

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CHILD CARE CONSOLIDATION AND
INVESTMENT ACT OF 1996

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Child Care Consolidation and Investment Act of 1996. I am pleased that my colleague, Senator DODD, has introduced the companion to this bill in the Senate.

The Child Care Consolidation and Investment Act of 1996 consolidates all the major child care programs, including the Child Care and Development Block Grant, into a seamless system of child care for working parents. It invests in child care by increasing funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant. Funds are increased to \$2.8 for fiscal year 1997, and each year thereafter. By fiscal year 2001, my bill provides \$4.7 billion for child care.

My bill creates a seamless web of support for families, all the way from welfare to work. Everyone is talking about welfare reform these days, and they should be. The current welfare system is broken. It's not working for the taxpayers and it's not working for the recipients. As cochair of the Democratic Congressional Task Force on Welfare Reform, I helped produce a proposal that reforms our ineffective welfare system by investing in education, training, and support services, including child care, to get families off welfare permanently.

Now, the House of Representatives has passed a bill that purports to move people off of welfare. However, it fails to remove one of the biggest barriers that keep even trained individuals from work: lack of available, safe, affordable child care. The bill that I am introducing today removes that barrier by ensuring that children have a safe place to go while their parents get job training and move into jobs. This bill ensures that single, custodial parents of young children will not be required to undertake education, job training, job search or employment unless appropriate child care is made available.

The Child Care Consolidation and Investment Act of 1996 doesn't stop there. It also directs States to reserve funds to carry out child care activities to support low-income working families, and before and after school care.

There is no question that working families need more child care. But, it is not enough to fund more facilities. Children must have a safe, clean environment that is both stimulating and nurturing if they are going to grow into adults that this country can rely on.

The Child Care Consolidation and Investment Act of 1996 expands access to affordable child care while improving the quality of child care. It does this by providing States with set-aside funds for quality improvements to child care. It also establishes a quality im-

provement incentive initiative that will make additional funds available to States that show progress in implementing innovative teacher training programs and improved child care quality standards, licensing, and monitoring procedures.

Mr. Speaker, child care has traditionally been a bipartisan issue in the House of Representatives, so I hope that my colleagues from both sides of the aisle will join with me to ensure that no children in this country will be left alone, at home, in a car, or on the streets because their parents are doing their best to support their family. Let's move forward with welfare reform, but let's not leave our kids behind.

PHILMONT FIRE COMPANY CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, anyone who visits my office cannot help but notice the display of fire helmets that dominates my reception area. They are there for two reasons. First, I had the privilege of being a volunteer fireman in my hometown of Queensbury for more than 20 years, which helps explain the second reason, the tremendous respect that experience gave me for those who provide fire protection in our rural areas.

In a rural area like the 22d District of New York, fire protection is often solely in the hands of these volunteer companies. In New York State alone they save countless lives and billions of dollars worth of property. That is why the efforts of people like those fire fighters in the Philmont Fire Department is so critical.

Mr. Speaker, I have always been partial to the charm and character of small towns and small town people. The town of Philmont in Columbia County is certainly no exception. The traits which make me most fond of such communities is the undeniable camaraderie which exists among neighbors. Looking out for one another and the needs of the community makes places like Philmont great places to live. This concept of community service is exemplified by the devoted service of the members of their volunteer fire department. For 100 years now, this organization has provided critical services for their neighbors on a volunteer basis.

Mr. Speaker, it has become all too seldom that you see fellow citizens put themselves in harms way for the sake of another. While almost all things have changed over the years, thankfully for the residents in Philmont, the members of their fire department have selflessly performed their duty, without remiss,

since the formation of this organization one century ago. On Saturday, July 27, 1996, the fire company will be holding a parade to commemorate this milestone. Not only will this offer the residents around Philmont a chance to enjoy themselves at the planned festivities, but it will provide the perfect opportunity for them to extend their gratitude to this organization and its members, both past and present.

Mr. Speaker, I have always been one to judge people by how much they give back to their community. On that scale, the members of the Philmont Fire Company are great Americans. I am truly proud of this organization because it typifies the spirit of voluntarism which has been such a central part of American life. To that end, it is with a sense of pride, Mr. Speaker, that I ask all Members of the House to join me in paying tribute to the Philmont Fire Company on the occasion of their 100th anniversary.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THREE
DISTINGUISHED EAGLE SCOUTS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate three distinguished young men for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout of the Boy Scouts of America [BSA]. Joseph Rybarczyk, Adam Summers, and Anthony Paul Pagorek are all members of the Boy Scout Troop No. 542, sponsored by St. Thomas More Catholic Church Holy Name Society of Munster. They will receive this honor at an Eagle Scout Court of Honor on Sunday, July 21, 1996, at the Munster Community Social Center located in Munster, IN.

An elite group of 2.5 percent of all Boy Scouts attain the Eagle Scout ranking, which is the highest of seven rankings in the Boy Scouts organization. In order to become an Eagle Scout, one must complete the following three tasks; earn 21 merit badges; complete a service project; and demonstrate strong leadership skills within the troop.

According to Stephen Kennedy, Troop Scout Master of BSA Troop No. 542, all three young men are longstanding members of Troop No. 542, as well as outstanding students. Joe, a student at Munster High School and a member of their school band, did an angel tree with the Salvation Army. This project provided Christmas gifts for the Salvation Army to distribute throughout the holiday. Joe was also a senior patrol leader, which is the highest position in the troop. Adam, also a member of Munster High School and their school band, took part in park improvements for the town of Munster. Specifically, he helped to restore several park benches. Anthony, an outstanding student and athlete at

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Andean High School, improved landscaping around St. Thomas More Catholic Church. Anthony also attended the National Scout Preserve in Philmont, NM. This preserve is a high adventure camp with a rugged terrain.

The fact that a boy is an Eagle Scout always has carried with it special significance, not only in scouting, but also as he enters higher education, a career, or community service. Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Adam Summers, Anthony Paul Pagorek, and Joseph Rybarczyk for their commendable efforts in society. It takes a great deal of tenacity and devotion to achieve such an illustrious ranking. These three young men have established promising futures, while at the same time improving the quality of life in Indiana's First Congressional District.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ATLANTIC ELECTRIC

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, Atlantic Electric, a utility serving residents in the Second District, sponsors an outstanding program to assist teenagers in Cumberland County. For its role in this effort—called the Peer Group Connection program—Atlantic Electric was honored with a Special Distinction Award for Educational Partnerships from the Edison Electric Institute [EEI]. Ms. Fern Mills, manager of community relations for Atlantic Electric, was recently in Washington to receive the award from EEI president Thomas R. Kuhn.

The Peer Group Connection program is a partnership effort between Atlantic Electric, Cumberland Regional High School, and community members of Cumberland County. It seeks to address difficulties in transition between elementary and secondary school through effective use of peer influence. The program seeks to build safe, responsive communities in which ethnic, racial, and cultural differences are respected.

In making the presentation during a Capitol Hill ceremony, Mr. Kuhn said:

Recognizing that helping teenagers helps society, Atlantic Electric joined other leading Cumberland County, New Jersey businesses in starting the Peer Group Connection, as a support group for high school students coping with the pressures of growing up. Results show higher grades, fewer absences, and a more positive attitude toward school.

To Atlantic Electric and others involved in the educational partnerships, I say congratulations—keep up the good work.

PERUVIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 175th anniversary of Peru-

an independence. On July 28, 1821, Don Jose de San Martin led rebel troops in freeing Peru from Spanish rule. The victories of this Peruvian national hero in many ways laid the foundation for independence for all of South America.

I am proud to say that in the Eighth Congressional District of New Jersey, this great day is going to be remembered with all the fanfare it deserves. From July 20 to 28, we will celebrate Peruvian Heritage Days. The days will consist of numerous activities to enhance public awareness of Peruvian history and cultural heritage, and the crowning event will be the parade on Sunday, the 28th. I know from personal experience that it will be both interesting and entertaining.

Mr. Speaker, on this most auspicious occasion, I feel compelled to point out that this day should be a special one not only for Peruvians and Peruvian-Americans, but for freedom-loving people everywhere. Neither the United States nor Peru would be the proud countries we know today if people who came before us had not stood up for their rights, and demanded national sovereignty and independence.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, allow me to add that regardless of whether you favor the melting pot or the mixed salad analogy, the underlying truth of the matter remains: We are a nation of immigrants. As the grandson of immigrants, I have seen firsthand how difficult it can be to assimilate into a new society while still remembering your roots. The community of Peruvian-Americans in my district has succeeded in doing just that. For their immeasurable contributions to the richness of our society, I applaud all of the legal immigrants who collectively make up the fabric of these United States. We are all unique individuals, but we truly are also one Nation under God.

AN ADDITIONAL TOOL FOR TRYING TO REFORM CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, recent communications between the Department of Labor and California show we have another problem to correct in restoring power to the States. Bluntly, the Department is saying California has to pay unemployment benefits to certain criminals being released from prison.

Current Federal law requires employers to pay Federal employment [FUTA] taxes on work performed by their employees. This includes prison inmates who work for private companies through innovative work programs established in several States, including California. Today, some 200 people in California prisons are employed in jobs provided under agreements between the State and private businesses. However, FUTA taxes do not have to be paid for work by prisoners employed in prison operations such as the laundry or cabinet shop.

Since FUTA taxes are paid on behalf of some prisoners, the U.S. Department of Labor

ruled that these prisoners must be paid unemployment benefits upon their release from their job—essentially, when they are released from prison. Failure to comply is serious: California employers, for example, would lose tax credits worth \$1.7 billion for FUTA taxes they pay on other workers if the California program is disqualified.

Why does Labor take this position? The Federal unemployment insurance program only permits denial of employment benefits in three cases: if the worker's income exceeds certain limits; the claim is fraudulent; or the employee was fired for misconduct. Since prisoners lose their jobs when paroled or released from prison, they do not fit the exceptions.

California voters established the Joint Venture Program in 1990, creating a private work program for prison inmates. Criminals' wages are used to compensate victims, offset incarceration costs, and set-aside funds—20 percent—for the inmate's support upon his or her release from prison. In 1996, California voters overwhelmingly passed an initiative (Proposition 194) that denies unemployment benefits to criminals participating in the Joint Venture Program.

The Department of Labor decision would force California either to pay out unemployment benefits to released prisoners or to eliminate a program that has been successful in helping criminals transition back into the work force. Allowing employees to lose \$1.7 billion in credits for taxes they pay on the services of ordinary working people is not an option, needless to say.

Legislation I am introducing today would change the law to treat all prison inmates who participate in work programs the same: Their services would be exempt from the FUTA tax. This would effectively deny unemployment benefits to released prisoners and prohibit the Department of Labor from placing such a ridiculous requirement on the States. The bill's enactment would give States an additional tool to use in trying to reform criminal behavior and I hope my colleagues will agree to its adoption in the near future.

TRIBUTE TO IRVING GEORGE LIEBERFARB

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Irving George Lieberfarb, a distinguished American from Lake Worth, FL, who recently passed away.

Mr. Lieberfarb was a worthy and admirable individual whose absence is a tragic loss to his family and his community. He was very active in the B'nai B'rith movement, and his synagogue Petach Tikva Congregation, on behalf of many worthy causes. It was Mr. Lieberfarb who brought to my attention the matter of Varian Fry, an American who had saved thousands of Jewish lives during World War II, but had never been honored. In 1939 Mr. Fry had requested the State Department allow him to secure the passage of Jewish refugees suffering under the Nazi regime. The Government

responded by reluctantly offering merely 200 visas, and eventually put an end to his work by forcing him to return to America. When he criticized the U.S. immigration policy, upon his return, the Government shunned him and refused to recognize his noble deeds.

