

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE POLISH AMERICAN
JOURNAL

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 85th anniversary of the Polish American Journal.

As Representatives from Polish-American districts are sure to recognize, the Polish American Journal is the largest independent monthly English language newspaper in the United States and carries on the tradition of preserving Polish culture and customs in our country. Founded in 1911 as *Zorza*, *The Dawn*, it was subsequently renamed *Republika* before combining with another newspaper under the ownership of John Dende, 1920, and to become known as *Republika-Gornik Pennsylvanski* (*Republic-Miner of Pennsylvania*). The paper was influential in providing anthracite coal miners with information about working conditions, wages, and mine safety. John Dende's editorials won wide acclaim and were often reprinted in other Polish language newspapers. Indeed, John Dende became a highly respected activist for his work on behalf of his Polish-American compatriots.

Following John Dende's passing, the paper was published by his sons, Henry and Richard. In 1948 the Dende brothers made the difficult decision of changing from strictly Polish to mostly English to meet the needs of the nearly 5 million U.S.-born Polish-Americans and reach directly into the English-speaking community. Renamed *Polish American Journal*, the paper acquired national stature as the voice of Polish-Americans. Members of Congress, government officials, civic and political leaders, free Poles of the cold-war era, and anti-Communist crusaders throughout the world all turned to the *Journal* as a freedom forum and information source.

Henry and Richard Dende remained publishers of the *Polish American Journal* until 1983, ever true to their mission of promoting and preserving Polish and Polish-American culture, customs, traditions, and interests. In August of that year, however, Henry and Richard Dende agreed to have the *Journal* published by Panagraphics Corp. of Buffalo which is located in the 30th Congressional District of New York. And Panagraphics continues the work begun by the hearty Polish immigrants 85 years ago.

It is fitting to enter these remarks in anticipation of Polish-American Heritage Month, for the *Polish American Journal* is a familiar voice in these halls. It was this publication that gave us firsthand accounts of a war-ravaged Poland and the plight of the Poles who were forced to live behind the Iron Curtain. During that period, the *Journal* became the most quoted eth-

nic newspaper in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, as its headlines were cited by many of our former colleagues and their constituents.

Since that time, the *Polish American Journal* has fought hard to see freedom restored in Poland, a dream that was realized with the election of Lech Walesa to Poland's presidency.

While the *Polish American Journal* has demonstrated its role as a voice for Poland here in the United States, it more importantly serves as witness to the countless contributions Americans of Polish descent make to the United States. From Revolutionary War heroes Thaddeus Kosciuszko and Casimir Pulaski to World War II flying ace Col. Francis Gabreski and the highly decorated late Col. Matt Urban, Poles and Polish-Americans have long demonstrated their deep commitment to America's liberty.

The pages of the *Polish American Journal* are a record of the achievements of Polish-Americans in all fields, from academia and politics to science and the arts. This gives all citizens of the United States a deeper understanding and respect for the lives of the sons and daughters of self-sacrificing immigrants whose stories proudly shine in the colorful ethnic mosaic we call America.

Since its founding, the *Polish American Journal* has been dedicated to the promotion and continuation of Polish-American culture in the United States, a heritage rich in the joys of the family, church, and country. Its anniversary is a milestone by which all can be proud, for its success mirrors the achievements of all Polish-Americans whose virtues and ethics have contributed to American society.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the paper on its anniversary and commend its staff, writers, contributors, and subscribers who take pride in their economic roots and who willingly share the ideals of their ancestors with Americans of all backgrounds.

HONORING REPRESENTATIVE PATRICIA SCHROEDER OF COLORADO AND REPRESENTATIVE CARDISS COLLINS OF ILLINOIS

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to add voice to those who want to recognize two wonderful public servants and truly special people, my colleagues PAT SCHROEDER and CARDISS COLLINS. It has been an honor for me to serve with these two distinguished Members, who have worked hard to help the people of Colorado, Illinois, and the United States. Their dedication, passion, and commitment to the betterment of our country will be missed.

For 11 terms, Pat Schroeder, my friend from Colorado, has been an active and influential

leader on behalf of women's and children's issues, health care, educational opportunity, constitutional rights, and foreign and military policy. In doing so, she has shaped legislation that has affected every American and has earned the respect of legislators on both sides of the aisle.

By holding strong to her convictions and by keeping an unwavering commitment to help America, PAT SCHROEDER has become one of the best-known Members of this body. To many Americans, PAT SCHROEDER has become synonymous with women's rights, and rightfully so. Allies on important issues are always thankful to have PAT fight on their behalf, while foes on issues fear her powerful voice.

