SENATE—*Tuesday, June 5, 2001*

The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the Honorable MICHAEL B. ENZI, a Senator from the State of Wyoming.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Gracious God, Sovereign of this Nation and Lord of our lives, You have blessed us to be a vital part of Your blessing to others. As we return from recess, we commit ourselves to be sensitive to the needs of others around us. Show us the people who particularly need encouragement or affirmation. Give us exactly what we should say to uplift them. Free us of preoccupation with ourselves and our own needs. Help us to remember that people will care about what we know when they know that we care about them. May our countenance, words, and actions communicate our caring. Make us good listeners and enable us to hear what people are expressing beneath what they are saying. Most of all, remind us of the power of intercessory prayer. May we claim Your best for people as we pray for them. Especially we pray for those with whom we disagree on issues. Help us to see them not as enemies but as people who will help sharpen our edge. Lift us above petty attitudes and petulant gossip. And fill this Chamber with Your presence and our hearts with Your magnanimous attitude toward others. For You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MICHAEL B. ENZI led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 5, 2001.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MICHAEL B. ENZI, a Senator from the State of Wyoming, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND,
President pro tempore.

Mr. ENZI thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, the Senate will be in a period of morning business just for 30 minutes or so now. Then we will recess for the weekly policy luncheons to meet. When the Senate reconvenes at 2:15, the education bill will be the pending business. There are a number of pending amendments of significant import. I am sure there will be debate and, hopefully, at least a couple of votes this afternoon, and that we will be able to continue tomorrow, and as long as it takes, to get this very important education reform package completed.

We still have some 300 amendments pending. I would assume that 30 or 40 of those would have to be considered in some form and voted on, maybe even more. So I hope we can make progress on this important legislation today and get an agreement to proceed with it later on this week, no matter what the circumstances may be. We will clarify that schedule later on today or first thing in the morning.

I thank my colleagues for their cooperation.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 12:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for not to exceed 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Arizona.

THE ENERGY CRISIS

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, it is likely that soon the Senate will undergo a historic change in leadership. I am concerned about some news reports that the new Democratic leadership may not proceed forthwith to the consideration of an energy bill that the administration very much would like to see us consider. It is my understanding that, at least from news reports, there are some other priorities the new Democratic leadership will probably pursue.

I just want to make it as clear as I can I think we should, as soon as possible, consider the legislative recommendations of President Bush and Vice President CHENEY to deal with this most serious crisis. In fact, I think we saw this past weekend that the President thought it was important enough to travel to California to visit with Governor Davis, who has certainly expressed his views on the importance of the issues facing his State. And his is not the only State that has faced this energy crisis.

There are a couple of statistics worth noting in this regard. Our energy demands are growing very rapidly while our production side is relatively stagnant. Oil consumption, for example, will grow by over 6 million barrels per day over the next 20 years, but oil production is expected to decline by 1.5 million barrels per day. Natural gas consumption will grow by over 50 percent over the next 20 years, but production will only grow by 14 percent. And electricity demand, which is especially of concern on the west coast and in my region of the country, will rise by 45 percent over the next 20 years. This will require 1,300 to 1,900 new power plants. So we have a big job ahead of us. I think we need to get on with some of the solutions as soon as possible.

There has been some criticism that the President's recommendations are primarily longer term solutions. We will make them even longer term the longer we take to get to them. We will have shorter range solutions the quicker we get to the legislation that is required.

I note that many of the recommendations from the commission the Vice President headed are recommendations that can be effectuated by the administration itself. Twelve can be implemented by Executive action; seventy-three are directives to Federal agencies. For example, the President has already directed Federal entities to reduce consumption by 10 percent, including the military. But there are some 20 recommendations for action by the Congress. These are among the things on which we need to get moving:

The plan of the President to modernize and increase conservation, to diversify energy supply, and modify and expand the infrastructure through which those sources of energy are delivered to the American people, and to

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

strengthen our energy security. This is the core of the set of recommendations.

Without getting into all of the details, because I only have 5 minutes this morning, let me just say that one of the things that has been proposed is price caps. Price caps, as the President and Vice President have said, are exactly the wrong thing to do. Price caps would keep demand increasing and do nothing to enhance supply. In fact, it would tend to keep supply down because there is nothing for the investor to look forward to if there is a price cap on how much can be charged for the energy that is being produced. And, of course, there is no incentive to conserve if there is a price cap. If prices, on the other hand, are allowed to rise, as they do with gasoline, then people will be more careful about how much they use.

We have seen news reports of people cutting back a little bit on the driving they intend to do this summer. Why? Because there are no price caps on the price of gasoline. People understand that to save money they are going to have to drive less; they are going to have to conserve.

So I do not understand why, on the one hand, we have this drumbeat of comment that we have to conserve our way out of this problem—certainly conservation is an element but not the sole element—and yet, on the other hand, to put in place price caps, which would have exactly the opposite incentive—for people not to conserve but to go ahead and continue to use those electricity supplies. So I think price caps are not the answer. There are other elements of the bill that are.

Finally, a point about some of the criticism of the Vice President and the President. I hope our colleagues will not join in this kind of demagogy that we have seen from outside the Senate. It is true that both the President and the Vice President have been in the business of producing petroleum products. I do not know why we would be critical of people who know something about the solution coming up with some good ideas. They are, after all, our top two elected leaders. They know something about the problem and its solutions, and neither of them can any longer directly benefit.

So I think this criticism that they know something about the problem and therefore they should not be involved in the solution is very misdirected.

I hope we can focus on solutions rather than ad hominem attacks. After all, there are two kinds of people in the United States: There are producers and consumers. Almost all of us are consumers, and we should be grateful for those who are the producers because they are the ones who make it possible for us to enjoy our great standard of living. They would not be producing if we did not provide the demand for that production. It is the consumers of the country who, in effect, are creating the opportunity for these people to do the demanding.

Some of these critics remind me of kids who think that food comes from the refrigerator or the grocery store.

Obviously, they are unaware of all the work the farmers and the people in between the farmers and the grocery store put in to make those food supplies available. We should not be talking in terms of criticizing the people who are coming up with the solutions simply because they happen to know something about it. I suggest that the new leadership of the Senate, as soon as they possibly can, bring the legislation forward in whatever form because we will all have an opportunity to propose amendments if we don't like its original form.

This is very near a crisis; if it is not a crisis. We have to get on with the solutions. The administration has led the way by its executive directives. It has done all it can do. Now it is time for the Congress to respond. I urge the new leadership of the Senate to join with the administration in a bipartisan effort to begin to consider the solution to our energy problem.

The ACTING PRESIDING pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I say to my friend, the junior Senator from Arizona, I don't know where he heard that the new Democratic leadership was not going to move forward on energy. We are most happy to move forward on energy.

There are all kinds of problems, as the Senator knows. The President has an energy program he has put forward. There are not many specifics with it, but we should move forward and pass those issues on which we agree. Those issues on which we disagree, we can debate and vote up or down.

The Senator has said what we believe is important. We have to start approaching some of these problems in a bipartisan fashion. We hope that can be done on energy.

There is no question that there is a lot of dialog about energy and, of course, there are all kinds of things being said, such as ''the GOP, gas, oil and plutonium.'' I don't think that gets us anyplace.

There has been a lot of bad news from California, but today there was some good news. The good news is that in California they have already found a way to conserve up to 11 percent of the electricity that they were using. That is significant.

When Vice President CHENEY said that conservation was a good personal habit but it wouldn't do anything to solve the energy crisis, I don't think he really believes that. It may not have come out the way he wanted it. We know there has to be conservation along with anything we do to stimulate production.

One of the criticisms I have—and I think it is a valid criticism—with this administration, I serve on the Energy and Water Development Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations. We found in the budget the President gave us, there is almost a 40-percent cut in research and development for renewables. That is something we need to change. We can do that.

In those States in the West—the Senator from Arizona has a State quite similar to Nevada—there are a lot of things that can be done—again, not in the short term bit in the long term—dealing with solar, dealing with wind, and, in the case of Nevada, with geothermal. These are some of the things on which we need to work. Most importantly, we have to work together on this problem.

Senator DORGAN and I have sponsored legislation—in fact, there is an amendment on the education bill, and we also have freestanding legislation—that would cause a joint committee of the House and Senate to be appointed to determine why prices have gone up. Maybe there is a good reason they have gone up. I don't think we should have a witch-hunt. I think it should be an investigation conducted with dignity so the American people could at least say, after we finish, we have done everything we can to find out why the prices are so high.

For example, the Senator and I remember when the price of fuel was so high in the early 1970s. You went to gas stations then and there was no gas. You would wait in line. You would get to the pump and there would be no gas to buy. We don't have that problem now. It doesn't appear to be a problem of supply. Then why are the prices so high?

I hope the Senator from Arizona will look at the legislation the Senator from North Dakota and I are sponsoring dealing with why are the prices so high.

In short, there has certainly been nothing said by any part of the Democratic leadership in the Senate that we were not going to take a look at energy. It is an issue we need to address; we need to do it as soon as we can; and we need to do it in a bipartisan fashion.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, will the Senator yield for a quick comment?

Mr. REID. I am happy to yield.

Mr. KYL. I appreciate the comments of the Senator. I look forward to working with him in a bipartisan fashion.

I had heard the comments that the Republican leadership was going to take the energy bill up right after the education bill. My understanding is the Democratic leadership intends to take that up at a subsequent date. I think the Patients' Bill of Rights may be the next item taken up. That was the nature of my concern.

As soon as possible, I hope it will be considered. I certainly look forward to

working with the Senator from Nevada to find solutions to the problem.

I thank the Senator.

The ACTING PRESIDING pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I seek recognition in morning business to follow up on the issue raised by the Senator from Nevada. I can't think of a bigger issue in terms of the people I represent in the State of Illinois.

A lot of families in Illinois who rely on natural gas to heat their homes saw dramatic increases in their heating bills this past winter. Families of very modest means who budgeted very carefully found their heating bills for last winter were $1,000 to $1,500 higher than they had been in the previous year. Very little explanation was forthcoming. A lot of families just had no choice. They turned down the thermostat and the bills still went through the roof.

I ran into a lady who was a domestic housekeeper in a hotel. She worked nights for her family. She said to me that she had budgeted the same amount as last year to heat her home in Chicago. She ended up $1,000 in debt when it was all over. She is determined to pay off that debt. She is a very hard working person and takes her debts seriously. When you think about that, you just wonder, is this inevitable? Is this the market at work, where we have such wide variations?

I have read a lot—I am sure the Senator from Nevada has as well—about the energy problem in the West—California and other States—where they have seen dramatic increases in utility bills, electric bills.

The other issue the Senator from Nevada alluded to touches close to home in the Midwest. Last year we had this terrific increase in the price of gasoline. It seemed the Easter holiday was the kickoff for a runup in record-level gasoline prices. Last year we asked the oil companies what happened. Why did you do this? They said: We had this change. We had this reformulated gas to reduce air pollution, and it caught us by surprise. We were not ready for it.

It was kind of hard to understand because it had been more than 8 or 10 years they knew this was coming. They weren't prepared for it. They said: We had pipeline breakdowns, refinery problems. They said: We are sorry that it happened.

It went on for about 6 or 8 weeks. People were paying over $2 a gallon for gasoline primarily in the upper Midwest but in St. Louis as well. Then the price started coming back down.

Lo and behold, this year exactly the same thing occurred. At Easter it was as though there was another starter's gun, and gasoline prices went through the roof again.

What is odd about it is that the oil companies are seeing no dramatic increase in the price of crude oil. The defenders of the oil companies tell us this is just the market at work. But if you take a look at some of the elements in that market, you can raise some serious questions.

For example, if the price of crude oil is not going up, why is the price of gasoline going up dramatically? Second, if this is just a reflection of some problems within the industry, why is it that the oil companies are now experiencing the highest profits in current memory? This is one of the few businesses in the world where you can guess wrong about consumer demand and make more profit. That seems to be what is happening to us in the Midwest.

I am encouraged by the announcement of our colleague, Senator LEVIN of Michigan, who has said that once the leadership change takes place in the Senate, as chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Government Affairs, he would hold a hearing and ask, once and for all, what is behind this; why are families and small businesses faced with these high energy costs that seem to spike out of control, whether it is for the heating bill in your home or for the gasoline in your car? What is it about this market mechanism that you see all the stations in your city in lockstep going up in gasoline prices and coming down, trickling down ever so slowly in that same fashion? This does not sound like competition to me; it sounds like something else is going on.

We have been unable in the last few weeks, despite these energy increases, to really convince the White House or the Republican-controlled Congress to look into this issue, to investigate it. But if we do not do this in Congress, who will?

Fortunately, Senator LEVIN of Michigan has announced he is going to move forward with a series of investigations as soon as the leadership in the Senate changes. This concern about energy and its future has to take into account problems that families and businesses are facing today.

It is true, we have medium- and long-term energy challenges. There are many issues we need to consider but, honestly, shouldn't we try to address the current problems that people are facing and try to find some relief? Senator LEVIN's call for this hearing is one I support; it is one in which I have joined with Senator DORGAN from North Dakota and others in asking for previously. I hope we can move forward on this matter.

Mr. REID. Will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. DURBIN. I will be happy to yield.

Mr. REID. I also support Senator LEVIN. Not only will he be chairman of that subcommittee but chairman of the Armed Services Committee. The Armed Services Committee has jurisdiction to find out why oil prices are going up so high anyway because the armed services are some of the world's biggest consumers of oil products.

I said to the junior Senator from Arizona, in the seventies we had long lines, and sometimes one got to the gas pump and there was no gas. There was a shortage of supply. That is not the case now. That is why the Senator from North Dakota and I have called for a joint investigation by the Congress to find out why these prices are priced the way they are. The Senator from Illinois has gone through a number of problems that simply do not make sense.

The Senator has already said what the Senator from Michigan is doing on his subcommittee, and it is important. But does the Senator think this is one of the most important issues to face the American public this decade or last decade or any decade and that a joint investigation is warranted?

Mr. DURBIN. I certainly do. And I thank the Senator from Nevada for his leadership. I was happy to join him on this legislation. What really frustrated many of us was the fact that Congress was unwilling to even look at the issue.

It is something to go back home, whether the home State is Illinois or Nevada, and find people who are telling you real-life stories, tragedies of businesses that have had to cut back in the number of employees and the work they are doing, because of the cost of energy.

I am from a farming State. Illinois, of course, is proud of the fact that it produces so much corn, soybeans, wheat, pork, and beef, but the farmers with whom I have talked face the same thing. It is not just the cost of operating their businesses on the farm but the cost of fertilizer. All of this is directly linked to the cost of energy.

We can explore and debate future energy policy, but we have to be very honest in dealing with the reality of the challenge facing families today. That is why I am hoping—and I hope the Senator from Nevada agrees with me—that there can be an agreement very soon between the Democrats and Republicans to reorganize this Senate and to move forward.

There are so many issues of importance to this Nation that need to be addressed and addressed quickly. We have before us the whole issue of education. This bill was pending in the Senate before we took up the tax bill, and we will return to it. The sooner the Senate gets organized, the sooner we are in business under the new leadership of the majority leader, TOM DASCHLE, the sooner we can return to issues of education.

There has also been talk about issues involving a Patients' Bill of Rights. That is something which I have supported. It means when your doctor

makes a decision for you and your good health, it will not be overruled by an insurance company. That seems pretty basic to me, but we need to pass legislation to make sure the health insurance companies and the HMOs do not go too far and make these medical decisions.

Energy is another issue. We want to work with the President and the White House. We should go to that issue. We should work on it. There are some important issues to be resolved. One of them is whether or not we should drill in Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. This is a piece of real estate in Alaska that is owned by the American people and which has been set aside to be maintained as a wilderness.

There are not many places on Earth that are set aside and maintained as a wilderness. Many of us think, particularly in this fragile ecosystem in Alaska, with the wildlife that is there—some of it is very rare, with species that are not found in other places—that for us to invade that territory to be drilling for oil and gas is to run the risk that we might disturb that balance, and, once having done that, we may face consequences which we cannot repair. The best of intentions of the Congress and the President notwithstanding, Mother Nature and God have decided how certain things will exist.

If we want to bring in the trucks and the pipelines and start drilling away for oil and gas, we should stop and ask the hard question: Is this really our best alternative to find fuel for America's future?

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, it is estimated, has 180 days' worth of energy for the United States. Mr. President, 180 days is, of course, almost 6 months, but that represents energy that is taken out of Alaska over a 10-year period. It means a very small part of our energy picture.

Even with drilling in this wilderness and running the risk of disturbing this ecosystem forever, we are still going to find ourselves dependent more than 50 percent on foreign oil and energy to sustain the United States. Many of us think that before we start drilling in wilderness areas such as the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, we should explore alternatives, including conservation.

I see another Senator on the floor. I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator's time has expired.

The Senator from Wyoming.

SENATE AGENDA

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I want to talk about the direction the Senate has been taking. Certainly, we have many things to do. We have moved through a number of important issues—the budget and meaningful tax relief. We now move to education and energy.

I have to respond to the comments of the Senator from Illinois on energy and suggest this energy crisis did not just happen in the last 5 months. It is interesting to note that for the past 8 years we have not had an energy policy. We have let ourselves get into a position where we are totally dependent on OPEC and foreign production, and it has put us in this position.

It is also interesting to note that it may not always be a shortage of oil but that refining may have something to do with it. We have not built any new refineries over the last number of years, and the idea of accusing someone of causing the problem—we need to take a look at it.

We have many things to do, there is no question, but we need to deal with domestic production and we need to deal with the transportation of energy. We in Wyoming could produce energy for California if we had a way to get it there. We need refineries to refine gasoline. We need to get away from having to develop 15 types of gasoline. It is easy to get away from the facts and get off into blaming somebody for this behavior.

The Senate needs to move on to education. It has been on this issue for quite a long time. It has not moved. We have had a certain amount of obstruction. When there are still 300 amendments, it is a little hard to talk about wanting to move forward, but perhaps we will be able to do that.

I hope when we do, we take a long look at where we want to be in education. Too often, we get so involved with little issues that are either political or they have to do with one minute thing. The fact is, we do not have a clear vision of what the role of the Federal Government is in education, and we need to define that role.

In elementary and secondary education, the Federal Government provides about 7 percent of the funding. Why should they also provide all the rules and regulations that go with it? That has been the position many have taken: If we are going to give them any money, then we have to tell them how to do it.

One of the arguments, of course, is how do we help support education, have a policy on education, but allow the differences that exist in the local education facilities.

What is needed in Chugwater, WY, is different from what is needed in Pittsburgh, PA. We have to allow flexibility for local school boards and States.

I hope to take a look at where we want to be and have a vision of where we are going. Of course, we want high-quality education. We want accountability for education. We have to have quality teachers. We need to have choices for families, whether it is charter schools or schools of choice as we have in my hometown. The public schools have a different approach to it. Parents can decide where they want to send their children. These are the items about which we have to have a vision instead of coming out every day and wrestling over something that has very little impact. Where do we want to be 10 years from now or 15 years from now with regard to education.

Our hope as we change leadership—and that is not the end of the world—is that we move to govern and we move to do the things for the American people that we want to see happen over time: Where do we want to be and what is our role in getting there, that we can measure; high standards; we have to have funding that works; increased flexibility for local control; provide options for students. Those ought to be our goals. We should state how we will get there.

I yield the floor.

RECESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the hour of 12:30 having arrived, the Senate will now stand in recess until the hour of 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:31 p.m., recessed until 2:16 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. INHOFE).

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business until 3 p.m., with Senators speaking for up to 10 minutes each, and that the time be equally divided in the usual form.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 10 minutes in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CARPER. Thank you, Mr. President.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, sometime later this afternoon we will take up legislation on which we have been working for the better part of the last month; that is, to define as best we can the role of the Federal Government with respect to public education in this country.

There are a number of points about which Democrats and Republicans or independents disagree. There are also a number of areas around which we can rally and around which we can agree. I want to take just a moment to address some of those points.

In this country, the role of the Federal Government for the last 30 or 36 years has been really to level the playing field for young people from especially disadvantaged backgrounds to make sure they have an opportunity to be successful when they walk into kindergarten at the age of 5. We do that through programs that provide nutritional support for children; programs to try to ensure that healthy babies are born; to try to ensure that children who can benefit from Head Start have a chance to be in that prekindergarten program; to try to ensure that children in the elementary years and beyond have the opportunity to get extra help in reading, if they need it; if they need extra help in mathematics, they will get that assistance, too; to try to ensure that we recruit some of the best and brightest young people to be our teachers; and to better ensure that not only do those teachers go to the wealthiest school districts in our country but they go to those districts in which the need is the greatest.

The Federal Government has for almost four decades sought to ensure that all children who enter our schools, whether they are in Delaware or the other 49 States, have a real chance to be successful.

There are 49 States in America today which have established rigorous academic standards, spelling out clearly what they expect students to know and be able to do. More than half the States today offer or require many of their students to take tests to measure the progress of those students towards their State's academic standards in math, science, English, social studies, or a variety of other subjects. Almost half the States in America today have worked to put into place accountability systems. By that, we simply mean consequences for students who do well or do not do well; for schools that do well or do not do well; for educators who do well or who do not do well.

I think we agree here in our Nation's Capital between the Congress, across the aisle, and with the President that there is an important role for the Federal Government to play.

We agree that it is important for the Federal Government to infuse more resources into our schools. We agree that it is appropriate that those schools adopt rigorous academic standards—not standards we set in Washington but standards adopted in the 50 States—in core academic subjects such as math, science, English, and social studies.

We agree, first of all, on the idea of more resources. Some would have enormous resources and others more modest. We agree on the premise that more resources need to be invested.

Second, we agree on the need to invest those resources with more flexibility for the States, with greater flexibility for school districts and the schools.

This past week, during the recess, I was in several schools in Delaware. I will mention one of them, a little elementary school in the town of Seaford, DE, in the southwestern part of our State, roughly 100 miles from here—not even that as the crow flies.

In meeting with the school principal and a number of the teachers, they have a host coordinator who helps students succeed. That is a person who coordinates the efforts of 50 mentors in that school. That is a person who is there as a paid staff member from the Delaware department of—we call it the kids department. It is the department that represents families and provides services to families.

One of the things I heard in that visit is something I want to share with my colleagues today. This school takes money, raised by local school property taxes—they are local funds, and they receive State money and Federal money—and what they are about is trying to raise student achievement so that all the kids in that school will be able to read at grade level, write at grade level, do math at grade level, do science at grade level, or do better than that.

I was struck when I heard how West Seaford Elementary is using extra time/money to be able to provide the resources and the help that kids need to read better or do math better. I was struck how they are using title I money with some of the flexibility legislation that this body gave them under the education flexibility legislation adopted roughly 2 years ago.

I was struck to hear how the State's State employee from the kids department works at that school every day as the go-between for the school and a family or families in crisis. This is a family crisis therapist who knows the social service network and knows how to take a family and a child who is hurting and get them the help they need.

The point I am trying to make is this—I have taken a long time to make it. When we set rigorous academic standards for schools—when we say to them: We expect you and your kids to reach those standards; we are going to give you more money—when we give them that money with more flexibility, we have a right to demand results. The States have a right to demand results. The school boards and the parents have a right to demand results.

So what we have is a trilogy, if you will. There are more resources targeted to where they are needed, in programs that work. The money is given more flexibly to school districts which are empowered to use that money more flexibly, with literally teams of teachers, administrators, and parents deciding: Do we need another school counselor or do we need another reading specialist? Do we need to put a paraprofessional in a classroom, or a number of them? Or do we need to hire more teachers? Do we need to have a coordinator for a mentoring program or do we need to put that money into hiring a new science teacher?

Those are the kinds of decisions where I think, more often than not, schools will make the right decision. We have to give them that flexibility.

The fourth point on which I think we agree is that we should empower parents to have greater decisionmaking authority in the education of their children. There has been a lot of debate in this Chamber this year and in past years that part of what we ought to do is to give a voucher. They can take that voucher and send their children to a public, private, or parochial school. We are not going to do that this year. I understand it is being done on a limited demonstration basis, and it ought to continue in those places. There are other ways to empower parents to make choices for their children and they involve public schools. I want to mention two of them today.

One of those is public school choice. The other is the establishment of charter schools. I will start with the charter schools first. Charter schools are public schools. Charter schools are not private schools. They are not parochial schools. Charter schools are public schools. They are public schools in my State and in 35 or so other States, where the faculty, the administration, and the parents have been uniquely empowered to harness the energy of that education staff, to harness the energy and creativity of the parents, the administrators, and the community, to raise the level of achievement for the students.

They are given, in some cases, less money, at least for brick and mortar costs for their schools, than our other traditional public schools. In many States they are given roughly the same amount of money to educate each child, at least in operating funds, as other public schools enjoy. But some amazing things have happened in charter schools in my State. One of them has failed and was closed after 1 year. The rest have not.

One of the schools, the charter school in Wilmington—the first charter school created with partnerships with a number of our major companies—has had

the best high school results on the Delaware State tests of all 29 public high schools in our State for the last 2 or 3 years in a row.

We measure student progress in reading, writing, and math. If you look at the percentage of students at the Wilmington charter school who have a disadvantaged background, who are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, it is under 20 percent, maybe even under 10 percent. It is a relatively middle-class, upper middle-class school. It attracts students from throughout northern Delaware.

There is another charter school in Wilmington, DE, in the middle of the projects called the East Side Charter School. The East Side Charter School does not have a 10 or 15 or 20 percent rate of poverty. Eighty-three percent of the students there are there on free or reduced-price lunches. It has the highest level of poverty of any school in our State. Yet the students who go to that school come early and they stay late. My sons will be finishing up their schooling this school year this coming Friday, June 8, a day to celebrate in our household.

Over at the East Side Charter School they do not finish on June 8. They do not finish on June 18 or June 28. They will be going well into July. Kids going to East Side Charter School not only start early and go late but they have a longer school year. They also wear school uniforms. The children's parents are asked to sign something like a contract of mutual responsibility where they agree to be part of their child's education, to give something back in terms of parental voluntarism at that school during the course of the year. The teachers and the administrators are freed up to be creative and innovative in ways that sometimes do not occur in some of our traditional public schools. They work in teams in ways that do not always happen in other schools, public or private.

Last year, when the State of Delaware gave its annual Delaware State math tests—we test kids in almost 200 public schools; testing them in reading, writing, and math—there was one public school in Delaware in which every child tested in math met or exceeded the State's standards in mathematics. It was the East Side Charter School.

If, in the East Side Charter School, with the highest incidence of poverty in my little State, every child can meet or exceed our State's standards in math, we can educate every child in this country to meet their State's standards in math or reading or writing or other subjects.

We have to be smart enough to invest the resources; we have to be smart enough to make sure that schools have the flexibility to use those resources; we have to demand results; and we have to empower parents and teachers to be creative and innovative. Not every parent in our State chooses for their child to go to a charter school. The number of charter schools is growing and is playing an important role in our State.

Unfortunately, I would like to say, the charter schools in Delaware, and most other States, don't get the kind of capital support for brick and mortar for building a charter school or upgrading a charter school or renovating a charter school that inures to students in regular public schools. That is not the case. For those who have wanted to start a charter school in my State and in most States, they have to go out and borrow money, sometimes from a bank. Unlike a traditional public school which borrows money, the interest is tax free, which lowers the interest cost for those traditional public schools, when a charter school goes out and borrows money for its school, the interest on that loan is not tax free. The interest on that loan is taxable. The interest rate is higher.

The State of Delaware issues bonds from time to time. We issue bonds not just for capital projects for the State, for roads and prisons and health facilities and other things, parks, but we also issue tax-exempt bonds to help raise the money for our public schools.

The State of Delaware provides anywhere from 60 to 80 percent of the capital costs for building and renovating schools in my State. When a charter school wants to go out and raise the money for its brick and mortar needs, the State of Delaware doesn't issue bonds. It does not pay 60 percent or 80 percent or even 6 percent of the capital costs for the charter schools. The same is true in almost every other State where there is a charter school.

Later during the course of the debate—not today but later this or next week—Senator JUDD GREGG of New Hampshire and I will offer an amendment that says, given the kinds of results we are seeing in charter schools in our States and other places, maybe there is an appropriate role for the Federal Government in leveling the playing field a little bit for capital costs for charter schools.

The other topic I want to discuss is public school choice. We introduced, statewide in Delaware, public school choice 4 or 5 years ago. Today any parent can elect to send their child to a public school not on their feeder pattern. We choose the public schools that our two sons attend in Delaware. Other States are moving to public school choice as well.

In S. 1, the legislation we will be taking up in a few minutes, there are real consequences for schools that fail to make significant improvement for all kinds of students: rich, poor, male, female, disabled, nondisabled. We expect real improvement, real progress toward the academic standards those States have adopted. For States where a school fails for 4 years in a row to make real progress toward their academic standards, there are consequences which include providing real public school choice with transportation for those children in that failing school, allowing that school to be turned into a charter school, turning that school over to the private sector or the State has to take over the operation of the school. Yet we don't provide anywhere in our legislation help to the States, advice or assistance, technical assistance or otherwise, on how, if you have never had an experience with public school choice, you all of a sudden put in place a public school choice system in your State. Or if you have never started charter schools or your charter schools are struggling to get started, how do you help them get up and running so they can mirror the success stories I have talked about here today in Delaware?

Again, Senator GREGG and I will be offering an amendment later in the debate which would provide some help to States that haven't been thinking about public school choice but are going to have to under the legislation we are going to adopt and States that, frankly, haven't given any help on the brick and mortar capital side to charter schools. My State is as guilty as others that need to start doing that, particularly if we want to invest our money in what works.

I will close with this: There are a lot of important issues we will consider, whether the Republicans are in the majority or the Democrats. The most important thing we are endeavoring to do in this country today is to raise the level of achievement of our students. Those kids in our schools will some day in many cases go on to college. In most cases they will go on to work. It is important that when they reach that college or when they reach the employer or employers for whom they will be working, they have the ability to read, the ability to write, to think, to do math, and to use technology so they and their employers can be successful, and they can have the kind of life they want for themselves and their families.

It is not the role of the Federal Government to run our schools. That is the job of the local folks in the States and the schools and the school districts. Our job is to level the playing field. We have an opportunity, through the legislation we are again taking up this afternoon, to try to level that playing field a little bit and to invest the resources needed in our schools, particularly for kids struggling from disadvantaged backgrounds, to provide those resources more flexibly, to say, when we provide more money with greater flexibility, we want results; we are going to hold folks accountable for results, and finally, to say we want to give parents more authority, to empower parents to choose more often than not the public schools they attend.

I will close with this: If I needed any proof that public school choice was going to work, I got it, literally, the week after I signed, as Governor of Delaware, public school choice legislation into law. I was in a forum where there were a number of school administrators talking amongst themselves. During the break, I overheard one school administrator say to another, about public school choice: If we don't offer what parents want for their kids, they will simply send their children to another school.

I said to myself: He has it. In our State, if we are not offering in school A what parents want for their kids, if they are offering it in school B, the child can go to school B and the money follows the child. The State appropriation follows the child. It infuses competition and market forces into our schools and other schools attempting public school choice in ways we never imagined possible. That is the potential. That is the hope of part of what we are doing today, this week, and later this month.

I ask my colleagues, as we address the consequences for schools going forward in the future, if we are serious about empowering them to do public school choice, if we are serious about making charter schools a reality, keep in mind the legislation and the amendment to be proposed by Senator GREGG and myself.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SMITH of Oregon). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CARPER. I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EDUCATION

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, as we gather today in this Chamber, it is quiet. We have people here prepared to take down our words, but relatively few words are being said. We are on the threshold of a historic occasion here in the Senate, where the leadership, at least the majority, is about to pass from our Republican friends to the Democrats' side of the aisle.

While there are many issues about which there might be partisan disagreements, there are many issues on which there is bipartisan agreement. One of those is the education of our children.

Today, visiting our Nation's Capitol, coming to this Chamber and that on the other end of the building in the House of Representatives, are the young and the old. In those groups of visitors to their Nation's Capitol are many schoolchildren. In many cases they are with parents and with teachers. They have come here to experience our Capitol, to experience the longest living democracy in the history of the world, the United States of America.

This Chamber was not silent just for a good part of this day but for much of last week as well, as we were in recess in observance of Memorial Day. In Delaware and in States across the country, on Memorial Day and during last week, we remembered and saluted and thanked our veterans who served in our Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines, who in many cases sacrificed their lives in wars of the past century, and the two before that.

There is a document we are all proud of in this country called the Constitution. The Constitution of our Nation is the longest living written constitution of any nation on Earth. It was adopted on September 17, 1787, first by the little State of Delaware. As I like to kid my colleagues, Delaware for one whole week was the entire United States of America. Then we opened it up, and other States came in: Pennsylvania and New Jersey and Maryland and the rest joined us. Eventually there were 50 of us, and it has turned out well.

Mr. President, 213 years later we are going strong. Every now and then our democracy is put to the test. That democracy will be put to the test in this Chamber as we prepare for the passing of the torch from the current majority, Republicans, to the next majority, the Democrats.

One issue we will address later this afternoon, to take up again, is one we have been addressing for the better part of a month, and that is redefining the role of the Federal Government in the education of our children. While we have some disagreements in the margins, there is much about which we agree.

I say to all who come here today and in the days ahead to observe this debate, whether you happen to be from schools in Claymont, DE, or schools in Colorado or any other place, that we will endeavor to do our best to make sure the young people—very young people and those not quite so young—will have every opportunity to be successful in their schools and in their later endeavors, so when they walk across the stage and get that diploma and leave high school, it means they are ready to go on to be successful in college, careers, military, the private sector, public service sector—whatever they do—to be successful for their employers and, just as importantly, for themselves.

There is a meeting commencing this afternoon, after the Democrat and Republican caucuses. A number of Democrat and a number of Republican Senators were invited to the White House, presumably to meet with the President and members of his administration to discuss education reform.

While the numbers have shifted here a bit in the Senate, what should not have shifted is our commitment to our young people and making sure the Federal Government plays a more appropriate role in the years ahead. As we infuse more resources into our public schools, as we provide greater resources to the public schools, we seek to hold those schools accountable for results, rewarding the kind of performance we want to see and, where it is not happening, to make sure we take steps and the schools take steps to get the kind of performance they want and need and we desire as well.

Finally, we must make sure, better than we did before, that we empower parents to make decisions, real decisions, meaningful decisions, about the education of their children in the public schools of America.

Mr. President, I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is now closed.

BETTER EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS ACT—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1) to extend programs and activities under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

Pending:

Jeffords amendment No. 358, in the nature of a substitute.

Kennedy (for Dodd) amendment No. 382 (to amendment No. 358), to remove the 21st century community learning center program from the list of programs covered by performance agreements.

Biden amendment No. 386 (to amendment No. 358), to establish school-based partnerships between local law enforcement agencies and local school systems, by providing school resource officers who operate in and around elementary and secondary schools.

Voinovich amendment No. 389 (to amendment No. 358), to modify provisions relating to State applications and plans and school improvement to provide for the input of the Governor of the State involved.

Reed amendment No. 425 (to amendment No. 358), to revise provisions regarding the Reading First Program.

Leahy (for Hatch) amendment No. 424 (to amendment No. 358), to provide for the establishment of additional Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

Helms amendment No. 574 (to amendment No. 358), to prohibit the use of Federal funds by any State or local educational agency or school that discriminates against the Boy Scouts of America in providing equal access to school premises or facilities.

Helms amendment No. 648 (to amendment No. 574), in the nature of a substitute.

Dorgan amendment No. 640 (to amendment No. 358), expressing the sense of the Senate that there should be established a joint committee of the Senate and House of Representatives to investigate the rapidly increasing energy prices across the country and to determine what is causing the increases.

Wellstone/Feingold amendment No. 465 (to amendment No. 358), to improve the provisions relating to assessment completion bonuses.

Voinovich amendment No. 443 (to amendment No. 358), to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to extend loan forgiveness for certain loans to Head Start teachers.

Dayton modified amendment No. 622 (to amendment No. 358), to amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to fully fund 40 percent of the average per pupil expenditure for programs under part B of such Act.

Hutchinson modified amendment No. 555 (to amendment No. 358), to express the sense of the Senate regarding the Department of Education program to promote access of Armed Forces recruiters to student directory information.

Bond modified amendment No. 476 (to amendment No. 358), to strengthen early childhood parent education programs.

Feinstein modified amendment No. 369 (to amendment No. 358), to specify the purposes for which funds provided under subpart 1 of part A of title I may be used.

AMENDMENT NO. 465

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 465.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment is now pending.

Mr. WELLSTONE. I thank the Chair.

Mr. President, the original cosponsor of this amendment is Senator FEINGOLD from Wisconsin. I thank him for his support. Other cosponsors are Senators KENNEDY and CLINTON.

Mr. President, let me try to summarize this amendment.

Right now on this education bill there is a bonus incentive for States to move forward with tests that this legislation calls for. Remember that this legislation on the floor of the Senate is very sweeping, for better or for worse. I think all Senators should think very seriously about that.

Right now we are basically mandating or telling every school district in every State in the United States of America that every child in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 will be tested every year. This is not an option. School districts don't decide. States don't decide. At the Federal level, the Congress and the Federal Government are saying to States: You will do this.

In the legislation, as I say, the additional bonus money is for States that are able to move forward, and, as a matter of fact, put this testing into effect earlier than 2005.

What this amendment would say is that it is not speed that is the most important criteria. The most important criteria is the quality of the test. What we want to say to States and school districts around the country is that we will provide an additional bonus to you if you, in fact, are designing and implementing quality tests. Again, what I mean by that is States should not be relying on single standardized multiple-choice tests.

There are probably some students even in the gallery as I speak today. If they were the ones who were out here on the floor and were going to have a chance to speak, I think the students would say: Look. If, in fact, you are going to measure what we have learned and what we know, if you are going to measure what education is on the basis of single tests, standardized tests, or multiple-choice tests, the result will be teachers teaching to those tests, and drilling to get ready to take those tests. This is not all of what education is. In fact, I think it can become quite educationally deadening.

The best teachers I know—I am in schools about every 2 weeks in the State of Minnesota—are teachers who never teach to worksheets. The best teachers I have met are teachers who engage students, who get students to think about their lives in relation to the material, who get students to stand on their own two feet and think for themselves and speak for themselves.

At the very minimum, we ought to be saying to States that we do not want States and school districts to abuse tests by relying on the sort of off-the-shelf standardized fill-in-the-bubbles multiple-choice tests. That is just outrageous.

By the way, these multiple-choice tests put the real world into categories. They do not measure a student's sense of irony. They do not measure how profoundly students are thinking. They do not measure whether students can think creatively. There is a whole lot that these tests don't measure.

Indeed, when the other amendment I introduced was passed, one of the criteria was that the testing that is going to be done has to use multiple measures, and not just one single, standardized test. We need to encourage that type of assessment.

We also need to talk about whether the assessments are coherent. That is to say, are they measuring what is actually taught in the curriculum? If you have a single, standard, multiple-choice test that is generic that just sort of measures students in relation to other students but does not have anything to do with the curriculum and the material and what is actually being taught, then basically you are putting all of America in an educational straightjacket. Aren't we going to make sure, I say to my good conservative friends, that local school districts have some say over defining what makes for good education?

I think we want to make sure the tests are comprehensive. We want to make sure they are coherent.

Then the other thing we want to do is to make sure they are continuous; that is, if we are going to say we want an assessment, then we want to try to measure the progress of the student over a period of time. So what this amendment says is, look, let's make sure the assessment gives us the best picture of how students are really doing; if we are going to be engaged in testing, let's make sure it is high-quality testing; let's make sure we are really measuring how well students are doing; and, for God's sake, let's not force school districts and schools and teachers and students into some drill education, what I would call straitjacket education.

I was really pleased that in an op-ed piece in the Washington Post, Secretary Paige himself wrote:

> A good test, the kind the President and I support, is aligned with the curriculum so schools know whether children are actually learning the materials that their States have decided a child should know.

Again, that is what I mean by a test that is coherent.

Above and beyond that, let me just simply say to all of my colleagues that the independent panel review of title I, which was mandated in the 1994 reauthorization, has issued its report in January called ''Improving the Odds.'' The report concluded that:

> Many States choose assessment results from a single test, often traditional multiple choice tests. Although these tests may have an important place in State assessment systems, they rarely capture the depth and breadth of knowledge captured in State content standards.

The panel went on to make a strong recommendation:

> Better assessments for instructional and accountability purposes are urgently needed.

So I again say, with this amendment, if you want to have a bonus system set up, if you want to provide additional moneys for States—not to hurry up, not to just bring a test off the shelf, a test that does not even give us a good idea of how our students are doing—have a bonus that focuses on high-quality testing.

Frankly, I am surprised that I have to come out in this chamber and debate this amendment. I would think this amendment would be adopted with 100 votes. Maybe it will be before we are done.

Now, let me just quote Robert Schwartz, the president of Achieve, Incorporated, which is the nonprofit arm of the standards-based reform movement. Here is what he said:

> You simply can't accomplish the goals of this movement if you're using off-the-shelf,

relatively low-level tests. Tests have taken on too prominent a role in these reforms, and that's, in part, because of people rushing to attach consequences to them before, in lots of places, we have really gotten the tests right.

Mr. President, these are important words by a man whose work, whose profession, is in the accountability field. I would like to quote the last part of it again:

Tests have taken on too prominent a role in these reforms, and that's, in part, because of people rushing to attach consequences to them before, in a lot of places, we have really gotten the tests right.

That is exactly my point. We need to get the tests right.

''Quality Counts,'' a recent study on the state of assessments in the United States, concludes this way:

In too many States, the tests still focus too much on low multiple choice questions and are poorly aligned with the standards they are designed to measure.

So again—and I will emphasize this for maybe the 20th time this afternoon—what we want to do is we want to make sure that if there is going to be this testing—all in the name of accountability, all in the name of assessing how our students are doing—then we had better make sure we get it right. And if we are going to have a bonus system, let's provide the bonus money to those States on the basis of their putting together high-quality tests. That is what this amendment says: That above and beyond timeliness, the other criterion, the criterion that is so critically important, is that we have high-quality tests.

I say to Senators—and, by the way, I have a real question about this; I have not decided this question in my own mind; I have not decided what the right answer is—if we are going to mandate—I think this is breathtaking, what we are doing here, frankly—if we are going to mandate that every school district in every State test every kid, then, at the very least, it is our obligation to make sure these tests are done right so that they achieve the best effect.

Let's not give States an incentive to do low-quality tests which can have such a damaging effect by rewarding them for rushing. What we ought to reward States for is having high-quality tests, which means they are comprehensive, which means they are coherent, which means we are actually assessing the progress of students over a period of time.

I want to make it really clear that if we do not focus on high-quality tests, we are asking for real trouble. I say to Senators, before you vote on this amendment, if we do not provide a bonus payment to States for high-quality tests, if we do not make that our priority, and instead our emphasis is just on States rushing forward with any kind of test, we will not be helping children or teachers or schools in America; rather, we will be doing damage because if the only thing we do, all in the name of ''reform,'' is to barrel down this path where you have State after State after State being forced by the Federal Government to do the testing, just taking off the shelf these standardized tests, with no multiple measures, and not being related to the curriculum that is taught, then we are going to have something which amounts to what I call drill education.

Again, I am looking up at the gallery. I know there are students up there. Students hate drill education. And they should hate drill education. And teachers hate drill education. It is not real teaching, and it is not real learning, to just sort of drill, drill, drill, and have students memorize, memorize, memorize, and then have some simple jingo standardized testing and nothing else.

I fear for where education is going to go if, at the very minimum, we are not, in our work in the Senate, focusing on quality testing.

I also point out to my colleagues that there has been recently in the New York Times—and, frankly, I wish the New York Times had done this 6 months ago, not just within the last several weeks—an excellent and a very troubling series, of articles on the perils of testing.

I again mention to my colleagues that right now this legislation encourages States to rush to develop their new annual tests so they can receive bonuses from the Federal Government. What my amendment says is that every State has to be on time. Not one Senator can say: Senator WELLSTONE, you are trying to stop the testing. By the way, if it were within my power, I might. I am not so sure we should be doing this. But that is not what this amendment says. What this amendment says is that every State is going to have to implement the testing, if we pass this legislation, but if they do it, then they ought to receive a bonus from the Federal Government for having high-quality tests. That is what this amendment says.

This amendment, cosponsored by Senator FEINGOLD, Senator KENNEDY, and Senator CLINTON, rewards those States that develop high-quality assessments as gauged by a peer review process, rather than simply speeding towards implementing tests with no consideration as to the quality of these assessments.

In the New York Times articles, they point out, in a very crystal-clear way, that quality matters. I want to just read from a couple of these pieces in the New York Times.

I quote from a piece in the New York Times. This is on some of the dangers of rushing:

Each customized test the State orders must be designed, written, edited, reviewed by state educators, field-tested, checked for validity and bias, and calibrated to previous tests—an arduous process that requires a battery of people trained in educational statistics and psychometrics, the science of measuring mental function.

While the demand for such people is exploding, they are in extremely short supply despite salaries that can reach into the six figures, people in the industry said. ''All of us in the business are very concerned about capacity''. . . .

What we have is people in the educational area saying: We are really worried about whether or not we are going to be able to follow through on this mandate. And there are all sorts of examples in different States, from New York to Arizona to Minnesota, where either there have been testing errors and kids have been kept back or have not graduated, with unbelievably harsh consequences, or principals and teachers have lost jobs, with the argument being that they were not able to teach well when in fact, as it turns out, the tests were not reliable or articles about teachers who were high-quality teachers who we would want to teach in inner cities or in rural areas—the Presiding Officer is from Maine—and who basically are now leaving the teaching profession because they are saying, wait a minute; not only do we want the resources but we certainly don't want to be forced to be involved in drill education, just teaching to these simple standardized tests.

The New York Times, again, had several articles which pointed out some of the real dangers.

The Washington Post had a piece February 10, 2001. I quote from one of the pieces.

But 21 states test in three or fewer of the six grades, according to the center, and under President Bush's plan would have to at least double the number of students they test annually.

Only seven States right now are testing every year in grades 3 through 8 in a way that is aligned with state standards; other States do it every other year; some States, have not even met the requirements set out in the 1994 law. What we are now going to say is every State, every school district has to test every child every year. They are not given any choice. Not only are we saying that, but we are also saying there will be consequences based upon how the students do on those tests.

There will be consequences in terms of additional money, in terms of whether or not those schools will be sanctioned, in terms of whether or not those schools will be told that they have to operate differently, in which case, what my amendment is saying is: With this bonus system, let's not provide bonuses for States for rushing, since we have example after example after example of the abuse of testing and what can go wrong. Let's provide bonuses to States on the basis of quality.

My definition of quality, which is based on a recent report by the National Research Council, ''Knowing

What Students Know'' and on other sources such as the ''Professional Standards on Educational and Psychological Testing'' is: A, the tests should be comprehensive and not rely on just one single standardized test, B, the tests should be coherent. The tests should test the curriculum being taught. Otherwise, you have teachers in schools who have to teach to standardized tests that have nothing to do with the curriculum being taught in a school district in Maine or in Minnesota. That makes no sense whatsoever. And C, you want to track the progress of a child over a period of time.

What this amendment says is, right now in the legislation, we have it backwards; we are talking about providing an incentive, a bonus, to States for rushing. My amendment says, even though I have concerns about this Federal mandate, it is amazing: Here I am, a liberal Democrat from the State of Minnesota—I don't think the Chair would refer to me as a conservative Republican—and yet I am not sure in my own mind—I mean this; I am not trying to be gimmicky—I am not sure the Federal Government should mandate this. I am not sure we really have any business telling every school, every school district, every State, you have to test every child every year, 8-, 9-, 10-, 11-, 12-, and 13-year-olds. But that is almost beside the point. With my amendment, what we are saying right now is, if we are going to do it, let's do it the right way.

Last week, we passed, with 50 votes, an amendment which said this testing needs to meet professional standards and that states have to show that their tests are of adequate technical quality for each purpose for which they are used. That is really important. What this amendment says is, when we do the bonuses, let's be clear to the States—all my colleagues who believe otherwise about testing, this is not an amendment that says we don't have testing. Every State will have to meet the deadline. Every State will have to meet the deadline by 2005. But what this amendment says is, on the bonus payment, let's give the bonus payments to the States and to the school districts for high-quality testing. That should be the criterion.

It makes no sense to say we give bonus money to States solely on the basis of who does it first. Then you have everybody rushing. When people rush, they might not get it right. If you don't get it right, you don't have an accurate assessment. If we are going to do it, we had better get it right; it had better not be inaccurate. Some of this testing around the country has been inaccurate. As I said, the New York Times had a whole series of articles about that. It had better be accurate.

Secondly, if you are going to do it, it had better measure real teaching and real learning and real education. Let's not put all of the children and all of the schools and all of the teachers in America in a straitjacket. Let's make sure they know that we are expecting and support multiple measures. Let's make sure they know we want it to be coherent and measure the curriculum they are teaching. Let's make sure we are, indeed, measuring the progress of a child. Let's make sure it is done the right way, in which case, let's have bonus payments that provide the money and provide the additional payment and provide the additional bonus to those States that are engaged in high-quality testing.

That is what the amendment says. I could go on, but I think this is a fairly accurate summary of my amendment.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SNOWE). The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, as we have just heard from our good friend and colleague, Senator WELLSTONE of Minnesota, we are back on legislation that the Senate is considering on support for elementary and secondary education. I welcome the fact that we are on it, and am very hopeful we will stay on it until we conclude. We have been on this legislation in one way or the other probably for the better part of 4 or 5 weeks, but we have only been on it for a few days at a time.

As most of you understand, the reauthorization of ESEA is an extremely important piece of legislation. It deserves the full time and attention of the Senate. We had a series of amendments, and over the Memorial Day recess we had the opportunity to go through the more than 200 amendments which were initially offered. We have been able to dispose of 33 of those amendments, and we have a number of amendments that will be withdrawn. Others are acceptable. And there still remain a number that are still pending a vote on the floor of the Senate. We want to get about the business of completing our work on education. I welcome the fact that we are back on this legislation.

I will address the amendment we have before us in a moment or two, but I do want to let our colleagues know that earlier in the afternoon the President called a number of members of the Senate Education Committee and a few others to the White House to talk about the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. He indicated at that time that the legislation, as it stands, would be acceptable to him, and he didn't need to have it enhanced or altered or changed. He urged us to get about the business of completing the reauthorization of ESEA.

I indicated to the President that we have been working diligently on this legislation, and have been working in a bipartisan manner. We have had the opportunity of working with the Secretary of Education and the President's education advisers. And now we have a very important, significant blueprint that can make a difference in the quality of education for children in this country by building on the standards which have been established by 49 of the States, by using high-quality, meaningful assessments so that we know what children are learning, particularly in the areas of math and literacy and, eventually, in 2007 and 2008, in science, and by using data from those assessments to identify the strengths and weaknesses of students, and provide the needed assistance for them to succeed.

We are going to hold the schools, communities, children, and parents accountable. The point I made to the President was that I thought we in Washington ought to be held accountable as well by ensuring that the benefits of this legislation should be available to all the needy children and not, as is currently the case, to just a third of the children.

It has been our position from the beginning that with the changes included in this legislation, we should fund the Title I program. Now it is funded at a third. We ought to be able to fund it at two-thirds next year and reach two-thirds of the children. Over the 4 years of President Bush's Presidency, we ought to have a commitment to reach the final third so that we will have the full funding of the Title I education program that can be flexibly used by local communities. With the provisions included in this legislation, we can provide a very positive learning experience for every child.

We are not there yet. The President indicated we will continue to have ongoing discussions, particularly as the Appropriations bills are considered. He certainly has not ruled full funding of Title I out, but he has not ruled it in.

We indicated that our position was supported by 79 Members of the Senate, Republicans and Democrats alike. I indicated to the President that support for mandatory, full funding of IDEA, funding that helps local communities to fund their special needs programs for children with disabilities, has very broad bipartisan support. We are very hopeful that any conference committee will once and for all provide for full funding of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. It is a position supported by more than 70 percent of the Senate, a good share of Republicans and Democrats alike.

In any event, we had a good exchange at the White House. We welcome the President's strong support for our legislation, and we have every intention of working to respond to Senator DASCHLE's strong desire to make this legislation the first order of business. We ought to complete this legislation.

I urge our colleagues who have amendments to bring them to our attention so that we can dispose of them in an orderly way.

As we return to our ongoing education debate here in the Senate, I think it appropriate to review briefly what our pending legislation does and its sources of inspiration.

Our goal in this bipartisan legislation has been to support proven, effective reforms. Time and again we have seen individual schools follow a similar path and achieve successful improvements in the quality of education. This reform bill builds on that grassroots experience.

The bill requires every child to be tested each year in grades 3–8 so parents and educators alike will have better information on where their children stand and what needs to be done to help them learn more effectively.

The bill requires that students, schools, and school districts are held to challenging academic standards. Low-achieving children will receive additional help. Students in failing schools will be free to transfer to other public schools or take advantage of after-school supplementary tutoring. If a failing school does not turn around in a reasonable number of years, it will be completely reorganized.

The bill provides high-quality assessments aligned with State standards that measure a full range of the child's learning. Off-the-shelf, fill-in-the-bubble tests too often compromise the quality of instruction and undermine genuine efforts for school improvements.

I salute the very strong efforts of the Senator from Minnesota in making sure that tests are quality tests that challenge children and positively affect the learning process, not just measure what they have been able to memorize in a particular class. That is enormously important. This legislation is going to be strengthened because of the efforts of the Senator from Minnesota.

Parents and the public deserve to know not only where their children stand, but also how their local schools and districts measure up. Annual report cards are required at each level. Sunshine can be a powerful force for change.

Our bill is strict in asking more of students, teachers, and schools and in holding them accountable for their performance. Just as important, the bill is intended to provide the resources that we know are necessary for all of them to have a genuine chance for success.

Our bill provides support to reach the goal of a qualified teacher in every classroom and a qualified principal in every school. Today, 39 percent of all teachers are teaching a subject in which they have no undergraduate major or minor degree. Clearly, that figure is unacceptable, and Congress can help do something about it.

Our bill revises and strengthens professional development programs to provide teachers with year-long mentors, ongoing training in their subject matter, and the best teaching methods and practices in child development.

It offers additional support to school districts with high concentrations of limited-English-proficient students to teach them English and make sure they meet the same high academic standards we expect all children to meet.

The bill expands the successful 21st Century Learning Centers Program that does such an excellent job of offering worthwhile after-school activities to students. Our goal is to reach every latch-key child over the next 7 years to provide them with supplementary learning opportunities after school that keep them off the streets, away from the gangs, and out of trouble.

Our bill also provides full funding for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Twenty-five years ago, the Federal Government promised to pay 40 percent of these costs, but we have never met that promise. Today the figure is still only 15 percent. It is long past time for Congress to meet its commitment to special needs children.

Our bill's emphasis on better results and targeted resources comes from experience at the grassroots. Those experiences demonstrate that all schools can do better, not just the elite few.

Hundreds of successful local schools and school districts around the country are making impressive strides in improving student achievement. We can turn that number into thousands by helping guide the way. Many challenged schools are already turning themselves around as a result of reforms that focused on increased accountability linked to higher standards and quality testing, early intervention for children who need additional help, and adequate investments in proven reforms, especially in high-needed areas.

Three schools that have recently reported improvements are excellent examples. The Ashley Elementary School in Denver, Colorado, has an almost 100-percent minority population with a 90-percent poverty rate. It recently reported that since 1998, the number of third graders meeting State reading standards had soared by 280 percent—280 percent.

After years of reported failure, the school was shut down and reopened with new teachers and a new principal. Results of the Colorado Student Assessment Program were carefully analyzed, and the entire staff of the school signed on to a goal of raising student literacy skills. As a result, literacy was emphasized in every subject and in every class. Assessments of each student are monitored bimonthly. Students who fall behind receive extra support quickly or new methods of instruction. Every teacher gets professional development support every week. Ninety-minute reading blocks were created with a class size of 12 students per teacher, compared to 25 students per teacher in 1998.

Strict accountability, high-quality assessments, early intervention, professional development, and class-size reduction—these are precisely the types of proven reforms that will be strongly supported in the pending legislation.

Another example is Humboldt Elementary School in Portland, Oregon, which has been turned around with a similar combination of reforms. In 1997, only 17 percent of third grade Humboldt students and 10 percent of fifth grade students met Oregon's benchmark scoring in reading. Twenty-five percent of third graders and only 9 percent of fifth graders met the math benchmark.

In the face of this serious challenge, the city of Portland shut down and reconstituted the school. Two-thirds of the staff was reassigned. A new principal was hired. Academic and performance expectations were raised for all students. Class size was reduced from 28 to 1, to 21 to 1. All teachers now receive weekly professional development. Individual student assessment results are analyzed regularly and learning needs are diagnosed to respond to quickly. Eighty percent of Humboldt children participate in afterschool learning programs. Humboldt found out that reform costs money. In 1998, Portland added $540,000 to Humboldt's budget to carry out their reconstitution program.

I will later provide examples of schools, in my State of Massachusetts, that have experienced dramatic results when given the necessary resources to succeed. In many cases, schools reversed low-performance using less $540,000—the amount allocated to reversing low-performance in the Humbolt budget. The New American Schools Corporation estimates that it costs approximately $180,000 to implement a comprehensive school reform model in a given school—often the first step toward turning around low-performance. We have 10,000 failing schools at the present time, which equates to $1.8 billion to begin the process of turning around the nation's low-performing schools. If we are committed a quality education for all of America's students, we will include those resources in our legislation. Those resources have not yet been included. We think they should be.

According to the Oregon assessment in 2000, the percentage of Humboldt students meeting the State benchmark for academic performance increased to 67 percent among third graders and 60 percent with fifth graders. The percentage of third graders more than doubled, to 57 percent in math, and the percentage of fifth graders meeting the math standard soared to 70 percent.

Another impressive example of a successful school is the Jeremiah Burke High School in Dorchester, MA. Not long ago it was thought of as a hopeless, high-poverty school, but it is turning itself around with precisely the types of reforms emphasized in this current bill.

The Burke High School story was featured on the front page of the Boston Globe of May 22: ''Dorchester School Gains Acceptance.'' I ask unanimous consent the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DORCHESTER SCHOOL GAINS ACCEPTANCE

(By Anand Vaishnav)

Six years after the Jeremiah E. Burke High School lost its accreditation—symbolizing both the decay of urban Boston and the struggles of its public schools—the Dorchester school has reached a new milestone: All eligible seniors in the Class of 2001 have been accepted to two- or four-year colleges.

''Now we have proof to show people what we can do,'' said Shannon Phillips, who will attend the University of New Hampshire.

In 1995, despite athletic prowess and school spirit, such proof was hard to find. Academic and physical woes, from no librarian to no drinking water, caused the New England Association of Schools and Colleges to strip the Burke of its accreditation, jeopardizing students' chances to get into college.

With an infusion of new money, an exodus of teachers which Headmaster Steven C. Leonard was able to replace with his own picks, and the billy club of shame, the Burke gained its certification back in 1998. Leonard then embarked on another piece of the improvement puzzle: getting more students into college.

''We just convinced them that they couldn't graduate until they applied to college,'' Leonard said with a smile. ''We were bluffing. But it worked.''

Whether the acceptance rate sets a new standard or is an aberration is open to question. A five-year school district agreement in 1996 promising more money for teachers, maintenance, and counselors to get the Burke back on its feet expire this year. And Mayor Thomas M. Menino, while touting the school, said he can't promise to maintain its financing.

''I'm not going to say that,'' Menino said. ''But we're going to continue the progress they've made. We're not going to let the school go backwards.''

Boston School Superintendent Thomas W. Payzant said the likely scenario is gradually adding more students—the school's enrollment has been kept below 700—while keeping the money and staffing the Burke has had.

''There's not as much magic in the number of students as it is the work they've learned to do with them.'' Payzant said.

The Class of 2001 with about 200 freshmen, and 172 became seniors, a number whittled down by transfers, moves, and dropouts. (The Burke's dropout rate is 13 percent, down from 17 percent five years ago, but still higher than the district's dropout rate of 8 percent.)

Of the 172 seniors, 14 are in jail or a state juvenile facility and won't graduate, Leonard said. Another four are illegal immigrants and will graduate but can't attend college because of their immigration status.

That leaves 154 graduates, many of whom are headed to local community colleges, technical colleges, or state universities such as a University of Massachusetts campus or Bridgewater State College. A few are headed to Berklee College of Music or Boston College, and some who got into college are weighing the military instead.

So how did they get there?

Three years ago, with the accreditation dilemma solved, Leonard began thinking of ways to boost the college-acceptance rate. Last year, he made an application to college part of the year-end ''portfolio'' all seniors must present to graduate.

This year, he told teachers that he wanted students to move beyond application to acceptance to a two- or four-year college—and he made it clear to students that it was a condition of receiving a diploma, even though it wasn't enforceable by law.

''We are preparing kids so that if they don't go to college, it's got nothing to do with us,'' Leonard said.

The Burke's guidance counselors and teachers then got to work, badgering students about financial aid forms, asking for essays, and introducing them to colleges they hadn't considered.

Had it not been for the personal attention, students said, they either would not have considered college or would not have applied to as wide a variety of schools. Senior Melanie Silva, who will attend Hesser College in New Hampshire, recalled how her sophomore biology teacher, Ernest Coakley, was relentless.

''He just stuck on me: 'I want to see your personal statement, I want to see your college application,' '' Silva said. ''He's still on me.''

The City Council is expected to consider a congratulatory resolution for the Burke tomorrow.

Yet some worry about the intense focus on college, especially for students who simply aren't ready. Debra Wilson, who has a son at the Burke and one who graduated in 1998, is ''ecstatic'' about the high college acceptance rate. But she said she is concerned that the drive to get all students into college comes at the expense of spending time on other activities.

''We're losing sight of the student as a person, and a student needs to be a fully rounded person,'' Wilson said. ''Sometimes we can overwhelm our children.''

Leonard says he will live with any choice a student makes. But when he speaks to Burke students—and he interviews every new one—he tells them there are 18 other Boston high schools they can attend if college isn't in their cards.

As headmaster, Leonard said he now worries about maintaining what the school has, and his concern is rooted in history.

The schools' most recent renaissance was in the 1980s under headmaster Albert Holland, who got much of the same money and attention Leonard did. In 1991, budget cuts and rising enrollment devastated the school, coinciding with a citywide rise in youth violence that divided the school's hallways into gang turf.

While losing accreditation was a powerful tool for improvement, Leonard hopes the school's recent taste of success is a stronger catalyst to sustain achievement.

''My constant energy drain,'' he said, ''is to hold everything together long enough so that enough people will realize that it's possible in the inner city.''

GOING TO COLLEGE

[The percentages of graduates of some area highs schools who will attend two- or four-year colleges]

High school	No. of graduates	Going to college (percent)
Burke (Boston)	154	100
Billerica	331	84–86
Brockton	700	76
Charlestown	192	81
Everett	338	96
St John's Prep (Danvers)	268	99
Wayland	175	95
Wellesley	211	92
Westwood	144	95
Weymouth	395	75

Note: Some percentages are approximate because data is still being compiled.

Source: School districts.

Mr. KENNEDY. Burke High School lost its accreditation 6 years ago because of low test scores. Only 36 percent of the senior class was accepted into college. After doubling per pupil spending, hiring new staff, and raising academic standards, the school regained its accreditation in 1999.

Last year 62 percent of its seniors were accepted into college. This year every eligible senior, 100 percent of the Class of 2001, was accepted into a two or four year college. At Burke High School, no child is left behind.

Burke High School is one of the most dramatic stories that has come across our desk. I visited that school when it was facing enormous problems. It is now doing extraordinarily well. It is a major achievement and accomplishment.

The school's principal, Dr. Steven Leonard, attributes the turnaround to sustained ongoing school-based professional development for teachers. Teachers are trained outside the classroom, coached inside the classroom, and have year-long mentors at the school. When the Burke High School carefully analyzed its State test results, it discovered a widespread and deep need throughout the school. Dr. Leonard then raised more than $500,000 in 3 years from private sources to implement three schoolwide professional development programs. Over 3 years, he was able to spend a little over $125,000 a year for professional development for that school.

We know what works. This legislation has the framework to make sure that it can work for children across the country, but we also know it takes the investment, the resources, to give life though these reforms.

The Jeremiah Burke High School is an extraordinary example. Teachers have been trained to integrate literacy instruction throughout the curriculum. Teachers have learned to use technology as an educational supplement that enhances quality instruction instead of replacing it. Each classroom is now connected to the Internet. Every teacher at Burke participates in an ongoing professional development program that encourages college application, including financial aid applications. Every staff member at the

school, not just guidance counselors, are trained in the procedures for college admissions and financial aid applications.

Last year, Dr. Leonard required a complete college application to be a part of a year-end portfolio that all seniors must have in order to graduate. This year, he has made college acceptance an informal condition of graduation, and every child has measured up and met that challenge. It is extraordinary. With the same type of skillful analysis and hard work, every school can do the same.

In the education reform legislation before the Senate, we encourage the same combination of high expectations, diagnostic testing, quality teaching, high-tech classrooms, and after-school learning opportunities that have worked at Burke High School in Massachusetts, Ashley Elementary School in Colorado, Humboldt Elementary School in Oregon, and scores of other schools such as these.

We authorize $11 billion in additional funding for next year alone so new reforms can be launched in schools across the Nation and ongoing reforms can be sustained.

This bill is solidly grounded in a vast amount of widely accepted research and practical experience. If we continue to work together on a bipartisan basis and enact this legislation, the real winners will be students, schools, communities, States, and the whole Nation. Let's finish the job we started so well.

On the Wellstone amendment, I want to indicate my strong support. I agree we should be focusing on the use of tests that are of high quality rather than how quickly they be developed. State assessments are the base of new accountability system in Title I, and we want assurance that the assessments are of high quality and an accurate measure of what students know and can do.

I had the good opportunity last Friday morning to be at a conference in Boston with 500 principals, teachers, and administrators of schools who have been working in the whole area of academic enhancement for children and accountability. This was a nonprofit organization that works to promote standard-based reform. They found the States have improved their standards in testing but they still have a way to go.

I agree with the Senator that their evaluation of what works for children is enormously important. They have been at this for a long period of time. There is no superior organization in this area. We cannot afford to compromise the quality of assessment at the expense of quickly developing the test.

The Administration has wanted to make sure we are going to create incentives in the States to move toward accountability. That is an admirable desire. However, we want to make sure that accountability systems are tied to quality tests. That is what the Senator's amendment is all about. I believe it is completely consistent with what the objectives of this bill are. It will also provide the assessment on the basis of the content standard more effectively than the off-the-shelf tests, which in too many instances are being taught to. We cannot afford to compromise the quality of assessments at the expense of quickly developing tests.

I heard the Senator talk about the mistakes. Most of us have read the New York Times article on the tests that were given in New York City and the mistakes that were made and how this disadvantaged children as well as principals as well as the school administrator and how the company still claims they have 99.997 percent accuracy. But just that amount of failure resulted in dramatic adverse developments for students as well as for teachers and administrators.

In my State of Massachusetts, there are several quality control measures in place to ensure reliability in the scoring of the MCAS test, our State assessment. Aside from the contract on assessment outside of the State, the results of all MCAS tests are also independently reviewed by testing experts at the University of Massachusetts. In addition to soliciting an additional review of the tests from the University, Massachusetts also trains its teachers, who are well-versed in the State standards, in the scoring of the MCAS. Teachers in Massachusetts review at least 25% of the test questions, including all of the written compositions in English language arts. Teachers are trained in the rubric and scoring process for a week-long period every July.

Massachusetts' example illustrates the points made by the Senator from Minnesota regarding the need for ensuring quality in the test development and administration. We cannot afford to compromise the quality of assessment at the expense of quickly developing tests. Developing a high-quality assessment, even in just one subject for one grade, is a lengthy process. According to experts on test development, there are eight basic steps in the test development process. They are as follows:

Defining the purpose for which the test is being developed; convening a technical committee to work with the States to write test specifications and determine the content and form of the test; developing and reviewing the questions and ideas on the test; conducting pretesting to ensure fairness, reliability, and accuracy of items on the test; data analysis and test assembly to make sure the test is aligned with the required subject matter and skills; and test administration and the development of accommodations for students with special needs.

I see my friend and colleague from Maine in the chair. I know she is very familiar with these activities because the State of Maine is one of the States which has given an enormous amount of attention to all these matters of testing and also with regard to special needs children.

The steps also include developing scoring changes and cut points associated with proficiency levels; and analysis of specifications and readjustment and realignment of items. States should not be encouraged to rush through this process but should take the time to develop assessments of high quality. States should be rewarded for taking the time to develop valid and reliable measures of what students know and can do.

Good tests work. They provide us with information on student performance, help educators identify the needs of individual students, and measures our impact on working to change schools and turn around low-performing schools. However, while 15 States have developed tests in third through eighth grade math and reading, only seven States use high-quality tests that are aligned with academic standards in those subject areas. We should encourage States to use that time to develop quality assessments rather than develop assessments quickly.

Awarding bonuses for the quality of assessment is consistent with our commitment to help States improve the quality of their tests. The Senate passed the Wellstone amendment to enhance the quality of test assessments by a vote of 50–47. We should continue to encourage States to improve the format of their tests, align the tests to standards, and employ multiple measures so the tests are reliable measures of what students know and can do.

I strongly support the amendment offered by my friend from Minnesota. In this bill, we establish standards that define what we expect children to know each year. Then, we establish assessments to provide for the evaluation of that knowledge. High academic standards and quality assessments go hand in hand.

We hope to avoid what is happening in too many States. That is, curriculum is not aligned to high standards, and tests are not aligned to high standards. When this happens, we risk compromising student's learning. We risk having teachers teaching to tests because they don't want to have a bad record of their students not being able to perform. That is not what this legislation is about.

Senator WELLSTONE has spent a good deal of time trying to make sure that this legislation includes high-quality assessments, and that it accomplishes our goal of improving student learning.

I thank him and commend him for the excellent work he has done in this whole area.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Madam President, I will just take a few minutes. I thank the Senator from Massachusetts and thank him for being a cosponsor of this amendment.

Madam President, I refer my colleagues to the series of articles in the New York Times, and also a very interesting piece in the Atlanta Journal titled ''Teachers Find Flaws in State Test's Science Part.''

I thank Senator FEINGOLD for his support as an original cosponsor of this amendment and Senators KENNEDY and CLINTON for their support as cosponsors as well.

To remind my colleagues, since it has been a long time since this amendment was first introduced, this amendment is very non-controversial. It says that instead of the bill's language, which would reward states solely based on how quickly they finish their assessments, the Secretary should instead reward states that develop the highest quality assessments. The awards would be granted through a peer review system. We should not be giving states an incentive to rush on such an important issue. We have to give more incentives to improve the quality of the assessments.

