

April 5, 2001

ASBESTOS SETTLEMENT FUND  
RELIEF LEGISLATION

**HON. MAC COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise, along with my colleague from Georgia (Rep. JOHN LEWIS) to introduce legislation that would help companies and victims that are struggling with asbestos liability. Distinct and separate from the controversy associated with asbestos liability reform, our tax bill has broad and deep bipartisan support. Approximately 70 of our colleagues have agreed to be original cosponsors of the bill.

The bill provides fairness for victims and defendants alike. Many companies that are paying victims for their injuries cannot deduct these costs because the costs exceed their taxable income and these costs can only be carried back to a limited number of tax years in which their expenses already exceed their income. Many asbestos victims rely on settlement funds for compensation. Those settlement funds are currently taxed at 39.6%, which increases the costs of financing the funds and decreases the amount of money available to victims.

Our bill, would (1) exempt from federal tax settlement funds established for the purpose of paying asbestos victims, and (2) allow companies to carry back deductions for the payment of asbestos claims to the tax years giving rise to the current asbestos liabilities.

Our bill will ensure that all companies that pay asbestos claims are allowed to deduct those costs and that all of the money in asbestos settlement funds will be paid only to asbestos victims.

TRIBUTE TO ANNIE MARTIN  
GIBSON

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Annie Martin Gibson of Summerton, South Carolina, who died at the age of 90 on March 6. Mrs. Gibson and her late husband William were among the principle petitioners in the lawsuit *Briggs v. Elliott*, which became the first of the five lawsuits collectively known as *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*. Those cases began the process of breaking down racial barriers in our nation's public schools.

Annie Gibson's place in history has been often overlooked. She, along with 19 of her peers, were the original signers of the document that started legal action leading to the desegregation of America's schools. Mrs. Gibson was the last surviving petitioner who set the landmark desegregation movement into motion. For decades following the lawsuit, the Gibson family suffered through stress and unrest due to their decision. Mrs. Gibson was fired from her job as a housekeeper at a local hotel.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

While many of the petitioners left the Clarendon County area, the Gibsons remained with their four children. With the land they owned they managed to earn a meager living. A family friend said the family never succumbed to the hardships facing them. Mrs. Gibson has been described by friends and family as a quiet, gentle person who refused to allow her children to receive a second rate education. She was one of many unsung heroes during the Civil Rights Movement who should be celebrated and remembered for putting her country before herself.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me today in honoring Annie Martin Gibson for her great work as a Civil Rights Movement trailblazer. Her sacrifices should be remembered and celebrated by this House. Mrs. Annie Martin Gibson will be sorely missed.

TRIBUTE TO BUTLER  
MANUFACTURING COMPANY

**HON. KAREN MCCARTHY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in salute to the Butler Manufacturing Company and its 100 years of service and leadership to Greater Kansas City, the United States, and countries abroad. Throughout the last century, Butler Manufacturing has remained steadfast in its commitment to providing quality products and services worldwide. I am proud to recognize their achievements.

Butler Manufacturing Company, founded in 1901 by innovators Emanuel Norquist and Charles Butler is now one of the world's leading providers of commercial and industrial construction services. Their first Butler building, completed in 1910, stood in use in central Kansas City for over 45 years. With the successful introduction of a sturdy two car version of the garage, Butler Manufacturing was in the building business to stay because the market demand was so great. With the passing of each decade, Butler Manufacturing has remained on the cutting edge of the nonresidential construction market. The 1920s were devoted to determining customers' needs and satisfying those needs with personal service, concepts that worked successfully for Butler's grain bins. In the 1930s, Butler answered the call from the U.S. Department of Agriculture by mass-producing 14,500 galvanized steel grain bins in under 59 days; one day ahead of schedule. By the 1940s, Butler Manufacturing had a complete line of rigid frame buildings ready to market. The 1950s brought about enormous change and growth within the company with the formation of five product divisions; two of which, commercial, industrial and institutional end users, and rural buildings, continue to be the strength of the company today. Marked as a decade of enhancement and expansion, the 1960s ushered in new technologies and advancements such as construction components which allowed for frames with wider, longer, and lower slopes. In the 1970s, Butler extended the long-term value of buildings by making them virtually

weathertight and advanced traditional ideas on pre-engineering buildings through such innovations as Multi-Story, Long Span, and the distinct look of Landmark, which all were pioneering steps in the advancement of building systems. The 1980s were a time of acquisitions for Butler as they sought to grow new markets and increase market share in existing businesses. Throughout the 1980s into the mid-1990s, acquisitions were made to expand Butler's architectural and aluminum market presence. Today, Butler Manufacturing has gained multinational recognition and continues to be a leader in business worldwide, including presence in South America, Europe, the Middle East and Asia, while remaining dedicated to the core ideals of excellence and teambuilding, on which the company was founded. These ideals are also responsible for Butler's being named the recipient of the prestigious 2000 Paragon Award by the Human Resource Management Association of Greater Kansas City. Noted for their excellent practices in a broad range of human resource issues, the recognition of Butler's mentoring program highlights a continued commitment to the Greater Kansas City community as well.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join with me today in celebrating Butler Manufacturing Company's 100 years of innovation, customer service, and quality that founded and continues to sustain this company's place as a leader in manufacturing in America and the global community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PERSONAL  
INFORMATION PRIVACY ACT

**HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce legislation, the Personal Information Privacy Act (PIPA), that safeguards consumers' personal privacy by giving them the ability to protect personal information from being bought and sold by third parties.

This bill would restore consumer control over personal information by requiring that a third party obtain consent from an individual before making commercial use of that person's Social Security number (SSN). In fact, any non-criminal use not explicitly allowed by law would face this restriction, including the growing commercial use of SSNs as personal identifiers by various businesses.

Social Security numbers have become our default identifiers for many businesses, and thereby the key to much of our most personal information. That has to stop. As identity theft and fraud increases, action must be taken to ensure that this personal information remains private.

Under my legislation, refusing to sell services or goods to consumers who choose not to furnish their SSN would be illegal under the Federal Trade Commission Act, and businesses would be liable for up to \$10,000 in fines per violation for committing unfair or deceptive business practices. Credit bureaus would also be prevented from giving out SSNs without a person's consent. PIPA would amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act and the