PAT SCHROEDER's legislative accomplishments are countless. Some of her most recent bills that are now law include the Violence Against Women Act, the Economic Equity Act, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention Act, the Child Support Responsibility Act, and the National Child Care Protection Act.

PAT SCHROEDER has won recognition from a wide range of groups because of her dedication, including the National Women's Hall of Fame. We'll all remember PAT, though, for some of the every day things she does, like the smiley faces in her signature, the bunny suits and her flair for language and the art of debate. As I told her earlier this year, without PAT we never would have known whether Presidents were Teflon or Velcro, or which hawks were really chickens in disguise.

My colleague from Illinois, CARDISS COLLINS, also has had a most distinguished career of service to her constituents, and significant legislative contributions during her tenure here. Since arriving in 1973, CARDISS COLLINS not only has been a remarkable congresswoman, but has been a leader. CARDISS COLLINS has led the charge on minority, women's, children's, and safety issues. By doing so, she has enhanced equality and helped our Nation become stronger and safer.

I have had the honor to serve with CARDISS in the Commerce Committee, where I was able to witness her hard work and commitment to not only the people of Illinois, but to all Americans.

During her tenure as chair of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Competitiveness, CARDISS COLLINS was instrumental in enacting the Child Abuse Prevention Act, the Child Safety Protection Act, the Gender Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act, and many, many other bills. She also conducted investigations which helped triple the number of child care centers in the General Services Administration.

CARDISS COLLINS' tireless efforts have also resulted in increased safety standards for America's airline passengers, tougher safety standards in the transport of toxic materials, and an increased African-American participation in advertising. She has led a dedicated

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

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

staff both in the Government Reform Committee, and before that in the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Competitiveness. It was on this panel that Chairwoman COLLINS led hearings on gender equity, insurance redlining, and deceptive practices in the sale of life insurance.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have served with such noble individuals. PAT SCHROEDER and CARDISS COLLINS will not be forgotten. America owes them both a debt of gratitude. I urge all my colleagues to salute PAT and CARDISS for their exceptional accomplishments as Members of the House. They both will be greatly missed, but I know they will both find great satisfaction in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSWOMEN
SCHROEDER AND COLLINS

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, when the 105th Congress convenes next year, this body will regrettably be absent two of its most dedicated and distinguished public servants, the Honorable PAT SCHROEDER and the Honorable CARDISS COLLINS. It is with mixed feelings of pleasure and sadness that I rise today in tribute to these two extraordinary leaders.

Congresswoman SCHROEDER and Congresswoman COLLINS have served the Congress longer and with greater dedication than few others. Among women Members, their longevity is virtually unmatched. As co-founders of the Congressional Women's Caucus they have shared in the historic mission of elevating this body's awareness and understanding of legislative issues of greatest concern to women. Both have served selflessly and tirelessly in the struggle for social justice and equality.

PAT SCHROEDER and CARDISS COLLINS represent very different constituencies. Their legislative styles are distinct and they speak in somewhat different voices, but they have consistently spoken in unison on behalf of those who have been traditionally under-represented in the halls of Congress. The achievements of these two legislative giants are too numerous to recount and too phenomenal to address adequately in these few minutes. They each leave a legacy of achievements fulfilled. PAT has performed some miraculous feats as a member of the National Security Committee while CARDISS has left her signature on the business of the Commerce Committee. And both of these great Members of Congress has left her personal imprimatur on issues like health care, education, employment security, environmental protection, consumer safety, and civil rights and humanitarian causes.

These two gentlewomen have made countless personal sacrifices and enormous contributions to this body and to the Nation. No truer advocates of peace, justice, and equality I have known in my 28 years in Congress. Congresswoman CARDISS COLLINS acts from the heart and steadfastly nurtures policies of fairness and virtue. Congresswoman PAT

SCHROEDER speaks eloquently from her soul and illuminates the path to truth and justice.

Mr. Speaker, the Congresswoman from Denver and the Congresswoman from Chicago have played magnificent roles in redirecting our future. They have moved our Nation closer toward realizing those principles of freedom and equality of which our Nation's founders paid lip service but to which they failed miserably in their shameless defense of racism and sexism. Our Nation and this institution have changed for the better by the dedicated contributions of these exceptional legislators.