This amendment really goes back to why we are measuring student achievement in the first place and what are our goals in setting up the accountability systems we have. Are we measuring for the sake of measuring only, or are we measuring to get the best picture of how our children are doing? If we want to get the best picture of how students are doing, we need to have the best possible assessments. They need to be aligned with standards. They need to be free from bias. They need to reflect both the range and depth of student knowledge and assess not just memorized responses, but student reasoning and understanding. This is exactly what my amendment on the quality and fairness of State assessments that was passed earlier in the consideration of this bill is all about. That is what this amendment is about. If there is anybody who thinks that speed is more important than quality, please, vote against this amendment. Please, come down and debate me on it. I would be happy to.

I was happy to see that Secretary of Education Paige also agrees that tests need to be high quality. He wrote that state assessments must be tied to the state standards and curriculum in his Washington Post op-ed that was published a couple of weeks ago. Secretary Paige writes: ''A good test—the kind the president and I support—is aligned with the curriculum so that schools know whether children are actually learning the material that their states have decided a child should know.'' I would like to thank the Secretary for this statement, and based on it, I would hope that he and the administration and every Member of the Senate would support this amendment.

Let me review quickly my statements here on the floor before the recess about the key components of high-quality and fair assessments. The standards used by experts in the field—as laid out in the recent National Research Council Report ''Knowing What Students Know''—in analyzing assessment quality are summed up in three questions:

Are the assessments comprehensive? That is, do they use multiple measures to capture the complexity of student learning rather than rote memorization of test content?

Are the assessments continuous? That is, do they capture student learning across time?

Finally, are the assessments coherent? That is, do they measure what is actually being taught in the curriculum?

So, based on Secretary Paige's comments, there now seems to be some agreement that the new state assessments need to be high-quality and fair. But, anyone working in the field of educational assessment will tell you that high-quality assessments take a long time to develop. They require a deliberative process. They should not be rushed.

It seems odd that, in this context, we would reward states simply because they finish their assessments quickly. It in fact, seems like an incentive for people not to spend time developing, improving and perfecting their assessments, but rather to take the easy way out. If they do, they can get a reward. If they do not, they get nothing.

This would be extremely problematic, because all the research indicates that we need to move toward higher quality assessments, not lower quality assessments. I believe that those states that invest resources in the very expensive endeavor of developing high-quality exams that reflect state standards should be rewarded for the value judgment that they have made.

The Independent Review Panel on title I which was mandated in the 1994 Reauthorization issued its report ''Improving the Odds'' this January. The report concluded that:

> Many States use assessment results from a single test—often traditional multiple choice tests. Although these tests may have an important place in state assessment systems, they rarely capture the depth and breadth of knowledge reflected in state content standards.

The Panel went on to make a strong recommendation. It said:

> Better assessments for instructional and accountability purposes are urgently needed.

Further, as Robert Schwartz, the president of Achieve, Inc., the non-profit arm of the standards-based reform movement recently said:

> You simply can't accomplish the goals of this movement if you're using off-the-shelf, relatively low-level tests . . . Tests have taken on too prominent of a role in these reforms and that's in part because of people rushing to attach consequences to them before, in a lot of places, we have really gotten the tests right.

That is exactly my point. We need to get the tests right. ''Quality Counts,'' a recent study on the state of assessments in the United States, also concludes, ''In to many states, the tests still focus to much on low level multiple choice questions and are poorly aligned with the standards they are designed to measure.''

Low quality assessments can actually do more harm than good. I would like to quote from the National Standards on Educational and Psychological Testing. The standards state:

> The proper use of tests can result in wiser decisions about individuals and programs than would be the case without their use and also can provide a route to broader and more equitable access to education and employment. The improper use of tests, however, can cause considerable harm to the test takers and other parties affected by test-based decisions.

It is our obligation to see that tests are done right so that they achieve the best effect. Let's not give states an incentive to do low quality tests, which can have such a damaging effect, by offering them an award for rushing.

The National Standards state that this is our obligation. The Standards say:

> Beyond any intended policy goals, it is important to consider any potential unintended effects that may result from large scale testing programs. Concerns have been raised for instance about narrowing the curriculum to focus only on the objectives tested, restricting the range of instructional approaches to correspond to the testing format, increasing the number of dropouts among students who do not pass the test, and encouraging other instructional or administrative practices that may raise test scores without effecting the quality of education. It is important for those who mandate tests to consider and monitor their consequences and to identify and minimize the potential of negative consequences.

Let's enhance our accountability systems by trying to enhance the quality of assessments so we can avoid the negative outcomes described in the Standards and more accurately measure what students know and can do. This way we can more effectively use tests for their best purpose: to diagnose students' needs and help students improve.

I urge support for this amendment, for quality and for better reform.

AMENDMENT NO. 465, AS MODIFIED

Mr. WELLSTONE. I ask unanimous consent I be allowed to send my modified amendment to the desk. Basically what this amendment does, Madam President, is it makes crystal clear the

bonus payments will go to States—first of all, they have to meet the deadline. I don't want colleagues to think I am giving States any way of not meeting the deadlines.

Second, the other requirement is that the bonus goes to States that develop assessments that most successfully assess the range and depth of student knowledge and proficiency in meeting State performance standards in each academic subject on which the States are required to conduct their assessments. There will be a peer review. I send my modified amendment to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment is so modified.

The amendment, (No. 465) as modified, is as follows:

On page 776, strike lines 1 through 5, and insert the following:

''(b) ASSESSMENT COMPLETION BONUSES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—At the end of school year 2006–2007, the Secretary shall make 1-time bonus payments to States that develop State assessments by the deadline established under 1111(b)(3)(F) and as required under section 1111(b)(3)(F) that are of particularly high quality in terms of assessing the performance of students in grades 3 through 8. The Secretary shall make the awards to States that develop assessments that most successfully assess the range and depth of student knowledge and proficiency in meeting State performance standards, in each academic subject in which the State is required to conduct the assessments.

''(2) PEER REVIEW.—In making awards under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall use a peer review process.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Madam President, I think the Senator from Massachusetts has said it well. I will have more to say about this overall education bill later on, but this is all in the spirit of trying to improve this bill. I hope there will be a lot of support for this amendment. So far no one has come out on the floor of the Senate to debate the amendment, and we are going to have a vote actually at 5:30 or thereabouts, or we think we will. If not, we will have a vote tomorrow.

We all have our expertise. I don't even want to say—it is a little presumptuous. I don't know that I am the expert, but 20 years of my adult life was education. I take it seriously. I happen to have been someone who did not do well on some of these standardized tests. I know the danger of relying on just one standardized test. I think the amendment that was agreed to last week was important. We do want to have multiple measures, and I think we do want to have a relationship between the tests and the curriculum being taught.

The only thing this amendment does is say: Look, let's be clear. All States have to meet the deadline. I am sure those of my colleagues who are all for mandatory tests would insist on that. I am not going to disagree at all. But I am saying let's give the bonus to States for high-quality tests. That is really what we want to reward. That is what we are trying to push.

If we are going to do this, let's make sure we are doing an accurate assessment of how the children are doing. If this is all being done in the name of accountability, that is to say we want to know how children are doing in different schools in America, then let's make sure we have the best assessment. That is all this amendment says. Let's have a bonus payment that goes in the direction of nurturing and promoting the best possible assessment.

It is a good amendment, and I hope my colleagues will support it.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, Senator COLLINS has an amendment also dealing with the issue of testing. When she arrives on the floor, I will yield the floor. I want to make some additional comments regarding funding and why I think it is so important.

At the present time, we are only reaching about a third of all the children who are eligible. Listen to this. This is with regard to my State of Massachusetts. I will try by the end of the week to have a similar kind of breakdown for all the other States because I believe they will find that their situation is very similar.

In the 1999–2000 school year, the supplemental Title I funding for disadvantaged children went to 980 out of the 1,900 Massachusetts elementary schools. But because of insufficient Federal funding, 624 Massachusetts schools with poverty rates in excess of 30 percent received zero in Title I education aid.

That is part of the problem. In 600 schools, 30 percent of their children are Title I eligible, and they receive virtually no funding whatsoever.

This is part of our dilemma in terms of wanting to make sure there is a range of different support services, the kinds of requirements that are going to be necessary in terms of well-qualified teachers, professional development and mentoring for teachers, and after-school programs.

If we are serious about doing the job, doing it right and doing it well, we want to try to put ourselves on a glide path to full funding of Title I. Maybe we can't reach all of the children overnight. We understand that. We ought to be able to move ourselves on a glide path so we can look at all the children and, most importantly, their parents, and say that over the life of this legislation we are going to be able to assure those parents that their children who are ineligible for the program are going to get the support and the help and assistance they need.

As you well know, Madam President, this is not the beginning of the pathway in terms of the academic achievement and accomplishment of children. We are looking against a background where the Head Start Program is funded at about 40 percent. We are going to find that some children are going to be coming up with the Head Start Programs and go into the Title I programs which are funded, and will get into supplementary services, and to the extent that these kinds of support elements make an important difference—and they do make an important difference—they are going to be helped and assisted.

But we are going to find, in the same way, that a majority of children who are otherwise eligible for Title I are not going to benefit and then will go to school and fail to get help and assistance. It is going to be extremely difficult to think we are making an important difference in their lives and enhancing their ability in reading and in math.

Almost every study and review—most recently, the Institute of Medicine review of January of this last year—talks about the development of the neurons in children's brains and the importance in these first 3 years in terms of being able to sort of stimulate the interest of the children in various kinds of activities, hoping to stir the elements in the children's brains so they open them up in ways that they will be more receptive to the learning experience—we know this medically from all of these various studies.

The Carnegie Commission report has pointed these out for the last 10 years. Yet we still do not give that kind of intervention, support, and effort that we should and that we know makes an important difference.

I think many of us are very hopeful that we can see investment in these early years, then we have further support in terms of the Head Start Program. We have further to go in funding the special needs program for children with disabilities, and further to go in terms of funding the Title I program for disadvantaged children.

As the Chair understands, we will end up actually saving resources. I know the Chair is familiar with all of the studies that were done at the end of World War II on the GI bill where they estimated that for every $1 invested in education, the Federal Treasury got $8 back in enhanced earnings by those who received those programs. Investing in these children, in terms of savings and other social costs, is more than predictable. It is certain. We believe we have legislation that moves us very

strongly in that direction. That is particularly why we are so strong in terms of wanting to get the funding for these programs.

For the benefit of the Members, we will consider the Wellstone amendment tomorrow and probably begin the discussion. We will have an exact unanimous consent request in a few moments.

For the benefit of the Members, as I understand it, we are coming in at about 11:00 a.m. and will be dealing with some necessary measures and we will then come back to the bill at approximately 11:30 a.m. We will have 20 minutes on the Wellstone amendment and then vote. We will follow that with consideration of the amendment of the Senator from Maine, Ms. COLLINS.

AMENDMENTS NOS. 445, 453, AS MODIFIED, 470, 473, 503, 506, 508, 598, 625, AND 631, EN BLOC, TO AMENDMENT NO. 358

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, in the meantime, I have a package of cleared amendments. I ask unanimous consent that it be in order for these amendments to be considered en bloc and that any modifications, where applicable, be agreed to, the amendments be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc.

For the information of the Senate, these amendments are the DeWine amendment No. 445; the Ensign amendment No. 453, as modified; the Roberts amendment No. 470; the Landrieu amendment No. 473; the Bennett amendment No. 503; the Collins amendment No. 506; the Collins amendment No. 508; the Sessions amendment No. 598; the Wyden amendment No. 625; and the Levin amendment No. 631.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered. The amendments are agreed to, en bloc.

The amendments (Nos. 445, 453, as modified, 470, 473, 503, 506, 508, 598, 625, and 631) were agreed to en bloc, as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 445

(Purpose: To modify provisions relating to the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1994 with respect to mentoring)

On page 514, line 21, insert '', such as mentoring programs'' before the semicolon.

On page 516, line 15, insert ''mentoring providers,'' after ''providers,''.

On page 517, line 5, insert ''and mentoring programs'' before the semicolon.

On page 537, line 10, insert '', mentoring'' after ''services''

On page 550, line 15, insert ''mentoring,'' after ''mediation,''.

AMENDMENT NO. 453, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To express the sense of the Senate regarding the benefits of music and arts education)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE BENEFITS OF MUSIC AND ARTS EDUCATION.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds that—

(1) there is a growing body of scientific research demonstrating that children who receive music instruction perform better on spatial-temporal reasoning tests and proportional math problems;

(2) music education grounded in rigorous academic instruction is an important component of a well-rounded academic program;

(3) opportunities in music and the arts have enabled children with disabilities to participate more fully in school and community activities;

(4) music and the arts can motive at-risk students to stay in school and become active participants in the educational process;

(5) according to the College Board, college-bound high school seniors in 1998 who received music or arts instruction scored 57 points higher on the verbal portion of the Scholastic Aptitude test and 43 points higher on the math portion of the test than college-bound seniors without any music or arts instruction;

(6) a 1999 report by the Texas Commission on Drug and Alcohol Abuse states that individuals who participated in band, choir, or orchestra reported the lowest levels of current and lifelong use of alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs; and

(7) comprehensive sequential music education instruction enhances early brain development and improves cognitive and communicative skills, self-discipline, and creativity.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) music and arts education enhances intellectual development and enriches the academic environment for children of all ages; and

(2) music and arts educators greatly contribute to the artistic, intellectual, and social development of the children of our Nation, and play a key role in helping children to succeed in school.

AMENDMENT NO. 470

(Purpose: Relating to mathematics and science)

On page 344, line 9, insert ''engineering,'' before ''mathematics''.

On page 344, line 17, strike ''a'' and insert ''an engineering''.

On page 344, line 22, insert ''engineering,'' before ''mathematics''.

On page 345, line 7, insert ''or high-impact public coalition composed of leaders from business, kindergarten through grade 12 education, institutions of higher education, and public policy organizations'' before the period.

On page 347, line 10, insert ''or a consortium of local educational agencies that include a high need local education agency'' before the period.

On page 347, line 18, strike ''an'' and insert ''the results of a comprehensive''.

On page 347, line 22, strike the semicolon and insert: '', and such assessment may include, but not be limited to, data that accurately represents—

''(A) the participation of students in advanced courses in mathematics and science,

''(B) the percentages of secondary school classes in mathematics and science taught by teachers with academic majors in mathematics and science, respectively,

''(C) the number and percentage of mathematics and science teachers who participate in content-based professional development activities, and

''(D) the extent to which elementary teachers have the necessary content knowledge to teach mathematics and science;

On page 349, line 6, strike the period and insert ''through the use of—

''(A) recruiting individuals with demonstrated professional experience in mathematics or science through the use of signing incentives and performance incentives for mathematics and science teachers as long as those incentives are linked to activities proven effective in retaining teachers;

''(B) stipends to mathematics teachers and science teachers for certification through alternative routes;

''(C) scholarships for teachers to pursue advanced course work in mathematics or science; and

''(D) carrying out any other program that the State believes to be effective in recruiting into and retaining individuals with strong mathematics or science backgrounds in the teaching field.

On page 350, line 4, insert ''engineers and'' before ''scientists''.

On page 350, between lines 4 and 5, insert the following:

''(9) Designing programs to identify and develop mathematics and science master teachers in the kindergarten through grade 8 classrooms.

''(10) Performing a statewide systemic needs assessment of mathematics, science, and technology education, analyzing the assessment, developing a strategic plan based on the assessment and its analysis, and engaging in activities to implement the strategic plan consistent with the authorized activities in this section.

''(11) Establishing a mastery incentive system for elementary school or secondary school mathematics or science teachers under which—

''(A) experienced mathematics or science teachers who are licensed or certified to teach in the State demonstrate their mathematics or science knowledge and teaching expertise, through objective means such as an advanced examination or professional evaluation of teaching performance and classroom skill including a professional video;

''(B) incentives shall be awarded to teachers making the demonstration described in subparagraph (A);

''(C) priority for such incentives shall be provided to teachers who teach in high need and local educational agencies; and

''(D) the partnership shall devise a plan to ensure that recipients of incentives under this paragraph remain in the teaching profession.

AMENDMENT NO. 473

(Purpose: To express the sense of the Senate concerning a freeze in the existing postal rates charged with respect to educational materials sent to schools, libraries, literacy programs, and early childhood development programs)

On page 893, after line 14, add the following:

SEC. ___. SENSE OF THE SENATE CONCERNING POSTAL RATES FOR EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds that—

(1) the President and Congress both agree that education is of the highest domestic priority;

(2) access to education is a basic right for all Americans regardless of age, race, economic status or geographic boundary;

(3) reading is the foundation of all educational pursuits;

(4) the objective of schools, libraries, literacy programs, and early childhood development programs is to promote reading

skills and prepare individuals for a productive role in our society;

(5) individuals involved in the activities described in paragraph (4) are less likely to be drawn into negative social behavior such as alcohol and drug abuse and criminal activity;

(6) a highly educated workforce in America is directly tied to a strong economy and our national security;

(7) the increase in postal rates by the United States Postal Service in the year 2000 for such reading materials sent for these purposes was substantially more than the increase for any other class of mail and threatens the affordability and future distribution of such materials;

(8) failure to provide affordable access to reading materials would seriously limit the fair and universal distribution of books and classroom publications to schools, libraries, literacy programs and early childhood development programs; and

(9) the Postal Service has the discretionary authority to set postal rates.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that, since educational materials sent to schools, libraries, literacy programs, and early childhood development programs received the highest postal rate increase in the year 2000 rate case, the United States Postal Service should freeze the rates for those materials.

AMENDMENT NO. 503

(Purpose: To amend the eligibility requirements for the rural education initiative to account for geographic isolation)

On page 649, line 4, strike ''(1)'' and insert ''(1)(A)''.

On page 649, line 6, strike ''and'' and insert ''or''.

On page 649, between lines 6 and 7, insert the following:

''(B) each county in which a school served by the local educational agency is located has a total population density of less than 10 persons per square mile; and''.

On page 651, line 3, strike ''(1)'' and insert ''(1)(A)''.

On page 651, line 5, strike ''and'' and insert ''or''.

On page 651, between lines 5 and 6, insert the following:

''(B) each county in which a school served by the local educational agency is located has a total population density of less than 10 persons per square mile; and''.

AMENDMENT NO. 506

(Purpose: To provide that funds for teacher quality activities may be used to encourage men to become elementary school teachers)

On page 319, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following:

''(12) Funding projects and carrying out programs to encourage men to become elementary school teachers.

AMENDMENT NO. 508

(Purpose: To amend the Small, Rural School Achievement Program to allow funds to be used for local innovative education programs)

On page 648, line 18, strike ''or 4116'' and insert ''4116, or 5331(b)''.

On page 650, line 25, strike ''or 4116'' and insert ''4116, or 5331(b)''.

AMENDMENT NO. 598

(Purpose: To encourage the study of the Declaration of Independence, United States Constitution, and the Federalist Papers)

At the appropriate place insert the following:

''SEC. . THE STUDY OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION, AND THE FEDERALIST PAPERS.

''It is the sense of Congress that—

''(1) State and local governments and local educational agencies are encouraged to dedicate at least 1 day of learning to the study and understanding of the significance of the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, and the Federalist Papers; and

''(2) State and local governments and local educational agencies are encouraged to include a requirement that, before receiving a certificate or diploma of graduation from secondary school, students be tested on their competency in understanding the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, and the Federalist Papers.''

AMENDMENT NO. 625

(Purpose: To provide a technical correction)

On page 648, strike lines 4 through 8 and insert the following:

''(1) to carry out chapter 1—

''(A) $150,000,000 for fiscal year 2002; and

''(B) such sums as may be necessary for each of the 6 succeeding fiscal years; and ''(2) to carry out chapter 2—

''(A) $150,000,000 for fiscal year 2002; and

''(B) such sums as may be necessary for each of the 6 succeeding fiscal years.''.

AMENDMENT NO. 631

(Purpose: To allow literacy grant funds to be used for humanities-based family literacy programs)

On page 189, between lines 17 and 18, insert the following:

''(6) PRIME TIME FAMILY READING TIME.—A State that receives a grant under this section may expend funds provided under the grant for a humanities-based family literacy program which bonds families around the acts of reading and using public libraries.

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I rise in support of an amendment to the Better Education for Students and Teachers Act that will make a minor but important technical change to the Rural Education Initiative, located in Title V of the bill. The Rural Education Initiative directs funds to school districts that lack the personnel and resources needed to compete for Federal competitive grants and often receive formula allocations in amounts too small to be effective in meeting their intended purposes.

As the bill is currently drafted, districts must meet two requirements to qualify for grants under this program. One of these requirements is that the district must have less than 600 students. This requirement poses a problem for many States that have geographically large districts. For instance, in my home State of Utah, there are only 40 school districts. Compare this to States of similar or smaller geographic size, some of which have more than 500 districts. The result is that many districts in States like Utah have more than 600 students and therefore fail to qualify for rural assistance, despite the fact that these districts may be in the most rural parts of the State. I have been to these districts. If the members of this body were to travel with me to Beaver School District in Beaver, Utah, they would find it hard to dispute the fact that Beaver is a rural district. But the students in Beaver School District will not receive any assistance under the Rural Education Initiative as it is currently written.

I do not wish to argue the merits of large districts versus small districts. The way a State chooses to run its educational system is rightly left up to State and local education authorities. However, Congress should not be in the business of penalizing States based on their educational systems.

My amendment alters the Rural Education Initiative to include an either/or provision that will allow districts to qualify in one of two ways: a district must have less than 600 students or must have a total population density of less than ten people per square mile. This minor change will allow a handful of school districts that do not currently qualify to become eligible for funding under this provision. It is important to note that no school district currently qualifying under the Rural Education Initiative will be disqualified by my amendment. However, this change will have a serious impact on places like Beaver, Utah, and on many other rural school districts around the country.

I encourage my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I thank colleagues for their cooperation.

We are going to continue to work closely with our Members to try to move this process forward, and to do it in a timely way that will permit our colleagues, obviously, to speak to these measures where necessary and permit us to dispose of the amendments where necessary. But we do want to move ahead. I have every expectation we will have an opportunity to clear additional amendments tomorrow as well.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mr. GREGG. It is my understanding, therefore, that for the balance of the evening we will simply participate in general debate on the bill and that tonight no more amendments will be offered to the bill. Tomorrow, as the Senator from Massachusetts has represented, there will be 20 minutes of debate equally divided when we go back to the bill, at which time there will be a vote on the Wellstone amendment, followed by the Senator from Maine, Ms. COLLINS, offering an amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a unanimous consent request?

Mr. GREGG. That is not a unanimous consent request. That is just a summary of where we are. We are waiting

for the formal written document to make it clear that I did not make any mistakes, and pending that, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GREGG. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GREGG. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate resumes consideration of the education bill on Wednesday, there be 20 minutes of debate on the Wellstone amendment equally divided with no amendments in order to the amendment. I further ask unanimous consent that following the use or yielding back of the time, the Senate proceed to a vote in relationship to the amendment. I further ask unanimous consent that following that vote, the Senate then begin consideration of the Collins amendment No. 509.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. GREGG. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period of morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GREGG. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ENZI. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Wyoming is recognized.

Mr. ENZI. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. ENZI pertaining to the introduction of S. 984 are located in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

Mr. ENZI. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SMITH of Oregon). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE HIV/AIDS VIRUS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I rise to speak on the 20-year anniversary of a truly remarkable event which, at the time, no one in the world would have envisioned its impact—its impact on people throughout the United States and on people throughout the world—indeed, its impact on impact. No one could have foreseen an impact which, from a public health perspective, has resulted in the single worst public health crisis since the bubonic plague ravaged Europe more than 600 years ago.

That event occurring 20 years ago today was the publication of a brief description of the first five cases of a disease that could not be explained. The five people mentioned happened to have been infected with a virus that had never previously been described, and which at the time had no name. The five people had been infected with what was later called the HIV virus, and they died of complications associated with AIDS.

It was a case study. It was published by the CDC. At the time I was a third year surgical resident at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. I remember very vaguely 20 years ago those first case reports being talked about. And it was vague. It was obscure. Nobody had any idea because that virus had never been described in the history of mankind. Nobody had ever before talked about a virus with such power to destroy—to destroy cells, to destroy cellular function, to destroy life itself: the HIV/AIDS virus.

During my surgical residency, I was involved in operating every day. At the time, we had no earthly idea that this virus would infect much of our blood supply. No one knew that it would ultimately be transformed, 5 or 6 years later, into what became known as ''universal precautions,'' where, for the first time, we began to treat all blood in the operating room as potentially infected or potentially toxic. We started to wear double gloves. We started to wear a mask when we operated. We took these precautions to protect ourselves—not our patients This all occurred within a few years after these initial five cases were described. It changed the practice of medicine.

I had the opportunity earlier today to meet a wonderful person, a person whom I had previously only heard about. Her name is Denise Stokes. She has a wonderful voice and a wonderful story. The story was told to me and many others today.

Denise was infected with the HIV virus at the age of 13. Shortly after her infection was identified, she became active in the struggle against the virus. She described her many experiences in an intensive care unit. She described what it was like not to have access to available drugs. She talked about watching, in the depth of her illness, as policymakers talked about AIDS on television. She wondered whether at any point they would be able to respond to what has become the largest, most significant public health challenge in our lifetimes, in the last century—perhaps in the history of the world.

She talked about saying a silent prayer that hopefully there would be a cure someday. She talked about her hopes that someday she, by sharing her experiences, could become a catalyst for ultimately discovering a cure for HIV/AIDS.

Denise helped to put a face on heterosexual HIV infection in the 1980s. She was instrumental in gaining access to African-American churches in the early 1990s. As I said, she was infected when she was 13 years old. She is now 31. She talks to college students, community groups, and professional organizations sharing her story, a story that is powerful, a story that puts a face on HIV/AIDS.

No one 20 years ago, or even 15 years ago, would have ever guessed that this disease would become the single worst public health crisis in over 700 years.

People ask: What do we think about this virus now 20 years later? The Kaiser Family Foundation, in a very recent survey, showed two things about Americans' thinking: No. 1, they see AIDS is the most urgent international health issue; and, No. 2, after cancer, Americans view HIV/AIDS is the most urgent health issue here at home.

And the American public is right on target. We have learned a great deal about this disease over the last 20 years. We know how to prevent it. We have fairly effective drugs and treatment therapies today for treating HIV and AIDS-related infections. They work in most cases if they are available and if they are taken properly.

Over the last 20 years—remember, this virus was not around 21 years ago—AIDS has become a very effective killer. About 8,000 people will die somewhere in the world today from this virus, this single little virus that 21 years ago, to the best of our knowledge, had killed no one.

Its impact has been tremendous. Consider the research field—speaking as a physician and medical scientist, I can say that in 1981 we had no drugs to treat this virus. About 6 years later, we had six or seven drugs. Now, we have about 65 drugs to treat this virus. In spite of that, as I said, it is killing about 8,000 people a day.

One thing that gives us some hope is the great boldness, the genius of our research industry—both the public sector through NIH and the private sector through the pharmaceutical companies—where there are today over 100 drugs in the pipeline to combat HIV/AIDS.

Our successes have been many. We have reduced the incidence of mother-to-child transmission thanks to counseling, voluntary testing, and AZT for pregnant women. New HIV infections have declined sharply. The Ryan White CARE Act, which originated in the

Congress, supports care for over 100,000 people who otherwise would not be able to afford therapy. The drugs have doubled their life expectancies. That's a tremendous success. It has cut in half the average length of stay for HIV-related hospitalizations.

This body, I am proud to say, has responded to the changing face of HIV/AIDS, in the communities where it appears. For example, last year Congress expanded the reach of the Ryan White CARE Act to include a wider range of communities. We created supplemental grants for emerging metropolitan communities that previously had not been affected and in the past did not qualify for such funding.

The expansion in the program will benefit such places as Nashville, TN, where the Comprehensive Care Center, led by Dr. Steve Raffanti, has served more than 3,000 patients over the last 6 years, and is currently following almost 1,900 patients, 40 percent of whom fall below the poverty level.

How? The Congress first authorized the Ryan White CARE Act ten years ago and we reauthorized it five years ago and then again last year.

Congress has also responded with increased funding. Ryan White funding is now at a level of $1.8 billion a year. That is not double what it was when we started, or tripled, or quadrupled. It is 7 times what we initially put into the funding of the Ryan White Care Act.

But there is so much more to be done. There are 500,000 to 600,000 Americans living with the HIV infection and another 320,000 people with AIDS. We have reduced the number of new infections from 150,000 a year down to 40,000 a year. That is tremendous progress, but it is not acceptable. 40,000 new infections per year is one new infection every 13 minutes, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Our loved ones are at risk. Even worse, there are some new danger signs on the horizon. The progress and the advances that have been made appear to have created an element of complacency. Surveys indicate today that 80 percent of our young people do not believe they are at risk for HIV infection. Such ignorance and complacency breeds incaution, less prevention, and, ultimately, more infections.

Last week, the CDC featured a report which cited a frightening increase in HIV incidence for young African-American gay and bisexual males. In Tennessee, the number of HIV/AIDS infections increased by a startling 35 percent over the 2-year period of 1998 to the year 2000. We simply cannot allow this increase in the number of infections. We cannot allow a new wave of infections in our country. All of this is a call to arms, a call to arms for all of us as citizens of our communities, as Americans, and as citizens of the world.

As we were talking this morning, Denise talked about initially withdrawing within herself as the virus infected her at age thirteen. As she grew older, she started to reach out—first, to her community; later, to policy makers.

Denise should be an example for all of us. We have a moral obligation to reach out within our communities and beyond, to the United States of America and beyond. We need to reach out to the entire world. Indeed, as troubling as the trends are in this country, they pale beside the staggering disaster of HIV/AIDS in the developing world, especially in sub-Saharan Africa.

The historical enemies of human beings—and we all know what they are: war, famine, natural disasters, persecution—today are dwarfed by the global epidemic of HIV/AIDS. The crisis is one of public health. The crisis is one of developmental economies. The crisis is one of humanitarian outreach.

The global statistics of HIV/AIDS are chilling. I just mentioned that an American is infected with HIV/AIDS every 13 minutes. During that same 13 minutes, 72 people will die of HIV/AIDS somewhere in the world. Twice that number will become newly infected.

I have had the opportunity to serve on the Foreign Relations Committee. In that committee, I chair the Africa subcommittee. I have had the opportunity to travel to Uganda, to Kenya, to the Congo, to the Sudan. I have had the opportunity to perform surgery in hospitals in the last several years where HIV infections among patients run as high as 50 percent. When you travel to Africa, just as Secretary Powell did 2 weeks ago, you see that Africa is losing an entire generation. It is that middle generation that is being wiped out. It is that working generation that is being wiped out. It is the parenting generation that is being wiped out.

How many orphans result? How many devastated families? How many impoverished villages? How many ruined economies?

The good news is we know a lot about how to reverse the epidemic through a combination of political commitment—I am speaking to my colleagues and to the political leadership of others around the world—of donor support—again, I am speaking to those both inside and outside government who are in a position to contribute—and of newly committed leadership in countries being devastated by the disease. Those three elements, in places such as Uganda, Senegal, and Thailand, have had remarkable successes.

On the ground in these countries, work by community-based organizations, both religious and secular, has been the linchpin of success.

It is very important that we not separate prevention from care and treatment. Science has not yet found a cure. There is no vaccine for HIV/AIDS. Not yet. It will be 5 years, or 7 years, or 10 years maybe more. I am not sure if it will even be a vaccine. It may be a highly effective treatment. One of the many problems of this virus is, once it gets into the memory system of the cells of the human body, those cells stay there for decades, 60 and 70 years. That's just one of the challenges for our research community.

Recent action by the pharmaceutical companies to slash prices on antiretrovirals for poor countries has done two things. First, it sends the message of hope. Second, it puts a spotlight on the necessity of establishing an infrastructure of health care to be able to engage in prevention and care and treatment.

Access to treatment and drugs for opportunistic infections such as tuberculosis is also critical. For all the damage that HIV/AIDS does, tuberculosis kills more people in Africa with AIDS than any other opportunistic infection.

Creation and ongoing support of public health infrastructure, of health care delivery systems, including personnel training, is essential to effective treatment and education programs.

What more should we do to address this challenge?

The reason I am discussing this tonight is that 21 years ago, before the first case studies, we had no idea of the catastrophe of this pandemic which now travels across the world. I have spoken a lot about Africa in the last few minutes; and there is increasing public awareness of the magnitude of the disaster there. When I ask which single country in the world has more HIV/AIDS cases than any other, most of my colleagues and those listening would guess a country in Africa. That's wrong. It is believed that India now has more cases than any other country.

If I ask what country in the world has the fastest growth rate in HIV/AIDS, again, most would guess an African country. That's also probably wrong. We think it's Russia. Frankly, we're not sure because public health information is so poor in most of these places.

There is no debate that no region of the world is more affected than Africa. But guess which region is second; it's the Caribbean.

This is truly a global challenge. The price tag for an effective response is staggering. Billions of dollars are going to be required. The United Nations estimates that $3 to $5 billion will be required in Africa alone. $3 to $5 billion to develop an appropriate human and physical infrastructure to address this challenge. Governments must respond. Legislatures like ours, the executive branch, and the governments of the world are the only ones able to commit the resources needed.

New public-private partnerships that draw on our creativity must be developed to implement the strategies that are put forward.

The United States has taken real leadership on this issue. Although we often are criticized by other nations, we need to make it clear that the United States right now is contributing about half the funds that the entire world is currently spending internationally to fight the problem.

We spend more than anyone on research and on education. We spend more than anyone on treatment of HIV/AIDS. We spend more than anyone to help the rest of the world deal with this problem. Indeed, U.S. foundations alone have contributed more money to attack this problem than most other governments.

This does not mean that we are the only ones doing our part. Other nations, the United Nations, the World Bank, corporations, and philanthropies have been joining together, particularly over the past year.

President George W. Bush, just 3 or 4 weeks ago, took a real leadership position, committing $200 million, the first country to do so, to a global fund to combat AIDS.

Secretary of State Colin Powell, on his recent return from Africa, said:

> There is no war that is causing more death and destruction . . . that is more serious . . . than the war in sub-Saharan Africa against HIV/AIDS.

I will close with seven steps we can take to engage this war:

No. 1. United leadership. We should ask the political, religious, and business leaders of the world to unite in joining the international commitment to halt the spread of HIV/AIDS and to help those afflicted with the disease. They should commit both financial and human resources to the fight.

No. 2. A global fund. I mentioned and commended President Bush's commitment to this global international fund for HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria. This should not be an American fund. It should not even be a United Nations fund. It should be a global fund that represents a new way of doing business—transparent and responsive. Traditional donors such as European countries, Japan, and others, as well as the business community, foundations, and other institutions of civil society should all be participants in this fund.

In the very near future, I intend to offer legislation authorizing U.S. contributions to this new global fund, this new way of doing business.

No. 3. Swift funding. We should put nongovernmental and community-based organizations, both religious and secular, at the forefront of the action on the ground by getting funds to them quickly so they can most effectively do their jobs reaching out. We know they have an enormous impact, and speed saves lives.

No. 4. Partnerships. We should encourage and empower coalitions and partnerships of governments, universities, academies, research institutions, multilateral institutions, corporations, and the nongovernmental organizations to come together as partners, as coalitions, to help fill the gap between the available resources and the unmet needs of prevention, care, and treatment. Each member of the partnership brings a unique contribution to the battle.

No. 5. Research. We should make absolutely certain that international research efforts on disease affecting poor countries—and that includes AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis—are reinforced in a manner that assures the best scientific research in the world can lead to real benefits for the developing world at a cost they can afford.

We should continue to aggressively support and encourage research into vaccines and treatments in both private and public institutions like the National Institutes of Health. The Senate has recently supported the doubling of funding at the NIH over 5 years. We should also give new financial incentives for private research. The pharmaceutical companies are doing tremendous research in the field of HIV/AIDS, but more is needed.

There are numerous vaccines currently under investigation. Their success will be measured in millions of lives saved. Just think of it.

No. 6. Prevention, care, and treatment. I already mentioned that prevention needs to be tied to care and treatment. I am very excited about new low-cost options which can link care and treatment with prevention over time.

No. 7. And I will close with this—is hope. As I talked with Denise Stokes today, I was struck by her remarkable enthusiasm, her optimism, and her commitment to teaching others about this disease which changed her life from the age of 13.

The most remarkable thing to me, as I listened to her and learned that she was just in the emergency room 2 days ago, was the simple fact that here she was talking to a large crowd of people with her story. She was sharing what was inside, reaching out broadly to people from all over the world, bringing her special message which can be summed up in one word: ''hope.''

We should do all we can to provide comfort and care to families all over the world today. We should address the issue of the orphans created by this terribly destructive disease. We have a moral responsibility to give them hope.

Yes, the challenge is before us—a moral challenge, a humanitarian challenge. There has never before been such a challenge in terms of sheer magnitude.

As Americans, it is natural to reach out to those around us, domestically, to give a helping hand. Now we must join with other nations to extend our helping hand further to create a better world, a safer world, and a more fulfilling world. We do that here at home with boldness, genius, and creativity, along with a healthy dose of courage, persistence, and patience. Let us now rise to the global challenge as a compassionate people in a great and compassionate nation.

COMMEMORATING TWENTY YEARS SINCE THE FIRST DIAGNOSES OF AIDS

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I rise to commemorate the beginning of a tragic chapter in human and medical history. Twenty years ago today the first cases of AIDS were diagnosed. Since that initial diagnosis in 1981, the toll wreaked upon humanity by this disease is mind boggling. Twenty-two million people have already died. And an additional thirty-six million people have become infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

In 1981, no one imagined the impact HIV/AIDS would have in the ensuing two decades. And, unfortunately, no one would have imagined that the United States would be as slow as it has been to respond to what has become a grave international crisis.

International public health experts estimate that the global fight against AIDS demands at least $7 billion per year. Meanwhile, in the last 15 years combined, the United States has invested only $1.6 billion or a little over $100 million per year to fight this pandemic. In 1999, a year during which nearly five and a half million people in Africa alone were newly infected, the United States invested just $142 million, less than .001 percent, of our foreign assistance budget that year, to fight AIDS.

Too much time has been lost, and too little leadership has been demonstrated by America. President Bush, Vice President CHENEY, and Secretary Powell have indicated they now recognize this pandemic for what it is: a national security threat. It is time that we begin dedicating the resources that such a threat demands.

In recent months, some progress has been made in combating AIDS. Governments, foundations, and corporations have begun to pledge donations to the Global Trust Fund to fight AIDS. Drug producers have also begun to make AIDS treatment more affordable for the more than 25 million HIV-positive Africans. But much more remains to be done.

However, the activities of the Global Trust Fund should not and cannot replace our bilateral efforts to bolster the health infrastructure of the countries struggling against this pandemic. Therefore, Congress can take three important steps to bolster our bilateral efforts and invest in the health care workers and researchers needed in the affected countries.

First, Congress must provide the resources needed for increased training of public health workers on the ground.

Second, Congress must increase spending on research in Africa—and insist that research dollars spent in these countries also go to the development of indigenous research capabilities.

And third, Congress must try to create the incentives necessary to stop the steady outflow of African doctors and nurses from these ravaged countries.

It is time to act. We have already lost two decades and tens of millions of lives to this deadly disease. We cannot afford to wait another two decades before we confront this disease with the dedication it demands.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, today marks the 20th year since the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention first published information in the Morbidity and Mortality Report on this illness we now call HIV/AIDS. The past 20 years have seen immense loss, as well as significant medical advances, and this anniversary is a fitting time to renew the worldwide call for stronger action in the battle against this devastating global epidemic.

Tragically, current reports from the CDC and from the Retrovirus Conference in Chicago indicate that the transmission of HIV is increasing among our youngest citizens. At least 50 percent of new infections in the U.S. occur in those under 25 years of age. Clearly, we can do more to combat this serious challenge that threatens to blight the lives of many of the Nation's youth.

Our concern extends far beyond America's borders. President Bush has pledged $200 million for HIV/AIDS internationally, but we need to do far more, especially to help combat this massive HIV/AIDS crisis in developing nations. From orphaned children, to untrained workforces, to destabilized economies, the realities of HIV/AIDS in third-world nations are harsh. Today, nearly 40 million people worldwide continue to live with HIV/AIDS.

Dealing more effectively with this global epidemic requires a stronger commitment from all of us both in Congress and in the administration, so that medical advances will benefit as many people as possible worldwide. The United States can set a proud example for the world community in dealing with HIV/AIDS by doing all we can to provide the resources needed for effective prevention programs, good treatment for those suffering from HIV/AIDS, and the development of a cure that will finally conquer it and save the lives of millions.

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to note the 20th anniversary of the passing of a constituent of mine . . . one of the five original deaths sited by a CDC report published 20 years ago today. Though the 553-word article only outlined a rare type of pneumonia—it also noted that the same strain had struck five gay men in Los Angeles, California. One of those five men in Los Angeles was an Oregonian and I stand here today to mark this somber anniversary.

The world marks this date, June 5, 1981 as ground zero for the AIDS epidemic. Those early days marked a panic among urban populations of gay men, who at first made up the bulk of early AIDS cases. It wasn't until 1984 that researchers identified the AIDS virus, and throughout the 1980s much of the gay community's efforts were focused on organization and education, which became the hallmark for the early fight against AIDS. As this Nation all too slowly wakened to this epidemic, much of the groundwork had been laid by a community devastated by this disease. Slowly funding on the Federal level grew, and by the mid 1990s new drugs slowed but did not stop the progression of the disease.

Today 36 million people are HIV-positive: almost a million in the United States alone, and almost a third of them don't know they have HIV. AIDS is the fourth leading cause of death globally and the leading cause of death in Africa. The statistics in that continent are mind-numbing—in some countries, one of four adults are living with HIV/AIDS. Life expectancies in those countries over the next five years have been slashed from the mid-60s to the early forties. Cumulative deaths attributable to AIDS on that continent numbered over 13 million by 1999, and the number of children orphaned by AIDS is estimated between 7 and 10 million. An estimated 1 million children in Africa are HIV-positive.

There were about 5,000 cases of AIDS in Oregon last year, and the National Institutes of Health allocated over $16 million to universities and other institutions in the state to conduct research for the treatment of HIV/AIDS. In addition the government provided about $800,000 in grants under the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS program.

But this day is not one solely devoted to statistics about this disease. Though the numbers are mind-numbing, sometimes the most devastating loss is measured in terms of those who contributed to our culture, our society, through literature, sports, public service and private business. AIDS has created a loss for our society in terms of books not written, music not played, business left undone, research undiscovered—put simply—lives not lived. On this somber anniversary I stand here on the Senate floor to note that one of the first was an Oregonian, a man named ''Chuck'' whose medical history is annotated in a CDC report released twenty years ago. Today's Washington Post noted only a sliver of his life—that he was from Oregon and that he had a penchant for wearing cowboy boots. Chuck has been dead for 19 years.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, as chairman of the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control, I rise today to compliment the men and women of the Drug Enforcement Administration, DEA. As chairman, I have watched these American heroes work day and night on the front lines of the struggle against international drug trafficking.

DEA's mission is to identify, target, and dismantle the most powerful drug syndicates operating around the world that smuggle their poison into American communities. These syndicates are far more powerful and violent than any organized criminal groups that American law enforcement has yet encountered. Unlike traditional organized crime, these 21st century crooks operate globally with transnational networks to conduct illicit enterprises simultaneously in many different countries.

The drug traffickers whom DEA faces pose nothing less than a foreign threat to the national security of the United States. International trafficking groups today have at their disposal the most sophisticated communications technology and their arsenal includes radar-equipped aircraft, advanced weaponry, and an army of workers who oversee the drug business from the source zones to the urban areas and rural locations within the United States. These drug traffickers reach even into my home State of Iowa, in America's heartland. Local, rural police and sheriffs departments must now deal with international organized crime.

All of this modern technology and these vast resources enable the leaders of international criminal groups to build organizations that, together with their surrogates operating within the United States, reach into all parts of America. The leaders of these crime groups use their organizations to carry out the work of transporting drugs into the United States, and franchise others to distribute drugs, thereby allowing them to remain beyond the reach of American justice. Those involved in international drug trafficking often generate such tremendous profits that they are able to corrupt law enforcement, military and political officials overseas in order to create and retain a safe haven for themselves. DEA's focus on international trafficking organizations makes that agency a critical and effective weapon in countering this threat to our way of life, here and abroad.

The threat posed by Colombian drug traffickers is particularly dire. The international drug syndicates headquartered in Colombia, and operating through Mexico and the Caribbean, control both the sources and the flow of many dangerous drugs into the

United States. The vast majority of the cocaine entering the United States continues to come from the source countries of Colombia, Bolivia, and Peru. For the past two decades—up to recent years—criminal syndicates from Colombia ruled the drug trade with an iron fist, increasing their profit margin by controlling the entire continuum of the cocaine market. Their control ranged from the wholesale cocaine base production in Peru, Bolivia, and Colombia, to the cocaine hydrochloride, HCL, production and processing centers in Colombia, to the wholesale distribution of cocaine on the streets of the United States.

In response to this threat, the DEA carries out cutting-edge, sophisticated investigations like Millennium and White Horse which have led to the dismantling of major portions of the most significant drug trafficking organizations operating not just out of Colombia, but throughout the world. DEA's accomplishments could take hours to review in detail, but let me mention just a few here today.

In 1999, Operation Millennium successfully targeted major traffickers who had previously operated without fear of capture or prosecution in the United States, believing that only their low-level operatives were at risk. This enforcement operation effectively demonstrated that even the highest level traffickers based in foreign countries could not manage drug operations inside the United States with impunity. Operation Millennium was made possible by direct support from the governments of Colombia and Mexico, and underscore the importance of cooperation among international drug law enforcement agencies.

In November 2000, DEA, FBI, and U.S. Customs culminated an 18 month investigation targeting a multi-ethnic, transnational MDMA, Ecstasy, and cocaine distribution organization, following up on enforcement action by Dutch police in the Netherlands. The investigation, known as Operation Red Tide, was a textbook example of the new multi-agency, multi-national law enforcement cooperation needed to thwart organized crime in the 21st Century. As a result of this cooperative effort, 1,096 pounds, 2.1 million tablets, of MDMA, the largest single seizure of the drug in history, were seized by U.S. Customs agents. The head of the organization, Tamer Adel Ibrahim, fled the U.S. after the seizure, but was quickly traced to Mexico and then to Europe by the multi-agency team. Ibrahim, along with others, were arrested and 1.2 million tablets of MDMA were seized by the Dutch National Police.

Cases similar to Operation Red Tide exemplify the unprecedented level of international law enforcement cooperation in effect today. The investigation targeting the transnational MDMA and cocaine trafficking syndicate was a cooperative effort by the U.S. law enforcement agencies, as well as the Dutch National Police/Regional Team South, Mexico's Fiscalia Especializad Para La Atencion De Delitos, FEADS, the Israeli National Police, the German Federal Police, Bundes Kriminal Amt, the Cologne, Germany Police Department, the Duissburg Germany Police Department, the Italian National Police and the French National Police.

This investigation is extremely important because MDMA, Ecstasy, is a new threat with a potential to cause great damage, especially to America's youth. Operation Red Tide has ensured that a large volume of ecstasy that would have made it into the hands of our youth never hit the streets. It has sent a strong message to the traffickers that the United States and DEA is leading a global response to the drug threat.

Last December, the DEA, again together with U.S. Customs and the FBI, completed Operation Impunity II, resulting in 82 arrests and the seizure of 5,266 kilograms of cocaine, 9,708 pounds of marijuana, and approximately $10,890,295 in U.S. currency. Impunity II follows earlier successes dating back to 1996 in Operation Limelight and Operation Impunity I—and was the result of the outstanding coordination between Federal, State, and local law enforcement officials and prosecutors across the country.

Operation Impunity II was a multi-agency law enforcement program that targeted a wide ranging conspiracy to smuggle thousands of pounds of cocaine and marijuana from Mexico, across the southwest border into Texas, for distribution throughout the United States. The organization placed managers in the United States and retained the organizational command and control elements in Mexico. In addition to remnants from the Carrillo-Fuentes organization, U.S. agents learned that some members of the Mexican Gulf Cartel had also become associated with the organization, including Osiel Cardenas-Guillen, allegedly a former Gulf Cartel lieutenant.

You may remember that Cardenas-Guillen is also charged with assault on an FBI agent and a DEA agent in Matamoros, Mexico, on November 9, 1999. Clearly this operation sends a clear signal that if traffickers threaten or harm a federal agent, they will not get away with impunity.

In January of this year, Operation White Horse targeted a large scale heroin trafficking organization, directed by Wilson Salazar-Maldonado, which was responsible for sending multi-kilogram quantities of heroin from Colombia to the Northeastern United States via Aruba. The investigation was conducted jointly by the Colombian National Police, DEA Bogota, Curacao, Philadelphia and New York, and the Special Operations Division. This investigation resulted in 96 arrests, as well as the seizure of multi-kilograms quantities of heroin and cocaine, weapons and U.S. currency.

DEA remains committed to its primary goal of targeting and arresting the most significant drug traffickers in the world today. Their successes include not only the operations I just mentioned, but also the historic destruction of the Cali and Medellin Cartels. DEA meets the ultimate test of bringing to justice the drug lords who control their vast empires of crime, which bring misery to so many nations. As we sustain a relentless assault against drug traffickers, we must insist that these drug lords be arrested, tried and convicted, and sentenced in their own countries to prison terms commensurate with their crimes, or, as appropriate, extradited to the United States to face justice in U.S. courts. I hope other Senators will join with me in acknowledging the fine work by DEA, and in supporting their efforts in the future.

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE, RESEARCH AND EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 2001

Mr. REID. Mr. President, S. 805, introduced on May 1, 2001 by Senator WELLSTONE, is a vital step toward the day when advanced research will find ways to halt, and even cure, the maladies of muscular dystrophy.

Muscular dystrophy is a genetic disorder—actually, nine separate genetic disorders that cause wasting of muscle tissue throughout the body. One-quarter of a million Americans of all ages suffer from the disease. One form of it, Duchenne's, strikes young boys, and usually takes their lives before they reach their twentieth birthday. All forms of it are disabling and costly.

Since 1966, the entertainer Jerry Lewis has conducted a telethon on Labor Day, calling the nation's attention to muscular dystrophy, and asking help for its victims and their families. The Muscular Dystrophy Association, which Jerry Lewis chairs, has raised hundreds of millions of dollars for the treatment and relief of this disease. It supports over two hundred clinics, and makes wheelchairs and braces available to people suffering from muscular dystrophy.

Part of the money the association raises—about $30 million yearly—goes to support research projects. But for the breakthroughs to occur that will enable scientists not just to treat, but to halt the disease, research funding must be substantially increased. This is the purpose of S. 805.

S. 805 calls upon the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Centers for Disease Control to establish Centers of Excellence, in which intensified

clinical research can be conducted that will speed the discovery of cures for the various forms of muscular dystrophy. This legislation would provide the Director of the NIH, and the Directors of the several institutes within the NIH where research into muscular dystrophy is being conducted, with authority and responsibility to concentrate and intensify that research effort, with the funds needed to conduct clinical trials. In short, it gives NIH the organization and the mandate to exploit recent advances in gene therapy. The goal is the swiftest possible rescue for children and adults whose lives will otherwise be lost or badly damaged by muscular dystrophy.

The Congress has responded generously and often to the demand for research funding aimed at other diseases that shorten or impair the lives of Americans. It is time to add muscular dystrophy to the list of those diseases. I commend my colleagues for introducing S. 805, and I ask that my name be added as a cosponsor of the bill.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY last month. The Local Law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a heinous crime that occurred August 11, 2000 in New York City. A 17-year-old, who announced to his parents he was gay earlier this year, was recovering after his parents severely beat him. Police say that Hendrick Paterson, 49, and Sharon Paterson, 36, allegedly repeatedly smashed their son with a lead pipe at a relative's home as they yelled anti-gay slurs. ''God will punish you for your lifestyle!'' ''You can't be gay,'' the couple is quoted as saying. The son was rushed to the hospital where he was treated and released for multiple welts to his body.

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation, we can change hearts and minds as well.

THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, the latest round of violence in the Middle East has dealt more pain and suffering to the people of that region, as well as another blow to the peace process. And though I remain firmly convinced that a final status agreement—which provides firm and enforceable security guarantees for Israel—remains not only the most desirable way out of the cycle of violence but indeed the only way to achieve lasting peace and security for all of the people in the region, the fundamental problem at present is whether or not Yasir Arafat is capable of ever becoming a reliable partner in the peace process. The answer, as unfortunate for future generations of Palestinians as for Israelis and for all of those who crave peace in the Middle East, would seem to be an emphatic NO, as indicated by his dismissal of the historic compromise offered by then-Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak late last year. Unless and until Chairman Arafat, or a successor, can demonstrate the capacity to make peace as well as war, the outlook for the Middle East peace process will remain bleak.

Thomas Friedman makes this case effectively and forcefully in a May 22 editorial in the New York Times, entitled ''It Only Gets Worse.'' I ask unanimous consent that the Friedman editorial be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the editorial was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the New York Times, May 22, 2001]

IT ONLY GETS WORSE

(By Thomas L. Friedman)

The long-awaited Mitchell commission report about Israeli-Palestinian violence was released yesterday, and now there is a debate over what to do with its recommendations. I have a suggestion. It's kind of a two-for-one deal. Take all the Mitchell reports, make a big pile out of them, and set them ablaze into a gigantic bonfire. It would surely generate enough heat, and light, to make a small contribution to the Bush energy plan.

Am I being unfair? Yes, just a bit. George Mitchell is a good man, and the central argument of his report is right, in the narrowest sense: If you want to stop the latest Israeli-Palestinian slide into the abyss, first there must be a cessation of all violence, and then confidence-building steps, including a settlements freeze and Palestinian security measures.

My problem with the Mitchell report is that it fundamentally ignores how we got into this abyss and the only real way out. It is not because of Israeli settlements. The settlements are foolish, and their continued expansion is a shameful act of colonial coercion that will meet the fate of all other colonial enterprises in history. The inability of American Jewish leaders or U.S. governments to speak out against settlement expansion—which should be stopped under any conditions for Israel's sake—is a blot on all of them.

But the settlements are not the core problem. The core problem right now is Yasir Arafat—the Palestinian leader who cannot say ''yes'' and will not say ''uncle.''

President Bill Clinton and Prime Minister Ehud Barak put on the table before Mr. Arafat a historic compromise proposal that would have given Palestinians control of 94 to 96 percent of the West Bank and Gaza—with all the settlements removed, virtually all of Arab East Jerusalem, a return to Israel of a symbolic number of Palestinian refugees and either the right of return to the West Bank and Gaza or compensation for all the others.

Not only would Mr. Arafat not take it, he would not even say: ''Well, this was insufficient, but this is the most far-reaching and serious proposal Palestinians have ever seen. Now, I want to enter into a dialogue with the Israeli people and government to see if I can get them to 100 percent.''

No, instead, Mr. Arafat launched this idiotic uprising. He did so because he is essentially a political coward and maneuverer, who apparently has not given up his long-term aim of eliminating Israel and who was afraid in the short run that if he took 99 percent, he would be killed for the 1 percent he left on the table. Mr. Arafat has never been willing to tell his people he got them most of what they wanted and now is the time to end the suffering of as many Palestinians as possible and move on.

This truth is what the Mitchell ''investigation'' should be telling the world and the Palestinians. There was an Israeli leader, and a slim Israeli majority, for a fair historic compromise. But there was no Palestinian equivalent, and unless there is a Palestinian partner, and a Palestinian leader, for a historic compromise roughly along the Clinton lines, no cease-fire is going to hold.

The best Hebrew biography of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon is entitled ''He Doesn't Stop at Red Lights.'' Mr. Arafat's biography should be entitled ''He Doesn't Go at Green Lights.''

Now Mr. Sharon—who was elected in the Israeli backlash against the failure of Camp David—is trying to pummel Mr. Arafat into submission. That won't work either. Because Mr. Arafat is as afraid to say ''uncle'' to Sharon as much as he was afraid to say ''yes'' to Clinton. He fears he would be killed for saying uncle as much as he would be killed for saying yes to 99 percent. The Palestinians will never be bombed into submission. One hundred years of Palestinian history tells you that.

The real problem is that the Palestinians are leaderless today, and that is what the U.S., the U.N. and the Arab would have to face up to. Deep down, they all know it and they admit it to each other in private. There is no Palestinian leader right now willing or able to say yes to a fair historic compromise, and we simply fool ourselves with commissions that don't acknowledge that. Unless the Arabs can stiffen Mr. Arafat by supporting him in any grand compromise, or by creating a context in which an alternative leadership can emerge, this bonfire will rage on and it will consume many, many others.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Monday, June 4, 2001, the Federal debt stood at $5,668,781,838,668.70, five trillion, six hundred sixty-eight billion, seven hundred eighty-one million, eight hundred thirty-eight thousand, six hundred sixty-eight dollars and seventy cents.

Five years ago, June 4, 1996, the Federal debt stood at $5,139,964,000,000, five trillion, one hundred thirty-nine billion, nine hundred sixty-four million.

Ten years ago, June 4, 1991, the Federal debt stood at $3,489,526,000,000, three trillion, four hundred eighty-nine billion, five hundred twenty-six million.

Fifteen years ago, June 4, 1986, the Federal debt stood at $2,053,350,000,000,

two trillion, fifty-three billion, three hundred fifty million.

Twenty-five years ago, June 4, 1976, the Federal debt stood at $606,178,000,000, six hundred six billion, one hundred seventy-eight million, which reflects a debt increase of more than $5 trillion, $5,062,603,838,668.70, five trillion, sixty-two billion, six hundred three million, eight hundred thirty-eight thousand, six hundred sixty-eight dollars and seventy cents during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF LILLIAN WALLACE

• Mr. REID. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to one of Nevada's finest ladies, Lillian Wallace. Born in New Haven, CN on June 13, 1911. Lillian attended P.S. 132 and graduated from George Washington High School. In 1941, she joined the Army Medical Corps as a general clerk and was promoted to head of the Medical Supply Division. Having a life long desire to see California, Lillian moved there after the war and met her future husband, Julian. They drove to Las Vegas to wed in 1947 and later became residents of Nevada. Together, they devoted their lives to helping those who needed help, particularly senior citizens. They worked with the Mobile Home Owners League of the Silver State, an organization that fights for the rights of mobile home owners. Lillian also gave her time to Hadassah and the City of Hope Medical Center.

In 1982, she and Julian took a floundering group called Seniors United, and turned it into one of the most formidable seniors advocacy groups in Nevada. Lillian created the Senior Highlights magazine and has been the editor for 17 years. She takes great pride in choosing articles that are of interest and educational to our senior population. She believes in promoting the positive aspects of government and giving government officials a chance to meet with Seniors United members to discuss the issues. Lillian has always believed that education is the key to getting people to respect their government and get involved.

Lillian lost her beloved husband and soulmate last year. Moving forward alone has been one of her greatest challenges in life, but she looks to the future and continues to help seniors in need and work on the expansion of Seniors United. Her contributions to the seniors of the State of Nevada are legend and the honors she has received are too numerous to mention. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing this grand dame of Nevada a happy 90th birthday.•

WE THE PEOPLE

• Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, We the People . . . The Citizen and Constitution program, administered by the Center for Civic Education, has provided curricular materials at upper elementary, middle, and high school levels for more than 26.5 million students nationwide. The program provides students with an in-depth, working knowledge of our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the principles of democratic government. Members of Congress and their staff enhance the program by discussing current constitutional issues with students and teachers, as well as by participating in other educational activities.

The class from Stillwater High School, in Stillwater, MN, took part in the program's national competition here in Washington, D.C., April 21st–23rd, 2001. I would like to thank the students, Lindsay Jasicki, Leah Abbe, Aaron Williamson, Patrick Hueller, Anders Johnson, Stephanie Ebner, Aaron Ulland, Lee Howard, Jessica Mcglauflin, Kyle Ellefson, Jeffrey Morency, Jordan Hild, Rebecca Siemers, Patrick Horst, Blake Rasmussen, and David Hoffman and their teacher, Ms. Kathleen Ferguson, for representing Minnesota at this prestigious event. To reach this level of competition demonstrates a tremendous knowledge of the essential ideals and values of the American constitutional government. My staff and I wish these young ''constitutional experts'' the best of luck in the future.•

S.C. LIBRARY HONORED

• Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, It is official. The Richland County Public Library is the best library system in the country. Library Journal magazine and the Gale Group, the Nation's largest publisher of reference works for libraries, recently named the Richland library the National Library of the Year 2001. The library's executive director, C. David Warren, will accept the award on June 18 at a ceremony in San Francisco during the annual conference of the American Library Association. This honor is the latest in a string of honors bestowed on Richland County's system. In 1999, the American Library Association chose the library as the No. 1 large library system in the Southeast and, in 2000, Hennen's American Public Library Ratings ranked it fourth among urban libraries serving populations of 250,000–499,999. It was only a matter of time before it earned top billing nationwide.

Three key factors influenced selection of the Library of the Year: service to the community, creativity in developing community programs and leadership in creating programs that other libraries can emulate. The Richland library shines in each of these areas thanks to the hard work of Mr. Warren, his staff, the Friends of the Library group, the County Council and voters. In 1989, voters approved a $27 million bond referendum used to build a striking new main library on Assembly Street and seven new branches. Many Richland County residents already knew they had a gem on their hands, but it sure is nice to have that pride substantiated by such a prestigious honor. I commend the Richland County Public Library for its outstanding service and wish Mr. Warren and his staff the best of luck as they continue to build an exemplary library system.•

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ALLENHURST FIRE DEPARTMENT

• Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the Allenhurst Fire Department on its 100th Anniversary of dedicated volunteer fire service.

For the last 100 years, with courage and devotion to their fellow neighbors, the volunteers of the Allenhurst Fire Department have valiantly given of themselves to protect the lives and property of the residents of Allenhurst, New Jersey. In doing so, they have taken on a great deal of personal responsibility in promoting the well-being of their community and served as an exemplar of good citizenship.

I would like to extend my best wishes to the volunteers and families of the Allenhurst Fire Department and wish them many more years of fine service to their community.•

HONORING SEAN CONLEY

• Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, I would like to honor Sean Conley for his recent victory at the 74th Annual Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee on May 31st, 2001. Outspelling 248 other master spellers at the national level over three days, Sean sealed his championship by successfully spelling succedaneum.

Sean is from Shakopee, MN, and attends the Minnesota Renaissance School in Anoka, MN. He placed 9th in the 1999 Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee and 2nd in 2000.

I join with all Minnesotans in celebrating Sean Conley's achievement. We are extremely proud of him.•

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC–2081. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Annual Report for 2000; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC–2082. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Protection of Human Research Subjects: Delay of Effective Date'' (RIN0925–AA14) received on June 1, 2001; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–2083. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Ergonomics Program'' (RIN1218–AB36) received on May 14, 2001; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–2084. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, Employment Standards Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Performance of Functions Under this Chapter; Claims for Compensation Under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act'' (RIN1215–AB32) received on May 25, 2001; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–2085. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Consultation Agreements: Changes to Consultation Procedures'' (RIN1218–AB79) received on June 1, 2001; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–2086. A communication from the Assistant Director for Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination confirmed for the position of Department of Defense General Counsel, received on May 25, 2001; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2087. A communication from the Associate Director for Retirement and Insurance, Office of Personnel Management and the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense, Health Affairs, transmitting jointly, pursuant to law, the Joint Evaluation by the Department of Defense and Office of Personnel Management of the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program Demonstration: First Report to Congress''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2088. A communication from the Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''CHAMPUS: Partial Implementation of Pharmacy Benefits Program'' (RIN0720–AA62) received on June 1, 2001; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2089. A communication from the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, Policy Support, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Report on Agreements for the Exchange of Defense Personnel Between the United States and Foreign Countries for Fiscal Year 2000''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2090. A communication from the Assistant Director for Executive and Political Personnel, Department of the Navy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination confirmed for the position of Secretary of the Navy, received on June 1, 2001; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–2091. A communication from the Director of the Policy Directives and Instructions Branch, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Adjustment of Status Under Legal Immigration Family Equity (LIFE) Act Legalization Provisions and Life Act Amendments Family Unity Provisions'' (RIN1115–AG06) received on May 31, 2001; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–2092. A communication from the Director of the Policy Directives and Instructions Branch, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Adjustment of Status for Certain Nationals of Nicaragua, Cuba, and Haiti'' (RIN1115–AG05) received on May 31, 2001; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–2093. A communication from the Director of Policy Directives and Instructions Branch, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishing Premium Processing Service for Employment-Based Petitions and Applications'' (RIN1115–AG03) received on May 31, 2001; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–2094. A communication from the President of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to activities for 2000; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–2095. A communication from the White House Liaison, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Department of Justice, received on June 1, 2001; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–2096. A communication from the White House Liaison, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, received on June 1, 2001; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–2097. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Columbia; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC–2098. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Colombia; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC–2099. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Colombia; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC–2100. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Bureau of the Public Debt, Office of the Under Secretary for Domestic Finance, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Government Securities Act Regulations: Definition of Government Securities'' (RIN1505–AA82) received on May 23, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2101. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations'' (Doc. No. FEMA–D–7509) received on May 23, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2102. A communication from the President and Chairman of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Brazil; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2103. A communication from the Deputy Secretary, Investment Management, Office of Public Utility Regulation, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Preservation and Destruction of Records of Registered Public Utility Holding Companies and of Mutual and Subsidiary Service Companies'' received on May 24, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2104. A communication from the Deputy Secretary, Investment Management, Office of Regulatory Policy, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Section 270.31a–2: Records to be preserved by registered investment companies, certain majority-owned subsidiaries thereof, and other persons having transactions with registered investment companies. Section 275.204–2: Books and records to be maintained by investment advisers'' (RIN3235–AI05) received on May 24, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2105. A communication from the General Counsel for Regulations, Office of the Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Screening and Eviction for Drug Abuse and Other Criminal Activity'' (RIN2501–AC63) received on May 24, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2106. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Export Administration, Bureau of Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Entity List: Revisions and Additions'' (RIN0694–AB60) received on May 31, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2107. A communication from the Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Administrator of National Banks, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Assessment of Fees'' (12 CFR Part 8) received on May 31, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2108. A communication from the Managing Director of the Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Maintenance of Effort—Minimum Number of Annual Board of Directors Meeting'' (RIN3069–AB05) received on May 31, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2109. A communication from the President and Chairman of the Export Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Taiwan; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2110. A communication from the Acting Administrator of Tobacco Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Tobacco Fees

and Charges for Permissive Inspection and Certification; Fee Revisions'' (RIN0581–AB86) received on May 24, 2001; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2111. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the profitability of the credit card operations of depository institutions for 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2112. A communication from the Chief of Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''National Forest System Land and Resource Management Planning; Extension of Compliance Deadline; Interim Final Rule'' received on May 30, 2001; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2113. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Policy and Program Development, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Change in Disease Status of France, Ireland, and The Netherlands Because of Foot-and-Mouth Disease'' (Doc. No. 01–031–1) received on May 30, 2001; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2114. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Policy and Program Development, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Change in Disease Status of the Independent Principalities of Andorra, Monaco, and San Marino Because of BSE'' (Doc. No. 01–029–1) received on May 30, 2001; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2115. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Policy and Program Development, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Prohibition of Beef from Argentina'' (Doc. No. 01–032–1) received on May 30, 2001; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2116. A communication from the Chairman of the Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2000 annual report; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2117. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Papayas Grown in Hawaii; Suspension of Grade, Inspection, and Related Reporting Requirements'' (Doc. No. FV01–928–1) received on May 31, 2001; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2118. A communication from the Acting Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, Cotton Program, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revision of User Fees for 2001 Crop Cotton Classification Services to Growers'' (Doc. No. CN–00–010) received on May 31, 2001; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2119. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Clethodim; Pesticide Tolerance'' (FRL6783–5) received on May 31, 2001; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2120. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Pyriproxygen: Pesticide Tolerance'' (FRL6782–5) received on May 31, 2001; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2121. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Clethodim; Time-Limited Pesticide Tolerance'' (FRL6785–5) received on May 31, 2001; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2122. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Baillus thuringienis Cry1F Protein and Genetic Material Necessary for its Production in Corn; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL6783–3) received on May 31, 2001; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2123. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Prohexadione Calcium; Pesticide Tolerance'' (FRL6781–5) received on May 31, 2001; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–2124. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulations Management, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Reasonable Charges for Medical Care or Service'' (RIN2900–AK73) received on May 7, 2001; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC–2125. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulations Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Schedule for Rating Disabilities: Disabilities of the Liver'' (RIN2900–AK12) received on June 1, 2001; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC–2126. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed Manufacturing License in Agreement with the Republic of Korea; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2127. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or services under contract in the amount of $50,000,000 or more; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2128. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or services sold commercially under contract in the amount of $50,000,000 or more to Belgium; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2129. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed Technical Assistance Agreement for the export of defense articles or services sold commercially under contract in the amount of $50,000,000 or more to France; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2130. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or services sold commercially under contract in the amount of $50,000,000 or more to Japan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2131. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or services sold commercially under contract in the amount of $50,000,000 or more to Australia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2132. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or services sold commercially under contract in the amount of $50,000,000 or more to Hong Kong, United Kingdom, Australia, and Canada; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2133. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with Canada; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2134. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with Japan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2135. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed request for contract in the amount of $50,000,000 or more to Brazil; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2136. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the promulgation of a rule entitled ''Documentation of Immigrants and Nonimmigrants under the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended—Refusal of Individual Visas''; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2137. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with Italy and France; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2138. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or services sold commercially under contract in the amount of $50,000,000 or more to France; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2139. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or services sold commercially under contract in the amount of $50,000,000 or more to Arabia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2140. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant

to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or services sold commercially under contract in the amount of $50,000,000 or more to Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2141. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or services sold commercially under contract in the amount of $50,000,000 or more to Norway, Belgium, The Netherlands, Denmark, Portugal, and SABCA; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2142. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed Technical Assistance Agreement for the export of defense articles or services sold commercially under contract in the amount of $50,000,000 or more to Mexico and Canada; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2143. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with Switzerland; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2144. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with Japan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2145. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with Germany; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of May 26, 2001, the following reports of committees were submitted on June 1, 2001:

By Mr. BOND, from the Committee on Small Business, without amendment:

S. 174: A bill to amend the Small Business Act with respect to the microloan program, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 107–18).

By Mr. BOND, from the Committee on Small Business:

Special Report entitled ''Summary of Legislative and Oversight Activities During the 106th Congress.'' (Rept. No. 107–19).

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. THOMPSON, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs:

Special Report entitled ''Activities of the Committee on Government Affairs for the 106th Congress'' (Rept. No. 107–20).

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 230: A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey a former Bureau of Land Management administrative site to the City of Carson City, Nevada, for use as a senior center (Rept. No. 107–21).

