

(WI) join me, in introducing the YMCA Teen Action Agenda Enhancement Act of 2001.

For 150 years, the YMCA has provided our nation's youth with safe, healthy activities. The YMCA is volunteer founded and volunteer-led. The YMCA depends on more than 600,000 volunteers to meet the unique needs of their communities. YMCAs serve people of all faiths, races, abilities, ages and incomes. 1 in 10 teens—2.4 million teens across the nation—are involved in a program offered by a local YMCA. Recognizing the unique obstacles faced by the teenagers of today, the YMCA has launched the Teen Action Agenda, a nationwide campaign to double this number and serve 1 in 5 teens by 2005.

This legislation authorizes federal appropriations of \$20 million for fiscal years 2002 through 2006 to carry out the Youth Teen Action Agenda. Similar legislation was enacted into law in the 105th Congress to aid the Boys and Girls Club of America and in the 106th Congress to aid Police Athletic Leagues, in their efforts to improve academic and social outcomes for youth. Under this legislation, subgrants will be made to YMCA teen programs that have a primary purpose of serving youth that are at-risk of delinquency or are in failing schools.

In my district, a number of YMCA clubs are serving our teenagers. In the town of Lafayette, CO alone, twenty-five programs at two YMCA Centers serve close to 1300 kids. The YMCA Arapahoe Center is a full youth and family center for teens and preteens ages 11–17, and the YMCA Lafayette Youth Center serves low income, at risk kids. These two clubs lead programs for Youth Employment services, after school drop-in, drop-in sports, field trips, Leaders club, Arts and Humanities classes and camps, high school and middle school sports, baby-sitting training, Youth and Government, Leadership development (Leaders-in-Training and Junior Leaders summer program), and Teen Adventures camps.

A recent nationwide study shows that participation in afterschool activities leads to better grades and better behavior in teens. Nearly eight in 10 teens (79%) that engage in afterschool activities are A or B students, but only half (52%) of teens who do not participate in afterschool activities earn these high marks. Teens that do not engage in afterschool activities are five times more likely (15%) to be D students compared to students who do participate in activities after school (3%).

This study has also documented the need for more afterschool programs. Over half (52%) of teens say they wish there were more afterschool activities in their neighborhood or community. Two in three (67%) teens say they would likely participate in afterschool programs that would help them get better grades, develop leadership skills and be more involved in their community while having fun with other teens if they knew that churches, recreation centers and the YMCA offered such programs. Six in 10 (62%) teens left unsupervised during the week say they would likely participate in afterschool programs.

The need for more after-school opportunities has been made clear to me in my visits to every high school in my district. Students have told me that if there were more after school activities, they would participate in them. This

bill will help give kids safe, productive places to go when the school bell rings at the end of the day. We all know that the teenagers of today face challenges and pitfalls unimaginable a generation ago. I believe this bill helps a proven community based organization with a rich history of providing quality programs for America's youth to offer our teenagers with the opportunity to develop and thrive.

MODIFY THE DEPRECIATION OF
PROPERTY USED IN THE GEN-
ERATION OF ELECTRICITY

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2001

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that will foster adequate electric generation and reliability. Excessive electricity price volatility, concerns about power shortages, and harmful consequences for the regional economy in the West are all related to inadequate generation and transmission capacity in and around my home state of California.

Moreover, the energy crisis in California and neighboring states has demonstrated the importance of developing generation facilities to ensure that electricity supplies are widely available at reasonable prices. But capacity shortages are not just an issue in California, and addressing this tax code problem is critical to helping avoid similar problems from developing in other regions of the country.

To encourage new investments in generation, my bill would reduce depreciable lives of generation systems from their current cost recovery period of 15 or 20 years to 7 years. The current electric industry depreciable lives are longer than those of any manufacturing segment.

America's booming technology-reliant economy of the 1990s spurred a demand for more electricity. However, that increase in demand was not met by building new generation. In the 1970s and 1980s, America had power surpluses. As a result, state regulators, trying to keep consumer rates down, often disallowed the costs of some excess capacity and did not allow utilities to recover in rates all of their costs for building power plants. In many cases, utilities were required by their regulatory commissions to buy power from other supplies rather than build their own plants. That, and the advent of competition, engendered a cautious attitude toward investment costs that might not be recoverable. The result was a construction lag, while demand for power increased by about 2 percent per year.

Nevertheless, between 1978 and 1992, America's utilities had reserve margins that averaged between 25 percent and 30 percent to meet emergency demand situations. Since 1992, the reserve margin has dropped significantly—to less than 15 percent nationwide.