Representatives SCHROEDER and COLLINS have demonstrated the kind of faith and dedication that inspire the best in others. I will PAT's humor and I will miss CARDISS' determination, and I will especially miss their generous support and friendship. My memories of service with PAT SCHROEDER and CARDISS COLLINS are long and fond. I wish them each good health and good fortune as they leave us and move on to new challenges. I know they will continue to spread the faith. May triumph and victory be with them on the path that lies ahead.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF
CARDISS COLLINS

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend and highly distinguished colleague, Congresswoman CARDISS COLLINS of Illinois' Seventh Congressional District. As the longest serving African-American female in Congress, she has been a true inspiration and mentor to those who have followed in her footsteps. Her legacy, including her tenure as chair of the Subcommittees on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Competitiveness and Government Activities and Transportation, as well as the Congressional Black Caucus, are part of a permanent record that will ensure the importance of her 23 years in the House of Representatives.

Public service has become an important part of CARDISS' life. She honorably stepped in to fill her late husband's, the Honorable George W. Collins, seat when asked and has served faithfully since. Congresswoman COLLINS has truly represented her district throughout the years. Her skillful leadership during her 11 terms will be missed by many.

I would like to take this opportunity to remember some of the important achievements attributed to Representative COLLINS. She has consistently devoted her energy to improving health care for women and minorities. CARDISS spent several years during this decade promoting the research of breast cancer. She sponsored legislation that expanded Medicare coverage for mammography screenings and Medicaid coverage for Pap smears to detect cervical and uterine cancers. COLLINS has also continuously authored a resolution that designates October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Her concern for women extends beyond health care. She pressured colleges to follow

the requirements of title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 when she chaired the Subcommittee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Competitiveness. The result has been a dramatic increase in the participation of women in sports, as evidenced by the number of American women participants this year in the Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta.

CARDISS has been especially concerned about the fate of our country's children. She is responsible for increasing the funding and research into minority health issues and establishing the National Institutes of Health's Office on Minority Health. Representative COLLINS was the force behind the Child Abuse Prevention Act, which resulted in the training of teachers in child abuse prevention. Additionally, CARDISS increased child safety by enacting legislation that requires warning labels on toys with small parts and standards for bicycle helmets.

CARDISS has also focused her energy on increasing diversity in advertising. The lack of a presence of African-Americans sparked her to introduce several bills to strike more of a balance throughout this medium. She worked tirelessly to ensure that privately owned firms and the Federal Government did not discriminate against minority owned agencies.

The Congressional Black Caucus is the strong organization it is today, due, in part, to the leadership Representative COLLINS showed when she chaired the Caucus. She also chaired the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation for two terms, beginning in 1994. She was an important member to both bodies, and they miss her contributions.

I will miss CARDISS' intelligence and insight which she has shared throughout the years we spent in Congress. I know she will spend many fulfilling years with her son and granddaughter. I am honored to have served with her and I wish her continued success and happiness.

CONGRESSWOMAN CARDISS
COLLINS HONORED

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my colleague and neighbor, Congresswoman CARDISS COLLINS, who will be leaving the house after 24 years of very distinguished service.

CARDISS COLLINS has been an exemplary Member and a true Democrat. She has fought long and hard to improve health care for women and minorities and to improve diversity in advertising.

Thanks to her work making sure female college athletes are treated fairly in our Nation's colleges and universities, CARDISS was inducted into the Women and Girls' Sports Hall of Fame.

And that is just one of her many awards, distinctions, and honorary degrees.

I had the great pleasure of working with CARDISS on an issue that we both believe is very important—the issue of cigarette-caused

fires and how to stop them. CARDISS and I worked together for years to promote fire-safe cigarettes and considering the powerful companies we've been up against, I believe we have made great strides.

CARDISS has also been ahead of her times in terms of fighting for airline safety. It is tragic that it took this year's airline accidents to bring other people around to her point of view.

At a time when it cannot have been easy to be an African-American woman in Congress, CARDISS has made tremendous strides on behalf of women and minorities.

I hope very much that her tenure as longest serving African-American woman in the Congress, will serve as an inspiration to young people, particularly people of color, as they consider their careers. She is indeed a wonderful role model for all young people.

The seventh Congressional District of Illinois is lucky to have had her as its representative and we are lucky to have had her as our colleague.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE PAT SCHROEDER ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. G.V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY
OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to wish Congresswoman SCHROEDER farewell. She will be retiring at the end of this session, but she will not soon be forgotten in Washington.

For the last 16 years, I have had the good fortune to sit next to Pat on the National Security Committee. She has worked hard during her time in Congress, and not only in this committee. She gives everything 100 percent of her time and attention.

During the time that I have known her, I have had the opportunity to meet her wonderful family. I know them well and have enjoyed our association. I wish them all good luck in the future.

HONORING PAT SCHROEDER

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly great Member of Congress, my classmate PAT SCHROEDER.

PAT and I joined the House of Representatives together in 1973, and ever since that time I have watched her impressive accomplishments with great respect.