I had read Mr. Lieberfarb's article about Varian Fry and was disturbed that the actions of this man were ignored for so long. Therefore, I introduced H.R. 3352, legislation to award the congressional gold medal of honor to Varian Fry's family in honor of his great accomplishments. Mr. Lieberfarb's efforts for this cause alone exhibits his concern for righteousness and justice. It was an honor to have known him.

For this reason, I also wish to insert in the RECORD the kind words submitted by his family to the New York Times, on Friday, June 28, 1996.

Irving George Lieberfarb, of Lakewood Florida, died on June 26, 1996, Beloved husband of Irene, father of Jay and Richard. Loving grandfather of Suzanne and Julie. Brother of Mae Zeller, Daniel, and Eddie. Loving uncle of many nephews and nieces. Always thinking how much he could do for his family.

We will never forget your positive influence and always concern for the special interest of the many friends and relations. With love and gratitude, your niece and nephews, Warren, Bonnie, Monte and Jim.

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF DEEP RIVER, CT FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Deep River, CT fire department which serves the community of Deep River with selflessness, energy, and commitment each and every day.

The first organizational meeting of the Deep River fire department was held in March 1896. Since that time, the department has grown to its present size of nearly 40 persons, receives over 200 calls each year, and has at its disposal a fleet of four pumper trucks, one emergency truck, one brush truck, and one fire boat. The Deep River fire department has also expanded to two stations which serve the local community: The fire department headquarters at the center of Deep River and a smaller station in the Winthrop section of town.

The Deep River fire department has served the community faithfully, often demonstrating real ingenuity in its work to keep the community safe. In Deep River, CT, Mr. Speaker, the only fire hydrants are located in town. The department, though, serves not only the town, but many rural areas as well. In those rural areas, using vast amounts of fire hose, the department employs a combination of skill and improvisation to obtain water from nearby streams and ponds, offering rural residents the same level of emergency service as is enjoyed by those who reside in town.

On September 29 of this year, the Deep River fire department will continue the celebra-

tion of its 100th anniversary with a community parade. At this parade, the national flag fire truck will make its way to Deep River, a further honor to this most deserving department.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Members of the House of Representatives join me today in recognizing the accomplishments and achievements of the Deep River fire department on its 100th anniversary, and offering our best wishes for another 100 years of distinguished service and generous sacrifice.

TRIBUTE TO JOYCE EISENBERG-KEEFER AND MEL KEEFER

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Joyce Eisenberg-Keefe and Mel Keefe for their extraordinary charitable activities.

Joyce Eisenberg-Keefe, president and administrator of the Ben B. and Joyce E. Eisenberg Foundation, is a leader in efforts to improve the quality of life of the elderly, youth, and cancer victims.

In 1993, she established the Joyce Eisenberg-Keefe Breast Center at St. John's Hospital and Health Center, a comprehensive center for the study and treatment of breast cancer that sees 10,000 patients each year.

Joyce Eisenberg-Keefe is also a leading contributor to the John Wayne Cancer Institute, Wellness Community, the Weizmann Institute of Science, and the Jewish Homes for the Aging.

Joyce Eisenberg-Keefe's philanthropy does not stop at our national border. She has contributed millions of dollars to Israel Tennis Centers, which allows children develop friendships and learn to work together through play. She built the Eisenberg Kindergarten in Tel Aviv, has denoted mammography equipment to the Shaare Zedek Hospital, and funds a medical fellowship program in cardiothoracic surgery at UCLA for doctors from Hadassah Hospital.

In addition to all of these enormous contributions, Joyce Eisenberg-Keefe actively supports numerous other organizations, including the Anti-Defamation League, United Jewish Fund, Israel Bonds, the Los Angeles Music Center, and the National Diabetes Foundation.

We owe a great debt of gratitude to Joyce Eisenberg-Keefe and Mel Keefe. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting them for their great achievements and in wishing them happiness and success in all future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE CENTENNIAL OF ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH, ELMENDORF, TX

HON. FRANK TEJEDA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. TEJEDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a special anniversary for a south Texas

parish in the district I represent. St. Anthony's Church, situated in the small town of Elmendorf, TX, this month is celebrating the centennial of their first church building. I ask that you join me in expressing pride and joy in this accomplishment.

The parish of St. Anthony's in Elmendorf dates back at least to 1872. At that time, under the pastoral guidance of Father C. Jaille, Masses and services were celebrated in area homes. The pastor of a neighboring community, Father Emilio Chapolard, led the effort to build the church in Elmendorf in 1896. Responsible for a large area south of San Antonio, Father Chapolard served 40 years in Graytown.

During the past 100 years, St. Anthony's has been home to three churches. The second building was constructed under the direction of Father Matthias J. Justen from 1917 to 1922. Some 50 years later, the third church was built during 1973 and 1974 under the guidance of Father Severiano Fernandez and was blessed by Bishop Patrick Flores, who now serves the entire region as archbishop. Today, the church hosts a new rectory, parish hall, a CCD center, and a religious education center.

The church has been under the spiritual guidance of priests of many backgrounds. During the early years of this century, the Claretian Fathers from San Antonio were charged with the responsibility of the parish. Thereafter, the Mexican Josephite Brothers took over for a number of years until the 1921 arrival of Father Justen, the first Redemptorist to be in charge of the parish. The Redemptorists served at St. Anthony's for more than 40 years, until 1962. At that time, the archbishop invited the Augustinian Fathers to take charge of the parish. The church enjoyed their guidance until 1993, when the present priest, Father William McNamara arrived.

An archdiocesan priest from Ireland, Father McNamara has given greatly to the church and the community. Under his guidance, St. Anthony's is celebrating a Mass of thanksgiving and a parish Mass to mark the centennial of the first church. We appreciate his efforts, and those of the entire parish, to build not only church buildings, but a church community. The foundation stones set in place 100 years ago have endured the test of time, and in that place we now find a vibrant and committed parish looking forward to the next century for St. Anthony's.

TRIBUTE TO THE NEW BALTIMORE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the New Baltimore Historical Society which will celebrate its 20th anniversary on Saturday, July 20, 1996. How fortunate we are to have people in our home towns who are willing to give their talents to preserve our community treasures.

First established as a sesquicentennial project, the Historical Society is dedicated to

preserving the heritage of the Anchor Bay area. It is indeed a wonderful anniversary for this organization as the culmination of their hard work is achieved. Under the guidance of the New Baltimore Historical Society, the Grand Pacific House, a former hotel built in 1881, was renovated. This last vestige of New Baltimore's hotel era is now a community museum.

The New Baltimore Historical Society purchased the Grand Pacific House in 1985 and began restoration of the building. Through countless hours of volunteer work, fundraisers, and generous donations from civic groups, businesses and individuals the dream has come true. The Museum is home to a variety of local historic artifacts and special theme rooms that have captured a glimpse of the past for future generations.

I commend the New Baltimore Historical Society for its efforts and encourage the members to continue with their good work. The formal dedication of the Grand Pacific House Historical Site plaque is a celebration of their labor of love. Please join me in saluting the New Baltimore Historical Society on the event of their 20th anniversary.

TOWER ONE/TOWER EAST'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I offer my heartfelt congratulations to Tower One/Tower East on the 25th anniversary of this outstanding multicultural senior housing facility. For a quarter of a century, the New Haven Jewish Federation Housing Corp. has given New Haven area seniors a place to call home in Tower One.

As part of its 25th birthday celebration, Tower One will honor its past presidents at a champagne breakfast. They are: Irving Enson, Jay I. Vlock, Linda Kantor, Alan Schiff, Stanley H. Arffa, Andrew Eder, Joel A. Wasserman, Samuel I. Trotz, Diane Alderman, Tracy Selmon, Henry Stein, Ted Schaffer, and Joseph R. Blumberg. I commend each of them for the work the presidents have done to make Tower One a success.

When we celebrate Tower One's 25th anniversary, we celebrate the values that make families and communities strong—the values that enable Tower One to create a true home for Connecticut's seniors. Not only are residents provided with on-site health services, Kosher meals in the dining room and a wide variety of activities keep those at Tower One community engaged with another and the community. Residents gather for everything from informal sing-alongs and games to live entertainment and organized parties and celebrations. Tower One also provides day trips and outings.

I treasure the yearly opportunity I have to host the holiday party at Tower One because it gives me the chance to share in the holiday celebrations so dear to Tower One's residents. Most important, the seniors at Tower One are able to honor the religious and cultural tradi-

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tions that keep them close to family and friends. It is truly a place where residents feel at home.

I have been involved with Tower One for many, many years and have watched as the building has been improved and updated to provide residents with the very best services and facilities. I sincerely congratulate all those at Tower One on this proud occasion. I know that Bob Bachman's leadership will enable Tower One to continue its development and growth. I congratulate Tower One on 25 great years and wish it the same success in the future.

GREAT DOMINICAN PARADE AND CARNIVAL OF THE BRONX

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Great Dominican Parade and Carnival of the Bronx on its sixth year of celebration of the Dominican culture in my south Bronx congressional district.

It gives me great pleasure to once again join the members and friends of the Dominican community who will be marching along the Grand Concourse this Sunday in celebration of Dominican culture and its historic legacy.

This year's parade will honor Juan Pablo Duarte, father of the independence of the Dominican Republic, which was achieved in 1844.

The parade was born in 1990, following the vision of its president and founder Felipe Febles. Mr. Febles saw the need to provide Dominicans with a forum to educate them and to strengthen their sense of identity. In addition, its associated nonprofit institution offers English classes and other services to immigrants.

The Dominican Republic has a long and distinguished history. Christopher Columbus visited in 1492, and named the island Hispaniola. Among other important legacies, Santo Domingo, the nation's capital, is the oldest settlement by Europeans and the location of the most ancient cathedral in the Americas.

Dominicans are proud of their country's history, rich culture, natural resources, agriculture, and other industries. The Great Dominican Parade and Carnival of the Bronx has adopted as its symbol the map of the Dominican Republic containing in its center a portrait of Juan Pablo Duarte, the Dominican flag, and a depiction of the oldest cathedral and the highest mountain in the nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the members and friends of the Great Dominican Parade and Carnival of the Bronx for their 6 years of bringing joy and of strengthening the community.

TRIBUTE TO LYLE AND MARY MAPLES

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to Lyle and Mary Maples of Lenoir City, TN, upon the occasion of their golden wedding anniversary on July 27, 1996. In this day and age where family values are much discussed, I can think of no greater testament to life, love, honor, and family values than the commitment of a 50 year marriage.

Lyle and Mary worked until retirement in Oak Ridge, TN. Lyle worked at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Mary worked for the Atomic Energy Commission. Their contributions to the "golden days" of Oak Ridge on projects of immense significance are appreciated by all Americans.

Along the way, they built a home and raised a family. They have three children, Mary Ann, Jim and Bob. Mary Ann is a master educator at Lenoir City High School; Jim is a district manager at Goody's Corp. in Knoxville and Bob is a lobbyist in Washington, DC. Lyle and Mary are equally as proud of their grandchildren; three boys—Clay Stewart, Jesse and Joe Maples and two granddaughters—Mary Lee Stewart and Becca Maples. A family raised in Tennessee and working to better their community, State and Nation.