Meanwhile, the Energy Information Administration (EIA), in its Annual Energy Outlook 2001, raised its own projections of electricity demand for the next 20 years because of projected increases in economic growth and the growth in electricity use for a variety of resi-

dential and commercial applications. To meet demand growth, EIA projects that 1,310 new plants—with a total of 393 gigawatts of capacity—will need to be built by 2020. The 393 gigawatts represents nearly a 47% increase over current installed capacity, or the ability to serve approximately 60 million additional customers.

The current tax law profoundly impacts a generator's bottom line, making it difficult to compete, and discourages the formation of much needed capital investment. The price spikes and major power outages in recent years, most notably in California, have brought this issue home to millions of people. By way of example, no significant new generation has been built in my state of California in more than a decade, despite higher than-expected growth in the demand for power.

Nationwide, the structure of the electric industry is rapidly changing from vertically-integrated, regulated monopolies to unbundled and fully competitive generation services— independent transmission companies and local distribution companies. Currently, 24 states and the District of Columbia, encompassing some 62% of the Nation's population, have either passed electric industry restructuring legislation or enacted regulatory orders to implement unbundling and competitive customer choice. In addition, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is promoting wholesale competition and the formation of regional transmission organizations. Because of the introduction of competition, previously applicable rules regarding the cost recovery of capital simply do not apply any longer.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor this urgently needed legislation.

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMBERS OF
CARPENTERS LOCAL 1005 OF
MERRILLVILLE, INDIANA

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2001

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and admiration that I congratulate the members of Carpenters Local 1005 of Merrillville, Indiana who will be honored at their 29th Annual Pin Recognition Banquet. The union members of Northwest Indiana have consistently demonstrated the work ethic and quality craftsmanship on which the community prides itself. The banquet, to be held on Saturday, May 12, 2001 at the St. Elijah Serbian American Hall in Merrillville, will be held in honor of those members who have completed between 20 and 65 years of service with the union. Also to be awarded are the Joe Manley Humanitarian Award, the Ken Castaldi Apprentice of the Year Award, and the Contractor of the Year Award.

Carpenters Local 1005, which received its charter on March 7, 1972, and is one of the largest Carpenters locals in the state of Indiana, will honor its members for their years of dedicated service. Charles James, initiated in 1936, will be honored for his 65 years of service. Those members who will be honored for 60 years of service include: Rexford McDaniel

and Nicholas Mudry. Those who will be honored for 55 years of service include: Lester Cornett, Billy Frost, William Gabbard, Sam Loiacano, Harold Massa, Fred Roberts, Robert Rosenbaum, John Taylor, Leonard Taylor, Robert Tucker, James Williams, and Ivan Wynkoop. The members who will be honored for 50 years of service include: Melvin Anderson, Jack Bartruff, Walter Catlow, Carl Cauley, James Cooley, John Curtis, Otis Davis, John Gottby, Robert Green, Bartul Letica, Walter Mahns, John Mihalko, Sam Pysch, Jr., Glen Snow, Albert Touchette, and Tage Borg. Those members who have served for 45 years include: Kenneth Anderson, Felix Bannon, Eugene Claus, Clyde Fauser, George Hendershot, Kenneth Horan, William Kristoff, Clive Leach, George Nannenga, Raymond Nicksch, George Patterson, Jr., Fred Reynolds, Harry Spurgeon, Charlie Stokes, Raymond Wardell, and Jessie Castle. Those members who will be honored for 40 years of service include: Howard Johnson, Jr. and Peter Znika. The members who will be honored for 35 years of service include: Eddie Andersen, Steve Hostinsky, Otto Massow, Oscar Mischan, Loren Pollard, James Thoreson, Grant Wedding, Warren Wilkerson, Dennis Williamson, and Kenneth Mahler. Those members who will be honored for 30 years of service include: Leroy Dewar, Gene Harlow, Winford Harris, Charles Prewitt, John Rassbach, Ronald Robinson, Charles Spiller, and Joe Sulhoff. The members who will be honored for 25 years of service include: Gordon Anderson, Theodore Blahunka, Joseph Crnkovich, Michael Darden, Ronald Dwight, Joseph Erb, William Herbst, Paul Hernandez, Sr., Kenneth Huhn, George Klippel, Nick Kotur, Wray Loney, Roy Scarborough, Rich Steinhilber, Robert Stivers, Bruce Thomas, Thomas Trulley, Michael Twilla, and Donald Welch. Those members who will be honored for 20 years of service include: Jeff Basco, Paul Cieszkiewicz, Harold Evers, Eugene Glowacki, Jeffrey Hall, Roy Jonkman, John Kucik, William Lueder, Daniel Lustgarten, William McCarty, Ricky Nance, Robert Paske, Warren Perry, Jessie Simmons, Drew Smith, and Michael Stanton.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these dedicated, honorable, and outstanding members of Carpenters Local 1005, in addition to the hardworking union men and women throughout the country. The countless hours of exceptional service the men and women of Carpenters Local 1005 have provided to their community deserve our admiration and respect. Their dedication and commitment are the epitome of the values we hold in Northwest Indiana, and I am proud to represent such fine men and women in Congress.

SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2001

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with the President and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. MANZULLO) in celebrating small busi-

ness week. Small businesses are the engine of our nation's economy providing 53 percent of the private work force and \$63 billion worth of goods and services to the federal government. Additionally, small businesses are at the heart of our nation's communities providing charity to community service organizations and donations to direct service providers. I would like to acknowledge the hundreds of small businesses that reside in my district which are essential to our nation's social and economic vitality.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to extend my congratulations to Allstate Corporation, which is located in my district, on receiving a 2001 Phoenix Award for their quick response in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York and Virginia in the aftermath of Hurricane Floyd. The Allstate Corporation along with the countless other business and individuals who have dedicated their time and resource to our nation's communities should be commended.

MAY 11, 2001: PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY

HON. MICHAEL FERGUSON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2001

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor childcare providers throughout the world on the eve of Provider Appreciation Day.

Provider Appreciation Day, celebrated annually on the Friday before Mother's Day, was spearheaded by a group of volunteers from New Jersey in 1996. They saw the need for a day to show our appreciation to childcare providers. And as a result of their dedication and perseverance, Provider Appreciation Day has not only spread nationwide, it is also celebrated in Canada, Europe, and Asia.

Early childhood is undoubtedly the most critical time of development for our children. Today, approximately 13 million children in the United States under the age of six, are in childcare at least part-time. An additional 24 million school age children are in some form of childcare after school. Provider Appreciation Day recognizes the hard work childcare workers perform and the sacrifices they make in their dedication to the development of our children.

I encourage all parents with children in childcare to join me in showing their providers how much they are appreciated. While the profession is one of the most under-recognized and underpaid professions in the country, providers bring compassion, patience, encouragement and love to our children each and every day.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Suzanne Williamson, Chairwoman of Provider Appreciation Day, for her commitment to establishing a national day of recognition for childcare providers. Ms. Williamson is also the Director for Monday Morning Child Care, Inc., a network of childcare providers located in Union County, New Jersey. Her endless efforts have made Provider Appreciation Day possible.

NATIONAL FIBROMYALGIA AWARENESS DAY

HON. JOHN E. PETERSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2001

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of National Fibromyalgia Awareness Day on May 12, 2001.

Fibromyalgia remains a great mystery of the medical world. It affects 3 to 6 million Americans and causes debilitating symptoms that often times make it impossible for an afflicted individual to lead a normal life. Fibromyalgia patients describe their pain as being so severe that it can be impossible to lift a glass of water or even get out of bed some mornings.

While the disease tends to affect women between the age of 35 and 50, cases have been reported in children, men and the elderly.

Fibromyalgia is a chronic disorder characterized by widespread musculoskeletal pain, fatigue and multiple tender points. These tender points are located in the knee, shoulder, hip and back and can make walking a short distance a challenge. It is also common for Fibromyalgia patients to have a sleep disorder, causing the fatigue to worsen.

The most frustrating aspect of this disease is that it causes a chronic pain for which there is neither a cure nor a known cause. I hope that through awareness efforts like National Fibromyalgia Awareness Day, more attention will be focused on finding a cure and 3 to 6 million Americans can return to living normal, pain free lives.

I applaud the efforts of the National Fibromyalgia Awareness Campaign and ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing May 12, 2001 as National Fibromyalgia Awareness Day.

THE TRAGIC HELICOPTER CRASH KILLING A JOINT US/VIETNAMESE MIA SEARCH TEAM

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2001

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, while much of the world was focused just a few weeks ago on the crisis in the South China Sea, at the same time a tragedy occurred in that part of the world that should be remembered. On Saturday, April 7th, we lost seven American and nine Vietnamese personnel in a helicopter crash. The accident happened while this joint U.S.—Vietnamese team was on its way to an operation to help find the remains of missing US service members from the war.

In many of my visits to Vietnam, I had the privilege to meet the members of the Joint Task Force—Full Accounting, the US military unit tasked with helping to find our missing. I marveled at the stories of their dangerous missions to find the remains of our missing servicemen. They told me of operations done on treacherous mountaintops surrounded by landmines and unexploded ordnance. Intense jungle heat, hazardous weather conditions and