly 26,000 people. This organization truly makes a difference to the lives of many constituents in my district.

An example of the great success of this advocacy group is its day-camp program. Last year was the first year to offer a spring and summer day-camp program for children ages 5 to 21. It made a difference in the lives of 140 children last year. This year, the day-camp program will run for 11 weeks and will offer fun summer activities for nearly 220 children such as field trips, crafts, computer centers and outdoor activities. Programs like these truly demonstrate the success of the Arc of Dallas.

Once again, I am very proud to see the honorable work being accomplished in my district. The Arc of Dallas has made a difference in so many peoples' lives in the 50 years of their existence. The difference they are making is immeasurable. I know my colleagues will join me in saluting the Arc of Dallas and chapters across the Nation.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO RABBI MARK G. LOEB

**HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor, Rabbi Mark G. Loeb, an outstanding religious leader who has served the Beth El Congregation of Baltimore for 25 years. He has led this progressive congregation to its present growth of 1,700 families. Rabbi Loeb is recognized for his scholarship and eloquence. He never fails to enlighten and to challenge an audience.

Rabbi Mark Loeb has made his mark on the national scene as well. His message of tolerance and caring is not confined to his pulpit at Beth El. He has championed any number of social and interfaith causes to improve the common good of people of all faiths and ethnic backgrounds. One of his most prized roles has been that of National Chair of MAZON—A Jewish Response to Hunger. He has also served as a past National Program Chair of the Christian-Jewish Workshop, and he has been a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Institute for Christian-Jewish Studies since 1988.

Locally, Rabbi Mark Loeb, has served as Past President of the Baltimore Board of Rabbis and is the current Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Baltimore Hebrew University. He has promoted and instituted a comprehensive Jewish education program at Beth El with a defined expectation that a formal course of study will be followed by both the student and his or her parents. The parents and their children together commit to an involvement in Jewish learning. This program for Jewish education has been used as a model in other Jewish congregations around the country.

Rabbi Loeb is recognized not only for his own scholarship but for his efforts to promote learning as an important key to a meaningful life. He is also a recognized authority on opera and has formally critiqued and taught others to more fully enjoy this wonderful art form.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Rabbi Mark G. Loeb for his 25 years of service to Beth El Congregation and to many other individuals in the state of Maryland.

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TRIBUTE TO REPRESENTATIVE  
JOE MOAKLEY

**HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, on the day all of Washington serves tribute to my friend and mentor Congressman JOE MOAKLEY for his exceptional contribution to our nation, I recognize the apt words of another friend, John Silber, Chancellor of Boston University. John's op-ed appeared in the Boston Herald on February 23 of this year, and I submit it into the RECORD. It expresses what all of us who know JOE know best—he is one of the greatest legislators the House has ever known.

MOAKLEY FOLLOWS ADAMS' LEAD

Although some call the Senate the "upper branch," the Founders entrusted the crucial power to initiate money bills to the House. As a consequence, for more than two centuries some of our greatest statesmen have understandably had no higher ambition than to serve their fellow citizens in the House of Representatives.

And from the beginning, Massachusetts has been pre-eminent in the quality of those it has sent to the House. A high example was set early when John Quincy Adams, having held a remarkable array of the highest elective and appointive offices, won a seat in the House following his defeat for re-election as president.

In the 18 years that followed, he forged a record of courage, integrity and intellectual distinction that rivaled his achievements on the path to the White House. In 1848, in the midst of a debate in which he was opposing the immensely successful and popular war with Mexico, he suffered a stroke and, too sick to be moved, died in the Capitol building two days later.

Adams set a standard for Massachusetts congressmen that has never been surpassed. But generations of Massachusetts politicians have stretched to reach the benchmark he established.

In our own time, three members of the Massachusetts delegation have won the highest accolade of their colleagues: Joseph W. Martin, John W. McCormack and Thomas P. O'Neill Jr., each in his turn elected speaker.

The present dean of our delegation, J. Joseph Moakley, has worthily continued this great Massachusetts tradition.

For more than a quarter of a century, he has demonstrated that mixture of profoundly local constituent relations and profoundly national and international vision that is not unique to, but utterly typical of, and pioneered by, Massachusetts. His constituents responded to his service with such enduring approval that when he was asked to speculate on the identity of his successor, he replied, "Until two weeks ago, I didn't think my successor had been born yet."

This is not to say that everything went Joe's way. It would be accurate but inadequate to describe Joe Moakley's later years as those of a survivor. He survived the death of his beloved Evelyn, and he survived medical problems that would have driven most people into retirement to snatch a few years or months doing what they had really wanted to do.

But as Joe has told us, for 30 years he's been doing exactly what he wanted to do. To adapt the words of William Faulkner in his Nobel acceptance speech, Joe Moakley has not merely endured, he has prevailed. And it is the courage and stamina of such men as Joe Moakley that ensure democratic government will prevail.

As he has told us, with his usual calm candor, his own prognosis is not encouraging. He has said that he will not seek another term, and that he may not finish this one. But whenever Joe Moakley's term ends, it will be said of him what Thomas Hart Benton said of John Quincy Adams: "Where could death have found him but in the place of duty?"

Joe Moakley has, at least in one respect, been more fortunate than Adams: For Joe, the place of duty is not only an obligation, but a pleasure.

Joe Moakley exemplifies for our time an earlier type of the Irish Democratic politician. Like Al Smith, he is a happy warrior. And we—in Massachusetts and the nation—have been and will be happy in the life and