Lyle and Mary are active members of their community and their church, Central United Methodist. Their good deeds and works are appreciated by civic leaders, friends, and neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, I join Lyle and Mary's family, friends, and the Lenoir City community in recognizing this milestone and wish them many more years of life and love.

WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EQUITY ACT

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, as a cochair of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, I am pleased to introduce the Women's Economic Equity Act [EEA]. This package of legislation is designed to increase economic opportunities for American women.

The Economic Equity Act is a comprehensive, forward-looking agenda for improving the economic well-being of American women in the workplace and at home. This legislative package has been introduced by the Women's Caucus in every Congress since 1981.

This year's EEA continues its traditional focus on such issues as pay equity and pension reform, but places new emphasis on the economic impact of domestic violence. The bills included in the EEA would expand professional opportunities for women in science and engineering and expand job benefits for part-time and temporary workers, most of whom are women. One provision would extend IRA

deductions to women who choose to stay at home.

Although women are and continue to be the majority of new entrants into the workplace, they continue to be clustered in low-skilled, low-paying jobs. By improving the economic condition of women, we will be helping our Nation face the economic challenges of the 21st century.

Each of the individual provisions included in the EEA have been or will be introduced as separate bills. By bringing each of these 36 bills under a single bill number, the caucus hopes to set out a broad agenda for addressing important women's economic issues.

TRIBUTE TO GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. WAYNE ALLARD

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to salute several outstanding young women who have been honored with the Girl Scout Gold Award by Girl Scouts-Mountain Prairie Council in Colorado. They are Christine Myers of Troop 61; Tiffany Beck and Denise Johnson of Troop 320; Molly Phelan of Troop 642; and Stephanie Rabourn. They were honored recently for earning the highest achievement award in U.S. Girl Scouting. The Girl Scout Gold Award symbolizes outstanding accomplishments in the areas of leadership, community service, career planning, and personal development. The award can be earned by girls aged 14-17, or in grades 9-12.

Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., an organization serving over 2.5 million girls, has awarded more than 20,000 Girl Scout Gold Awards to senior Girl Scouts since the inception of the program in 1980. To receive the award, a Girl Scout must earn four interest project patches, the Career Exploration Pin, the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, and the Senior Girl Scout Challenge, as well as design and implement a Girl Scout Gold Award project. A plan for fulfilling these requirements is created by the Senior Girl Scout and is carried out through close cooperation between the girl and an adult Girl Scout volunteer.

As members of Girl Scouts-Mountain Prairie Council, these young women began working toward the Girl Scout Gold Award in 1995. Christine completed her project in areas of organizing a book drive, Tiffany and Denise completed their projects in areas of planning and running a day camp, Molly completed her project in areas of drinking and driving, and Stephanie completed her project in areas of setting up a program that helps Hispanic children who are having difficulties with their schoolwork. I believe that these young women should receive public recognition due them for their significant service to the community and the country.

PRESIDENT CLINTON IGNORES VICE PRESIDENT GORE'S OWN LEGISLATION

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I insert for the record a Reuter's report from July 15 in which the U.S. Commander of the Fifth Fleet, Adm. John Scott Redd, has once again reported that Iran has acquired more C-802 antiship missiles from Communist China.

According to Admiral Redd, these missiles add a new dimension in the regional naval threat. Further, he reports that Iran has tripled the number of missiles deployed on its coast and is fitting up to 20 Huodong patrol boats, also acquired from Communist China, with these missiles.

Mr. Speaker, these weapons transfers should be a sanctionable activity under the law. Indeed, they should be sanctionable under a law written by none other than the Vice-President of the United States, ALBERT GORE. In 1992, then-Senator GORE authored the Iran-Iraq Arms Non Proliferation Act, which was successfully amended to the fiscal year 1993 Defense authorization bill.

Section 1605 of the act calls for mandatory sanctions against any foreign country if the President determines that the country transfers goods or technology so as to contribute knowingly and materially to the efforts by Iran or Iraq to acquire destabilizing numbers and types of advanced conventional weapons. The mandatory sanctions include a suspension of U.S. bilateral assistance, a requirement that the United States oppose multilateral loans to that country, a suspension of codevelopment or coproduction agreements, a suspension of military and dual-use technical exchange agreements, and a ban on exports of products on the U.S. munitions list, all for a period of one year. The legislation does contain a Presidential national security waiver, Mr. Speaker, but the outrageous thing is that the President has not even bothered to issue the waiver. He is simply ignoring the law. So apparently, is the author of the law.

Worse, this administration is ignoring the threat. And the threat comes not only from the rogue nation of Iran, but from its rogue supplier, Communist China. The instances of weapons and dangerous technology transfers by this outlaw nation are too numerous to list, and so is the number of times that the Clinton administration has responded with outright capitulation. This will only beget more of the same Mr. Speaker.

The travesty is that one day young American men and women may find themselves in a fight with any number of nations that have been armed and supplied by Communist China, and we will then have to ask ourselves why we didn't try to stop these dangerous transfers sooner.

IRAN TRIPLES GULF DEPLOYED MISSILES— U.S. NAVY

(By Diana Abdallah)

DUBAI, July 15.—Iran has in the past two years tripled the number of missiles deployed on its Gulf coast and is fitting Chi-

nese-built cruise missiles on up to 20 of its naval boats, a senior U.S. navy commander said on Monday.

Vice Admiral John Scott Redd, Commander of the U.S. Fifth Fleet and Commander, U.S. Naval Forces, Central Command, said Iran's acquisition of Chinese-built radar guided C-802 anti-ship missiles was "a new dimension" in the regional naval threat.

He told Reuters from his headquarters in Bahrain that Iraq and Iran continued to pose a threat to security in the region which produces a third of the world's oil supply.

Redd said there were no indications of threats against U.S. naval forces following two bombs that killed 24 Americans in Saudi Arabia in the past year, but that the navy had taken "prudent measures." He did not elaborate.

"Iraq is the major land threat in the region . . . Because it still has the most capable and largest ground force in the region, while Iran is more of a naval threat," said Redd, who ends his assignment on Wednesday to return to Washington.

He said Iran was expected to have up to 20 patrol boats fitted with anti-ship Chinese-built C-802 cruise missiles.

It already has two Russian Kilo submarines "and they have another one coming we think before the year is out," he said.

"There has been a tripling of shore-based missiles both that shoot at ships and those that are surface-to-air missiles," he said. "The number they have deployed on the Gulf coast and in the Strait (of Hormuz) roughly tripled."

"The newest dimension is that they have Chinese-built C-802 missiles against ships . . . The Houdong patrol craft they got from China came fitted to fire the C-802s and they have now received all 10 of them. Some arrived in the last couple of months."

"They are also taking some of the other patrol craft and modifying them to carry the missiles and the work is in progress. We could be looking at 20 or more patrol ships at sea capable of carrying those surface-to-surface missiles," he said.

Officials in the United States, which accuses Iran of sponsoring terrorism and has imposed sanctions on it, have expressed concern since the 1991 Gulf War about what they say is Iran's growing military capability and aims in the region.

Iran has rejected all these charges. Redd said U.S. forces were capable of dealing with any Iranian military threat.

Navy spokesman Commander T. McCreary said 34 U.S. vessels, including an aircraft carrier group, cruisers, destroyers—some capable of firing TOMAHAWK cruise missiles—frigates and submarines, were currently deployed in Central Command area, most of them in Gulf waters.

Up to 15,000 sailors and marines are stationed in the area.

LEONARD AND RUBY BASSETT CELEBRATE GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to commemorate Leonard and Ruby Bassett on their golden wedding anniversary. The Bassetts' children, Leonard Jr.,

Dennis, Leatha, and Oddette, are hosting a joyous celebration honoring their parents' 50 years of love, friendship and devotion. This event will be held this Saturday, July 20, 1996, at the Genesis Convention Center in Gary, IN.

While in their early twenties Leonard Bassett and Ruby Holman met in the spring of 1946 at a dance hall located across from Froebel High School in Gary. Mr. Bassett had just returned from 28 months of service in the U.S. Navy and resolved to attend a dance that was being held for young adults. It was there that they first met. The two knew of each other during their years at Roosevelt High School, but they did not formally meet until this magical night at the dance.

After courting for a couple of months, the two discovered that they shared the same dreams of settling down and starting a family. After a short period of dating, Leonard and Ruby knew that they had found true love and that they were destined to be partners in life. Shortly thereafter, Leonard and Ruby were joined in holy matrimony on July 21, 1946.

During the Bassetts' 50 years of marriage they had 4 children: Leonard, Jr., Dennis, Leatha, and Oddette. The Bassetts are thankful that, following graduation from Roosevelt High School, all four of their children were able to continue on to higher education and establish themselves in their respective careers.

In 1983, Leonard retired from U.S. Steel after devoting 37 years of his life to the steel industry. Leonard retired as a production foreman. When Ruby retired, she was head cook of the Gary Community School Corp. Currently, she is a part-time employee with the Lake County government. Ruby is also a precinct committee person and co-captain of the fifth precinct in Gary.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other colleagues to join me in congratulating the Bassetts as they celebrate 50 years of marriage. In today's world, it is refreshing to see two people who have devoted their lives to creating a successful marriage and happy family. May the Bassetts be a positive role model for today's young couples who are starting families. They are proof that a little dedication and a lot of love can make marriage one of life's most magnificent experiences.

THE CONTINUING STRIKE IN CYPRUS

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recall the unprovoked Turkish invasion of Cyprus on July 20, 1974, and the strife that still exists on the island as a result of Turkish aggression.

After Cyprus gained independence from Great Britain in 1960, the island, whose population remains nearly 80 percent Greek, experienced clashes between the Greek and Turkish communities. Despite the overwhelmingly Greek population and culture dating back to ancient times, the Turkish government invaded

Cyprus during a transition in political rule. Turkish forces invaded the northern coast of the island and soon amassed 30,000 troops that quickly overwhelmed the unexpected Greek Cypriot population. Although the U.N. Security Council negotiated peace talks, the Turkish forces controlled 37 percent of Cyprus by August, leaving one-third of the Cypriot population homeless and more than 1,600 persons still unaccounted for to this day—including 5 Americans.

Now, 22 years later, Cyprus remains divided despite repeated attempts at peace talks. Greek Cypriots who lived in towns for generations now stare across a barbed-wire fence that divides them from the Turkish controlled section of their homeland where their homes, property, and churches have been destroyed. This 112-mile border that divides the Greek south from the Turkish-controlled north, is as tense as the old Berlin Wall. U.N. troops still patrol this partition that has existed since the Turkish invasion.

Mr. Speaker, after 22 years of cold war, sharp division, unanswered questions, and tension created by Turkish actions since 1974, there must be a resolution and settlement since this situation is tragic for Greek Cypriots and a real danger to greater European peace and security.

Cyprus should be a free and open state and those responsible for the tragedies and crimes of the past and present should be held accountable and brought to justice.

ALASKANS ARE THE BEST STEWARDS OF ALASKA LANDS AND RESOURCES

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring the attention of my colleagues to a guest opinion that appeared in the June issue of Resource Review. It is by Jake Adams, an Inupiat Eskimo who is both a whaling captain and president of the Arctic Slope Regional Corp. He makes the important point that Alaskans are the best stewards of Alaska lands and resources, not the political leaders and activists who live here in Washington, DC. The text of his opinion follows my remarks.