I only regret that I never got to see her chair the Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property because I know if she ever did she'd do a wonderful job.

During her 24 years in Congress PAT has been an outspoken and extremely effective advocate for children, women, and families.

She never lost her sense of joy and honor in serving in the most respected legislative body in the world, and it infected everyone

around her. Even people who disagreed with her politically recognized her profound dedication to this country.

PAT has been a true Colorado pioneer—she is the longest serving woman in the U.S. House, and a former candidate for Vice President of the United States. She has set a great example and been a great inspiration for young women throughout the United States for many many years.

Despite her impressive tenure, PAT leaves here as spunky and optimistic as when we first started, but she will certainly be leaving this place a quieter, a bit less feisty, and bit less family friendly.

I am honored to have served with her and I will miss her very much.

Thank you Mr. Speaker.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
PATRICIA SCHROEDER

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to our distinguished colleague, PATRICIA SCHROEDER. PAT is retiring at the end of this term after a remarkable 24-year career in the House of Representatives. She began her career in Denver as a lawyer and women's rights activist. She brought an activist's passion and commitment to the Congress where she has fought for the rights of women, children, families, and all Americans for nearly a quarter of a century. PAT has been a friend and colleague and she will be sorely missed.

PAT has left an indelible mark on the Congress which has allowed all women who have followed her to enter with greater equality and respect. She is the most senior woman Member of the House and one of the original founders of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues. She cochaired the caucus from 1979 until 1995. She has been called an icon of the women's movement and has even been named to the National Women's Hall of Fame. One of her own personal favorite claims to fame, however, is that Oliver North has labeled her as one of the country's 25 most dangerous politicians.

PAT has authored and overseen the passage of some of the most important legislation affecting the lives of all Americans. Such legislation includes several which I am honored to have cosponsored: the Violence Against Women Act, the Economic Equity Act, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Mortality Prevention Act, and the National Child Protection Act. PAT was also one of the original cosponsors of the landmark Family and Medical Leave Act.

I have been particularly honored to work with PAT on the Judiciary Committee. Together we have worked to stem the tide of Republican assaults against the rights of the American public. PAT has brought her profound knowledge of the law and policy to her work as the ranking Democrat on the Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property and as a member of the Subcommittee on the Constitution. She has used her position on the Judiciary Committee to fight for the passage of

the equal rights amendment, to expand the access of women to quality health care and reproductive services, to combat employment discrimination, and to protect intellectual property rights here and abroad. She is a wise and formidable associate and I will greatly miss her working at my side.

PAT has also paved the way for women in the Congress by opening the door to the once male bastion of military defense. PAT has been a strong and sometimes lone progressive voice on national security issues since taking office. She joined the National Security Committee in 1973 as an antiwar activist and has provided votes of reason ever since against such measures as Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative, the B-2 bomber, the MX missile and other nuclear weapons systems. She has been a proponent of nuclear test ban laws, defense burdensharing, and the base closings of 1989. In 1991, PAT led the inquiry into the now infamous Tailhook Scandal which resulted in the resignation of Navy Secretary H. Lawrence Garrett. Her long struggle to see women soldiers in combat roles came to fruition when the Pentagon announced that women aviators were allowed to fly combat missions for the first time in 1993.

PAT's wit and quick tongue have changed the nature of political dialog in America. Her nickname for Ronald Reagan, the Teflon President, has become infamous. She is leaving the House with this same passion and vigor. In the past few weeks she has strongly defended the record of progressives in Congress, she has fought vigorously against the attempt to override President Clinton's veto of the partial birth abortion ban, and she has introduced a package of new legislation on safe motherhood. PAT's wit, intellect, dedication, and passion for what is right will be greatly missed in the Judiciary Committee, the Democratic Party, the House of Representatives, and the Congress as a whole. I have greatly enjoyed working with her for these past 24 years and I wish her luck in all her future endeavors.

NAFTA PARITY FOR U.S. WOOL
APPAREL INDUSTRY

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that will redress a wrong inflicted on an important segment of the U.S. textile and apparel industry during NAFTA negotiations.

During NAFTA negotiations with Canada, changes were made in the original United States-Canada Free Trade Agreement [CFTA] with respect to imports of men's and boys' wool suits, jackets, and slacks—changes which both injure United States manufacturers in this sector and give no avenue for relief from this injury. My legislation will correct this oversight and return to provisions that were originally intended in the CFTA.

