back to the attitudes and relationships at home.

All of us in the Greater Cincinnati area are
grateful for Jerry's many years of dedicated
and caring service. We appreciate his out-
standing leadership and friendship, and wish
him well in many new challenges and opportu-
nities to come.

TRIBUTE TO BERNARD SIMS
HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 27, 2001
Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to
pay tribute to one of the most respected citi-
zens in my district, Bernard Sims. Bernard
Sims died on June 3rd at the age of 97.

Bernard was throughout his hometown of LaGrange, Illinois as a leader,
counselor, and teacher. During his ninety-
seven years, Bernard fought for equal rights
for all citizens. Bernard refused to tolerate dis-
crimination in any form. His promotion of mu-
tual respect has forever made the city of La-
Grange a better place.

One of the most respectable traits of Ber-
ard's character was his ability to get things
done. He led through action. His friends re-
spectfully recall when Bernard led a sit-in at the Walgreen's lunch counter until the estab-
lishment agreed to serve African Americans.
His nonviolent approach and his positive atti-
dude shaped the LaGrange civil rights move-
ment. Bernard was wholly diplomatic in his ac-
tions and respect for him crosses all racial and
ethnic lines.

Bernard was a well-known football and
baseball star at Lyons Township High School. He
worked as an auto mechanic, a handyman,
and a real estate entrepreneur. He was born to
the first African American family in La-
Grange and Bernard met his wife, Helen, in
1932 at a LaGrange diner. The couple spent
a remarkable seventy five years together until
his death. Bernard lived his ideals through
membership in the Knights of Columbus,
Toastmasters, and the NAACP. His active life
and positive attitude helped him make a dif-
ference everywhere he went.

Bernard was an asset to our community
and will be greatly missed. My thoughts and pray-
ers go out to Bernard's family and the La-
Grange community during this time of mourn-
ing. I am certain Bernard's legacy will live on
in the community for years to come.

His community minded spirit holds a lesson
for all of us. I encourage all of my colleagues
to join me in remembering Bernard Sims and the
contributions he made to his community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION
HON. W. TODD AKIN
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 27, 2001
Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, June
25, I missed three recorded votes because my
flight from St. Louis was canceled. Had my
flight not been canceled, I would have voted
'as follows on these three Resolutions:
"Yea" on H. Res. 180, calling on Communist
China to release Li Shaomin and all other
American scholars of Chinese ancestry;
"Yea" on H. Res. 99, expressing the sense of
the House that Lebanon, Syria and Iran
should call upon the Hezbollah to allow Red
Cross representatives to visit four abducted
Israelis presently held by Hezbollah forces
in Lebanon; and
"Yea" on H. Con. Res. 161, honoring the 19
U.S. servicemen who died in the terrorist
bombing of Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia
on June 25, 1996.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS
HON. AMO HOUGHTON
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 27, 2001
Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I am
pleased to join my friend, Mr. OBERSTAR, and
12189

COMMENDING LOUNSBERRY
HOLLOW MIDDLE SCHOOL
HON. MARGE ROUKEMA
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 27, 2001
Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, each and
every day Americans are exposed to a deluge of
negative images of young Americans. Television, radio and newspaper reports are
replete with stories of the misdeeds of young
Americans. Frankly, coverage of ringing alarm
bells and scandal sells.

However, this kind of coverage does not tell
the entire story. Nor is it fair to the millions of
younger Americans who are doing good, help-
ing their friends and neighbors and volun-
teering to improve their communities.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to
draw the attention of my Colleagues to the ef-
forts of just one group of young people—the
students at the Lounsberry Hollow Middle
School. This weekend I was pleased and
gratified to participate as the Vernon Township
Fireman's Association honored this group of
younger citizens.

Under the guidance of the Director of the
Fireman's Association, the students at the
Lounsberry Hollow Middle School have
at Lounsberry Hollow Middle School
worked for over 2½ years to raise $36,000 to help fire
fighters do their lifesaving work.

These students in Vernon Township have
set a record and a high standard for all of us
to recognize.

Nearly three years ago, the students be-
came interested in an emerging firefighting
technology—thermal imaging cameras. The
students embarked on an effort to raise the
funds to provide Vernon's firefighters with
these cameras. They organized a range of
creative activities. They sponsored Tupperware Bingo, sold pens and pencils,
sponsored games, collected cans, gathered
food, sold 15,000 lollipops, established the
"Change Makes a Difference" program, etc.

With this dedication and commitment, they
raised over $36,000.

In the meantime, State Senator Bob Littell
(R-Franklin) stepped in and through his lead-
ership on the Senate Appropriations Com-
mittee, provided communities across the
state assistance to purchase the thermal cam-
eras.

Undaunted, the young people rededicated
themselves to helping reduce fire dangers.

year from 2002 to 2011. Also, not more than
$3 billion could be designated for qualified
projects in the northeast rail corridor between
Washington, DC and Boston, Massachusetts.

In addition, not more than $3 billion could be
designated for any individual state for qualified
projects.

We believe this proposed legislation is for-
ward looking, cost-effective, and absolutely
necessary if we are to ensure that our nation's
transportation system can handle the expected
growth in travel without being overwhelmed by
congestion and gridlock. We encourage our
colleagues to join us in cosponsoring this leg-
islation.

HON. AMO HOUGHTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 27, 2001

HIGH-SPEED RAIL INVESTMENT
ACT OF 2001
HON. AMO HOUGHTON
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 27, 2001
Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I am
pleased to join my friend, Mr. OBERSTAR, and
12189