Just as Eskimo self-regulation under the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission has succeeded in protecting both the Bowhead Whale and the communities that depend on the whale for subsistence, I believe that the resources of the Tongass National Forest will be best managed by the State of Alaska, as I propose in H.R. 2413. Time and time again Alaskans have proven their ability to manage their resources responsibly, an accomplishment, as Mr. Adams points out, that Washington, DC, cannot claim.

I hope that my colleagues will read the wise words of Mr. Adams.

[From the Resource Review, June 1996]

ALASKA—A PLACE THAT WORKS

(By Jacob Adams)

Compared to the rest of the nation, Alaskans enjoy a relatively untouched, pristine

environment. This fact has led some people who have mismanaged their own environment and communities to view Alaska as a public museum; a place they want to control and preserve, untouched and suspended in time.

This, of course, does not work well for those of us who live in Alaska, have families to support, communities to nurture and shareholders' economic interests to protect and advance. Yet, many Alaskans often find that they are forced to be major actors in contentious national debates over the use of public lands and resources and, in some cases, even their own private lands and resources.

It is a shame that many political leaders and activists who live and work in the middle of the poverty, crime and hopelessness of Washington, D.C.,—a city that does not work—are determined to second-guess so much of what we Alaskans do and aspire for.

Alaska, after all, is a place that works. We educate our children. We meet our people's needs. We protect our fish and wildlife. We believe in the work ethic. And we take care of our poor and disadvantaged.

Profit is not a dirty word in Alaska. Free enterprise works here. It is part of a proud American tradition that produces income, jobs and tax revenue. It improves the quality of people's lives. But, it can also be a hard task master.

Those of us who live on the North Slope have seen some successes and a fair share of failures. One success story that continues today is the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission (AEWC). In the late 1970s, the International Whaling Commission, elements of the federal government and animal rights activists pushed hard to terminate my people's traditional subsistence hunts for the Bowhead Whale. We fought those efforts. We proposed a system of Eskimo "self-regulation" through AEWC. Who better to protect the species and regulate the hunt than the people whose subsistence and culture is at stake?

We were successful. Today, the whales, our people and our culture are thriving. And we did it by ourselves. Self-regulation by the parties who stand to lose or gain is a concept which should be used more by the state and federal governments.

But, we have also seen some failures. ASRC and its shareholders—working with the State, RDC, Arctic Power and our Congressional Delegation, have tried very hard since 1987 to open the small, oil rich Coastal Plain area of ANWR to oil and gas leasing. We own 92,160 acres of Coastal Plain land in the huge 19 million acre Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. But we are denied the benefits of our resources. We are prohibited by federal law from producing and using oil or natural gas on our privately-owned lands in ANWR at the village of Kaktovik. Instead, the federal government's action means that we must import fuel oil to heat village homes and generate electricity. Yet, Kaktovik sits on the nation's best prospect for major new oil and gas reserves.

We have been fighting this issue for nine years. We may have to fight for nine or ten more. Lifting the Alaska oil export ban took 22 years.

We will continue to push to open the Coastal Plain because it is the right thing to do. Alaskans are the best stewards of our land, our environment and our fish and wildlife resources. We should be major participants in discussions about our future. We do not need the failed landlords of Washington to dictate their policies of failure to us and our children.

My people have seen ups and we have seen downs. But we do not dwell on short-term reverses or disappointments. In the long run, rational thought and the laws of economics will prevail. The fundamental changes taking place in Russia, our neighbors to the west, were not conceivable ten years ago.

Alaskans need to have staying power. We are in this for the long run. Jacob Adams is the President of the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, a member of the North Slope Borough Assembly and a whaling captain in Barrow. Jake also serves on the Board of Directors for RDC.

**NEW PAYMENT SYSTEM FOR PPS
EXEMPT REHABILITATION HOSPITALS AND UNITS**

HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I introduce legislation to provide for a Medicare prospective payment system [PPS] for inpatient rehabilitation hospital and rehabilitation unit services.

Prior to 1983, the Medicare Act paid hospitals the reasonable cost of treating Medicare patients. Generally, this meant that the more a hospital spent, the more it was paid from the Medicare Trust Fund. The result was a rapid rate of increase in Medicare spending for hospitalization. In 1983, this system was replaced with a Prospective Payment System under which hospitals were paid fixed rates for various types of diagnostic groups, commonly known as DRG's. Certain providers of care were exempted from this system because a way to appropriately group their patients did not exist. Among these were rehabilitation hospitals and rehabilitation units in general hospitals. These continued to be reimbursed based on costs incurred, but subject to limits on payment per discharge. These limits are imposed under the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982, and commonly known as TEFRA limits.

TEFRA limits were to be a short-term expedient to reduce the rate of increase in hospital payments. TEFRA limits are based on Medicare operating cost of a hospital or unit in an assigned base year divided by the number of Medicare discharges in that year. This value is updated annually by an update factor, which is intended to reflect inflation. A hospital's or unit's ceiling on Medicare reimbursement is the TEFRA limit for a given year times the number of its Medicare discharges in that period, the TEFRA ceiling.

For cost reporting periods beginning on and after October 11, 1991 the Medicare Program reimburses a portion of a provider's cost over its TEFRA ceiling in an amount which is the lower of 50 percent of cost over the ceiling or 10 percent of the ceiling. Provision for such payment was made by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 [OBRA 90]. If a provider's costs are less than its TEFRA ceiling, the provider is paid an incentive payment equal to the lower of 50 percent of the difference between its Medicare operating costs and its TEFRA ceiling or 5 percent of that ceiling.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

When this system was adopted, it was assumed that it would be in place only a short time and then be replaced with a PPS for excluded hospitals and units. New hospitals and units coming on line after the TEFRA system was in place were in a much better position than older facilities, simply because their more current base years included more contemporary wage rates and other operating costs.

This now very old temporary system is flawed for the following reasons:

Medicare pays widely varying amounts for similar services, producing serious inequities among competing institutions.

New hospitals and units can establish limits based on contemporary wage levels and otherwise achieve much higher limits than older hospitals, putting them at a great advantage.

By treating all rehabilitation discharges as having the same financial value, the TEFRA system provides a strong incentive to admit and treat short-stay, less complex cases and to avoid long-stay, more disabled beneficiaries. This is not a good policy for Medicare to continue to support.

Because any change in services that will increase average length of stay or intensity of services will likely result in cost over a TEFRA limit, the system inhibits the development of new programs. This is also not a good direction and does not encourage implementation of current practices.

The process for administrative adjustment of limits does not provide a remedy because it is not timely. HCFA does not decide cases within the 180-day period required by law and does not recognize many legitimate costs.

The very strong incentive to develop new rehabilitation hospitals and units has resulted in an increase in the number of rehabilitation hospitals and units. PROPAC reports that in 1985 there were 545 such hospitals and units. In 1995 there were 1,019. Between 1990 and 1994 Medicare payments to such facilities increased from \$1.9 to \$3.7 billion. Some of this increase reflects the lack of needed service capacity in 1983. At the same time, many older facilities had and have to live with very low limits of Medicare reimbursement and were paid less than the cost of operation, while new facilities were being paid much higher cost reimbursement and bonuses as well. It is hard to imagine a worse system.

The clear solution to this situation is to introduce a prospective payment system for rehabilitation facilities under which providers are paid similar amounts for similar services and payments are scaled to the duration and intensity of services required by patients. Such a system has been devised by a research team at the University of Pennsylvania. It is based on the functional abilities of patients receiving rehabilitation services.

It is now being used by the RAND Corp., under contract with the Health Care Financing Administration, to design a payment system. This work is to be completed before the end of 1996.

My bill would require that a PPS for rehabilitation be implemented by the Secretary of HHS for Medicare cost reporting years beginning on and after October 1, 1997. This date would allow adequate time to adopt regulations and administrative procedures. And my bill requires that this payment system is budget neutral.

July 18, 1996

Enactment of this bill would have multiple benefits. It would benefit patients by removing the implied financial penalty for treating severely disabled patients; it would benefit providers of services by putting all rehabilitation facilities on a level playing field; and it would benefit the Medicare trust fund by eliminating the enormous incentive in present law to duplicate service capacity.

I look forward to support from my colleagues in passing this important legislation.

**20TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHERRY
VERSUS MATHEWS**

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, July 19 is the 20th anniversary of the U.S. District Court decision known as Cherry versus Mathews, the historic ruling that opened the door to full and equal citizenship for disabled citizens.

The plaintiff, Dr. James L. Cherry, is a Georgian. His landmark suit led to the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare's regulation under section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act assuring disabled citizens reasonable access to public programs and facilities. This regulation became the model for the Americans with Disability Act, which expanded protection from discrimination to all persons with disabilities. It was also Dr. Cherry who first proposed Georgia's voting accessibility law, on which a similar Federal statute is patterned.

Twenty years ago, many disabled citizens could not use public transportation; or go to most schools and colleges; or have access to many Government parks and buildings and other services; or even have access to voting booths.

This changed following the decision by Judge John Lewis Smith. It changed almost overnight. Suddenly, the country's promise of equal opportunity became a reality for millions of disabled Americans. It was one of the great moments in America's march toward justice and opportunity for all.

As we observe the 20th anniversary of Cherry versus Mathews, I urge all Americans to rededicate themselves to the principle of equality of opportunity which is one of the cornerstones of the country's greatness.

CYPRUS DISPUTE

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in recognizing and marking the 22d anniversary of the Turkish invasion of northern Cyprus.

Since 1974 when one-third of the island of Cyprus was invaded by Turkish troops, the United States and other interested parties around the world have worked tirelessly to try

to bring a just and lasting solution to a problem that has threatened the peace and stability of that country and that region. Unfortunately, little progress has occurred.

Mr. Speaker, substantial progress toward a settlement of Cyprus dispute is long overdue. Progress on Cyprus should be a high priority at all levels of our government. Many in the Congress have been committed to reaching a solution over the years, and I commend the efforts on the part of my colleagues.

My colleagues and I have urged the administration to launch a full-scale initiative to move the Cyprus negotiations forward. It is only through high-level and sustained United States attention that the parties on the island will take the steps necessary to resolve this issue.

Mr. Speaker, Turkey remains the key to a solution of the Cyprus problem. While many of us have been frustrated by the lack of progress on the issue, we have reasons today to be hopeful and to encourage all parties to maintain their commitment. The United States, as well as the United Nations, and members of the European Union, all have stepped up efforts to bring the parties together.

I am encouraged by this activity, as well as by the bipartisan support of this Congress for an intensified American effort. It is in the United States national interest as well as that of all parties in the region that we find a just and viable solution for Cyprus.

We should dedicate ourselves to that goal and seek to make 1996 the year we achieved substantial progress toward a settlement of the Cyprus dispute.

EUROPEAN UNION SANCTIONS

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, the European Union is considering imposing visa requirements for American travelers and even freezing some United States assets in retaliation for our efforts to bring justice to the victims of Fidel Castro's totalitarian regime in Cuba.

Well, while they are at it, why don't they just impose visa requirements on our NATO soldiers stationed across Europe. And our soldiers deployed in Bosnia, too.

Mr. Speaker, if that's the game the Europeans want to play, we'll be glad to bring our troops home and let the Europeans foot the cost of keeping peace on their continent.

Mr. Speaker, the Europeans should know that many Americans are fed up with having to clean up other people's messes in places like Bosnia, and paying for it in American lives and billions of dollars.