S. 238: A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct feasibility studies on water optimization in the Burnt River basin, Malheur River basin, Owyhee River basin, and Powder River Basin, Oregon (Rept. No. 107–22).

S. 254: A bill to provide further protections for the watershed of the Little Sandy River as part of the Bull Run Watershed Management Unit, Oregon, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 107–23).

S. 329: A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a theme study on the peopling of America, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 107–24).

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 491: A bill to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the design, planning, and construction of the Denver Water Reuse project (Rept. No. 107–25).

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments and an amendment to the title:

S. 498: A bill entitled ''National Discovery Trails Act of 2001'' (Rept. No. 107–26).

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 506: A bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, to provide for a land exchange between the Secretary of Agriculture and the Huna Totem Corporation, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 107–27).

S. 507: A bill to implement further the Act (Public Law 94–241) approving the covenant to establish a commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 107–28).

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 509: A bill to establish the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area in the State of Alaska, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 107–29).

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 517: A bill to authorize funding the Department of Energy to enhance its mission areas through technology transfer and partnerships for fiscal years 2002 through 2006, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 107–30).

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 487: A bill to amend chapter 1 of title 17, United States Code, relating to the exemption of certain performances or displays for educational uses from copyright infringement provisions, to provide that the making of a single copy of such performances or displays is not an infringement, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 107–31).

By Mr. WARNER, from the Committee on Armed Services:

Special Report entitled ''Report on the Activities of the Committee on Armed Services for the 106th Congress.'' (Rept. No. 107–32).

By Mr. HELMS, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble:

S. Res. 91: A resolution condemning the murder of a United States citizen and other civilians, and expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the failure of the Indonesian judicial system to hold accountable those responsible for the killings.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. CORZINE, and Mrs. LINCOLN):

S. 982. A bill to promote primary and secondary health promotion and disease prevention services and activities among the elderly, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to add preventive health benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ALLARD:

S. 983. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Fructooligosaccharides; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ENZI (for himself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 984. A bill to improve the Veterans Beneficiary Travel Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MILLER (for himself and Mr. CLELAND):

S. 985. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 South Main Street in Sylvania, Georgia, as the ''G. Elliot Hagan Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. SPECTER):

S. 986. A bill to allow media coverage of court proceedings; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TORRICELLI (for himself and Mr. KERRY):

S. 987. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to permit States the option to provide medicaid coverage for low-income individuals infected with HIV; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. 988. A bill to provide that countries receiving foreign assistance be conducive to United States business; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. FITZGERALD (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. AKAKA):

S. Con. Res. 45. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act of 1958 should be fully enforced so as to prevent needless suffering of animals; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. GREGG (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. SNOWE):

S. Con. Res. 46. A concurrent resolution honoring the 129 sailors and civilians lost aboard the U.S.S. Thresher on April 10, 1963,

and urging the Secretary of the Army to erect a memorial to this tragedy in Arlington National Cemetery; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 37

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 37, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a charitable deduction for contributions of food inventory.

S. 41

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 41, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the research credit and to increase the rates of the alternative incremental credit.

S. 131

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 131, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the annual determination of the rate of the basic benefit of active duty educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill, and for other purposes.

S. 139

At the request of Mr. BENNETT, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 139, a bill to assist in the preservation of archaeological, paleontological, zoological, geological, and botanical artifacts through construction of a new facility for the University of Utah Museum of Natural History, Salt Lake City, Utah.

S. 145

At the request of Mr. THURMOND, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 145, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to increase to parity with other surviving spouses the basic annuity that is provided under the uniformed services Survivor Benefit Plan for surviving spouses who are at least 62 years of age, and for other purposes.

S. 155

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 155, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to eliminate an inequity in the applicability of early retirement eligibility requirements to military reserve technicians.

S. 252

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 252, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize appropriations for State water pollution control revolving funds, and for other purposes.

S. 278

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 278, a bill to restore health care coverage to retired members of the uniformed services.

S. 280

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 280, a bill to amend the Agriculture Marketing Act of 1946 to require retailers of beef, lamb, pork, and perishable agricultural commodities to inform consumers, at the final point of sale to consumers, of the country of origin of the commodities.

S. 281

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 281, a bill to authorize the design and construction of a temporary education center at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

S. 283

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES), and the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. CARNAHAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 283, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to protect consumers in managed care plans and other health coverage.

S. 284

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES), and the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. CARNAHAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 284, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives to expand health care coverage for individuals.

S. 305

At the request of Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 305, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to remove the reduction in the amount of Survivor Benefit Plan annuities at age 62.

S. 318

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 318, a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of genetic information with respect to health insurance.

S. 340

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. WELLSTONE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 340, a bill to recruit and retain more qualified individuals to teach in Tribal Colleges or Universities.

S. 409

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 409, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the standards for compensation for Persian Gulf veterans suffering from certain undiagnosed illnesses, and for other purposes.

S. 543

At the request of Mr. WELLSTONE, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 543, a bill to provide for equal coverage of mental health benefits with respect to health insurance coverage unless comparable limitations are imposed on medical and surgical benefits.

S. 567

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 567, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide capital gain treatment under section 631(b) of such Code for outright sales of timber by landowners.

S. 611

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 611, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide that the reduction in social security benefits which are required in the case of spouses and surviving spouses who are also receiving certain Government pensions shall be equal to the amount by which two-thirds of the total amount of the combined monthly benefit (before reduction) and monthly pension exceeds $1,200, adjusted for inflation.

S. 662

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 662, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish headstones or markers for marked graves of, or to otherwise commemorate, certain individuals.

S. 677

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) were added as cosponsors of S. 677, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the required use of certain principal repayments on mortgage subsidy bond financing to redeem bonds, to modify the purchase price limitation under mortgage subsidy bond rules based on median family income, and for other purposes.

S. 690

At the request of Mr. WELLSTONE, the name of the Senator from Maryland

(Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 690, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand and improve coverage of mental health services under the medicare program.

S. 697

At the request of Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 697, a bill to modernize the financing of the railroad retirement system and to provide enhanced benefits to employees and beneficiaries.

S. 721

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 721, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a Nurse Corps and recruitment and retention strategies to address the nursing shortage, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 721, supra.

S. 731

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 731, a bill to ensure that military personnel do not lose the right to cast votes in elections in their domicile as a result of their service away from the domicile, to amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to extend the voter registration and absentee ballot protections for absent uniformed services personnel under such Act to State and local elections, and for other purposes.

S. 742

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 742, a bill to provide for pension reform, and for other purposes.

S. 778

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) were added as cosponsors of S. 778, a bill to expand the class of beneficiaries who may apply for adjustment of status under section 245(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act by extending the deadline for classification petition and labor certification filings.

S. 786

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) were added as cosponsors of S. 786, a bill to designate certain Federal land in the State of Utah as wilderness, and for other purposes.

S. 790

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) were added as cosponsors of S. 790, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit human cloning.

S. 794

At the request of Mr. THOMPSON, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 794, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to facilitate electric cooperative participation in a competitive electric power industry.

S. 805

At the request of Mr. WELLSTONE, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) were added as cosponsors of S. 805, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for research with respect to various forms of muscular dystrophy, including Duchenne, Becker, limb girdle, congenital, facioscapulohumeral, myotonic, oculopharyngeal, distal, and emery-dreifuss muscular dystrophies.

S. 829

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN), and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 829, a bill to establish the National Museum of African American History and Culture within the Smithsonian Institution.

S. 834

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 834, a bill to provide duty-free treatment for certain steam or other vapor generating boilers used in nuclear facilities.

S. 839

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 839, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase the amount of payment for inpatient hospital services under the medicare program and to freeze the reduction in payments to hospitals for indirect costs of medical education.

S. 847

At the request of Mr. DAYTON, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 847, a bill to impose tariff-rate quotas on certain casein and milk protein concentrates.

S. 860

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 860, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the treatment of certain expenses of rural letter carriers.

S. 866

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 866, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a national media campaign to reduce and prevent underage drinking in the United States.

S. 881

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 881, a bill to amend the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 to provide for consistent treatment of survivor benefits for public safety officers killed in the line of duty.

S. 913

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 913, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the medicare program of all oral anticancer drugs.

S. 920

At the request of Mr. BREAUX, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 920, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit against income tax to individuals who rehabilitate historic homes or who are the first purchasers of rehabilitated historic homes for use as a principal residence.

S. 952

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) and the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. CARNAHAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 952, a bill to provide collective bargaining rights for public safety officers employed by States or their political subdivisions.

S. 953

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 953, a bill to establish a Blue Ribbon Study Panel and an Election Administration Commission to study voting procedures and election administration, to provide grants to modernize voting procedures and election administration, and for other purposes.

S. 957

At the request of Mr. WELLSTONE, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 957, a bill to provide certain safeguards with respect to the domestic steel industry.

S. 964

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUYE), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI) were

added as cosponsors of S. 964, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage.

S.J. RES. 7

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 7, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 7, supra.

S. RES. 16

At the request of Mr. THURMOND, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 16, a resolution designating August 16, 2001, as ''National Airborne Day''.

S. RES. 71

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 71, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the need to preserve six day mail delivery.

S. RES. 92

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 92, a resolution to designate the week begining June 3, 2001, as ''National Correctional Officers and Employees Week.''

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. CARNAHAN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SMITH), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH), the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 92, supra.

S. RES. 98

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 98, a resolution designating the period beginning on June 11 and ending on June 15, 2001 as ''National Work Safe Week.''

S. CON. RES. 3

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 3, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that a commemorative postage stamp should be issued in honor of the U.S.S. *Wisconsin* and all those who served aboard her.

S. CON. RES. 24

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 24, a concurrent resolution expressing support for a National Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (RSD) Awareness Month.

S. CON. RES. 35

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER), and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 35, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Lebanon, Syria, and Iran should allow representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross to visit the four Israelis, Adi Avitan, Binyamin Avraham, Omar Souad, and Elchanan Tannenbaum, presently held by Hezbollah forces in Lebanon.

S. CON. RES. 43

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 43, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the Republic of Korea's ongoing practice of limiting United States motor vehicles access to its domestic market.

AMENDMENT NO. 424

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN), the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON), and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 424.

AMENDMENT NO. 426

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 426 intendent to be proposed to S. 1, an original bill to extend programs and activities under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

AMENDMENT NO. 465

At the request of Mr. WELLSTONE, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 465.

AMENDMENT NO. 625

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 625.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. CORZINE, and Mrs. LINCOLN):

S. 982. A bill to promote primary and secondary health promotion and disease prevention services and activities among the elderly, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to add preventive health benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today, along with my colleagues Senators JEFFORDS, KENNEDY, LUGAR, BINGAMAN, CHAFEE, MURRAY, HOLLINGS, ROCKEFELLER, LEVIN, LINCOLN, and CORZINE, to introduce the Medicare Wellness Act.

For too long, the Medicare approach to health care has been wholly reactive. Benefits are designed to treat illness and disability once a recipient is already suffering. This approach is outdated. It is time for Medicare to become pro-active. It is time to focus on helping people to prevent disease in the first place so that they may live not just longer, but more fulfilling lives.

The Medicare Wellness Act shifts the focus of Medicare, changing it from a program that simply treats illness to one that promotes wellness. For this reason, The Medicare Wellness Act has support from a broad range of groups, including the National Council on Aging, the American College of Preventive Medicine, the American Heart Association, and the National Osteoporosis Foundation.

Currently, 70 percent of medical spending is the result of preventable illnesses, many of which occur in older adults. It does not have to be this way. Research shows that declines in health are not inevitable with age. In fact, many chronic diseases can be prevented by making lifestyle changes such as taking up an exercise program or quitting smoking. A healthier lifestyle adopted at any time during one's lifetime can increase active life expectancy and decrease disease and disability.

The Medicare Wellness Act helps promote preventive health care among older Americans, first by adding to the list of Medicare benefits several services that we know to be effective in preventing disease.

These benefits focus on some of the most prominent, underlying risk factors for illness that face all Medicare beneficiaries, including: Screening for hypertension, counseling for tobacco cessation, medical nutrition therapy services for cardiovascular patients, counseling for post-menopausal women, screening for vision and hearing loss, expanded screening for

osteoporosis, and screening for cholesterol.

The addition of these new benefits represent the highest recommendations for Medicare beneficiaries in the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, recognized as the gold standard within the prevention community, and the Institute of Medicine.

The benefits can help reduce Medicare beneficiaries' risk for health problems such as stroke, cancer, osteoporosis, and heart disease.

Other major components of our bill include the establishment of the Healthy Seniors Promotion Program. This program will be led by an interagency group within the Department of Health and Human Services, which will look at existing preventive benefits and offer suggestions to make their use more widespread.

This point is critical.

The fact is that there are a number of prevention-related services available to Medicare beneficiaries today, including mammograms and colorectal cancer screening. But those services are seriously underutilized. A study published by Dartmouth University, The Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care 1999, found that only 28 percent of women age 65-69 receive mammograms and only 12 percent of beneficiaries were screened for colorectal cancer. These are disturbing figures.

Additionally, the Medicare Wellness Act incorporates an aggressive applied research effort to investigate new methods of improving the health of Medicare beneficiaries and the management of chronic diseases.

Further, our bill would establish a health education and risk appraisal program aimed at major behavioral risk factors such as diet, exercise, alcohol and tobacco use, and depression.

This program will target both pre-65 individuals and current Medicare beneficiaries and will strive to increase awareness among individuals of major risk factors that impact health, to change personal health habits, to improve health status, and ultimately to save the Medicare program money.

In addition to new research on prevention among Medicare beneficiaries, the Medicare Wellness Act would require several reports to assess the overall scientific validity of the Medicare preventive benefits package.

First, our bill would require the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, known as MedPAC, to report to Congress every three years on whether the Medicare program needs to change over time in order to ensure that Medicare benefits are appropriate for the population being served and is as comprehensive as private insurance plans offered.

Currently, there is no regular assessment to ensure that Medicare is providing a healthcare package that is up-to-date with either the current needs of seniors or current scientific findings. Quite frankly, Medicare hasn't kept up with the rest of the health care world, we need to do better.

A second study that our bill would require is one in which the institute of Medicine, IOM, would assess, every three years, the scientific validity of the entire Medicare preventive benefits package.

The study will be presented to Congress in a manner that mirrors The Trade Act of 1974. The Institute of Medicine's recommendations would be presented to Congress in legislative form. Congress would then have 60 days to either accept or reject the recommendations. But Congress could not change the recommendations themselves.

This ''fast-track'' process is a deliberate effort to get Congress out of the business of micro-managing the Medicare program allowing science to dictate the medical needs of seniors in America.

In the aggregate, the Medicare Wellness Act represents the most comprehensive legislative proposal in the 107th Congress for the Medicare program focused on health promotion and disease prevention for beneficiaries. It represents sound health policy based on sound science.

However, at a time when there is concern over the solvency of Medicare and concern that it won't be able to provide future seniors with the health care that they are promised, one may question whether it is wise to expand upon benefits already offered. And one is wise to do so.

However, the issue of prevention is different.

Benjamin Franklin was truly on the mark when he first said that ''an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure''. Offering preventive care under Medicare, or the ''ounce of prevention,'' will definitely cost the government money up front. However, this initial outlay of dollars will be returned in terms of costs saved in the long run by avoiding long-term, cost intensive treatments, or the ''pound of cure''.

And, just as important, although unmeasurable, will be the enhanced quality of life for seniors. Prevention helps us all to live more healthy lives in the long run which translates into more productive and fulfilling lives as well.

Today, many people continue to work beyond the age of 65 contributing to the workforce and the economy. However, they are only able to do so if their health allows.

When considering the future of Medicare, the question really comes down to this. Is the value of improved quality of life for seniors and their ability to maintain healthy, functional and productive lives worth the expenditure?

While improving Medicare's financial outlook for future generations is imperative, we must do it in a way that gives our seniors the ability to live longer, healthier and valued lives.

I believe that by pursuing a prevention strategy that addresses some the most fundamental risk factors for chronic illness and disability that face seniors, we will make an invaluable contribution to the Medicare reform debate and, more importantly, to our children and grandchildren.

I encourage my colleagues to join us on this important bill and to work with us to ensure that the provisions of the bill are reflected in any Medicare reform legislation that is debated and voted on this year in the Senate.

I ask unanimous consent that a list of groups supporting this bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the list was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

GROUPS SUPPORTING THE MEDICARE WELLNESS ACT OF 2001

American Cancer Society.
American College of Preventive Medicine.
American Dietetic Association.
American Geriatrics Society.
American Heart Association.
American Lung Association.
American Physical Therapy Association.
American Public Health Association.
American Speech-Language Hearing Association.
Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids.
Families USA.
National Campaign for Hearing Health.
National Osteoporosis Foundation.
National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare.
National Council on Aging.
National Chronic Care Association.
National Mental Health Association.
Partnership for Prevention.
Strong Women Inside and Out.
United Cerebral Palsy Associations.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I am pleased to join Senator GRAHAM today in introducing the Medicare Wellness Act of 2001. Our Nation's rapidly growing senior population and the ongoing search for cost-effective health care have led to the development of this important legislation. The goal of the Medicare Wellness Act is to increase access to preventive health services, improve the quality of life for America's seniors, and increase the cost-effectiveness of the Medicare program.

Congress created the Medicare program in 1965 to provide health insurance for Americans age 65 and over. From the outset, the program has focused on coverage for hospital services needed for an unexpected or intensive illness. In recent years, however, a great escalation in program expenditures and an increase in knowledge about the value of preventive care have forced policy makers to re-evaluate the current Medicare benefit package.

The Medicare Wellness Act adds to the Medicare program those benefits recommended by the Institute of Medicine and the U.S. Preventive Services

Task Force. These include: screening for hypertension, counseling for tobacco cessation, counseling for hormone replacement therapy, screening for vision and hearing loss, cholesterol screening, expanded screening for osteoporosis, and nutrition therapy counseling for seniors with cardiovascular disease. These services address the most prominent risk factors facing Medicare beneficiaries.

In 1997 and again in 2000, Congress added several new preventive benefits to the Medicare program through the Balanced Budget Act and the Beneficiary Improvement and Protection Act. These benefits included annual mammography, diabetes self-management, prostate cancer screening, pelvic examinations, glaucoma screening, and colorectal cancer screening. Congress's next logical step is to incorporate the nine new screening and counseling benefits in the Medicare Wellness Act. If these symptoms are addressed regularly, beneficiaries will have a head start on fighting the conditions they lead to, such as diabetes, lung cancer, heart disease, blindness, osteoporosis, and many others.

Research suggests that insurance coverage encourages the use of preventive and other health care services. The Medicare Wellness Act also eliminates the deductibles and coinsurance for new and current preventive benefits in the program. Because screening services are directed at people without symptoms, this will further encourage the use of services by reducing the cost barrier to care. Increased use of screening services will mean that problems will be caught earlier, which will permit more successful treatment. This will save the Medicare program money because it is cheaper to screen for an illness and treat its early diagnosis than to pay for drastic hospital procedures at a later date.

However, financial access is not the only barrier to the use of preventive care services. Other barriers include low levels of education or information for beneficiaries. That is why the Medicare Wellness Act instructs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to coordinate with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Health Care Financing Administration to establish a Risk Appraisal and Education Program within Medicare. This program will target both current beneficiaries and individuals below the age of 65 who have high risk factors. Outreach to these groups will offer questions regarding major behavioral risk factors, including the lack of proper nutrition, the use of alcohol, the lack of regular exercise, the use of tobacco, and depression. State of the art software, case managers, and nurse hotlines will then identify what conditions beneficiaries are at risk for, based on their individual responses to the questions, then refer them to preventive screening services in their area and inform them of actions they can take to lead a healthier life.

The Medicare Wellness Act also establishes the Healthy Seniors Promotion Program. This program will bring together all the agencies within the Department of Health and Human Services that address the medical, social and behavioral issues affecting the elderly to increase knowledge about and utilization of prevention services among the elderly, and develop better ways to prevent or delay the onset of age-related disease or disability.

Now is the time for Medicare to catch up with current health science. We need a Medicare program that will serve the health care needs of America's seniors by utilizing up-to-date knowledge on healthy aging. Effective health care must address the whole health of an individual. A lifestyle that includes proper exercise and nutrition, and access to regular disease screening ensures that proper attention is being paid to the whole individual, not just a solitary body part. It is time we reaffirm our commitment to provide our Nation's seniors with quality health care.

It is my hope that my colleagues in Congress will examine this legislation and realize the inadequacy of the current package of preventive benefits in the Medicare program. We have the opportunity to transform Medicare from an out-dated sickness program to a modern wellness program. I want to thank Senator BOB GRAHAM and all the other cosponsors of the Medicare Wellness Act who are supporting this bold step toward successful Medicare reform.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, it's a privilege to join Senator GRAHAM and Senator JEFFORDS in introducing the Medicare Wellness Act of 2001, Medicare reform for the 21st century. This important legislation will make it easier for senior citizens to take advantage of the preventive benefits to them, while strengthening Medicare at the same time.

Greater investment in the health of the Nation's elderly is long overdue. Although we have made significant progress in reducing chronic disability among older Americans, we still have a long way to go. According to the World Health Organization, the United States ranks behind 23 other nations in ''healthy life expectancy.'' Surely, we can do better than that.

Each year, chronic disability adds $26 billion to the Nation's health care costs. Unless we act, the burden of these costs will become increasingly unbearable for countless senior citizens. In the next 30 years, Medicare will be under even heavier pressures as the baby boom generation retires. Nearly one fifth of the population will be 65 and older by 2025, which means that a larger number of beneficiaries will be supported by a smaller number of workers. To avoid hard remedies such as benefit cuts or tax increases, we should do all we can to reduce future Medicare costs by improving the health of senior citizens.

According to a study at Duke University, if the 1.3 percent decline in disability achieved over the last 12 years can be raised to 1.5 percent, we can potentially save enough in Medicare to avoid any substantial long-term increase in Medicare tax or reduction in benefits. The Medicare Wellness Act attempts to do that. It waives cost-sharing for a series of preventive benefits, provides individual health risk appraisals, encourages a falls prevention campaign, and funds pilot projects and new research on the most effective ways to encourage senior citizens to adopt healthier lifestyles.

Prevention saves lives and saves money. Screening can often be the difference between a successful battle with cancer and a failed one. Colorectral cancers, for example, have a five-year survival rate of up to 90 percent if detected at an early stage—but currently only 37 percent of these cancers are actually diagnosed early. Unfortunately, screening tests are significantly under-used by Medicare beneficiaries. Only approximately a third of men and women at-risk for these cancers are currently being screened.

Our bill helps to combat this problem by eliminating cost-sharing and deductibles for a wide range of preventive services, such as screening for colorectral cancers, mammography, screening for glaucoma, bone mass measurement, medical nutrition therapy services, and screening for cholesterol problems and hypertension.

The Medicare Wellness Act also creates a national ''falls prevention'' education and awareness campaign to reduce these injuries. Older Americans are hospitalized for fall-related injuries five times more often then they are for other types of injuries. This awareness campaign will educate senior citizens about precautions they can take to reduce the likelihood of such injuries.

Clinical depression also takes a heavy toll on the Nation's elderly. Compared to all other age groups, senior citizens have the highest suicide rate in the Nation. Twenty percent of persons age 55 and older suffer from a mental disorder that is not part of the normal aging process. As with so many other illnesses, depression is under-diagnosed among the elderly. This bill provides needed funding for demonstration projects to screen for depression, so that elderly persons suffering from this problem can be diagnosed and referred to specialists for the treatment they need.

The Medicare Wellness Act also encourages senior citizens to improve their health and reduce the risks of illness in other ways. Typical factors

leading to poor health include smoking, physical inactivity, and excessive use of alcohol. A health risk appraisal initiative under the Act will given senior citizens the individual attention they need to make the changes in lifestyle necessary to improve their health.

In addition, the Medicare Wellness Act encourages research to explore the most effective ways to improve Medicare's role in preventing disease and improving health. Pilot programs are authorized to experiment with innovative ways to promote healthier lifestyles and reach out to senior citizens in various settings.

Federal agencies will undertake particular research programs on these issues. The Medicare Payment Advisory Commission is asked to evaluate Medicare benefits in relation to private sector benefits. The National Institute on Aging is asked to report on ways to improve the quality of life for the elderly. The Institute of Medicine is asked to make recommendations to Congress about the medical and cost effectiveness of existing Medicare benefits and the potential benefit of preventive services.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation. The Medicare Wellness Act can be a significant contribution to healthier senior citizens and a healthier Medicare.

By Mr. ALLARD:

S. 983. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on Fructooligosaccharides; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, today I am introducing a bill that would temporarily suspend the duty on Fructooligosaccharides. I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 983

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF DUTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is amended by inserting in numerical sequence the following new heading:

''	9902.21.01	Fructooligosaccharides (FOS) (provided for in subheading 2106.90.99)	Free	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2003	''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section applies with respect to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after the date of the enactment of this Act.

By Mr. ENZI (for himself and Ms. SNOWE).

S. 984. A bill to improve the Veterans Beneficiary Travel Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. ENZI. Madam President I rise today to introduce the Veterans Road to Health Care Act 2001. This legislation would raise the travel reimbursement rate for veterans who must travel to Veterans Administration hospitals for treatment. The current reimbursement for veterans is 11 cents per mile. This bill would raise that figure to match the Federal employees travel reimbursement rate which is 34.5 cents per mile.

The average price for gas in Wyoming right now is $1.63 per gallon. I know it varies across the Nation. The current rate of 11 cents per miles barely makes a dent in the expenses incurred by veterans who have no choice but travel by automobile for health care. I have received numerous letters from veterans in Wyoming describing how difficult it is to work into their budget the money necessary to travel between their hometown and the VA hospital. Being able to access health care is vital, it should not be a choice between driving to receive needed treatment or being able to afford other necessities.

In Wyoming, we have two VA hospitals, one in Cheyenne and one in Sheridan. Veterans have to travel to one of these facilities to be treated for health conditions and be covered by the health care plan that the military provides for them. This poses a serious problem in terms of travel expense, especially with the rise in gasoline prices. It was a problem before; it is a bigger problem now. Some of the largest towns in Wyoming like Evanston and Cody are over 300 miles away from the nearest VA facility. A veteran living in Evanston has to drive 360 miles to reach the nearest VA hospital, and from Cody it is about 300 miles to the nearest facility.

This bill addresses the healthcare of veterans who have special needs. It would allow veterans who have been referred to a special care center by their VA physician to be reimbursed under the Travel Beneficiary Program for their travel to the specialized facility. This applies only to those veterans who cannot receive adequate care at their VA facility and who have a nonservice connected disability.

This legislation is important to all veterans, but it is especially significant to those veterans who live in rural States, like my home State of Wyoming. Rural States are less populated, there is greater distance between towns and far fewer options for transportation. Wyoming has miles and miles of miles and miles. Cars are the main mode of transportation. In urban areas, there are more readily available health care facilities and more transportation options for accessing those facilities. There are subways and bus systems and the towns and cities and VA hospitals are closer together.

I believe that the Government has a duty to compensate our service men and women for the sacrifices they made defending the freedoms of this country. With our current recruitment and retention problems in the military, I think it is our Nation's responsibility to give veterans the kind of access to healthcare they have earned through their service to our country. The rising cost of gasoline should not be the driving factor for a veteran to go untreated at veterans clinics. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 984

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Veterans Road to Health Care Act of 2001''.

SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENT OF VETERANS BENEFICIARY TRAVEL PROGRAM.

(a) PAYMENTS FOR CERTAIN ADDITIONAL MEDICAL CARE.—(1) Section 111(b)(1) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(G) A veteran whose travel is in connection with treatment or care for a non-service-connected disability at non-Department facility if the treatment or care—

''(i) is provided upon the recommendation of medical personnel of the Department; and

''(ii) is not available at the Department facility at which such recommendation is made.''.

(2) The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect on October 1, 2001, and shall apply with respect to fiscal years after fiscal year 2001.

(b) CALCULATION OF EXPENSES OF TRAVEL.—(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in calculating expenses of travel for purposes of the Veterans Beneficiary Travel Program, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall utilize the current mileage reimbursement rates for the use on official business of privately owned vehicles prescribed by the Administrator of General Services under section 5707(b) of title 5, United States Code.

(2) In this subsection, the term ''Veterans Beneficiary Travel Program'' means the program of payment or reimbursement for necessary expenses of travel of veterans and their beneficiaries prescribed under sections 111 and 1728 of title 38, United States Code, and under any other provisions of law administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for payment or reimbursement for such expenses of travel.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. SPECTER):

S. 986. A bill to allow media coverage of court proceedings; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the ''Sunshine in the Courtroom Act.'' This bill will give federal judges the discretion to allow for the photographing, electronic recording, broadcasting and televising of federal court proceedings. The Sunshine in the Courtroom Act will help the public become better informed about the judicial process. Moreover, this bill will help produce a healthier judiciary. Increased public scrutiny will bring about greater accountability and help judges to do a better job. The sun needs to shine in on the federal courts.

Allowing cameras in the federal courtrooms is consistent with our Founding Fathers' intent that trials be held in front of as many people as choose to attend. I believe that the First Amendment requires that court proceedings be open to the public and, by extension, the news media. The Constitution and Supreme Court both support the fundamental principles and aims of this bill. The Supreme Court has said, ''what transpires in the courtroom is public property.'' Clearly, the American values of openness and education are served by using electronic media in federal courtrooms.

There are many benefits and no substantial detrimental effects to allowing greater public access to the inner workings of our federal courts. Fifteen states conducted studies aimed specifically at the educational benefits derived from camera access to courtrooms. They all determined that camera coverage contributed to greater public understanding of the judicial system.

Moreover, the widespread use in state court proceedings show that still and video cameras can be used without any problems, and that procedural discipline is preserved. According to the National Center for State Courts, forty-eight states allow modern audio-visual coverage of court proceedings under a variety of rules and conditions. My own State of Iowa has operated successfully in this open manner for 20 years. Further, at the federal level, the Federal Judicial Center conducted a pilot program in 1994 which studied the effect of cameras in a select number of federal courts. That study found ''small or no effects of camera presence on participants in the proceeding, courtroom decorum, or the administration of justice.''

I would like to note that even the Supreme Court has recognized that there is a serious public interest in the open airing of important court cases. At the urging of Senator SCHUMER and myself, Chief Justice Rehnquist allowed the delayed audio broadcasting of the oral arguments before the Supreme Court in the 2000 presidential election dispute. The Supreme Court's response to our request was an historic, major step in the right direction. Since then, other courts have followed suit, such as the live audio broadcast of oral arguments before the D.C. Circuit in the Microsoft antitrust case and the televising of appellate proceedings before the Ninth Circuit in the Napster copyright case. The public wants to see what is happening in these important judicial proceedings, and the benefits are significant in terms of public knowledge and discussion.

We've introduced the Sunshine in the Courtroom Act with a well-founded confidence based on the experience of the states as well as state and federal studies. However, in order to be certain of the safety and integrity of our judicial system, we have included a 3-year sunset provision allowing a reasonable amount of time to determine how the process is working before making the provisions of the bill permanent.

It is also important to note that the bill simply gives judges the discretion to use cameras in the courtroom. It does not require judges to have cameras in their courtroom if they do not want them. The bill also protects the anonymity of non-party witnesses by giving them the right to have their voices and images obscured during testimony.

So, the bill does not require cameras, but allows judges to exercise their discretion to permit cameras in appropriate cases. The bill protects witnesses and does not compromise safety. The bill preserves the integrity of the judicial system. The bill is based on the experience of the states and the federal courts. And the bill's net result will be greater openness and accountability of the nation's federal courts. The best way to maintain confidence in our judicial system, where the federal judiciary holds tremendous power, is to let the sun shine in by opening up the federal courtrooms to public view through broadcasting. And allowing cameras in the courtroom will bring the judiciary into the 21st century. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Sunshine in the Courtroom Act.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 986

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) PRESIDING JUDGE.—The term ''presiding judge'' means the judge presiding over the court proceeding concerned. In proceedings in which more than 1 judge participates, the presiding judge shall be the senior active judge so participating or, in the case of a circuit court of appeals, the senior active circuit judge so participating, except that—

(A) in en banc sittings of any United States circuit court of appeals, the presiding judge shall be the chief judge of the circuit whenever the chief judge participates; and

(B) in en banc sittings of the Supreme Court of the United States, the presiding judge shall be the Chief Justice whenever the Chief Justice participates.

(2) APPELLATE COURT OF THE UNITED STATES.—The term ''appellate court of the United States'' means any United States circuit court of appeals and the Supreme Court of the United States.

SEC. 2. AUTHORITY OF PRESIDING JUDGE TO ALLOW MEDIA COVERAGE OF COURT PROCEEDINGS.

(a) AUTHORITY OF APPELLATE COURTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the presiding judge of an appellate court of the United States may, in the discretion of that judge, permit the photographing, electronic recording, broadcasting, or televising to the public of court proceedings over which that judge presides.

(b) AUTHORITY OF DISTRICT COURTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any presiding judge of a district court of the United States may, in the discretion of that judge, permit the photographing, electronic recording, broadcasting, or televising to the public of court proceedings over which that judge presides.

(2) OBSCURING OF WITNESSES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Upon the request of any witness in a trial proceeding other than a party, the court shall order the face and voice of the witness to be disguised or otherwise obscured in such manner as to render the witness unrecognizable to the broadcast audience of the trial proceeding.

(B) NOTIFICATION TO WITNESSES.—The presiding judge in a trial proceeding shall inform each witness who is not a party that the witness has the right to request that the image and voice of that witness be obscured during the witness' testimony.

(c) ADVISORY GUIDELINES.—The Judicial Conference of the United States may promulgate advisory guidelines to which a presiding judge, in the discretion of that judge, may refer in making decisions with respect to the management and administration of photographing, recording, broadcasting, or televising described under subsections (a) and (b).

SEC. 3. SUNSET.

The authority under section 2(b) shall terminate 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I am proud to once again be an original cosponsor of the Grassley-Schumer bill on cameras in the courtroom. I strongly support allowing cameras in federal courtrooms for a simple reason. Trials and court hearings are public proceedings. They are paid for by the taxpayers. Except in the most rare and unusual circumstances, the public has a right to see what happens in those proceedings. We have a long tradition of press access to trials, but in this day and age, it is no longer sufficient to be able to read in the morning paper what happened in a trial the day before. The public wants to see for itself what goes on in our courts of law, and I think it has a right to do so.

Experience in the state courts—and the vast majority of states now allow trials to be televised—has shown that

it is possible to permit the public to see trials on television without compromising the rights of a defendant to a fair trial or the safety or privacy interests of witnesses or jurors. Concerns about cameras interfering with the fair administration of justice in this country I believe are overstated.

Let me note also that I believe the arguments against allowing cameras in the courtroom are the least persuasive in the case of appellate proceedings, including the Supreme Court. I had the opportunity to watch the oral argument at the Supreme Court late in 1999 in an important case dealing with campaign finance reform. It was a fascinating experience, and one that I wish all Americans could have. Of course, the entire country was able to hear audio feeds of the two oral arguments in Bush v. Gore only hours after those arguments were completed. Hearing those arguments directly was an important and positive public educational experience. Seeing the arguments live would have been even better. I do not believe that a discreet camera in that courtroom would have changed the argument one iota.

There is no question in my mind that the highly trained and prestigious judges and lawyers who sit on and argue before our nation's federal appellate courts would continue to conduct themselves with dignity and professionalism if cameras were recording their work. These proceedings are where law is made in this country. The public will benefit greatly from being able to watch federal judges and advocates in action at oral argument.

The bill that my friends from New York and Iowa are introducing today is a responsible and measured bill. It gives discretion to individual federal judges to allow cameras in their courtrooms. At the same time, it assures that witnesses will be able to request that their identities not be revealed in televised proceedings. This bill gives deference to the experience and judgment of federal judges who remain in charge of their own courtrooms. That is the right approach.

My state of Wisconsin has a long and proud tradition of open government, and it has served us well. Coming from that tradition, my approach is to look with skepticism on any remnant of secrecy that lingers in our governmental processes at the federal level. When the workings of government are transparent, the people understand it better and can more thoroughly and constructively participate in it. And they can more easily hold their elected leaders and other public officials accountable. I believe this principle can and should be applied to the judicial as well as the legislative and executive branches of government, while still respecting the unique role of the unelected federal judiciary.

Cameras in the courtroom is an idea whose time came some time ago. It is high time we brought it to the federal courts. I am proud to support the Grassley-Schumer bill, and I hope we can enact it this year.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I am pleased to join Senator GRASSLEY in introducing this legislation to permit federal trials and appellate proceedings to be televised, at the discretion of the presiding judge.

Former Chief Justice Warren Burger once said of the U.S. Supreme Court, ''A court which is final and unreviewable needs more careful scrutiny than any other. Unreviewable power is the most likely to indulge itself and the least likely to engage in dispassionate self-analysis . . . In a country like ours, no public institution, or the people who operate it, can be above public debate.''

I believe that these words are applicable to the entire federal judiciary. As such, I strongly support giving federal judges discretion to televise the proceedings over which they preside. When the people of this nation watch their government in action, they come to understand how our governing institutions work and equip themselves to hold those institutions accountable for their deeds. If there are flaws in our governing institutions—including our courts—we hide them only at our peril.

The federal courts are lagging behind the state courts on the issue of televising court proceedings. Indeed, 47 out of the 50 states allow cameras in their courtrooms in at least some cases. Moreover, a two-and-a-half year pilot program in which cameras were routinely permitted in six federal district courts and two courts of appeals revealed near universal support for cameras in the courtroom.

Our bill would simply afford federal trial and appellate judges discretion to permit cameras in their courtrooms. It would not require them to do so. Furthermore, to protect the privacy of non-party witnesses, the legislation would give such witnesses the right to have their voices and images obscured during their testimony.

I eagerly anticipate Senate passage and the day when openness is the norm in our federal courtrooms, not the exception.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. 988. A bill to provide that countries receiving foreign assistance be conducive to United States business; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, today I introduce the International Anti-Corruption Act of 2001. This legislation addresses the growing problem of official and unofficial corruption abroad. This bill is based on S. 1514, which I introduced in the 106th Congress.

Endemic corruption around the world negatively impacts both the United States and the citizens of countries where corruption is tolerated. Overseas corruption directly hurts U.S. businesses as they endeavor to expand internationally. U.S. workers are affected when corruption closes doors to our exports. In addition, the honest and hard working citizens of countries stricken with corruption suffer as they are compelled to pay bribes to officials and other people in positions of power just to get the permits and licenses they need to get things done. The trade barrier created by corruption also limits the purchasing choices available to these people. Finally, many leading U.S. companies that are eager to invest and build factories overseas to produce consumer goods for consumption in those countries, often wisely choose not to do so because they are not willing to deal with the corruption they would encounter. Overall, honest and hard working people living all around the world suffer as productive output is unjustly harmed.

As the Chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, known as the Helsinki Commission, I am working to address the problem of corruption. In the 106th Congress, I chaired a Commission hearing that focused on the issues of bribery and corruption in the region of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, an area stretching from Vancouver to Vladivostok. During this hearing, the Commission heard that, in economic terms, rampant corruption and organized crime in this vast region has cost U.S. businesses billions of dollars in lost contracts with direct implications for our economy.

In addition, two years ago while attending the annual session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in St. Petersburg, Russia, I had an opportunity to sit down with U.S. business representatives and learned, first-hand, about the many obstacles they face.

Ironically, in some of the biggest recipients of U.S. foreign assistance—countries like Russia and Ukraine—the climate is either not conducive or outright hostile to American business.

The time has come to stop providing aid as usual to those countries which line up to receive our assistance, only to turn around and fleece U.S. businesses conducting legitimate operations in these countries. For this reason, I am introducing the International Anti-Corruption Act of 2001 to require the State Department to submit a report and the President to certify by March 1 of each year that countries which are receiving U.S. foreign aid are, in fact, conducive to American businesses and investors. If a country is found to be hostile to American businesses, aid from the United States would be cut off. The certification would be specifically based on whether a country is making progress in, and is committed to, economic reform aimed at eliminating corruption.

In fact, monitoring and measuring corruption, and the corresponding overall economic freedom, is nothing new. The Heritage Foundation regularly produces a comprehensive report entitled the ''Index of Economic Freedom.'' This year's 2001 report ranks 155 countries on the basis of 10 criteria, including ''government intervention, foreign investment and black market.'' While corruption is not identified individually in this report, you can bet there is a strong negative correlation between overall economic freedom and corruption. The more economic freedom you have, the less corruption you will have. It should be no surprise that the countries with the lowest levels of economic freedom are the very same countries that suffer from economic stagnation year after year. We owe it to the good people trapped in corrupt political systems to do what we can to help root out and get rid of this corruption.

Under this bill, if the President certifies that a country's business climate is not conducive for U.S. businesses, that country will, in effect, be put on probation. The country would continue to receive U.S. foreign aid through that end of the fiscal year, but aid would be cut off on the first day of the next fiscal year unless the President certifies the country is making significant progress in implementing the specified economic indicators and is committed to recognizing the involvement of U.S. business.

My bill also includes the customary waiver authority where the national interests of the United States are at stake. For countries certified as hostile to or not conducive for U.S. business, aid can continue if the President determines it is in the national security interest of the United States. However, the determination expires after six months unless the President determines its continuation is important to our national security interest.

I also included a provision which would allow aid to continue to meet urgent humanitarian needs, including food, medicine, disaster and refugee relief, to support democratic political reform and rule of law activities, and to create private sector and non-governmental organizations that are independent of government control, or to develop a free market economic system.

Instead of jumping on the bandwagon to pump millions of additional American tax dollars into countries which are hostile to U.S. businesses and investors, we should be working to root out the kinds of bribery and corruption that have an overall chilling effect on much needed foreign investment. Left unchecked, such corruption will continue to undermine fledgling democracies worldwide and further impede moves toward a genuine free market economy. I believe the legislation I am introducing today is a critical step this direction, and I urge my colleagues to support its passage.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 988

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''International Anti-Corruption Act of 2001''.

SEC. 2. LIMITATIONS ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE.

(a) REPORT AND CERTIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than March 1 of each year, the President shall submit to the appropriate committees a certification described in paragraph (2) and a report for each country that received foreign assistance under part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 during the fiscal year. The report shall describe the extent to which each such country is making progress with respect to the following economic indicators:

(A) Implementation of comprehensive economic reform, based on market principles, private ownership, equitable treatment of foreign private investment, adoption of a legal and policy framework necessary for such reform, protection of intellectual property rights, and respect for contracts.

(B) Elimination of corrupt trade practices by private persons and government officials.

(C) Moving toward integration into the world economy.

(2) CERTIFICATION.—The certification described in this paragraph means a certification as to whether, based on the economic indicators described in subparagraphs (A) through (C) of paragraph (1), each country is—

(A) conducive to United States business;

(B) not conducive to United States business; or

(C) hostile to United States business.

(b) LIMITATIONS ON ASSISTANCE.—

(1) COUNTRIES HOSTILE TO UNITED STATES BUSINESS.—

(A) GENERAL LIMITATION.—Beginning on the date the certification described in subsection (a) is submitted—

(i) none of the funds made available for assistance under part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (including unobligated balances of prior appropriations) may be made available for the government of a country that is certified as hostile to United States business pursuant to such subsection (a); and

(ii) the Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States Executive Director of each multilateral development bank to vote against any loan or other utilization of the funds of such institution to or by any country with respect to which a certification described in clause (i) has been made.

(B) DURATION OF LIMITATIONS.—Except as provided in subsection (c), the limitations described in clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A) shall apply with respect to a country that is certified as hostile to United States business pursuant to subsection (a) until the President certifies to the appropriate committees that the country is making significant progress in implementing the economic indicators described in subsection (a)(1) and is no longer hostile to United States business.

(2) COUNTRIES NOT CONDUCIVE TO UNITED STATES BUSINESS.—

(A) PROBATIONARY PERIOD.—A country that is certified as not conducive to United States business pursuant to subsection (a), shall be considered to be on probation beginning on the date of such certification.

(B) REQUIRED IMPROVEMENT.—Unless the President certifies to the appropriate committees that the country is making significant progress in implementing the economic indicators described in subsection (a) and is committed to being conducive to United States business, beginning on the first day of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which a country is certified as not conducive to United States business pursuant to subsection (a)(2)—

(i) none of the funds made available for assistance under part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (including unobligated balances of prior appropriations) may be made available for the government of such country; and

(ii) the Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States Executive Director of each multilateral development bank to vote against any loan or other utilization of the funds of such institution to or by any country with respect to which a certification described in subparagraph (A) has been made.

(C) DURATION OF LIMITATIONS.—Except as provided in subsection (c), the limitations described in clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (B) shall apply with respect to a country that is certified as not conducive to United States business pursuant to subsection (a) until the President certifies to the appropriate committees that the country is making significant progress in implementing the economic indicators described in subsection (a)(1) and is conducive to United States business.

(c) EXCEPTIONS.—

(1) NATIONAL SECURITY INTEREST.—Subsection (b) shall not apply with respect to a country described in subsection (b) (1) or (2) if the President determines with respect to such country that making such funds available is important to the national security interest of the United States. Any such determination shall cease to be effective 6 months after being made unless the President determines that its continuation is important to the national security interest of the United States.

(2) OTHER EXCEPTIONS.—Subsection (b) shall not apply with respect to—

(A) assistance to meet urgent humanitarian needs (including providing food, medicine, disaster, and refugee relief);

(B) democratic political reform and rule of law activities;

(C) the creation of private sector and nongovernmental organizations that are independent of government control; and

(D) the development of a free market economic system.

SEC. 3. TOLL-FREE NUMBER.

The Secretary of Commerce shall make available a toll-free telephone number for reporting by members of the public and United States businesses on the progress that countries receiving foreign assistance are making in implementing the economic indicators described in section 2(a)(1). The information obtained from the toll-free telephone reporting shall be included in the report required by section 2(a).

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate committees'' means the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

(2) MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANK.—The term ''multilateral development bank'' means the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Development Association, and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

STATEMENTS ON SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 45—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE HUMANE METHODS OF SLAUGHTER ACT OF 1958 SHOULD BE FULLY ENFORCED SO AS TO PREVENT NEEDLESS SUFFERING OF ANIMALS

Mr. FITZGERALD (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. AKAKA) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:

S. CON. RES. 45

Whereas public demand for passage of Public Law 85–765 (commonly known as the ''Humane Methods of Slaughter Act of 1958'') (7 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.) was so great that when President Eisenhower was asked at a press conference if he would sign the bill, he replied, ''If I went by mail, I'd think no one was interested in anything but humane slaughter'';

Whereas the Act requires that animals be rendered insensible to pain when they are slaughtered;

Whereas on April 10, 2001, a Washington Post front page article reported that enforcement records, interviews, videos, and worker affidavits describe repeated violations of the Act and that the Federal Government took no action against a company that was cited 22 times in 1998 for violations of the Act;

Whereas the article asserted that in 1998, the Secretary of Agriculture stopped tracking the number of humane-slaughter violations;

Whereas the article concluded that scientific evidence shows tangible economic benefits when animals are treated well;

Whereas the United States Animal Health Association passed a resolution at an October 1998 meeting to encourage strong enforcement of the Act and reiterated support for the resolution at a meeting in 2000; and

Whereas it is the responsibility of the Secretary of Agriculture to enforce the Act fully: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. HUMANE METHODS OF ANIMAL SLAUGHTER.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Secretary of Agriculture should—

(A) resume tracking the number of violations of Public Law 85–765 (7 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.) and report the results and relevant trends annually to Congress; and

(B) fully enforce Public Law 85–765 by ensuring that humane methods in the slaughter of livestock—

(i) prevent needless suffering;

(ii) result in safer and better working conditions for persons engaged in the slaughtering of livestock;

(iii) bring about improvement of products and economies in slaughtering operations; and

(iv) produce other benefits for producers, processors, and consumers that tend to expedite an orderly flow of livestock and livestock products in interstate and foreign commerce; and

(2) it should be the policy of the United States that the slaughtering of livestock and the handling of livestock in connection with slaughter shall be carried out only by humane methods.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act of 1958 should be fully enforced to prevent the needless suffering of animals.

On April 10, 2001, the Washington Post printed a front page story entitled ''They Die Piece by Piece.'' This graphic article asserted that the United States Department of Agriculture was not appropriately enforcing the Humane Slaughter Act. In response, I am introducing this resolution that encourages the Secretary of Agriculture to fully enforce current law including the Humane Slaughter Act of 1958, as amended by the Federal Meat Inspection Act in 1978.

The Humane Slaughter Act simply requires that animals be rendered insensible to pain before they are harvested. However, apparently this law is not being enforced in some instances. For example, the Washington Post article reported that ''enforcement records, interviews, videos and worker affidavits describe repeated violations of the Humane Slaughter Act'' and ''the government took no action against a Texas beef company that was cited 22 times in 1998 for violations that include chopping hooves off live cattle.''

While the regulated industry may argue that problems highlighted in this article are not endemic of the entire meat processing industry, ''a couple of rotten apples could ruin the whole basket.'' As the Washington Post article demonstrated, there are some operations that may need oversight to ensure that the entire meat industry does not get a ''black eye.''

Additionally, the Washington Post article pointed out that in 1998, the USDA stopped tracking the number of humane slaughter violations. USDA's Director of Slaughter Operations reportedly admitted ''she didn't know if the number of violations was up or down.'' This is simply unacceptable. We cannot manage nor regulate what we do not monitor nor measure. Thus, the resolution asks the Secretary of Agriculture to reinitiate tracking of violations and report these results and relevant trends to Congress annually.

This legislation is supported by the Society for Animal Protective Legislation, the Humane Society of the United States, and the Humane Farming Association. The resolution is sound public policy that enjoys bipartisan support. I thank my colleagues, Senators LEAHY and AKAKA, for joining me as original co-sponsors of this bill, and I encourage my Senate colleagues to join us in this endeavor.

I ask unanimous consent that a letter of support from the Humane Society of the United States be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the letter was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, May 22, 2001.

DEAR SENATOR: On behalf of the Human Society of the United States, the nation's largest animal protection organization with 7 million members and constituents, I am writing to express our support for the resolution, soon to be introduced by Senator Peter Fitzgerald, calling on USDA to enforce the Humane Slaughter Act. We urge you to cosponsor Senator Fitzgerald's resolution.

On April 10, 2001, the Washington Post printed a front-page story entitled ''They Die Piece by Piece.'' The disturbing investigative article revealed that the USDA is not currently enforcing the Humane Slaughter Act and that the Department has stopped tracking humane-slaughter violations. To address these failings, Senator Fitzgerald is introducing a resolution encouraging the Secretary of Agriculture to fully enforce the law. The resolution calls for enforcement of the Humane Slaughter Act of 1958 and asks that the Department resume tracking humane-slaughter violations and report its findings to Congress annually.

The Washington Post reported that prior to ending the tracking of humane-slaughter violations in 1998, USDA records gave us a snapshot of the extraordinarily inhumane slaughter practices occurring at processing plants. For example:

USDA took no action against a Texas beef company that was cited 22 times in one year for violations such as chopping hooves off live cattle.

Inspectors at a livestock processing plant in Hawaii describe hogs walking and squealing after being stunned (a process meant to render animals unconscious) as many as four times.

Another Texas plant had 22 violations in 6 months, including live cattle dangling from an overhead chain.

Hogs are submersed in scalding water after being stunned to loosen their hides for skinning. This means that poorly stunned animals are scalded and drowned. Videotape from an Iowa pork plant shows hogs squealing and kicking as they are being lowered into the water.

Congress passed the Humane Slaughter Act in 1957. It should be enforced vigorously—now 40 years after enactment. To cosponsor this resolution calling for the enforcement of existing law on humane slaughter, please contact Terry Van Doren of Senator Fitzgerald's office (4–2854) or for more information, please contact Susan Solarz of HSUS (202/955–3664).

Sincerely,

WAYNE PACELLE,
Senior Vice President,
Communications and Government Affairs.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee

on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 5, 2001, at 9:30 a.m., in open session to consider the nominations of Mr. Douglas Jay Feith to be Under Secretary of Defense for Policy; Mr. Jack Dyer Crouch, II, to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Policy; and Mr. Peter W. Rodman, to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 5, 2001 at 10 a.m. to hold a hearing as follows:

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE U.S. COMMISSION ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

WITNESSES

Dr. Firuz Kazemzadeh, Former Vice-Chairman, U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom; and Senior Advisor, National Spiritual Assembly, Alta Loma, CA.

Ms. Nina Shea, Commissioner, U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom; and Director of the Center for Religious Freedom, Freedom House, Washington, DC.

Mr. Michael Young, Commissioner, U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom; and Dean, George Washington University School of Law, Washington, DC.

Rabbi David Saperstein, Former Commissioner, U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom; Director, Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, Washington, DC.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS AND CAPABILITIES

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 5, 2001, at 2:30 p.m., in open session to receive testimony on the ''Leap Ahead'' technologies and transformation initiatives within the Defense Science and Technology Program.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WEEK

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 92 and that the Senate then proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 92) to designate the week beginning June 3, 2001, as ''National Correctional Officers and Employees Week''.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I am pleased the Senate will adopt this resolution to honor correctional officers and employees. The resolution reaffirms our support for the thousands of correctional officers and employees who work in the face of danger each day, while reforming hardened criminals. They deserve our respect and support.

Tragically, many correctional officers have been permanently injured and killed in the line of duty. Few of us can truly appreciate the perils faced daily by our correctional officers. There have been over 356 men and women who have died while on duty. This year, we honor Wilmot A. Burnett, Lee Dunn, Raymond Curtis, Michael Price, Allen Gamble, Peter Hillman, Jason Acton, Leon Egly, William Giacomo, Alvin Glenn, and Allen Myers, all of whom have been killed during the past year. I hope this resolution will prompt us to reflect on the contributions of these men and the more than 200,000 corrections professionals who help to maintain the safety of our communities.

America's correctional officers and employees' efforts go unnoticed too often. I am pleased to sponsor this resolution to establish June 3–10, 2001, as ''Correctional Officers and Employees Week.''

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table without intervening action or debate, and that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 92) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 92

Whereas the operation of correctional facilities represents a crucial component of our criminal justice system;

Whereas correctional personnel play a vital role in protecting the rights of the public to be safeguarded from criminal activity;

Whereas correctional personnel are responsible for the care, custody, and dignity of the human beings charged to their care; and

Whereas correctional personnel work under demanding circumstances and face danger in their daily work lives: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WEEK.

That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning June 3, 2001, as ''National Correctional Officers and Employees Week''; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 2001

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until the hour of 11 a.m. on Wednesday, June 6. I further ask unanimous consent that on Wednesday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will convene at 11 a.m. and begin consideration of a few housekeeping resolutions which will allow for the transition of power. Following the transition, the Senate will resume consideration of the Wellstone amendment No. 465. Under the previous order, there will be up to 20 minutes of debate with the vote to occur at the expiration of that time. Therefore, Senators should expect a vote to occur at approximately 11:30 a.m. Following the vote, Senator COLLINS will be recognized to offer an amendment.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:57 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, June 6, 2001, at 11 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate June 5, 2001:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DIANE K. MORALES, OF TEXAS, TO BE DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR LOGISTICS AND MATERIEL READINESS, VICE ROGER W. KALLOCK.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

MARK B. MCCLELLAN, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS, VICE ROBERT Z. LAWRENCE.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

VICKY A. BAILEY, OF INDIANA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND DOMESTIC POLICY), VICE DAVID L. GOLDWYN, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WILLIAM A. EATON, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (ADMINISTRATION), VICE PATRICK FRANCIS KENNEDY.

MERCER REYNOLDS, OF OHIO, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO SWITZERLAND, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN.

ALEXANDER R. VERSHBOW, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

JANET REHNQUIST, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, VICE JUNE GIBBS BROWN, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

REBECCA O. CAMPOVERDE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEGISLATION AND CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, VICE SCOTT SNYDER FLEMING, RESIGNED.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

ROBERT S. MARTIN, OF TEXAS, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES, VICE DIANE B. FRANKEL, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DEBORAH J. DANIELS, OF INDIANA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, VICE LAURIE O. ROBINSON, RESIGNED.

RICHARD R. NEDELKOFF, OF TEXAS, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE, VICE NANCY E. GIST, RESIGNED.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

JOHN P. WALTERS, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY, VICE BARRY R. MCCAFFREY, RESIGNED.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

GILL P BECK, 0000
DANA P EYRE, 0000
WILLIAM L GARRISON JR., 0000
BRENT V HAMM, 0000
ROBERT H HERRING JR., 0000
MARY A JAMESON, 0000
JAMIE E MARLOWE, 0000
EDWIN R MARRERO, 0000
DAVID S. MAYER, 0000
CATHERINE D MOORE, 0000
WILLIAM J MUSHRUSH, 0000
MARY L MYERS, 0000
CURTIS B PRINCE, 0000
NEIL F ROGERS, 0000
STEVEN W SCHULTZ, 0000
MARGO D SHERIDAN, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY IN THE NURSE CORPS (AN), MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS (MS), MEDICAL SPECIALIST CORPS (SP), AND VETERINARY CORPS (VC), AND FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT (IDENTIFIED BY AN ASTERISK(*)) UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624, 531, AND 3064:

To be lieutenant colonel

CYNTHIA J ABBADINI, 0000 AN
DEBRA S ALANIZ, 0000 AN
GLADYS M ALEMAN, 0000 MS
JOHN G ALVAREZ, 0000 MS
SUSAN E ANDERSON, 0000 AN
NATHANIEL M APATOV, 0000 AN
JEFFREY S ASHLEY, 0000 AN
DACOSTA E BARROW, 0000 MS
JOSE A BETANCOURT, 0000 MS
BLANCO W BEVERLEY, 0000 MS
DAVID A BITTERMAN, 0000 MS
*TERRELL W BLANCHARD, 0000 VC
JUDITH A BOCK, 0000 AN
JAMES W BOLES, 0000 VC
ELIZABETH A BOWIE, 0000 AN
*STEPHEN V BOWLES, 0000 MS
PATRICIA A BRADLEY, 0000 MS
*LORRAINE T BREEN, 0000 SP
MARILYN D BREW, 0000 MS
MITCHELL E BREW, 0000 MS
DENNIS C BROWN, 0000 MS
JAMES F BYRNE, 0000 AN
KYLE D CAMPBELL, 0000 MS
MARC L CAOUETTE, 0000 MS
VINCENT C CARNAZZA JR., 0000 MS
CHERYL E CARROLL, 0000 AN
*CARL A CASTRO, 0000 MS
WILLIAM C CHAMBERS, 0000 MS
DANIEL V CHAPA JR., 0000 MS
CAROLYN R CHASE, 0000 AN
SCOTT W CHILDERS, 0000 MS
KELLIE A COLE, 0000 MS
JANE L COLLINS, 0000 AN
LAWRENCE B CONNELL, 0000 MS
MARCUS W CRONK, 0000 MS
ANDREA E CRUNKHORN, 0000 SP
ALAN D CUSHEN, 0000 MS
THERESA L CUTLER, 0000 MS
PAUL H DAKIN, 0000 VC
MUSTAPHA DEBBOUN, 0000 MS
FLAVIA D DIAZHAYS, 0000 AN
JOANN S DOLEMAN, 0000 AN
MARY J DOOLEYBERNARD, 0000 MS
*FREDRICK G DUBOIS, 0000 MS
*TIMOTHY M DUFFY, 0000 MS
*RAYMOND F DUNTON, 0000 MS
EILEEN E DURBIN, 0000 AN
*JOHN B EASTLAKE, 0000 MS
JOHN E EILAND, 0000 AN
GREGORY D EVANS, 0000 MS
TERRANCE J FLANAGAN, 0000 MS
RALPH A FRANCO JR., 0000 MS
*JAMES M FUDGE, 0000 VC
JOHN M GAAL, 0000 MS
*EDNA GARCIAPENA, 0000 MS
JUDITH A GRAHAM, 0000 AN
BRADLEY C GREGORY, 0000 AN
MICHAEL P GRIFFIN, 0000 MS
CYNTHIA L GRIFFTH, 0000 AN
PAUL D GUERRETTE, 0000 AN
TODD R GUSTAFSON, 0000 AN
JEFFREY A HAFFA, 0000 MS
HEATHER W HANSEN, 0000 AN
KAROLINE D HARVEY, 0000 SP
*WILLIAM C HASEWINKLE, 0000 MS
PAMELA J HAVENS, 0000 AN
JOHN K HAWKINS, 0000 AN
*DAVID J. HILBER, 0000 MS
*BRADFORD W HILDABRAND, 0000 VC
DANIEL E. HOLLAND, 0000, VC
VINCENT B HOLMAN, 0000 MS
KENNETH R HORNE, 0000 MS
LELAND N HUDSON, 0000 AN
CHARLES R HUNTSINGER JR., 0000 MS
ANN A HUSSA, 0000 AN
DONALD H HUTSON, 0000 MS
MARCIA J IMDIEKE, 0000 AN
WOOLARD J JACKNEWITZ, 0000 AN
DAVID A JERABEK, 0000 SP
JEFFREY L JERDE, 0000 AN
KENNTH D JOHNSON, 0000 MS
MORGAN M JONES, 0000 AN
JIMMIE O KEENAN, 0000 AN
KAREN M KELLEY, 0000 MS
PEGGY J KHAN, 0000 AN
JEANNINE C. KOUZEL, 0000 AN
CHRISTINE KUBIAK, 0000 AN
*RODERICK D KUWAMOTO JR., 0000 SP
BERTHONY LADOUCEUR JR., 0000 MS
JOAN T LANCASTER, 0000 AN
NACIAN A LARGOZA, 0000 MS
TERRY J LASOME, 0000 AN
LISA M LATENDRESSE, 0000 AN
CHRISTINE M LEECH, 0000 AN
KATHLEEN S LESTER, 0000 MS
DONNA M LUPIEN, 0000 AN
MYRNA H LYONS, 0000 AN
SAMUEL G MACK JR., 0000 MS
CAROLYN M MALONE, 0000 AN
GREGORY A MALVIN, 0000 MS
RODGER K MARTIN, 0000 MS
VAL J MARTIN, 0000 MS
ELIZABETH A MC GRAW, 0000 AN
BENITA A MC LARIN, 0000 MS
ELIZABETH P MILLS, 0000 AN
VICKI L MORSE, 0000 MS
ROY E MULLIS, 0000 MS
ERNEST L NELON II, 0000 MS
*BRIAN V NOLAND, 0000 VC
SALLI L ODONNELL, 0000 MS
*RICKY J OLSON, 0000 MS
KATHARINE M OPITZ, 0000 AN
DANIEL P ORRICO, 0000 MS
KRISTEN L PALASCHAK, 0000 AN
CHRISTINE N PARKER, 0000 SP
PRISCILLA PATTERSON, 0000 AN
*BEVERLY D PATTON, 0000 SP
PHILLIP D PEMBERTON, 0000 MS
*LIVIA I PEREZ, 0000 MS
CHRISTINE B PIRES, 0000 AN
*PHELPS F POND JR., 0000 AN
GREGORY S PORTER, 0000 MS
GUILLERMO QUILES JR., 0000 MS
PEDRO J RAMONHERNANDEZ, 0000 AN
JOANN M RAMOSALARILLA, 0000 AN
SUSAN M RAYMOND, 0000 AN
RITZA REESE, 0000 AN
*SHARON E REESE, 0000 AN
VICKIE L REIFF, 0000 AN
*GORDON R ROBERTS, 0000 MS
*MICHAEL A ROBERTSON, 0000 SP
JUDITH D ROBINSON, 0000 MS
LINDA C ROSS, 0000 MS
MICHAEL ROWBOTHAM, 0000 MS
*GAYE R RUBLE, 0000 VC
JERALD W RUMPH, 0000 MS
DOUGLAS J RUTKOWSKI, 0000 AN
JEFFREY R RYAN, 0000 MS
MAUREEN L SCHAFER, 0000 AN
CHRISTINE F SCHILLER, 0000 AN
BRUCE A SCHONEBOOM, 0000 AN
DANIEL N SENGSTACKE, 0000 AN
WILLIAM L SHEPLER JR., 0000 MS
MICHAEL SILKA JR., 0000 AN
JOZY M SMARTH, 0000 AN
JOHN C SMITH, 0000 VC
KIMBERLY K SMITH, 0000 AN
MARC A SMITH, 0000 AN
MICKIE D SMITH, 0000 MS
ADORACION G SORIA, 0000 AN
SHIRLEY A SPIRK, 0000 AN
BARBARA A SPRINGER, 0000 SP
KETIH E STEELE, 0000 VC
NED STEPHENS JR., 0000 MS
SHARON L STERLING, 0000 AN
DEBRA M STEWART, 0000 MS
CARLHEINZ W STOKES, 0000 MS
ALAN K STONE, 0000 MS
ANDREW A STOREY, 0000 MS
GUY S STRAWDER, 0000 MS
THOMAS G SUTLIVE, 0000 SP
KIMBRELL S SWINDALL, 0000 MS
COLLEEN A TAKAHASHI, 0000 AN
PHILLIP B THORNTON, 0000 MS
NATHANIEL TODD, 0000 MS
JACK K TROWBRIDGE, 0000 MS
*KELLY G VEST, 0000 VC
ROBERT L VOGELSANG III, 0000 VC
LEANNE M VONASEK, 0000 SP
KAREN J WAGNER, 0000 MS
STEPHEN C WALLACE, 0000 MS
JAMES T WALSH, 0000 MS
KALDON L WALTJEN, 0000 AN
HEIDI A WARRINGTON, 0000 AN
ALAN F WEIR, 0000 MS
DONNA S WHITTAKER, 0000 MS
IRENE E WILLIFORD, 0000 AN
THOMAS G WINTHROP, 0000 AN
*THOMAS R YARBER, 0000 AN

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

WILLIAM J. DIEHL, 0000

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—*Tuesday, June 5, 2001*

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 5, 2001.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JUDY BIGGERT to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from all eternity and forever.

Happy the man who cares for the poor and the lowly; the Lord will save him in time of trouble. The Lord protects him and gives him life, making him treasured throughout the land.

The Lord will help him even on his sickbed surrounding him with loving care. The Lord will keep him and preserve him until the Lord's full work is accomplished.

To be loved and respected from all corners shields the just man from his enemies. Because one found integrity, he is permitted to stand before the Lord forever.

It is friendship that merits loyalty; friends in their laughter gain perspective.

In the loss of a dear colleague, Lord, this psalm comes to mind; This Chamber and this country, so blessed in John Joseph Moakley, finds voice:

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel from all eternity and forever.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 29, 2001.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted to Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 26, 2001 at 1:45 p.m.

That the Senate passed without amendment H. Con. Res. 139.

That the Senate passed without amendment H. Con. Res. 146.

Appointments:

Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress
Parents Advisory Council on Youth Drug Abuse
Commission on Indian and Native Alaskan Health Care
Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL,
Clerk of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 4, 2001.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted to Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 31, 2001 at 4:23 p.m.

That the Senate agreed to conference report H.R. 1836.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL,
Clerk of the House.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the Speaker pro tempore signed the following enrolled bill on Friday, June 1, 2001:

H.R. 581, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to use funds appropriated for wildland fire management in the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001, to reimburse the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service to facilitate the interagency cooperation required under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 in connection with wildland fire management.

And the Speaker signed the following enrolled bill on Monday, June 4, 2001:

H.R. 1836, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 104 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2002.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 25, 2001.

Hon. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House,
The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER HASTERT: I am writing to formally notify you that I will be retiring from my position as the United States Representative for Florida's First Congressional district, effective September 6, 2001. A similar letter has been sent to the Honorable Jeb Bush, Governor of the State of Florida.

Sincerely,

JOE SCARBOROUGH,
Member of Congress.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 25, 2001.

Hon. JEB BUSH,
The Capitol,
Tallahassee, FL.

DEAR GOVERNOR BUSH: I am writing to inform you that I am irrevocably resigning my position as United States Representative for the First District of Florida, effective September 6, 2001. A similar letter has been sent to the Honorable J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.

I appreciate your friendship and the support you have shown Northwest Florida.

Sincerely,

JOE SCARBOROUGH,
Member of Congress.

TAX CUTS

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, last week Congress passed the biggest tax relief package since the start of the Reagan administration. Every American taxpayer is going to get a refund check in the mail this summer. Over the coming years, rates will decline, the death tax will be repealed, the marriage tax penalty will be partially fixed, we will be able to put more in our retirement plans, and be able to deduct more for the cost of college education. This is real help for real Americans.

But the American taxpayers deserve to know that there were a lot of big-spending liberals who thought they did not deserve these tax cuts. Even though we have been running multi-billion dollar surpluses for several years, some people in Washington did everything they could to stop this tax relief. In fact, the only way to get it done at all was to use what we call ''budget reconciliation,'' which cannot be filibustered in the other body and requires only 51 votes since they could not get to 60.

But budget reconciliation only lasts for 10 years. Before the 10 years is up, Congress must extend the tax relief. I hope that Congress will do that. In the meantime, I hope all the big spenders in Congress who voted against this cut will donate their $300 refund check back to the Treasury.

WE NEED THE PRESIDENT'S VISION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, NOT JUST A VISIT TO ANOTHER NATIONAL PARK

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, Americans of all political stripes place a very high value on the protection of our environment and public lands.

President Bush recently visited the Everglades National Park in Florida, and previous to that he visited Sequoia National Park in California. These photo opportunities are intended to portray an image of a President who cares about the environment. But these Presidential visits are inadequate; and they are also inaccurate because, while the President visits two of our most treasured parks, he and his administration are planning to throw open the door of the public lands of this Nation to increased drilling, mining, logging, road building and contamination of these very public lands.

Madam Speaker, these public lands are every bit as important as the national parks that the President has visited. His administration continues to threaten the very stewardship of those public lands and opportunities for American citizens to enjoy them not only throughout the summer months but year around. His administration continues to threaten the Sierra Nevada Conservation Plan, which is about the integrity and the survival of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and the forest in those mountains in California.

Madam Speaker, the President refuses to move forward on the Giant Sequoia National Monument proposal.

Mr. President, what we need is your vision for the environment, not just another visit.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address the Chair as they address the House.

HELP IS ON THE WAY

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Madam Speaker, national tax freedom day, that day that we start working for ourselves instead of the tax collector, fell on May 4 this year, and that is the latest date in history according to the tax foundation.

Many Nevadans found this to be not only unbelievable, but unconscionable. It is unconscionable that the typical and average American family pays more than 38 percent of its income in taxes. That is more than it spends on food, clothing, and shelter combined.

Madam Speaker, over the past 8 years, personal income of Americans has grown by more than $2.8 trillion, yet nearly half of all this new wealth went to pay tax bills. Is it any wonder why Americans feel they are working harder than ever but cannot seem to get ahead? Thankfully, this Congress listened to Nevada families and their pleas for help in paying this crushing tax burden, and soon Nevadans will be getting some much-needed relief in the form of a tax rebate check; and may I say, it is about time.

