

\$13,000 to \$19,000 per child. This savings is realized in higher school achievement, less retention in a grade, a reduced need for special education, and less crime.

The Providing Resources and Education for Kids Act will help states meet the challenge of providing quality pre-kindergarten programs. This legislation provides grants to state education agencies to help establish or strengthen pre-kindergarten early learning programs for children age five and under. To encourage states to participate and ensure their long-term investment, the bill creates a sliding scale over five years for the federal-state match. Because of inadequate resources in many states, they cannot offer a pre-kindergarten program for young children.

While many states do not have extensive pre-kindergarten initiatives, I have been fortunate that in my own hometown La Crosse, Wisconsin there is an impressive pre-kindergarten program at the Red Balloon Child Care Center. In fact, my two sons are enrolled in this program. Every day my wife Tawny and I see tremendous growth in our sons and we are pleased that we have the opportunity to send our sons to such a wonderful place. Our wish is that every child is able to receive the quality education that this pre-kindergarten program provides for our sons.

Rarely have we had such a unique opportunity to push American education to a higher level. As a member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, I am committed to making the contributions necessary to advance our nation's education. Nationwide, families are demanding more from their schools, and educators, and elected leaders, are responding. That is why I introduced my Pre-K Act. Investing in our young children before they enter kindergarten is the first step in helping students meet their highest potential. We should not deny students this opportunity by denying them a good quality early education.

Mr. Speaker, educational preparation is crucial for all young children. I would encourage my colleagues to support the Providing Resources and Education for Kids Act (Pre-K).

ESTATE TAX RELIEF ACT

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Estate Tax Relief Act.

The death tax is punitive in nature for all individuals, but it is particularly burdensome for closely-held, family-owned businesses that are the leading job creators in this country. The death tax rate of as much as 60% often means the difference between selling or keeping a family business intact. At a minimum, the death tax should be reduced. No targeted tax should force small businesses to sell or file bankruptcy.

While the House of Representatives has passed the Death Tax Repeal Act (H.R. 8), the measure simply does not provide enough relief soon enough. First, the measure provides no relief for next year, and provides very

little for taxpayers until well into the second half of the next decade. We have no assurances that relief will ever be made available in successive Congresses.

The Estate Tax Relief Act ensures that we provide relief right away by converting the current structure to an exemption and ensuring that the first \$10 million of an estate (per person) are exempted from the tax. Additionally, it lowers the top rate to 45%. In addition, the bill maintains the current-law step up in basis. With regard to the gift tax, the legislation puts in place a \$50,000 per year, per taxpayer exemption.

Mr. Speaker, if we are serious about reducing this onerous tax, my legislation is the right way to do it. Please join me in cosponsoring this measure so that we can ensure we reduce the difficulties this tax imposes on the transfer of assets.

FIGHTING AGAINST LEUKEMIA

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, as the past chair of the House Science Committee's Technology Subcommittee, I am well aware that technology is improving our lives in immeasurable ways—including health care. I rise to bring to the attention of the House a recent development in the fight against leukemia, a matter of great concern to many of us.

The National Cancer Institute (NCI), located in my district, is engaged in a race to find a drug that may stop the development of leukemia. I am pleased to report today on some innovative research efforts that are now underway with the help of Intel Corporation, which is working in partnership with NCI to advance the search for a cure.

Leukemia is the number one cause of cancer-related death for children. In 1999 alone, over 30,000 new cases were diagnosed in the United States. Scientists have already discovered several proteins important to the growth of leukemia but they must evaluate millions of molecules to see which ones can fight this form of cancer.

A major problem faced by leukemia researchers is the lack of processing abilities. To combat this problem, just yesterday, Craig Barrett, President and CEO of Intel and Dr. John Seffrin, CEO of the American Cancer Society, announced the launch of Intel.com/cure. This website hosts a program which utilizes peer-to-peer technology to assist scientists in their search for a cure. By simply downloading a screensaver, anyone around the world can join this endeavor.

Peer-to-peer technology provides unused computing power of individual machines to be utilized. A screensaver downloaded from Intel.com/cure allows a program to run in the background without disturbing your normal computer usage. The program performs a few of the millions of calculations that can assist researchers in determining which molecules have the greatest cancer-fighting potential.

This program can be of great assistance to researchers to find a cure. The manner and

speed of scientific discoveries could be fundamentally enhanced. All our otherwise unused processing power could create the world's fastest computing platform for great causes. Estimates show that this project would be operating at speeds of magnitudes faster than the world's fastest supercomputers at a fraction of the cost.

This program could be expanded to include other qualified projects. Universities and researchers could post their philanthropic projects on the website. PC owners could become part of collaborative research efforts. The potential of this project is potentially significant.

Intel Corporation would like this web site to become a focal point for people who want to help launch a new era of PC philanthropy, where computer owners lend their PC's "Idle time" to a great cause. As a leader and innovator in peer-to-peer computing, Intel believes that this method will accelerate scientific advancements. This leukemia project, developed by United Devices Incorporated, is endorsed by the American Cancer Society, the National Foundation for Cancer Research, and Oxford University.

April is Cancer Control Month, a time when we recognize our nation's long commitment to fighting cancer. Peer-to-peer technology can be a new frontier in how medical research is performed. I commend the efforts of this joint research partnership and hope this can be a substantial step that will lead to the cure for leukemia.

TRIBUTE TO THE OUTSTANDING NEIGHBORHOOD VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINEES

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the nominees for the South Carolina Outstanding Neighborhood Volunteers of the Year. Many of these volunteers nominated for the award are from my district and well deserving of the honor.

The Burton Heights-Standish Acres Neighborhood Association in Columbia, South Carolina is an organization devoted to the safety and cleanliness of their neighborhood; this association has four members who were nominated for the award. Mr. and Mrs. John Watson are dedicated volunteers who have been catalysts for a united, safe, and friendly community. Sylvester Jenkins, a charter member of the Burton Heights-Standish Acres Neighborhood Association, is a model citizen who also serves as President of the Retired Mail Handlers Organization. Venis J. Livingston is noted throughout the neighborhood for her rapport with the youth, a characteristic she utilizes in her role as a Parent educator.

"The Drama Team," a subunit of the Eau Claire Community Council Youth Organization, uses theatrical plays and artistic endeavors to educate community youth about issues ranging from HIV/AIDS to violence and drugs. "The Drama Team" has three fine women who have been nominated for the Outstanding