Now I take a back seat to no one in desiring to maintain strong relations with our European allies, Mr. Speaker. But enough is enough. If the Europeans want to continue to prop up Fidel Castro and then turn around and thumb their noses at us, they had better know that they can expect a reaction from the American people.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DIocese OF GAYLORD SILVER ANNIVERSARY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention to this House and the entire Nation the 25th anniversary of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Gaylord, MI. His Holiness, Pope Paul VI, established the Gaylord Diocese on July 20, 1971. On July 21, 1996 a special liturgical celebration will be held at the Cathedral of St. Mary Our Lady of Mount Carmel to commemorate the establishment of this diocese.

The Diocese of Gaylord was created from the separation of territories originally part of the Saginaw and Grand Rapids Dioceses. The new diocese covered 21 of the most beautiful counties in northern Michigan. In 1971 the diocese had a total population of 288,556 and a Roman Catholic population of 66,000. At the age of 43, Edmund Szoka from the Diocese of Marquette became the youngest bishop in the Nation. With 83 parishes under his charge, Bishop Szoka embraced the motto "To Live in Faith." Through many hours of hard work and cooperation with the residing priests and congregations Bishop Szoka was able to bring the separate parishes together in love, prayer and community. Bishop Szoka stayed with the Diocese of Gaylord for 10 years. In 1981 he left the area for new assignments. When asked about the silver anniversary, Edmund Szoka, now a cardinal, said that even though he left 15 years ago "a great part of [his] heart remains and always will remain in the Diocese of Gaylord."

When Cardinal Szoka left the Diocese he was replaced by Bishop Robert Rose. Bishop Rose served the diocese for 8 years before moving south to the Grand Rapids' Diocese. The current bishop, Patrick Cooney, was installed in the Diocese of Gaylord as the third bishop on January 28, 1990. The oldest child of a very religious family, Bishop Cooney has spent his life learning the way of and serving the Lord. Bishop Cooney attended the Sacred Heart Seminary College of Detroit and the Gregorian University in Rome, studying philosophy and theology. After returning to Detroit from Rome Bishop Cooney decided to pursue his love for liturgy and entered the University of Notre Dame to pursue a graduate degree in liturgical research.

Under Bishop Cooney's care, the diocese has grown stronger through the hard work and dedication of the priests, nuns, secretariats, and most importantly, the lay members. We see the formation of the first Diocesan Pastoral Council in 1993 as an example of this dedication. Made up of clergy, religious, lay men and women from all over the Diocese, the council meets with the Bishop several times a year to discuss issues affecting the Church. Today the Diocese of Gaylord has grown to include 87,000 Roman Catholics, 75 priests, and 82 parishes. On October 5, 1996, the Fifth Annual Diocesan Conference will be held with the theme "Remember and Re-membering" to discuss ways to strengthen the church by involving members who have

slipped away and by introducing the church to new members. Following the conference there will be a youth rally. The goal of the rally, at which 350 teens are expected, is to strengthen the membership of a younger generation to keep the church strong in the future.

On July 21, 1996, the Diocesan Liturgical Celebration will be held at St. Mary Cathedral in Gaylord. Among those attending will be Cardinal Szoka and Bishop Rose, the Apostolic Pro-Nuncio to the United States, Agostino Cacciavillan, Cardinal Adam Maida of the Archdiocese of Detroit, a number of bishops and priests from Michigan and Ohio and nearly 2,000 members from the 82 parishes invited.

Mr. Speaker, the last 25 years have been a time for growth and discovery for the Diocese of Gaylord. The clergy and congregations of the 82 parishes in northern Michigan have come together to make this new diocese a place of prayer, hope, and faith. The diocese has come to be a community in which love and fellowship is witnessed on a daily basis. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Catholic community and the entire Nation, I would like to congratulate the Diocese of Gaylord on 25 glorious years.

A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM STATES LEE

HON. SUE MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an old friend and outstanding hero of North Carolina who passed away last week. William "Bill" States Lee was a model citizen who continually gave of himself for his country, community, friends, and family.

Bill Lee was the former chairman and chief executive officer of the Duke Power Co. based in Charlotte, NC. A native of Charlotte and the grandson of Duke Power's first engineer, Bill joined Duke Power in 1955 as a junior designer. He worked his way up through the ranks and, in 1982, he became chairman and chief executive officer. In 1989, he was named chairman and president of Duke Power. Upon his retirement in 1994, Bill Lee became Duke Power's first chairman emeritus.

Bill Lee was best known professionally for his work in the field of nuclear power. He was the former chairman of the board of the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations. He was also a catalyst in the founding of the World Association of Nuclear Operators, where he was named its first president in May 1989. The Charlotte Observer referred to Bill as "perhaps the foremost international consultant in, and statesman and diplomat for, the nuclear power industry."

Prior to his service to Duke Power, Bill graduated from Princeton University as Phi Beta Kappa and magna cum laude in civil engineering. He served in the U.S. Navy Civil Engineering Corp from 1951 to 1955, attaining the rank of lieutenant commander. Also, Bill received honorary doctorates from the University of South Carolina, the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Johnson C. Smith University, Davidson College, and Clemson University.

Despite Bill Lee's many professional accomplishments, he also made a powerful contribution to the Charlotte community. A family man, with his wife Jan and their three children, Bill was an elder at Myers Park Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, where he even found time to teach Sunday school. He also served as a trustee to the Harris Foundation, the North Carolina Blumenthal Performing Arts Center at Charlotte Foundation, the Presbyterian Hospital Foundation, Queens College, and the conference board at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte Foundation.

I would also like to add that I lost a close and dear friend. Bill Lee's humor and charm were contagious to everybody around him. He was also one of the most giving people I have ever met. During my tenure as mayor of Charlotte, he was one of the people who helped our community recover from the disaster of Hurricane Hugo. On behalf of all of the millions of people whose lives are better because of Bill Lee's work, I extend my deepest sympathies to his wife Jan, and his entire family.

Finally, I have taken the liberty of attaching a poem that Bill's daughter, Lisa Lee-Morgan, wrote for her father and read at his funeral. Bill, we will miss you.

STAR-SPANGLED MAN

Star-spangled man, nor mere planet
But a sun, a body fused
By Proteus. Self-generating source of power,
Shining light, hour on hour.
Rush! wind, water, coal and coil,
Quick! Split the atom, fuse the soil,
Don't ever stop, embrace the toll,
Christ-man, His disciple loyal.

Blue eyes blazed like shooting stars
Beneath the lightning brows of Zeus
They let us know we'd his attention,
(For better or worse I'll mention)
Lover, hunter, father, friend,
Bully, preacher, Charlotte's kin.
Forgive us for we know not how
To tread the step he's led til now.

This warrior stood to lead the fight
Against the dying of the light.
The closing mind, the fading hope,
The grasping hand, could find no grope
In Bill Lee's camp, upon the lake
Where children frolic, swim and play.
He was our star, bright gravity
Round whom we danced til God took Lee.

JACK JACQUA, JOE MARSHALL OF OMEGA BOYS CLUB

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Jack Jacqua and Joe Marshall of the Omega Boys Club in San Francisco on their recent award of the National Education Association's Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Award.

The unrelenting determination and perseverance and faith of these two extraordinary men have succeeded in building the Omega Boys' Club from 15 members to 500 since the club's inception in 1987.

The Omega Boys' Club motivates at-risk youth to reject violence, succeed academically, gain admission to college, offers em-

ployment and entrepreneurship training, adult and peer counseling, and affords them and important support network to get them off the streets and onto a successful life through higher learning.

One hundred members of the Omega Boys' Club are currently enrolled at institutions of higher learning throughout the country. Omega not only helped them achieve the funding to go to school, it also gave them the tools, the skills and the support network essential to achieve great things.

Jack Jacqua has been described as a surrogate father to many Potrero Hill families. Coming to Potrero Hill Middle School in 1973, he was compelled to challenge the drift afflicting students receiving the least encouragement and attention. "I'd like to see their lives have purpose and direction * * * All they need is for someone to care."

Joe Marshall, co-founder and father of the Omega Boys Club, hosts a weekly radio talk show for at risk youth and tours the country telling the inspirational Omega story. His belief and commitment to young people knows no limits, and at-risk youth have thrived under his care and direction.

These two men are heroes in the tradition of Martin Luther King, Jr.—recognized leaders who utilize outreach, education, and counseling to show young people that there are worthy alternatives to violence in their communities.

Mr. Speaker, I salute Jack and Joe and wish them all the best as they continue their important, award-winning work with youth at the Omega Boys Club. This award is just one of many they greatly deserve for turning the lives of at-risk young people around.

U.S. JUDGE ROBERT E. COYLE: DISTINGUISHED SERVICE RECOGNIZED

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, my friend and Government colleague, U.S. District Judge Robert E. Coyle, recently assumed senior status, after distinguished service as chief judge of the Eastern District of California.

Those who know Judge Coyle well from having practiced with him in his earlier law career and later having appeared before him as a Federal judge are unstinting in their praise of his dedication to legal excellence. Indeed, in recognition of those qualities which distinguish Judge Coyle, a group of lawyers from my 19th Congressional District recently sent a letter to me that relates their sentiments.

I take pleasure in making that expression a part of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as well as adding my own tribute to Judge Coyle for the splendid service he continues to give his community and our country.

Re Honorable Robert E. Coyle.

DEAR GEORGE: The undersigned are all active members of the California Bar and admitted to practice before the Eastern District of California. Each of us has a significant federal practice.

We know that you are aware that Robert E. Coyle who served as Chief Judge of the

Eastern District of California recently accepted senior status.

We believe that Judge Coyle's many years of dedicated public and civic service, his commitment to justice and fairness, his fabulous career as a lawyer and counselor—as well as his zeal for improved courtroom facilities to serve the public—and service to the community, are all deserving of recognition.

As you probably know, Bob Coyle is a native Fresnoan. He attended local public schools and graduated from Fresno State University where he was the student body president.

Judge Coyle went on to Hastings College of the Law and from there to the Fresno County District Attorney's Office.

After leaving the D.A.'s Office, Bob joined what became McCormick, Barstow, Sheppard, Coyle & Best (now McCormick, Barstow, Sheppard, Wayte & Carruth) and quickly became a respected counselor of law.

Judge Coyle began his service on the federal bench after President Ronald Reagan nominated him and he was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in 1982. He became Chief Judge in 1990.

Judge Coyle, before whom all of us have appeared on many occasions, is a thoughtful, impartial, insightful and thoroughly prepared judge. Litigants and counsel are treated with respect in his courtroom and are given full opportunity to be heard. Additionally, those appearing before Judge Coyle are also benefitted by his considerable quick wit and sense of humor.

Judge Coyle has presided over many of the most complex and controversial matters presented to the federal courts in our area. His excellence as a legal scholar and adjudicator is well known in our community.

We respectfully request that these considerable accomplishments be made known through the United States by publishing this brief summary of Judge Coyle's career in the Congressional Record so that the citizens of this great land will learn more of the incredible contributions this man has made to our country.

Respectfully yours,

John H. Baker, Val W. Saldana, Donald R. Fischbach, Richard C. Watters, Lawrence E. Wayte, Lowell T. Carruth, Riley C. Walter, Michelle Belanger McNair, Debra J. Kazanjian.

IN MEMORY OF PAM LYNCHNER, VICTIM OF TWA FLIGHT 800

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of the victims of TWA flight 800, which crashed last night off Long Island, NY. Pam Lynchner, a Houstonian, was the founder and past president of Justice For All, a victims' rights organization. Mrs. Lynchner founded Justice For All in 1993, and it soon became the largest criminal justice reform organization in the State of Texas.

