action. Learning to apply these steps every day increases the ability of students to think critically and work efficiently.

Small teams of young people brainstorm solutions and implementation strategies for issues as varied as tourism, global interdependence, and water use. Students are taught to think not only critically but also creatively. Team Problem Solving, Action-Based Problem Solving, Individual Problem Solving, and Scenario Writing are all components of the program that reward dynamic thinkers. Students who work in small teams also learn the value of cooperation and teamwork. Young people in each of the three age divisions compete on the regional, state, and international levels. The Future Problems Solving Program is preparing the youth of today to face the demands of tomorrow.

I would like to officially recognize the contributions this program has made and will continue to make to society at large. I want to thank the adults who are enhancing the education of today’s young people and the student participants who are taking the initiative to learn about and help solve today’s difficult issues. These students are taking their futures into their own hands. Keep up the good work!

BROWN v. BOARD OF EDUCATION 50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMISSION

SPEECH OF
HON. RON PAUL
OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in encouraging Americans to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education and the end of legal segregation in America. However, I cannot support the legislation before us because it attempts to authorize an unconstitutional expenditure of federal funds for the purpose of establishing a commission to provide federal guidance of celebrations of the anniversary of the Brown decision. This expenditure is neither constitutional nor in the spirit of the brave men and women of the civil rights movement who are deservedly celebrated for standing up to an overbearing government infringing on individual rights.

Mr. Speaker, any authorization of an unconstitutional expenditure of taxpayer funds is an abuse of our authority and undermines the principles of a limited government which respects individual rights. Because I must oppose appropriations not authorized by the enumerated powers of the Constitution, I therefore reject this bill. I continue to believe that the best way to honor the legacy of those who fought to ensure that all Americans can enjoy the blessings of liberty and a government that treats citizens of all races equally is by consistently defending the idea of a limited government whose powers do not exceed those explicitly granted it by the Constitution.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE OUTFITTER POLICY ACT

HON. JAMES V. HANSEN
OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 28, 2001

Mr. HANSEN, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce, today, the Outfitter Policy Act, which will create a statutory authority for permit terms and conditions across America’s public lands.

Millions of Americans recreate on America’s public lands every year, and the services Outfitters and guides allow our constituents to access many areas of our public lands that would otherwise be inaccessible. These are families and civic groups learning to enjoy and respect nature, including horse pack trips and float trips, which many of us have enjoyed.

Unfortunately, many of our federal agencies lack legislative guidance on permit administration. Without guidelines, the system is highly discretionary, and often inconsistent, creating confusion for Outfitters and guides, and ultimately reducing opportunities for our constituents to enjoy our public lands. The system established under this bill would eliminate inconsistencies, and would provide incentives for Outfitters to offer consistently high-quality services to all our constituents.

I would like to thank the original co-sponsors of this legislation for their willingness to join me in this effort to assure public lands access for all Americans, especially my good friend from Idaho, Mr. Otter. Without his hard work and dedication, this bill would never have been ready with such speed. This is a bill which appropriately balances public needs with conservation efforts, due in large measure because of his efforts. I thank him, as I thank all the co-sponsors of this bill, and hope that all my colleagues will support us in this effort.

JOHN KOHR: ALWAYS A "CO-OPERATIVE" MAN

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA
OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 28, 2001

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend, John Kohr, upon the occasion of his retirement as Chief Executive Officer of Co-Operative Elevator Company in Pigeon, Michigan. I have worked closely with John for the past 20 years and have always held him in the highest esteem. He is the kind of individual who others seek out for guidance because he strives for excellence in all that he does and he never hesitates to take on more than his share in any circumstance.

During his 30 years as the general manager and throughout his entire 39 years with the company, John’s enthusiastic leadership, strong work ethic and decentralized management style have helped to mold the company and individuals within it into shining examples for others in the industry to look up to as models for growth and development. He has been the driving force in establishing a record of profitability that is unmatched in the industry statewide.

Just as importantly, John worked to create an environment that trained others so that they could move up in the organization. One has to look no farther than his replacement, Burt Keefer, to see how John’s style allowed others to succeed. John has a well-deserved reputation as someone who gives unselfishly and extensively to the industry in which he has made a living for his family. In fact, John earlier this year was honored with the Agri-Business Award for Outstanding Member for his many contributions and dedication to the Agri-Business Association. John’s drive for excellence has also extended beyond his profession. He has been very active in many community organizations, volunteering his time and talents for the betterment of his fellow citizens.