Madam Speaker, Nevadans, and indeed all Americans, should not be working for Washington; Washington should be working for Nevadans and Americans. Mailing out those tax rebate checks is simply the first step in putting working Americans ahead of government bureaucracy.

AMERICA'S FIRST FEMALE PROM KING

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Madam Speaker, a high school in Washington has crowned America's first female prom king. No joke. Now, I do not care what anyone's sexual preference is, but enough is enough. What is next: beauty pageants for cross-dressers? Think about it. America has guns, drugs, rape, and even murder in school, and now a lesbian is a prom king.

If that is not enough to titillate J. Edgar Hoover, prayer and God are still not allowed in America's schools. Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. A Nation that allows lesbians to be prom kings in our schools, but denies the Lord access to our schools, is a Nation headed for stone-cold disaster.

I yield back one ray of hope there is a new policy at Ferndale High School: all future prom kings shall be male. Hallelujah.

□ 1415

THE IMPORTANCE OF SCIENCE AND MATH EDUCATION

(Mr. SMITH of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Madam Speaker, high school seniors from all over the United States will be graduating and receiving their diplomas at this time of year. Recently I have been named chairman of the Subcommittee on Research in the Committee on Science. I have told the administration as we talk about national security that I think probably the second greatest threat to national security is where we are going in our performance in science and math education in our schools. We now rank below any of the other G–7 countries of the industrialized world. We have got to be more aggressive in moving ahead in our efforts to interest and performance with science and math education.

In my subcommittee, we will be holding hearings this week on legislation that will help us do a better job in this area. Science teachers need to be encouraged. But also we need to encourage the parents and the teachers of those students in the first 3 or 4 years of school if we are to be successful. This world is getting more complicated with biotechnology, information technology and other science based technology. Those kids are going to be better served if they have a better math and science education.

I commend these graduating students throughout the Nation for what they have achieved so far but encourage them to study a little more math and science, as they enter college or the job market. It will pay big dividends.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule

XX, the Chair announces that she will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6 p.m. today.

COMMENDING CLEAR CHANNEL COMMUNICATIONS AND AMERICAN FOOTBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND EFFORTS FOR PROTECTING CHILDREN

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 100) commending Clear Channel Communications and the American Football Coaches Association for their dedication and efforts for protecting children by providing a vital means for locating the Nation's missing, kidnapped, and runaway children, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 100

Whereas children are the Nation's greatest asset for the future and are essential for the Nation's strong and vital growth;

Whereas more than 800,000 children disappear each year in the United States, and the problem of missing, kidnapped, and runaway children potentially affects every community in the Nation;

Whereas the United States is committed to the protection of its children;

Whereas the American Football Coaches Association is a leader in the protection of children and has provided 60 million Inkless Child Identification Kits for use by parents;

Whereas these kits allow parents to keep vital information, current photographs, and fingerprints readily available to provide to law enforcement agencies throughout the Nation in the event of an emergency; and

Whereas the American Football Coaches Association displays outstanding dedication to the children in communities throughout the Nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress commends the American Football Coaches Association for its dedication and efforts to protect children and locate the Nation's missing, kidnapped, and runaway children.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on House Concurrent Resolution 100.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 100 which recognizes the American Football Coaches Association for its dedication and efforts to protect children by providing inkless child identification kits for use by parents. In the past 4 years, over 4.2 million identification kits have been passed out at college football stadiums. As a member of the American Football Coaches Association and a former football coach, I have participated in this program myself and know that the kits can be useful tools for parents. My former university, the University of Nebraska, has participated in this program since the program's inception in 1997. In the spring of 1999, 60,000 ID kits were distributed to Nebraska's school children in grades kindergarten through the fourth grade.

Statistics about missing children in the United States are staggering. According to the FBI and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, 750,000 children were reported missing last year. Approximately 450,000 of these children ran away, an additional 350,000 were abducted by a family member, and over 4,500 were abducted by a stranger. This works out to be about 2,100 children missing each day. In 1999, the last year with statistics available, almost 3,000 cases of online child exploitation were prosecuted.

No place in America is immune from child abductions or exploitation. Earlier this year in a high profile case, a teenager in my district was kidnapped by an escaped fugitive in the parking lot of a shopping mall in Kearney, Nebraska. Fortunately, this kidnapping ended peacefully with the kidnapper's surrender, but many children are not as lucky.

If the worst happens and a child is abducted or decides to run away, parents need to have tools to help police locate and identify their children. Because less than 2 percent of parents have a copy of their child's fingerprints to use in the case of an emergency, the American Football Coaches Association created the National Child Identification Program with the goal of fingerprinting 20 million children. The program provides a free inkless fingerprint kit for each child. The inkless ID kit allows parents to take and store their child's fingerprints in their own home. The card remains in the parents' possession. But if it is ever needed, this card will give authorities vital information to assist them in their efforts to locate a missing child.

To fund the program, the coaches association has teamed up with local and national businesses and media. In my previous occupation, I signed several hundred football helmets to auction off to raise money for this worthy cause.

I believe we must approach the protection of our Nation's youth from a variety of angles. These kits are a start, and they may open the doors of communication for parents to talk to their children about the rules of safety advocated by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and discuss ways to address family problems. I also am a longtime supporter of youth mentoring projects. I believe mentors can provide youth a positive role model and a line of communication with a caring adult. Quality mentoring programs can prevent youth from ever running away from home in the first place.

I am pleased to support this resolution that commends the work of the American Football Coaches Association for its efforts to locate missing, kidnapped, and runaway children through the distribution of the inkless fingerprinting kits. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution and join the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) and its author, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN), in commending the American Football Coaches Association for its important work to help make our children safer.

The American Football Coaches Association has provided 60 million inkless child identification kits for use by parents. These kits allow parents to keep vital information, current photographs, and fingerprints readily available to provide to law enforcement agencies throughout the Nation in the event of an emergency. The program is expected to reach several million children this year, making it the largest identification drive ever conducted.

At a time 800,000 children become missing each year in the United States, more needs to be done to address this horrible issue. Our law enforcement agencies and personnel continue to need the help of parents when children are missing. Efforts like those of the American Football Coaches Association and other public-private partnerships are essential if we are to ensure that no child becomes missing and suffers from the separation of their parents.

Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to support this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN), the sponsor of this resolution.

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) for yielding me this time.

Madam Speaker, every Saturday in the fall, football coaches across America are cheered on by thousands of fans for their work on the field.

Today we have a resolution on the House floor which honors them for their work off the field. The resolution that I have introduced, H.Con.Res. 100, recognizes the American Football Coaches Association and its efforts to protect our country's children.

The American Football Coaches Association has teamed up with Clear Channel Communications, one of our Nation's leading companies, to distribute child identification kits to thousands of parents every year.

These kits, which are handed out at no cost to families, allow parents to fingerprint their children and keep the prints at home. Should their child ever become missing, parents can turn over these fingerprint records to local law enforcement authorities who use the information to help locate the missing children.

The National Child Identification Program distributes these free kits to parents and guardians at college football games across the Nation.

This program began in 1997. In that year alone, 2.1 million of the child ID kits were given to parents. Since then, over 8 million kits have been distributed at football games. The stadium effort was so successful that the coaches have worked with Clear Channel Communications to reach even more families and more people in their communities.

Football coaches across America have promoted this program on the more than 1200 radio stations owned or operated by Clear Channel Communications. Clear Channel has been instrumental in providing the program publicity as well as recruiting other sponsors to help finance the purchase of these kits.

Unfortunately, 800,000 children are reported missing each year in the United States. This is a tragedy that should never happen. The American Football Coaches Association and Clear Channel Communications have taken the initiative to try to help parents and authorities return missing children to their homes.

In my district, the coach of the University of Tennessee football team, my good friend Phillip Fulmer, has taken an active role in promoting this program. Hundreds of thousands of these kits have been handed out at Neyland Stadium in Knoxville, Tennessee. Other individuals who have helped with this effort include coaches and athletes like Grant Teaff, R.C. Slocum, Nolan Ryan, Joe Montana, Cal Ripken, David Robinson, and many, many others.

I should mention that my colleague, the gentleman from Nebraska, who is a former college football coach, has very actively participated as well, as he has just mentioned. He has helped raise funds as well as handed out personally some of the first kits in Nebraska. In addition to his work on this resolution, I want to thank him for his efforts on this very worthwhile program.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank Lowry Mays and Mark Mays for their leadership in bringing Clear Channel Communications on board with this effort.

In Tennessee, Governor Don Sundquist proclaimed March as Child Identification Awareness Month to raise awareness of the need for fingerprinting children. And as the governor of Texas, President Bush helped raise funds for the National Child Identification Program.

Madam Speaker, I am from Tennessee which is known as the Volunteer State. I am happy to see that volunteers from all across the country have come together to support this important program that helps bring children home to their parents.

Finally, I want to thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) for allowing this, what I believe to be a very noncontroversial resolution, to come to the House floor today. I want to thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) for his support.

I hope that all of my colleagues will join me by supporting H. Con. Res. 100 and recognize those who have helped make our country a safer place for children.

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS).

Mr. EDWARDS. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) for sponsoring this resolution and the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) for their leadership in its passage.

Public service comes in many forms. When individuals and groups provide extraordinary services to our Nation, they deserve the appreciation of our Congress and our country. Such is the case today with Clear Channel Communications and the American Football Coaches Association. With the generosity of these two organizations, 60 million child identification kits will be given to parents all across our country.

□ 1430

These kits will help parents keep vital information and current photographs and fingerprints of their own children to be used in cases of missing, kidnapped or runaway children. In such emergencies, this information can be instrumental in helping law enforcement agencies bring children and their parents back together.

Madam Speaker, I speak today as a parent of two sons, ages 3 and 5. I cannot imagine anything worse for my wife and me than to find one day our children are missing.

Every parent, every parent, knows the fear of turning around in a playground or at a public meeting or event and momentarily not finding his or her child. Unfortunately, that fear is not just momentary for many parents. In fact, nearly 800,000 children disappear every year in the United States. That would be the equivalent of approximately 8 times the entire population of my hometown of Waco, Texas, where the American Football Coaches Association has its office.

These 800,000 are not just statistics. They are real children of real parents, a nightmare many of us can only imagine.

Madam Speaker, I have known Lowery Mays, CEO of Clear Channel Communications, and Grant Teaff, executive director of the American Football Coaches Association, for well over a decade. They are individuals of great integrity and compassion. Knowing them personally, frankly, it does not surprise me that their organizations are providing American families with this terribly important service. However, that lack of surprise does not reduce whatsoever my deep gratitude to them for their generosity in reuniting thousands of American families with their children.

Madam Speaker, Winston Churchill once said, ''We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.''

Based on that high standard, Lowery and Mark Mays, Coach Grant Teaff and all those they represent in their respective organizations have lived an extraordinary successful life. They have earned and deserve the gratitude of not only this Congress, but American families across this great land of ours. I urge every Member to vote for this resolution.

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Education Reform.

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE), the wonderful coach himself, for yielding me this time. I also want to particularly thank the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) for putting this work together.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise in very strong support of H. Con. Res. 100, a resolution commending the American Football Coaches Association and others for their efforts in helping to recover our Nation's missing, kidnapped, and runaway children.

According to recent data, an estimated 3,200 to 4,600 short-term, nonfamily abductions are reported in law enforcement each year. Of these, an estimated 200 to 300 are stereotypical kidnappings where a child is gone overnight, killed, or transported a distance of 50 miles or more.

For these reasons, the first 48 hours following the disappearance of a child are the most critical in terms of finding and returning that child safely, and the child's descriptive information, including height, weight, and eye and hair color, and an updated photograph are the most important tools a parent has to bring their missing child home.

Far too often, though, the search for missing children is slowed by an incomplete physical description and outdated photographs.

For this reason, the American Football Coaches Association, in conjunction with Clear Channel Communications, has proudly sponsored the National Child Identification Program, a community service project which distributes free child ID kits at community events.

These child ID kits help ensure that families have updated pictures, fingerprints and a complete physical description of their child in the event of an emergency.

According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, current photographs and physical descriptions help return 1 out of 7 featured children, often as a result of tips received from members of the public who have recognized the missing child and then notified the authorities.

Under the leadership of the American Football Coaches Association, I am especially pleased to report that Delaware State University and many other colleges and universities have handed out millions of child ID kits at college football games and other athletic events across the country.

In closing, I want to commend the gentleman for his resolution and, again, commend the American Football Coaches Association and the many others who have made it their mission to help ensure the mission of safety of our children. It is my experience that being prepared for the worst possible scenario and possessing the necessary tools to help prevent a greater tragedy makes a world of difference to parents and children in a time of crisis.

For all these reasons, I urge an aye vote on this resolution.

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LAMPSON).

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) for yielding me this time, and I also thank the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) and other leaders on this important piece of legislation.

As chairman and founder of the Congressional Caucus on Missing and Exploited Children, I have much too often had the occasion to look into the eyes of a parent who has lost a child. I spend a great deal of my time, along with so many of my other colleagues, trying to ask parents to be prepared, and hopefully not ever have to need to have been prepared, and therefore I rise today to commend the American Football Coaches Association and Clear Channel Communications for their dedication and efforts that they are making in protecting children by providing a vital means for locating the Nation's missing, kidnapped, and runaway children, and to urge a yes vote on this important resolution.

The National Child Identification Program was created in 1997, with the goal of fingerprinting 20 million children. This program provides a free fingerprint kit to parents who then take and store their child's fingerprints in their own homes. If this information is ever needed, fingerprints would be given to the police to help them in locating a missing child, being prepared and hoping they do not ever have to be.

The American Football Coaches Association, in partnership with Clear Channel Communications, a large chain of radio stations, has pledged to raise funds to help provide such a fingerprint kit for every child in America.

Well, having just recognized National Missing Children's Day on May 25, the thought of keeping our children safe remains fresh in our minds. We must all work together to raise awareness about the power of fingerprinting in the search for missing children.

Clear Channel Communications and the American Football Coaches Association have taken raising the importance of fingerprinting to a whole new level, and they are to be commended for their leadership in the broadcast and sports industries. Once again, I urge a yes vote on this important resolution.

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I would particularly like to thank the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) for his efforts on this resolution, and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) for his efforts as well.

Mr. HASTERT. Madam Speaker, today, I would like to join with my colleagues in commending the American Football Coaches Association for providing parents with identification kits to locate children who are missing.

In 1997, the American Football Coaches Association—concerned about the 800,000 children who disappear every year—launched the National Child Identification Program. Their group distributes millions of identification kits that can be used as a means to locate lost children. Parents use the kits to make ID cards for their children, containing important identifying information, such as a picture, fingerprints and the location of a child's medical and dental records.

The American Coaches Association deserves to be recognized for taking the lead on this important issue. This respected group saw that they could help American families, and they have worked long and hard to achieve that goal. Through the National Identification Program, they are providing a valuable resource for parents who are looking for missing, kidnapped or runaway children. These kits provide parents with the peace of mind of knowing that they have their child's vital statistics at their fingertips in the event of an emergency.

I want to thank the American Coaches Association for handing out kit after kit at churches, schools and community events. Their work could be essential in returning missing children back to their families. They have made a generous contribution to our nation, particularly, to our nation's children.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this resolution commending Clear Channel Communications and the American Football Coaches Association for their efforts in providing a means for locating the nation's missing, kidnapped, and runaway children. As a member of the Missing and Exploited Children's Caucus, I have witnessed the dedication of both Clear Channel Communications and the American Football Coaches Association and am pleased to say their efforts have been outstanding.

In 2000, an estimated 750,000 children were reported missing. This figure marks a decrease of twelve percent since 1997, when the number of missing children was at an all time high. In my home state of Connecticut, 293 children were reported missing as of May 7, 2001. Connecticut is fortunate in that there are few non-family child abductions. Clear Channel Communications and the American Football Coaches Association have greatly contributed to increase awareness and parental education in our effort to safely return missing children.

In September of 2000, the American Football Coaches Association collaborated with Clear Channel Communications to raise millions of dollars to provide free fingerprint kits for parents. Using the ID kit, parents can take and store their children's fingerprints in their own home. Their efforts were part of the National Child Identification Program created in 1997. In the program's first year, two million kits were distributed to parents at college football games, and 8 million kits were distributed overall.

Programs such as these are invaluable to our nation as we try to locate our nation's missing, kidnapped, and runaway children. I urge all of my fellow Members to vote with me in support of H. Con. Res. 100 and commend Clear Channel Communications and the American Football Coaches Association for their service to our country and reaffirm Congress' commitment to missing and exploited children.

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 100, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. OSBORNE. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

ELWOOD HAYNES ''BUD'' HILLIS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2043) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2719 South Webster Street in Kokomo, Indiana, as the ''Elwood Haynes 'Bud' Hillis Post Office Building''.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2043

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ELWOOD HAYNES "BUD" HILLIS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2719 South Webster Street in Kokomo, Indiana, shall be known and designated as the ''Elwood Haynes 'Bud' Hillis Post Office Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Elwood Haynes ''Bud'' Hillis Post Office Building.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. OTTER) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. OTTER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 2043.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Idaho?

There was no objection.

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, House Resolution 2043, introduced by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUYER) on May 25, 2001, designates the facility at the United States Postal Service located at 2719 South Webster Street in Kokomo, IN, as the Elwood Haynes ''Bud'' Hillis Post Office Building.

Pursuant to the policy of the policy of the Committee on Government Reform, all Members of the House delegation of the State of Indiana are cosponsors of the measure.

Bud Hillis is a native Hoosier. He was born in Kokomo and attended public schools there. He was a graduate of Culver Military Academy. At the age of 18, he enlisted as an infantryman in World War II and served in Europe for 27 months. When he returned, he received his bachelor's degree from Indiana University and, continuing his studies there, he earned a law degree.

He practiced law in Indiana and was chairman of the Howard County Bar Association. He was elected to the Indiana State House of Representatives and served for two terms. Because of a vacancy in the Fifth Congressional District when the incumbent was chosen to fill a U.S. Senate seat, Bud Hillis was selected to run for the House seat and was elected to the 92nd Congress in 1970, and he served there until 1986.

Representative Hillis was a member of the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. He was a founding member of the Congressional Auto Task Force and a strong advocate of the Congressional Steel Caucus.

Madam Speaker, it is a fitting tribute to name a post office in Kokomo, IN, after the distinguished gentleman from that city who selflessly served the interests of his constituents in the State house and in Congress for many years.

I urge our colleagues to support House Resolution 2043.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 2043 to designate the U.S. Post Office at 2719 South Webster Street in Kokomo, IN, as the Elwood Haynes ''Bud'' Hillis Post Office Building was introduced by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUYER) on May 26, 2001. This measure has the support and cosponsorship of the entire Indiana delegation.

Of course, former Congressman Elwood ''Bud'' Hillis served honorably and with great distinction, representing Indiana's Fifth District from 1971 to 1986. He was an outstanding member of the House, well loved by his constituents, well loved by the people in the communities that he represented and that he served, and I think it is altogether fitting and proper that we bestow upon him and upon his memory the honor of naming one of our institutions in his honor.

I certainly join in sponsorship, as well as in support of this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE).

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. OTTER) for yielding me this time.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank my friend and colleague, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUYER), for his leadership on this measure and the balance of the Indiana delegation for their efforts in designating the Kokomo Post Office in honor of Congressman Bud Hillis.

Madam Speaker, many Hoosiers might be deserving of this honor, but few are more deserving than Congressman Hillis. His career and distinguished record of public service testify to his dedication to the U.S. and the State of IN.

As a member of this Chamber, he was instrumental in saving thousands of Hoosier jobs through the Chrysler bailout, and his membership on the Committee on Armed Services ensured that Indiana's sons and daughters who served in the military were well equipped to face the threats across the world.

□ 1445

Madam Speaker, on a personal note, as a young candidate during my first bid for Congress in 1988, I looked at the service and the career and the integrity of Congressman Bud Hillis, and I pledged to myself then that if ever elected to serve in this body, it would be my purpose to serve as a man of integrity and commitment, to serve as did Congressman Bud Hillis. Thirteen years later, Congressman Hillis still stands as an example for all of us who seek to be men and women of integrity in the U.S. House of Representatives.

It is said that a good name is more precious than rubies. Madam Speaker, I believe I speak for every Member of the Indiana delegation when I say we are proud to put the good name of a great Hoosier Congressman, Bud Hillis, on the Post Office on South Webster Street in Kokomo, IN.

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUYER).

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, I thank both gentleman for coming to the House floor with this bipartisan legislation, and I also want to thank my good friend the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) for his eloquent words. I think he said it very well, and I feel sort of awkward here following him.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor who I believe is one of the most distinguished men ever to represent the State of Indiana in the U.S. House of Representatives, my dear friend and former Congressman, Elwood Haynes Bud Hillis. Those of us that know this gentleman the best, I suppose, all refer to him as ''Bud.''

Bud honorably and effectively served the people of Indiana's fifth district in the House of Representatives from 1971 to 1986, 16 years of dedicated service to his country. During his time in the House of Representatives, he was a reasonable and authoritative voice on matters of national security, trade, and veterans' issues.

He is a graduate of Indiana's Culver Military Academy, and he enlisted to fight in World War II at the age of 18.

He served as an infantryman in the European Theater for 27 months, leaving active duty as a first lieutenant.

After the war, Bud attended Indiana University and Indiana University School of Law. He came back to his home community and set up a law practice right on the courthouse square in Kokomo. He then went on to become chairman of the County Bar Association. In November of 1970, he was elected to served two terms in the Indiana House of Representatives. He then went on to serve here in the United States Congress.

While in Congress, Bud was known for a unique combination of genteel civility and firm resolve. During his years in Washington, he was noted for his leadership on several issues of vital importance to Hoosiers and to the Nation as a whole.

As a Member of the Committee on Armed Services, Bud was instrumental in the development and deployment of the M–1 tank, for it to be built here in the United States. When I returned after my service during the Persian Gulf War, I never realized until I sat down with Bud how eager he was to discuss the Persian Gulf War, because a decade or 15 years earlier he sat down and he worked on the development of the M–1 tank. And he believed in that tank, and then he had the opportunity to see some of it on CNN, like a lot of the country observed the Gulf War. But he was anxious to hear firsthand of the use of a weapon system that he was so instrumental in deploying.

He also took a very serious interest in the automobile industry. It is very fitting he would do so, because well over 100 years ago there were two brothers, Elmer and Edgar Apperson, who, along with Bud's grandfather, Elwood Haynes, who invented the automobile, something that we just take for granted today, which revolutionized the transportation system of this country. And Bud's grandfather invented the automobile.

So when he came here to serve in Congress, he was a founding Member of the Congressional Automobile Task Force. And he was the leading advocate for the rescue of Chrysler as a corporation, and what a viable corporation it is today. He was also a strong force in the Congressional Steel Caucus as vice president of its executive committee.

Bud also took seriously our Nation's commitment to our veterans. As a Member of the Committee on Veterans Affairs, he was a leader in caring for not only our country's veterans, but he was also instrumental in the construction of a VA outpatient clinic in Crown Point, which is Lake County, Indiana.

Bud also had a very strong impact upon me. At age 32, when I returned from the Gulf War, I saw life in a different dimension and sought to yet serve my country in a different perspective. I went and sat down with Bud Hillis, and through all the way up to even today, he continues to give me great counsel and advice.

The impact that he had upon Joni and the Buyer family was that Bud raised his family in Indiana, and for 16 years he commuted. So I could see firsthand many Members raise their families, and this is not a family-friendly institution. And I followed, not necessarily his advice, because that is not the way Bud is, but I chose then to raise my family in Indiana, and I do the commute back and forth. And it was probably the best thing for me, because it does not let this town overtake you, and it keeps you well-grounded when your children are raised in the district which you represent.

Bud is a family man. Carol and their children, I wish them the very best. Bud has a distinguished record of service to his country, in war and in peace and here in the halls of Congress.

To the people that Bud represented here in Indiana, I offer this bill with great pride on behalf of the entire Indiana delegation. It is because of the dedication of his service to his country that the Kokomo Post Office on Webster Street will be a fitting tribute to such an honorable and accomplished Hoosier.

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, that concludes the remarks that we have on Mr. Hillis. I would like to thank the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUYER) for introducing the legislation and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) for their kind remarks in the dedication for and paying tribute to Mr. Hillis on this occasion.

Mr. ROEMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the resolution designating the Elwood Haynes "Bud" Hillis Post Office Building in Kokomo, Indiana. This tribute will serve to commemorate the 20 years of distinguished public service that Congressman Hillis provided to the state of Indiana in both the Indiana General Assembly and the United States House of Representatives.

A native of Kokomo, Indiana, Congressman Hillis graduated from Culver Military Academy in 1944 before entering the Army. He served in the European theater during World War II, and ended the war with the rank of first lieutenant. After retiring from reserve infantry duty with a rank of captain in 1954, he attended Indiana University and the Indiana University School of Law. Hillis then began practicing law in Howard County, where he was active in the community from the beginning. Hillis' involvement in charitable causes in his hometown of Kokomo earned him the admiration of his peers in the community. Among the organizations that he has helped over the past four decades include the United Way, the YMCA, the YWCA, and the Salvation Army.

Hillis' reputation as a man who embraced his causes and worked for them eventually encouraged him into politics. He made his initial venture into politics when he was elected to begin his first term in the Indiana House of Representatives in 1967. After serving two terms in the Indiana General Assembly, Hillis was elected to the 5th district seat in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1970. As a member of the U.S. Congress, he became heavily involved with military and veterans affairs. Among his committee assignments were the Veterans Affairs and Armed Services Committees, where he was instrumental in upgrading Grissom Air Force Reserve Base to make that an integral part of our nation's defenses. Bud always seemed to be supportive of our nation's veterans. Even in the period of immediately following the Vietnam War, Bud recognized the need to stand by American forces here and abroad. Although he was in the minority for a number of years following that tumultuous time in American history, his efforts certainly showed him to be a man of principle.

His soft-spoken polite nature was admired by many of his peers in the House of Representatives, and he gained great respect in Washington for his 16-year legislative record. Although he was popular in his district, Hillis voluntarily stepped down in 1987 after serving eight terms.

This dedication of the Kokomo post office certainly would be a fitting tribute for a distinguished gentleman representing the state of Indiana in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. OTTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2043.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

G. ELLIOT HAGAN POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1183) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 South Main Street in Sylvania, Georgia, as the "G. Elliot Hagan Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1183

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. G. ELLIOT HAGAN POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 South Main Street in Sylvania, Georgia, shall be known and designated as the "G. Elliot Hagan Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the G. Elliot Hagan Post Office Building.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. OTTER) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. OTTER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 1183.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Idaho?

There was no objection.

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 1183, introduced by my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON), on March 22, 2001, designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 South Main Street in Sylvania, Georgia, as the G. Elliot Hagan Post Office Building. All Members of the House delegation from the State of Georgia are original cosponsors of this legislation and support for the post office naming bills from the entire State delegation is the policy of the Committee on Government Reform.

G. Elliot Hagan was born in Sylvania, Screven County, Georgia, in 1916. He studied in public schools in Sylvania and then attended the University of Georgia. He also attended Emory University and John Marshall Law School. His varied career included the life insurance and estate planning business, editor of a weekly newspaper, livestock raising, and a member of the Board of Trustees of Tift College.

Mr. Hagan served as a representative in the Georgia State House for five terms, and one term in the State Senate. He resigned from the State legislature at the outbreak of the Second World War to serve in the Army Signal Corps for 2 years.

Mr. Hagan later became secretary-treasurer and deputy director of the State Board of Workmen's Compensation in 1946, member of the National Council of the State Governments, and a district director of the Office of Price Stabilization for southern Georgia. He was an active member of the American Legion, the Farm Bureau, and the Million Dollar Round Table and was also a Mason, a Shriner, a Rotarian, and an Elk.

Mr. Hagan was elected to the 85th Congress in 1961 and served for six terms in Congress until 1973. He was a member of the Committee on Armed Services and chairman of the Public Health and Welfare Subcommittee of the House District of Columbia committee. He died in the town of his birth in 1990.

It is appropriate that a post office be named in his honor, a true son of Sylvania, Georgia.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1183, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 South Main Street in Sylvania, Georgia, as the G. Elliot Hagan Post Office Building.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I join with my colleague in providing support to H.R. 1183, to designate the U.S. Post Office at 113 South Main Street in Sylvania Georgia as the G. Elliot Hagan Post Office Building.

This legislation was introduced by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON) on March 22, 2001. This measure has the support and cosponsorship of the entire Georgia State delegation.

The former and late Congressman G. Elliot Hagan represented the First Congressional District in Georgia from 1961 until 1973. Prior to his election to the U.S. House of Representatives, Congressman Hagan served five terms in the Georgia House of Representatives and one term in the Georgia State Senate.

A native of Sylvania, Georgia, Congressman Hagan provided tremendous leadership to that community and to the area surrounding it. As a matter of fact, he was fondly known and well liked by all of those who came into contact with him.

Congressman Hagan passed on December 28, 1990. Of course, people still remember his work, they still remember his contributions, and they still remember what he meant to their community.

Therefore, I am pleased to join in support of this resolution, and urge its swift adoption.

Madam Speaker, you might note that I am wearing this lovely flower that was given to me at the E. Franklin Frazier Elementary School, where I was their commencement speaker. I want to thank them for this flower but also want to congratulate them; and I want to congratulate all of the graduates throughout the country who are finishing up their elementary school, high school, kindergarten, or college education and getting ready for the summer. I also want to thank them for this tremendous badge of honor that they gave me this morning.

Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. OTTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, this concludes the formal remarks that we have for this tribute and this dedication. I should like to thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) for his kind remarks. He truly did bring Mr. Hagan's life to life on this floor, and this tribute for Mr. Hagan is most appropriate.

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure and honor to introduce and ask that the House of Representatives pass H.R. 1183, legislation to name the Post Office in Sylvania, Georgia in Screven County for former Congressman G. Elliot Hagan.

Mr. G. Elliott Hagan served Georgia as a Democrat in the U.S. House of representatives from 1961–1973. Mr. Hagan was born in Sylvania, Georgia on May 24, 1916. He had a long and distinguished career in public service after graduating from the University of Georgia.

Mr. Hagan loved America and served his country when it was in peril. At the outbreak of the Second World War, he resigned from the Georgia State House of Representatives and served two years in the Army Signal Corps.

He loved Georgia and worked to serve his fellow Georgians. He served as Secretary-Treasurer and Deputy Director of the State Board of Workmen's Compensation, and District Director of Office of Price Stabilization for southern half of Georgia in 1951 and 1952 and Deputy Regional Director, Atlanta Regional Office. Mr. Hagan also served five terms in the Georgia State House of Representatives and one term in the Georgia State Senate.

G. Elliot Hagan was also a businessman and farmer. He engaged in life insurance-estate planning as well as general farming and kept livestock.

Mr. Hagan was a public servant for the nation. He was elected as a Democrat to the Eighty-seventh and to the five succeeding Congresses (January 3, 1961–January 3, 1973) serving the people of southern Georgia extremely well. He faithfully represented the views of the Georgians whom he served.

I am pleased to ask the Congress bestow this honor on Mr. Hagan by passing this legislation. He is deserving of this honor. Mr. Hagan served his God, country, state and family. G. Elliot Hagan was a hero and naming the Post Office in Sylvania is a fitting testament to his public service. I ask all my colleagues to vote for H.R. 1183.

□ 1459

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. OTTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1183.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:01 p.m.

Accordingly (at 3 p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6 p.m.

□ 1800

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT) at 6 p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1699, COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2001

Mrs. MYRICK, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107–86) on the resolution (H. Res. 155) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1699) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2002, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Mrs. MYRICK, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107–87) on the resolution (H. Res. 156) providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on the motions to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today in the order in which that motion was entertained.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

House Concurrent Resolution 100, by the yeas and nays; and

H.R. 2043, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for the second electronic vote in this series.

COMMENDING CLEAR CHANNEL COMMUNICATIONS AND AMERICAN FOOTBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND EFFORTS FOR PROTECTING CHILDREN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 100, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 100, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 405, nays 0, not voting 26, as follows:

[Roll No. 150]

YEAS—405

Abercrombie
Aderholt
Akin
Allen
Andrews
Armey
Baca
Bachus
Baker
Baldacci
Baldwin
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Becerra
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (OH)
Brown (SC)
Bryant
Burr
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Carson (IN)
Carson (OK)
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Collins
Combest
Condit
Conyers
Cooksey
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crane
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Culberson
Cummings
Cunningham
Davis (CA)
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
DeMint
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dooley
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Emerson
English
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Flake
Fletcher
Foley
Ford
Fossella
Frank
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Graves
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Grucci
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hansen
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Herger
Hill
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoeffel
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inslee
Isakson
Israel
Issa
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
Kennedy (RI)
Kerns
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kirk
Kleczka
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Largent
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Mascara
Matheson
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nethercutt
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Osborne
Ose
Otter
Owens
Oxley
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Pelosi
Pence
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Phelps
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pomeroy
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reyes
Reynolds
Riley
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Sabo
Sanchez
Sanders
Sandlin
Saxton
Schaffer
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrock
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shows
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Souder
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stenholm
Strickland
Stump
Stupak
Sununu
Sweeney
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Terry
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Toomey
Towns
Traficant
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Velázquez
Visclosky
Vitter
Walden
Walsh
Wamp
Watkins
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Waxman
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—26

Ackerman
Baird
Brown (FL)
Burton
Doolittle
Ehrlich
Engel
Gillmor
Goode
Hart
Kingston
Matsui
Millender-McDonald
Mink
Payne
Peterson (PA)
Pombo
Sawyer
Scarborough
Sherman
Solis
Spence
Taylor (NC)
Waters
Weldon (PA)
Wexler

□ 1829

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title of the concurrent resolution was amended so as to read: ''Commending the American Football Coaches Association for its dedication and efforts to protect children and locate the Nation's missing, kidnapped, and runaway children.''

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on the next motion to suspend the rules on which the Chair has postponed further proceedings.

ELWOOD HAYNES ''BUD'' HILLIS POST OFFICE BUILDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 2043.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. OTTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2043, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 407, nays 0, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 151]

YEAS—407

Abercrombie
Aderholt
Akin
Allen
Andrews
Armey
Baca
Bachus
Baker
Baldacci
Baldwin
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Becerra
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (OH)
Brown (SC)
Bryant
Burr
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Carson (IN)
Carson (OK)
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Collins
Combest
Condit
Conyers
Cooksey
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crane
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Culberson
Cummings
Cunningham
Davis (CA)
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
DeMint
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dooley
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Emerson
English
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Flake
Fletcher
Foley
Ford
Fossella
Frank
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Graves
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Grucci
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hansen
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Herger
Hill
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoeffel
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inslee
Isakson
Israel
Issa
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, E.B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
Kennedy (RI)
Kerns
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kirk
Kleczka
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Largent
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Mascara
Matheson
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nethercutt
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Osborne
Ose
Otter
Owens
Oxley
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Pelosi
Pence
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Phelps
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pomeroy
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reyes
Reynolds
Riley
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Sabo
Sanchez
Sanders
Sandlin
Saxton
Schaffer
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrock
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shows
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stenholm
Strickland
Stump
Stupak
Sununu
Sweeney
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Terry
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Toomey
Towns
Traficant
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Velázquez
Visclosky
Vitter
Walden
Walsh
Wamp
Watkins
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Waxman
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—24

Ackerman
Baird
Brown (FL)
Burton
Doolittle
Ehrlich
Engel
Gillmor
Goode
Hart
Johnson (IL)
Kingston
Matsui
Millender-McDonald
Mink
Payne
Pombo
Sawyer
Scarborough
Sherman
Solis
Taylor (NC)
Waters
Wexler

□ 1839

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 151. I was inadvertently detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

MAKING IN ORDER MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 2001

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time on the legislative day of Wednesday, June 6, 2001, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules relating to the following measures: H.R. 1000, H.R. 37, H.R. 640, H.R. 1661, H.R. 1209, H.R. 1914, and H. Con. Res. 150.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

PERMITTING USE OF ROTUNDA OF CAPITOL FOR PRESENTATION POSTHUMOUSLY OF CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO CHARLES M. SCHULZ

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 149) permitting the use of the Rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to present posthumously a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Charles M. Schulz, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, reserving the right to object, and of course, I shall not object and, in fact, I will urge the support for this request, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) for an explanation of the concurrent resolution.

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) for yielding.

Madam Speaker, this resolution commends Charles Schulz, better known as ''Sparky,'' creator of the Peanuts comic strip which ran for nearly 50 years, which continues to be appear in reruns, and is extremely popular with all ages in this country.

The comic strip appears in 2,600 newspapers and 21 different languages. It is estimated that 350 million readers in 75 different countries read the strip.

Mr. Schulz announced his retirement in December 1999, and he died shortly thereafter on February 12, 2000, in Santa Rosa, California. His death came

just hours before his final Sunday strip ran. He personally drew the final strip, as he had every strip over the previous 5 decades, refusing to let anyone else draw the characters created, because, he said, ''The strip is me and I am the strip.''

In his farewell message printed in the strip, Schulz wrote, ''I have been grateful over the years for the loyalty of our editors and the wonderful support and love expressed to me by fans of the comic strip. Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Linus, Lucy; how can I ever forget them?''

Well, we will never forget them either, and we are grateful to you, Charles Schulz, for enriching our lives with these wonderful characters.

I would like to add a personal note as well. First of all, Mr. Schulz was born in St. Paul, Minnesota, a few years, in fact 12 years, before I was born in Edgerton, Minnesota. I spent the first 14 years of my life there. Neither of us, of course, knew of each other's existence at that time, but our paths crossed when I was a student at the University of California at Berkeley, and I met him.

In fact, my first meeting was when he attended a Bible study that I was meeting with regularly, and he came to talk about his personal faith. He was a very devout believer and also, frankly, a rather good amateur theologian. He gave a very good explication of his faith and it was very inspiring to all of us there. He was a wonderful person in many different ways and part of the charm of his strip is that his characters also were amateur theologians and amateur philosophers.

I find that very fascinating. In fact, it was so fascinating that a young seminary student in the 1970s wrote a book entitled, The Gospel According to Peanuts. It was a charming little book written on the basis of the strips. The author reproduced a number of the strips, performed exegesis, and explained the theology of the Peanuts group.

He was a wonderful person. It was a loss for all of us that his life was cut short and we could not enjoy a fresh comic strip every day, Sunday, but the purpose of this resolution is to acknowledge all that he has done and to recognize his achievements by allowing the use of the Rotunda to present him a Congressional Gold Medal posthumously.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, further reserving the right to object, the Capitol rotunda has been the scene of many ceremonies in our Nation's history, some jubilant, others more somber. The rotunda has witnessed the awarding of Congressional Gold Medals to 34 worthy Americans who have distinguished themselves in various ways in service to our country. I think most of us can think of no American who has brought more smiles to more faces of children and adults alike, and thus deserves to join the pantheon of distinguished gold medal honorees more than the late Charles Schulz.

In recognition of Mr. Schulz' lifetime of service, last year Congress enacted and President Clinton signed legislation authorizing this honor, which is Congress' greatest expression of national appreciation for civilians.

□ 1845

A gold medal, Madam Speaker, is entirely appropriate for a tireless man who drew every frame of his Peanuts comic strip for nearly half a century.

His cartoonist career followed his service in the infantry in World War II, during which he entertained his comrades with cartoons about military life. I am certain that his cartoons helped many soldiers endure the horrors and hardships that confronted them during that time.

I think all of us regret that Charles Schulz cannot be present to enjoy the honor that the Congress has bestowed. Although Mr. Schulz left us early last year, his work, of course, is timeless.

Fortunately for us and for generations yet unborn, Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Linus, Lucy, and the rest of the Peanuts gang will always be here to amuse us and, yes, to teach us. They have become, as last year's legislation noted correctly, part of the fabric of our national culture.

Madam Speaker, there could be a no more fitting use of the rotunda than to honor Charles Schulz in this way.

Madam Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I yield to the sponsor of the resolution and last year's legislation, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON), in whose district Mr. Schulz lived.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House to approve House Concurrent Resolution 149 to allow us to use the rotunda on June 7 to honor Charles Schulz, Sparky Schulz, who not only is an institution in this country and all the other countries where his comic strip was printed daily in all of the different newspapers, but also a very good personal friend and a constituent.

Scott Adams, who is the creator of the Dilbert cartoon, once remarked about Sparky's passing, ''It's the end of an era, and it's hard to imagine that cartooning will ever be the same. In basketball, you can say that Michael Jordan was the greatest ever. In cartooning, Charles Schulz was the greatest ever and probably the greatest there will ever be.''

I think it is most fitting that this Congress chose to bestow on Mr. Schulz the Congressional Gold Medal, and I think it speaks more to, than just to his cartooning. He was a great American, a great citizen. For 50 years, every day he drew his own Snoopy cartoon. He was also there, it was mentioned, in World War II entertaining the troops. It is also important to note that this great American was there on D-Day on the front lines.

Charles Schulz is most deserving of this recognition; and it is appropriate, I believe, that we allow the rotunda to be used for this purpose. I would ask all of my colleagues to support this effort.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON) for his remarks and for his personal observations with regard to Mr. Schulz.

Madam Speaker, I urge support for the measure.

Madam Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 149

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Rotunda of the Capitol is authorized to be used on June 7, 2001, for a ceremony to present posthumously a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Charles M. Schulz. Physical preparations for the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Con. Res. 149.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO SERVE ON JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING AND JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 148) electing Members to serve on the Joint Committee on Printing and the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 148

Resolved,

SECTION 1. ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING AND JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY.

(a) JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING.—The following Members are hereby elected to the Joint Committee on Printing, to serve with the chair of the Committee on House Administration:

(1) Mr. Doolittle.
(2) Mr. Linder.
(3) Mr. Hoyer.
(4) Mr. Fattah.

(b) JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY.—The following Members are hereby elected to the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library, to serve with the chair of the Committee on House Administration:

(1) Mr. Ehlers.
(2) Mr. Hoyer.
(3) Mr. Davis of Florida.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIRMAN, JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House a communication from the Honorable VERNON J. EHLERS, Chairman, Joint Committee on the Library:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 4, 2001.

Hon. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to Public Law 100–696 Section 801 (40 USC para. 188a(b)) the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee of the Library are provided positions on the Capitol Preservation Commission.

I am appointing Mr. John Mica of Florida to be my designee as provided for in Public Law 100–696 Section 801 (40 USC para 188a (c)).

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

VERNON J. EHLERS,
Chairman, Joint Committee on the Library.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO UNITED STATES CAPITOL PRESERVATION COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection and pursuant to Section 801(b) of Public Law 100–696, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the United States Capitol Preservation Commission:

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina;
Mr. LATOURETTE of Ohio.

There was no objection.

MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT NEEDED

(Mr. BACA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, Congress needs to adopt a Medicare prescription drug benefit, rather than making false promises to American seniors.

The Republican plan will not guarantee affordable prescription drug coverage for our seniors. The Republican plan takes its first step toward privatizing Medicare, forcing seniors to deal with private insurance companies.

Those of us can remember what happened in California when they said that we would have plenty of energy. We deregulated, and yet we do not have the energy, yet the prices continued to go up.

We do not want prices to go up for a lot of our seniors. More than one-third of the 35 million Medicare beneficiaries currently have no prescription drug insurance coverage.

I did a study in my district that shows that seniors are being impoverished by drug prices. San Bernardino seniors pay an average of 90 percent more than seniors in Canada and Mexico.

Individuals should not be sacrificing their fixed income for the sake of protecting themselves instead of spending it on leisure or other items. What they have to do now is budget themselves. It becomes very difficult, and yet they do not want to continue to suffer.

I plan to have a press conference on prescription drugs on June 18 at the Rancho Cucamonga Senior Citizens Center from 8 a.m. to 12 noon to address these needs.

I ask that we adopt affordable, voluntary, reliable Medicare prescription drug coverage for all seniors. It is our responsibility to protect them. It is America's responsibility to see that they can all afford medical coverage.

WILLIAM HOLMES BROWN, FORMER PARLIAMENTARIAN OF HOUSE PASSES

(Mr. WOLF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I am saddened today to announce to our colleagues the passing on May 27 of William Holmes Brown, who served as parliamentarian of the House from 1974 to 1994. He was 71 years of age. Not only did I have the pleasure of working with Bill Brown in the House, but I was also privileged to be his Congressman. He lived at Oakland Green Farm in Lincoln in Loudoun County, Virginia, property which had been in the family for more than eight generations.

Bill began his service in the Parliamentarian's Office in 1958 when he was appointed Assistant Parliamentarian by Speaker Sam Rayburn. In 1974, he was named to the position of Parliamentarian by Speaker Carl Albert. He succeeded the legendary Lewis Deschler, with whom he had collaborated in volumes of ''Precedents of the House of Representatives,'' referred to in the House as the Deschler-Brown Precedents. During his years in the House, he served under six Speakers. Besides Speaker Sam Rayburn and Carl Albert, he served under John McCormack, Tip O'Neill, Jim Wright, and Tom Foley. He retired from the House in 1994.

During his service in the House, he worked to develop parliamentary projects in newly emerging democratic republics in Eastern Europe, participating in seminars and training programs for representatives of other national legislative bodies. After he retired as Parliamentarian in 1994, he worked for the Agency of International Development on a parliamentary development project in the Ukraine.

Members today can thank Bill Brown and thank his staff, many here today, for organizing the Office of the Parliamentarian, moving it into the Computer Age and making the House precedents available online for all to access.

Bill was the ultimate professional and dedicated public servant. He was held in the highest regard by Members on both sides of the aisle because his work reflected his dedication to the proposition that the rules of the House should be applied and enforced without political considerations.

Bill was born in Huntington, West Virginia. He was a 1951 graduate of Swarthmore College and received his law degree from the University of Chicago. He served on active duty in the Navy from 1954 to 1957 and then served in the Naval Reserve from 1954 to 1974, retiring as a lieutenant commander.

He was director of the Conversations at Oatlands organization and the Loudoun Museum and a member of the Catoctin Farmers Club and Goose Creek Friends Meeting.

On behalf of the House, and on behalf of Members on both sides of the aisle, and on behalf of Members who served here many, many years ago, Madam Speaker, we send our deepest sympathies to Bill's wife of 30 years, Jean Smith Brown, and their daughter, Sara Holmes Brown.

RESIGNATION OF THE PARLIAMENTARIAN, THE HONORABLE WM. HOLMES BROWN, AND APPOINTMENT OF THE HONORABLE CHARLES W. JOHNSON AS PARLIAMENTARIAN

(HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—SEPTEMBER 20, 1994)

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives, which was read:

Hon. THOMAS S. FOLEY,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: In March of this year, I completed my thirty-sixth year with the House of Representatives. In July, I completed my twentieth year as Parliamentarian.

In the past few months, circumstances, both personal and professional, have focused

my attention on retirement. It has been a difficult decision to reach, but I have concluded that it's time for a change.

The office which I have been privileged to hold continues to be both challenging and rewarding. It is fascinating to encounter—almost daily—fresh interpretations of rules and bill language which require constant evaluation of yesterday's assumptions and conclusions. The House changes from year to year, with new Members and staff and circumstances always reshaping this institution; what does not change is the reservoir of intellect and inventiveness which characterizes those who work in the legislative branch of our government. Daily interaction with such talented people makes the congress a uniquely fascinating place to work.

I could not have done this job without a lot of help, without the love and support of my family, who have learned to live with long hours and erratic schedules; without the teamwork at the rostrum and in all the support offices of the House; without the reservoir of personal commitment and professional strength from my colleagues in the Office. Among the deputy and the assistant parliamentarians there is a wealth of experience and talent. Their accumulated service totals over 80 years. Each is dedicated to the proposition that the rules of this great institution should be applied and enforced without political considerations. All are open to Members and staff with respect to the rules and precedents which govern and guide the deliberations of the House and its committees. They are all exemplary public servants; they can and will continue to carry out the responsibilities of the Office in a manner which reflects the best traditions of the House. We share a lasting bond and I will miss these friends whom I admire and care for so deeply.

I owe a great debt of gratitude to all the Speakers whom I have been fortunate to know: Sam Rayburn, who first appointed me as an assistant parliamentarian on the recommendation of my legendary predecessor as Parliamentarian, Lewis Deschler; John McCormack, who shared his anecdotes and love of the House during long evening conversations in the Speaker's Rooms; Carl Albert, who had faith enough in my abilities to appoint me as Parliamentarian during a very tumultuous time in the history of the House and has continued to be a valued mentor since his retirement; Thomas P. 'Tip' O'Neill, whose good humor and warmth toward me survived some parliamentary decisions which he must have found vexing; Jim Wright, whose eloquence and courage are unflagging. Finally, Mr. Speaker, I must say how much I have valued your friendship and support. You have always been sensitive and faithful to the distinctions between political and parliamentary decisions and your gavel has been both firm and impartial. The opportunities you have given me to interact with other parliamentary institutions, particularly with the newly emerging democratic republics in eastern Europe, have revealed new horizons which I hope to explore more fully in the future. Programs to encourage and foster parliamentary democracy in that area of our world are of critical importance. The House can be proud of the contribution it is making to this effort and if I can be of assistance in these endeavors I will be available to do so.

I must acknowledge the courtesies and cooperation shown me by the distinguished Minority leader, Bob Michel. He has always shown an appreciation of the role of our office and he and his staff have been of inestimable support. To have known so many of his predecessors, such distinguished men as Joe Martin, Charley Halleck, John Rhodes and Gerald Ford, has been a rare privilege. All of these Leaders have made the House a better place and have left an indelible mark on its history.

I will miss the many friendships with Members that have formed over the years. May I extend to them, through you, my appreciation for their kindnesses.

With your concurrence, my termination as Parliamentarian will be effective on September 15, 1994.

Very respectfully yours,

WM. HOLMES BROWN.

The SPEAKER. It is with great regret that the Chair accepts the resignation of the distinguished Parliamentarian of the House Wm. Holmes Brown.

Pursuant to the provisions of 2 U.S.C. 297a, the Chair announces that on September 16, 1994, he appointed Charles W. Johnson as Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives to succeed Wm. Holmes Brown, resigned.

A WARM FAREWELL TO WILLIAM H. BROWN, PARLIAMENTARIAN

(HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—SEPTEMBER 20, 1994)

(Mr. MICHEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MICHEL. Mr. Speaker, I think the news that was just announced here, that the Parliamentarian of the House is going to retire, comes as a sad note for many of us who have known Bill through all of these years, although I am happy that he is leaving in a commensurate year with my own retirement. He could not be leaving at a better time, from that standpoint.

However, things have changed since I first started in this House. At that time the Parliamentarian was Lou Deschler, referred to by those who dared to call him 'the Judge.' He was a tough old bird. He would not talk to staff, and he would hardly talk to Members.

I remember one time I took him five different versions of an amendment prohibiting food stamps for strikers and said, 'Okay, Judge, one of these has got to be in order.' And you see, he had the only copy of all the precedents of the House from 1936 on in his office, and he had all the power.

Bill Brown has changed all that. He and his staff have done a magnificent job in compiling and publishing those the Judge had kept hidden. He has done an excellent job organizing the Office of the Parliamentarian and helping the membership. Many of the precedents are now 'on-line', available through the House Information System.

Bill was born in West Virginia, receiving a bachelor of science degree from Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania in 1951. He received his law degree from the University of Chicago, out our way in Illinois, and served in the Naval Reserve with active duty in the Persian Gulf , returning as a lieutenant commander in 1974.

Bill was first appointed Assistant Parliamentarian by Speaker Sam Rayburn, and then became Parliamentarian in 1974 under Speaker Albert, and has served under six Speakers of the House.

Bill has been a great Parliamentarian, but most do not realize that he is also a farmer. He lives in a 200-year-old home on the Oakland Green Farm, has expanded the log cabin with a stone addition, and later a brick addition. Bill, I am not sure about the aluminum siding you and your lovely wife Jean have now added.

The Browns do have one daughter, Sarah, who is currently studying in Kenya.

Being a farmer and a Parliamentarian involves a lot of work. He is often late coming in, as he has been birthing calves, or on snowy days he has had to drive his tractor to a main road to get a ride. You cannot miss his car in the Rayburn garage, as it looks like he keeps it in the chicken coop all night.

Bill, we are sorely going to miss you, and can imagine your reciting precedents to your cows as the Congress continues writing new ones. I believe we will still use your expertise in attempting to finalize the publishing of the Deschler-Brown precedents, which I will always consider the 'Brown volumes.'

Taking Bill's place in the top spot is someone who I also have known and argued with many a time, Charlie Johnson.

We have had a good laugh telling the story of when Charlie first was working for the Judge, and Lou assigned Charlie the responsibility of compiling old contested election cases. Charlie worked for weeks, researching and writing, only to find out later that they were all neatly compiled in Cannon's precedents.

Charlie still works harder than he needs to. He is a good guy and a dedicated worker. He is the perfect choice. Charlie, I hope you will last longer than Lehr Fess, who some of you may not know lasted just a year.

Best to you, Bill, and we know, Charlie, John, Tom, and Muftiah will carry on the strong tradition of professionalism and cooperation that you started.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE WILLIAM HOLMES BROWN, PARLIAMENTARIAN, ON HIS RETIREMENT

(HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—SEPTEMBER 20, 1994)

(Mr. FOLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.).

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, nothing gives me greater satisfaction than to hear on this day of retirement of Bill Brown these wonderfully warm words from the Republican leader, because I think the lifeblood of any parliamentary body is the sense that our debates and discussions, the votes and actions taken here, are taken in a context of rules and observance, conventions and procedures, that are fair to each Member of the body. Indeed, I think the history of our House of Representatives, certainly in this recent period, has been one of scrupulous adherence to the rules.

As Speaker I have tried to follow that guide of fairness and objectivity in every ruling I have made, and if I had any tendency to veer from that, I would find resistance, very strong resistance, from the Parliamentarians of the House, who are committed in an almost religious sense to ensuring that the rules are absolutely impartially observed here, I think there is a record, perhaps, of the fact that this body has hardly ever overruled the Chair, and that in those cases where there sometimes has been a question of moving to override the Chair, Republican leadership has often joined with our Members and Republican Members have joined with Democratic Members in supporting the Chair.

Certainly no small part of the credit for this belongs to Bill Brown. He has been an absolutely sterling Parliamentarian in every way. He has served six Speakers. He has been in this body for almost a longer period than

virtually anyone. There are few Members and very few professional staff who have served as long.

He begins his retirement with the best wishes and warm affection of an overwhelming number of Members and those who serve with him in aiding this body to achieve its objectives. He has compiled, as Bob Michel says, the precedents of the House. They are now available for all. He has in recent months been a special resource of assistance to emerging parliamentary democracies in Eastern Europe. I think he has found great satisfaction and opportunity for additional service in that work.

Charlie Johnson, his very long-time Assistant Parliamentarian, has our full confidence on both sides of the aisle, and I have made his appointment with great satisfaction; and if it is time, in Bill Brown's judgment, to leave, that a successor as worthy and able and committed and dedicated as Charlie Johnson stands ready to assume the responsibilities.

Mr. Speaker, I want to extend again, not only on my own behalf but on the behalf of all Members of this House, my thanks and my appreciation and my warmest best wishes to Bill Brown, and every success and happiness for him and Jean in the years that lie ahead.

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, I want to join you and the minority leader in recognizing the more than 36 years of service parliamentarian Bill Brown has given to this House.

Bill is retiring this week after serving in the Parliamentarian's office since 1958. He was Assistant Parliamentarian from 1958–1974 and then was appointed to the position of Parliamentarian by House Speaker Carl Albert in 1974. During those years, Bill served under six House Speakers, including Sam Rayburn, John McCormack, Carl Albert, Tip O'Neill, Jim Wright and Tom Foley.

Bill has been successful over the years in making sure the Parliamentarian's office remained nonpartisan in its duties of advising the Speaker, all Members of Congress, committees and staff on Constitutional questions and rules of order within this House. He is held in high regard by Members on both sides of the aisle.

In addition to those responsibilities, Bill was involved in recent years in projects involving parliamentary development in several Eastern European republics. He and his support personnel have participated in seminars and training programs in Poland, Estonia and Romania, as these countries and others move toward democracy.

Bill is a graduate of Swarthmore College, Pennsylvania and the University of Chicago Law School. He served on active duty in the U.S. Navy from 1954–57 and then served in the naval Reserve from 1954–74, retiring as a lieutenant commander.

It has been a great honor to get to know Bill Brown on a personal level. I consider him a close friend and certainly will miss the wise counsel he has given me over the years. He is one of the true unsung heroes who make things work around the people's House. We will miss Bill, but he has earned his retirement. I salute Bill Brown on a job well done and wish Bill, Jean, and Sara the best in the future.

WILLIAM HOLMES BROWN; HOUSE PARLIAMENTARIAN

[From the Washington Post, Tuesday, May 29, 2001]

William Holmes Brown, 71, parliamentarian of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1974 until 1994 and author of ''House Practice: A Guide to the Rules, Precedents and Procedures of the House,'' died of a vascular ailment May 27 at Loudoun Hospital Center.

He lived at Oakland Green Farm, the Lincoln property his family has owned for more than eight generations.

Mr. Brown served under six speakers of the House as an adviser on procedure and practice. He began as assistant parliamentarian in 1958 and collaborated with parliamentarian Lewis Deschler in volumes of ''Precedents of the House of Representatives.'' They are referred to in the House as the Deschler-Brown Precedents.

Mr. Brown also worked on behalf of the House on parliamentary development projects in Eastern Europe and Mozambique. he participated in seminars in Poland, Estonia, Slovakia, Albania and Romania and in training programs in the United States for representatives of other national legislative bodies.

After he retired, he worked for the Agency for International Development on a parliamentary development project in Ukraine.

Mr. Brown was a native of Huntington, W.Va. He was a graduate of Swarthmore College and the University of Chicago's law school. He served in the Navy in the Middle East and the Mediterranean and remained in the Navy Reserve until 1974.

He was a director of the Conversations a Oaklands organization and the Loudoun Museum and a member of the Catoctin Farmers Club and the Goose Creek Friends Meeting.

Survivors include his wife of 30 years, Jean Smith Brown, and a daughter, Sara Holmes Brown, both of Lincoln.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

THE NATURE AND IMPORTANCE OF ENERGY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I would like to say a few words about the energy issues that face this country. I believe that energy is one of the most misunderstood topics in this Nation, and I believe that is largely because energy is so hard to describe and define.

Most of us do not know what it is. We cannot see it, we cannot feel it, we cannot touch it, we cannot weigh it. When you were a little kid, your mother never sent you to the store for a bottle of energy. You cannot buy energy that way. Yet, somehow we know what it is, because we talk about it when we get up in the morning, saying ''Oh, we do not have much energy;'' or, ''Oh, we really have a lot of energy today;'' we are raring to go. And that is a pretty good perception of what energy actually is.

I happen to be a physicist, and energy in physics is defined as the ability to do work. So that fits our everyday conception of energy, the ability to do work.

Now, in today's society, we depend a lot on energy to do our work. We use energy constantly in transportation, in the workplace, in so many different ways, and it is extremely important. So often we forget the importance of energy, because we are so used to it.

But if you look at the major historical revolutions, the nonmilitary revolutions, you will find that the first major revolution, the agriculture revolution, occurred when people, for the first time began using labor other than their own, namely the labor of animals. The agriculture revolution did not succeed until people began using animals for plowing, for milling, and for other works of labor.

The second major revolution, the industrial revolution, took place when, for the first time, we began using nonhuman energy and non-animal energy, but instead used mechanical energy and heat energy, and that has led to the world we enjoy today, with its many different sources of energy, used for many, many different purposes.

But we tend to take energy for granted and do not realize its importance until there is a shortage, particularly when prices go up, because when the prices go up, it affects the economy. Energy is so vital to our economy that whenever we have a shortage of energy and prices go up, the economy is affected dramatically. It is no coincidence that the last three major recessions we have had in this country have followed on the heels of energy shortages.

Now, what is energy? I said you cannot feel it, touch it, handle it. As a physicist, I understand what energy is, but it is hard to explain it to a lay person, and for that reason sometimes I wish that energy were purple.

If it were purple, we could see it, we could understand it. If we could drive up to our homes and see purple energy leaking out from around the windows during the winter and we would see purple oozing through the walls, we would recognize we are wasting money, because we have not insulated the house well enough or sealed the windows well enough.

Or suppose we are driving down the highway: if we see a little car going by with just a little bit of purple around it, and then see an SUV going by with just clouds of purple around it, we would immediately recognize that one uses far less energy than another. That is the type of awareness we have to build in the people of this country.

Let me relate that to one specific State. We all know that California is having tremendous energy problems. There are many reasons for it and many possible solutions, but I can tell you that the fastest, cheapest solution

of all is energy conservation and energy efficiency. That can be implemented quickly. It can be used to solve the crisis, it can be used to reduce demand and drive the prices down in California, and certainly put the State on a better keel. I hope that California pursues it, and I hope that our Federal government helps them pursue that alternative.

Now, there is so much more I could say about this, and I plan to do a 1 hour speech on this later on. But I wanted to give this introductory speech at this point, outlining some of the characteristics of energy, how important it is to our Nation and our economy, and how totally dependent we are on it.

It is an issue that we must deal with. We must deal with it intelligently, using every possible means; not just energy conservation and energy efficiency, although I think they are extremely important, but also looking at alternative sources of energy and more wisely using the resources we have now.

The answer is not simply drilling holes in the ground, the answer is not simply insulating houses, but looking at every aspect of our use of energy and saying how can we use it better, how can we use it more efficiently, how can we really accomplish something worthwhile in our energy use, without depleting our natural resources.

One last comment about energy. There are two very important aspects you must remember about energy. First, energy is our most basic natural resource, because without energy, we cannot use any of our other basic resources. We cannot use iron, steel, copper and so forth, without digging it out of the ground and forming it and fabricating it. All of this requires energy.

The second important point about energy is that it is the only non-renewable resource. Once you use it, it is gone. We can renew all our other resources; that one we cannot. So let us be certain to use energy right and not waste it.

□ 1900

THE CONTINUING CRISIS OF HIV/AIDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ISSA). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this moment because of the fact that the AIDS/HIV epidemic continues to plague America and, in actuality, continues to plague much of the world. I take this opportunity to commend the Congressional Black Caucus, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and the Congressional Pacific American Caucus for holding a joint hearing regarding this very important issue on June 12, that is, the issue of the HIV/AIDS epidemic that continues to threaten communities not only in our country, but throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, 20 years ago the term HIV/AIDS was unknown. Since that time, over 19 million people worldwide have died of HIV/AIDS, and approximately 34 million people continue to live with the disease. The Surgeon General, David Satcher, stated in a recent report that HIV/AIDS could be the worst epidemic ever recorded in history.

Many people believe that this is an issue that does not really affect our country. It is true that the poorest regions in the world have been hit the hardest; yet the United States of America, the most technologically proficient Nation on the face of the Earth, has not been able to escape the devastation of this deadly disease. In this country alone, over 400,000 people have died, while 900,000 people are living with HIV/AIDS. The Centers for Disease Control recently released a report stating that each year there are 40,000 new cases of HIV/AIDS.

What concerns me the most about this issue is the growing impact that the disease is having on minority communities in our country. The 2000 Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS Report to the President stated that ''in the United States, disproportionate numbers of new infections are found in poor communities, communities of color, among young gay men, among drug users, and among African American and Latino women populations who have rarely been embraced by this Nation as a whole.''

In 1999, the AIDS incident-rate per 100,000 people among Hispanics was 25.6. The rate for African Americans was 66. The rate for whites was 7.6. These statistics clearly demonstrate the large racial gaps that exist among aids cases. The HIV/AIDS pandemic has reached my own district in Chicago, Illinois. The city has seen an overwhelming increase in the number of minorities infected with the disease. This past February, researchers in Chicago reported that fully 30 percent of young gay African American men are infected with HIV/AIDS. The infection rate for gay blacks is twice that of any other ethnic group. Nationwide, 14.7 percent of gay black men are infected with the disease.

In addition to the African American community, the Hispanic population has also seen an increase in the number of HIV/AIDS cases. In 1999, Hispanics made up 13 percent of the entire United States population. At the same time, however, Hispanics also made up 19 percent of the total number of new United States AIDS cases reported that year.

Research has shown that these trends are continuing to worsen. The HIV/AIDS epidemic has continued to spread throughout minority communities. We can no longer sit and simply wait for a cure to be found. We must increase our work to educate the public on AIDS prevention, while continuing to study new ways to combat the disease.

Again, I want to commend my colleagues in the CBC and the CHC and the CPA for their vigilance on this issue. This hearing is an excellent way to keep the spotlight on the HIV/AIDS pandemic and an excellent way for us to come up with effective ways to solve this very important and growing problem.

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF DISCOVERY OF HIV/AIDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), my colleague, in observing the 20-year anniversary of the discovery of the HIV virus. This was a terrible time. In our community in San Francisco, at the University of California San Francisco, we were hearing rumors 20 years ago about illnesses that had not been seen since the Middle Ages, or read about or heard about; that immune systems were so devastated that people were susceptible to afflictions that were grotesque. It was frightening. We knew we had to do something about it. It never dawned on us then that 20 years later, projecting into the future 20 years, that we would be here still talking about funding for research, prevention, and care.

A lot has been accomplished in the past 20 years, but a lot needs to be done. I want to associate myself with the comments that the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) made about work of the caucuses in the Congress, in the House, the Hispanic Caucus, the Congressional Black Caucus and the Asian American Pacific Islander Caucus and the work that they have done to recognize the changing face of AIDS.

In the beginning, it started as a gay men's disease; now we know it permeates our society, and it is taking a very big bite out of the minority community. Just last week we were all saddened by the news that new HIV infections among young gay men, particularly among young, gay African American gay men, had risen dramatically. Many young people have come of age in a world where protease inhibitors are extending life. They do not remember the terror that we went through 20 years ago and since; and these treatments that we have now, while important, are not a cure. Until we have a true cure, an effective vaccine prevention is our best weapon. We must intensify our prevention efforts, including targeted education about behavioral risk and research for a vaccine.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to observe some of the contributions of some of the Members of this body. Ted Weiss, who passed away some years ago, but was one of the leaders in the Congress on this issue; certainly the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN), our colleague, not only made a tremendous contribution in his own right, but served as mentor to so many of us who have worked on this issue over the years.

Under his leadership and that of others, we were able to pass the Ryan White Care Act and its reauthorization. We increased the funding dramatically in research, prevention, and care for people with HIV and AIDS. We have funded housing opportunities for people with AIDS. We have spent money on international global AIDS issues. Not enough, but certainly tremendous increases in this regard. Our biggest lack, of course, is on the international AIDS issues, and many people in our minority caucuses are taking the lead, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for one, who will be speaking later; and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), and many others who have been leaders in this arena.

Today, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), the Democratic leader, and I introduced legislation which would qualify people with HIV for Medicaid. Many uninsured Americans still do not have access to AIDS medications because HIV-positive individuals do not meet Medicaid requirements until they are disabled by full-blown AIDS. Everything we know about HIV and AIDS is early intervention, early intervention, early intervention; and yet under the law, if one is just HIV infected, one cannot qualify for Medicaid until one has a full-blown case of AIDS. Under our legislation, which I am proud to say on this 20-year day of memory, is that we will have over 100 cosponsors for the legislation.

Early treatment saves lives, improves the quality of life, and reduces health care costs as progression from HIV to full-blown AIDS is prevented or delayed. It also strengthens our economy as healthy individuals return to work, increasing both productivity and tax revenue. So we can make a very strong business case for this.

I mentioned some of the initiatives, whether it is housing, international, prevention, care and treatment. One other initiative, the minority AIDS initiative, which is a very important one, deserves double funding this year; and I want to associate myself with that aspiration, bringing it up to over $500 million.

The observance of this occasion for us is not only a time to remember and celebrate the lives of loved ones we have lost, it is an opportunity to measure our progress and renew our commitment to ending the HIV/AIDS pandemic. That must include sufficient funding in the budget, leadership in the fight against AIDS in the developing world, and access to health care for all Americans who are living with this disease.

Two young people become infected with HIV in this country every hour, and there are 11 new infections worldwide every minute. The figures that the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) used were that around 450,000 people have died in the U.S. of AIDS, 22 million worldwide. We must do more to protect this new generation from suffering. That is all too familiar to previous generations.

Mr. Speaker, I call on my colleagues to work with us to increase the funding, to improve the quality of life, to end the scourge of AIDS.

HEALTH CARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, once again this evening, as we are back from the Memorial Day break, I would like to take up the issue of health care. As my colleagues know, I have been down here with many of my Democratic colleagues many times over the last few months since the session began and since this new administration began in January, basically speaking out on three major health care issues that have not been addressed, in my opinion, by the President and the Republican leadership in the Congress, and that is the need to reform HMOs and the need to pass a Patients' Bill of Rights that would reform HMOs.

There are so many problems that people now have with their HMO or their managed care organization in not having proper access to care, not being able to go to the hospital of their choice, not being able to, if they have a grievance, have an independent review of the decision by the HMO to deny them care; and I will get into this more this evening.

The second issue is the need for a Medicare prescription drug benefit. When I go home, and I was home for the last 10 days in New Jersey, my seniors and my constituents complained more about the high cost of drugs and how they cannot pay for prescription drugs and that it should be included in Medicare. I agree, and that needs to be addressed.

The third issue is access for the uninsured. More Americans every day have no health insurance. Most of those are working people, and we need to find ways to address those concerns and have them insured and covered for their health care.

My point tonight, and I would like to yield now to some of my colleagues, but my point tonight is that we really face, I hope, a different situation tomorrow here in the Congress, here in Washington, because of the change in the other body, in the Senate. I have watched over the last 4 or 5 months, and during the course of the campaign, President Bush mentioned many times that he was going to pass a Patients' Bill of Rights and reform HMOs, that he was going to have a prescription drug benefit, that he was going to address the problem of people who do not have health insurance. Yet over the last 4 or 5 months of this administration, these issues have not come to the floor, they have not been moved in committee in either House. The Republican leadership, in conjunction with the Republican President, have simply dropped the ball on these issues.

I was heartened to find that during the break with the changeover in the Senate to Democratic control tomorrow, that the leaders in that body, the Democratic leaders in that body have said that the first order of business when they come back next week most likely, next week is going to be to move the Patients' Bill of Rights in the other body, and that that will be followed soon with these other health care issues.

So finally now we may have an opportunity to get legislation passed, at least in the other body, on some of these issues by the Democrats that will come over here and force the hand, I hope, of the Republican leadership here and the Republican President.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN).

□ 1915

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise and join my colleague, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) on this important topic.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to address in particular the skyrocketing price of prescription drugs, which is making this essential component of our Nation's health care system inaccessible to those who need it most.