Mrs. Lynchner was a tireless advocate for the victims of violent crime. As a crime victim herself, Mrs. Lynchner dedicated her life to ensuring that victims' rights were protected and their voices heard. She was particularly adept at helping others work their way through the

criminal justice system. Her efforts on behalf of other crime victims earned her numerous awards and a place as a national spokesperson for victims' rights.

Mrs. Lynchner served as a role model for the thousands of victims of violent crime. Her compassion, her dedication, and her enthusiasm will be sorely missed, but we as a society are better off because of what she contributed. Our thoughts and prayers are with Mrs. Lynchner's family, especially her husband Joe at this difficult time.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE
BOMBING OF THE AMIA JEWISH
COMMUNITY BUILDING

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the second anniversary of the terrorist bombing of the AMIA Jewish community building in Buenos Aires to pay my respects to the hundreds of victims who perished or were wounded in the attack. My profound condolences go out to their family members whose grief remains unrelieved as all efforts to bring the terrorist perpetrators to justice have been fruitless.

That the second anniversary of this atrocity will pass with the terrorists still at large sends a potent message that this tragic episode demands our immediate and renewed attention. Although there is reason to be encouraged by the recent incarceration of several police officers in relation to the bombing, the case is far from a satisfactory resolution.

Regrettably, new and disturbing news has begun to surface as the investigation proceeds. It has been reported that Argentine Minister of Justice Rodolfo Barra, an official directly responsible for the investigation, was forced to leave his post after it was discovered that he was involved in an extremist, anti-Semitic organization in his youth. Furthermore, authorities in Buenos Aires have denied the families of the victims the right to place a memorial sculpture near the Argentine Supreme Court. All in all, I am concerned that the Argentinean Government is not pursuing the terrorist criminals in the most vigorous fashion.

It should be known that this tragedy has not been forgotten thanks to the efforts of some very special people. I would like to recognize my constituent and friend, Rabbi Avi Weiss and his organization AMCHA, the Coalition for Jewish Concerns, who have worked tirelessly to ensure that justice is carried out. Members of his organization will be participating in vigils simultaneously in New York and Buenos Aires today at 8:53 a.m. in remembrance of this tragedy.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my prayers for the victims of the Buenos Aires bombing and offer heartfelt condolences to their family members who survived them. At the same time, I call upon my colleagues to urge the Government of Argentina to reinvigorate its efforts at seeing the terrorists brought to justice.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ECONOMIC
EQUITY ACT OF 1996

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased to be an original sponsor of the Economic Equity Act of 1996 [EEA]. Three of my bills are included within this omnibus bill.

The first bill, included in title I of the EEA is the Federal Employees Fairness Act (H.R. 2133), will revise and improve the process for Federal employees to file employment discrimination complaints. Employees would have 180 days in which to file a discrimination complaint, and the Equal Opportunity Commission—rather than the accused agency—would be required to investigate the complaint within strict time limits. The bill also encourages sanctions to be levied against employees found guilty of discriminatory behavior.

The Equal Surety Bond Opportunity Act [ESBOA] is included within title II of the EEA, which addresses issues of economic opportunity. This title will help qualified women and minority-owned businesses to compete in the contracting business by helping them obtain adequate surety bonding.

It will create an environment in which small business firms, particularly those owned and controlled by minorities and women, can successfully obtain adequate surety bonding. This legislation will enable us to ferret out continuing biases in the industry. Whatever these prejudices may be, getting rid of them will open up the industry, creating entrepreneurial and employment opportunities and making the industry more competitive. I urge my colleagues to support this bill and help abolish the artificial impediments to the development and survival of emerging small businesses.

The last bill that I introduced this June and which is included in the EEA is the Work and Family Parental Equity Leave Act will ensure that employees who choose to care for a foster child or adopt a child will benefit from the same leave policy as their coworkers who are birth parents. This bill does not mandate that employers provide leave benefits beyond existing law, but rather that if they choose to provide such benefits they do so for all parents equitably.

IN HONOR OF THE MONK FAMILY
REUNION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, This July, the Monk family of New Haven hosts a reunion and weekend of events worthy of this exceptional family. They are celebrating their rich family history and the musical, athletic, and civic contributions of family members to the city of New Haven and the rest of the Nation. On Sunday, July 21, 1996 they will be commemorating their family's numerous achievements with a family parade. The will also be

celebrating the 33rd Anniversary of the Monk Singers. I am delighted to rise today to salute and celebrate the Monk family.

The Monk family history is truly extraordinary. Family members have carefully documented the many branches of this extended family tree and have been able to identify a history that spans the continents of Africa, Europe, and North America. Pamela Monk Kelley, carrying on the work so important to her father, the late Conley F. Monk Sr., has painstakingly recorded a detailed history. She has included documentation of the links between the Monk and Cole families and outlined the Black, White, and Native American ancestry. This labor of love is a testament to the Monk family's dedication to preserving their history for future generations.

The Monk family has produced some remarkable individuals. Thelonius Monk, Jr. was born in 1917 and became a famous musician in the early 1940's. He pioneered the genre of music known as bebop, a revolutionary form of jazz. Indeed, his innovations have shaped the direction of jazz music for years. Outstanding talent in the Monk family is not limited to music but extends to athletics as well. Art Monk played for the Washington Redskins for 14 years before moving to the New York Jets. He played in four Super Bowls and broke the National Football League record for receiving passes.

Just as important as the Monk family's contributions to music and sports is their deep commitment to the communities in which they live. Conley F. Monk Sr., and his wife Olivia raised their own 9 children and also cared for over 45 foster children. Their children continue to carry on this tradition of caring for the community. Conley F. Monk, Jr. initiated, developed, and saw to the final completion of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Monument on Long Wharf in New Haven, CT.

The Monk family teaches us a lesson about the connections between people, about endless family ties that bring us closer together. They embody the idea that the true meaning of family is knowing we are part of something greater, something larger than ourselves. I am proud to join the people of the city of New Haven in honoring this great family.

STANDING UP FOR OUR NATION'S
CHILDREN

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to join me in standing up for those who cannot stand up for themselves—our Nation's children.

Much of this Congress has focused upon strengthening the American family. Family Values have been the centerpiece of much of the legislation that we have considered in these 2 years. Welfare reform should be the opportunity for us to truly demonstrate how much we value our children and our families. Today, as leaders, we can ensure that all children grow up with a roof over their heads, food to eat, and medical care should they become

sick. Instead, we are faced with a mean-spirited proposal intent on punishing children for being poor.

The GOP bill does not require work and encourage financial independence; instead it singles out children, the poor, the disabled, the elderly, and legal, taxpaying immigrants and punishes them for needing a helping hand. A recent GAO report expects that at least 1 million children to be forced to live in poverty should this bill pass. Yet we will continue to subsidize wealthy corporations, helping them to grow and prosper while our children will be starving and suffering.

In an era when the richer are getting richer I find it unconscionable that we should support such legislation. In the last decade, the richest 1 percent increased their share of the Nation's wealth to 47.2 percent, while the bottom 90 percent saw their share of pie shrink to 22.7 percent.

The Republican Party's panacea for our budget troubles is known as the block grant. The fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, that if you are a small State with a struggling economy, block grants are a death sentence. A block grant does not reward who does the most, it rewards those who do the least. States like Rhode Island will be left to battle for funds to offer the most meager care and services and the casualties will be those in need will be left to fighting over the scraps.

Republican block grants replace and entitlement system with a lottery system. Our rights as American citizens will depend on whether we live in a State with a good economy and a low level of need. There is nothing subtle about what they are really doing when the talk about "block grants" in the same breath as "States' Rights." And our answer should be no different than it has always been, and that is: Justice should not depend on geography.

My State of Rhode Island boasts a myriad of immigrants who work hard every day, struggle to make ends meet and raise their families just like American citizens. And just like our citizens, they stumble upon hard times when a factory closes or the economy slows. By denying these individuals a helping hand in their time of need, simply because they are not American, we are rejecting the very principles this Nation was founded upon—equality, freedom, and opportunity. We are essentially demoting immigrants to second-class citizens by prohibiting them from accepting help from the system to which they contribute to every day.

If we really believe in family values, then let us do a better job of valuing our families. Let us continue the Democratic fight for what families value: job opportunities, health care, child care, and housing for everyone—not just a select few.

GREAT LAKES, GREAT FISHING

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, sportfishing is already an extremely popular activity in Michigan. In 1994, over 884,000 fishing licenses were issued and there were almost 900,000

boaters—the largest number of boaters in any State in the entire country. 1995 was an exciting year for many Michigan sports fishermen because we set three new records. The largest Longnose Gare, Mooneye, Red ear sunfish were all caught in Michigan last year. Furthermore, one new record has already been set for 1996. A 4 pound 2 ounce Gizzard Shad was caught on Lake St. Clair on May 12.

With such a positive experience, it should be no surprise that the In-Fisherman Professional Walleye Trail anglers are holding the Lubrimatic/Stren Eastern Pro-Am tournament today through Saturday on Saginaw Bay and into Lake Huron, with its headquarters in AuGress, in my congressional district. One hundred and thirty professional anglers will be joined by amateurs as they compete over 1,300 square miles to catch the biggest walleyes they can. This is a regional tournament leading to the national championship this September in Bismark, ND.

Sportsmen are among the best environmentalists we will ever find. They know the importance of the maintenance of habitat and good management practices. In fact, in 1979 fishing groups joined with local governments to form a Saginaw Bay Consortium to raise and stock Saginaw Bay. The Saginaw Bay Walleye Club and the National Guard Construction Battalion built points and upgraded abandoned sewage treatment plants. They raised walleyes, having planted more than 1 million in the early to mid 1980's. Later they were joined by Arenac, Huron, and Losco counties in raising more fingerlings, so that now about 750,000 walleyes are stocked every other year, and northern pike are raised in the intervening year.

Many people think of Michigan as the car State. As proud as we are of our auto industry, we are equally proud of the marvelous recreational and tourism opportunities offered throughout our state. In fact, I have more shore line in my congressional district than is contained in most other States, including many coastal States.

Blue skies, blue waters, great scenery, great people, and great fishing. This is what the anglers at the In-Fisherman Professional Walleye Trail are experiencing right now, and this is what is waiting for anyone who visits the Great Lakes State, Michigan. I welcome all of our visitors, and invite many, many more.

SUPPORT A LOAN GUARANTEE FOR THE OLIVENHAIN WATER STORAGE PROJECT

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that will help north San Diego County meet its water needs in the event of an emergency and also encourage the Federal Government to shift its role from that of planner and builder of expensive western water projects to the more cost-effective role of being a facilitator and partner in regional efforts to solve regional problems.

My legislation will authorize the Secretary of Interior to provide a Federal loan guarantee to the developer of the Olivenhain Water Storage Project, a project currently being planned by the Olivenhain Municipal Water District in my district of north San Diego County.

The Olivenhain Water Storage Project is a critical part of the effort to increase the independence and economic stability of north San Diego County. Currently, the north county is almost 100 percent dependent on imported water from northern California and the Colorado River to meet its residential, industrial, and agricultural/horticultural needs. Potential drought conditions, environmental needs at the source, and demand elsewhere in the State all contribute to a rapidly rising cost of imported water, the cost of water to north San Diego County has risen 55 percent in the last 5 years. Additionally, an earthquake along any one of the three major faults underlying the pipelines that bring imported water to San Diego County could cut off water supply to the region for up to 2 months. The residents of north county must be assured that water will be available should a natural disaster occur.

