

May 23, 2001

industry overall, including food as well as ornamental fish, produces and raises over 800 different species. Unfortunately, the industry has only five drugs approved for use in treating aquaculture diseases. The result is tremendous economic hardship and animal suffering within the industry.

Mr. Speaker, joined with my colleagues, Mr. COMBEST of Texas, Mr. POMBO of California, Mr. OTTER of Idaho, Mr. SIMPSON of Idaho, and Ms. THURMAN of Florida, I resolve to correct this unfortunate situation by introducing the Minor Animal Species Health Act of 2001. This legislation will allow companies the opportunity to develop and approve minor use drugs which are of vital interest to a large number of animal industries. Our legislation incorporates the major proposals of the FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine to increase the availability of drugs for minor animal species and rare diseases in all animals.

The Animal Drug Availability Act of 1996 required the Food and Drug Administration to provide Congress with a report, describing administrative and legislative proposals to improve and enhance the animal drug approval process for minor uses and minor species of new animal drugs. This report by FDA, delivered to Congress in December of 1998, laid out nine proposals. Eight of the FDA's proposals required statutory changes. The bill I am introducing today reflects the changes called for in the Agency's minor species/minor use report. The Act creates incentives for animal drug manufacturers to invest in product development and obtain FDA marketing approvals. Furthermore, it creates a program very similar to the successful Human Orphan Drug Program that has, over the past twenty years, dramatically increased the availability of drugs to treat rare human diseases. Mr. Speaker, besides providing benefits to livestock producers and animal owners, this measure will develop incentives and sanctioning programs for the pharmaceutical industry while maintaining and ensuring public health.

The Minor Animal Species Health Act of 2001 is supported by the Food and Drug Administration, the American Farm Bureau Federation, the Animal Health Institute, the American Veterinary Medical Association, and virtually every organization representing all genres of minor animal species. This is vital legislation which is desperately needed now. The Act will alleviate much animal suffering, it will promote the health and well-being of minor animal species while protecting and promoting human health, it will benefit pets and improve the emotional security of their owners, benefit various endangered species of aquatic species, and will reduce economic risks and hardships to farmers and ranchers. This is common-sense legislation which will benefit millions of Americans from farmers and ranchers to pet owners. I call on all my colleagues in the House to support the Minor Animal Species Health Act of 2001.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MUSEUM MAGNET IN SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA AS A RECIPIENT OF THE BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL AWARD

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2001*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the great achievement of Museum Magnet School in Saint Paul, Minnesota for being named a Department of Education Blue Ribbon School. Blue Ribbon Schools are selected by the Department of Education because they have been judged particularly effective in meeting local, state and national goals. These schools display the qualities of excellence that are necessary to prepare our young people for the challenges of the new century. Blue Ribbon status is awarded to schools that have strong leadership, a clear vision and sense of mission, high quality teaching, and challenging, up-to-date curriculum. Further, these schools have policies and practices that ensure a safe environment conducive to learning, solid evidence of family involvement, evidence that the school helps all students achieve to high standards, and a commitment to share best practices with other schools.

The Museum Magnet School's mission is to develop creative, independent thinkers who can work cooperatively to solve problems. Their partnership with the Science Museum of Minnesota allows the school to apply the technology, creativity and excitement of museums to the achievement of academic excellence. The students at Museum Magnet use their strong academic skills to create exciting new exhibits in a school museum and share their findings with other students. This community/public partnership creates a nurturing, stimulating environment for teachers, parents and students.

I am so proud of the accomplishments of Museum Magnet and applaud the leadership of the administrators, teachers and students in the pursuit of excellent, community-based education for Minnesota's children.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF OF POLICE  
RUSSELL J. BONO

**HON. JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2001*

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Chief of Police Russell J. Bono for his thirty years of service with the Borough of Norristown Police Department in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. His dedication to the citizens of Norristown has been exemplary and without peer.

Russell Bono began his tenure in 1971 as a patrol officer. He quickly advanced to a K-9 Officer and then to detective. He was promoted to sergeant and then to captain in 1996, before being made Chief of Police in 1998. Chief Bono has served in all of the positions in the department. For three years he

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has also been the Acting Public Safety Director for the Borough of Norristown. He is responsible for all public safety including the police, fire and code enforcement.

Chief Bono has furthered his education as well as his career. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from Montgomery County Community College with an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice in 1977. In 1995 he graduated from the FBI National Academy.

He has been active in his community as a member of the County Revitalization Board and the Mannechoir Club. He and his wife Linda have been married for thirty years and are the parents of three daughters.

It is a privilege to honor the contributions and the public service of Chief Russell Bono. I wish him continued success in all of his endeavors.

MONSIGNOR JOHN J. EGAN, 1916-  
2001

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2001*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Monsignor John J. Egan, a man who never wavered in his mission to promote justice and to better the lives of so many people. He struggled on behalf of the poor and working men and women, gave voice to the voiceless, and cared for those pushed aside by our society.

I personally called him a friend and am proud to have worked with him for many years. He was also a friend of every man, woman or child who needed a helping hand, a voice, or simply a sympathetic ear.

Monsignor Egan, a leader who has spoken so eloquently against racism and bigotry, was among the first Catholic priests to join the civil rights movements. He marched in Alabama in the 1960s for equal rights for all people. He was a man who led by example. Monsignor Egan was also instrumental in saving countless families from eviction and life on the streets. He understood that being poor should not translate to being homeless. He stood on many picket lines supporting workers struggling for their right to organize and improve their working conditions.

People throughout the nation knew Monsignor Egan. He was admired by so many from a wide cross section of our society. He has left a lasting impression on those he has met during his years. He received a religious leaders award from Rainbow/PUSH and was honored by the Chicago chapter of the American Jewish Committee, the Travelers and Immigrants Aid, Citizen Action of Illinois to name only a few. Those awards are a testament to his effective social activism.

In honor of his life, I urge that we continue to follow in his steps, learn from his example, and organize for public policies that are fair and equitable. I urge all my colleagues to read the following accounts from the Chicago Tribune, Chicago Sun-Times, and New York Times celebrating Monsignor Egan's life.