

Under this measure, the Assistant Secretary of State would be required to work directly with the Justice Department and other applicable Federal agencies to identify and track terrorists living abroad who have killed Americans or who are engaged in acts of terrorism that have directly affected American citizens. In addition, the Assistant Secretary would provide an annual report to Congress, on the number of Americans kidnapped, killed, or otherwise directly affected by the actions of international terrorists. Also included in the annual report to Congress would be a thorough detailing of what actions State and Justice are undertaking to obtain justice for U.S. victims of international terrorism and a current list of terrorists living abroad. I regret that the committee did not see fit to report my amendment which addresses a very critical and legitimate issue. I am hopeful that my legislation will be considered by the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on International Relations in the coming weeks.

I also strongly supported passage of the amendment offered by my colleague, HIRC Ranking Member TOM LANTOS, to prohibit International Military Education and Training (IMET) funds for Lebanon's military forces unless the President certifies that the Lebanese Army has deployed to the internationally recognized border with Israel. One year ago, Israel unilaterally withdrew from Lebanon, and the UN subsequently certified Israel's pull-out as complete, and called on the Lebanese government to take control of its southern region. However, Israel continues to face attacks, kidnappings and the threat of rocket attacks from southern Lebanon. Hezbollah terrorists, with the support of Syria and Iran continue to operate freely in Southern Lebanon because the government of Lebanon refuses to assert its authority in the region, as called for by the UN Security Council Resolution. I strongly support this amendment, which would block IMET funding to the Lebanese military, but does not block any other assistance. It simply mandates a Presidential report in six months about a possible termination of economic assistance. While I understand the concern of those who believe this amendment will embolden Hezbollah and increase Syrian influence in Lebanon, tens of thousands of Israeli citizens are within range of Hezbollah rockets and kidnappers, and the U.S. must take steps to ensure that the Lebanese government takes firm control of its own territory.

Mr. Chairman, the State Department Authorization bill helps fund some of the most critical programs administered by the State Department. I regret that the bipartisan-supported language stripping the Mexico City provisions was included in the final version of the bill we approved in this chamber. However, whenever possible, I believe Congress should stand in support of an Administration's foreign policy agenda. I believe that the underlying bill makes good on our commitment to fund many critical priorities. That is why I believe that amendments such as those that would disqualify legal medical services had no place in this bill. The Mexico City policy is not the way to cease abortions, and I hope that the original language—which was approved by the House Committee on International Relations without this provision—will be reinstated by the time this bill is delivered to the President's desk.

TRIBUTE TO TEACHERS FROM
NORTHWEST INDIANA

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2001

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, It is my distinct honor to commend seven dedicated teachers from Northwest Indiana who have been voted outstanding educators by their peers for the 2000–2001 school year. These individuals, Darwin Kinney, Zita Dodge, Mary Hedges, Judy Seehausen, Sandra Baker, Pat Reyes and Pat Nemeth, will be presented the Crystal Apple Award at a reception sponsored by the Indiana State Teachers Association. This glorious event will take place at the Broadmoor Country Club in Merrillville, Indiana, on Wednesday, May 16, 2001.

Darwin Kinney, from Crown Point Community School Corporation, has taught for 34 years at Crown Point High School. While Darwin carries a heavy teaching load of Biology and Life Science, he has always been dedicated to maintaining personal interaction with his pupils. His commitment to students is obvious. As an educator, Darwin works closely with his students during and after school, ensuring that they maximize their potential. His desire to educate and enlighten the minds of the young adults who enter his room is evident in the way in which he interacts with his classes.

Zita Dodge, from Hanover Community School Corporation, uses several different learning styles to reach every student. The love and care that she shows the children is reflected on every student's face. Zita started teaching in Hanover in 1970, where her career began as a music teacher. She then taught kindergarten and later moved on to teach first grade. During her service as an educator, Zita has served on several district and building committees. Continuing to challenge herself through education, Zita went back to school to become a counselor and was hired as a Home School Facilitator. For the past five years, Zita has enjoyed being back in the classroom teaching first grade. Zita has always unselfishly dedicated herself to the field of education, both to the children who were in her many classes and to all the adults that she helped become better parents and teachers.

A dedicated teacher for 32 years, Mary Hedges of the School Town of Highland is a role model, inspiration and an outstanding professional. Mary is a wonderful caring teacher who frequently creates hands-on lessons for her students. She is always ready to listen to others. Mary is very active in the School Corporation. She is an officer of the PTO, sits on the Science Curriculum Committee and the Textbook Committee, and helps with the Performance Based Assessment.

Judy Seehausen began her teaching career in 1974 in Columbus, Georgia, and is currently employed in the Lake Central School Corporation in St. John, Indiana. When Judy and her family moved to Indiana, she taught at Kahler Middle School. In 1979, Judy earned a life license in English, Guidance and Counseling and began working as a counselor at the high

school. Judy returns to the classroom every summer to teach English, maintaining her teacher-student perspective. Teachers turn to Judy as their strongest advocate and her peers describe her as an outstanding and dedicated professional. She is a diplomat, creative problem solver and a mediator for all.

As a professional educator during her thirty years of service to the School Town of Munster, Sandra Baker has been a valuable asset. Sandra is a leader in civic education, and has led her classes to superior rankings in the regional and state "We the People" constitutional hearings for eight consecutive years. In 1995, the American Lawyers Auxiliary named Sandra "Elementary Teacher of the Year." For the past 15 years, she has taught a full-time magnet class for academically talented 5th graders. Sandra's greatest desire is to leave a positive mark on the world through her work with children.

Pat Reyes from North Newton School Corporation in Morocco, Indiana, has been a third grade teacher at Lincoln Elementary School for twenty-six years. Pat is conscientious about having her students meet the standards expected of them, but she also gets involved in many extracurricular activities. For example, Pat works with the National Arbor Day Foundation in order to involve the school in an annual tree planting ceremony. She also is instrumental in coordinating special observances such as Read Across America Day, Grandparents' Day and PTA sponsored events. Pat is a continuous source of enthusiasm for her student and others.

Pat Nemeth's high school teaching career is coming to a close as she nears a well-deserved retirement. Pat has taught at North Newton High School, Hanover Central High School, and for 24 years at Lowell High School. In addition to teaching business courses in the Tri-Creek School Corporation, she also teaches courses at Davenport University. Pat is the past recipient of the Inland-Ryerson Steel Outstanding Teacher Award, I wish Pat a long, happy, and healthy retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending these outstanding educators on their receipt of the 2000–2001 Crystal Apple Award. The years of hard work they have put forth in shaping the minds and futures of Northwest Indiana's young people is a true inspiration to us all.

FALLEN HERO SURVIVOR BENEFIT
FAIRNESS ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1727, the Fallen Hero Survivor Benefit Fairness Act. This bill would allow a necessary extension of tax free benefits to the survivors of law enforcement and public safety officers killed in the line of duty before December 31, 1996. This bill provides all families of deceased public safety officers the opportunity