The Olivenhain Water Storage Project will provide emergency water supplies for over 1 million people, including those living in the cities of Oceanside, Carlsbad, Solana Beach, Encinitas, and San Marcos, as well as portions of the city of San Diego. The San Diego County Water Authority supports my legislation, as they recognize that the lack of emergency water storage in San Diego County must be addressed immediately. A copy of their letter of endorsement is attached at the end of this statement.

The project is fully permitted after going through more than 10 years of environmental review. Working together with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, a biological resource management plan has been developed that will enhance regional habitat preservation while also providing 17 miles of nature, hiking and bicycle trails to the community.

The proposed loan guarantee program reflects the changing role played by the Federal Government in developing water projects in the West. Rather than having the Federal Government contribute funds, construct the project and control its management, the loan guarantee program allows the Government to leverage its limited funds to allow for cost-effective private financing alternatives and encourages public-private partnerships in the building and operation of the project. This limited Federal participation in the financing of water infrastructure projects allows the project developers to secure private loans at rates that are competitive with municipal tax-exempt financing, while preserving the limited bonding capacity of local governments for other crucial community needs like public safety and schools.

The Olivenhain Municipal Water District is considering the possibility of utilizing a public-private partnership such as I have described for the development of the Olivenhain Water Storage Project. Under this scenario, the district would competitively select a private partner to build and finance the project, which would then be leased back to the district. No Federal taxpayer funds would be involved in

the financing of the project, and the local ratepayers will benefit from the cost-efficient construction and management of the project.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that the costs of complying with the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Clean Water Act will be nearly \$200 billion in the next 15 years. Neither local governments nor the Federal Government have the unlimited resources necessary to meet these costs. However, through a loan guarantee program such as the one that will be demonstrated under this legislation, limited Federal resources can be the catalyst for the development of private capital to meet these needs.

There have already been congressional hearings on legislation to create a loan guarantee program—April 18, 1996. Opposition to that legislation (H.R. 2781) centered around the potential exposure of the Federal Government to a loan default and the elimination of the existing direct lending program at the Bureau of Reclamation. This new bill addresses those concerns by: First, limiting the loan guarantee authority to the development of one project; second, requiring that project developers secure any loans guaranteed by the Government; and third, allowing the existing loan program to remain unaffected by this new proposal.

The Overseas Private Investment Corporation provides tens of millions of loan guarantees for the private development of water infrastructure in foreign countries. Shouldn't we afford our own communities in the United States with the same opportunities for competitive infrastructure development?

My legislation will demonstrate that loan guarantees provide a cost-effective alternative for Federal assistance in financing water infrastructure development. I urge my colleagues to support this measure. I have attached a letter of support from the San Diego County Water Authority.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY
WATER AUTHORITY,
San Diego, CA, May 20, 1996.

Re support of Government loan guarantee for water storage project in San Diego County.

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM,
Congress of the United States, Cannon House
Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN CUNNINGHAM: The San Diego County Water Authority has been working diligently to complete an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) under CEQA and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under NEPA for emergency storage in San Diego County. Currently four alternatives are under consideration. The Water Authority staff expects the Board of Directors to select a preferred alternative and certify the EIR in July 1996. Certification of the EIS and granting of a 404 Permit by the Corps of Engineers would occur months later.

The Olivenhain Water Storage Project is a component of the Water Authority's emergency storage alternative known as System 25. The Olivenhain water storage and treatment project is needed, whether or not the Water Authority and Corps choose System 25 for the Authority's project. The Water Authority is aware that Olivenhain is pursuing legislation to obtain a government loan guarantee under the Dept. of Interior's Small Projects Act. The Water Authority staff supports the Olivenhain Water District's endeavors to obtain such guarantee

and to develop a storage project in northern San Diego County; whether this project is pursued independently or in partnership with the Water Authority or others.

San Diego County, including the North County, has an acute lack of emergency storage. Olivenhain, other member agencies and the Water Authority are working together to improve this situation. If you have any questions on the San Diego County Water Authority's Emergency Storage Project, please contact me or Ken Steele, the Authority's project manager. If you have any additional questions on the Olivenhain Water Storage Project, you may contact David McCollom, General Manager of the Olivenhain Municipal Water District at (619) 753-6466.

Thank you very much for your interest in your projects.

Sincerely,

MAUREEN STAPLETON,
General Manager,
San Diego County Water Authority.

A CELEBRATION OF SUBURBAN LIFE

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, when the men and women came home from the Second World War, they moved into the sprawling suburbs that were springing up across America. There, they quickly settled into lives in which they worked hard, raised their children, and played by the rules. Not the kind of lives that make headlines—but precisely the kind that make nations strong. Until now, no one had chronicled the world of these quiet heros.

Author Donald Waldie, who grew up in one of these postwar communities—Lakewood in California's 38th district—has filled that void. Mr. Waldie has made a significant contribution to American literature with the publication of his book "Holy Land," in which he recounts the unique joys and frustrations of American suburban life. Not surprisingly, he reveals that the backbone of America lies in the families who live quietly and unremarkably in these communities.

Lakewood is a proud part of the 38th congressional district. The beautiful tree-lined streets, an attractive civic center in which citizens find a responsive government, a vibrant business and professional community, and marvelous senior and recreational programs which welcome those of all ages—that is Lakewood. People sense the quality of Lakewood when they enter its boundaries and know their judgment was right when they go elsewhere.

I submit the following article from the Los Angeles Times which details Mr. Waldie's achievement.

[From the Los Angeles Times, July 5, 1996]

A LITTLE PIECE OF HEAVEN IN LAKEWOOD

(By Thomas Curwen)

On most Saturday mornings, Donald Waldie is out weeding his frontyard, which he will say desperately needs it, but don't be deceived. The azaleas are a little burned out, but the lawn is green and well-manicured.

Waldie lives in Lakewood, and his home is one of the hundreds of homes that make up

the nearly anonymous patchwork of suburbs in southeast Los Angeles County. Little distinguishes Lakewood—unless you recall the brief notoriety of the Spur Posse, the group of teenagers who a few years back made it a cruel sport to have sex with as many girls as possible.

Today Lakewood's tree-lined streets and well-maintained homes are quiet and almost defy attention, unless of course you're interested in the almost mystically simple qualities of everyday life in a classic American suburb. Waldie is, and has lovingly rendered his perceptions in "Holy Land" (Norton), a memoir of growing up—and still living—in one of the largest postwar housing developments in the country.

Beginning in 1950 and continuing for almost three years, Lakewood was a flurry of building. As many as 100 homes were started each day, more than 500 a week, and by the end—33 months later—17,500 had been raised.

When considering this astonishing boom, Waldie breaks ranks with critics who disparage sprawl. He paints instead a picture of a community of simple and practical values that worked 50 years ago and still works today. A recent survey of homeowners in Los Angeles County backs him up. The average Lakewood resident lives here 15.6 years—the longest length of stay of any municipality in the country.

As the public information officer for Lakewood, Waldie, 47, makes his living explaining the city to its residents and the press. That he defends the place might not be surprising, but unlike the boosters who sold homes here in the 1950s on the benefits of a regional shopping center (the Lakewood Center Mall was one of the first and largest in the country) and a garbage disposal in every kitchen, he focuses on the spiritual benefits of life here.

"These are not perfect places, and the people who live in them are not perfect," admits Waldie, a soft-spoken man who picks his words carefully. "But my book is about the possibility of leading a redeemed life in this kind of suburban place—a life that has some value to others and a life in which one gets saved."

Welcome to the first church of the suburb. Let "Holy Land" be your bible.

Comprising more than 300 minichapters, ranging from a single sentence to a page and written much like an extended prose poem, "Holy Land" is the story of Waldie's faith and his notion that a kind of salvation takes place within the context of a suburb like Lakewood. Responsibility and obligation, he will tell you, are the linchpins of this faith, holding neighbors and communities together to make this a real holy land.

If you look carefully behind a scrim of materialism—these homes and these yards—you will see that the simple upkeep of a frontyard is symbolic of a complicated social contract between neighbors.

Waldie—whom Buzz magazine described in its list of 100 notables as having "a passion and eloquence worthy of Joan Didion"—composed the chapters of "Holy Land" during the half-hour it takes him to walk to or from work. Poor eyesight keeps him from driving. He lives alone, almost like a monk, in the house his parents bought in 1946. He attends Catholic church.

The homes in his neighborhood would probably sell in the high \$150,000s; most have three bedrooms, one bath and a detached two-car garage. Windows look into neighbors' windows. Cars, trucks and campers are parked in driveways and in the street. Some lawns are scruffy; some are immaculate. It

is, in Waldie's words a place for the "not-quite middle class."

These straight-arrow streets and single-family homes are as much a part of the American landscape as shopping malls and 7-Elevens and from here to Levittown, Long Island, have been easy targets. Writer Ron Rosenbaum described his 1956 screenplay for "The Invasion of the Body Snatchers" as "about the horror of being in the 'burbs." In his influential 1964 book "God's Own Junkyard" (Holt, Rinehart & Winston), architect Peter Blake wrote: "The kind of stratified, anesthetized and standardized society being bred in America's present-day Suburbia is not one to look forward to with pleasure."

Nowadays critics are less unkind. Robert Bellah, principal author of "Habits of the Heart: Individualism & Commitment in American Life" (University of California Press), a 1985 diagnosis of what ails American communities, today sees suburbs as "a catastrophe for this country." First, their population density is low, leading to a wasteful use of land; second, they cater to the automobile, which is expensive and polluting; and third, they represent a closed door to what's happening in urban centers.

"People [in Lakewood] may be able to look out for themselves," Bellah says. "But what about the rest of society?"

Waldie is not surprised by the anger and the harsh language the suburban experience can evoke.

"These are furious, vituperative attacks on the kind of suburban space that Lakewood best exemplified," he says. "Willful ignorance about these places is one of the reasons I wrote 'Holy Land.'"

Take a Saturday walk through Jose del Valle Park in Lakewood and you will see what the critics probably didn't take into account. People really seem to enjoy living here.

Children scramble for the playground equipment. Baseball diamonds are packed with players; parents cheer children from the bleachers. Waldie pauses to watch a foul ball fly into a quiet street. He wrote "Holy Land" with the presumption that the ordinary lives of ordinary people have a unique value.

In 1949, Louis Boyar, Mark Taper and Ben Weingart purchased 3,500 acres of farmland to create this landscape. Boyar who had built homes on Long Beach in the 1930s, was responsible for the plan. He used a simple formula—straight streets at right angles and 5,000-square-foot lots—parameters that were surprisingly prescient. Urban planners today, in an attempt to build more friendly communities, are returning to straight-line grids, which seem to be more conducive to neighborliness than curved streets and cul-de-sacs.

But Boyar did more than plot 17,500 homes and a scattering of social amenities, Waldie says. He built a community out of his heart, creating a network for possible social interactions that reinforce common values. Values that make Jose del Valle Park so popular. Values that seem at times forgotten—or at least under-reported—in the country.

Of course, the motives of the developers were not entirely altruistic. By the time they dissolved their corporation, they had made almost \$12 million—money that ironically was made from a community that kept Jews, like themselves, as well as blacks and Mexicans from living here.

Filled with sad truths and terrible ironies, "Holy Land" chronicles the distance between 1950 and now. Here was a suburb, after all whose major selling point was a shopping center that could double as a fallout shelter;

but rather than ridicule these faces, Waldie writes with a poignant mix of knowing and compassion.