Behind every successful businessman, there is always the love and warm support of family. John’s wife, Dianne, and their four children, Kathy, Carrie, Susan, and John, have shared in his dreams and worked hard to help him achieve them. A devote Christian, John has been a role model for his children and a loving husband to his wife.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating John Kohr on his significant and diverse accomplishments and in wishing him a rewarding retirement. His talent, dedication and enthusiasm will be sorely missed by his former coworkers, but I am confident that he will bring these attributes to all the challenges that lie ahead.

MICROBICIDES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2001

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA
OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 28, 2001

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the “Microbicides Development Act of 2001”. I am pleased to be joined by many of my good friends and colleagues who have signed on as original cosponsors to this legislation. My thanks go to them.

Mr. Speaker, this week the United Nations convened a special session of the U.N. General Assembly to address how to combat the spreading HIV/AIDS epidemic.

We have entered the third decade in the battle against HIV/AIDS. June 5, 1981 marked the first reported case of AIDS by the Centers for Disease Control. Since that time, over 400,000 Americans have died in the United States. Globally 21.8 million people have died of AIDS.

Tragically, women now represent the fastest growing group of new HIV infections in the United States and women of color are disproportionately at risk. In the developing world, women now account for more than half of HIV infections and there is growing evidence that the position of women in developing societies will be a critical factor in shaping the course of the AIDS pandemic.

So what can women do? Women need and deserve access to a prevention method that is within their personal control. Women are the only group of people at risk who are expected to protect themselves without any tools to do
so. We must strengthen women’s immediate ability to protect themselves—including providing new woman-controlled technologies. One such technology does exist called microbicides.

The Microbicides Development Act of 2001 which I am introducing, will encourage federal investment for this critical research, with the establishment of programs at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Through the work of the NIH, non-profit research institutions, and the private sector, a number of microbicide products are poised for successful development. But this support is no longer enough for actually getting microbicides through the development “pipeline” and into the hands of the millions who could benefit from them. Microbicides can only be brought to market if the federal government helps support critical safety and efficacy testing.

Health advocates around the world are convinced that microbicides could have a significant impact on HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).

Researchers have identified almost 60 microbicides, topical creams and gels that could be used to prevent the spread of HIV and other STDs such as chlamydia and herpes, but interest in the private sector in microbicides research has been lacking.

According to the Alliance for Microbicide Development, 38 biotech companies, 28 not-for-profit groups and seven public agencies are investigating microbicides, and Phase III clinical trials have begun on four of the most promising compounds. The studies will evaluate the compounds’ efficacy and acceptability and will include consumer education as part of the compounds’ development. However, it will be at least two years before any compound trials are completed.

Currently, the bulk of funds for microbicide research comes from NIH—nearly $25 million per year—and the Global Microbicide Project, which was established with a $35 million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. However, more money is needed to bring the compounds’ development. However, it will be at least two years before any compound trials are completed.

The Apollo Theatre is being undertaken, which will make it the centerpiece of Harlem and one of the main attractions for Harlem visitors. It has become the home of American music. According to the United States Coast Guard and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the annual fatality rate for commercial fishermen is about 150 deaths per 100,000 workers.

In order to increase the level of safety in the fishing industry, the U.S. Coast Guard requires all fishing vessels to carry safety equipment. Required equipment can include a life raft that automatically inflates and floats free should the vessel sink; personal flotation devices or immersion suits; Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs); visual distress signals; and fire extinguishers.

When an emergency arises, safety equipment is priceless. At all other times, the cost of purchasing or maintaining life rafts, immersion suits, and EPIRBs must compete with other expenses such as loan payments, fuel, wages, maintenance, and insurance. Meeting all of these obligations is made more difficult by a regulatory framework that uses measures such as trip limits, days at sea, and gear alterations to manage our marine resources.

Commercial fishermen should not have to choose between safety equipment and other expenses. That’s why I am introducing the “Commercial Fishermen Safety Act of 2001,” which would provide for a tax credit equal to 75 percent of the amount paid by fishermen to purchase or maintain required safety equipment. The tax credit is capped at $1,500 and includes expenses paid or incurred for maintenance of safety equipment required by federal regulation. Sens. Susan Collins (R–ME) and John Kerry (D–MA) have introduced identical legislation in the Senate.

The Commercial Fishermen Safety Act Of 2001 could improve safety by giving commercial fishermen more of an incentive to purchase and care for safety equipment. I ask my colleagues to join me in helping commercial fishermen protect themselves while doing their jobs.