Older Americans, who make up 13 percent of the U.S. population, account for 34 percent of all prescriptions dispensed and 42 cents of every dollar spent on prescription drugs. The average Medicare beneficiary fills 18 different prescriptions per year.

Obtaining prescription drugs is a clear necessity for our senior citizens. Yet, the annual spending per capita in the Medicare population for prescription drugs has jumped from $674 in 1996 to $1,539 in the year 2000, and is expected to climb to over $3,700 in 2010.

Overall, prescription drug prices rose 306 percent between 1981 and 1999, while the Consumer Price Index rose just 99 percent during that same period. In the year 2000, total spending in the U.S. for prescription drugs was $116 billion,

more than twice the $51 billion spent in 1993. That amount is expected to triple to $366 billion by 2010. These escalating prices can and must cease.

For every dollar that a consumer pays for a prescription drug at the pharmacy, 74 cents goes to the drug manufacturer, 3 cents goes to the wholesale distributor, and 23 cents goes to the pharmacy. In 2000, pharmaceutical companies had after-tax median profits of 19 percent, compared with 5 percent for all other Fortune 500 companies combined.

While I recognize the importance of researching and developing technological advancements that have helped numerous Americans, and of course we all want to see this continue, I know drug manufacturers do not need such astronomical profits to ensure continued research.

Mr. Speaker, let us face facts: most core research for prescription drugs is funded through NIH. In addition, pharmaceutical companies dedicate more than 18 percent of revenues to profits and 30 percent to marketing and administration, compared with just 12 percent to research and development. In fact, the 12 drug companies with the highest revenues spent three times as much on marketing as on R&D in 2000.

Mr. Speaker, access to prescription drugs is critical to the survival and maintenance of an accessible quality of life for millions of our senior citizens. As we know, Medicare does not offer any prescription drug program, and most seniors have found that the Medicare+Choice program has not provided the kind of opportunities Congress thought it would.

As a result, today at least one in three people in the Medicare population have no drug coverage at all in the course of a year, and nearly half have no coverage for at least part of an entire year. These Medicare beneficiaries spend on average 83 percent more for their medications than those with drug coverage. Moreover, almost half of Medicare beneficiaries without any form of prescription drug coverage have incomes less than 175 percent of the poverty level. That means they had incomes of $15,000 in 2001.

That, Mr. Speaker, is why we need to require drug companies to give local pharmacies the best price they give their most favored customers, or the average foreign price, and reinstate the requirement for reasonable pricing on products that were researched and developed using taxpayer money via NIH.

Moreover, we need to authorize the Federal government to buy drugs in bulk and at a discount for Medicare beneficiaries.

And most of all, we must provide a Medicare prescription drug plan. While the administration's budget includes $153 billion over 10 years to provide for prescription drug coverage and Medicare reforms, this plan falls far short of a comprehensive drug coverage program.

The 4-year Immediate Helping Hand proposal provides block grants to the States to help low-income seniors purchase prescription drugs, and then an unspecified Medicare prescription drug benefit is to be developed, along with Medicare restructuring.

According to the administration's own cost estimates, adjusted by CBO's projections of drug inflation, covering only the low-income population's prescription drugs would cost over $200 billion, almost $50 billion more than what has been provided in the budget.

Furthermore, the Immediate Helping Hand program would deny eligibility to about 20 million Medicare beneficiaries, most of whom lack affordable, dependable prescription drug coverage.

For instance, under the administration's plan, an 85-year-old widow with an annual income of $17,000 would receive no assistance with her prescription drug costs. Now that we have passed what I believe is an irresponsible and partisan budget, providing the kind of comprehensive and effective drug benefit our seniors need appears to be next to impossible.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues not to forget our seniors, and to not neglect the American public, who is counting on us to follow through on a promise that was made by Democrats and Republicans alike to provide a quality prescription drug plan for Medicare beneficiaries.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague, the gentleman from Rhode Island, for his statement.

If I could just mention two things that he brought up, which I think are so crucial, the whole issue is affordability. Prescription drug affordability is really of the utmost importance to seniors and to people with disabilities.

This is what I have heard back at home the last 10 days, the last week or so, that seniors that have major financial problems with purchasing their necessary medications, they have to choose between paying the rent or buying food, and it is basically because of growing out-of-pocket expenses. Even people that have some sort of limited coverage because they are in an HMO or because of some kind of benefit they received on the job that they get in their retirement are finding that the out-of-pocket costs just continue to rise exponentially every year.

We have done a number of studies with the Committee on Government Reform with the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) in various States, in various congressional districts, that have shown that drug manufacturers engage in widespread price discrimination, so that seniors are paying significantly more for their drugs than they would if they were in another country.

I want to thank our colleague, the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN), for what he brought up. I think it is so important.

I know our colleague, the gentleman from Maine (Mr. ALLEN), has a bill called the Prescription Drug Fairness Act or Fairness for Seniors Act that would link the price to the average farm prices in certain countries. Maybe he might discuss that.

I yield to the gentleman from Maine (Mr. ALLEN) to have him talk about that. I know he has other health care issues to bring up as well.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) for yielding to me, and I thank particularly our friend, the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN), for coming here tonight and speaking on this particular topic.

We really have built strong support on the Democratic side of the aisle for the discount, which would be about 35 percent for all Medicare beneficiaries in the cost of their prescription drugs reflected in the bill that I have sponsored, the Prescription Drug Fairness for Seniors Act. Also, we know that seniors ultimately need a Medicare prescription drug benefit, not a private insurance company prescription drug benefit. That is really the choice that is presented between the Democratic side of the aisle and the Republican side of the aisle.

If I could say a couple of things, I guess I want to go beyond the prescription drug issue for a moment and talk about Medicare generally. The American public has every reason to feel a bit confused because in the last election there was all this talk about prescription drug coverage for seniors, and there has been talk for years about Medicare reform. The question always is, what is contained in those little words ''Medicare reform.''

Well, today there is breaking news, Mr. Speaker, on health care, breaking news on Medicare. I guarantee the Members, it will not be on the evening news, it will not be covered on the front page of any newspaper tomorrow, but still, it is breaking news.

It comes in a story by Robert Pear in the New York Times this morning. The headline is significant: ''Medicare Shift Toward HMOs Is Planned.'' So the question is, planned by whom? Well, planned by the Bush administration. Now at last we can see a little more clearly what this administration is up to when it comes to Medicare.

There are many people on the Republican side of the aisle who have never liked Medicare because, after all, it is a government health care program. It takes care of our seniors. It has been there since 1965. It was put in place because in 1965 only one-half of all of our seniors had any health insurance at all. Medicare stepped in where the private insurance industry simply would not provide coverage to our seniors. It has been a success. It is there in every

State. It is equal. It is trusted by our seniors. It is respected by our seniors.

Well, the President has appointed and the Senate has confirmed a new administrator of the Health Care Financing Administration, the organization that runs Medicare. His name is Thomas Scully, and he made his first speech, significantly, at the United States Chamber of Commerce.

Here is what he said: ''The government is better in the long run when it is a buyer of insurance, rather than an insurer.'' What did Mr. Scully mean by that? He meant that it would be better for our seniors to have private insurance than it would be to be under Medicare, under a Federal health care plan.

Let us look at some of the facts. I am interested in this because the program that allows some, about 14 or 15 percent, of our seniors to get their Medicare benefits through a private insurance company has a name. It is called Medicare+Choice. What that Medicare+Choice refers to is coverage that will be obtained through HMOs.

Now, this is wonderful, I suppose, in a few places in this country, particularly in our big cities, because there we may have several competing plans that are there to try to provide more choices to seniors, and in some big cities in this country it works, with an exception which I will note later.

But in my home State of Maine, we do not have a single, not one, HMO providing insurance for our seniors. We did last year. We had one company which had about 1,700 beneficiaries. Two of them were my parents. But the insurance company decided it could not make money in Maine, and so it pulled out. My parents had to go looking for another supplementary health care insurance, causing all sorts of confusion and upset.

□ 1930

Well, what is happening across the country? Medicare, I would note, Medicare does not pull out of a State when it is not making money, but private insurance companies do.

In fact, in the last 3 years, managed care plans have dropped more than 1.6 million Medicare beneficiaries; 1.6 million beneficiaries dropped. Why? Because the company could not make money off them, could not make money in a particular area, could not make money off some of our seniors who are sicker and need more help than others.

Now, until Mr. Scully was chosen and confirmed as the administrator of the Health Care Financing Administration, Medicare officials have historically professed to be neutral. They have said we are not taking sides between traditional Medicare fee-for-service, which is there for about 75 percent of all Medicare beneficiaries, and the 15 percent who get their coverage through an HMO. They are trying to, over the last few years, the goal has been, under the Clinton-Gore administration, to make sure that there was a level playing field.

But as I said, that has all changed. That has changed because Mr. Scully has made it perfectly clear that the government is better in the long run when it is a buyer of insurance rather than an insurer. In other words, traditional Medicare that Americans have come to rely on and respect and depend on because they know the benefits will not change every year, they know Medicare will not pack up and leave a State when it is not making money, that system is now under attack from the administration.

Because what Mr. Scully wants to do is he wants up to 30 percent of elderly patients in managed care by 2005. That means we have to reverse this trend of managed care companies simply dropping people. But it is far more significant than that.

Mr. Scully, I suggest, has not done his homework. Why do I say that? Because he does not yet understand that these managed care plans cost more than traditional fee-for-service Medicare. As Dave Berry says, I am not making this up, it is right here. In a GAO report published in August of 2000, this is a review of Medicare+Choice plans. This is a review of how managed care is working in Medicare. Here is the title, ''Payments Exceed Cost of Fee-for-Service Benefits, Adding Billions to Spending.'' Adding billions to spending.

What the GAO did was to do a comparison between traditional old fee-for-service Medicare and these new health maintenance organization managed care plans for our seniors. They make the point, the GAO makes the point that Medicare+Choice was designed to expand beneficiaries' health plan options, and it was supposed to improve Medicare's financial posture by better controlling spending growth.

Well, lately, the industry has been saying over and over again the payments that we get that the health insurance industry gets under Medicare+Choice plans are too low. We cannot make money. That is why we are dropping people in Maine and all across the country.

Well, the GAO looked at 210 of the 346 Medicare+Choice plans that were in operation in 1998. These plans enrolled 87 percent of all beneficiaries in Medicare+Choice plans. What did they find? I quote, ''Medicare+Choice, like its predecessor managed care program, has not been successful in achieving Medicare savings. Medicare+Choice plans attracted a disproportionate selection of healthier and less-expensive beneficiaries relative to traditional'' fee-for-service Medicare, ''while payment rates largely continued to reflect the . . . costs of beneficiaries in average health.''

Here is the key, this is a quote right out of the GAO: ''Instead of paying less for health plan enrollees, we estimate that aggregate payments to Medicare+Choice plans in 1998 were about $5.2 billion . . . or approximately $1,000 per enrollee, more than if the plans' enrollees had received care in the traditional'' fee-for-service program. ''It is largely these excess payments, and not managed care efficiencies, that enable plans to attract beneficiaries by offering a benefit package that is more comprehensive than the one available to FFS,'' fee-for-service, ''beneficiaries, while charging modest or no premiums.''

What does that mean? It means that traditional fee-for-service Medicare is cheaper, $5.2 billion in 1998 alone for 15 percent of the elderly population. Fee-for-service is cheaper than Medicare managed care. So those managed care beneficiaries in this country who are getting prescription drug benefits are getting it, not because the managed care company is saving money, they are getting it because the managed care company is getting more money over and above what it would get for traditional fee-for-service beneficiaries. It is out of that money that the additional benefits are coming.

We are making a huge mistake in this country because we have devised a system through Medicare+Choice which is going to drag the insurance industry into Medicare, will provide our seniors with less effective and fair and beneficial services at a higher cost to the taxpayer.

Now we have the Bush administration stepping up and saying, what we really need in this country is more health insurance companies taking over Medicare. Mr. Scully is wrong. Fee-for-service Medicare, traditional Medicare works. What our seniors need is a system that is reliable and predictable and stable, something they can count on. They do not need insurance companies changing the benefits, reducing benefits one year, raising premiums the same year, pulling out of a State because they are not making enough money.

Medicare needs reform, but it does not need to be taken over by HMOs. That is what, in his first major speech, Mr. Scully of the Health Care Financing Administration is saying is his goal for Medicare, to turn it over, to turn more and more of it over to our insurance companies. If he succeeds in doing that, our seniors will be worse off than they are today. Our taxpayers will be worse off than they are today. But the health insurance industry will be making more money and their stocks will be higher than they are today. That is what this is all about.

At the end of the day, what Mr. Scully is suggesting is not the best system for our seniors, it is not the best system for consumers, it is the best

system for the health insurance industry. That is what it is about. Those who gave money in the past election campaign will get their reward if this administration can succeed in undermining, changing our Medicare system that seniors have grown to depend on, and turning it over to private industry to make more money, more profits than ever before. It is abomination.

This Congress, if we do nothing else, has got to stop this administration from taking Medicare apart and turning it over to the private sector.

I have gone on some period of time. This is an issue I care deeply about. I certainly want to thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) for holding this event this evening and allowing all of us to come forward and express our views.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Maine (Mr. ALLEN) for what he said this evening. I think it is so important. I am amazed because I watched the Republican leadership and the Republican President, and it just seems sometimes I think that they are motivated, as the gentleman said, just because of special interests. In other words, the health insurance companies give a lot of money to their campaigns, so they want to support them.

Other times, I think they are just stuck in this sort of right-wing antigovernment idealogical cloud of some sort, that they are just not thinking about what is practical. They just think anything that the government does has to be bad because idealogically they do not believe in the government.

So when we have a good program like Medicare, traditional Medicare fee-for-service that works as effective and is actually saving money is a bargain, they do not want to use it, they want to tear it down. Whether it is their ideology, which I think is very backward, or it is the special interest money they are getting from the insurance company, the bottom line is they are just not being practical.

If my colleagues remember last session in the previous Congress, the House Republican leadership tried to establish what they call a prescription drug-only insurance policy. In other words, rather than expanding Medicare and have a guaranteed benefit under Medicare for prescription drugs, they wanted to give people money so they can go out and buy a prescription drug-only policy which, again, harkens back to this ideology that government and Medicare cannot do the job.

The insurance companies came before the various committees of jurisdiction and said, well, we do not want you to do that. We are not going to sell you that insurance. We had an example in the State of Nevada which basically did that, Republican-controlled legislature, that passed a bill and said, we will give you money, you go out and buy these drug-only policies, and nobody would sell them. So for the life of me, I cannot understand what they are up to.

The same thing, as the gentleman from Maine said, with the HMOs. The HMOs we know are getting out of the Medicare business. They are either dropping seniors, or they are increasing out-of-pocket cost for prescription drugs so that the prescription drugs are unaffordable even for seniors that have the HMO.

Why in the world would we want to go out and encourage HMOs as the way to address the need for prescription drug benefit? Why in the world would we want to suggest these insurance policies that only cover prescription drugs? I have not heard much about that in this Congress. I guess maybe they dropped that; although I am sure there are some out there that still want to do that.

I mean, what the Democrats have been saying is that we want Medicare to be expanded to include prescription drugs as a guaranteed benefit, universal benefit. When I go and talk to my seniors in New Jersey, they are not interested in this low-income benefit because most low-income seniors get some kind of drug benefit if they are covered by Medicaid. And in a lot of States now, not all, but many States have expanded coverage to cover the low income even a little bit above Medicaid, as is the case in New Jersey.

The problem, though, is for the middle class, the middle-class senior who does not get Medicaid, is not covered by their State program because their income is a little too high or they do not have a State program, and at the same time cannot get a decent HMO policy that is going to cover their prescription drugs.

So when the President says that he wants to do this low-income benefit, I think he calls it the helping hand, immediate helping hand, and it establishes block grants for States to provide for prescription coverage for some low-income seniors and some seniors with catastrophic drug costs, he would limit full prescription drug coverage to Medicare beneficiaries with incomes up to 35 percent above the poverty level, which is $11,600 for individuals, $15,700 for couples, and seniors with out-of-pocket prescription spending of over $6,000 per year.

Again, this is not the problem. The middle-income senior falls above that $11,000 for individual, $15,000 for couples in most cases, and they do not have the out-of-pocket catastrophic expenses of over $6,000 per year. Most seniors are not going to benefit from this, even if it got passed.

I do not even see any movement on the part of the Republican leadership in either House or the President to move this anyway, so I do not even know why I am talking about it, because he talks about it during the campaign, but I do not even see an effort to move that.

Hopefully with the Democrats now in the majority starting tomorrow in the other body, in the Senate, we will now see a decent prescription drug benefit move, get passed in the other body, and come over here where we can try to persuade the House Republican leadership to take it up.

Let me just, Mr. Speaker, if I could give a little indication of what the Democrats here in the House and in the other body would like to see as a prescription drug benefit. We have certain principles that we have been espousing.

First of all, this prescription drug benefit must be part of Medicare. Medicare works. It is cost effective. Let us include a guaranteed benefit for those who want it under Medicare.

Secondly, it should be voluntary, just like one opts and pays a premium so much per month for one's doctor bills, for one's coverage of one's doctor bills, expenses. We would have this be a voluntary program where one pays a certain premium and one gets one's prescription drugs.

Thirdly, the Democrats have been saying that the prescription drug benefit for seniors has to be affordable. Obviously, the premium has to be fairly low per month. One cannot be expected to pay a significant amount of money out of pocket when one goes and gets each individual prescription.

It goes back to what my colleague from Rhode Island was saying about affordability for seniors. I also think it is important that this benefit be defined. In other words, Medicare beneficiaries, regardless of where they live, should be guaranteeing access to a defined drug benefit at the same standard premium.

□ 1945

You know, people have to know that the prescription drugs they need are included in the program. This is what the Democrats have been talking about.

And we also want to build into our proposal an end to price discrimination. We talked a little before about the bill of my colleague, the gentleman from Maine (Mr. ALLEN); about how he wants to link the price more towards that charged in other countries that are developed countries like the United States. There are ways of dealing with the price discrimination issue, and that is certainly one of them.

Another is to basically have the government, through benefit providers in each region, purchase and negotiate prices for the drugs so that we are getting volume discounts. That is certainly another way to try to deal with the price issue. This has got to be done.

I was home again last week, for the last 10 days, and this is what our seniors are talking about. We need to take it up. Hopefully, now that the Democrats are in the majority in the other

body, they will send a bill over here; and we will be able to pressure the Republican leadership here in the House to take up a prescription drug bill that helps all Medicare recipients.

Now, I wanted to talk, if I could, Mr. Speaker, before I conclude this special order this evening, about two other health care issues which I mentioned at the beginning of this special order, and one of them, because of what is happening in the Senate, in the other body, is likely to move even quicker than a prescription drug benefit. And that is fine, I would like to see these important health care issues and this legislation get over to the House as soon as possible, and that is the Patients' Bill of Rights, or HMO reform.

Again, when I talk to my constituents, regardless of age, about HMOs, because many people in New Jersey are in HMOs and they have become very concerned because many times they are denied the care that they think they need. Either they cannot go to a particular hospital in an emergency, they cannot get access to a specialist, or they are denied a particular operation or procedure because the insurance company, the HMO, says that it is too innovative. What they really mean is it is too expensive and they do not want to pay for it.

The two issues that I think are so important with HMO reform, and which are addressed in the Patients' Bill of Rights in sort of a general way, is the definition of what is medically necessary; who is going to define whether an operation, a procedure, a hospital, a stay in a hospital is necessary; is it going to be the insurance company, which wants to save money; or is it going to be the patient and the physician. Because, after all, you and your physician care about your health.

Basically, what the Patients' Bill of Rights does is to say that in general that decision is made by the physician, the health care professional, and the patient, not by the insurance company. They are the ones that that decide what is medically necessary.

The second is if someone has been denied care, the HMO says they cannot have a particular procedure, they have to leave the hospital, what then does that individual do; how do they redress their grievances; where do they go. Now, unfortunately, in many cases, they can only go to the HMO, who have said, no, we made that decision and too bad. We want a procedure which allows an individual to go to an independent board outside the HMO that has the power to overturn that decision or we want to be able to go to court as a last resort.

Now, let me just talk about some of the little more specific although still general points about the Patients' Bill of Rights and the real Patients' Bill of Rights. And I do not want to put him on the spot, but I see one of my heroes over here on this issue, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. GANSKE), and he along with the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL), a Democrat, and this is really a bipartisan effort because there are some Republicans that support this bill, a lot of them frankly, but, unfortunately, not the leadership in the Republican Party, have put together a bill called the Dingell-Ganske bill, or the Ganske-Dingell bill, which is the real Patients' Bill of Rights that I would like to see and that most if not all Democrats would like to see passed.

Just to give you an idea of some of the principles that are in here, first of all it has to protect all patients with private insurance, not just some. Some of the Republican bills only protect certain types of people. All patients with private insurance. There has to be the ability to hold the plans accountable, which I discussed. There has to be a fair definition of medical necessity, which means that it has to be up to the physician and the patient to determine that.

There has to be guaranteed access to specialists, access to out-of-network providers. If there is not someone available who can handle a patient's situation, they can go out of the network.

There also has to be a prohibition on improper financial incentives. The HMO cannot encourage the doctor to deny care or not provide certain care and get some sort of financial incentive to do so. There has to be access to clinical trials. There has to be a prohibition on gag rules. In other words, some of the HMOs say that the doctor cannot tell a patient if they need a particular treatment in his or her opinion because it is not covered. So if it is not covered and he or she thinks a patient needs it, they are not allowed to tell because the insurance company will not pay for it. That is ridiculous.

Emergency room access if it is needed. If something happens, an individual has a heart attack, they have an accident, that that person can go to the nearest emergency room rather than go to one 50 miles away and die or become seriously injured on the way. And the list goes on.

What I am fearful of, and I guess I am a little less fearful now that the Democrats are in the majority in the other body, is that even though President Bush said he would support a Patients' Bill of Rights and said in fact that he would support a Patients' Bill of Rights very similar to what they have in the State of Texas, he has essentially said that he opposes the Dingell-Ganske bill, which in the other body, the Senate, is sponsored again on a bipartisan basis by Senator MCCAIN and Senator KENNEDY. The President has been variously quoted over the past few months saying this bill that so many of us support in the House and in the other body is too costly and that he would veto it.

He said his primary objection to these bills currently in the Congress is that they do not contain reasonable caps on damage awards against health insurance organizations or insurance. He wants to have caps, and not very high caps in terms of the amount of money that a person can recover if they go to court. And then he has other concerns; that he does not like the particular court that should be allowed to sue under the Dingell-Ganske bill.

The point of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, that the President and the Republican leadership in both bodies have been fiddling with this issue for the past 4 or 5 months. They say they are for a patients' bill of rights, but they do not articulate exactly what they want. All they do essentially is say they do not like the bill that most of us support, the Dingell-Ganske bill. I am hopeful now that the other body becomes Democratically controlled tomorrow, that as the new majority leader, Mr. DASCHLE, said, this is going to be on the agenda probably next week.

Now, if and when it passes over in the other body and it comes over here, that will allow us to pressure—

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ISSA). It is not in order in a debate to specifically urge the Senate to take certain actions, and the gentleman will be aware of that.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I was not aware, and I will not cite that again.

The point I am trying to make, though, is that we really need a good Patients' Bill of Rights. I suspect I am going to be hearing more about it later this evening from my colleague, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. GANSKE), and I think I will stop with that particular issue for now.

I did want to spend a little time tonight, though, talking about the problem of the uninsured, the number of people who are uninsured. That number continues to grow and needs to be addressed as well here in the Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I see one of my colleagues, who has been very active on the health care issue, and who is a member of our health care task force on the Democratic side, is here; and I would like to yield to him at this point.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. First of all, Mr. Speaker, once again let me thank the gentleman for his efforts in the area of health care. As the gentleman mentioned, the problem that we encounter now is with the uninsured, and that number continues to grow. We have over 44 million uninsured.

I think that one of the dilemmas we face as we look throughout this country, there are hardworking people that are not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid, not old enough to qualify for Medicare, and yet find themselves working for small companies that do

not give them an opportunity to have access to insurance coverage. And I can attest to the gentleman that if someone is not working for government or a major corporation, they do not have any access to health care. So that we have a real dilemma, because we do provide it for the indigent, we do provide it for the elderly to some extent, but when it comes to those working Americans out there trying to make ends meet, we have a difficulty in terms of providing access to health care.

There is a real need for us to come to grips with that issue. We have not done that in the past, unfortunately, and we need to do so. We are hoping that the administration can start moving in this direction as they dialogued about the issue of health care during the campaign. We hope they will come up to meet those promises that they made on health care and the uninsured, not to mention those that are insured but who are what we call the underinsured, the ones that have access to some degree but yet do not have full coverage, such as prescription coverage.

I know that the gentleman has covered the issue of prescription coverage, but I just want to keep mentioning it because we need to keep that issue on the forefront. It is an issue that continues to be one of the key issues in America and it is one of the problems that we were elected to respond to and we have not yet done so. We are hoping that we will begin to cover that.

When we look at prescription coverage under Medicare, there is no doubt that when we devised Medicare, from the very beginning, that at that point they did not see the importance of prescription coverage. We know now that prescription coverage is key for access to good quality care. We know the importance of that, and so we need to look at that issue. And the responses that we have before us from the administration have not been adequate.

There is only one State that has tried it, and it has not been that successful, and that is because our seniors are the ones that utilize prescriptions the most. That is where the private sector will make the less amount of profit in any area, and so it is an area where we all need to participate and make sure that we can help out when it comes to prescription coverage. It does not make any sense for us to make the diagnosis, to find out that they are in need, when we do not provide them the prescriptions that are needed to be able to cover some of those needs.

The other thing that just does not make any sense is that we provide prescription coverage for Medicaid, for the indigent, yet we do not provide it for our seniors. So there is a real need for us to kind of come to grips on that issue of not only prescription coverage but the uninsured. I know there are a couple of proposals out there, and we are hoping that we can begin to go throughout the country to dialogue about the importance of health care in this country. The fact is, we still have a long way to go. We have not come to grips with these issues, and we need to get more pressure on the politicians up here to make some things happen.

The only reason we had the Patients' Bill of Rights the last time, as the gentleman well knows, is because we decided to do a discharge petition that forced the Congress to have to deal with it. Because of that, I think we were able to make that happen, and we did pass a good bill. Unfortunately, it was killed during conference and so that did not materialize. So what is important now is that we have a new session, and we need to move forward in that area.

So I just wanted to take this opportunity now to thank the gentleman for what he has been doing on health care. I will be talking later on on the issue of AIDS, and I look forward to the gentleman's participation in that area.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from Texas. And I do appreciate the fact that the gentleman is going to spend the hour later this evening talking about AIDS and what we need to do further. There has been a lot of attention paid to the fact, and during the break over the last week I read a number of articles, about the increased incidence of AIDS, particularly amongst African American gay men; that there was just an incredible increase in the incidence of AIDS and HIV. People think that the crisis has subdued somewhat in the United States but it is still out there, and in many communities it is actually getting worse.

□ 2000

The other thing if I could, I am so glad the gentleman mentioned the uninsured, and I know that the gentleman has mentioned it many times and the need to address that issue.

Once again, I want to point out that even though the President talked about this problem during the campaign, I do not see any effort on the part of President Bush or the Republican leadership to address the issue.

One of the things that the President talked about was this idea of a tax credit. The basic design of the Bush plan was an individual credit of $1,000 for those with an annual income up to $15,000. That phases down to zero at $30,000, and a family credit of $2,000 with income up to $30,000 that phases down to zero. That sounds good in theory to get a $1,000 credit toward health care insurance, but it will not solve the problem of the uninsured.

First, I do not see the President trying to accomplish this. He talked about it during the campaign, but there is nothing happening. We do not see it moving in committee or any effort being made.

Beyond that, it is available only to those not enrolled in employer-sponsored insurance or Medicaid policy and available only to those who purchase nongroup insurance.

Basically we are talking about an individual who has to be able to afford to buy insurance in the private individual market, and that individual is going to get $1,000 tax credit. That is not going to solve the problem.

Mr. Speaker, people who do not have health insurance, it could cost them $5,000 or $6,000 a year to buy a policy; and they are not able to shell $4,000 or $5,000 out of pocket because they are going to get a $1,000 tax credit when their income is somewhere under $30,000 a year, basically under 15, and it phases down to 30. It is not going to happen.

This policy will not accomplish something. I do not want to be critical of something that is being proposed, I wish it would move; but what needs to be done is to expand the number of people that can get health insurance through some of the government programs.

Mr. Speaker, we looked at the problem of the uninsured in our task force, and the biggest group were children and the second group was near elderly, people over 65 but not eligible yet for Medicare. We tried to adjust the problem of the children through the CHIP program, and that basically provides health insurance at government expense and it has been great. It has enrolled millions of kids around the country that did not have health insurance.

Now you have to expand that program to the adults. In other words to households, to the adult parents, if you will, of those children, to other people in those lower-income brackets that are working but are not eligible for Medicaid regardless if they have children. That is the type of thing that should be done: expand on the CHIP program to include the parents, and even include single people who cannot afford to buy health insurance in the private individual market and are not going to be able to do it with a $1,000 tax credit. That is what the Democrats have been proposing. I do not see any movement in that respect.

The other thing that the Democrats have said, with regard to the near elderly, the people between 55 and 65, is that they be able to buy into Medicare for a standard premium every month or every year. That is another way of trying to address that problem.

But if we keep getting hung up on the ideology that the Republicans and the President have that everything the government does is not good, and the only answer is to throw a tax credit here or there, we are not going to cover any more of the uninsured. That is my fear right now.

I know that we have other things to get to tonight, and certainly the AIDS issue is super-important.

Mr. Speaker, I do want to say in conclusion, these health care issues, we as Democrats are going to continue to bring up frequently over the next few weeks because we do want to see action, and we are not seeing it on the part of the Republican leadership or the President.

TAX CUTS AND PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ISSA). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. GANSKE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, I want to talk a little bit tonight about two issues: first, about the tax cuts that passed the House and the Senate just before Memorial Day recess; then I will talk a little bit about the patients' bill of rights.

Mr. Speaker, I remember in early 2000, it was before the Iowa caucuses, it was cold, I remember, and I was traveling around the State of Iowa, my home State, with then-Governor Bush.

We had spent the morning together, and then returned to Des Moines where he was going to address the Des Moines Chamber of Commerce and give a major address on cutting taxes.

So Governor Bush asked me if I would sit in and listen to him give his speech in preparation. There was just myself and one staffer. We were at the Marriott Hotel in Des Moines, and they had the rest of the doors closed off. Then-Governor Bush practiced his speech. I sat there listening to at that time Governor Bush lay out his tax cut plan.

Afterwards the Governor invited me upstairs and we had a hamburger together, just the two of us. Then-Governor Bush asked me, Well, what do you think? Well, we had been through here in the House a major tax cut bill not too long before that. It was in the range of about $790 billion, and President Clinton had promised a veto of that bill. In addition, we were doing that tax cut not in the context of a budget plan, and certainly not in the context of how much we were going to reduce the national debt.

Once President Clinton declared that he was going to veto that tax cut, then it gave free rein to every Member of this House and the other body to add every piece of special-interest tax cut legislation they could to that bill. It became what we would call here in Washington a Christmas tree on which Members could hang every little piece of special-interest ornamentation, with the full realization that in the end there would be no harm because the President said he was going to veto that bill.

Mr. Speaker, sure enough, the final project, the bill, it was full of special-interest provisions. And so in the light of that, when then-Governor Bush asked me over our cheese burgers what I thought of his bill, I said, I think it holds together. You do it in the context of reducing some debt, providing for some educational funding, and it will be okay. But my one piece of advice would be keep it free of all of those special-interest perks and special-interest items that got added to the last bill we dealt with. Focus on eliminating the marriage penalty tax. Focus on killing the death tax. Focus on reducing rates and make it a progressive cut. And if you handle that, if that is what the bill is, and it does not have all of these special-interest perks, then I think the American public is going to be happy with it.

Then-Governor Bush said I assure you, I will do everything in my power if I am elected President to make sure that we do not load that bill up with a bunch of special-interest provisions that expand that Tax Code out, little pieces of tax legislation that act for individual families or individual businesses. We will work to keep that out and keep it clean. You know what, Mr. Speaker, that is what we did.

Now, I would be the first to admit that I have not read every single line of that tax cut. To be quite frank, unless you have the whole Tax Code with you and can reference things, it is difficult to read and understand what every single sentence means. But I do know that a whole bunch of people have been looking at that tax cut, the one that we just passed, and the one that this week the President in a Rose Garden signing ceremony is going to sign into law.

There was a report in the New York Times just a few days ago that said they could only find one item that was a special-interest item in the Tax Code, and that was a repeal of a prior special-interest item for JC Penney. So the only thing that I am aware of that anyone has found that was a special-interest piece of legislation in this was a repeal of a prior piece of special-interest tax legislation.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that is a remarkable accomplishment. I think it is remarkable the leadership the President showed on this issue. This is a victory for him; but more importantly, it is a victory for the American taxpayer because clearly with the amount of surplus that we have projected, surplus taxes, it is reasonable to return some of that to the American people; and it is reasonable to fix certain inequities in the Tax Code.

It is unfair that for a couple who is living together but not legally married, that when they decide to formalize that relationship and they get married, that they should end up paying more taxes than if they just filed separately. We fixed that in this bill.

I have hundreds if not thousands of small businesses in my district, which is Des Moines, Iowa, and southwest Iowa, that are going to benefit from the provisions on killing the death tax.

There are thousands of people in Iowa, and I think millions in the United States, that when you add in the fact that we are reducing the bottom rate from 15 percent to 10 percent, that we are doubling the child tax credit, that we are allowing for increased deductibility in pensions, they will find that they are not going to pay any Federal taxes, and they are also going to get a rebate this year; and I think that is good for the economy, too.

Mr. Speaker, I am looking forward to that Rose Garden signing ceremony, and I am also looking forward to flying back to Iowa with President Bush to hold a rally on exactly this tax cut. I think it is really important to my State and to the country. I think it is important because it helps restore consumer confidence. It will get some funds, needed funds, back into people's pockets and it sets up tax reductions that people can make plans, financial plans on for the next 10 years.

Mr. Speaker, I feel privileged that I was able to participate in a very small sense with the President when he was running for the Presidency, and on the very day that he gave his tax cut talk. And I feel privileged also that I will be able to spend this coming Friday with the President when he returns to my home State to talk a little more about this tax cut.

□ 2015

Mr. Speaker, I want to talk a little bit about the need for a patients' bill of rights. If you will remember, Mr. Speaker, a number of years ago, there were a whole bunch of jokes and cartoons about HMOs. If you look through a magazine like The New Yorker today or other magazines or even watch some of the late night shows, you rarely see or hear HMO jokes anymore.

I remember a few years ago when this joke was going around. There were many variations on it. You had three people who died and went up to heaven and they were waiting at the pearly gates. One was a nurse, one was a doctor and one was an HMO reviewer.

St. Peter asked the nurse, ''Well, what did you do in order to gain access to heaven and pass the pearly gates?''

She said, ''I took care of patients for 40 years. I counseled their families. I gave them all the loving care I could.''

St. Peter said, ''Enter.''

Then he asked the doctor, a neurosurgeon, ''What do you think you did to deserve entry into heaven?''

She said, ''I got up in the middle of the night and I took care of some of the most horrific head injuries, frequently never got paid because many times those poor victims never had any insurance, but I didn't care because it

was my Hippocratic oath duty to take care of those people who were injured.''

St. Peter said to her, ''Enter the pearly gates.''

He asked the HMO manager, ''And what did you do to merit entry into heaven?''

The HMO manager said, ''I managed to save the company millions and millions of dollars by denying care. So it really helped the stockholders.''

St. Peter looked at that person for a little bit and said, ''Enter, but only for 3 days.''

Now, that joke has had a lot of permutations, it is an old joke, probably most people have heard it, it is not even that funny anymore, because you knew the punch line.

Remember when Helen Hunt in the movie As Good As It Gets appeared with Jack Nicholson? She was talking about her son who had asthma and how her son was being denied necessary medical care. Then she went into a long string of expletives about that HMO. And I saw something happen I had never seen before. My wife and I were at a theater in Des Moines and people actually stood up and applauded. I had never seen that before.

Mr. Speaker, that movie today would not get the same response, because in order for something to be sort of funny or humorous, there has to be maybe a little bit of an element of surprise or a twist, something that catches you by surprise. Anymore, Mr. Speaker, it is hard to do a joke about HMOs because nothing is surprising anymore about the abuses or the denials of care that we continue to see year after year.

Back then, Mr. Speaker, a few years ago, 4 years ago maybe, people were seeing headlines like this from the New York Post: ''HMO's Cruel Rules Leave Her Dying for the Doc She Needs.''

Or here was a headline from a few years ago in the New York Post: ''What His Parents Didn't Know About HMOs May Have Killed This Baby.''

So this was all very topical as these stories of HMO abuses became known to the public. Time Magazine had a cover story on this. It was topical. It was the type of thing that you would see in The New Yorker in a cartoon, because this was somewhat new, it was new material, and there was something of a surprise. You could put a twist on it.

I remember a few years ago when the story came out about an HMO requiring same-day discharge, the so-called drive-through deliveries. That surprised people. They thought, that is awful, that is outrageous. And so you saw a cartoon.

Here is the maternity hospital. You have got the drive-through window, ''Now Only 6-Minute Stays for New Moms.'' The hospital employee saying, ''Congratulations. Would you like fries with that?'' And you have got a mother, her hair all frazzled with the crying baby as they are driving the car through. Kind of funny but also not so funny. Today this would not be as funny and you would not see this so much, because it is not new. Everyone knows this.

Mr. Speaker, before I came to Congress, I was a reconstructive surgeon in Des Moines, Iowa. I took care of farmers who put their hands into machines. I took care of women who had breast cancer. I took care of a lot of children with cleft lips and palates and other craniofacial deformities that they were born with, like this baby here.

Mr. Speaker, in the last few years, more than 50 percent of the surgeons who take care of congentital deformities like this have had cases denied by HMOs because these are, quote, cosmetic cases. I think that is awful. But also, Mr. Speaker, I would say anymore it almost does not shock anyone to hear this, because people have known about this now for years. People are also wondering why Congress has not dealt with this for years.

This was a cartoon from a few years ago. Here we have a doctor in the operating room and we have the HMO bean counter next to him. The doctor says, ''Scalpel.'' The bean counter HMO member says, ''Pocket knife.'' The doctor says, ''Suture.'' The bean counter says, ''Band-Aid.'' The doctor says, ''Let's get him to intensive care.'' The HMO employee says, ''Call a cab.''

Another cartoon from a few years ago. ''Your best option is cremation, $359 fully insured.'' And the patient is saying, ''This is one of those HMO gag rules, isn't it, doctor?''

This was very topical a few years ago, because the news was that HMOs were telling doctors they could not tell a patient all of their treatment options without first getting an okay from them. In other words, I as a doctor could see a woman for a breast tumor, listen to her story, do an examination, but before I could sit down and tell her what her treatment options were, if I had a certain type of contract from an HMO, I would have to say, ''Excuse me,'' leave the room, get on the phone and ask the HMO if it was okay if I told that patient all of her treatment options. That is clearly wrong. It was clearly news. That news generated this type of response.

A few years ago, we did a full debate here on the floor of Congress on the Norwood-Dingell-Ganske bill and actually brought to the floor this particular patient. A number of years ago, a young mother had about a 6-month-old son who was really sick in the middle of the night. He had a fever of about 104. Mom did what she was supposed to do. She phoned the HMO 1–800 number, got a reviewer on the phone, said, ''My baby is really sick and needs to go to the emergency room. What should I do?'' The reviewer said, well, take him to such and such a hospital. Now, Mom and Dad lived clear on the south side of Atlanta, Georgia. The reviewer told them the name of a hospital. The mother said, ''Well, where is it?'' The reviewer said, ''Well, I don't know. Find a map.'' It turned out that the hospital was clear on the other side of metropolitan Atlanta. So Mom and Dad, not being medical professionals, wrapped up little James in a blanket, got him in the car in the middle of the night and started out for the designated hospital. In the process, they passed several emergency rooms, but they were not health care professionals, they were just average people without a medical background. They did not know exactly how sick he was, but they were following orders because they knew that if they had stopped at an emergency room that was not authorized, then the HMO would not pay for the hospitalization. They would be stuck maybe with thousands of dollars of bills. So they moved on.

Before they get there, the little baby had a cardiac arrest and stopped breathing. So imagine Dad driving frantically while Mom is trying to keep this little baby alive. They pull finally into the emergency room entrance. Mom leaps out of the car saying, ''Save my baby, save my baby,'' a nurse comes running out, they get the baby resuscitated, they start the IV lines, they start antibiotics and they manage to save this little baby's life.

But because of that HMO's medical judgment over the telephone when they never examined the baby, they made a medical judgment. The judgment was that baby is well enough to go 50 miles. Instead of saying, ''Take that baby to the nearest emergency room,'' they said, in essence, ''Our judgment is, it's all right, you can take him a long ways.'' That was the medical judgment. That medical judgment by that HMO resulted in this. Yes, we saved James' life; but because of that cardiac arrest and the delay in treatment, he developed gangrene in both hands and both feet and both hands and both feet had to be amputated.

This little boy is growing up to be a fine young man. He sat right in this chair right in front of me during the debate. He is able to pull on his leg prostheses, and he can walk okay. He needs help to get his bilateral hook prostheses on. Sometimes he uses them and sometimes he does not. But he will never be able to play basketball, he will never be able to touch the face of the woman he loves and marries with his hand. If he had a finger and you pricked it, he would bleed.

This little boy is not an anecdote. I hear a lot of opponents to the Patients' Bill of Rights saying, ''Oh, you're just talking about anecdotes. We shouldn't legislate around here on the basis of anecdotes.'' Those anecdotes are real live people, if they survive the HMO care. And a funny thing is that under a

Federal law that was passed 25 years ago, in situations like this where the insurance is from the employer, that health plan, that HMO, is liable, this is under a Federal law, is liable for nothing other than the cost of care denied, or in this situation the cost of his amputations. I would ask you something. I mean, is that justice? Does that set up a proper incentive for the HMO not to cut corners but to provide the necessary treatment right from the beginning so that you prevent cutting the corners so tight?

A judge reviewed this case. The judge said that this HMO's margin of safety was razor thin, quote-unquote. Razor thin. I would add to that as razor sharp as the scalpel that had to amputate little James' hands and his feet.

And so as cases like this became known to the public, they continued to spawn cartoons. Some of the cartoons were what I would say black humor. Let me give you an example. Here is a medical reviewer. Maybe it was the medical reviewer who was a thousand miles away for that little boy who I just showed you. The medical reviewer saying, ''Cuddly care HMO. How can I help you?'' The next one is, ''You're at the emergency room and your husband needs approval for treatment? Gasping, writhing, eyes rolled back in his head? Doesn't sound all that serious to me. Clutching his throat? Turning purple. Uh-huh.''

Down here. ''Well, have you tried an inhaler?'' The next one is, ''He's dead?'' And the next one is, ''Well, then he certainly doesn't need treatment, does he?''

And finally the last one in the corner says, ''People are always trying to rip us off.''

□ 2030

I guess this young lady must have been trying to rip off her HMO. She was hiking about 70 miles west of Washington, D.C., with her boyfriend. She fell off a 40-foot cliff. She had a fractured pelvis, a broken arm, a fractured skull. Luckily, her boyfriend had a cell phone.

He pulled it out. They called an emergency number, got a helicopter to fly in. Here she is. She is strapped into a gurney about ready to be taken onto the helicopter. She is taken to the emergency room. She is treated in the intensive care unit for a month or so. She is semicomatose. She is certainly on significant doses of pain medicine.

What does the HMO do? The HMO refuses to pay her bill. Why? Well, because she did not phone ahead for prior authorization.

Now think about that for a minute. Was this lady supposed to be so clairvoyant that she knew she was going to fall off a 40-foot cliff so that she could phone ahead and let the HMO know? I do not think so, but that was their excuse for not paying her bill.

So it is real life stories like that that would generate a cartoon like this. This is the HMO Claims Department. The reviewer is saying, no, we do not authorize that specialist; no, we do not cover that operation; no, we do not pay for that medication. Then apparently the reviewer hears something, shakes her head and then she says, no, we do not consider this assisted suicide.

Well, as I said earlier, these are not just anecdotes. This is a family that was featured on the cover of Time Magazine a few years ago. This woman had breast cancer. Her physician recommended a certain type of treatment. So she went to a major, well-known medical center in the country and they were going to do it. They agreed, until they got a phone call from the HMO saying we do not think you should do that; that is very expensive treatment, and we will evaluate whether we continue our contract with your medical center.

So she did not get all the information that she needed. She did not get her treatment and, at least according to what was thought to be appropriate medical care at that time, she did not get the appropriate medical care and she died. Today, her little boy and her daughter and her husband do not have this young mother. She did not have the type of appeals process to handle a denial of care that was very likely inappropriate, at least for that time.

We want to do something about that. That is one of the reasons why we need to pass at the Federal level a patient bill of rights.

Now I am going to go into some detail on the Ganske-Dingell bill here that will come up here in the House, and its companion bill, the McCain-Edwards bill in the Senate, but before I get into all the details and they get a little bit dry, I think it is important for me to do them, to share the details with my colleagues, if any are watching. I think it is also important just to briefly go over some of the major issues of contention.

Number one, the opponents to our legislation say well, this will drive up health care costs. Now this is sort of an interesting criticism in light of the fact that in the last few years, the HMOs have increased their premiums very significantly, and it was not because of any patient bill of rights. It was because their shareholders said they needed more profit, and it was also because the cost of prescription drugs is going up a lot. We have seen premium increases, significant ones, in the last few years and it sure was not because of Congress passing a patient bill of rights. So do not believe all of that sky-is-falling stuff.

What would the cost of our legislation be? The Congressional Budget Office scored our bill. It would cost a total of 4 percent over about 5 years, and the major items of cost are not the liability at all, but the dispute resolution on internal and external review. In fact, the liability provision that would return responsibility to the health plans, fix something that Congress took away from the States 25 years ago, would cost a total of about .9 percent; that is .9 percent, less than 1 percent cumulative over 5 years. That amounts to the cost of about one Big Mac meal per month per employee.

In fact, that has been very, very close to the cost of the patient protection bill in the State of Texas, which our bill is modeled after, and which President Bush, on many occasions during the campaign, bragged about as saying that that patient bill of rights down there in Texas has worked just fine, and it has. We wrote our bill based on that.

So do not believe the exaggerated, hyperinflated, sky-is-falling claims on costs. Look at the HMO's claims with a bit of a jaundiced eye, particularly in light of what they have been doing with their premiums on their own, primarily for stockholder value.

Another major issue is, well, if the health plans are liable where should that liability be? Because Congress basically 25 years ago said, you are not liable for any of your decisions other than the cost of care denied.

Well, what we want to do is we want to build on a Supreme Court decision that basically says if it is a matter of medical judgment, then it goes to the State where it has been for several hundred years.

As a physician, I am liable for any malpractice under State law. I believe that an HMO, which is making medical decisions, should have that same responsibility.

Now there will be some who will say, no, let us have all of that liability on the Federal side of the ledger, not at the State level. My response to that is, well, number one, it is not a very Republican, and that is with a capital ''R'' idea. I always thought my party stood for States' rights and having responsibility closer to the people.

Take somebody in certain parts of Iowa and require them to go to a Federal court, and a long trip has been added, and a lot of expense. The same thing would go for Michigan or Nevada or other places. There is also such a thing as the tenth amendment to the United States Constitution, and that says that unless the Constitution has specifically given a power to the Federal Government, then the power should reside at the State level.

We have had that responsibility. It has traditionally been the responsibility of States to regulate insurance. In fact, we have even passed laws here in Congress like the McCarran-Ferguson Act to that extent, and we think that it should be that way also.

If all that case law was moved to the Federal side, it would be a usurpation

and, I think, unconstitutional. It would also be something that the Federal judges are telling us do not do this. The Federal judges have seen some of these cases. They think that we should fix ERISA, the Federal law 25 years ago that took the jurisdiction from the States. They say move it back.

So when we look at this issue of Federal-versus-State jurisdiction, we need to look at a few questions: whether the proposed legislation is within the core functions of the Federal system; whether the Federal courts have the capacity to take on new business without additional resources or restructuring and the extent to which proposed legislation is likely to affect the caseload in the Federal courts; whether the Federal courts have the capacity to perform their core functions and fulfill their mandate for ''just, speedy and inexpensive determination of actions.''

I respect judges like Judge Pickering of Mississippi, the father of one of our colleagues, Congressman PICKERING. What Judge Pickering says is get this to the State level. That is where it belongs when you are talking about medical judgments. If you are talking about benefit decisions, then that is fine, leave it at the Federal level under ERISA so the plans can devise their own benefit packages, so that plans do not have to follow individual State mandates. But if you are talking about medical judgment decisions, it should be at the State level.

Here is what Judge Gorton in Turner versus Fallon Community Health Plan said in 1977:

> Even more disturbing to this court is the failure of Congress to amend a statute, that due to the changing realities of the modern health care system, has gone conspicuously awry from its original intent.

Here is what Judge Bennett said in Prudential Insurance versus National Park Medical Center:

> If Congress wants the American citizens to have access to adequate health care, then Congress must accept its responsibility to define the scope of ERISA preemption and to enact legislation that will ensure every patient has access to that care.

Here is what Judge Garbis in Pomeroy versus Johns Hopkins said:

> The present system of utilization review now in effect for most health care programs may warrant a reevaluation of ERISA by Congress so that its central purpose of protecting employees may be confirmed.

Here is the 1999 proposed long-range plan for the Federal courts. This is something that Chief Justice Rehnquist has been involved with. It says Congress should commit itself to conserving the Federal courts as a distinctive judicial forum of limited jurisdiction in our system of Federalism. Civil and criminal jurisdiction should be assigned to the Federal courts only to further clearly define and justify national interests, leaving to the State courts the responsibility for adjudicating all other matters.

In other words, do not give us an area of law that has traditionally, for 200-plus years, been at the State level.

In 1998, the year-end report of the Federal judiciary, Justice Rehnquist says this:

> This principle was enunciated by Abraham Lincoln in the 19th century and Dwight Eisenhower in the 20th century. Matters that can be handled adequately by the State should be left to them. Matters that cannot be so handled should be undertaken by the Federal Government.

Why do the Federal judges not want this jurisdiction? Number one, it has never been in the Federal courts. It has always been in the States.

Number two, practically speaking, they do not think they can handle this. If one wants a speedy adjudication and a speedy determination to resolve a dispute, do not go to the Federal courts, believe me, particularly if they would like to avoid costly litigation, because it is lengthy and costly in the Federal courts and anyone who proposes moving all of this to the Federal courts is ignoring a fact in this country.

□ 2045

In the Federal courts, by the Speedy Trial Act of 1974 the Federal courts have to give priority to criminal cases. The criminal case filings were up 15 percent in 1998. This means that all of those drug cases that the Federal judges are charged to adjudicate come before anyone who has a problem on a civil case related to health care.

This was the situation in the Federal courts just a few years ago: they had 65 vacancies, 22 emergencies, 16 anticipated. It is more than that. We are going to have a big debate in the Senate about the appointment of Federal judges. But everyone agrees that the Federal bench is significantly understaffed, so the last thing that they need is for us to do something unconstitutional and move something that should reside at the State level. All of that.

I mean, are we in Congress going to rewrite all the statutes, the evidentiary rules on State tort and move it into the Federal courts? I know an awful lot of conservative Republican Congressmen who should have a lot of heartburn with that, because they know what certain Federal court jurisdictions which have been very liberal might do with this type of jurisdiction. It all goes to show, you had better be very, very careful what you ask for.

Mr. Speaker, in the remaining time that I have, I want to talk just a little bit about the bill itself, the Ganske-Dingell bill in the House, the McCain-Edwards bill in the Senate. This is not the same bill that we voted on in 1999. We made a good faith effort to come to some significant compromises with our opponents on this legislation. We used, for instance, exact language or modified language from a number of bills, including the opponents', the opposition bills, to try to meld a compromise on this piece of legislation.

There are some significant differences which I want to get into in some detail between the Ganske-Dingell bill and the Norwood-Dingell-Ganske bill that passed in 1999, but we still think this is a strong bill and a necessary bill.

With utilization review, we use language from the Norwood-Dingell bill. For prior authorization, we establish basic standards and time frames for the initial review of claims for benefits. We say that prior authorization determination should be made in a timely fashion according to the medical facts of the case. For normal cases, an insurer should respond within 14 days from the date the plan receives the information, but in no case later than 28 days. If an insurer requests information from a patient-provider, they have 5 days from the request to submit such information.

The bill ensures that requests for care are handled quickly. In instances where the insurer and the doctor disagree about a patient's treatment, the insurer must disclose the reason for the decision and inform the patient of the right to appeal that decision. You know what, Mr. Speaker? That language is adopted from the Nickles amendment in the Senate.

We then have a section on internal appeals, so that if a patient's doctor recommends a type of treatment, but then the health plan, the HMO, says, no, you have a certain procedure to go through in the plan to get a hearing, some due process. We used the language from the Nickles amendment there. This was a Republican Senator's amendment.

On external appeals, let us say that a patient is denied treatment they think is necessary and their doctor thinks is necessary. They go through an internal appeals process. The plan still continues to deny the care. Then we set up a way for the patient to go outside of the health plan to get an external review, an external appeal. We looked through all of the language, and we basically use language for our section 104 language that was adopted from the Nickles amendment.

In the access to care section, we say that the bill provides the right for individuals to elect a point of service option guaranteeing access to any doctor, regardless of whether or not that doctor is in the plan's network. But we say also that the patient would be responsible for the additional cost of that provision. In that instance we use language from the Norwood-Dingell bill.

But then we talk about emergency care. We say that the bill gives patients the right to go to the closest emergency room for an emergency room. Like that little boy. If this bill had been law, then those parents would

not have needed to phone that 1–800 number. If they had, they could have still known that instead of going so far, they could have just taken that sick little baby directly to an emergency room. For our bill, the Ganske-Dingell bill, we used language from the Goss-Coburn-Shadegg substitute that was debated on this floor.

We have a provision in there for access to specialty care, so that people can get access, can go to the appropriate specialist. We use language adopted from the Nickles amendment. We have a provision in this bill for access to obstetrical-gynecologic care and pediatric care, and we used language adopted from the Nickles amendment for that.

We have a provision on continuity of care. The bill would allow a patient who has an ongoing and serious medical problem to continue to see their provider, their doctor, for up to 90 days, in the event that that doctor is no longer with that health plan. We have specific protections for individuals who are pregnant or terminally ill or are scheduled to have surgery, and we use language adopted from the Nickles substitute for that.

We have access to non-formulary drugs. The bill provides a provision to allow doctors to prescribe a drug that is not on the health plan's, the HMO's formulary, when a non-formulary drug is medically necessary. That protection is very important for a lot of individuals who may have allergies to certain types of medications, who have tried the HMO's formulary drug, but have not had success; and we used language adopted from the Nickles amendment for that.

We have a provision that would allow access to clinical trials, so that patients would have greater access to certain clinical trials, patients with Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's, cancer and other serious diseases that are life-threatening and for which no standard treatment is effective. Some in the consumer groups would like to see that provision expanded and made more broad, but we used language from the Norwood-Dingell bill for that.

We have a provision in the bill for women's health and for cancer protection, important provisions relating to women's health, that guarantee the women the right to have a doctor decide the appropriate length of stay, for a woman who has a mastectomy, for instance. Remember when the HMOs were saying gee, you can have your breasts removed as an outpatient? Well, I have done a lot of breast surgery, and I will tell you what, it is the rare patient that could tolerate that as an outpatient. Furthermore, it would be the very rare patient where I think that that would be safe. So we used language adopted from the Nickles amendment for that provision.

In fact, at least 50 percent of the language in our compromise bill is language from the Nickles amendment, the Republican Senate substitute that was debated 2 years ago. The same thing goes for access to information, information disclosure, language adopted from the Nickles amendment.

Now, one thing that we did keep from our bill was we have language to ensure that doctors are free to discuss all treatment options with their patients, and we used the language from the Norwood-Dingell-Ganske bill for that.

We have language that protects health care professionals from discrimination based on their license. We used language from the Nickles amendment.

We can go through a whole bunch of further issues, but I think it is important to talk about the liability provisions in the Ganske-Dingell bill and to share this, because there will be a lot of debate about this issue when this comes to the floor. This will come to the floor in the Senate either this week or next week, and I think it will probably come to the floor here in the House pretty soon thereafter.

Title III in the Ganske-Dingell bill applies standards to the Employee Income Retirement Security Act, ERISA. For self-insured health plans regulated by the Department of Labor, our bill would be both a floor and a ceiling. Let me explain that.

As under current law, States cannot place further regulations on ERISA-based health plans. A key attribute of ERISA is that it provides for a uniform set of rules for health benefit plans operating across several States. We think it should stay that way. Yet under current law, practicing health care professionals are subject to the varying laws of each specific state.

The new provisions of our bill strike a solid compromise, recognizing that employers should expect uniform rules for administrative processes, but that any ''medically reviewable decisions'' would be subject to State law, just as doctors are.

This new bifurcated Federal-State structure is a significant modification from the purely State cause of action that was in the original Norwood-Dingell-Ganske bill.

The original language did not change the current law remedy in section 502 of ERISA, but rather simply clarified that State causes of action were not preempted. The business and insurance community voiced concerns that this approach would inhibit their ability to administer a multi-State employee health benefit plan. By leaving suits involving benefit administration decisions in Federal court under section 502 in our current version in the Ganske-Dingell bill, employers and insurers will have relative uniformity for administering their health plans across State lines.

The first piece of the bill liability package adds to the existing Federal remedy under ERISA section 502. ERISA section 502 is amended to provide a cause of action in Federal court for a patient who has been injured or killed by a negligent denial of a claim for benefits that does not involve a medically reviewable decision.

Under this new Federal cause of action, a plaintiff may seek both economic and non-economic damages. By excluding medically reviewable decisions from the Federal remedy, group health plans will only be subject to liability under section 502 for benefit administration decisions that cause harm or death. Those include decisions such as whether an employee is eligible for coverage, whether a benefit is part of the plan or other purely administrative contractual decisions.

Punitive damages are not allowed under the Federal cause of action. A civil assessment may be awarded upon showing clear and convincing evidence that the plan acted in bad faith and with flagrant disregard. Those are high standards.

This standard carries a high burden of proof and is consistent with State statutes. This standard ensures that a health plan will not be subject to these damages for simply making a wrong decision. A plan must show flagrant disregard for the health and safety of others. Before exercising that legal remedy, the patient has to exhaust both internal and external appeals processes. If the patient suffers irreparable harm or death prior to the completion of the review process, the patient or heirs of the plan can elect to continue the review process and the court can consider the outcome. That is from language adopted from the Goss-Coburn-Shadegg substitute that was debated on this floor 2 years ago and which received a lot of support from the Republican Members.

The second piece of the bill liability package amends ERISA section 514 to allow causes of action in State court for a denial of a claim for benefits involving a medically reviewable decision that causes harm or death to a patient.

□ 2100

Punitive damages are prohibited in cases where the plan properly followed the requirements of the appeal processes and followed the determination of an external review. However, as in the Federal cause of action, punitive damages are available in cases where there is a clear and convincing evidence that the plan exhibited a willful or wanton disregard for the rights and safety of others.

I want to ask my colleagues something: Do we want to vote for a bill that says if a plan exhibits willful or wanton disregard for the safety or rights of others that they should not have any responsibility? I mean, do any of my colleagues want to bring a

bill to the floor that would say that if a tire explodes and people are killed and that company that made that tire showed a willful and wanton disregard for the safety of the purchaser, that they should not be liable? Well, I do not know about my colleagues, but I sure do not want to go home and campaign with that on my record.

In our bill, before exercising this legal remedy, the patient has to exhaust both internal and external appeals. But if the patient suffers irreparable harm or death prior to the completion of the review process, either the patient or heirs or the plan can elect to continue the review process and the court can consider the outcome. But we do not want to pass a law that says that a plan can slow-walk an appeals process, delay treatment, make this thing go on and on, and then have the patient die in the meantime, and then be liable for nothing; at least I do not want to.

Now, the Norwood-Dingell bill removed the ERISA section 514 preemption of State law for all torts and allowed injured patients to bring a cause of action in State court for injuries caused by a medical decision or an administrative decision. Our new bill is different. Our new bill says, and it is a significant compromise, it limits the scope of actions that can be filed in State court to only those involving medically-reviewable decisions. That is a major compromise. We made this step towards the opponents to our bill.

This bifurcation of the remedy into a State component and a Federal component holds to the principles underlying ERISA. The existing Federal cause of action under ERISA affords health plans a set of uniform standards for making administrative decisions. That is what ERISA was intended to do. That is why it was originally designed to be a bill for the benefit of employees, not employers. However, when a health plan makes a decision that involves medical judgment, that plan, in my opinion, should be subject to the State laws, and recent Supreme Court decisions and the 5th Circuit decision upholding the Texas health plan liability would allow for the continued development of State laws.

Mr. Speaker, I will summarize here. There are a number of States that have passed health plan liability laws: Arizona, California, Georgia, Louisiana, Maine, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Washington. The Ganske-Dingell bill, the McCain-Edwards bill recognizes that. The bills that would move all liability into Federal courts would preempt those States. We provide a floor; they preempt.

Finally, let me just say a word about the employer protections, because we have a significant compromise in this bill from the last time around. The last time around we said an employer could be liable if they exercise discretion or authority; and the business community said, we think that that standard is a little loose, so we changed it. We use now a standard that was proposed by opponents to our bill last time that says, only if we directly participate can one be held liable.

Mr. Speaker, there are very few that do that. We have a big bill coming up for debate. I hope my friends and colleagues will look at this bill in detail.

AIDS EPIDEMIC

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ISSA). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ) is recognized for 60 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the Special Orders of today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, today we mark the 20th year of the AIDS epidemic. On June 5, 1981, the Centers for Disease Control published a morbidity and mortality weekly report on the diseases which affect AIDS. I spoke at the rally this past Sunday.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN).

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman for providing this hour for us to discuss this important issue and remember and look back over the 20 years since the first cases of then an unknown disease was being discovered.

The gentleman and I were fortunate today to be able to spend some time at a symposium in Washington that was sponsored by the Kaiser Family Foundation and the Ford Foundation to look back over those years to see how far we have come and how far we have yet to go. I want to take this opportunity to thank the Kaiser Foundation and the Ford Foundation for their work, the support that they provide to research, the support that they provide to community organizations and this country and around the world, to address this disease.

We also heard the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI) earlier talk about the people who preceded her and we mentioned today how fortunate we were as we came to Congress in 1997 to have the work of the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), the work of the gentleman from Washington (Mr. MCDERMOTT), Lou Stokes, and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), and many, many others to build upon.

We have really seen a lot of wonderful advances in the last 20 years, but we still have a lot more that has to be done. We have seen the identification of what was then an unknown disease to advanced therapies that have transformed what was a death sentence to now what is almost a chronic disease. We have an improved quality of life for those who have been diagnosed with HIV. They can live comfortable and quality lives rather than just having to wait to die.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to turn this Special Order back to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ), and I will join him again later at the conclusion of his comments.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands. I know that from the Black Caucus the gentlewoman has been working diligently, and as chairman of the Hispanic Caucus on Health, I want to thank her specifically for the work that she has been doing on this issue and all issues on health, so I thank the gentlewoman. I look forward to continued dialogue.

Let me just make a few comments. We have other fellow colleagues that are here with us today, but I want to take the opportunity to just say that it is hard for me to believe that it has been 20 years, and as the sign back here says, ''Twenty Years is Enough.'' Twenty years later, HIV/AIDS has taken the lives of close to 22 million people worldwide. It is hard for me to also believe that 15 years ago, I was in the Texas legislature listening to my fellow colleague denounce the spending money on AIDS prevention because of narrow bigotry. In essence, he would say, these people deserve it. I only mention that because thank God that we have really come a long way from that perspective, and I am proud to stand here today and see how far we have come, although we have a lot more to do.

I would like to recognize the countless individuals and organizations that are out there working on issues such as research on AIDS trends that affects new drugs, the advocacy groups that are out there working, the advocacy groups that are working for children with AIDS, the foundation activities that are raising awareness in the area of AIDS, the key components and the global effort in the area of AIDS. The Hispanic Caucus, the Black Caucus and the Asian Pacific American Caucus are working together to find solutions to specific communities of color also. As chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Task Force on Health, I have had the opportunity to work with many of my friends and colleagues on efforts to increase resources for AIDS prevention, education, and treatment. It affects the lives of the rich, the poor, the famous, the not-so-famous, the blacks, the browns, the whites. It affects all of us.

Let me take this opportunity, since we have some of our colleagues here

today, to recognize them. We have two people from California, and I want to take the pleasure of recognizing the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ), who also sits with me on the Committee on Armed Services. I thank the gentlewoman for being here this evening, and I yield to the gentlewoman.

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ), my fellow caucus member from Texas.

Mr. Speaker, AIDS is something that tends to be pretty foreign to people until it touches someone in your family. In my particular case, in 1990 I had a cousin, a very close cousin, who died of AIDS. This was a cousin that I used to visit every Sunday. In a Hispanic family we tend to be very, very close; and your cousins tend to be the friends that you have. The family is so large, you never have to go outside of the family to find playmates and people that you hang out with.

This particular cousin used to do my hair at his own company, at his own salon. He was a successful businessman, not too far away from where I lived; and at one point he got sick. As AIDS progressed with him, I and many of the members of my family got to understand what it was like then to live under those conditions, and then for a society that really did not understand what HIV and what AIDS was about. You would think that in a Hispanic culture, we are a little afraid of things like this, we do not like to talk about these things, but one of the great things that I think my cousin had was an ability to come together and to help with the situation.

I had a cousin who was an outstanding member, who was a great family person but, at the same time, was a business owner. I saw him lose his business because he could not work; and because he could not work, he lost the business. I saw him lose his home. I saw him go, and we would take him to the hospital sometimes with some affliction, and I saw doctors who were afraid to treat him or would turn him down to treat him. I saw the red tape and what it took to get him into a hospital, to get him back on his feet. I saw a society that did not understand what was happening and refused to put the money and refused to treat somebody who had AIDS. I thought, you know, in that last year of his life, here is someone who is dying, and the thing that they should have most intact is a dignity about life. I saw a world that did not understand and did not want to treat him with dignity. That was in 1990.

Now, I am glad to report that just this past month, we in Orange County cut the ribbon on Emanual House, a living house for 21 people who will come and live in an environment that will be a positive environment for those who have HIV or have AIDS. It is a great collaborative effort by homebuilders and by mercy housing and by one of the priesthoods there, Catholic priesthood in Orange County, to build this home in a neighborhood, in a family neighborhood in Santa Ana who worked with us and who welcome these new residents who will come to this beautiful, beautiful home called Emanual House.

□ 2115

I have seen a change in the funding levels. I have seen a change in the breakthroughs that we have had for medicine for AIDS. I have seen even a change over the years in the walk for AIDS that happened this past Sunday in Orange County, where we had over 15,000 people participate to walk on Sunday morning, and where we raised almost $1 million in Orange County, California, for research and for help on AIDS, to help these people who lose their jobs, who lose their homes, many who still lose their families. It is a very positive thing.

Probably the most negative thing that I have seen in the last few years with respect to HIV and AIDS is that the infection is growing highest and at an alarming rate in the Hispanic community across the Nation. In particular, women who believe they are in a monogamous relationship, i.e., they are married and they believe that they are okay, are the ones that we are seeing most often the rate going up in the rate of HIV, the HIV disease.

So we have more to do. We need to get information out, and many of the people who work on HIV and AIDS in Orange County are working on campaigns to get the information out to our minority communities.

I thank my colleague, the gentleman from Texas, for taking this hour. I think this is a very important milestone, but there is so much more to do still. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from California for her comments. There is no doubt this is an area and issue that confronts our community.

The gentlewoman mentioned disproportionately how it hits the Hispanic population. There is no doubt that we represent 13 percent of the population, yet we represent more than 20 percent of the new cases. So I want to thank the gentlewoman for being here tonight.

I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY), and I thank the gentlewoman for being here tonight.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding to me, and for putting this all together. He has done us all a great favor this evening.

Mr. Speaker, 20 years ago, HIV and AIDS was thought to affect only gay, white men. Time has proved otherwise. We now know that HIV and AIDS does not discriminate. It reaches out to men, women, and children of all ages in every social and economic group of every race and in every country in the world.

I live in Petaluma, California. A good friend of mine was the first woman to die of AIDS in Sonoma County 10 years ago. I can remember when the subject of AIDS first came up 10 years before that. She and I had lunch together, and we were sitting and talking, and trying to figure out actually what this disease was and how to prevent it, and why it was spreading so rapidly around the country.

Twenty years ago, people afflicted with HIV-AIDS had little or no chance to enjoy a good quality of life. Thankfully, scientific research has led to successful life-prolonging therapies, but the epidemic is far, far from over.

I am proud to represent a district that is committed to fighting the spread of the HIV virus. Marin and Sonoma Counties, the two counties just north of San Francisco across the Golden Gate Bridge, have one of the Nation's highest incidences of HIV/AIDS. But these counties provide comprehensive services for people living with HIV/AIDS. They have consistently pushed forward aggressive public policy initiatives such as the needle exchange programs.

The boards of supervisors in both Marin and Sonoma Counties passed needle exchange regulations and acceptance when it was illegal in the State of California.

Advances in treatment, coupled with effective public policy, remind us that good things happen when government and the public health community work together, and when education is made abundant so that people understand what they are up against, what the challenges are, and what prevention must be taken.

Today we must recall the lessons we have learned in the 20-year-long fight against HIV/AIDS, and pledge to build upon that knowledge to take us forward, not backward. The treatment of HIV/AIDS has changed, but its fatal consequences have not.

It is time to reeducate our Nation. A new generation faces the threat of HIV/AIDS, a generation that never knew the devastation that this disease creates. We must not allow them to repeat the mistakes that contributed to the rapid spread of HIV/AIDS in the first place.

Nor can individuals currently receiving HIV/AIDS therapies believe that their medications are in any way a cure. That challenge still awaits us. Until then, we must exercise every precaution to slow the spread of this disease.

As we debate HIV/AIDS policy and funding, we must be motivated by the

many changes that still lie ahead. If we do, we will accomplish more in the next 5 years than we did in the last 20 years. And Mr. Speaker, we must, because lives depend on it.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) for coming out here.

We have gotten so much interest that we have a good number of people out here, so I want to take this opportunity to yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON).

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me, and I thank my colleagues who organized this with the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ), who chairs the Hispanic Caucus Health Task Force, and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), the Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Health Brain Trust. I thank the gentleman for organizing this very important special order on HIV and AIDS.