"The critics of suburbs say that you and I live narrow lives," one mini-chapter reads. "I agree. My life is narrow. From one perspective or another, all our lives are narrow. Only when lives are placed side by side do they seem larger."

Waldie will admit, however, that not all lives fit into this side-by-side pattern. "Holy Land" does look at a few disconnected people who live outside the tacit social contracts that connect neighbors. There's the man who filled his yard with dead machinery and used building supplies. There's the woman who believed that the dead from the nearby aircraft plant were secretly buried beneath her house.

Conspicuously absent from the book, however, is mention of the Spur Posse, the 1993 story that yanked Lakewood out of its peaceful anonymity. To a nation worried about its apparent loss of morals, the case of these high school athletes who gave each other "points" for sexual conquests was deplorable, especially coming from such an all-American community like Lakewood.

As Waldie sees it. "The Spur Posse was less about the decline of the suburbs and more a lesson in how charismatic individuals can create evil.

"If you looked at Lakewood in 1993 and projected a straight-line evolution from that point, I can see how you might have imagined a collapse of the social infrastructure, but that has not happened. There is some resiliency here."

Not only does he leave out references to the Spur Posse, but he also glosses over the time he was nearly robbed at gunpoint walking home from work. Snakes may live in the grass here, but you won't find them in Waldie's yard.

Perhaps denial keeps the residents here safe—as it did in the 1950s with regard to the bomb and racism, so too for the 1990s with gangs and neighborhood violence.

When writing about the ever-present Southern California danger of earthquakes—apparently the homes here are built so lightly, they pose relatively little danger to the owners and "might even shelter us"—Waldie concludes that "the burden of our habits do the same."

"I believe that accepting obligations because you're obliged to is probably the saving strength against all that would further erode our social institutions," he explains. And as he turns to weed a yard that barely needs it, Waldie joins the dance that connects residents to the community—past and present.

THE MICROENTERPRISE ACT

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce H.R. 3846, the Microenterprise Act. The bill is a historic alliance between the administration, microenterprise groups and the Congress behind the cause of microenterprise development to help the poorest of the poor work their way out of poverty.

We have all heard of the Grameen Bank and its success in Bangladesh. Today, the Grameen Bank is one of the largest banks in

Bangladesh. It is important to note that the microenterprise movement is not just about Grameen. In Bolivia, BancoSol has become the largest lender in Bolivia, solely relying on small, microenterprise loans. BancoSol is so big, it now borrows funds from the New York market to continue its service to Bolivia's poor. Other microenterprise institutions dot the planet, including some here at home, even in my home State of New York.

This bill breaks new ground. It provides two new tailor-make authorities under the Foreign Assistance Act for microenterprise grants and microenterprise loans. The bill calls on the administration to focus on loans to the poorest of the poor, mainly through private, voluntary organizations, nongovernmental organizations, and other worthy institutions.

I am pleased that the administration supports this bill. I look forward to working with Mr. HAMILTON and other members of my committee and our colleagues in the Senate to seek its enactment before this Congress adjourns.

H.R. 3846

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 "Microenterprise Act".

SEC. 2. MICRO- AND SMALL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT CREDITS.

Section 108 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151f) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 108. MICRO- AND SMALL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT CREDITS.

"(a) FINDINGS AND POLICY.—The Congress finds and declares that—

"(1) the development of micro- and small enterprise, including cooperatives, is a vital factor in the stable growth of developing countries and in the development and stability of a free, open, and equitable international economic system;

"(2) it is, therefore, in the best interests of the United States to assist the development of the private sector in development countries and to engage the United States private sector in that process;

"(3) the support of private enterprise can be served by programs providing credit, training, and technical assistance for the benefit of micro- and small enterprises; and

"(4) programs that provide credit, training, and technical assistance to private institutions can serve as a valuable complement to grant assistance provided for the purpose of benefiting micro- and small private enterprises.

"(b) PROGRAM.—To carry out the policy set forth in subsection (a), the President is authorized to provide assistance to increase the availability of credit to micro- and small enterprises lacking full access to credit, including through—

"(1) loans and guarantees to credit institutions for the purpose of expanding the availability of credit to micro- and small enterprises;

"(2) training programs for lenders in order to enable them to better meet the credit needs of micro- and small entrepreneurs; and

"(3) training programs for micro- and small entrepreneurs in order to enable them to make better use of credit and to better manage their enterprises."

SEC. 3. MICROENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT GRANT ASSISTANCE.

Chapter 1 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) is

amended by adding at the end the following new section:

SEC. 129. MICROENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT GRANT ASSISTANCE.

"(a) AUTHORIZATION.—(1) In carrying out this part, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development is authorized to provide grant assistance for programs of credit and other assistance for microenterprises in developing countries.

"(2) Assistance authorized under paragraph (1) shall be provided through organizations that have a capacity to develop and implement microenterprise programs, including particularly—

"(A) United States and indigenous private and voluntary organizations;

"(B) United States and indigenous credit unions and cooperative organizations; or

"(C) other indigenous governmental and nongovernmental organizations.

"(3) Approximately one-half of the credit assistance authorized under paragraph (1) shall be used for poverty lending programs, including the poverty lending portion of mixed programs. Such programs—

"(A) shall meet the needs of the very poor members of society, particularly poor women; and

"(B) should provide loans of \$300 or less in 1995 United States dollars to such poor members of society.

"(4) The Administrator should continue support for mechanisms that—

"(A) provide technical support for field missions;

"(B) strengthen the institutional development of the intermediary organizations described in paragraph (2); and

"(C) share information relating to the provision of assistance authorized under paragraph (1) between such field missions and intermediary organizations.

"(b) MONITORING SYSTEM.—In order to maximize the sustainable development impact of the assistance authorized under subsection (a)(1), the Administrator should establish a monitoring system that—

"(1) establishes performance goals for such assistance and expresses such goals in an objective and quantifiable form, to the extent feasible;

"(2) establishes performance indicators to be used in measuring or assessing the achievement of the goals and objectives of such assistance; and

"(3) provides a basis for recommendations for adjustments to such assistance to enhance the sustainable development impact of such assistance, particularly the impact of such assistance on the very poor, particularly poor women."

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMIA JEWISH CENTER BOMBING IN ARGENTINA

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend my colleagues' attention to the second anniversary of the horrific terrorist attack in Buenos Aires, Argentina, against the Jewish

community center. On July 18, 1994, a car bomb was detonated outside of the seven-story building in Buenos Aires that housed the AMIA [Association Mutual Israelita Argentina] and DAIA [Delegacion de Asociaciones Israelitas Argentinas]. That barbaric act took the lives of 86 innocent people and injured more than 300 others. To date, those responsible remain at large.

Mr. Speaker, we in the Congress have repeatedly expressed to the Argentine authorities our firm conviction that they must do everything in their power to solve this case, and the as yet unsolved case of the 1992 bombing of the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires. While we are encouraged by recent arrests of several Argentine police officers in connection with the ongoing investigation, clearly much more needs to be done.

I commend my colleagues' attention to the following two letters which were sent this day to President Menem of the Republic of Argentina. The first was signed by 42 Members of Congress and expresses the view, held most certainly by all Members, that Argentine authorities must redouble their efforts to find and prosecute the terrorists who committed these heinous crimes. The second letter is from Abraham Foxman, National Director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. Mr. Foxman cites the recent resignation of the Minister of Justice and applauds the opportunity for President Menem to appoint an individual truly committed to solving these cases.

Mr. Speaker, on this second anniversary of the AMIA bombing, we must restate our determination to fight global terrorism and to support friendly governments who wish to join this struggle. As Argentina continues successfully its evolution to full democracy, we must urge the Argentine Government to stand fast with the United States against the mutual enemy of democracy—global terrorism—and to redouble its efforts to solve these cases of terrorism:

JULY 18, 1996.

His Excellency CARLOS SAUL MENEM,
President of the Republic of Argentina, Buenos Aires, Argentina

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: We are writing to you on the second anniversary of the bombing of the AMIA Jewish Community Center to express our dismay at the lack of resolution in the ongoing investigation of that bombing and the 1992 Israeli Embassy bombing in Buenos Aires. We fervently hope that the recent arrests of several police officers will yield a long-awaited break in the AMIA case.

Although Members of Congress previously have written to you on this subject, we strongly believe that the anniversary of this tragic event requires us to restate our conviction that Argentine authorities must conduct a reinvigorated effort to find and prosecute those responsible.

We appreciate the Argentine government's desire to successfully complete these investigations and deliver justice to the victims and their families. However, despite cooperation from United States government experts and years of investigation by Argentine authorities, the murderers are still at large. This is an intolerable situation.

No citizens of any country should have to live under the threat of terrorism. Unfortu-

nately, until those responsible for the bombings in Argentina are apprehended, the Jewish community of Argentina will live under the threat of more terrorism, and Argentina will appear to be a haven for terrorists from around the world.

Mr. President, as we have learned from our own horrendous experiences with terrorism, these cases are difficult, but not impossible to solve. With sufficient will and effort, successful prosecution can eventually be achieved. We urge you to redouble your government's efforts in this task.

We look forward to your response to our previous inquiry for information on the status of these investigations and to working with you to bring the guilty to justice.

Cordially,

Tom Lantos, Jon Fox, Ben Gilman, Gary Ackerman, William Martini, Robert Torricelli, Ron Dellums, Stephen Horn, Howard Berman, Martin Frost, Peter King, Robert Menendez, Sander Levin, Jennifer Dunn, Carrie Meek, Charles Schumer, Herb Bateman, Martin Meehan, Michael Doyle, Jerrold Nadler, Sidney Yates, Ken Calvert, Peter Deutsch, Frank Tejeda, Lane Evans, Nita Lowey, John Olver, Rodney Frelinghuysen, Bob Filner, Steve Stockman, Steve Chabot, Zoe Lofgren, Ben Cardin, Peter Blute, Cliff Stearns, Elizabeth Furse, Sherrod Brown, Ilean Ros-Lehtinen, Victor Frazer, Jay Kim, Cynthia McKinney, and Rick Lazio.

ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE,

July 16, 1996.

His Excellency President CARLOS MENEM,
Casa Rosada, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

YOUR EXCELLENCY: July 18 marks the anniversary of one of the most horrible dates in Argentinean history—the bomb attack that destroyed the AMIA headquarters, snuffed out innumerable lives, and shattered the security of the Jewish community. A view of the site leaves an indelible image of the tragedy and reminds many of the 30's and the horrors of Nazi Germany or Stalinist terror.

The world continues to anxiously await a solution to this crime by the democracy that is now Argentina. The occasion of the resignation of the Minister of Justice provides an opportunity for the appointment of an individual truly committed to democracy, and to finding those responsible for the bombing.

At the same time, we are particularly concerned about the recent appointment of Mr. Horacio Fraga as investigator for the official TV station. Mr. Fraga is an individual with a known racist and anti-Semitic background. This appointment raises serious concern in the Argentinean Jewish community, as well as among Jews throughout the world.

Democracy is a difficult process which requires discipline and vigilance by government and private citizens. The clear actions of your administration in these matters will send a strong signal that democracy and the rights of Argentinean minorities are paramount to your administration. You assured us of these points during the visit of an ADL delegation last year, and we hope that it will become a reality for Argentina and its communities.

Looking forward to your response,

Sincerely,

ABRAHAM H. FOXMAN,
National Director.