Mr. Speaker, this week is the 20th anniversary of the discovery of the virus. After 20 years, a vaccine is still not on hand, and 20 years later, the African American population is disproportionately affected by this virus.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues have mentioned some of the devastating statistics: worldwide, 36 million people are now infected, and 21.8 million have died, including 3 million last year. Each year, 5.5 million new people are infected. That figure represents more than 15,000 victims a year.

However, I wish to focus on my State of North Carolina. According to figures from last year, North Carolina ranked 23rd among 50 States and the District of Columbia in terms of the number of AIDS cases. Most North Carolina HIV disease reports highlight the male population; 65.5 percent were African American, and 72.1 percent of them fell between the ages of 30 and 39 years of age.

The statistics from my district are even more unsettling. African Americans accounted for 87 percent of cases reported in my district in 2000. I will let the Members know that African Americans only represent 50.6 percent of my district.

I have spoken with many people who presently are suffering from HIV/AIDS, as well as health care providers, caseworkers, representatives from community-based organizations in my congressional district. I have heard moving testimony about the lack of resources to adequately address this public health crisis. There is a great need to focus on prevention and accessible and affordable treatment.

According to a recent article in the New York Times, while AIDS no longer makes the Federal government's list of the 15 leading causes of death in the United States, it is the leading cause among African Americans ages 25 through 35. HIV infections are rising more among heterosexual women, particularly in the rural south, where Federal health officials say an influx of crack and the sex-for-drug trade is fueling the spread of the virus.

Treatment and prevention comes in all forms as fighting this disease takes a comprehensive approach. We know that HIV/AIDS has affected many people through the practice of those addicted to drugs exchanging used needles. We need to address the drug addiction problem. We need to focus on prevention of drugs. We need to have a needle exchange program that makes sense.

We need to give all American a healthy start so that risky behavior such as drug use and abuse and prostitution can be decreased. A decrease in this unhealthy and risky behavior can help prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS, and other STDs will also be diminished.

In the same article mentioned earlier, it stated that AIDS in this country is increasingly an epidemic of the poor, which means it is increasingly an epidemic of minorities. African Americans, who make up just 13 percent of the population, now account for more than one-half; 13 percent, but one-half of all HIV infections.

We need to get our churches involved. In the African American community, the church is the focal point. We need to reach out to our citizens, regardless of how we feel about their sexual orientation or their background. Our churches need to employ a nonjudgmental approach so that it is easy for people in need to seek assistance from the church community. We cannot shut our doors because someone does something or looks in a certain way. Our churches should and must be in the vanguard in addressing this issue.

Twenty years after AIDS, we know that this is no longer a gay disease. We know it is not a disease that just affects an urban population. As the figures that I mentioned about my district in North Carolina demonstrate, this disease is affecting rural citizens in record rates without the appropriate infrastructure or resources to address it, particularly among African Americans.

I am hopeful that before the onset of a 25th anniversary of this devastating disease, a vaccine will be available and accessible. I am hoping that before the 25th anniversary occurs, the number of the newly affected will be greatly diminished. I am hopeful before the 25th anniversary occurs also that the worldwide pandemic of HIV/AIDS will have a death blow to far less individuals. We have already lost 21 million people to this pandemic. I am hopeful that good news indeed is on the horizon. I thank the gentleman for bringing this to the attention of the American people.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. I thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina for being here tonight, and I thank her for the words she has said. As she talked about the fact that we have reached a point where it impacts a whole bunch of other people, one of the worst statistics to see is that minority children make up an astonishing 82 percent of the new AIDS cases. These are our children that are being hard hit.

I yield to the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN).

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding to me. It is great to see how many people are coming out to address this issue. It is the tip of the iceberg for the real concern and commitment that many of our colleagues, particularly those in both the Hispanic and Black Caucus, have to addressing this disease in our communities and really around the world.

I wanted to make mention of some of the things that have been said. The gentlewoman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ) talked about her family member. In these 20 years that have passed since the first cases were reported, there is hardly a family that has not been touched by this disease.

In those 20 years, over 750,000 persons have been diagnosed and reported with AIDS, and about half a million have died. These are all people who are brothers, sisters, wives, mothers. We cannot forget, as we look at the large numbers, that these are human beings that all have people who care about them and love them, and are affected when they are infected.

The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON) talked about our rural areas. That is an area that needs some special attention, because a lot of the programs that we do have and have brought about in these 20 years address the larger urban areas, but our rural areas are left out. That is a challenge for us as we go into the next decade.

The gentlewoman mentioned the needle exchange. We talked about the fact that we went to the Kaiser Family Foundation and Ford Foundation symposium today, and one of the things that they report in their survey is that more than 58 percent of the people that they surveyed, a good statistical component that represents the American public, 58 percent supported needle exchange programs.

□ 2130

Because we understand that it does prevent the spread of AIDS; therefore it prevents sickness and death. Many studies have proven, I think, conclusively that it does not increase the tendency to drug abuse, and indeed it brings people into treatment further.

So I turn it back over to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ).

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, nobody knows this issue better than the

gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), being a practitioner also. I want to thank her for her hard work.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, as a social worker, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ) has had a lot of experience with it as well. That is why we are glad to be able to collaborate with him on these and other health care issues.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, we are looking forward to working with the gentlewoman.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Houston, Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE). She is a dynamic person, always on the issues, and we thank her for being here tonight.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ) for his leadership, leadership of being chair of the Hispanic Caucus Health Committee, the work he has done. We have done work together on immunization and children's health issues. I thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) who chairs the Congressional Black Caucus Task Force on Health.

It is important that we are here today. But I imagine that all of us would wish that we were not. I think, as evidenced by our message ''20 years of AIDS is enough'', it points to the fact that we are only here to be able to highlight the need for greater focus and emphasis and recognition that it is not my problem, it is our problem. It is not his problem or her problem, it is our problem.

I will try to focus on where do we go from here and some of the things and the efforts that we have made collaboratively together. I am very proud to have joined the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), one of the speakers that will come forward, and those of us on the floor of the House as we worked on issues like debt relief and also the Marshall plan.

But as we have done that, we are continuing to work and to talk about questions of prescription drugs or the issue of being able to provide generic drugs in a way that all people can have access to them.

Particularly, I want to note that this is a worldwide issue. Though we have highlighted the continent of Africa, knowing that 40 million children by 2005 will be orphaned by those who are HIV infected and will have died in sub-Sahara Africa, I also realize that this disease is spreading to India, it is spreading to China, some of the largest population centers in the world. If we were to take it back home, it is particularly devastating to note that women are the highest numbers of HIV infected, particularly African-American women and Latino women.

It is important to note that States where one would not think or would possibly begin to want to isolate States, so that is an urban problem versus a rural problem, there are over 50,000 reported AIDS cases in Texas alone. Over half of these are among blacks and Hispanics or over 50 percent of those with AIDS.

In my district in particular in Texas, African Americans represent a staggering 64 percent reportable HIV infections and 57 percent of the total cases diagnosed in 2000. Even more frightening statistics is the fact that 84 percent of the adolescents with reportable HIV infection are African American.

Women represent an estimated 30 percent of new HIV infections in the United States and a growing share of newly reported AIDS cases each year. In 1986, women accounted for 67 percent of the new AIDS cases. By 1999, women accounted for nearly a quarter of all AIDS cases in this country. Worldwide, women account for 42 percent of all AIDS cases which is nearly triple the number 10 years ago. Although African Americans and Latinos represent less than a fourth of all women in the United States, they account for more than a third of all reported AIDS cases. Women in the 18th district of Texas and throughout Texas have not escaped the epidemic. The percentage of Texas women with AIDS increased from 14.3 percent to 15.4 percent just between 1997 and 1999.

It is important just to lay these particular issues on the table because I hope that, as we emphasize 20 years of AIDS is enough, again I say that we focus on where do we go in the future.

What we have tried to do, Mr. Speaker, is to talk about prevention and to break down the barriers that keep people from understanding what AIDS is and how it can be prevented.

So in my community, let me applaud a number of initiatives by Magic 102, a radio station. With their general manager, we have created a whole series of sessions or fares or programs or efforts throughout the community to focus on testing, HIV testing. Have you been tested? Therefore we are going around the community focusing on, encouraging people to be tested privately, of course; and we are doing that in conjunction with the City of Houston health department.

I want to thank Dr. Kendricks and Marilee P. Brown for acknowledging and declaring Houston as an emergency center, an emergency crisis, if you will, regarding AIDS about a year ago. Out of that, the consciousness of people in the community have been raised up to begin to talk about it in the religious community as well as throughout the community.

Our churches are engaged in talking about how do we prevent the infection of HIV/AIDS, because we are finding that it is being promoted or it is being encouraged by economic, cultural, legal and religious factors where people have no control of it.

About a quarter of all women report postponing medical care due to barriers such as sickness or lack of transportation or lack of health care. It is tragic to know that research, prevention efforts, education, substance abuse treatment, and prevention programs need to be targeted towards women, especially African-American and Hispanic women. So we need culturally sensitive programs. The same thing in India and China as it moves throughout the world, culturally sensitive programs.

When we went to Africa, one of the issues that we discussed in Zambia and Uganda was programs that related to the culture of Africans so that they would be eager to come and find out information.

When I was in Botswana just a few weeks ago, we found a center where a gentleman living with HIV/AIDS was the chief spokesperson and outreach coordinator. He was able to speak to his fellow Botswanans about the importance of prevention, but also testing and removing the shackles and the barriers from that. Clearly, much remains to be done to fight the disease, and many look to African-American leaders in Congress for this guidance.

A New York Times columnist recently demanded that the so-called leaders of the black community, the politicians, the heads of civil rights organizations, the preachers step forward and say in thundering tones that it is time to bring an end to this destructive behavior.

Let me answer that by saying we are all collectively standing up in the fight. What we must do is collaborate with government to be able to have the resources and create the research and have the CDC continue to do its work along with the NIH on finding a cure for AIDS.

Our voices have risen, and we need to be listened to. In this Congress, as we begin to appropriate dollars, as we appropriate the Ryan White treatment dollars, for all of us, we must ensure that those dollars will reach out to culturally sensitive organizations such as the Donald Watkins organization in Houston that responds to the needs of our particular cultural communities along with all of our others.

Let me close by mentioning a gentleman in my community that I pay tribute to as a symbol of someone who has lived with AIDS and fights it every day. David Swem in Houston, who is at 6 feet tall and a mere 122½ pounds has been able to fight AIDS, and he has been fighting it since his diagnosis in 1987 by taking 50 pills per day. That is overwhelming that that is what has to happen for people who are living with AIDS. That is why it is so very important for prevention and so very important ultimately to find a cure.

Might I also say, as noted by the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs.

CLAYTON), as chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus, there is nothing more devastating than an HIV-infected child or a child that has full-blown AIDS.

Nkosi Johnson in South Africa, a young man that we got to know some 2 years or so ago, recently died just a week or so ago, born with HIV from an HIV mother, transmitted through that HIV mother who could not take care of him, adopted by a loving South African woman.

Nkosi became the symbol of a precocious child who wanted to stand up and tell the world that he deserved dignity although he lived with full-blown AIDS. Children such as Nkosi should be enjoying a life filled with joy and laughter and happiness. Mandela said in a recent statement, ''On a frightening scale, HIV/AIDS is replacing that joy, laughter and happiness with paralyzing pain.''

Nkosi collapsed with brain damage and viral infections. But before that, in his short life, he contested the policies that kept HIV-infected children out of public schools in South Africa. He talked about his infection, challenging people to reexamine their fear of those inflicted with AIDS. He spoke at the World AIDS Conference in South Africa, woke our collective consciouses up, and began to acknowledge that it was important to be able to fight this disease in dignity.

To Nkosi Johnson, in his loss, a South African child but a child of the world, I believe that it should be our tribute tonight that 20 years of HIV/AIDS, full-blown AIDS is enough.

So to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), might I say that tonight, as we speak in acknowledgment of 20 years of HIV infection in this country and discovery of the AIDS virus, that we also commit ourselves, if we will, to continued legislative initiatives that collectively fights this devastating disease.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today on an occasion that perhaps none of us foresaw in 1981 and certainly none of us welcomes now—the 20th year of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Instead of the eradication of the disease, we continue to face 40,000 new infections per year, an increase in the disease among women, an infection rate at plague proportions in Africa and a possible upswing in the disease among gay men. It has left behind people such as David Swem at Houston, who at 6 feet and a mere 122½ pounds, has been able to fight AIDs since his diagnosis in 1987 by taking 50 pills per day. But he has lost about 300 friends to the disease. I will continue to cry out about this disease until it no longer exists.

More people have died from HIV/AIDs over the last twenty years than from any other disease in history—21.8 million people. In this country we have been able to slow the rate of AIDS' deaths, but the disease is at crisis proportions in sub-Saharan Africa, where four-fifths of those deaths have occurred—an average of one death every eight seconds. The Houston Chronicle reports that 95 percent of all AIDS cases are in the developing world, and that this strain of AIDS could cause a drastic explosion if it jumps to the Western world. More than 70 percent of all people living with the disease, or 25.3 million HIV-positive individuals, live in Africa. Over 10 percent of the population is infected in sixteen African nations. The U.S. Census Bureau calculates that by 2010, average life expectancy will be reduced by 40 years in Zimbabwe and Botswana, and in South Africa by 30 years. The disease destabilizes these nations by decimating its workforce, destroying any economic prosperity, depleting its military and peacekeeping forces and leaving thousands of orphans.

The epidemic is not limited to Africa. Indeed, the fastest growing front of the epidemic is now in Russia, where the number of new infections last year exceeded the total from all previous years combined. In 2000, the number of Russians living with HIV/AIDS skyrocketed from 130,000 to 300,000.

The statistics are alarming in this country as well. In its June 1, 2001 report, the CDC noted that AIDS in the United States remains primarily an epidemic affecting gay men and racial and ethic minorities. Rates are high among minorities because factors such as high poverty rates, unemployment, and lack off access to health care form barriers to HIV testing, diagnosis and treatment. The CDC study also noted the alarming figure of an infection rate of 14 percent of young black gay or bisexual men, based on a study in seven cities.

There are over 50,000 reported AIDS cases in Texas alone, and over half of these are among blacks and Hispanics are over 50 percent of those with AIDS. In my district in Texas, African Americans represent a staggering 64 percent of reportable HIV infections and 57 percent of the total cases diagnosed in 2000. An even more frightening statistic is the fact that 84 percent of the adolescents with reportable HIV infection are African-American.

Women represent an estimated 30 percent of new HIV infections in the United States and a growing share of newly reported AIDS cases each year. In 1986, women accounted for 7 percent of new AIDS cases. By 1999, women accounted for nearly a quarter of all new AIDS cases in this country. Worldwide, women account for 42 percent of all AIDS cases, which is nearly triple the number ten years ago.

African Americans have been hardest hit women. Latinas have also been heavily affected. Although African Americans and Latinas represent less than a fourth of all women in the U.S., they account for more than a third of all reported AIDS cases.

Women in the 18th District of Texas, and throughout Texas, have not escaped this epidemic. The percentage of Texas women with AIDS has increased from 14.3 percent to 15.4 percent just between 1997 and 1999, 1999 being the last full year for which data is available. In my district, currently about 27 percent of new HIV infections are among African-American women. A staggering 82 percent of all HIV infections among women were in the African-American community. Similarly, 79 percent of the reported AIDS cases in women were among African-American women.

Despite these steady increases in HIV/AIDS cases among both women and children, funding for these groups has decreased. In FY1999, women and youth received 2.87 million in funding via Title IV of the Ryan White CARE act, and 2.72 million in FY2000.

Many factors exacerbate women's risk of HIV infection. Many women, particularly in areas such as sub-Saharan Africa, are especially vulnerable to HIV infection because economic, cultural, legal or religious factors may limit control over their lives and their ability to protect themselves from infection, or to gain access to treatment. About a quarter of all women report postponing medical care due to barriers such as sickness or lack of transportation.

What more needs to be done? Research, prevention efforts and education and substance abuse treatment and prevention programs must be targeted towards women, especially in the African-American and Hispanic communities. These programs should include research into female-controlled barrier methods, prevention efforts targeting young women, early comprehensive sex education and substance abuse treatment and prevention programs targeted to women.

We can also take an example from places such as the Thomas Street Clinic in Houston, the nation's first freestanding HIV/AIDS treatment facility. Thomas Street Clinic provides patients with access to a full range of services, including medical services, counseling, housing, job placement assistance and child care. This clinic is a model for our nation, particularly for providers in disadvantaged, urban and minority areas.

Clearly, much remains to be done to fight the disease, and many look to African American leaders in Congress for this guidance.

I am here to say that we are here, and we are pleading for an end to behaviors that lead to HIV/AIDS, for better health care, for more funding for research, treatment and prevention and for desperately needed social services for those whose lives have been upended by the infection. Congress cannot fight this disease alone, but we are firmly committed to the battle.

Mr. Speaker, I include the following article for the RECORD as follows:

[From the Washington Post, June 2, 2001]

NKOSI JOHNSON, 12, DIES; S. AFRICAN AIDS ACTIVIST

BOY BORN WITH HIV URGED OPENNESS

(By Susanna Loof)

JOHANNESBURG.—Nkosi Johnson, who was born with HIV and became an outspoken champion of others infected with the AIDs virus, died Friday of complications of the disease he battled for all 12 of his years.

Nkosi was praised for his openness about his infection in a country where people suspected of carrying the AIDS virus often are shunned by their families and chased from their communities. Former South African president Nelson Mandela called him an ''icon of the struggle for life.''

''Children, such as Nkosi Johnson, should be enjoying a life filled with joy and laughter and happiness,'' Mandela said in a recent statement. ''On a frightening scale, HIV/AIDS is replacing that joy, laughter and happiness with paralyzing pain and trauma.''

Nkosi collapsed in December with brain damage and viral infections. His foster mother, Gail Johnson, said he died peacefully in his sleep in the morning.

''It is a great pity that this young man has died. He was very bold,'' Mandela said Friday.

During his short life, Nkosi successfully contested the policies that kept HIV-infected children out of public schools. He talked about his infection, challenging people to reexamine their fear of those afflicted with AIDS.

''He had an awareness of the threat to his life and the importance of his life in lessening the threat to other people with AIDS,'' Constitutional Court Justice Edwin Cameron, who is also infected with the virus, told the Associated Press in January.

Parliament passed motions Friday expessing regret and sadness at Nkosi's death, and the Congress of South African Trade Unions said Nkosi ''inspired all people suffering from the disease.''

Nkosi was born Feb. 4, 1989, with the virus that causes AIDS. His mother could not afford to bring him up, and Johnson became his foster mother when he was 2. Nkosi's mother died of AIDS-related diseases in 1997.

That same year, Johson and Nkosi successfully battled to force a public primary school to admit him. The fight led to a policy forbidding schools to discriminate against HIV-positive children and to guidelines for how schools should treat infected pupils.

Nkosi became internationally known with a speech at the opening of the 13th International AIDS conference last July in Durban, South Africa, in which he asked that AIDS sufferers no longer be stigmatized.

Nkosi helped raise money for Nkosi's Haven, a Johannesburg Shelter for HIV-positive women and their children. He was crushed when a 3-month-old baby his foster mother cared for died of AIDS-related illnesses.

''He hated seeing sick babies and sick children,'' Johnson said.

The experience led to his speech at the AIDS conference, where he urged the South African Government to start providing HIV-positive pregnant women with drugs to reduce the risk of transmission of the virus during childbirth. About 200 HIV-positive children are born in South Africa each day, but most die before they reach school age.

A year later, the government is still studying proposals to use the drugs.

Johnson said Nkosi did more for AIDS sufferers in South Africa than anyone else.

''Nkosi wanted people to know that infected people, and especially children, deserve everything in the world,'' she said. ''His legacy is that we will care for them.''

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank very much the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE). I want to thank her also because I think she mentioned some real key issues. One of them deals with cultural sensitivity.

I recall back when we had some testimony regarding AIDS, one of the things that was mentioned by one of the doctors was that she had a particular client that was told, and only knew Spanish, and was told that she was positive. She understood that as—(the gentleman from Texas spoke in Spanish). She went ahead and had children. One of her children would up with AIDS. The importance of cultural sensitivity and language understanding I think is key.

I want to thank the gentlewoman from Texas for the other comments that she made. One of the key things I think that is important also is to understand that this is devastating throughout all our communities, not only in this country, but throughout the world when we look at sub-Sahara Africa, when we look at the province in China, when we look at Brazil, when we look at the border in Mexico.

So it is a disease, it is a world disease. It is a disease that we need to go fight it wherever it is and that applies to all the infectious diseases, and that is very important.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) who is here with us, and we continue to get people that are coming in. I am real pleased to see the number.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to join my colleagues to acknowledge the 20th anniversary of the first HIV/AIDS diagnosis in the United States. I first want to thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ), my fellow social worker, and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), our physician, who is leading this very valiant effort on behalf of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the Congressional Black Caucus, because I believe in unity that we will win. So I am very sober tonight and very humbled by the joint efforts that we are mounting. I want to thank them for their leadership in this.

Twenty years ago, the world learned about a new disease. All that was known then was that this disease destroyed the human immune system, and its ultimate outcome was unknown. Unfortunately, because this disease emerged in the United States primarily in the gay community, very little was done to curb the rate of new infections because, quite frankly, of political policies during the Ronald Reagan era. That is when we began to really wonder about this disease. But we did not do much then. We put our head in the sand.

Since then, we have learned that this disease could be transmitted through exposure to HIV-infected blood. We learned that transmissions were occurring through unprotected sex with HIV-infected partners. We learned that transmissions were occurring through blood transfusions where HIV-tainted blood products were used. We learned that exposure to HIV was occurring through shared needles and intravenous drug use. We learned that in the United States, poor minority communities were at a greater risk for new HIV infections than the white community.

□ 2145

Ms. LEE. And we learned that this disease was a global pandemic. It is disproportionately affecting people of color, Latinos, African Americans. It is devastating the continent of Africa, the Caribbean, Latin America, and it is a ticking time bomb in many developing countries.

The most important lesson we have learned is that HIV can be prevented and it starts with breaking the silence. And once again I want to commend my colleagues for helping us do that once again tonight on the floor of Congress.

Now, in my district in Alameda County, California, HIV/AIDS has disproportionately affected the African American community. While the number of new diagnoses for virtually every segment of the population was declining, it was rapidly moving in the opposite direction for African Americans in Alameda County and also for the Latino community.

According to data provided by the Alameda Department of Health and Human Services in 1998, nearly 60 percent of the new HIV infections were occurring among African Americans, even though African Americans account for only 18 percent of the county's population. Of the new infections in Alameda County, a growing number of infections are occurring among women. Through a community-wide initiative, a state of emergency task force was formed, and on November 4, 1998, the Alameda County Public Health Officer declared a public health emergency on AIDS in Alameda County's African American community.

This designation led to Alameda County's designation by the Department of Health and Human Services as one of the 20 targeted metropolitan statistical areas and the disposition of a crisis response team to aid in this effort. And I would suggest to my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus to challenge your counties to declare states of emergencies, because this is what we have on our hands and we should have nothing less than a formally declared state of public health emergency where this pandemic is wreaking havoc on our communities.

Also, because of this designation, several community-based organizations and AIDS service providers in my district have been awarded additional resources, not enough, but additional resources to assist them in bringing our local crisis to an end. In the 3 years since Alameda County declared a public health emergency, HIV and AIDS prevention efforts have been widely expanded, and it is working. Some of our community-based organizations are reporting that they are now able to reach many highly vulnerable populations, such as sex workers, the incarcerated populations, and youth to provide HIV and AIDS prevention and education.

The Highland Hospital and the Magic Johnson AIDS Clinic have expanded their care and treatment services, including providing lifesaving antiretroviral treatments to people living with AIDS that were not receiving these treatment services because they could not afford them. They are now receiving them, and this has happened

in the last 3 years. AIDS organizations and the county health department have been able to step up their surveillance efforts in order to have a more clear picture of who in Alameda County remains at high risk for contracting AIDS.

According to the Alameda County Department of Health and Human Services, in 1997, the risk for African Americans to contract HIV was five times higher as compared to whites. In 2000, that number has decreased to 4 to 1. This is slowly decreasing. And it is a positive sign, but it is not zero yet. And that is where we want it. Increases in funding for surveillance have showed that women account for 12 percent of all AIDS cases in Alameda County. However, what was not known was that the incidence of transmission of AIDS through heterosexual sex is 47 percent.

Now, this year, the administration's budget actually flat-funded our domestic HIV and AIDS programs, including the minority health initiative, which was led by the Congressional Black Caucus, and we put in many hours, many years of work under the leadership of the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), and we must not let this be reversed back to the days when our heads were in the sand.

The United States must move forward, and we must not become complacent. We must increase funding for HIV/AIDS education and treatment programs, and we must advocate for the highest level of funding possible to address our domestic AIDS crisis. Yes, 20 years of AIDS is really enough. Let us wipe it out.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back and want to once again thank the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the Congressional Black Caucus for again breaking the silence.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank very much the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE).

Next, Mr. Speaker, I want to ask our District of Columbia representative (Ms. NORTON) to come over. I had the pleasure of being with her on Sunday on the lawn where we had a march that came in. We had several hundred people that came in, and it was a pleasure there being with the gentlewoman. I know that we had a large number of people trying to bring the news about the fact that 20 years is enough, and so I thank her for being here tonight with us.

Ms. NORTON. Well, let me first thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ), and I want to thank my good colleague as well, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), for her leadership in bringing to the attention of the Congress and of bringing our two caucuses together to focus on where AIDS has spread and the changing face and color of AIDS.

I want to thank the gentleman from Texas especially for being at the Sunday 20-year celebration, because I think his speaking and my speaking made the point we are trying to make here, and that is that this disease has changed radically in 20 years and we are here this evening to make that point. I appreciate that there will be other Members, so I will, therefore, speak rapidly.

The theme of what I want to say is that after 20 years, we owe it to the almost million who have been infected in this country, almost half of them dead of the disease, to stress prevention over every other issue, because this is indeed a preventable disease. Members know the fight I have personally had in my own district just to get needle exchange, something that every scientific organization believes is an important way to prevent AIDS, especially since today 30 percent of the new cases are women. That is something that is radically different from 20 years ago. And these women, of course, are getting AIDS largely through infected drug transmission.

The fact that at a time when we need to be turning our attention to the developing world, and many of us in the Congressional Black Caucus, for example, have been working on AIDS in Africa because the continent is being devoured by the disease, the whole notion that we would have to turn back to teach some of the lessons of 20 years ago is absolutely heartbreaking. Parts of our community, particularly Hispanics and blacks, were never reached because they were never targeted. One of the reasons they were not targeted is because of the opprobrium that attended AIDS because it was seen as a homosexual disease.

In both our communities there is homophobia. And we in the Congressional Black Caucus and in the Congressional Hispanic Caucus have an obligation to stand against homophobia first and foremost so that people can come out and understand that this disease can be prevented and so that they can acknowledge the need for safe sex. But today we are having to teach the lessons to black and Hispanic gays that we taught, we thought, to white gays 20 years ago, because the lessons were not learned by them.

We have one of the best, indeed a world-renowned AIDS clinic here, the Whitman-Walker Clinic. It should be downsizing. Instead of reaching to white gay and bisexual men it is now having to reach to black gay and bisexual men. How heartbreaking it was to read that gay men in San Francisco, the most conscious gay population in the world, is having an uptick in the epidemic. These are white gays.

What this teaches us is that every 3 or 4 years we better teach the same lesson. Because we have youngsters who were 13 then, they are 17 now, and they did not learn it then. We cannot assume that this lesson has ever been taught.

In the Congress, my colleagues know that we have been successful with the new treatments, and there may be some irony in that. It costs $10,000 to $12,000 a year per person. This is a preventable disease. That is not the best use for the health care dollars in our communities or in our country. We must teach the lesson of prevention so the health care dollars are not used for preventable diseases, but more often for many who suffer in our communities and our country from diseases we still do not understand.

We have been unwilling to get at the explicit nature of the education that needs to take place. This is a country that does not mind talking about sex very explicitly. We show sex, the sex act, to young children on TV in the daytime, but we will not talk about condoms, we will not talk about safe sex, we will not explain that to children. If we are not explicit about sex to teens, they are not listening to us. They get those messages from their media. They need to get it from us so that we can prevent this preventable disease.

Our goals, as we continue the fight 20 years later, are laid out for us. Upgrade the downgraded White House AIDS Office, search for a cure, search for a vaccine, get prescription drugs, get needle exchange, fight for hate crimes legislation, and for ENDA. But, above all, remember those who died before the message of safe sex was even understood, and remember those who died before there were protease inhibitors.

The only way to remember them is not simply by grieving for them, and tonight we do grieve for them, but by pledging to them that we will move to make sure that the 20-year anniversary is the beginning of yet another downturn in the prevalence of this disease and that we ourselves will lead the downturn by making that message clear not only in this Congress but in our own communities.

Again, I thank both of my colleagues for the service they have rendered the Congress and the Nation this evening.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. I want to thank the gentlewoman once again. It was real exciting to be out there with those marchers that came in on Sunday. It was a great opportunity to participate and to begin to bring to light the fact that we still continue to fight on this issue. The Center for Disease Control has estimated that we still have over 900,000 people in the United States that are infected with AIDS.

I also want to take this opportunity to recognize one of my colleagues from Texas, the chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and to thank him for his leadership in the caucus and for his being here tonight.

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague, the gentleman

from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ), chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Health Task Force, for all his hard work and leadership on this issue and other issues that affect his community and minority communities all across the country. The gentleman has demonstrated true passion and determination in ensuring that the health needs of Hispanics and all minorities all across the country are met.

In addition, I want to thank the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON), the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), of the Congressional Black Caucus, and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WU) and the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD), of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, for their leadership and collaboration that has brought us here today to reflect on the importance of this date.

As chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, I am here to commemorate the first reported AIDS cases in our country some 20 years ago. On this date, we not only remember those who have died and those whose lives are being affected by HIV/AIDS but also to continue to raise awareness about the devastating impact this disease has had on minority communities across the country.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, AIDS has taken the lives of more than 21 million people around the world, including 450,000 Americans, since it was first diagnosed in 1981. An estimated 1 million Americans have been infected since the virus began spreading quickly in the early 1980s through unprotected sex, intravenous drug use, blood transfusions, and other workplace accidents.

I have heard others say that this deadly virus does not care about the color, age, gender or sexual preference of individuals. However from July 1999 to June of 2000, African Americans and Hispanics have accounted for nearly 70 percent of new HIV infections. The disproportionate effects of the virus among Hispanics and other minorities today continue to grow. Hispanics currently represent 20 percent of all new AIDS cases, even though we only make up 13 percent of the United States population.

□ 2200

Hispanics are the fastest growing segment of the U.S. population and the Centers for Disease Control report that HIV exposure risks for U.S.-born Hispanics and Hispanics born in other countries vary greatly, indicating a need for specifically targeted prevention efforts consistent with the values and beliefs of these communities. These include language-appropriate educational materials and health care professionals who have had training on the cultural factors that can make a difference in the treatment and prevention of this disease among Hispanics and minorities all across the country and the world.

The Congressional Hispanic, Black, and Asian Pacific Caucuses have responded to the need for targeted initiatives by collaborating to establish the Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative, which addresses the critical need for prevention and care resources in communities of color, where the majority of new AIDS cases are occurring.

Our caucuses, along with other policymakers, health care professionals and advocates will continue to work to increase Federal spending for HIV/AIDS programs, such as the Minority AIDS Initiative and Ryan White Care Act. I urge my colleagues to support the $540 million request for fiscal year 2002 for Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative and other resources needed in the fight against this deadly disease. These resources must be dramatically increased to keep pace with the changing epidemic and to work toward the elimination of both the health disparities between ethnic and racial groups and the disease all together.

Again I thank my colleagues, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN).

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES), who has been very instrumental in pushing for an additional $540 million, and I thank the gentleman for taking the leadership. Both the Hispanic and Black Caucus will be holding hearings next week on this issue, and we will continue to move forward.

Mr. Speaker, tonight we have the distinct pleasure of having the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI). Today alone, over 100 colleagues joined the gentlewoman in her efforts to reintroduce the early treatment of HIV/AIDS.

We know that too many underinsured and uninsured Americans do not have access to life-saving medications. We need to eliminate the barriers to early drug therapy for vulnerable populations, and this legislation would give the States the option to add HIV/AIDS to eligible categories for Medicaid coverage. It is a very important piece of legislation.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, we have talked about early intervention, early intervention; and this legislation would enable this to happen.

Mr. Speaker, I rise as a member of the Asian Pacific American Islander Caucus in joining my colleagues and commending the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) for their leadership on this important issue.

This Special Order tonight represents the changing face of AIDS. When I came to Congress 14 years ago this week, thousands of people had already died in my district. It was largely a gay man's disease.

We tried to teach the rest of the country what we learned about prevention, care, and research. Some of the legislation we are putting forth today is bearing the fruit of that.

I join the gentleman in putting forth the $540 million request for the Minority AIDS Initiative. I do not want anybody to think that any minority access to AIDS is only to that pot of money. That is the entry level to the bigger pot of money. So it opens the door to all of the other billions of dollars that are available. It is necessary to have that door opening, and I thank my colleagues for that.

Mr. Speaker, I did have an opportunity to speak on the floor earlier today on this, but I wanted to commend the caucuses for their leadership on this; and I look forward to working with them as an appropriator and as a member of one of the caucuses, for increased funding, for improving the quality of life, and for ending this terrible pandemic.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) if she would like to make any closing remarks.

Mrs. Christensen. Mr. Speaker, there is one area of the world which has been left out of this discussion tonight, and that is the Caribbean. It is second only to Sub-Saharan Africa in terms of the rates of HIV and AIDS. 35 percent of those infected are women compared to 23 percent in this country, and that number is rising. It is the leading cause of death between the ages of 15 and 44.

Mr. Speaker, of the United States territories in the Caribbean, both the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico are in the top five in terms of incidence for AIDS. I want to make sure that the Caribbean is not left out of the discussion.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate both of my colleagues for this outstanding hour. Mr. Speaker, I also want to congratulate the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI). When people hear numbers like 500 million, then begin to suggest exaggeration, this is a crisis.

I think it is important to note the leadership of Dr. Satcher, the U.S. Surgeon General, his leadership on this issue, and the Office of Minority Health; and it will be very important that the Secretary of Health and Human Services works with this team, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands and the rest of us on pursuing this effort in making sure that we have these funds to solve

this problem. I simply wanted to say that.

I thank my local community as well, Ernie Jackson and others for their great leadership.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank all my colleagues who have participated. It is an issue on which we all need to take ownership. It is about all of us. It has an impact on all of us. It is throughout the world. If we have these kinds of dangerous, infectious diseases throughout the world, we need to go after them.

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to express my concern about the HIV/AIDS global pandemic. While this disease devastates the citizens of Sub-Saharan Africa, we also need to direct our attention to the rising numbers of HIV/AIDS cases in the U.S. Today, Mr. Speaker, in addition to accounting for more than half of the cumulative HIV/AIDS cases, people of color also represent two thirds of new HIV/AIDS cases reported in this country.

In the U.S., two lives are lost every hour in the war against HIV/AIDS. Twenty years ago today, the CDC reported 5 cases of AIDS. However, as of June 2000, there were seven hundred fifty three thousand nine hundred and seven reported cases of AIDS in the U.S. Of these reported cases, AIDS has claimed the lives of four hundred and thirty-eight thousand nine hundred and seventy-five American citizens. World-Wide the figure is twenty-two million.

The exponential growth in deaths, clearly indicate that the time for action is now. Although technology, medicine, and research have increased the life span of HIV positive victims, I am concerned about the staggering number of new AIDS cases in the US. In the last decade, the proportion of all AIDS cases reported among adult and adolescent women more than tripled, from 7 percent in 1985 to 23 percent in 1999, with the most dramatic increase occurring among women of color. Among 15–24-year-olds, AIDS is the 7th leading cause of death. These figures highlight the gravity of the crisis related to HIV/AIDS and its impact on our country.

Mr. Speaker, we are at a crucial time in this war against HIV/AIDS. Tragically, this disease debilitates everyone it infects. The most troubling fact is that there are few of us who have been unaffected in some way by this disease. Today as we approach the 20th anniversary of HIV/AIDS in the US, I would like to alert my fellow Americans of the persistent nature of this disease. Unfortunately, it has become a familiar part of America's culture. I believe we must reassess our efforts and recommit ourselves to fighting this illness. We must work collectively to promote education, prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS. Finally, I ask each of us to stand together to remember the victims who have succumbed to this disease, and those individuals who wage valiant and courageous battles to overcome their affliction.

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, today marks the twentieth anniversary of the first reported HIV/AIDS cases in the United States. On June 5, 1981 Federal researchers reported a baffling new disease that, over the next 20 years, would claim more than 20 million lives worldwide, including nearly 11,000 in Chicago and 40,000 in Illinois. The last 20 years have taught this country many hard lessons, some of which we continue to fail to grasp.

The first lesson we learned was that HIV/AIDS disproportionately impacts minority communities and women. HIV/AIDS has become the leading cause of death for African-American men ages 25–44. Gay black men are contracting HIV/AIDS at rates comparable to those seen in sub-Saharan Africa. A recent CDC study reported that 30 percent of gay black men between ages 23 and 29 were HIV-positive. Among HIV-positive women in Illinois, more than 80 percent are non-white—a statistic that could not more starkly demonstrate the disproportionate havoc that HIV/AIDS is wreaking in communities of color.

While I commend the administration for its focus on HIV/AIDS in Africa, more must be done to treat and prevent HIV/AIDS in minority communities in this country. The President's budget takes a step backwards in the fight against HIV/AIDS by freezing the Ryan White AIDS program funding. This is the first time Ryan White funding has not been increased since the programs inception.

The second lesson we learned from the CDC study is that HIV/AIDS knows no national boundaries. Sub-Saharan Africa is being ravaged by HIV/AIDS. More than 25 million Africans are now living with HIV and last year alone, 2.4 million Africans died from the disease. We must assist Africa in its fight against HIV/AIDS or we will reap what we sow.

The third lesson HIV/AIDS taught us is that HIV/AIDS is that no group is protected. During the early stages of the HIV/AIDS epidemic many naively believed that HIV/AIDS was a "gay man's disease." This mistake led to a false sense of security among many who were actually engaging in risky behaviors such as IV drug use and unprotected sex. Unfortunately, many were infected before they realized they were at risk. We must not make this same mistake again. Any increased incidence of HIV/AIDS amongst a segment of the population is unacceptable.

Finally, the fourth lesson HIV/AIDS has taught us is that our discomfort with addressing taboo issues can result in the loss of many lives. It is clear that HIV/AIDS is transmitted through unprotected sex and IV drug use. However, due to this country's inability to address many of these sensitive issues, preventive efforts have suffered. We must openly address risk factors of HIV/AIDS. To let our personal discomfort with these subjects stymie prevention and education is unacceptable.

We hold the keys to our fate based on these lessons of the past. If we learn from these lessons, we can defeat HIV/AIDS. But, if we fail to heed our mistakes, we will ultimately suffer more death and destruction over the next twenty years. The future is ours to shape.

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, today is a very sad day as we remember what it was like before that time twenty years ago when our friends and neighbors, acquaintances and coworkers began to fall gravely ill in what should have been the prime of their lives. It is hard to remember that time before we had parades, rallies, walks and forums specifically devoted to raising desperately needed awareness and money to pay for potential remedies to battle this global pandemic. In the early days it seemed that we fought fear, discrimination, rumors and gossip almost as much or more than the virus itself. Today, while we are still fighting those battles, there have been great strides in the efforts to control this insidious illness. Nevertheless, this is no time for backslapping as the strides that were made are falling victim to the misguided belief—particularly among young people—that HIV/AIDS is no longer a serious threat. Moreover, while those strides were real, the medical miracles that were discovered were not available to everyone. The high cost of drugs and the lack of availability of adequate quality healthcare remain significant barriers to real progress.

As we look back over these twenty years we see an all too real killing field of lives lost across the globe. An estimated 21.8 million people have died as a result of this virus. Currently, 36.1 million people are living with HIV/AIDS; almost half of those diagnosed are women, and over 1.6 million are children. I applaud the recent efforts of major pharmaceutical companies through the "Accelerating Access" and "Secure The Future" initiatives that offer hope to African patients in nine countries both in terms of access to new medications at realistic costs and the development of an infrastructure system that can deliver care. I am also encouraged to see and hear the commitment of this Administration to the cause of fighting HIV/AIDS in Africa.

In the United States the casualty list from HIV/AIDS is smaller yet no less significant. According to the latest study released by the CDC, almost 754,000 people are living with HIV/AIDS in the US: 438,795 people have died from HIV/AIDS over the past twenty years. HIV/AIDS has become the leading cause of death for African Americans between the ages of 25 and 44. African Americans are 10 times more likely than whites to be diagnosed with HIV/AIDS and also 10 times more likely to die from it.

New York State and New York City still have the largest number of HIV/AIDS in the country and, my congressional district has the highest incidence of new HIV/AIDS cases of any area in New York City. For example, Brownsville has more people living with HIV/AIDS than 12 states. It has the second highest number of blacks living with HIV/AIDS in all of New York City. In addition, East New York has the third highest population of women living with HIV/AIDS. As much as we have done to combat this virus, both in the US and abroad, we must do more. That is why I am pleased that local community based organizations like New World Creations Resource Center, Inc. are sponsoring a rally and march, "the AIDS walk for the Caribbean" on July 1 to highlight the continuing HIV/AIDS crisis in African-American and Caribbean-American communities in New York.

I hope that in five years when we mark the next milestone in the history of this dreaded disease, we have something positive to report. Until that time, I urge my colleagues to join me in redoubling our efforts to promote prevention, education and treatment for HIV/AIDS. This is a battle that we must continue for the future of our nation and for the world at large.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. SHERMAN (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of business in the district.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and the balance of the week on account of personal reasons.

Mr. POMBO (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of official business.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. MCNULTY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. PELOSI, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. EHLERS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. KIRK, for 5 minutes, June 7.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, June 6.

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, June 6.

Mr. HORN, for 5 minutes, June 7.

Mr. EHLERS, for 5 minutes, today.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 581. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to use funds appropriated for wildland fire management in the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001, to reimburse the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service to facilitate the interagency cooperation required under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 in connection with wildland fire management.

H.R. 1836. An act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 104 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2002.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Jeff Trandahl, Clerk of the House reports that on June 1, 2001 he presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 581. To authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to use funds appropriated for wildland fire management in the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 2001, to reimburse the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service to facilitate the interagency cooperation required under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 in connection with wildland fire management.

Jeff Trandahl, Clerk of the House reports that on June 4, 2001 he presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 1836. An act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 104 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2002.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, June 6, 2001, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2240. A letter from the the Mayor of the District of Columbia, transmitting the District of Columbia Fiscal Year 2002 Budget Request Act, pursuant to Public Law 105–33 section 11701(a)(1) (111 Stat. 780); (H. Doc. No. 107–81); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

2241. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a request for FY 2001 supplemental appropriations for the Departments of Agriculture, Defense (including the Army Corps of Engineers), Energy, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, the Interior, Transportation, the Treasury, and Veterans Affairs; International Assistance Programs; and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; (H. Doc. No. 107–80); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

2242. A letter from the Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule—Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS)/TRICARE; Partial Implementation of Pharmacy Benefits Program; Implementation of National Defense Authorization Act Medical Benefits for Fiscal Year 2001 (RIN: 0720–AA62) May 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2243. A letter from the General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Screening and Eviction for Drug Abuse and Other Criminal Activity [Docket No. FR–4495–F–02] (RIN: 2501–AC63) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2244. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting a report involving U.S. exports to Taiwan, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635(b)(3)(i); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2245. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Electronic Recordkeeping by Investment Companies and Investment Advisers [Release Nos. IC–24991 and IA–1945; File No. S7–06–01] (RIN: 3235–AI05) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2246. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Electronic Recordkeeping by Public Utility Holding Companies [Release No. 35–27404; File No. S7–07–01] (RIN: 3235–AI12) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2247. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Medicaid Program; Use of Restraint and Seclusion in Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities Providing Inpatient Psychiatric Services to Individuals Under Age 21 [HCFA–2065–IFC2] (RIN: 0938–AJ96) received May 29, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2248. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Protection of Human Research Subjects: Delay of Effective Date (RIN: 0925–AA14) received May 29, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2249. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval of Section 112(I) Authority for Hazardous Air Pollutants; Chemical Accident Prevention Provisions and Risk Management Plans; Delaware; Approval of Accidental Release Prevention Program [DE001–1000; FRL–6988–3] received May 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2250. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Rhode Island; Post-1996 Rate of Progress Plan [RI–022b; A–1–FRL–6990–6] received May 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2251. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Maryland: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions [FRL–6938–8] received May 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2252. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Rules and Regulations Under the Fur Products Labeling Act—received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2253. A letter from the Director, Lieutenant General, USAF, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting the listing of all outstanding Letters of Offer to sell any major defense equipment for $1 million or more; the listing of all Letters of Offer that were accepted, as of March 31, 2001, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

2254. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed request for the sale of defense articles or defense services sold commercially to Brazil (Transmittal No. DTC 055–01), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

2255. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of

a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with Japan [Transmittal No. DTC 045–01], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(d); to the Committee on International Relations.

2256. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with Switzerland [Transmittal No. DTC 041–01], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(d); to the Committee on International Relations.

2257. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or defense services sold commercially under a contract to Hong Kong, the United Kingdom, Australia, and Canada [Transmittal No. DTC 042–01], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

2258. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with Canada [Transmittal No. DTC 043–01], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(d); to the Committee on International Relations.

2259. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report to Congress on the Republic of Korea's status as an adherent to the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2797e—2; to the Committee on International Relations.

2260. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule—Documentation of Immigrants and Nonimmigrants Under the Immigration and Nationality Act, As Amended—Refusal of Individual VISAS—received May 25, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on International Relations.

2261. A letter from the Executive Director, District of Columbia Retirement Board, transmitting the personal financial disclosure statements of Board members, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1—732 and 1—734(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

2262. A letter from the Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 2000 through March 31, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

2263. A letter from the Assistant Director for Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

2264. A letter from the Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 2000 through March 31, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

2265. A letter from the Director, Peace Corps, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 2000 through March 31, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

2266. A letter from the Director, Financial Services, Library of Congress, transmitting a report on the Capitol Preservation Commission's Financial Statements for March 31, 2001; to the Committee on House Administration.

2267. A letter from the Executive Director, American Chemical Society, transmitting the Society's annual report for the calendar year 2000 and the comprehensive report to the Board of Directors of the American Chemical Society on the examination of their books and records for the year ending December 31, 2000, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 1101(2) and 1103; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2268. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule—Performance of Functions Under This Chapter; Claims for Compensation Under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (RIN: 1215–AB32) received May 25, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2269. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990, as Amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996—received May 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2270. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Zone; New York Harbor, Western Long Island Sound, East River, and Hudson River Fireworks [CGD01–00–221] (RIN: 2115–AA97) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2271. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Zone; Crescent Harbor, Sitka, AK [COTP Southeast Alaska; 01–002] (RIN: 2115–AA97) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2272. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations: Jamaica Bay and connecting waterways, NY [CGD01–01–045] (RIN: 2115–AE47) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2273. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Manitowoc River, Wisconsin [CGD09–01–001] (RIN: 2115–AE47) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2274. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Zone; Queens Millennium Concert Fireworks, East River, NY [CGD01–01–015] (RIN: 2115–AA97) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2275. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Chef Menteur Pass, LA [CGD08–00–005] (RIN: 2115–AE47) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2276. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Oakland Inner Harbor Tidal Canal, Alameda County, California [CGD11–99–013] (RIN: 2115–AE47) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2277. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Newton Creek, Dutch Kills, English Kills and their tributaries, NY [CGD01–01–032] (RIN: 2115–AE47) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2278. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Cerritos Channel, Long Beach, CA [CGD11–01–006] (RIN: 2115–AE47) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2279. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Hackensack River, NJ [CGD01–01–025] (RIN: 2115–AE47) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2280. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Potomac River, between Alexandria, Virginia and Oxon Hill, Maryland [CGD05–01–009] (RIN: 2115–AE47) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2281. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Sacramento River, CA [CGD11–01–005] (RIN: 2115–AE47) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2282. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Long Island, New York Inland Waterway from East Rockaway Inlet to Shinnecock Canal, NY [CGD01–01–031] (RIN: 2115–AE47) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2283. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Harlem River, NY [CGD01–01–030] (RIN: 2115–AE47) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2284. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Hutchinson River, (Eastchester Creek), NY [CGD01–01–040] (RIN: 2115–AE47) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2285. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Chelsea River, MA [CGD01–01–036] (RIN: 2115–AE47) received May 24, 2001; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2286. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Establishment of Class E Airspace; Egegik, AK [Airspace Docket No. 00–AAL–21] received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2287. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Revision of Class E Airspace; Ketchikan, AK [Airspace Docket No. 00–AAL–19] received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2288. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Establishment of Prohibited Area P–49 Crawford; TX [Docket No. FAA–2001–9059; Airspace Docket No. 01–AWA–1] (RIN: 2120–AA66) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2289. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Establishment of V–611 and Revocation of V–19; NM [Docket No. FAA 2001–8682; Airspace Docket No. 01–ASW–1] (RIN: 2120–AA66) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2290. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; McDonnell Douglas Model DC–8 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 99–NM–276–AD; Amendment 39–12197; AD 2001–08–20] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2291. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier Model CL–600–2B19 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 2001–NM–32–AD; Amendment 39–12154; AD 2001–06–07] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2292. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Model SA.315B, SA.316B, SA.316C, SE.3160, and SA.319B Helicopters [Docket No. 2000–SW–13–AD; Amendment 39–12132; AD 2001–04–13] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2293. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; PIAGGIO AERO INDUSTRIES S.p.A. Model P–180 Airplanes [Docket No. 2000–CE–67–AD; Amendment 39–12140; AD 2001–05–04] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2294. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 727–100, –100C and –200 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 99–NM–74–AD; Amendment 39–12219; AD 2001–09–12] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2295. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Corporation (formerly Allison Engine Company) AE 3007 Series Turbofan Engines [Docket No. 2000–NE–29–AD; Amendment 39–12192; AD 2001–08–15] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2296. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Construcciones Aeronauticas, S.A. (CASA), Model CN–235, Series Airplanes [Docket No. 2000–NM–263–AD; Amendment 39–12213; AD 2001–09–08] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2297. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. 30235; Amdt. No. 2040] received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2298. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. 30234; Amdt. No. 2039] received May 24, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2299. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans' Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule—Schedule for Rating Disabilities: Disabilities of the Liver (RIN: 2900–AK12) received May 25, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

2300. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification of his determination that a continuation of a waiver currently in effect for the People's Republic of China will substantially promote the objectives of section 402, of the Trade Act of 1974 (Presidential Determination 2001–16), pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2432(c) and (d); (H. Doc. No. 107–79); to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

2301. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification of his determination that a continuation of a waiver currently in effect for Vietnam will substantially promote the objectives of section 402, of the Trade Act of 1974, (Presidential Determination 2001–17), pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2432(c) and (d); (H. Doc. No. 107–82); to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

2302. A letter from the Acting Commissioner, Social Security Administration, transmitting the 2001 Annual Report of the Supplemental Security Income Program, pursuant to Public Law 104–193, section 231 (110 Stat. 2197); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2303. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Labeling Proceedings; Delegation of Authority [T.D. ATF–449] (RIN: 1512–AC21) received May 29, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2304. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Delegation of Authority (2000R–415P) [T.D. ATF–451] (RIN: 1512–AC38) received May 29, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2305. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Manufacturers Excise Taxes-Firearms and Ammunition; Delegation of Authority [T.D. ATF–447] (RIN: 1512–AC18) received May 29, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2306. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—High Performance Bonus Awards Under the TANF Program (RIN: 0970–AC06) received May 15, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2307. A letter from the Deputy Under Secretary, Policy Support, Department of Defense, transmitting an Annual Report on Agreements for the Exchange of Defense Personnel Between the U.S. and Foreign Countries; jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and International Relations.

2308. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a report entitled, ''The Operation of the Enterprise for the Americas Facility and the Tropical Forest Conservation Act''; jointly to the Committees on International Relations and Agriculture.

2309. A letter from the Acting Director, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Procedures for Implementation of the Fastener Quality Act [Docket No: 980623159–0166–04] (RIN: 0693–AB47) received May 29, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Science and Energy and Commerce.

2310. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Medicare and Medicaid Programs: Hospital Conditions of Participation: Anesthesia Services: Delay of Effective Date (RIN: 0938–AK08) received May 29, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

2311. A letter from the Chair, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, transmitting a report entitled, ''An Analysis of Medicare Payments to Skilled Nursing Facilities in Alaska and Hawaii''; jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. SENSENBRENNER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 718. A bill to protect individuals, families, and Internet service providers

from unsolicited and unwanted electronic mail; with an amendment (Rept. 107–41 Pt. 2). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mrs. MYRICK: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 155. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1699) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2002 (Rept. 107–86). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 156. Resolution providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (Rept. 107–87). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. COBLE (for himself, Mr. BERMAN, and Mr. CONYERS):

H.R. 2047. A bill to authorize appropriations for the United States Patent and Trademark Office for fiscal year 2002, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COBLE (for himself and Mr. BERMAN):

H.R. 2048. A bill to require a report on the operations of the State Justice Institute; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SMITH of Michigan:

H.R. 2049. A bill to authorize the National Science Foundation to undertake certain activities in support of research on learning; to the Committee on Science.

By Mr. SMITH of Michigan:

H.R. 2050. A bill to authorize the National Science Foundation to undertake certain activities in support of research on learning; to the Committee on Science.

By Mr. SMITH of Michigan:

H.R. 2051. A bill to provide for the establishment of regional plant genome and gene expression research and development centers; to the Committee on Science.

By Mr. TANCREDO (for himself, Mr. ARMEY, Mr. WOLF, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. BENTSEN, Mr. CLEMENT, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. UPTON, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. BRYANT, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. CAMP, Mr. PITTS, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Ms. RIVERS, Mrs. TAUSCHER, and Mr. SHAYS):

H.R. 2052. A bill to facilitate famine relief efforts and a comprehensive solution to the war in Sudan; to the Committee on International Relations, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GONZALEZ (for himself and Mr. RODRIGUEZ):

H.R. 2053. A bill to prohibit offering homebuilding purchase contracts that contain in a single document both a mandatory arbitration agreement and other contract provisions, and to prohibit requiring purchasers to consent to a mandatory arbitration agreement as a condition precedent to entering into a homebuilding purchase contract; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. HANSEN (for himself and Mr. GIBBONS):

H.R. 2054. A bill to give the consent of Congress to an agreement or compact between Utah and Nevada regarding a change in the boundaries of those States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas (for himself, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. ARMEY, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mr. BALLENGER, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. ISAKSON, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. KELLER, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. PAUL, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. NORTHUP, Mr. LINDER, and Mr. SOUDER):

H.R. 2055. A bill to preserve open competition and Federal Government neutrality towards the labor relations of Federal Government contractors on Federal and federally funded construction projects; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Ms. KAPTUR (for herself, Mr. FROST, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. GONZALEZ, and Mr. PITTS):

H.R. 2056. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise the filing deadline for certain claims under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LATOURETTE:

H.R. 2057. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare Program of immunosuppressive drugs for Medicare beneficiaries who receive an organ transplant without regard to when the transplant was received; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. STARK, Mr. LEACH, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. BALDACCI, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COYNE, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HOEFFEL, Mr. HORN, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. LEE, Mr. MCNULTY, Mr. PASTOR, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. SIMMONS, Mrs. THURMAN, and Mr. WAXMAN):

H.R. 2058. A bill to promote primary and secondary health promotion and disease prevention services and activities among the elderly, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to add preventive health benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MCDERMOTT:

H.R. 2059. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for human embryonic stem cell generation and research; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. NETHERCUTT:

H.R. 2060. A bill to prevent plant enterprise terrorism; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Science, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 2061. A bill to amend the charter of Southeastern University of the District of Columbia; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. OLVER (for himself, Mr. SIMMONS, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. BASS, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, and Mr. SHAYS):

H.R. 2062. A bill to extend the effective period of the consent of Congress to the interstate compact relating to the restoration of Atlantic salmon to the Connecticut River Basin and creating the Connecticut River Atlantic Salmon Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. PELOSI (for herself, Mr. GEPHARDT, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mrs. MORELLA, Ms. LEE, Mr. BONIOR, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. CLYBURN, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. HORN, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. DICKS, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. BLAGOJEVICH, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. GONZALEZ, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. FILNER, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. FROST, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. FRANK, Mr. LANTOS, Ms. RIVERS, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. DELAHUNT, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. OWENS, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. STARK, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. WYNN, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. OLVER, Ms. WATERS, Mr. CLAY, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. RUSH, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. MEEHAN, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. ACKERMAN, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. HILLIARD, Mr. WEINER, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. EVANS, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. BENTSEN, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. HOLT, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. NADLER, Mr. GORDON, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. MATSUI, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. HONDA, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. KLECZKA, Ms. BERKLEY, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. FORD, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut):

H.R. 2063. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to permit States the option to provide Medicaid coverage for low-income individuals infected with HIV; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. QUINN (for himself, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. MCHUGH, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H.R. 2064. A bill to provide for comprehensive brownfield site assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on Small Business, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RADANOVICH:

H.R. 2065. A bill to amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to expand the flexibility of customized training, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. TANNER (for himself and Mr. BLUNT):

H.R. 2066. A bill to extend the tax benefits available with respect to services performed in a combat zone to services performed in the Sinai as part of the Multinational Force and Observers of the United Nations; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. VITTER:

H.R. 2067. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that certain deductions of school bus owner-operators shall be allowable in computing adjusted gross income; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ROHRABACHER (for himself and Mr. BROWN of Ohio):

H.J. Res. 50. A joint resolution disapproving the extension of the waiver authority contained in section 402(c) of the Trade Act of 1974 with respect to the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H. Con. Res. 149. Concurrent resolution permitting the use of the Rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to present posthumously a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Charles M. Schulz; to the Committee on House Administration. considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. FILNER, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. MCKINNEY, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. WYNN, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. MCINNIS, Mr. WOLF, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. KELLER, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut, Mr. WALSH, Mr. GONZALEZ, and Mr. EHRLICH):

H. Con. Res. 150. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Erik Weihenmayer's achievement of becoming the first blind person to climb Mount Everest demonstrates the abilities and potential of all blind people and other individuals with disabilities; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas (for herself, Ms. LEE, Mr. WYNN, Mr. WEINER, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. HILLIARD, Mr. RUSH, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, and Mrs. JONES of Ohio):

H. Con. Res. 151. Concurrent resolution expressing continuing sympathy for the victims of the devastating earthquake that struck the Republic of India on January 26, 2001, and support for ongoing aid efforts; to the Committee on International Relations, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ROGERS of Michigan:

H. Con. Res. 152. Concurrent resolution encouraging States bordering the Great Lakes, and the Canadian Province of Ontario to prohibit off-shore drilling in the Great Lakes for oil and gas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committee on International Relations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

95. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the General Assembly of the State of Illinois, relative to House Joint Resolution No. 27 memorializing the United States Congress to strongly urge the Government of the People's Republic of China to respect the well-being and safety of the crew in accordance with international practices; to the Committee on International Relations.

96. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois, relative to House Resolution No. 126 memorializing the United States Postal Service to issue a postage stamp honoring coal mining and coal miners, commemorating their contributions to our nation and its citizens; to the Committee on Government Reform.

97. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois, relative to House Resolution No. 187 memorializing that they have declared April 15, 2001, as Harold Washington United States Commemorative Stamp Day, and urge all citizens of Illinois to be aware of the contributions of Mayor Harold Washington and to write to the United States Postal Service Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee urging them to issue a commemorative stamp in honor of Mayor Harold Washington; to the Committee on Government Reform.

98. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Missouri, relative to Resolution 23 memorializing the United States Congress to rescind the Windfall Elimination Provision or amend it so that it does not bear disproportionately upon teachers and others who have modest salaries earned in non-Social Security-covered service; and amend the government pension offset so that it will not bear disproportionately upon teachers and others whose government pensions are based on modest salaries; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

99. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois, relative to House Resolution No. 107 memorializing the United States Congress to support Hennepin Works' fight against the unfair trade of foreign steel that has damaged our economy; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

100. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois, relative to House Resolution No. 96 memorilizing the United States Congress to support the Railroad Retirement and Survivors Improvement Act; jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Ways and Means.

101. Also, a memorial of the General Assembly of the State of Illinois, relative to House Joint Resolution No. 9 memorializing the United States Congress to support the Railroad Retirement and Survivors Improvement Act; jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Ways and Means.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 7: Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. PICKERING, and Ms. HART.

H.R. 15: Mr. COX and Mr. REYNOLDS.

H.R. 17: Mr. SPRATT.

H.R. 36: Mr. RAHALL, Mr. STRICKLAND, and Mr. HILLIARD.

H.R. 40: Ms. WATERS, Mr. DOOLEY of California, and Mr. BONIOR.

H.R. 41: Mr. REHBERG, Mr. CANTOR, and Mr. OSE.

H.R. 61: Ms. SOLIS.

H.R. 97: Mr. GORDON, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.

H.R. 122: Mr. LANTOS, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. GRUCCI, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. HALL of Texas, and Mr. VITTER.

H.R. 157: Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. GILMAN, and Ms. MCKINNEY.

H.R. 168: Mr. MOORE and Mr. TIBERI.

H.R. 175: Mr. TIAHRT.

H.R. 189: Mr. EVERETT.

H.R. 210: Mr. FILNER.

H.R. 236: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 250: Mr. TAUZIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. REHBERG, and Mr. SCHAFFER.

H.R. 267: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. BERMAN.

H.R. 281: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BLAGOJEVICH, and Mr. FILNER.

H.R. 303: Mr. POMBO and Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 361: Ms. SOLIS.

H.R. 389: Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 436: Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. RILEY.

H.R. 448: Mr. COMBEST.

H.R. 481: Mr. THOMPSON of California.

H.R. 491: Mr. SCOTT, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. HOYER, and Ms. SANCHEZ.

H.R. 510: Mr. PASTOR, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri, Mr. FARR of California, and Mr. WELLER.

H.R. 527: Mr. UPTON.

H.R. 570: Mr. BAKER.

H.R. 571: Mr. OWENS.

H.R. 572: Mr. SANDLIN.

H.R. 598: Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. ISRAEL, and Mr. SHADEGG.

H.R. 608: Mr. NUSSLE.

H.R. 609: Mr. SANDLIN.

H.R. 612: Mr. RADANOVICH, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. GRAVES, Mr. LARGENT, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Ms. DELAURO, MR. CARSON of Oklahoma, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. OLVER, and Mr. COYNE.

H.R. 623: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.

H.R. 638: Ms. KILPATRICK.

H.R. 668: Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. OWENS, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. MATSUI, Mr. CLEMENT, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Mr. WEXLER, Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, Mr. RILEY, Mr. PETRI, Mr. GIBBONS, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. BRYANT and Mr. MCNULTY.

H.R. 699: Mr. PASTOR.

H.R. 717: Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin and Mrs. BIGGERT.

H.R. 718: Mr. SOUDER, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. DELAY, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. RILEY, Mr. GRUCCI, Mr. WALSH, Mr. SHERWOOD, and Mr. SHUSTER.

H.R. 742: Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri.

H.R. 748: Mr. LEACH.

H.R. 757: Mrs. MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 786: Mr. CONYERS, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. OWENS.

H.R. 805: Mr. TURNER.

H.R. 808: Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, and Mr. ETHERIDGE.

H.R. 826: Mr. BENTSEN.

H.R. 827: Mr. BURR of North Carolina.

H.R. 831: Mr. BALLENGER, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. GOODLATTE, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DUNN, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. PASCRELL, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. BUYER, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. OSBORNE, Mr. SCARBOROUGH, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut, Mr. BARCIA, Mr. HONDA, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. CAPUANO, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. FILNER, and Mrs. MINK of Hawaii.

H.R. 835: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.

H.R. 854: Mr. BAIRD, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. TURNER, Ms. RIVERS, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. HONDA, Mr. GILLMOR, and Mr. CAPUANO.

H.R. 862: Mr. SANDLIN.

H.R. 876: Mr. PAYNE, Mr. WAMP, Mr. SABO, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. NUSSLE, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. DEUTSCH, Mr. SIMMONS, Mr. BOEHLERT, and Mr. LUTHER.

H.R. 877: Mr. MORAN of Kansas.

H.R. 910: Mr. KUCINICH and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 912: Mr. OXLEY and Mr. SPRATT.

H.R. 915: Mr. PASCRELL.

H.R. 936: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 938: Mr. COYNE.

H.R. 950: Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky and Mr. NEY.

H.R. 959: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. RAHALL.

H.R. 978: Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. EVANS, and Mr. GREENWOOD.

H.R. 981: Mr. MCCRERY, Mr. CONDIT, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, and Mr. MCINNIS.

H.R. 990: Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, and Mr. COYNE.

H.R. 1001: Mr. DOYLE.

H.R. 1003: Mr. SOUDER.

H.R. 1011: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.

H.R. 1029: Mr. RYUN of Kansas.

H.R. 1037: Mr. COX.

H.R. 1071: Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. GRUCCI, Mr. GREENWOOD, Mr. FARR of California, and Mr. GUTIERREZ.

H.R. 1073: Mr. WEINER, Mr. HYDE, Mr. MEEHAN, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. SERRANO.

H.R. 1076: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. MEEHAN, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. HALL of Ohio, Mr. DICKS, Mr. RUSH, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. KIND, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. MASCARA, Ms. NORTON, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Mr. SANDERS.

H.R. 1086: Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 1089: Mr. TANNER, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, and Mr. SNYDER.

H.R. 1110: Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. PITTS, Mr. RAMSTAD, Ms. MCKINNEY, and Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota.

H.R. 1126: Mr. TIAHRT.

H.R. 1149: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. ISSA, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 1164: Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. MCKINNEY, and Mr. FRANK.

H.R. 1170: Mr. PALLONE, Mr. HONDA, and Mr. MEEHAN.

H.R. 1177: Mr. EDWARDS.

H.R. 1181: Mr. GRAVES.

H.R. 1182: Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. BARTON of Texas, and Mr. TIAHRT.

H.R. 1192: Mr. SNYDER, Ms. SOLIS, and Ms. SANCHEZ.

H.R. 1217: Mr. BONIOR and Mr. SANDLIN.

H.R. 1252: Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. WEXLER, and Mr. MCNULTY.

H.R. 1254: Mr. PALLONE, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. HILLIARD, and Mr. HOLDEN.

H.R. 1255: Mr. ALLEN.

H.R. 1266: Mr. DOYLE, Mr. FILNER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PASTOR, Ms. SOLIS, and Ms. VELÁQUEZ

H.R. 1280: Ms. BALDWIN and Mr. CLEMENT.

H.R. 1295: Mr. LANGEVIN and Ms. PELOSI.

H.R. 1304: Mr. RAHALL, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Mr. SIMMONS.

H.R. 1305: Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut, Mr. BLAGOJEVICH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. HONDA, Mr. GREENWOOD, and Mr. HOEFFEL.

H.R. 1307: Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. BARCIA, Mr. LANTOS, and Ms. BALDWIN.

H.R. 1328: Mrs. MINK of Hawaii and Mr. CONYERS.

H.R. 1340: Mr. SHIMKUS.

H.R. 1344: Mr. FILNER.

H.R. 1351: Mr. HYDE and Mr. RAHALL.

H.R. 1353: Mr. HYDE, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. HILLEARY, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Ms. HART, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. REYNOLDS, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, and Mr. HINCHEY.

H.R. 1354: Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. BONIOR, Mrs. CLAYTON, and Mr. GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 1377: Mr. CONDIT, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, and Mr. GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 1388: Mr. FROST, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. BOSWELL, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. HAYES.

H.R. 1400: Mr. BARCIA.

H.R. 1402: Mr. OTTER.

H.R. 1403: Mr. OTTER.

H.R. 1404: Mr. OTTER.

H.R. 1406: Mr. SANDLIN and Mr. ABERCROMBIE.

H.R. 1427: Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. CULBERSON, and Ms. MCKINNEY.

H.R. 1433: Ms. BALDWIN and Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 1434: Ms. CARSON of Indiana and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.

H.R. 1449: Ms. MCKINNEY.

H.R. 1464: Mr. BONIOR.

H.R. 1484: Mrs. LOWEY.

H.R. 1487: Mr. CANTOR and Mr. DAVIS of Florida.

H.R. 1492: Mr. CROWLEY.

H.R. 1509: Mr. REYES, Mr. RUSH, Mr. CLEMENT, Mr. BERMAN, and Ms. WATERS.

H.R. 1522: Mr. ALLEN, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. SANDLIN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. LAFALCE, and Mr. DEFAZIO.

H.R. 1536: Mr. BARCIA, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. BLAGOJEVICH.

H.R. 1541: Mr. SANDLIN.

H.R. 1553: Mr. SHAYS and Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 1556: Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. HILLEARY, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. TURNER, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. WEINER, Mr. OLVER, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. PAUL, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. KOLBE, and Mr. GILLMOR.

H.R. 1581: Mr. CHAMBLISS and Mr. SUNUNU.

H.R. 1585: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mrs. LOWEY, and Mrs. MEEK of Florida.

H.R. 1589: Mr. FILNER.

H.R. 1592: Ms. HART.

H.R. 1602: Mr. BACHUS, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. ISAKSON.

H.R. 1609: Mr. PAUL, Mr. TURNER, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. BARCIA, Mr. GILLMOR, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma.

H.R. 1623: Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma.

H.R. 1624: Mr. KING, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. QUINN, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. MCNULTY, Ms. RIVERS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. WYNN, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Ms. NORTON, Mr. NADLER, Mr. WICKER, Ms. LEE, and Mr. SAXTON.

H.R. 1644: Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BARCIA, Mr. GRUCCI, Mr. CRANE, Mr. WELLER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. NETHERCUTT, and Mr. DELAY.

H.R. 1650: Mrs. MEEK of Florida and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 1661: Mr. BAIRD.

H.R. 1689: Mr. PICKERING, Mr. CONDIT, and Mr. ABERCROMBIE.

H.R. 1693: Mr. BENTSEN, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 1700: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. KOLBE, Mr. COYNE, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. POMBO, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. PELOSI, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mr. OWENS, and Ms. LEE.

H.R. 1707: Mr. GOODLATTE.

H.R. 1711: Mr. JONES of North Carolina.

H.R. 1716: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, and Mr. ISSA.

H.R. 1717: Ms. WATERS and Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.

H.R. 1718: Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. HOLT, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. BARCIA, Mr. ROEMER, and Mr. ENGEL.

H.R. 1723: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. OLVER, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mrs. THURMAN, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. RIVERS, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. DEFAZIO, and Mr. GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 1733: Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. RIVERS, Ms. SCHAOWSKY, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. GREEN of Texas, and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 1759: Mr. INSLEE, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, and Mrs. THURMAN.

H.R. 1780: Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. COYNE, and Mr. BALDACCI.

H.R. 1781: Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. BARCIA, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. FRANK, and Mr. BERMAN.

H.R. 1782: Mr. GILLMOR.

H.R. 1798: Mr. FRANK and Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts.

H.R. 1805: Mr. KELLER.

H.R. 1810: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. FRANK, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. COYNE, Mr. BLAGOJEVICH, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. DEFAZIO, and Mr. MCNULTY.

H.R. 1834: Mr. GRUCCI, Ms. HART, and Mr. UPTON.

H.R. 1839: Mr. UDALL of New Mexico and Mr. DOYLE.

H.R. 1842: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois and Mr. MCDERMOTT.

H.R. 1847: Mr. TERRY.

H.R. 1848: Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. BLUNT, and Mr. BOUCHER.

H.R. 1861: Mr. PICKERING and Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois.

H.R. 1864: Ms. KILPATRICK.

H.R. 1872: Mr. WOLF, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. GOSS, Mr. WELDON of Florida, and Mr. SPENCE.

H.R. 1879: Mr. DREIER.

H.R. 1909: Mr. LEVIN.

H.R. 1910: Mr. CRANE, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. VISCLOSKY, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 1911: Mr. MANUZLLO.

H.R. 1927: Mr. CAMP and Ms. KILPATRICK.

H.R. 1928: Ms. NORTON, Mr. COYNE, Mr. ENGEL, and Ms. RIVERS.

H.R. 1939: Mr. FILNER.

H.R. 1943: Mr. CARSON of Oklahoma.

H.R. 1945: Mr. SANDERS and Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 1948: Mr. SANDLIN, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, and Mr. KILDEE.

H.R. 1950: Mrs. ROUKEMA and Mr. BONILLA.

H.R. 1954: Mr. BURR of North Carolina, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. KELLER, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, and Mr. ROSS.

H.R. 1956: Mr. CALLAHAN, Mr. ROSS, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.

H.R. 1957: Mr. SIMMONS, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, and Mr. SHOWS.

H.R. 1964: Mr. OBERSTAR and Ms. LEE.

H.R. 1975: Mr. SHIMKUS.

H.R. 1979: Mr. DELAY, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. SHOWS, Mr. RYUN of Kansas, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mrs. THURMAN, and Mr. THORNBERRY.

H.R. 1982: Mr. CRANE and Mr. MANZULLO.

H.R. 1986: Mr. NORWOOD.

H.R. 1990: Ms. LEE.

H.R. 1994: Ms. MCKINNEY.

H.R. 2025: Mrs. BIGGERT.

H.R. 2029: Mr. WICKER.

H.J. Res. 6: Mr. RANGEL, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. MCHUGH.

H.J. Res. 36: Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. POMBO, Mr. PITTS, and Mr. BALLENGER.

H. Con. Res. 42: Mr. BARCIA, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. PAYNE.

H. Con. Res. 45: Mr. CLAY.

H. Con. Res. 85: Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. LANTOS.

H. Con. Res. 100: Mr. WAMP, Mr. HILLEARY, and Mr. OSBORNE.

H. Con. Res. 103: Ms. BALDWIN.

H. Con. Res. 104: Mr. HYDE, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. ENGEL, and Mr. ISRAEL.

H. Con. Res. 116: Mr. CLEMENT, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. GOSS, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. CAMP.

H. Con. Res. 142: Mr. WEINER, Mr. BOYD, and Ms. WATERS.

H. Con. Res. 145: Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. HILLIARD, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. DOYLE, Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. KNOLLENBERG, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. DEFAZIO.

H. Con. Res. 148: Mr. EHLERS.

H. Res. 17: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H. Res. 18: Mr. MATSUI.

H.R. 49: Mr. OWENS, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. CLAY, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HILLIARD, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mrs. CLAYTON, Ms. WATERS, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. FATTAH.

H. Res. 87: Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri and Mr. CONYERS.

H. Res. 101: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.

H. Res. 105: Mr. ENGEL.

H. Res. 120: Mr. BLAGOJEVICH and Ms. BALDWIN.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk's desk and referred as follows:

18. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the Council on Administrative Rights, relative to a Resolution petitioning the United States Congress to seek redress from a failing educational system; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

19. Also, a petition of the Council on Administrative Rights, relative to a Resolution petitioning the United States Congress to seek redress from crime at all levels; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

20. Also, a petition of the Council on Administrative Rights, relative to a Resolution petitioning the United States Congress to seek redress from the current slowdown in the economy of the United States; jointly to the Committees on Financial Services, Ways and Means, and Education and the Workforce.

21. Also, a petition of the Council on Administrative Rights, relative to a Resolution petitioning the United States Congress to provide universal healthcare coverage to all American citizens; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and Education and the Workforce.

22. Also, a petition of the Council on Administrative Rights, relative to a Resolution petitioning the United States Congress to seek redress from the arcane voting procedures and barriers to ballot access; jointly to the Committees on House Administration, Government Reform, and the Judiciary.

23. Also, a petition of the Council on Administrative Rights, relative to a Resolution petitioning the United States Congress to seek redress from gender discrimination and pay inequity against women; jointly to the Committees on the Judiciary, Education and the Workforce, and Energy and Commerce.

24. Also, a petition of the LaSalle County Board, Illinois, relative to Resolution No. 01–45 petitioning the United States Congress to pass the Steel Revitalization Act of 2001 and to support the Steelworkers fight against the unfair trade of foreign steel that has damaged our economy; jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means, Financial Services, and Education and the Workforce.

25. Also, a petition of the Council on Administrative Rights, relative to a Resolution petitioning the United States Congress to seek redress from ineffective environmental and energy policies; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Resources, Transportation and Infrastructure, Agriculture, and Ways and Means.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 1699

OFFERED BY: MRS. BIGGERT

AMENDMENT NO. 1: At the end of the bill add the following:

SEC. . ASSISTANCE FOR MARINE SAFETY STATION ON CHICAGO LAKEFRONT.

(a) ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of Transportation may use amounts authorized under this section to provide financial assistance to the City of Chicago, Illinois, to pay the Federal share of the cost of a project to demolish the Old Coast Guard Station, located at the north end of the inner Chicago Harbor breakwater at the foot of Randolph Street, and to construct a new facility at that site for use as a marine safety station on the Chicago lakefront.

(b) COST SHARING.—

(1) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of a project carried out with assistance under this section may not exceed one third of the total cost of the project.

(2) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—There shall not be applied to the non-Federal share of a project carried out with assistance under this section—

(1) the value of land and existing facilities used for the project; and

(2) any costs incurred for site work performed before the date of the enactment of this Act, including costs for reconstruction of the east breakwater wall and associated utilities.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to the other amounts authorized by this Act, for providing financial assistance under this section there is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Transportation $2,000,000 for fiscal year 2002, to remain available until expended.

H.R. 1699

OFFERED BY: MR. HOEKSTRA

AMENDMENT NO. 2: At the end of the bill add the following:

SEC. . COAST GUARD AIR SEARCH AND RESCUE FACILITIES FOR LAKE MICHIGAN.

AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to the other amounts authorized by this Act, there are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Transportation for operation and maintenance of the Coast Guard air search and rescue facility in Muskegon, Michigan, $2,028,000 for fiscal year 2002.

H.R. 1699

OFFERED BY: MR. SHADEGG

AMENDMENT NO. 3: At the end of the bill add the following new section:

SEC. . STUDY OF RISK OF CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING ON RECREATIONAL VESSELS.

(a) STUDY.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall use amounts available under this Act to carry out a study of structural designs of recreational vessels, for the purpose of identifying and addressing structural defects that are likely to create conditions that pose a risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.

(b) CONTENT.—The study shall—

(1) include examination of various methods of—

(A) carbon monoxide detection and warning on recreational vessels; and

(B) ventilation and exhaust routing on recreational vessels, including side venting, wet/dry stacks, catalytic converters/afterburners, and such other designs as the Secretary determines may correct structural defects identified in the study;

(2) include examination of changes to the design of new recreational vessels and retrofits of existing recreational vessels; and

(3) develop recommendations for improving the effectiveness of such methods, designs, and retrofits.

(c) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress on the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the study under this section within 60 days after the date amounts are available to carry out this section.

(d) RECREATIONAL VESSEL DEFINED.—In this section the term ''recreational vessel'' has the meaning given that term in section 2101 of title 46, United States Code, and includes houseboats.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

GOD, FAITH, AND HEALTH: EXPLORING THE SPIRITUALITY-HEALING CONNECTION, A NEW BOOK BY DR. JEFF LEVIN

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to mark the publication of God, Faith, and Health: Exploring the Spirituality-Healing Connection, by our own Dr. Jeff Levin, raised in Wilmette, Illinois, a graduate of New Trier High School. Dr. Levin is a pioneering scientist and author whose research beginning in the 1980s helped create the field of religion, spirituality, and health.

In this groundbreaking new book, Dr. Levin—a National Institutes of Health funded social epidemiologist who has conducted much of the original research in this increasingly influential area of health and medicine—explores the latest compelling evidence of the connection between health and a wide array of spiritual beliefs and practices. These include attendance at religious services, faith in God, and worship, prayer, and meditation. With examples from spiritual traditions as diverse as Christianity, Judaism, and Yoga, he looks with an open mind and perceptive eye at the many ways that religious involvement and belief can prevent illness and promote health and well being.

Drawing on his own and other published studies, Dr. Levin shows how religion's emphasis on healthy behaviors and supportive relationships influences our overall health and how the optimism and hopefulness of those who profess faith promote the body's healing responses.

Levin studies other healing modes as noncontact therapeutic touch, distant prayer, and transcendent experiences and asks if other forces could be at work in many cases of healing. Sharing compelling evidence from recent research, he offers an exciting vision of a new era in modern medicine, one in which body, mind, and something else are brought together to promote health, prevent illness, and produce healing.

Filled with the dramatic stories of people whose health has been affected by their faith, God, Faith, and Health will alter the way we think about our bodies and our faith, and shows us the path for improving our own health through spiritual practice.

In January, President Bush signed executive orders establishing the White House Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives. In light of the Administration's emphasis on faith-based institutions, Dr. Levin's God, Faith, and Health is an especially timely contribution. It provides a scientifically grounded model for how religious faith can help serve to promote the health and well being of all Americans.

According to Dr. James S. Gordon, Georgetown professor and Chairman of the White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative Medicine Policy, "Dr. Levin shows us—clearly, thoughtfully, comprehensively—that belief does matter. Spiritual practice and religious observance are powerful medicine."

I commend Dr. Levin for his groundbreaking contribution to science and medicine. The evidence presented in God, Faith, and Health promises to heal the divisive barriers that separate faith from medicine, and science from spirit.

HONORING ELSIE PALSI

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a woman who has dedicated her life to the pursuit of learning and sharing the gift of knowledge with her students. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Elsie Palsi, an educator in East Rutherford, New Jersey, who was recently honored by that town for her service. In fact, June, 2001 has been declared "Elsie Palsi Month" by the East Rutherford Education Community.

Elsie Palsi has brought her creativity and imagination to the profession of teaching. She was well loved by both her colleagues as well as the many students whose lives she touched. There is no doubt that her work will be greatly missed by the students of East Rutherford.

However, her efforts will always be felt. I am reminded of Henry Adams' saying that, "A teacher affects eternity; they can never tell where their influence stops."

People who give so much of themselves, as Elsie Palsi, do not do so for the recognition. However, she certainly deserves to receive it.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate Elsie Palsi as well as her family on the occasion of this well deserved tribute from the town of East Rutherford, New Jersey, and wish them health and happiness in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO DICK KNIPFING

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and honoring New Mexico's anchorman, Dick Knipfing. Dick has faithfully served New Mexicans for 37 years and, just last week, took his career full circle. He has served our state as a news anchor on all three of our largest local channels and has dedicated his life to informing his viewers on issues important to New Mexicans. His broadcasting career began at what was then known as KGGM, the CBS affiliate in Albuquerque. This week he returned to New Mexico's airwaves as an anchorman on KRQE, the current CBS affiliate formerly known as KGGM.

Dick is known and respected in New Mexico as a real "pro" who knows more about New Mexico history, politics, and policy than most of the people he covers and reports on every day.

Over the years, thousands of New Mexicans have relied on Dick Knipfing to give them the straight story, every night. In 1996, he was inducted into the Silver Circle Society, which is one of the more prestigious honors in his field. In the late eighties, he was elected by his peers as one of the "Best in the Business" and listed in the "Washington Journal Review."

Mr. Speaker, television news has changed and evolved significantly in the three and a half decades that have spanned Dick Knipfing's career. Today, it's a 24-hour a day, multi-channel business where, in too many instances, form is more important than substance. Dick Knipfing has always been a man of substance giving New Mexicans the truth with integrity.

We wish him the best in all future endeavors. He will always have a place in the hearts of New Mexicans for his integrity, his commitment to children and families, and his love of New Mexico. Please join me in honoring and thanking Mr. Dick Knipfing, New Mexico's anchorman, for all he has done and continues to do for our state.

Dick, it's good to see you back on the air.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ELKS LODGE 664

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 100th anniversary of Elks Lodge 664 in Fairview Heights, Illinois.

The beginnings of the Elks organization is credited to Charles Algernon Sidney Vivian. Born in London, Vivian arrived in New York in 1867. Vivian, an actor, met with a group of other theatrical entertainers to create a loose organization called the Jolly Corks. When one of the members died in 1867, leaving both his wife and his children destitute, the Jolly Corks decided, that in addition to good fellowship, they needed a more enduring organization to serve those in need. On February 16, 1868, they established the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks and elected Vivian to

head it. As word of its social activities and benefit performances increased and spread to other cities, other Elk's ''lodges'' were formed.

The legacy of Charles Vivian continues to this day. In addition to aiding members in distress, the Elks raise money for children with disabilities, provide college scholarships, develop youth projects and organize recreational programs for patients in veterans hospitals.

In 1907, the Elks held the first Flag Day observance. This tradition, started by the Elks, was later declared a national holiday by President Harry S. Truman. During World War I, the Elks funded and equipped field hospitals in France. Their loans to 40,000 returning veterans for college, rehabilitation and education were the precursor to the original GI bill. The Elks were also used during WW II to recruit construction workers for the military and they also contributed books to the Merchant Marines. During the Korean War, the Elks gave more than a half million pints of blood to help the wounded and in Vietnam, the Elks provided funds for the recreational needs of the military. When Desert Storm took place, the Elks undertook letter-writing campaigns to help keep up soldiers' morale.

Today, there are more than 1.3 million members of the Elks in 2200 local lodges found in all 50 states. Many members of Congress have been Elks. Former Speakers of the House Tom Foley, Tip O'Neill, Carl Albert, John McCormack and Sam Rayburn all belonged to the Elks. Hale Boggs of Louisiana was also an Elk. Presidents Harding, FDR, Truman, Kennedy and Ford were all Elks lodge members. I, too, am an Elks member from Lodge 481 in Belleville.

Local Elks lodges provide recreational and support facilities for the entire family and are the focal point for many community service projects. Lodge 664 members in Fairview Heights log in thousands of hours annually in volunteer service to charitable, educational and patriotic causes in our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 100 years of service of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks Lodge 664 and salute the members of the lodge both past and present.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID MEYERS, ED.D., LAKEVIEW PUBLIC SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, after thirty remarkable years in education, Dr. David Meyers, Superintendent of Lakeview Public Schools, will retire on June 30, 2001. As students, parents, and staff of Lakeview Public Schools bid farewell to a longtime friend and advocate of public education, they gathered to honor his retirement with a celebration of memories, laughter, and fun.

Demonstrating outstanding dedication and commitment to his students, his colleagues, and his community, Dr. Meyers has always been an active and enthusiastic supporter of education and advancement. Beginning his teaching career in 1971 at South Lake Schools teaching special education, a short ten years later he became Assistant Principal at South Lake High School in 1981 and named Principal of Avalon Elementary in 1986. Joining Lakeview Public Schools as Assistant Superintendent in 1991, he served in Curriculum and Labor Relations until 1993, when he was named interim superintendent and finally Superintendent of Schools in July 1994.

The hard work and innovative ideas of Dr. Meyers led Lakeview Public Schools in a new direction, including the first district strategic plan and a comprehensive staff development plan integrating the Lakeview Excellence in Academic Program (LEAP). His substantial contributions also included development of a K–12 curriculum initiative resulting in the first district-wide written curriculum based on standards and benchmarks as well as a change from a high school six-hour schedule to a modified block schedule. Developing the first county middle school alternative education program, implementing the Reading Recovery program at the elementary level, and creating a vocational/business partnership marine service class, the first of its kind offered to high school students in the nation, Dr. Meyers's crusade to raise the standards of public education is one that will be long remembered by students and educators for years to come.

I applaud Dr. Meyers for his leadership, commitment, and service, and thank him for dedicating thirty outstanding years to public education. I know he is honored by this recognition and I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting him for his exemplary years in academia.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I wish to inform you that my absence from voting in the House on Friday was due to my attendance at an annual briefing for senior citizens in my district. I notified my leadership on Friday that I had to leave for this event. My Chief of Staff informed me of the possibility of votes late Friday and into Saturday morning. I was preparing to leave for the vote late Friday evening when due to inclement weather I was unable to fly back from California on time. I ask that I be excused from my legislative duties on Friday and Saturday due to these unforeseen circumstances.

REQUIRE A REPORT ON THE OPERATIONS OF THE STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation that will require the Attorney General to submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on the Judiciary regarding the effectiveness of the State Justice Institute (SJI or ''the Institute''). The report would be due by October 1, 2002.

Congress established SJI as a private nonprofit corporation in 1984. Its stated purpose is to further the development and adoption of improved judicial administration in state courts. SJI is to accomplish this goal by providing funds to state courts and other national organizations or nonprofits which support state courts. SJI also fosters coordination and cooperation with the federal judiciary in areas of mutual concern. The Institute may not duplicate the work or functions of existing nonprofit organizations. Since becoming operational in 1987, the Institute has awarded more than $125 million in grants to support over 1,000 projects. Another $40 million in matching requirements has been generated from other public and private funding sources.

Section 213 of the original authorizing legislation, now codified at 42 U.S.C. § 10712, required the Attorney General to submit a report governing the effectiveness of SJI operations by October 1, 1987, to the House and Senate Committees on the Judiciary. Since SJI did not become operational until fiscal year 1987, however, the report submitted by former Attorney General Meese is of limited value in assessing the operations of the Institute.

Still, the report praised SJI start-up activities in the following summation: ''Although the Institute has only recently begun implementation of its program, much has been accomplished since it began operation. The Institute has made diligent efforts to develop and implement effective policies, procedures, and guidelines. . . .'' With regard to oversight, the report also noted that the Institute had established ''. . . an effective system of internal control by developing procedures and guidelines for its staff and grantees that ensure its resources are protected against fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement.'' The report concluded by noting that a full assessment of SJI activities could not be made until grants had been awarded and other program activities implemented.

As noted, the purpose of the bill I am introducing is to authorize the Attorney General, in consultation with the Institute, to submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on the Judiciary regarding the effectiveness of SJI in fulfilling its missions. The report would be done in consultation with SJI, and would be due not later than October 1, 2002.

Mr. Speaker, this is a noncontroversial bill that promotes good government. While I am impressed with SJI operations to date, all federal entities should be accountable to the taxpayers. I therefore urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

CHILE'S COMPLIANCE WITH ITS OWN LAWS PROTECTING LIFE

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to commend

Chile for its legal protection of unborn children. Chile has a wonderfully coherent constitution and system of laws relative to the protection of human life. The consistency of Chile's laws protecting human life is something that I look at very favorably when I consider the United States' relations with Chile.

That is why, as the Vice-Chairman of the House International Relations Committee as well as a Member of Congress with over 20 years of service, I am concerned about recent reports that the Chilean government has taken actions inconsistent with Chile's own legal protection of life.

I am specifically concerned about reports that the government has authorized and is promoting the ''morning after pill.'' Although the international abortion industry has misleadingly labeled this pill an ''emergency contraceptive,'' it operates not as a true contraceptive but as an abortifacient. That is, it does not prevent conception, but instead ensures the expulsion of the unborn child from the womb, causing its death.

As Congress reviews the free trade negotiations currently underway between the United States and Chile, the Chilean government's apparent failure to comply with its own benign laws regarding protection of human life from the moment of conception has become a factor in my consideration. For pro-life Members of Congress, admiration for Chile's continuing commitment to unborn children is an important reason to want to have a close and positive relationship with Chile. We believe Chile and other countries that still protect their unborn children should be commended and rewarded for setting an example to other nations, including the United States, whose courts or legislatures have imposed a legal regime that treats unborn children not as human beings to be nurtured and protected, but as disposable objects. I am sure that other Members of Congress who admire Chile's legal protection of unborn children will share my concern about reports that the government has taken actions in violation of that legal protection.

As the United States moves forward in our relations with Chile, I hope the Chilean government will consistently follow its own enlightened pro-life laws. I commend Chile for these laws, which reflect a consistent ethic of life over death.

BAXTER HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to rise and recognize an important international company whose headquarters are located in my congressional district, Baxter Healthcare Corporation. Baxter is a global medical products and services company with a mission of delivering critical therapies for people with life-threatening conditions. Their products and services are used to treat patients with many conditions including cancer, trauma, hemophilia, immune deficiencies, infectious diseases, kidney disease and other disorders.

Baxter was named one of the 100 Best Corporate Citizens by ''Business Ethics'' magazine and just a few weeks ago received the Business Ethics Award from DePaul University for its special dedication and innovative approaches to integrating ethics into everyday business practices. Baxter has also received more than 250 awards from the government or outside organizations for its environmental, health and safety initiatives in the last ten years.

I stand here today welcoming Baxter employees from my district and others who are arriving in Washington, DC today to share their experiences and personal stories. They will be meeting with me and other Members to inform and discuss with us the important work they are doing to assist individuals with life-threatening conditions. I look forward to their presence on Capitol Hill and I send out my sincere welcome.

HONORING KATHLEEN MASTBETH

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a woman who has dedicated her life to the pursuit of learning and sharing the gift of knowledge with her students. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Kathleen Mastbeth, an educator in East Rutherford, New Jersey, who was recently honored by that town for her service. In fact, June, 2001 has been declared ''Kathleen Mastbeth Month'' by the East Rutherford Education Community.

For 33 years, Kathleen Mastbeth has brought her creativity and imagination to the profession of teaching. She was well loved by both her colleagues as well as the many students whose lives she touched. There is no doubt that her work will be greatly missed by the students of East Rutherford.

However, her efforts will always be felt. I am reminded of Henry Adams' saying that, ''A teacher affects eternity; they can never tell where their influence stops.''

People who give so much of themselves, as Kathleen Mastbeth, do not do so for the recognition. However, she certainly deserves to receive it.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate Kathleen Mastbeth as well as her family on the occasion of this well deserved tribute from the town of East Rutherford, New Jersey, and wish them health and happiness in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO KIM KIMBERLY McDANIEL

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to your attention the good work of Kim Kimberly McDaniel. Ms. McDaniel passed away on March 28, 2001. I was contacted by several constituents in my home town of Albuquerque, New Mexico wishing to honor her life and work. She is missed by friends, family and those she served through her street ministry.

Kim was a life-long resident of Albuquerque, well known in the community for the past 25 years for ministering to the homeless. She gained pleasure and contentment by serving and giving to others. No job was too big or too small for her to take on—collecting clothing, driving people to doctor appointments, assisting in job searches, distributing food—all with a focus on getting people back into society through kind and compassionate treatment.

Through her work Kim Kimberly McDaniel made a difference in the lives of many, one person at a time. Please join me in honoring her life and her memory.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAINT JAMES CHURCH IN MILLSTADT, ILLINOIS

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 150th Anniversary of Saint James Church in Millstadt, Illinois.

This event is truly a milestone in the history of the St. James Parish. The parish was founded in 1851 in Millstadt. In 1863, a brick structure was completed to house the church. In 1881, a fire consumed the church leaving only the bell tower intact. Soon after that, the present church was constructed around what remained after the fire.

The parish serves over 600 families representing 1300 parishioners. St. James is also active in the community, sponsoring a Parish Festival in August and a Dinner Auction in November. St. James also boasts an active quilting group, an Over 50 Club and sponsors numerous blood drives. The school has over 150 students enrolled and last September, the parish opened an early childhood center.

Churches are the backbone of every community. With each church spire that dots our area, each one represents a community of people. St. James has served the community of Millstadt for the past 150 years and will serve the community far into the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Saint James Church on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary and to recognize their service to the community.

TRIBUTE TO MELVYN J. KATES, SPECIAL AMBASSADOR OF GOODWILL

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, the International Visitors Council of Metropolitan Detroit is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to present the unique culture of Metro Detroit to

distinguished visitors from around the world through its social, economic, and educational diversity. This year, as the International Visitors Council held its Gala Celebration on May 18, 2001, they honored Melvyn J. Kates as Special Ambassador of Goodwill, for his outstanding dedication and support of the IVC mission.

Longtime IVC advocate and distinguished lawyer, Melvyn Kates has demonstrated remarkable commitment and support throughout the years to both the American and International communities. With an interest in social and civic activism, Kates has served his community well through positions as a Precinct Delegate of the 13th Democratic District, an Alternate State Central Committee Member, and with professional affiliation with the American Bar Association, the Michigan Bar Association, the Wolverine Bar Association and the Polish Bar Association. His hard work and leadership efforts have earned him several awards, among them the Office of Wayne County Executive Distinguished Service Award and the YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit's Community Service Award, as well as proclamations and tributes from the Detroit City Council, the City of Detroit Office of the Mayor, the State of Michigan House of Representatives, and the State of Michigan Senate.

As a Citizen Ambassador faithfully committed to the mission of the International Visitors Council, Kates has dedicated his time and talents to hosting meetings, fundraisers and receptions for Detroiters and honorable guests from around the world. Opening his home and his heart to international visitors from Europe, Asia and Africa, he has taken it upon himself to ensure that visitors leave Detroit with a positive impression of the city and its citizens.

I applaud the International Visitors Council of Metropolitan Detroit and Special Ambassador Melvyn Kates for their leadership and commitment. I know that Melvyn is honored by this recognition and I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting him for his exemplary years of service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, due to pressing legislative matters in my district, I will not be present for this weekend's series of votes. Please excuse my absence, and thank you for your understanding.

THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2002

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a bill to authorize the operations of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) for Fiscal Year 2002.

Patents, and intellectual property in general, have been part of American jurisprudence and our national economy since the founding of the Republic. George Washington signed a patent bill early in his first term as President, and Abraham Lincoln (himself a patent owner) was quoted as saying that the patent system "added the fuel of interest to the fire of genius." But for the most part, this subject matter—dry and arcane, the province of engineers armed with law degrees—has never inspired great interest for the public. In fact, I am hard-pressed to identify two words which are better suited to induce sleep in the average lay person than "patent law."

My good-natured jab at patent lawyers notwithstanding, Lincoln got it right, as he so often did. The Founding Fathers were prescient enough to understand that for the young nation to survive, its economy had to flourish. This is why our Constitution (Article I, section 8) actually includes provisions authorizing Congress to protect patent owners and their rights. More than 200 hundred years and six-million patents later, the economy and the country are the better for it. Our patent laws have enabled individuals and businesses to produce marvelous inventions that touch us in ways which we take for granted but which enhance the quality of our lives on a daily basis. For that matter, patents are the very life's blood of certain industries, as any biotech executive will acknowledge. Try raising a half-billion dollars in capital to bring a cancer treatment to market without patent protection for the underlying work.

Unfortunately, the PTO is not currently providing adequate service to individuals and businesses. Innovators must obtain prompt and reasonable evaluations from the PTO on whether they can acquire patents if they are to make sound business decisions. The PTO is now taking more than 25 months from filing to process a patent application to a patent, and the latest projections show it will take an average of 38.6 months by 2006. I am fearful that the agency simply does not have the resources that will allow it to provide quality patents, especially in such emerging areas as biotechnology and business methods. On top of these problems, the PTO has been unable to adopt the latest information technology that could allow it to provide better service to the public and more efficient patent and trademark processing.

If one accepts my point—that patents are vital to the sustenance of our economy—then I hope another point begins to resonate more forcefully among my colleagues. Since 1992, the U.S. Congress, with the participation of each Administration, has steadily diverted money out of the PTO to other programs. This practice imposes an unfair tax on inventors, because unlike most federal programs, the PTO does not receive stipend from the General Treasury. Instead, it raises all of the revenue needed to operate through the collection of user fees imposed on inventors who file for patent protection and businesses that file for trademark registration at the agency. In addition, the

The bottom line is that time is money in the patent world; and with more money, the PTO can issue quality patents faster, which means more investment, more jobs, and greater wealth for American industry. The same is true for trademarks. When businesses develop new products or new brand names for existing products, early federal registration of the name, logo, or symbol is necessary to protect rights and avoid expensive litigation.

My bill would help to correct this problem by authorizing the agency to keep all of the fee revenue it raises in Fiscal Year 2002. At the same time, however, this authorization would still be subject to the availability of appropriations, meaning that the PTO must still convince the appropriators that the agency needs and will properly spend any extra funds. In addition, and consistent with this emphasis on oversight, the legislation sets forth two problem areas that PTO should address in the coming year, irrespective of its overall budget: First, the PTO Director is required to develop an electronic system for the filing and processing of all patent and trademark applications that is user friendly and that will allow the Office to process and maintain electronically the contents and history of all applications. Fifty-million dollars are earmarked for this project in each of Fiscal Years 2002 and 2003 for this purpose. Second, the Director, in consultation with the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees, must develop a strategic plan that sets forth the goals and methods by which PTO will enhance patent and trademark quality, reduce pendency, and develop a 21st Century electronic system for the benefit of filers, examiners, and the general public.

Mr. Speaker, the Patent and Trademark Office Authorization Act of 2002 will allow the patent and trademark communities to get more bang for their filing and maintenance buck, while enhancing the likelihood that the agency will receive greater appropriations in the upcoming Fiscal Year. It is a bill that benefits the PTO, its users, and the American economy. I urge my colleagues to support it.

TWENTY YEARS OF AIDS

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, on June 5th of 1981, the first official report on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome was published. Twenty years later, the AIDS pandemic has claimed the lives of more than 20 million people worldwide. In my home state of Illinois alone, over 15,000 people have perished in the last twenty years.

36 million people worldwide are presently living with HIV/AIDS. Nearly 70% of those reside in Sub-Saharan Africa. In Zimbabwe, one out of every four adults has HIV. The HIV infection rate in Asia will out-pace that of Africa within the next decade.

In Illinois, 35,000 people are living with HIV/AIDS. HIV infection is growing at an alarming rate among women and African Americans. The demographics of those infected with AIDS in Illinois mirrors that of our nation.

There is hope. Twenty years ago, surviving the AIDS virus was impossible. Today, people in developed countries can manage living with HIV, while it is still a death sentence in the developing world. In 1986, I suggested to Congressman John Porter that the U.S. Congress

start an International AIDS Control Program. He joined forces with Representative Bob Mrazek, and the program was born. Today, the United States is the leader in the fight against AIDS with so much more to do. Twenty years and we are finally fighting AIDS.

HONORING LYNN SULLIVAN

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a woman who has dedicated her life to the pursuit of learning and sharing the gift of knowledge with her students. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lynn Sullivan, an educator in East Rutherford, New Jersey, who was recently honored by that town for her service. In fact, June, 2001 has been declared ''Lynn Sullivan Month'' by the East Rutherford Education Community.

Lynn Sullivan has brought her creativity and imagination to the profession of teaching. She was well loved by both her colleagues as well as the many students whose lives she touched. There is no doubt that her work will be greatly missed by the students of East Rutherford.

However, here efforts will always be felt. I am reminded of Henry Adam's saying that, ''A teacher affects eternity; they can never tell where their influence stops.''

People who give so much of themselves, as Lynn Sullivan, do not do so for the recognition. However, she certainly deserves to receive it.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate Lynn Sullivan as well as her family on the occasion of this well deserved tribute from the town of East Rutherford, New Jersey, and wish them health and happiness in the years to come.

REVEREND HENRY ALPHONZO HILDEBRAND

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call the attention of my colleagues to a friend and constituent in the Sixth District of New Jersey whose unselfish service to his community has left a lasting impression in the hearts of members of both his church and his community.

Reverend Henry Alphanzo Hildebrand has dedicated his life to serving his congregation and his community. Throughout his career, Reverend Hildebrand has served in five different churches and has been recognized by a numerous organizations for his years of dedication. He began his career as a pastor for Ebenezer A.M.E. Church in Rahway, New Jersey, where he led the congregation in the construction of the present church edifice. After serving the Rahway community for three years, he was assigned to the Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church in Plainfield. There he inspired dedicated members to aid in the recovery of the church building and parsonage. Then in 1953, Reverend Hildebrand was assigned to Morris Brown A.M.E. in Philadelphia and quickly expanded the size of the congregation. Under his leadership, the church was recognized as a leading church in the area. Following his assignment in Philadelphia, Reverend Hildebrand returned to New Jersey and dedicated himself to the St. James Church in Atlantic City where he was instrumental in renovating and refurbishing the church as well as in the acquisition of a new parsonage.

For the last thirty-seven years Reverend Hildebrand has been a Pastor at the Mount Zion Church where he has become the Senior Pastor in the city of New Brunswick, as well as the New Jersey Conference. Reverend Hildebrand is also the only Pastor in the conference to dedicate his service to the same congregation for over 30 years. Throughout his years at Mt. Zion, the congregation has experienced unparalleled spiritual, cultural and economic expansion. Reverend Hildebrand is dedicated to his congregation-he weeps for the lost of loved ones, rejoices in times of celebration and services as a source of support.

It is my sincere hope that my colleague will join me in honoring Pastor Henry A. Hildebrand for his inexhaustible enthusiasm and many outstanding achievements in the Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church community.

D-DAY ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL FERGUSON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to address you on the eve of the anniversary of the American victory on D-Day. Fifty-seven years ago, thousands of U.S. soldiers risked their lives landing in Normandy and Provence and accomplished the first great breach of Hitler's forces in Western Europe. Over the next few months, thousands more joined the fight and gave their lives to liberate France and defend the cause of freedom.

We remember and honor the remarkable contribution and sacrifice, which those brave soldiers made in the name of freedom. I would like to draw attention to a special event that illustrates the international significance of D-Day.

In Union County, New Jersey, a part of the 7th Congressional District I was chosen to represent, a ceremony will take place tomorrow honoring county residents who valiantly served in this great military operation. The veterans will be awarded a commemorative medal and diploma that was designed by the Federacion des Aciens Combattants Francais in a profound gesture of appreciation and good will.

Again, I am honored to bring to the attention of the House and represent the citizens of New Jersey, in offering my most sincere respect, appreciation and admiration for the brave men who led our nation during one of its finest hours.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, on Friday morning May 25, 2001, and Saturday, May 26, 2001, I was in my district attending to official business and as a result missed two roll call votes.

Had I been present, the following is how I would have voted:

Roll Call No. 148 (On agreeing to the Resolution H. Res. 153—Waiving points of order against the Conference Report to accompany H.R. 1836) ''Nay.''

Roll Call No. 149 (On agreeing to the Passage of the Conference Report—H.R. 1836) ''Nay.''

TRIBUTE TO DR. JAY C. DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DEFENSE THREAT REDUCTION AGENCY

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I wish to take this opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of Dr. Jay Davis, the first Director of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, more commonly known as ''DTRA.'' Jay completes his tenure as the Director on June 21, 2001 and will be returning to Lawrence Livermore Laboratory.

Three years ago, the Department of Defense recognized the need to establish an agency to respond to the growing threat posed by the proliferation of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons—so called ''weapons of mass destruction'' or ''WMD.'' In October 1998, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency was established to integrate and focus the capabilities of the Department on the present and future WMD threat.

The agency needed a director and the Department reached out to Jay Davis to establish the Agency, provide its vision, and make it a rapid success. Jay was the perfect choice for this assignment. He had spent the majority of his career at Lawrence Livermore Labs. A nuclear physicist, he has worked as a research scientist and an engineering manager, leading the design and construction of several unique accelerator facilities for basic and applied research. Most recently, he was the Director, Center for Accelerator Mass Spectrometry.

He also brought extensive management experience in mergers, restructuring, and change management in organizations as well as project and operations management. His research interests also include treaty verification and nonproliferation technologies, and the design of research and development collaborations.

Jay has also served as a scientific advisor to the United Nations Secretariat, several US agencies, and to the scientific agencies of the governments of Australia and New Zealand. He participated in two United Nations inspections of Iraq as an expert on mass spectrometer and construction techniques.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree and Master of Arts Degree, both in Physics, from the University of Texas, and a Ph.D. in Physics from the University of Wisconsin. Prior to joining Lawrence Livermore, he was an Atomic Energy Commission Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Wisconsin. He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society and was one of its Centennial Lecturers in its 100th Anniversary Year. The author of more than seventy published works in his discipline, he also holds three patents on analytical techniques and applications.

During his three years at DTRA, Jay created an agency that is widely respected for the unique perspectives and capabilities it offers. Today, DTRA performs many important missions. It is partnered with the Commanders-in-Chief of the combatant commands, the Services, and the Department of Energy on the maintenance of the physical and doctrinal components of our nuclear deterrant. It provides the warfighters the offensive and defensive tools to prevail against WMD. DTRA also executes all arms control treaty inspections, cooperative agreements and technology control activities in the Department of Defense. in addition, jay has been instrumental in leading and defining the Defense Department's role in supporting local and state agencies in WMD terrorism response operations. Under his leadership, DTRA has contributed significantly to the evolving concept of homeland defense.

Jay has twice been awarded the Distinguished Public Service Medal by the Secretary of Defense, DoD's highest civilian award, for his contributions to national security.

He and his wife Mary soon will return to the good life of the Livermore valley. I am happy to report that the nation will not lose his services, however. Effective July 1, 2001, Jay will return to Lawrence Livermore Laboratory to become the first National Security Fellow at the Lab's Center for Global Security Research. In this new position, Jay will do what he does best—bringing together scientists and technologists with policy analysts to study ways in which technology can enhance national security. I congratulate Jay on all his accomplishments at DTRA and wish him the best in his future endeavors at Lawrence Livermore Lab.

CELEBRATING THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF LYRICIST HAL DAVID

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to take note of the 80th birthday of lyricist Hal David, whose work has produced some of the most enduring musical moments of the century and brought immense pleasure to generations of music lovers.

Few people probably realize how many of the words to songs they know and love were written by Hal David. Between '62 and '72, his lyrics were everywhere. Artists as diverse as Paul McCartney, the Pet Shop Boys, Manic Street Preachers, Prince and Elvis Costello cite his work as being influential to their own.

Millions of people have been enchanted by the work of this master wordsmith. We have all smiled at the wit and wisdom in the words to ''Raindrops Keep Falling on my Head'', ''Do You Know the Way to San Jose'', ''What the World Needs Now is Love, Sweet Love'', ''Always Something There to Remind Me'', and many many others. Hal's lyrics are clever, but come straight from the heart and shine with honesty and sincerity.

To say that Hal has been repeatedly honored for his talent is to make an understatement of some magnitude: ''Raindrops'' won an Academy Award, three other of his songs were nominated for Oscars, several more are in the Grammy Hall of Fame, and more than 20 won gold records. His work, of course, has earned him a special spot in the Songwriters' Hall of Fame, which he now serves as Chairman of the Board.

Filmgoers are very familiar with his work. The lyrics for the scores to ''Alfie'', ''What's New Pussycat'', ''The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance'', and ''Moonraker'', among others are his. Together with his long-time collaborator Burt Bacharach, he wrote six songs featured in ''My Best Friend's Wedding.'' His Broadway show, ''Promises, Promises'' was awarded a Grammy and nominated for a Tony award.

The sheer volume of classic popular songs that bear his name is breathtaking and his hits are really too numerous to list.

Not content with just making music, Hal's years have been filed with service to civic and charitable organizations on both the East and the West coasts. He has contributed his valuable time to the New York City Food Bank and the Artist's Committee for Kennedy Center Honors. He is a Founder of the Los Angeles Music Center and a member of the Board of Governors of Cedars Sinai Medical Center.

As a past President and current member of the Board of Directors of ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers), he is known for his work on the protection of intellectual property and the preservation of artists' rights.

It's hard to imagine that an artist of his accomplishments could be an unassuming, friendly guy, but Hal David is one of the nicest individuals imaginable. I'm sure you will all want to join me in thanking him for all the joy his music has brought to our lives and in wishing him many happy returns and very best wishes.

TRIBUTE TO THE ORIGINAL VENICE RESTAURANT AND THE RONCA, FEOLA AND SCAROGNI FAMILIES

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Ronca, Feola and Scarogni Families who, on June 20, 2001, will celebrate their 50th anniversary of running a successful family-owned business in the South Bronx; the original Venice Restaurant, first located on the opposite corner of its present location at 772 East 149th Street.

The members of these three related families trace their roots to the beautiful island of Ponza, Italy. They arrived in the Bronx as immigrants eager to improve their lives through hard work and dedication to the opportunities offered in this great land. The Venice Restaurant was opened in 1951 by Fred Guarino. He ran it until 1958. From that year until 1962, Giovanni Ronca and Silverio Migliaccio managed this neighborhood landmark. Mr. Ronca continued to operate the restaurant until 1975 when Steve Scarogni and Elio Feola assumed control. In 1988, Mr. Scarogni moved the business across the street to its present location. And twelve years later, Francesco Feola and Philip Vitiello joined Mr. Scarogni as partners. Throughout this entire time, these cousins and nephews of the restaurant's founder have maintained the same high quality food and service that has made the Venice Restaurant a neighborhood classic. Known for its fine dishes of pastas, veal, chicken and seafood, made daily on the premises, these family members continue to run a first class operation popular throughout the area.

Mr. Speaker, this is another fine example of immigrants coming to this country realizing their goals and living the ''American Dream.'' Their success reminds all of us of the contribution immigrants have continuously made to our economy and to the betterment of this country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the Ronca, Scarogni and Feola families and in wishing them continued success.

CONGRATULATING THE 180TH FIGHTER WING AND THE 555TH AIR FORCE BAND

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 180th Fighter Wing and the 555th Air Force Band (ANG), both stationed in the Ninth Congressional District in Swanton, Ohio. On April 7, 2001, the Air Force awarded the 180th Fighter Wing and the 555th Air Force Band the 2000 Outstanding Unit Award.

This citation recognizes the 180th Fighter Wing for service to America over a two-year span from June 1998 to May 2000. During that time, the brave men and women of this unit twice participated in overseas deployments to enforce the non-fly zone in Northern Iraq. Participating in Operation Northern Watch Joint Task Force based at Incirlik Air Base in Turkey, the unit completed 138 flights, often under hostile fire in the form of Iraqi surface-to-air missiles and anti-aircraft artillery. They successfully destroyed predetermined targets, resulting in a significant reduction of the threat capabilities in Northern Iraq. Moreover, the 180th Fighter Wing led the Ohio and Hungary Partnership for Peace, an initiative aimed at helping the former Soviet Block nation prepare for entry into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The unit trained with the Hungarian Air Force as they adjusted to their new role in the NATO Alliance.

This award, however, recognizes more than just exceptional performance in battle. The

Outstanding Unit Award attests to the excellence of this Unit's Standardization and Evaluation, Safety, Health Services, and Environmental Programs. Members of the 180th Fighter Wing and 555th AFB were deployed to Honduras to construct shelters for victims of Hurricane Mitch. Closer to home, they assisted with flood relief along the Ohio River. There, they cleared roads, removed trash and provided safe drinking water to victims. The unit also provided medics and physicians to assist victims as well as performed field media relations, giving citizens time-sensitive information about health, safety and flood cleanup. The 180th later deployed 43 people to Camp Dodge, Iowa to repair several facilities damaged by tornadoes. By using their plumbing, electrical, structural, engineering and heavy machinery skills, the unit saved the Army $160,000 in labor costs—the largest saving by any such group to date.

Finally, I must commend the 180th Fighter Wing and all its members for the community involvement and humanitarian services provided, not just over the last two years, but also throughout its residence in Northwest Ohio. This unit is actively involved in multiple charitable, community and youth programs throughout the region. They have tutored and mentored students at two area schools under the Adopt a School Program, raised funds for Big Brothers/Big Sisters, participated in Operation Feed through the Toledo Seagate Food Bank which donated 4,938 food items and $9,953 through that period, and created an internship program for the Ohio School to Work Program.

No doubt: the 180th Fighter Wing and 555th AFB are outstanding in every sense of the word. Whether flying dangerous missions overseas, assisting in disaster relief at home or volunteering free time to teach a child how to read, these men and women perform beyond expectations. Their courage and commitment to the community, as well as their jobs, is unparalleled. We in the 9th Congressional District of Ohio are honored to have such a dedicated, professional and exemplary unit represent our nation here and abroad.

HONORING JOHN A. JACKSON

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor John A. Jackson, a resident of Altadena, who was awarded an Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship.

Mr. Jackson is a graduate of California State University, Los Angeles, and earned a Master's degree at the University of Southern California. He was awarded the fellowship based on his extraordinary success in inspiring students through ''action'' learning. Mr. Jackson is the Founder and Director of Project EARTH (Environmental Awareness Research Through Hands-on Activities), an award winning earth science and environmental education program for seventh grade students at Monterey Highlands School. Mr. Jackson also instituted a week-long earth science and environmental science field trips to the Salton Sea, Mono Lake, Yosemite National Forest, and Death Valley Park.

Mr. Jackson is serving his fellowship at the National Science Foundation's Division of Graduate Education. He is working in the GK–12 program and is addressing the lack of Science, Mathematics, Engineering, and Technology (SMET) instruction in our schools. The GK–12 goal is to increase classroom teachers' knowledge and understanding of scientific principles, improve communication and teaching-related skills for Fellows, and link through partnerships universities to local school districts. Mr. Jackson is very dedicated to these important goals and has agreed to serve another year in the fellowship program.

John A. Jackson is a true example of the difference one person can make in lives of our young people. His ongoing commitment to lifelong education is truly commendable. My district is very blessed to have an educator of his caliber and I am very proud to honor him here today.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. BETTY HUTH SCHONROCK OF HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Betty Huth Schonrock, a gracious friend of our community. Mrs. Schonrock was recently recognized with the Governor's Arts Award for her time, guidance, and financial support of the arts in Huntsville. As a direct result of Mrs. Schonrock's time and service, our quality of life has been enhanced through her commitment to the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra, the Wilcoxon ice-skating complex, Randolph School, the Historic Huntsville Foundation, the Madison County Mental Health Association, the Huntsville-Madison Botanical Gardens, and the Huntsville Museum of Art.

Becky Quinn, a member of the Alabama State Council on the Arts, spoke at the awards ceremony about Mrs. Schonrock's contributions to the development of the arts in North Alabama. Her words speak volumes about the award winner, ''For years Betty has taken strong leadership roles by bringing a rare combination of passion and reality to the arts. She has both the creativity to provide the vision and the organizational and fundraising skills to assure success.'' I also would like to share with you the comments on Betty listed in the ''Celebration of the Arts'' program, ''The growth, strength and stability of many of these art entities are attributed to the insight, commitment and hard work of Betty Schonrock, whose efforts and influence will be felt for countless years and generations to come.''

Mrs. Schonrock is not afraid to take on the tasks that no one else will volunteer for. She has spent incalculable hours in computerizing, for the first time, the Symphony ticket subscriber's list, auction acquisitions records, and auction invitation list. This kind of service is not an unusual task for Mrs. Schonrock to undertake and is very reflective of the kind of selfless dedication she gives to the arts.

I believe this is a fitting tribute for one who has dedicated many years to serving the nation and the citizens of North Alabama. I send my congratulations to Mrs. Schonrock and her family, her husband Keith, and her children Heather and Keith as she accepts the well-deserved Governor's Arts Award. On behalf of the people of Alabama's 5th Congressional District, I join them in celebrating the extraordinary accomplishments of a wonderful lady, Mrs. Betty Huth Schonrock.

COMMEMORATING THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF HIV/AIDS

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw my colleague's attention to a tragic anniversary. It was twenty years ago today that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published the first report of what is now known as HIV/AIDS. I ask my colleagues to join with me today in renewing our commitment to conquer HIV and AIDS and to support efforts to end the spread of HIV.

Today marks the beginning of the third decade with AIDS, and almost 40 million people are living with HIV/AIDS worldwide. Here in the United States, increased social awareness and HIV/AIDs initiatives have created a perception that the AIDS pandemic is over. However, AIDS/HIV continues to destroy American families, neighborhoods, and communities. Women and children are especially susceptible to the disease. Between 1994 and 1998, the number of women living wth AIDS nearly doubled. Moreover, there are an estimated 120,000 to 160,000 women living with HIV. It is especially alarming that seventy-eight percent of the AIDS cases in American women ages 20–24 are minorities.

Minorities account for over two thirds of the new AIDS cases reported in this country, and people of color account for more than half of AIDS cases worldwide. Children are fast becoming the innocent victims of HIV; the number of children living with HIV and AIDS is at an all-time high. Even communities that were leading in the battle against HIV/AIDS have suffered set backs in the last few years. The gay community, which was the first community mobilize and educate itself shortly following its tidal wave of infections in the early 1980s, is seeing increases in infection rates that had long lingered between 3 and 5 percent. A recent report by the CDC suggests that there is resurgence of HIV infection in the gay community, especially among African-Americans and Hispanics.

In comparison to other regions of the world, America has escaped the epidemic proportions of AIDS seen around the world. Sub-Saharan Africa has been far more severely affected by AIDS than any other part of the world. The United Nations reports that 25.3 million adults and children are infected with

the HIV virus in the region, which has about 10% of the world's population but more than 70% of the worldwide total of infected people. I applaud the efforts of my colleagues who have worked tirelessly to the awareness of the members of this body of the conditions in Africa.

Since the onset of HIV/AIDS in 1981, we here in Congress, have attempted to address the issue. Not knowing of the complications and aggression of HIV/AIDS, in FY81 the Department of Health and Human Services received $200,000 in discretionary funding for HIV/AIDS. Today, Health and Human services receives close to $5 billion for HIV/AIDS programs, and the overall federal government spends close to $12 billion on programs for HIV/AIDS research, education, and prevention. This funding allows agencies such as the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to support programs for state and local prevention activities. Programs sponsored by the CDC also include: a national public information network; education programs in the nation's schools; disease monitoring; and laboratory; behavioral, epidemiologic studies designed to identify the most effective interventions to combat HIV. Federal funding has also helped in the development of drugs has also helped in the development to drugs such as AZT and others, which allow infected individuals to enjoy a longer and healthier life. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has conducted crucial research in the development of treatments and vaccines for HIV/AIDS. the HIV/AIDS Minority Initiative provides funding for prevention and treatment in minority communities. The Global Health Initiative supports activities around the world focused on HIV/AIDS programs. The Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund provides compassionate payments to individuals with blood clotting disorders, who contracted HIV due to contaminated blood transfusions. These programs not only effect social consciousness, but also reflect our nation's increased dedication and commitment to eradicating HIV/AIDS.

In 1990, Congress passed the Ryan White Comprehensive Resources Emergency (CARE) Act. I am proud to say that here in this sometimes divisive body, we were able to come together and vote unanimously for the reauthorization of the Act in 2000, thereby assisting metropolitan areas and states with their health care costs and support services for individuals and families affected by HIV/AIDS. This legislation is vital to helping those who are most affected by this disease and who often do not have the means to combat this disease. Shortly after we passed the Ryan White CARE Act, I received a letter from a former student of mine who has been living with AIDS. In her touching letter, my former student applauded our efforts here in Congress, "I am very pleased that we have seen an increase in funding for the Ryan White CARE Act to help those living with this horrible disease and all of their families too. Now, hopefully with all the funds we can care for a lot of people and try to keep them as well as possible * * *."

Mr. Speaker, we cannot jeopardize the well being of those living with HIV/AIDS and must ensure that funding for HIV/AIDS is retained. I commend the gentlewoman from California, Mrs. PELOSI, and the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. SHIMKUS, whom I have joined in sending a letter to encourage President Bush to increase funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) programs. The letter also encourages President Bush to support funding for disease prevention, the Ryan White CARE Act to improve health care for people with AIDS, and the Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative. With rates of infection on the up swing and so concentrated, we cannot let these programs lag; the risk is too high.

It is paramount that we persevere in our efforts against HIV/AIDS. As we begin our third decade battling this disease, I maintain that we focus our energies on those who are most vulnerable to infections: women, minorities, and children. We must also redouble our efforts to educate our citizens, especially our youth, on how to protect themselves from HIV infection. In addition, we must not ignore our humanitarian duty to those suffering around the world. The strides we have made in the past two decades are numerous; and we should celebrate our victories. However, we cannot overlook the individuals who are unable to fight this disease alone. I ask my colleagues, on this the 20th anniversary of the AIDS/HIV, to remember the past and stand in solidarity to renew our nation's commitment to this global crisis.

TRIBUTE TO RUTH VELOZO

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, a remarkable individual is planning to retire next month after 34 years of dedicated service to the hungry and the homeless in my District. Ruth Velozo, executive director of Northwest Harvest, a statewide food program, is stepping down at the age of 72. Ms. Velozo began working for Northwest Harvest in 1967 and became executive director in 1980. As a result of her guidance and hard work, the agency grew from an ecumenical ministry with a debt of $35,000 to a $20 million dollar a year charity.

Last year, Northwest Harvest collected and distributed 16.5 million pounds of food to the poor and the hungry. Northwest Harvest has four distribution centers in the state through which food is donated to 283 hunger programs.

Mr. Speaker, Ruth Velozo grew up during the Great Depression. She learned the devastation of poverty and hunger. Through America's prosperous upswings and economic downturns, she never abandoned her determination to help those who are left out. She has dedicated her life not only to feeding people, but to furthering her core values: maintaining the dignity of the poor, and an unwavering belief in the basic generosity of people.

Ms. Velozo has said that in a perfect world, she would step down because there is no longer a need for Northwest Harvest's services. But sadly, more than 30,000 people ask for food at the main branch in Seattle each month, and Washington State ranks eighth amongst the states in those who suffer from hunger. The need would be much larger, however, had it not been for Ruth Velozo and her work. I hope you will join me, Mr. Speaker, in thanking her for her energy, for her leadership, and for her commitment.

A TRIBUTE TO RABBI GERALD RAISKIN

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pleasure to honor Rabbi Gerald Raiskin, who is celebrating 50 years in the Rabbinate and 45 years as Rabbi of Peninsula Temple Sholom.

Rabbi Raiskin's life of service began in New York's lower East Side where he attended Seward Park High School, Herezliah Hebrew High School and Brooklyn College. His exemplary dedication to duty was evident from the early age of 18, when Gerald Raiskin answered his country's call and enlisted in the United States Army. He soon earned the rank of Private First Class and served with distinction in the 80th Infantry Division of the United States Army. Gerald Raiskin was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge and two Battle Stars for heroic combat duty, which included the capture of Hitler's Austrian birthplace and engagement in hostilities at the outskirts of the Buchenwald Concentration Camp, where the young soldier observed the bodies of inmates who were killed in the nearby woods as he marched towards the camp. When the war in Europe ended, Rabbi Raiskin's outstanding academic record afforded him the opportunity to attend the University of Geneva, where he studied art and political science before returning home to Brooklyn.

Gerald Raiskin's path to the rabbinate began in earnest with his commitment to Reform Judaism and enrollment in the Jewish Institute of Religion's Rabbinical School in 1948. He was both an illustrious and industrious student who served as a student rabbi in several congregations while writing a thesis and preparing for written and oral examinations for the Master of Hebrew Literature Degree. On weekends, then student rabbi Raiskin tended both a reluctant furnace and a willing new congregation in East Hartford, Connecticut. On the High Holy Days he was assigned to conduct Conservative services in Lake Hopatcong, New Jersey, a bungalow community where Rabbi Raiskin served as rabbi, cantor, torah reader and blew the shofar. In addition, he organized a religious school in Merrick, Long Island, and taught Hebrew to children in Trenton, New Jersey and was awarded two academic prizes before his ordination in June, 1951.

Mr. Speaker, after his ordination Rabbi Raiskin traveled to the new state of Israel, where he lived in Jerusalem and continued his religious studies at the Hebrew University. When heavy rains in December of 1951 devastated the encampments of immigrants from

North Africa and Romania, Rabbi Raiskin was sent to Afula, where he aided and eased the suffering by providing clothing that had been sent by Jewish organizations from the United States.

Rabbi Raiskin returned from Israel in 1952 to work for the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC) as the Director of the Chicago Federation of Temple Youth. He also served as the Director of the Union's Institute which was the first camp owned by the UAHC in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin (now known as the Olin-Sang-Ruby Camp). In 1953, just in time for High Holy Days, Rabbi Raiskin joined the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue where he started a senior citizens group, increased attendance at the young adult groups, and strengthened the religious school.

The yearning for a congregation of his own was answered in 1956 when Rabbi Raiskin received an early morning telephone call asking him to consider becoming the spiritual leader of the Peninsula Temple Sholom. On August 1, 1956 Peninsula Temple Sholom's first rabbi arrived in San Mateo to begin 45 years of humanitarian work that has extended well beyond the walls of the temple.

Mr. Speaker, Rabbi Gerald Raiskin today is recognized as one of the great leaders of San Mateo County. He built the congregation of Peninsula Temple Sholom from very humble beginnings to a congregation of over 700 families, while constantly working to advance civil rights at home and abroad. In March of 1965 Rabbi Raiskin participated in the Civil Rights March to Montgomery with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Rabbi Raiskin was arrested on several occasions for protesting in front of the Soviet Consulate in San Francisco on behalf of Jews in the Soviet Union. He risked his own safety to bring humanitarian aid in the form of medical supplies and books on Judaica to refuseniks in Kiev, Leningrad and Moscow. Here at home, Rabbi Raiskin has been integral to interfaith efforts that have greatly benefitted the 12th Congressional District which I am privileged to serve.

Rabbi Raiskin has aptly been described as "a role model, a true community leader, an incredible teacher and an all around mensch." He is a loving husband to Helen, a devoted father to Sherman, Rhonda, Judith and Jordana and a doting grandfather to Marni, Jamie, Dana, Marcy, Jeremy and Eli. His spiritual leadership has brought joy, peace and comfort to generations of Peninsula Temple Sholom members.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Rabbi Raiskin on fifty years of service in the rabbinate, commending his half-century of humanitarian and public service and wishing him and his family many more years of richly deserved good health and happiness.

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Cleveland's Juneteenth Celebration of Freedom to be held June 23–24 at the Martin Luther King Civic Center.

Juneteenth, the oldest known celebration of the ending of slavery, began on June 19, 1865 when the last known group of slaves learned of their freedom. The purpose of Juneteenth is not only to relive a painful chapter in history, but to revive and preserve African American heritage. Juneteenth reminds all Americans to keep open the lines of communication by all people.

We gather to celebrate and emphasize the true meaning of freedom, to embrace human rights and to come together as one people without regard to race, national origin, class, religion, or any walk of life. This year's annual observance will bring all Americans together to promote racial healing and provide inspiration to all.

Juneteenth supporters have already planned countless marches, a kick-off session, talent shows, workshops, childrens activities, and other events as part of the two-day celebration. Much planning has gone into creating a celebration to uplift the human spirit through rap, reggae music, dance, games, poetry, and more.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in celebration and recognition of Cleveland's Juneteenth Celebration. It is time for Americans of all colors, creeds, cultures, and religions to share a common love of and respect for freedom.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY RECOGNIZES SAM GOLDBERG FOR HIS ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS TO HIS COMMUNITY

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize today Mr. Sam Goldberg for his continued demonstration of the strong sense of civic duty that characterizes the true spirit of American citizenship. Sam, the newly named Person of the Year by the Homeowners of Covered Bridge has, through his membership in a number of local organizations, distinguished himself as a pillar of the community of Covered Bridge, Manalapan Township.

Sam began his life in the Bronx as the eldest of three children. After his graduation from Morris High, Sam briefly attended City College. In 1951, he left college to join the Army. After being discharged from the armed forces in 1953, Sam married his current wife, Esther, a Brooklyn native. The couple settled in Brooklyn, where they raised two daughters and where Sam went on to a career in the U.S. Post Office's payroll division. In 1988, after he retired from the USPS, Sam began a brief stint in the Brooklyn District Attorney's payroll office. Throughout his career, Mr. Goldberg remained active in civic organizations, including the Knights of Pythias, and the Concerned Citizens of Canarsie.

After moving to Covered Bridge, Sam continued his long-time association with the Knights of Pythias. He also volunteered with a number of local associations, including SCAT, Deborah, and the Jewish War Veterans. In addition to serving as the First Vice-President of the Homeowners of Covered Bridge, Sam sings with the Covered Bridge Chorale and volunteers at both the Lyons Veterans Hospital and CentraState Hospital.

Sam Goldberg's life has truly been one of dedicated community service. I applaud Sam's continued efforts and ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing his many accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE LEAMON KING

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, It is with great sadness that I note the passing of Leamon King, of California.

A lifelong educator in the Richgrove and Delano Elementary School Districts, Olympic Gold Medalist, World Record Holder in the 100 yard dash and Delano High School graduate, Leamon provided a positive role model for the local youth. He made significant contributions to the improvement of education opportunities for Latino Children in California.

Leamon was born on February 13, 1936 in Tulare, California. His parents were Loyd King and Beatrice Wallace King. They owned a farm in Earlimart, and Leamon lived there the first year of his life. His father, Loyd King, sold their farm in 1937, and the King family moved to Delano, California where Leamon completed his elementary and secondary education.

Leamon began his education at Ellington School and later transferred to Fremont School. His mother wanted him to learn music and to play the saxophone. The only elementary school in Delano with a band at that time was Cecil Avenue Elementary School, so he transferred to this school. While attending Cecil Avenue and learning music, Leamon began to excel in track as a sprinter, and was ultimately elected student body president.

Upon graduation from Cecil Avenue, Leamon transferred to Delano High School. He attended and won his first state meet at the age of fifteen during his freshman year in high school. During the next four years, Leamon King continued to excel as both a student and as a runner. This outstanding athlete provided a positive image for Delano High School and the City of Delano, as well as being a positive role model for students to emulate.

Following graduation from Delano High School in June 1954, Leamon began to pursue higher education at University of California, Berkeley. He was the first child in his family to pursue a college education. The April 10, 1956 Delano Record stated, "DELANO SPRINTER READY FOR OLYMPICS. Sophomore Leamon King, Delano High School graduate, a young man with wings on his feet, is California's newest hope for "World's Fastest Human" honors, and the Bear sprint sensation will have ample opportunity to earn such acclaim this spring." The following month

Leamon King tied the world record for the 100-yard dash at the West Coast Relays in Fresno, California. Merle Red Post 124 First Vice Commander Joe Viray and former educators Wayne and Wava Billingsley witnessed this spectacular event. They stated Leamon King's historic race was an awesome sight to see. It appeared as through Leamon King had wings so his feet as he majestically flew across the finish line and into the world record history book.

The Delano Record dated May 15, 1956 stated the following: ''KING'S 9.3 DASH BRINGS ANOTHER RECORD TO CITY. Delano became the home of two world champions Saturday when Leamon King, local resident and former Delano High School track star, ran the 100 yard dash in 9.3 at the Fresno Relays to tie the world record. King's victory brought another world record to Delano, making it the home of one of the fastest sprinters and the residence of Lon Spurrier, holder of the world record for the 880. There is no other city in the United States the size of Delano, which can boast two world champions.''

Both Leamon King and Lon Spurrier were selected to participate in the 1956 Olympics in Melbourne, Australia. Delano became the only city of its size in the United States to have two representatives make the 1956 Olympic team. Because of the fame the City of Delano had received due to the athletic accomplishments of these two track stars, Leamon King and Lon Spurrier were the Grand Marshalls of the Eleventh Annual Harvest Holidays Parade on October 6, 1956.

During the October 1956 United States Olympic camp practice meet at Ontario, California, Leamon King set his second world record when he tied the 10.1 time for the world record for 100 meters set by Ira Murchison and Willie Williams in Germany the previous summer. Following this splendid achievement, Leamon traveled to Australia to represent the City of Delano and the United States. Dr. Clifford Loader, Mayor of Delano, also traveled to Australia to give support to the two Delano Olympic participants.

Delano High School Educator Gary Girard, who was serving as a staff writer for the Delano Record, stated in his article dated November 23, 1956, ''KING'S EFFORTS PULLED U.S. TO VICTORY IN 400-METER RELAY AT OLYMPIC GAMES. Dr. Clifford Loader, Mayor of Delano, believes that it was the running of ex-Delano High star Leamon King that pulled the United States to victory in the 400-meter relay at the Olympic Games in Australia. The U.S. had stiff competition from Russia. Loader said that after the relay, Thane Baker, another member of the U.S. relay team ran over to hug King, realizing that it was his leg on the relay team that had won the race. King received a gold medal for his effort on the winning U.S. 400-meter relay quartet.''

Following the Olympic Games, the foursome set a New World record. In a meet with the British Empire, the U.S. team of King, Andy Stanfield, Thane Baker and Bobby Morrow set a new world mark of 1:23.8 for the 880 yard relay. The old mark was 1:24.

According to Leamon King, when he first arrived in Melbourne, he ran on grass and set a grass record. It appeared as though every time he ran, he would break a record.

Bakersfield Californian Staff Writer Kevin Eubanks stated ''King's omission from the 100 meter team certainly didn't affect his moment in the spot light. The news that the world's fastest man was not competing in the 100 meter race was received as something of a shock by the rest of the sporting world.'' For his outstanding attributes as an athlete, Leamon King served as Grand Marshall for the Delano Cinco de Mayo Parade, was inducted into the University of California, Berkley Hall of fame, and the Bob Elias Hall of Fame in Bakersfield, California.

During the past twenty-nine years, Leamon King served as an educator in the Delano area. Mr. King taught for two years in Richgrove prior to transferring to the Delano Union School District where he served as educator for the past twenty-seven years. Mr. King taught the sixth grade at both Terrace Elementary School and Almond Tree Middle School. During his tenure as an educator for the Delano Union School District, Mr. Leamon King proved to be an extraordinary educator and was highly respected. This educator served as an excellent example for his peers, as well as our youth.

On his sixty-fifth birthday this year, during Black History Month, the Delano Union School District named in Leamon's honor the athletic facilities at Almond Tree Middle School, which include the school gym and outside athletic facilities, including a track and basketball courts.

Leamon King will be missed by family, friends, colleagues, and the community. I offer my condolences to Leamon's family. And we say to Leamon, ''goodbye, we miss you, we know God will bless and watch over you.''

HONORING MICHIGAN ELKS ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Michigan State Association of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World. On June 12–17, Elks from all over Michigan will gather in my hometown of Flint for their 75th Annual State Convention.

Attorney Benjamin Franklin Howard in Cincinnati, Ohio founded the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World in 1898. Its purpose remains to promote and enhance the welfare of its members and the communities they come from through the spirit of benevolence and inculcation in all its members. The order of Elkdom is best known for a century of give over $2.5 million in scholarships to youth of all races and cultures throughout the United States.

Over the years, the Michigan State Association have graciously made donations to Children's Hospital of Michigan, the United Negro College Fund, and many other charities. They have also given over $30,000 to other hospitals, as well as the Michigan Kidney Foundation.

Children have always been a focal point of the Elks, as the Michigan State Association has shown through their dedication to scholastic achievement. The Elks regularly contribute to literacy programs, oratorical contests, and other programs designed to presenting our young people with a public forum, and a chance to shine.

I would like to recognize the leaders of the Michigan State Association: Mr. Alfred Bell, State President, and Mrs. Julia M. Ford, Michigan State President of the Daughters of Elks. It is through their leadership that the Elks serve as such a tremendous group of people.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of several civic organizations, I know very well that groups such as the Elks work diligently to improve the quality of life for all those they come into contact with. I am honored that the Michigan State Association have chosen Flint as the site of their 75h Annual Convention. I ask my colleagues in the 107th Congress to join me in congratulating the Elks and wish them continued success.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICARE WELLNESS ACT OF 2001

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with my colleague, Mark Foley, in reintroducing The Medicare Wellness Act, which would modernize Medicare by adding common-sense health promotion and early detection services to Medicare's basic benefit package and removing financial disincentives to use current preventative care services.

I'm pleased that we were able to enact a few of the provisions in last year's Medicare Wellness Act as part of the Beneficiary Improvement and Protection Act, and I hope this will be the year that Congress finishes the job by creating a permanent, fact-based process for adding preventative care services to Medicare as science proves that they are effective.

It doesn't make any sense that, for example, Medicare will pay to treat someone who has a heart attack but won't pay to prevent the heart attack by screening for high blood pressure and elevated cholesterol. The Medicare Wellness Act would rationalize the program by adding basic preventative services to Medicare's benefit package. It would also create an incentive for beneficiaries to use the services by eliminating cost-sharing and deductibles for preventative care services, just as most private insurance plans have done.

The bill would add cholesterol screening, high blood pressure testing, hearing and vision testing, and expanded osteoporosis screening to Medicare's list of covered services. It would also add coverage of health promotion services like medical nutrition therapy for people with heart disease and smoking cessation help. It would allow us to test a depression screening benefit to see if by detecting and treating clinical depression at early stages we could head off debilitating physical illnesses and reduce the elderly suicide rate, which is higher than that of any other age group. The Wellness Act would eliminate the cost-sharing on existing prevention services to encourage more people to use them. Most importantly, it

would add a ''fast-track'' process by which Congress could regularly add those prevention services that were scientifically proven to be effective to Medicare.

Every day, scientists discover new early detection, disease prevention, and health promotion tools, and those tools aren't just for young people—research shows that lifestyle changes can increase life expectancy and quality of living for people of all ages. Unfortunately, the Medicare program, which was created in 1965, has not kept up with these exciting advances in health promotion. Medicare provides state-of-the-art care to sick people, but does little to keep them well.

As a result, last year Medicare spent over $35 billion providing acute care to people with heart disease, $6 billion treating people who had strokes, over $5 billion treating lung disease, and $2 billion treating severe depression. While these expenditures can't be eliminated, we believe there is significant scientific evidence that health promotion and early detection could substantially reduce them.

Representative Foley and I are pleased to be joined in this effort by our colleagues BOB GRAHAM, OLYMPIA SNOWE, and JIM JEFFORDS in the other body. We hope Congress will move quickly to pass this bipartisan, bicameral bill which has been endorsed by over 20 groups ranging from the American Cancer Society and the American Heart Association to the National Council on Aging.

When you think about it, it's not surprising that The Medicare Wellness Act has such broad support. Better health care for seniors. Cost savings for Medicare. Who would oppose that?

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1836, ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TAX RELIEF RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 25, 2001

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the Republican tax bill. Unfortunately, this bill is a missed opportunity, and it represents misplaced priorities.

Sadly Mr. Speaker, this bill is very much a missed opportunity. The White House and the Republican Leadership have utterly failed to deliver on the President's promise of a bipartisan process that puts accomplishment for the American people above gamesmanship by Washington politicians.

More importantly, this bill falls to provide for America's priorities. We must pay down the national debt to remove that burden from our children and grandchildren and cut interest rates for items like cars and homes. This Republican tax package will return us to the days of big deficits, high interest rates, high unemployment and a struggling economy.

I support and have voted for balanced tax relief as part of a comprehensive economic plan that will restore America's prosperity so that all of our hard working families can have security in their family finances. We must pass a strong economic plan, not a risky gamble with our nation's economic strength.

The Republican bill mortgages the future based on a guess. If the projected surpluses fall to materialize, Social Security and Medicare will be on the chopping block. The American people know that the budget projections are not real. They are an estimate. It is irresponsible to make decisions that will directly impact people's lives based on a ten-year number we know is no more reliable than a ten-year hurricane forecast.

This bill is a cynical maneuver for short-term political gain. I support and have voted for exempting virtually all North Carolina families from the estate tax, but this bill sunsets in 2010 which would reinstate the estate tax. I support immediate relief from the marriage penalty, but this bill will hurt families by driving up interest rates on homes, cars, and credit cards.

As the only former state schools chief serving in Congress, I was very pleased by the President's promise to improve education. But this bill saps the resources we need to strengthen our schools for the 21st Century. The bill does nothing to help states build schools to relieve overcrowding and get our students out of trailers even though we have strong, bipartisan support for tax legislation to accomplish that priority. And the spending cuts that this bill requires will threaten child care, Head Start, job training and college aid that are vitally important to allow people to make the most of their God-given abilities.

Mr. Speaker, a great deal of attention has been paid lately to the trouble on Wall Street and signs the economic boom may well be over. One sector that hasn't been booming for some time is agriculture, and farmers in my district have been hurting in the face of production cuts, commodity price losses and natural disasters. I was appalled when the Budget Committee passed its budget that would gut important farm programs to finance this tax bill. If approved, these cuts would eliminate funds to identify solutions to the state's hog waste problems and force dozens of our Farm Service Agency offices to close their doors. These agriculture cuts are wrong, and I will fight to restore them despite the expected passage of this Republican tax bill.

Mr. Speaker, we can have responsible tax relief balanced with sound investments in our nation's future, but this tax bill is a missed opportunity. I urge my colleagues to vote down this bill and come together to pass a responsible tax cut that honors America's values and respects the people's priorities.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT OF MISS MADELINE MALONE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Miss Madeline Malone of Lakewood, Ohio for her 43 years of dedicated teaching service on this seventh day of June, 2001.

It seems that everyone who walks the halls of St. James School in Lakewood, Ohio knows Miss Madeline Malone. Her kind spirit and gentle smile have greeted students for the past four decades. Her teaching style has captured the hearts and minds of countless students who now live throughout northeastern Ohio and beyond.

Miss Malone taught primarily History and Social Studies to junior high students; however, she taught not only from a textbook. Her life lessons and wisdom touched the souls of each of her students. Her career has been a distinguished one. Her past students recognize her and remember her teachings. Upon retirement, there is no doubt that she will be missed.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Miss Madeline Malone, a fine teacher and citizen. Her love of children has earned her the respect of students, parents, and faculty, as well as the entire Lakewood community.

TRIBUTE TO RON STARK

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute Ron Stark, the outgoing President of the Rancho Cucamonga Chamber of Commerce, and a leading citizen of our community.

Ron is admired in the Inland Empire community for his strong record of business success and public service. He is the owner of Star Kreative Services, a full-service Marketing and Advertising Agency, specializing in budgeting, planning, media purchases, and complete corporate identity design.

Ron's leadership this past year is indicative of a Chamber President who continuously gives of his time and finances to promote a business friendly environment that enhances the quality of life and the economy of Rancho Cucamonga. He has served on the Board of Directors since 1995 and began his term as President July 1, 2000.

Some of the accomplishments under Ron's leadership were: Increased the image and visibility of the Chamber to its members and the community by moving into the historic Thomas Winery Plaza. Reorganized the community's 61-year-old Grape Harvest Festival to a true premier community event. Established a monthly President's Roundtable of nine Inland Valley Chambers, which discusses regional economic development and legislative issues. Encouraged the creation of a West End Community Calendar on the Chamber's Website, which enhances special event planning among the Chambers and service clubs. It offers the community and visitors a complete calendar of events 24 hours a day. Continued the Annual Spring Swing and Vintner's Dinner as pre-eminent events in the Inland Empire. Formed an effective Business Advocacy Group that tracks all legislation impacting the business community. This enhanced the Chamber's image as a true watchdog for the business community. He also wrote letters to various legislators urging either support or opposition to various legislation that would have an impact on the community. Increased ''Shop Rancho'' promotion activities encouraging the residents to ''Shop

Rancho without leaving the home or office.'' Continued the popular one-on-one counseling and Small Business Workshops for businesses that provided various management and marketing tools for the 21st Century. Reached a three-year goal (set in 1999) of establishing a six-month operating reserve of $145,000 one year early. Attained a three-year goal (set in 1999) of reaching 1,000 members, for first time in eleven years, one year early.

In summary, Mr. Speaker, Ron Stark has set the bar high for future leaders of the Chamber. We salute him for his outstanding work, and wish him well in his future endeavors.

HONORING WALTER CAMPBELL

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to rise before you today to pay tribute to a loyal friend and a tireless advocate of America's workers. On June 5, friends and family will gather in Lansing, Michigan, to honor Walter Campbell, as he celebrates his 90th birthday.

Walter Campbell was born in Manistee, Michigan in 1911. His family moved to Muskegon, where he spent most of his life. He became active in the labor movement when he joined Local 404 of the Allied Industrial Workers, AFL–CIO, in 1937, while employed by Borg Warner in Muskegon Heights. He was elected to serve the union in various capacities, including chief steward, bargaining committeeman, and president. In 1941 he took a new endeavor when he began work with the international union. He became an international representative in 1943 and remained in that position until 1967, when he was elected Regional Director of AIW Region 7 and a member of the Michigan AFL–CIO Executive Board and Executive Committee. During his tenure with the AFL–CIO, Walter held many positions and chaired several committees. In 1959, Walter was appointed by Governor G. Mennen Williams as one of two labor members of the Michigan Employment Security Commission. He was consistently reappointed and served seven consecutive terms, three of which he served as chairman. His final term ended in 1987, 11 years after his retirement from the Michigan State AFL–CIO.

Walter's commitment to labor is matched only by his tremendous commitment to improving the community. He has been a member of United Way of Michigan's Board of Directors, and chairman of the Michigan Welfare Reform Coalition. He has worked with such groups as the Michigan Diabetes Association, United Negro College Fund, and the Michigan Catholic Conference, among many others. Since retiring, Walter has devoted much of his time to the United Way, assisting them with campaigns throughout the state. Walter has given so much of himself to the community that he has been recognized for it by many organizations. He has received awards for distinguished service by the Michigan League for Human Services, Boy Scouts of America, the Tri-County Volunteer Action Center, and the Lansing Human Relations Board. On June 9, 1979, Walter was honored by Grand Valley State College with an honorary Doctorate of Humanities.

Walter has also stood as a standard by which other community leaders are measured. In 1977, the Michigan United Labor Community Services School started the Walter A. Campbell Community Service Award to the student best demonstrating involvement in community services. In 1981, the Capital Area United Way established the Walter Campbell Award for Outstanding Volunteerism for those who stood out as an inspiration to others for community service through the United Way.

Mr. Speaker, Walter Campbell is a great humanitarian, an unselfish leader, and a true role model. In addition, he is a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. I personally have had the privilege of knowing Mr. Campbell for over a third of a century and I am clearly a better person because of him. He is a symbol of excellence to everyone in this nation, and is a shining example of the best our society has to offer. I ask my colleagues in the 107th Congress to please join me in wishing Walter a very happy 90th birthday, and many more to come.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY RECOGNIZES THE TINTON FALLS LIBRARY FOR ITS ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Tinton Falls Library Association's 40th anniversary, which marks a milestone in the Borough of Tinton Falls' ongoing commitment to promoting literacy and to encouraging reading among borough youth. The library's ongoing service to the local community over the past four decades has truly been an invaluable asset to many residents of my district.

When the Tinton Falls Library first opened its doors in June of 1961, its total holdings amounted to a mere 2,000 volumes. Today, the library houses over 35,000 items, including a multimedia collection comprised of numerous videos, periodicals, and books on tape. Six computers (two with Internet access) are also available for public use.

For the past four decades, the library has also been committed to active service to the community of Tinton Falls. Its many programs include five-times daily Story Hours for children aged two to third grade, regular provision of books on Tinton Falls schools' Summer Reading Program lists, a Vacation Reading Club for children, as well as a group for teens that encourages community service, leadership, literacy, and volunteerism. Tinton Falls Library has also been host to a variety of borough cultural events and meetings held by local organizations.

The library's success is due to many reasons, but the main reason is the good, dedicated work of the staff and volunteers who make it work.

Once again, I would like to congratulate the Tinton Falls Library Association on its 40th anniversary. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding its many accomplishments and efforts in service of our community.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1836, ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TAX RELIEF RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 25, 2001

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I am opposing the passage of H.R. 1836. This legislation is fiscally irresponsible and, contrary to its official title, will not result in economic growth, but could have a significant negative impact on our economy.

I support a tax cut. I have supported a tax cut since this process began in February. But this is the wrong tax cut at the wrong time. The House of Representatives and the President started this process all wrong. The President submitted this massive ten year tax cut of $1,600,000,000,000 before he had even submitted a budget for Fiscal Year 2002. And the House proceeded to pass this huge tax cut, without having passed a budget. This is completely irresponsible. It is the equivalent of a family taking money out of circulation for the next ten years before they have sat down and decided how much they need this year for health care costs, how much they need to educate their children, how much they need to protect their home, how much they need for transportation, or how much they need for food, shelter, and clothing. Again, Mr. Speaker, I had no problem with cutting taxes, I just wanted it done in a responsible manner and after a budget had been passed.

Once the House had passed a budget, the leadership continued on its blind path of irresponsibility by insisting on the President's $1.6 trillion cut. I supported a much more realistic plan, which would have divided the on budget surplus, the surplus after contributions to the Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds are deducted, into thirds. Under this plan, the $2.7 trillion surplus could have been divided into $900 billion for a tax cut, $900 billion to further pay down the National debt, and $900 billion to help fund National priorities such as education, veterans' health care initiatives, a prescription drug plan for our elderly, transportation infrastructure needs, disaster relief, and National defense. But now, many of these programs will go lacking because H.R. 1836 cuts $1.35 trillion, almost half a trillion dollars more than the plan I supported.

This is only the broad perspective of this legislation, however. We must also look at it from the immediate effects it will have on the individual taxpayer. In reality, the impact on middle income Americans is virtually zero.

I support elimination of the Marriage Penalty. But, adjustments to the Marriage Penalty do not even begin until 2005. This priority of almost every Member of the House and Senate is not dealt with for four years, and not

completely eliminated for eight years. The adjustment to the Estate Tax is so minuscule until its elimination in 2010 that it will have virtually no impact on those family farmers and small business onwers who need relief right now. If you own a small business or family farm, you better do all you can to stay alive until 2010.

But finally, Mr. Speaker, the real changes to our tax code, the changes that have the most effect and impact, are for those individuals and families with adjusted gross incomes of more than $136,000 a year. The people making these large salaries will experience virtually all the tax cuts in this misguided legislation. The majority of my constituents, hard working taxpayers who fall into the 15% tax bracket, receive virtually nothing. Nothing! In fact, the 15% bracket does not change, except for the marginal $300 savings they will see from the creation of the 10% bracket on their first $6,000.

Accordingly, the people in my district who need tax relief the most, receive none. The small business owner and small farmer do not get any Estate Tax relief, the married couples of the Second Congressional District of Arizona don't receive any relief from the penalty for four years, and those families making less than $45,200, those in the 15% tax bracket, get virtually nothing, while the top one percent of taxpayers in our Nation, those making more than $373,000 a year, get 45% of the tax relief

This is an unfair tax bill which I am not able to support.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN JOSEPH HUGHES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition and celebration of an esteemed author and free-spirited poet, Mr. John Joseph Hughes, on this second day of June, 2001.

Born in 1915, Hughes witnessed the turmoil and gloom of the Great Depression and later served in the U.S Air Force during World War II. He was sent to India, Burma, and China where he witnessed the atrocity and horror of the battlefield; he beheld how impoverished the living conditions were in these struggling nations. His travels and experiences have made him a lifelong seeker of peace, righteousness, and justice.

As an adolescent he contracted skin cancer. Though faced with this challenge in his life, he still managed to succeed. He became an avid Journalist and later worked on progressive campaigns to further his ideology. With his cheerful Irish demeanor and kind-spirit, Hughes has made countless friends in his life journey.

Romanticism guides his life and spirituality, and even led to his thoughts becoming concrete in the form of free-versed poems. It is a collection of those wonderful verses that we are celebrating today, compiled in ''Cats in the Colosseum.'' Countless hours have gone into this compilation; the poems are sewed together with beauty and eloquence.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebration of John Hughes and ''Cats in the Colosseum.'' We are truly blessed as a Cleveland community for him and his poems, and are grateful he has shared them with us.

SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, representatives of the governments of Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Macedonia, Greece, Hungary, Moldova, Romania, Slovenia, Turkey and Ukraine recently met in Bucharest to discuss effective cross-border solutions to the problems of trafficking in human beings and illegal immigration. The United States—represented by FBI Director Louis Freeh—as well as officials and law enforcement agencies from a number of western European governments also participated. I welcome the reports on the conference which indicate that the participants agreed not only on the critical need for intensified and coordinated efforts to combat trafficking in human beings and illegal immigration at the national, regional and international levels, but also that the protection of human rights and the dignity of trafficking victims must be given the highest priority in such efforts.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of his role in both national and international efforts to combat trafficking in human beings, my colleague on the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (the Helsinki Commission) Representative CHRIS SMITH was invited to participate in this regional conference. As we all know, Rep. SMITH was a prime sponsor of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. In addition, as co-chairman of the Helsinki Commission and head of the U.S. Delegation to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe's Parliamentary Assembly, Rep. SMITH successfully advanced language at the 1999 and 2000 meetings of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly which condemned the trafficking of women and children and called for the governments of OSCE participating States to adopt the legislation and enforcement mechanisms needed to punish trafficking perpetrators and to ensure that the human rights of the trafficking victims are protected.

Due to the congressional schedule, Rep. SMITH submitted a written statement to the South Eastern Europe regional conference urging the governments and parliaments in that region to adopt tough laws against trafficking in human beings as well as providing in law adequate safeguards for the protection of trafficking victims. I commend my good friend and colleague for his devotion to the protection of human rights, including his work to end the global scourge of human trafficking, and I submit his statement to the conference to be made a part of the record.

STATEMENT OF REP. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH, VICE-CHAIRMAN, HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE, CO-CHAIRMAN, U.S. COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS AND ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION, BUCHAREST, ROMANIA (MAY 21, 2001)

The victimization of children, women and men through trafficking has reached vast proportions in the Balkans and beyond. Human trafficking is a human rights concern, a transnational crime problem, a migration issue, a socioeconomic issue, and a public health issue. Cracking down on the trafficking of human beings deprives transnational criminals of a key source of revenue, strengthens the rule of law, and protects human rights. The attention that this conference brings to the human trafficking problem and to the related, although distinct, concern of illegal immigration, is needed and welcomed. I regret that the congressional schedule prevents my participation in this meeting, but I hope to complement your discussions on fighting human trafficking by addressing the legislator's critical role in ensuring that law enforcers have the legal tools they need to prosecute traffickers and protect victims.

I commend the organizers of this meeting for recognizing the synergy between the prosecution of traffickers and the protection of victims, and including both subjects on the agenda. Under the current laws and law enforcement strategies in many countries, victims are often punished more severely than the perpetrators. Trafficked persons will not report abuses to authorities if doing so puts their lives at greater risk and if they do not believe that the law enforcement community will protect them. Therefore, successful prosecutions of traffickers cannot happen if we do not protect their victims.

Efforts to promote victim protection, and later reintegration into their communities, must start by recognizing trafficked men, women or children as victims of crime and potential witnesses, rather than as criminals. When a sex-for-hire establishment is raided, for example, the women (and sometimes children) in the establishment are typically arrested, locked up and then deported if they are not citizens of the country where the establishment is located. This procedure is followed without regard to whether their participation in the prostitution was voluntary or involuntary, and without regard to whether they will face retribution or other serious harm upon return. This not only inflicts further cruelty on the victims, it also deprives prosecutors of witnesses to testify against the real criminals, and frightens other victims from coming forward. The needs of trafficking victims, moreover, do not end when they are freed in a police raid. Authorities have the responsibility for the safety and basic needs of victims, including food, clothing, medical attention, shelter, and safe repatriation, and ideally they can partner with non-governmental organizations in providing for the victims.

In addition to occasional rescue operations, however, law enforcement officers in South Eastern Europe, and indeed throughout the world, must begin to address human trafficking as a priority crime issue. To date, law enforcers have generally failed to recognize the gravity of the violence brought to bear on trafficked persons or the links between trafficking and organized crime. The importance of thoroughly investigating trafficking cases and prosecuting perpetrators cannot be overstated. Trafficking in persons

is today viewed as a low risk/high profit business rather than a crime. The prosecution of traffickers serves a dual purpose: it delivers justice to individuals who use force or fraud to trade in human lives and it serves as a deterrent to others who are inclined to pursue human trafficking as a business endeavor, thinking that the potential rewards would outweigh the risks.

I personally worked for more than a year to create a new law[1] in the United States mandating severe punishment for traffickers and providing new tools for law enforcement officers to combat this scourge. As a result of the legislation that I sponsored, which was enacted last October, any person who traffics in human beings—or who reaps the profits from this abhorrent activity—now faces up to 20 years in prison, or even life imprisonment under certain circumstances. The law also carries a penalty of up to 5 years imprisonment, plus fines, for confiscation or destruction of a passport or immigration documents from another person in the course of trafficking; it allows prosecutors to seize traffickers' assets; and it requires mandatory compensation by traffickers to their victims. The new U.S. law recognizes that children, women and men are trafficked into forced labor, involuntary servitude or slavery—not only in the commercial sex industry, but also into industrial sweatshops, domestic servitude, and other exploitive situations. Severe penalties have been created for trafficking into any of these types of exploitation.

This law gives prosecutors the tools to crack down on traffickers, but it also ensures that trafficked persons will be treated as victims of a crime and potential witnesses rather than as criminals. Toward that end, the law requires the U.S. Department of Justice to ensure that trafficked persons, while in the custody of the federal government, will not be detained in facilities that are inappropriate to their status as crime victims, the victims will receive medical care and other assistance, will be provided protection if their safety is in jeopardy, will be advised of their legal rights, and will have access to translation services. Law enforcement authorities are also empowered to place trafficked persons in witness protection programs, if needed, which can help protect them from reprisals by the organized crime groups, or the individual thugs, who trafficked them.

The new anti-trafficking law also includes victim protection measures such as funding for NGOs working to assist trafficking victims in safe integration, reintegration, or resettlement. The law creates a new non-immigrant visa which allows a victim of trafficking to remain temporarily in the United States if the victim is a child, or the victim is willing to assist in the investigation or prosecution of acts of trafficking, and would suffer extreme hardship if deported from the United States. In certain cases, trafficked persons can also become eligible for permanent residence after several years.

As participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, each government represented in the Stability Pact committed at the Istanbul Summit to ''undertake measures . . . to end ... all forms of trafficking in human beings,''[2] including by 'promot[ing] the adoption or strengthening of legislation to hold accountable persons responsible for [trafficking] and strengthen[ing] the protection of victims.' The need for legal reforms was also recognized by members of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in both the St. Petersburg Declaration of 1999 and the Bucharest Declaration of 2000.

Despite these commitments, many criminal codes do not yet recognize the crime of trafficking in human beings. Addressing the legal deficiencies in the U.S. Code took an enormous investment of political will, a careful examination of the laws on the books, and dogged determination to craft legal tools for prosecution of traffickers and for protection of victims. Each government and parliament in South Eastern Europe should undertake a review and strengthening of its domestic laws to ensure that trafficking in human beings is established as a criminal offense and that penalties can be imposed that reflect the grievous nature of the offense. I would be very glad to provide the law which we crafted should the example be helpful to other lawmakers.

Legal reform is a vital step in the battle against modem-day slavery. In the meantime, however, even in countries in which the law does not specifically prohibit trafficking in persons, law enforcement authorities can and should prosecute traffickers by using existing laws against, inter alia, kidnaping, fraud, pandering, falsifying documents, assisting individuals to cross borders illegally, forced labor, assault, or rape. As with all human rights, the responsibility to prevent this particular abuse, to prosecute those who commit the atrocities, and to protect their victims, begins and ends with individual States.

[1] ''Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000'' (Public Law 106–386, signed by the President on Oct. 28, 2000), available at <http://www.house.gov/chrissmith/>.

[2] OSCE Charter for European Security, para. 24 (Istanbul, November 1999).

IN HONOR OF GREAT LAKES-MIDWEST REGION FIVE OF BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition and celebration of the Blacks in Government Great Lakes-Midwest Region Five 19th Annual Training Conference being held in Cleveland, Ohio this first day of June, 2001.

The Greater Cleveland chapter of Blacks in Government, B.I.G., is hosting this very special convention. They chose a very fitting theme, ''Look Toward the Future for Your Future,'' and plan on executing numerous workshops throughout the conference that discuss career development, financial security, equal employment opportunity, professional development, and career growth.

Blacks in Government has continually strived for excellence. They have trained countless employees and have instilled in them true values and integrity. This conference facilitates education and interaction, fellowship and celebration. Their cause of justice and equality will ring out loud in Cleveland during this esteemed conference.

Not only will this weekend provide for leadership training and development, but it is also a time for Blacks in Government to celebrate another year of service. Their national mission is to promote excellence in government, and Blacks in Government has done just that. Please join me in celebration and recognition for the Great Lakes-Midwest Region Five of Blacks in Government for their 19th Annual Training Conference in Cleveland, Ohio.

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) to close the achievement gap with accountability, flexibility, and choice, so that no child is left behind:

Mr. BACA. Mr. Chairman, I wish to elaborate on my vote in favor of final passage of H.R. 1, The Leave No Child Behind Act (Roll #145)

I strongly support the increased education funding this measure provides. Education is the number one priority for the American people, including under-served populations, such as Hispanics. We recognize that education is our path to the American dream. Unfortunately, Hispanic children remain among the most educationally disadvantaged of all public school students, suffering from high poverty, high dropout rates and language barriers. With significant increases in the number of Hispanic children attending our nation's schools, we must, as leaders of this great nation, remain committed to their unique educational needs. We cannot allow the final conference education bill to leave our nation's children behind.

I would like to emphasize, though, that I remain deeply committed to bilingual and migrant education programs, and I was disappointed that the version of the bill brought to the House floor did not sufficiently address adequate funding for those programs. I urge the Conference Committee to safeguard these programs. Seventy-five percent of the 4.1 million Limited English Proficient (LEP) children are Hispanic and speak Spanish as their first language. These students face the daunting challenge of learning a new language (English) while also keeping up with academic subjects like math and science. I therefore strongly support increased bilingual education funding but without instructional time limits, parental notification and consent requirements. I furthermore strongly support increased funding for the Migrant Education Program. Roughly 800,000 Hispanic children in our schools are from migrant families. These migrant children move from farm to farm, place to place, constantly interrupting their education. The Migrant Education Program must have a national focus that transcends those geographical barriers that form the educational systems for most children.

The final ESEA reauthorization coming out of conference is an excellent opportunity to address these unique educational needs of Hispanic school children. Hispanic children,

migrant children, are our nation's children, our nation's future. We must live up to our commitment to ''Leave No Child Behind.''

RETIREMENT OF SERGEANT THOMAS M. HENDLEY

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize retiring Sergeant Thomas M. Hendley of Oceanport, New Jersey's police department and of his twenty-six year long commitment to serving the people of Oceanport a distinguished law enforcement officer.

A native of West Long Branch, New Jersey, Thomas served in the Air Force from 1963 to 1967 before working in various capacities for Jersey Central Power and Light between 1967 and 1974. Sgt. Hendley's career in law enforcement began when he attended the 9lst State Trooper Recruit class in 1974, a program from which he was later forced to withdraw as a result of injury.

In 1975, Sgt. Hendley was hired by the Oceanport Police Department. In 1980, five years after graduating from the Monmouth County 6th Municipal Police Class as the class's Academic Leader and Proctor, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

During his tenure with Oceanport's police department, Sgt. Hendley became certified as both a Firearms Instructor and a Supervising Firearms Instructor. He has also served as the department's training officer since 1994 and has received numerous awards and commendations for Honorable Service, Exceptional Duty, Life Saving, and Educational Achievement.

Sgt. Hendley has further served our community as a member of the Oceanport First Aid Squad and a life member of the Police Benevolent Association. After his retirement, he plans to spend more time with his family in addition to serving as an umpire and part-time charter bus driver.

I applaud Sgt. Thomas Hendley on his many years of service to the people of Oceanport and ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing his invaluable contributions to our society.

ROTH KASE CELEBRATES 10 SUCCESSFUL YEARS

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Roth Kase USA as it celebrates its 10th anniversary in the specialty cheese business.

Roth Kase is located in Monroe, Wisconsin. Although the company's background goes back 125 years, Roth Kase came to Wisconsin ten years ago, and began business with 25 employees. Today, more than 80 employees produce some of the greatest cheeses in the world. In fact, Roth Kase has been recognized with approximately 55 national and regional awards over the past decade, including winning the World Championship in 2000 for its Gruyere cheese. Their most recent award was winning first place in the semi-soft open class category at the U.S. Championship Cheese contest this past March.

Roth Kase's commitment to quality and taste is evident in every product they make. I congratulate the employees of Roth Kase on their dedication and hard work. They created a decade of success, and they have my best wishes for many more successful decades in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, because of family medical reasons, I returned to Los Angeles on May 23, 2001, and remained there for the balance of the week. Therefore, I was unable to cast my floor vote on roll call numbers 146–149.

The votes I missed include roll call vote 146 on the Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 1836, the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act; roll call vote 147 on Approving the Journal; roll call vote 148 on Agreeing to H. Res. 153, Waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany H.R. 1836; and roll call vote 149 on Agreeing to the Conference Report accompanying H.R. 1836.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted ''yea'' on roll call votes 146 and 147; and ''nay'' on roll call votes 148, and 149.

IN HONOR OF FATHER JOHN J. CREGAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate and honor Father John J. Cregan on his Fortieth Anniversary of Ordination, this third day of June, 2001.

Father Cregan has a long and distinguished history in Cleveland. Born on the second of June, 1935, Father Cregan went to St. Vincent de Paul grade school, and later graduated from Saint Ignatius High School. After attending St. Meinrad Minor Seminary, Cregan was ordained at Saint John Cathedral by Auxiliary Bishop Floyd Begin on May 20, 1961.

After ordination, Father Cregan reached out to the Cleveland and world communities in countless ways. His love and spirituality led him to St. Joseph, Blessed Sacrament, and Saint Thomas More where he served selflessly as Assistant Pastor. In 1987, Father Cregan began preaching at Our Lady of Angels Church where he still spreads the Word today.

Father Cregan's joy and strong faith is apparent after listening to any of his sermons. His kind-spirit and good-nature has brought countless people to his church. His dedication, generosity, and love to his members is like no other; he truly cares for all people. We, as a community, are blessed to have people like Father Cregan in our neighborhood.

Mr. Speaker, Father Cregan has served his community selflessly. His love and talent has led him to numerous churches in the Cleveland area where he has shared his faith. Please join me in celebration and recognition of Father John J. Cregan on his Fortieth Anniversary of Ordination.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER MAYOR BOB NOLAN

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep regret that I rise to pay tribute to the former Mayor of Upland, California Bob Nolan. On April 24th of this year, Mr. Nolan passed away, leaving the community he served to grief the loss of a dear friend.

The circumstances surrounding Mr. Nolan's death, while unfortunate, speak highly of his dedication to the community he loved. Mr. Nolan had traveled here from Upland, California to serve as San Bernardino County's representative to the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials Conference. Shortly after arriving, Mr. Nolan was hospitalized for an emergency appendectomy. Postoperative complications arose, and Mr. Nolan never left the hospital.

Mr. Nolan served his community in many ways. Shortly after graduating from Upland College in 1959, he was hired to teach sixth grade at Sierra Visa Elementary School in Upland. In 1966, he became an assistant principal and was named principal the following year. When he retired in 1988, former students and parents spoke highly of his stern, but well-respected nature.

His reputation as an outstanding teacher and principal served as a springboard to a successful election to the Upland City Council in 1984. Always putting the interests of the city first, he worked tirelessly on every action warranting the Council's attention. As a result, it was not surprising when he was chosen to serve as the City's Mayor in 1988. For three terms, his tenacity and competitive spirit inspired both residents and city staff to tackle everything from increasing Metrolink ridership to the development of a Senior Center.

Even upon his retirement from the City Council, Mr. Nolan's love for Upland could not be extinguished. He continued to fight for transportation issues and served on numerous regional boards. His commitment to his community was matched only by his devotion to his family. His wife, Nadine, his son, Jeff, and his granddaughter, Lindsey, will most certainly experience a void that was once filled by a loving personality.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this 107th Congress celebrate the life and contributions of Bob Nolan.

MILWAUKEE VALVE COMPANY CELEBRATES ITS CENTENNIAL

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, on April 8, 2001, one of Wisconsin's cornerstone businesses, the Milwaukee Valve Company, celebrated its 100th Anniversary. Since it's founding in 1901, this family-owned business has exemplified the state's long tradition of excellence in manufacturing.

While Milwaukee Valve was a successful regional producer in its first half century of existence, it has evolved into an international distributor of more than 4,000 products since Herschel Seder and Max Koenigsberg purchased the company in 1959.

The company's place in the community has always been important to Herschel. In a time when manufacturer relocation is all too commonplace, the company is still headquartered at its original location at Burrell Street, near Lake Michigan on Milwaukee's south side.

However, Milwaukee Valve's contributions are not limited to the Milwaukee area. The U.S. Navy counts on the manufacturer for its top-quality specialized marine valves, for use in our submarine fleet. The Seders are proud to boast that the "Made in the USA" symbol applies to virtually every valve in their product line.

Though his company is highly respected throughout the industry, Herschel Seder is equally well known in the Milwaukee area for his devotion to his family and the community around them. Now a second generation of Seders sits at the helm of Milwaukee Valve. With the vision and leadership of Jim, John and Diane, the Seder family business is poised for even greater success into the 21st century.

And so, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate the Seder family and all the loyal employees at the Milwaukee Valve Company on this milestone, and wish all the best as they begin their second 100 years.

TRIBUTE TO DR. HARRY JAROSLAW

HON. CAROLYN McCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, for over 45 years, Dr. Harry Jaroslaw has worked tirelessly for the residents of New York State as a superior educator, and more importantly, as a role model to our children. In the overcrowded and sometimes violent New York City schools, Dr. Jaroslaw provided his students with the knowledge and hope that is ever important in children's lives.

For the past 13 years, Dr. Jaroslaw has brought his enthusiasm for teaching to the students of the Mineola School District. During his tenure as Superintendent of Schools for Mineola School District, Dr. Jaroslaw has helped a great number of students attend prestigious universities and colleges. When he began, the percentage of students attending college was 39 percent. Today, it's an astounding 80 percent. He also played an integral part in raising student scores on both the Regents and State Achievement exams well above the Nassau County and New York State average. Dr. Jaroslaw helped Long Island students think globally by establishing educational programs in foreign countries as Africa, Mexico, Israel, Sweden, Italy and Brazil.

Dr. Jaroslaw's efforts have not gone unnoticed. He has been honored as "Administrator of the Year" by both the Nassau County Music Educator's Association and the Long Island Teachers of Foreign Language. In addition to his many awards and recognitions, Dr. Jaroslaw has served as chairman of a national committee for the American Association of School Administrators as well as the Governor's Task Force on alternative teacher certification.

Dr. Jaroslaw's extensive career is evidence of his devotion to the education of our children. I applaud Dr. Jaroslaw for all he has achieved in his lifetime, and thank him on behalf of those whose lives he has touched through teaching.

IN MEMORY OF MR. VACLAV HYVNAR

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. Vaclav Hyvnar for his many years of service and countless contributions to his community.

Mr. Hyvnar, originally from Czechoslovakia, served his world community selflessly throughout his lifetime. He studied law at Charles University in Prague before he was expelled for leading anti-Communist activities. After his release from prison, he and his wife, Miloslava, fled the country.

After moving to the United States, Hyvnar settled in Cleveland and worked at Lempco Products as a machine operator. In 1954, he became editor of "Novy Svet," a locally published Czech newspaper, but later left that position to work in the Cuyahoga County auditor's office. He soon moved to City Hall where he worked as an ethnic affairs aide to two Cleveland mayors. After serving Mayor Perk and then Mayor Voinovich, he retired in 1985.

His distinguished career was not only in the political realm. He served his ethnic community as president of the National Alliance of Czech Catholics and later received an award from Pope John Paul II for his heartfelt work and dedication to the Catholic Church. His loyalty and love for his Czech heritage and freedom earned him the love and respect of the entire Cleveland community.

Mr. Hyvnar is survived by his wife, Mila; daughter, Ludmila of Cleveland Heights; and son, John of Boston.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in honoring the memory of a wonderful, loving man. Mr. Vaclav Hyvnar served Cleveland in many capacities, and was an inspiration to many. He has touched so many of us, and will be greatly missed.

TRIBUTE TO LT. GENERAL DANIEL W. CHRISTMAN

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lt. General Daniel W. Christman—the 55th Superintendent of the United States Military Academy—upon his retirement from the Army.

As a member of the United States Military Academy Board of Visitors, I want to extend my sincere appreciation and gratitude to General Christman for his long and distinguished service to the United States Army and our nation. At the end of this month, General Christman retires after serving 36 dedicated years in the Army during times of peace and war.

In many respects, General Christman's military career has brought him full circle. He began his active duty service in the military in 1965 after graduating first in his class from West Point. On June 8th, he relinquishes command after serving five years as the Commanding General and Superintendent of the Academy. Throughout his career, General Christman has occupied a number of senior executive and key command positions and has earned numerous military decorations.

General Christman has accomplished what most of us seek to do in our lifetimes—he leaves wherever he has been a better place than he found it. Serving on the Board of Visitors during General Christman's tenure, I have witnessed first-hand the positive difference his leadership has made for one of America's finest institutions. General Christman has enhanced the environment in which the Academy's cadets live, learn and prepare to become tomorrow's leaders. May they continue to learn from his example.

General Christman exemplifies the qualities that we seek in our leaders—selfless service, dignity, compassion and honor. In his final command brief General Christman stated that the Academy has the responsibility of 'deepening this understanding of what it means to be an inspirational leader.' General Christman has been such a leader. And to him, we owe our sincere appreciation and gratitude for all that he has done in the service of our nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 74TH ANNUAL SCRIPPS HOWARD NATIONAL SPELLING BEE

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a group of outstanding New Mexico students for participating in the 74th Annual Scripps Howard National

Spelling Bee held last week in Washington, DC. The participants have demonstrated hard work and determination. They are New Mexico's finest spellers.

Sarah Paige Berling, 13 of Albuquerque, is an honor student, member of her local YMCA swim team, and a violinist for the Albuquerque Junior Orchestra. Sarah also enjoys reading, writing, drawing and attending her Sunday night youth group meetings. She attends school at home.

Brendan T. Guinn, 10, of Gallup, enjoys all his academic studies, especially mathematics. Brendan likes to read and explore the canyons and backcountry of the Navajo reservation where he and his family reside. Brendan is interested in a career as an U.S. Navy Seal.

Jackie Metts, 13, of Clovis, participated in the last year's 2000 national finals. Jackie plays the trumpet in her school's varsity band, participates in the gifted students program at Yucca Junior High School, and is also a member of the National Junior Honor Society. Jackie enjoys English and is a fan of the Harry Potter series.

Julie E. Palmer, 14, of Kirtland is a straight A student and was the winner of her school's seventh grade English, History and Science awards. Julie's interests include writing, rock-climbing, reading, soccer, hockey, and music. She has won numerous piano awards and was selected as the 2001 Young Artist by the San Juan College Fine Arts department.

I want to commend each student for their time and commitment they invested to prepare for this competition. I applaud their hard work and determination and wish them well in their bright futures.

THE COMING ENERGY WARS; COMMENTARY BY BUD SHUSTER

HON. DON SHERWOOD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. SHERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, our highly respected colleague, Bud Shuster, who served as both Chairman of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and a Ranking Member of the Intelligence Committee, has written a very well researched and thought-provoking piece titled "The Coming Energy Wars," which appeared recently in several publications including the May 31 issue of the Chambersburg Gazzette. I commend it to my colleagues.

From the sluicing of water to the splitting of the atom, civilization has turned natural sources of energy into power to do the world's work. Throughout history prosperity has been inextricably linked to society's access to sources of raw energy and the technological capacity to convert and distribute it in usable forms. The American economy has been built upon an energy base especially on a cheap and abundant supply of oil. But that is about to change.

Some say the California energy crisis is a wake-up call: Others say it isn't even a crisis. But as a philosopher once observed: "Facts are stubborn things. Wishing won't make them go away." The facts are that California's energy demand has increased in the past decade by more than twice the national average; it produces less energy per capita than any other state: has not built a new power plant in a dozen years; and has banned coal-generating plants, creating upward pressure on the price of natural gas. While deregulating wholesale prices of electricity, but keeping a cap on retail prices, it has plunged its power companies into insolvency. Brownouts aren't being imagined and blackouts are no longer unimaginable.

But instead of being a wake-up call to produce more energy, California's experience just might be a harbinger of things to come. The U.S. population is projected to increase from 283 to 325 million by 2020, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

During the same period, U.S. petroleum consumption is slated to increase by 33 percent, domestic oil production to decline by 16 percent, and imports to increase by 33 percent, according to the Energy Department. All forms of energy consumption, converted into BTU's increase from 84 quadrillion in 1990 to 98 quads last year, and is projected to top 121 quads by 2020, up 44 percent in 30 years.

During the same period, world population is slated to exceed 7.5 billion by 2020, a 41 percent increase in 30 years, with most of the growth occurring in the developing countries. The industrialized world's demand for energy will increase by 23 percent, but total global demand will soar by more than 50 percent, according to the Center for Strategic and International Studies. Nevertheless, poor countries will remain poor, while developed nations will grow richer, further widening the gap.

Most forecasters see no significant breakthroughs for new energy sources. The Persian Gulf will remain the largest supplier of oil, but would have to increase production by 80 percent to meet world demand, a highly unlikely, if not impossible scenario. The U.S. transportation sector will continue to be "almost entirely dependent on petroleum as an energy source" according to the U.S. Department of Transportation. U.S. production of nuclear and hydroelectric power also will decline due to government mandates. Coal, which is the nation's most abundant source of energy, but which produces only about 20 percent of the country's supply, is in danger of being further curtailed by environmental regulations; however well intended. Heavy demand for the expanded supplies of natural gas will further drive up prices, which already have doubled in the past decade. Although conservation can play a role it will not come close to curing the problem, short of inflicting painful lifestyle changes on the American people, or saddling the country with energy induced Depression.

During this period, over three billion people in third-world countries will face serious water shortages, increasing the potential for famine according to the National Foreign Intelligence Board: "Regions, countries and groups feeling left behind will face deepening economic stagnation, political instability and cultural alienation."

It was no accident that Rarnzi Yousef chose the World Trade Center as his bombing target. While he succeeded in killing six and injuring over a thousand, his objective was to bring down the entire structure, killing tens of thousands. Terrorist cells from the Middle East to Afghanistan, funded by Osama Bin Laden and others have declared a Jihad, a holy war, on behalf of Islam against the West, and especially the United States and Israel. These threats are not going away. Terrorists are funded and supported by Iran, Iraq, Lybia, Syria, Sudan, Afghanistan and Cuba. James Woolsey, former Director of the CIA stated: "Today's terrorist don't want a seat at the table. They want to destroy the table and everyone sitting at it."

It's time to face uncomfortable facts. Pour the world's increasing population and demand for energy into a pot boiling with poverty, stir with resentment and add fanaticism and easy access to weapons of mass destruction. Where will it lead? Japan's thirst for oil led to Pearl Harbor. Saddam's desire to dominate the oil-rich Persian Gulf sparked the call for half a million American troops to drive him back to Baghdad.

Given a set of stubborn facts that can't be wished away, future energy wars no longer may be a dim possibility, but rather, highly probable—and sooner than we think.

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY'S UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the Upward Bound Program at Kent State University on their 30th Anniversary.

Upward Bound is a pre-college program that helps to prepare high school students to continue their education after graduation. Kent State University chartered this program in 1970, and since then has affected thousands of local students in Ashtabula, Portage, Stark, Summit, and Trumbull counties. This program targets students who might not ordinarily consider a four-year college degree as an attainable and realistic goal. The program basically helps students acquire the academic, social, and personal skills to successfully complete a college education.

Upward Bound has contributed to not only the undergraduate collegiate community, but also to the local neighborhoods. Students in this program have tutored children, worked with the Salvation Army, interacted with the Ohio Department of Human Services, and started a children's toy drive. Their drive to succeed has been aided by this wonderful program, and their personal and social skills have been developed.

Upward Bound's 30th Anniversary celebration kicks off with the "Celebration of Partnerships," that features the partnering of local educational institutions, community organizations, and national bodies to fund this federal program.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing an outstanding program that has affected countless students on the Kent State University campus. Upward Bound has and will continue to develop and educate young students.

REMARKS ON RACIAL PROFILING AND REP. WU'S TREATMENT AT THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, just days before the recent Memorial Day recess, my colleague

from Oregon, DAVID WU, experienced a disturbing incident at the U.S. Department of Energy. He has already eloquently and movingly addressed the House. Rather than recount the details of how he was refused entry to the Department and questioned repeatedly about his nationality, I would like to pose one simple question: when will it end? When will we as a society be able to free ourselves from the pain and constraints of ethnic stereotyping and racial profiling?

This practice has long been decried by Members of Congress, especially those of us who have been the victims of ethnic stereotyping. Two weeks ago, a vivid example of racial profiling was visited upon one of our own colleagues. The contrast in how my colleagues DAVID WU and MIKE CAPUANO were treated is striking. An Asian American was questioned about his nationality, even after presenting his congressional identification card and refused entry, while a white American was allowed to enter without any hassle. This incident illustrated that racial profiling extends beyond the highways and continues to persist at the very heart of the federal government.

I have become accustomed to brushing off the letters to the editor that inevitably follow meetings between Hispanic Members of Congress and officials from Latin American countries. These letters question our national identity, our loyalty and our patriotism. These letters are so absurd, I never take them seriously. Unfortunately, Congressman WU's experience this week demonstrated to all of us that the sentiment expressed in these letters is not confined to a few misguided and ill-informed souls, but that it is much more pervasive in our society.

When will it end? How many more times do we have to remind other Americans about all the Hispanic and Asian American veterans who have fought for America's freedom? How many more times will we have to provide examples of Hispanic and Asian Americans who have made invaluable contributions to the progress of this nation? How many more examples of exemplary citizenship and patriotism among Hispanic and Asian Americans do we have to present before America as a whole finally understands that we too are Americans?

Ethnic stereotyping denies minorities full access to the American promise of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. And ethnic stereotyping denies the rest of America all the talents, skills and knowledge that minorities have to offer. As my colleague from Oregon has stated, our national security is indeed at risk if we do not welcome all of the best and brightest Americans into our nation's most critical positions, regardless of their ethnic heritage or the color of their skin.

I would add that in addition to our national security, we risk the health and vitality of our country when we continue to make judgments based on ethnic stereotypes. I hope that my colleagues will join me in continuing to speak out and take action against ethnic stereotyping and racial profiling.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation which would remove the provision in the Southeastern University charter requiring that one-third of the Board of Trustees be Southeastern alumni. Southeastern University President Charlene Drew Jarvis and the Board of Trustees have asked me to introduce this corrective measure.

Southeastern University was incorporated by Act of Congress on August 19, 1937. Its charter contains a provision requiring that one-third of the University's Board of Trustees be alumni. On September 9, 1997, I received a letter from Southeastern University President Charlene Drew Jarvis asking that I introduce legislation to remove this provision. On September 9, 1997, I also received a letter from Board of Trustees Chair Elizabeth Lisboa-Farrow confirming that the Board of Trustees had authorized President Jarvis to seek this change. Copies of both letters are attached. The Board of Trustees would like this provision removed in order to let the University draw from a wider pool of potential Board nominees. Because the University was incorporated by an Act of Congress, only the Congress can effectuate this change.

Southeastern University is an important and productive institution which contributes to the economy of the District of Columbia by offering undergraduate and graduate degree programs geared specifically to the needs of working professionals. Under the able leadership of Southeastern's President, Dr. Charlene Drew Jarvis, the University has begun to rebound from difficult financial circumstances. This legislation will allow Southeastern to expand its fund raising potential to complement these efforts. I urge my colleagues to support this corrective measure.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. GLEN APPLEBAUM

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Dr. Glen Applebaum. Congregation Anshe Sholom of New Rochelle has chosen him as the honoree of their annual Testimonial Dinner, to be held on June 10, and they have chosen wisely. Dr. Applebaum has attained an impressive balance between family, community, and career, making a lifelong habit of high achievement.

Dr. Applebaum received a Regents Scholarship upon his graduation from Eastchester Senior High School in New York and was awarded multiple prizes for his research in college before concluding his education at the New York University College of Dentistry and the New Rochelle Hospital Medical Center. In May of 1983, Dr. Applebaum opened a private practice in New Rochelle, which continues to serve the community today. He also shares his expertise with others, through frequent lectures and the wide publication of his work.

Despite having achieved such success in his career, Dr. Applebaum considers family to be the most important part of his life. He and his wonderful wife, Dr. Cynthia Cohen, are valuable members of the Westchester community, and Dr. Applebaum serves with distinction as a member of the Board of Directors at Congregation Anshe Sholom. I am proud to congratulate Dr. Applebaum on his noteworthy achievements and his contributions to the community as a dentist, as a family man, and as a member of Congregation Anshe Sholom.

TRIBUTE TO THE ROXBURY COMMUNITY COLLEGE CLASS OF 2001

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Roxbury Community College's Class of 2001. I have a special connection to RCC because one of my District Offices happens to be located on its campus. I've also been fortunate to have several talented interns from RCC—individuals who stopped by our office to see what we were all about—and decided to sign on for a semester. They've proven to be invaluable to the work we do. In fact, one of our RCC interns is responsible for figuring out how to translate our web site into many different languages.

I would like to congratulate all of the RCC graduates who worked extremely hard to get to this point in their academic careers. I am honored to be associated with the Roxbury Community College Class of 2001 and I am proud of their accomplishments.

There were times when many of them were not sure if they would make it to graduation. But they did it! So many college students all over this country are faced with any number of difficulties during the college experience, and these difficulties range from financial to personal. I am here to say that the RCC graduating Class of 2001 has done it . . . regardless of the challenges they have faced thus far in their lives. They are to be commended for their perseverance and for keeping their sights set on their goal.

Mr. Speaker, again I stand here to publicly congratulate the Roxbury Community College graduating Class of 2001 on their outstanding achievement.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1836, ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TAX RELIEF RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 25, 2001

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my strong opposition to the conference

report on H.R. 1836, the Economic Growth and Tax Reconciliation Act, because it fails to reflect the priorities of my constituents.

This tax cut has been sold to the American public as a cure for an astonishingly wide variety of ills, from a possible recession to spiraling energy prices. The unfortunate truth, however, is that this package offers nothing to guard against an economic downturn in the near term. Instead, it provides a series of back-loaded tax cuts, overwhelmingly skewed to the wealthiest Americans, while jeopardizing our ability to fund other priorities.

Equally worrisome is the fact that this legislation creates the very real possibility of a return to deficit spending should the projected surpluses fail to materialize. Just this week, in fact, the Congressional Budget Office has made a significant downward adjustment in this year's surplus estimates, virtually wiping out the ''contingency fund'' that has already been promised to a variety of needs, including increased military requirements and a prescription drug benefit. We are kidding ourselves and our constituents if we believe that this is not a sign of worse news to come.

To fit this 10-year tax cut under a $1.35 trillion budget ceiling, the conferees have provided for the entire package to sunset at the end of 2010. While this ridiculous gimmick allows the tax cuts to meet budget restrictions on paper, in reality, the agreement will substantially exceed these targets when all of the costs are factored in. In the meantime, we are left with an increasingly complex tax code whose provisions are phased in and then repealed largely at random, making it difficult for taxpayers to understand, and impossible for them to rely upon as they plan for their families' futures.

In addition, the agreement leaves out major provisions whose enactment is widely viewed as inevitable, such as extension of the research and experimentation credit and measures to address serious problems with the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT). By sunsetting the tax cuts before the end of the eleven-year budget period and simply omitting foreseeable costs, the conferees have distorted the final cost of the tax cut and used the ''extra'' money to throw even more last-minute provisions into the final package.

Currently, 1.5 million taxpayers are subjected to the AMT. Under this conference agreement, over 30 million more would be subject to the AMT by 2010. That is double the number of taxpayers who would be affected by this provision under current law. Consequently, these tax cuts will in effect increase tax liability for many households and may result in even greater income disparities in the future.

Some 30 percent of American taxpayers—roughly 51 million people—will not receive the full amount of the tax rebate included in the conference report. I am strongly in favor of providing immediate tax relief to hard-working families, but this legislation will leave out many of those families who need short-term relief most urgently. In so doing, the rebate will also fail to jump start a flagging economy, as the Administration continues to claim it will do.

For example, sixty-two percent of those taxpayers who make less than $44,000 a year will get less than the full rebate amounts, with 42 percent of these taxpayers receiving nothing at all. In Rhode Island, 44 percent of taxpayers—over 123,000 individuals—making less than $40,000 a year will receive no rebate. Although these taxpayers may not have the highest income tax liabilities, they incur a disproportionately high payroll tax liability, which is not figured into the rebates.

I am also frustrated with the conferees' decision gradually phase out the estate tax—culminating in its repeal for only one year before the bill sunsets and the estate tax is again in full effect—instead of providing an immediate and permanent increase in the exemption, which would protect the vast majority of families, small businesses and family farms from estate tax liability. The provision contained in this agreement would allow the wealthiest two percent of our population to pass wealth to their heirs without taxation, while hard-working families would continue to be taxed on every dollar earned. It would also have a devastating impact on charities, foundations, universities and other philanthropic organizations.

Additionally, I am disappointed that the conferees have failed to provide immediate marriage tax relief for couples. The agreement before us does not even begin to address the marriage penalty until 2005, and relief will not be fully phased in until 2009. Married couples who have been contacting my office seeking relief from this unintended consequence of our tax code will surely be disappointed when they realize that their wait will continue for at least four more years.

This tax package will cause enormous revenue losses and threaten our ability to address national priorities like extending the solvency of Social Security and Medicare, reducing our national debt, implementing a prescription drug benefit for seniors and improving education and health care for all. Furthermore, the agreement will jeopardize resources and programs that are absolutely vital to our nation's small businesses, workforce, environmental protection, energy efficiency and housing needs. We should use our current prosperity to enhance those federal programs relied upon by some of the most vulnerable members of our society.

Without a doubt, American taxpayers deserve a substantial tax cut. But they also deserve a strengthened Social Security system, a Medicare program that covers prescription drugs, a military that is equipped to protect our nation, a quality health care system that is affordable and accessible to every family, and a world-class educational system that prepares our children for the 21st century. These needs are great and they must not be ignored. They will require additional spending by the federal government, but this tax cut leaves room for no such investment. I urge my colleagues to reject this ill-advised tax cut, which will jeopardize our future fiscal security, while doing nothing to address immediate economic needs.

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST DIAGNOSED CASE OF ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS)

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the 20th anniversary of the first diagnosed case of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) in the United States. The past twenty years have heralded many medical advances, especially in drug treatment therapies for AIDS patients. However, despite an increased understanding of the disease and an improved quality of care for patients, more than 438,000 people have died from the disease since the early 1980s in the United States alone.

Efforts towards prevention and education have helped decrease the magnitude of the epidemic, however there are currently more than 750,000 people living with AIDS in the U.S. Among new infections, the fastest growing segment is women and children. In fact, national statistics indicate that AIDS is the seventh leading cause of death among youths between the ages of fifteen and twenty-four. Surveys also indicate that approximately 87 percent of young Americans do not believe that they are at risk for contracting HIV. A growing number of cases of infection in youths clearly demonstrates a need for a greater emphasis on education, and prevention. While the AIDS scare of the late 1980s and the early 1990s appears to be over, the persistence of this insidious disease is not. Complacency about this disease and its reach must not be allowed to grow.

Among the federal government's programs and legislation addressing the issue of AIDS, one of the most effective is the Ryan White Care Act, which was signed into law in 1990 and reauthorized in 2000. The ultimate goal of this act is to improve health care and make it more accessible to patients and their families. In order to achieve this, the Ryan White Care Act provides funding to states as well as nonprofit organizations that develop and organize the distribution of necessary health care and services to patients and their families.

This act has been helpful to residents with HIV/AIDS in my home state of Colorado, where there were 6,761 reported cases of AIDS in 1999. During the 2000 Fiscal Year, the state of Colorado qualified for over $4 million under Title I of the Ryan White Care Act, which provided funding to improve health care in metropolitan areas disproportionately affected by the HIV epidemic. Title IV appropriated over $600 K in additional dollars to fund programs focusing on women, infants, children, and youth in Colorado.

This funding has been put to good use in Colorado, as it has not only helped children receive better care, but has also improved their access to necessary treatment. Considering that children are one of the fastest growing groups affected by AIDS, we must do all we can to stem the tide of its growth. We must continue to support measures that insure all patients receive adequate care, and continue

our efforts to protect and educate our youth, since they are the future.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICARE WELLNESS ACT OF 2001

HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join today with my colleague Sander Levin to again introduce the Medicare Wellness Act. This legislation makes common sense reforms to the Medicare program to help ensure that our seniors are living longer, healthier lives.

The focus of the Medicare program since its inception in 1965 has been on sickness—once people are ill, the Medicare program steps in to treat that illness. But medical technology and treatment options have come a long way since 1965. Sadly, the Medicare program has not kept pace with those advances.

The new focus of Medicare should be on wellness. We can, and should, prevent seniors from getting sick, and promote good health. This focus not only has health benefits, but is also fiscally responsible. Hospitalization is one of the most expensive benefits provided under the Medicare program, and often, hospitalization is the only option. However, if the Medicare program can be reformed to help prevent instances of hospitalization we will not only have healthier seniors, but we will utilize Medicare's resources in the most effective way.

The Medicare Wellness Act of 2001 not only increases screening and preventive services, based on the recommendations of the National Preventive Services Task Force, but includes mechanisms that will help promote healthy lifestyles, disease prevention, and encourage a change in personal health habits.

Congress began adding these needed benefits in 1997's Balanced Budget Act by adding four initial preventive benefits. We have since added to those benefits, and improved many of them. As we discuss adding other new benefits, such as a prescription drug plan, to Medicare, we cannot do so without facing the fundamental need for reform of the program. Incorporating these common sense benefits is a necessary component of any true reform package.

I would urge my colleagues to support this measure, and look forward to its inclusion in any Medicare reform legislation considered by the Congress this year.

HONORING MURRAY EILBERG

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who will be greatly missed by all who knew him. A man who served his country proudly in its hour of need, and a man whose love for his work and his life are only eclipsed by his immeasurable love of family. It brings me great sadness to report that Murray Eilberg of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, passed away last night at the age of 77.

Murray Eilberg was raised in Brooklyn, New York. He grew up right around the corner from a wonderful girl named Jane, who would become the love of his life. Murray and Jane were married for over 57 years. Their family grew as they had three loving children, Patricia, Herman, and Joey. Devoted to his family above all else, Murray was blessed to have six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Like so many of the Greatest Generation, Murray Eilberg fought for his country when our nation called him to serve in World War II. Murray was proud to serve in the US Army Corps of Engineers as a brave member of the Experimental Demolitions Unit.

Growing up, Murray dreamed of becoming a motorman. And so after the War, Murray spent twenty-two years working for the New York City transit system as one of the city's finest motormen. Only a progressively worsening eye condition could stop Murray from doing what he loved, as no one had any doubt he would have worked another twenty-two years if given the chance.

In 1969, Murray retired and, with Jane, became beloved members of the South Florida community. Despite his blindness, he remained active as a member of the Blinded Veteran's Association, the Disabled American Veterans, and the American Legion. Known for his unwavering sense of humor, Murray was an avid joke teller who would captivate an audience; even during his final days in the hospital.

Mr. Speaker, Murray Eilberg was both well-loved and widely respected by all those blessed to have known him. He selflessly served his country. His life's work was his dream. And his family was a source of admiration and great pride. Today we celebrate Murray's life which serves as a wonderful example to all who follow in his footsteps.

HONORING THE U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT, NEW YORK CLASS OF 2001

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, permit me to take this opportunity to congratulate the nine-hundred cadets of the graduating class of 2001 from our United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

I was gratified to once again be able to join this year's graduating class, along with our Deputy Secretary of Defense, Paul Wolfowitz, and our good friend, the distinguished superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, General Daniel Christman.

Regrettably, this year's ceremony will be the last West Point graduation for General Christman, who will soon be leaving the Academy for a private life. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my personal gratitude and the thanks of this entire body for his distinguished service to our Nation, and for his commitment to our Nation's military. His guidance, leadership, and spirit at West Point will long be missed.

I was pleased to listen to the poignant remarks of Deputy Defense Secretary Wolfowitz and look forward to working with him. I am attaching a copy of his remarks for the RECORD and strongly recommend to my colleagues to review his message to the class of 2001 and to our Nation.

To all the Cadets of the class of 2001, I extend my congratulations, my best wishes, my prayers, and my continued commitment to ensuring that our Nation provides them with the support they deserve for their service to our Nation.

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS AT THE U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY, WEST POINT

[Remarks by Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz, Michie Stadium, West Point, NY, Saturday, June 2, 2001]

Thank you. Thank you, General [Daniel] Christman [Superintendent of the United States Military Academy], for a very warm introduction. Please be seated. You neglected to mention that 25 years ago, when we were very young, we were working together to persuade the Congress not to take fine Army forces out of Europe. And with the help of a lot of other people, we succeeded. Those forces stood watch in the Fulda Gap and other places around the continent of Europe, and the result was one of the great strategic victories of history of which every member of the Armed Forces and every member of the U.S. Army that participated in that effort is justly proud.

I also want to complement General Christman and the Army on the great spirit with which they said, we're going to go ahead and hold this ceremony outdoors even in this terrible weather, because it's more important to have all the families able to come than to be inside warm and comfortable. [Applause.] Coming from Washington where, as they say, no good deed goes unpunished, it's wonderful to see this good deed rewarded with a break in the weather.

Senator Jack Reed, Congresswoman Sue Kelly, Congressman and old friend Ben Gilman, Congressman Saxby Chambliss, and Congressman Charlie Norwood; Commandant [of Cadets Brigadier General Eric] Olson, Dean [of the Academic Board Brigadier General Daniel] Kaufman, distinguished staff and faculty, ladies and gentlemen, parents and family, and most of all, members of the class of 2001:

I want to thank the Class of '01 for giving me the honor of sharing with you this very special day. I went to school just up the road a ways in a place called Cornell where I studied mathematics. According to my calculations, if you take the corps of cadets and add a speech longer than 20 minutes, by the time you're done, you'll have 40% that won't be listening, 40% who will be sleeping, and 20% will be asking for their money back.

So, the responsibility of a commencement speaker is heavy indeed. Your remarks should be sentimental to please the parents, substantive to please the faculty, and short to please the cadets [Laughter.] When we say the word ''short'' to the class of '01, I'm told that we're talking to experts. In fact, I can see that this class is so short [audience: ''how short are we?''], you have fewer hours until you receive your diplomas than the plebes have ears to graduate. But, plebes . . . your day will come, too.

Today also marks the last time that the distinguished Army leader General Dan Christman will stand before a graduating

class as Superintendent. But, there was even a time when General Christman was a plebe. Back then, in May 1962, he and his fellow cadets gathered in the mess hall to hear General Douglas MacArthur deliver the ''Duty, Honor, Country'' speech that became so famous.

Dan Christman left the Academy first in his class and answered MacArthur's call, a call to serve ''a goal that is high . . . to reach into the future . . . to . . . remember the simplicity of true greatness, the open mind of true wisdom. . . .'' From fields of fire in Vietnam to the peaceful Plain of West Point, from commanding troops in Korea and Europe to advising senior leaders in the Pentagon and the White House, General Christman has commanded, led and served with the simplicity and open-mindedness that MacArthur spoke of.

General Christman brought an agile mind and a visionary spirit to his tenure as your ''Supe''—building West Point to keep it at the forefront of the nation's great educational institutions. For the thousands of cadets that he has led and loved, his legacy is simple and profound—West Point is a stronger and better institution because he was here. For our nation, his legacy is a whole generation of soldiers enriched by Dan Christman's 36 years of leadership. And his great supporter and partner, Susan Christman, was with him. Now as they prepare to leave their final assignment in the active duty Army, we thank them for their lasting contributions born of a lifetime of service.

There are many others who've been instrumental to the achievements that we are honoring here today, but no one deserves more credit than the parents who have supported and encouraged you. May I ask the parents and guardians of the class of 2001 to stand, so that we can give you a fitting Army tribute?

Today, in the year that all math majors know is really the first year of the Twenty-first Century, you graduate. Congratulations to the first West Point class of Twenty-first century!

As you leave, you leave well prepared for the demands of future duty. Four years have tested you in ways you probably never imagined. In Beast Barracks, you learned that you can meet any challenge if you attack it with determination. You learned that the soldier who inspires others to work together can be an agent of change. You learned that one person can make a difference, but that infinitely more is possible when one person joins a greater commitment—to a common good. Perhaps most importantly, you learned how many days are left until Army beats Navy.

Extensive scientific research has demonstrated that on an average day in June, the average human brain is capable of remembering at most one thought from a commencement speech. But since today is cooler than average, and West Pointers are definitely above average, I will challenge you to think this morning about two words: ''surprise'' and ''courage.''

This year marks the sixtieth anniversary of a military disaster whose name has become synonymous with surprise—the attack on Pearl Harbor. Interestingly, that ''surprise attack'' was preceded by an astonishing number of unheeded warnings and missed signals. Intelligence reports warned of ''a surprise move in any direction,'' but this made the Army commander in Honolulu think of sabotage, not attack. People were reading newspapers in Hawaii that cited promising reports about intensive Japanese diplomatic efforts, unaware that these were merely a charade. An ultra-secret code-breaking operation, one of the most remarkable achievements in American intelligence history, an operation called ''Magic,'' had unlocked the most private Japanese communications, but the operation was considered so secret and so vulnerable to compromise that the distribution of its product was restricted to the point that our field commanders didn't make the ''need-to-know'' list.

And at 7 a.m. on December 7th, at Opana radar station, two privates detected what they called ''something completely out of the ordinary.'' In fact, it was so out of the ordinary that the inexperienced watch officer assumed it must be friendly airplanes and told them to just forget about it.

Yet military history is full of surprises, even if few are as dramatic or as memorable as Pearl Harbor. Surprise happens so often that it's surprising that we're still surprised by it. Very few of these surprises are the product of simple blindness or simple stupidity. Almost always there have been warnings and signals that have been missed—sometimes because there were just too many warnings to pick the right one out, sometimes because of what one scholar of Pearl Harbor called ''a poverty of expectations''—a routine obsession with a few familiar dangers.

This expectation of the familiar has gotten whole governments, sometimes whole societies, into trouble. At the beginning of the last century, the British economist Norman Angell published a runaway best seller that must have drawn the attention of professors and cadets of West Point at that time. Angell argued that the idea that nations could profit from war was obsolete. It had become, as he titled his book, The Great Illusion. International finance, he argued, had become so interdependent and so interwoven with trade and industry that it had rendered war unprofitable.

One of Angell's disciples, David Starr Jordan, the President of an institution on the West Coast called Stanford University, argued that war in Europe, though much threatened, would never come. ''The bankers,'' he said, ''will not find the money for such a fight; the industries will not maintain it; the statesmen cannot. There will be no general war.''

Unfortunately for him, he made that prediction in 1913. One year later, Archduke Franz Ferdinand fell to an assassin's bullet, plunging Europe into a war more terrible than any that had come before it. The notion of the Great Illusion yielded to the reality of the Great War.

One hundred years later, we live, once again, in a time of great hopes for world peace and prosperity. Our chances of realizing those hopes will be greater if we use the benefit of hindsight to replace a poverty of expectations with an anticipation of the unfamiliar and the unlikely.

By doing so, we can overcome the complacency that is the greatest threat to our hopes for a peaceful future, the kind of complacency that took the life of General John Sedgewick at the Battle of Spottsylvania during the American Civil War. General Sedgewick looked over a parapet toward enemy lines, and waved off his soldiers' warning of danger, declaring: ''Nonsense, they couldn't hit an elephant at this distance.'' Those were the last words that he spoke at the very moment that a Confederate sharp shooter took his life.

I am told that in your time here, you grew accustomed to looking beyond the next parapet, to anticipate where you wanted to take this corps. You convinced your leaders to give you unprecedented authority in the day-to-day running of the corps. That kind of innovation and initiative are the keys to anticipating the unlikely and preparing for the unfamiliar, to being prepared to overcome the surprises that are almost inevitably going to come.

Perhaps the simplest message about surprise is this one: Surprise is good when the other guy can't deal with it. Let us try never to be that other guy.

Tomorrow, you, the Class of 2001 will become leaders in transforming the Army. General Shinseki has called on each soldier to embrace change, to make the Army of the future lighter and faster. It's a big undertaking, one that will not happen overnight. Fundamental change like that is like turning a supertanker—it can't be done on a dime. To redirect a massive vessel takes planning, patience, and time. But it will build an Army that is able to deal with the unfamiliar and the unexpected.

A century ago, on a peaceful day in 1903, with great foresight, Secretary of War Elihu Root told Douglas MacArthur's graduating class, ''Before you leave the Army . . . you will be engaged in another war. It is bound to come, and will come. Prepare your country.''

One day, you too will be tested in combat. And if you fail that test, the nation will fail, too.

We are counting on you, all of you. You must prepare yourselves—with the day-to-day choices that you make. And nothing is more important than that other word I'd like you to think about today: courage.

Today, America's lieutenants demonstrate physical courage as they lead combat patrols in Korea on the Demilitarized Zone. In Kuwait, soldiers stand ready to fight on a moment's notice. In Kosovo, young lieutenants have been leading patrols to keep warring ethnic groups in check, always at most one breath away from combat. And in Bosnia, since 1995, the courage of American soldiers has brought an end to a terrible war. Every day, our young soldiers face situations that require tact and diplomacy, but also toughness, discipline and courage.

Courage comes in many forms. Sometimes even more demanding than the physical courage to face danger is the moral courage to do what's right: doing your job the way it's supposed to be done, even if others advocate the easy way; choosing the harder right over the easier wrong, even if you have to take a hit for speaking up for what you think is true.

Moral courage means taking responsibility for the decisions you make, not shifting blame to others if something goes wrong. It's standing alone—when your only company is the knowledge that you did your best; your only comfort that you answered MacArthur's higher call.

On the eve of the great invasion at Normandy, having made the final fateful decision to go ahead in the face of great risk and uncertainty and warnings of bad weather, knowing full well that failure was a real and terrible possibility, General Dwight Eisenhower penciled a short message that he tucked away in his wallet . . . a few words that he planned to read if the invasion failed.

''My decision to attack at this time,'' he wrote, ''was based upon the best information available,'' he wrote. ''The troops, the airmen and the Navy did all that bravery and devotion to duty could do. If any blame or fault attaches to the attempt it is mine alone.''

Ike was a great hero, a man of great moral courage with the willingness to shoulder responsibility that is the mark of a great leader.

The Long Gray line has never lacked for courageous leaders. General Barry McCaffrey, class of '64, and General Ric Shinseki, class of '65, both proved their courage in combat in Vietnam, where they suffered horrendous wounds.

It took great moral courage to come back from that experience and decide to stay in an Army that had been shattered by Vietnam. But, by that choice, and the choice of so many like them, were able to rebuild that Army into what it is today: an Army without equal.

Courage comes in all ranks—all shapes and stripes. Look to your left—look down the line to your right—you may well be seeing a hero; you may be looking at another Rocky Versace.

After graduating from West Point in 1959, Rocky grew bored with stateside duty and volunteered for Vietnam where he served with enthusiasm and distinction. In October of 1963, just weeks shy of completing his second tour, he was captured by the Viet Cong.

When Rocky was tortured and left for dead in a three-by-six-foot cage—he sang ''God Bless America.'' When he was dragged from village to village with a rope around his neck, he cursed his captors in English and French and Vietnamese. His will could not be broken.

A fellow captive recalled that for Rocky, ''as a West Point grad, it was duty, honor, country. There was no other way. He was brutally murdered because of it. He valued that one moment of honor more than he would have a lifetime of compromises.''

Rocky Versace exemplified honor and courage. Forty years after his death, his life, his determination, his patriotism, and his courage call out for recognition. If Congress agrees, we will answer that call and recommend to President Bush that Captain Rocky Versace, class of 1959, be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Like Rocky, like Generals McCaffrey and Shinseki, you that know your profession is about leadership. To lead soldiers, you must first become one—in body, mind and spirit.

You must know your job, set the example, lead from the front. Most of all you must be a model of moral courage and integrity for your soldiers, the way your role models at West Point were for you.

Yours will not be a life of personal gain, but it is noble work. You will man the walls behind which democracy and freedom flourish. Your presence will reassure our allies and deter the enemies of freedom around the world. Be prepared to be surprised. Have courage. And remember what General Eisenhower said to those American and Allied troops before they were about to land on the beaches of Normandy. ''You are about to embark on a great crusade,'' he told them. ''The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty loving people everywhere march with you.''

Today, as you, the Class of 2001, go forth on your own crusade, our hopes and prayers go with you. Thank you, God bless the Class of '01, and God bless America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 148 and 149, I was unavoidably detained, as I was the keynote speaker at my daughter's graduation. Had I been present, I would have voted "Nay" on both votes.