When the United States and Canada negotiated the textile and apparel provisions of the CFTA, special duty allowances were made for

tailored men's and boys' wool apparel made from foreign fabric, i.e., fabric not produced in either the United States or Canada. A temporary tariff preference level [TPL] was established for this category of imported apparel for items made from textiles that were not available in either the United States or Canada—hence, the special treatment for wool apparel made from non-United States or Canadian textiles. At the time, Canadian manufacturers of tailored wool apparel constituted only a small portion of the Canadian apparel industry, and the TPL was intended only to ensure that they had an adequate supply of wool fabric. Under the CFTA, renegotiation of the tariff preference level was mandated by January 1, 1998.

During NAFTA negotiations, the CFTA monitoring and renegotiation requirements were dropped. Indeed, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative has said that NAFTA negotiations constituted a fulfillment of the CFTA mandate. The result of this retention of tariff preference levels—and indeed the increase of levels rather than a lowering—has resulted in an unacceptable surge in imports of this product from Canada. United States industry believes this provision has been used by Canadian producers for “wholesale circumvention of the rule of origin”—and the rule of origin is the foundation of a free trade agreement. The legislation I am introducing today would restore the mandate to monitor and renegotiate the schedule of tariff preference levels by January 1, 1998.

Since 1988, the surge of tailored-wool-apparel imports from Canada has devastated the United States industry. U.S. production of men's and boy's wool suits has dropped more than 40 percent, and employment has fallen almost 50 percent. At the time of CFTA negotiations, United States industry voiced concern about establishing tariff preference levels for goods made from nonoriginating fabric, but Canada assured United States negotiators that preexisting trade patterns would not be altered. Clearly, this has not happened. Yet, U.S. industry does not have normal access to safeguard actions that would allow it to petition the U.S. Government for temporary relief from injurious imports. Instead, the wool apparel industry was excluded from NAFTA safeguard provisions. The legislation I am introducing would allow the U.S. industry for tailored wool apparel to have normal access to safeguard provisions under the NAFTA.

Mr. Speaker, I believe Congress must take corrective action when it becomes aware that a major piece of legislation unfairly excludes and injures a sector of U.S. industry, especially when this effect was not intended. We owe it to U.S. workers in the tailored wool apparel sector to restore legislation to its original intent and to provide for a normal avenue under U.S. trade law to redress injury from imports.

TRIBUTE TO TOBY ROTH

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a fellow classmate, colleague,

and friend. TOBY ROTH came to this body in the same class as I did over 18 years ago. When we arrived in this House, our Nation faced unprecedented inflation and unemployment rates and a stagnating economy at home and faced an expanding and powerful Evil Empire of communism abroad. With the election of Ronald Reagan in 1980, this economic slide and the rampant spread of communism began to turn. While I fought hard in this body to assist President Reagan in fighting the spread of communism around the world, TOBY ROTH was right at my side as we served many years together on the Foreign Affairs Committee. From his position on the Foreign Affairs Committee, TOBY was instrumental in working to bring the Communist bear to its knees. The fact that democracy instead of communism is now breaking out all over this world in is large part due to the efforts of our colleague TOBY ROTH. America owes its gratitude to this man for his unwavering dedication.

TOBY has also served his country well in his defense and support of our English language. He has taken the inspirational words of Winston Churchill to heart when Churchill stated that “the gift of a common language is a priceless inheritance.” TOBY's leadership on this issue has motivated many of us to stand up and recognize that as Toqueville said “the tie of language is, perhaps the strongest and the most durable that can unite mankind.” His dedication to principle, his love for his country, and his commitment to democracy enable me to proudly stand on this floor today and declare that he is my colleague and my friend. Statesmen of his character are why America deserves to be proud of our representative democracy and our hard-earned freedom. America will miss TOBY ROTH in this body and I hope for our country's sake that TOBY will return to Washington in the future to share with us his sage advice on those issues to which he holds so dear.

HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY; REALTOR ASSOCIATION OF BAY COUNTY

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, honesty and integrity are elusive commodities in today's business world but are ever present in our hard-working realtors. Over the years I have had the privilege of working with many real estate agents, chief among them the very professional members of the Realtor Association of Bay County. I rise today to pay tribute to this association that, for half a century, has been dedicated to promoting ethics and caring in the business world. On October 19, at the Consistory Cathedral in Bay City, the Realtor Association will celebrate its 50th anniversary.

First chartered on July 9, 1946, the Realtor Association of Bay County is a professional association of real estate brokers and their agents. Originally created not only to protect and promote private ownership of real property, and establish professional standards of practice, the association has remained true to

its original goals while expanding outreach into the community.

Through the years, the association has actively monitored State and Federal legislation regarding private property rights and has provided educational programs, keeping members informed on the numerous changes in the laws and creating forms necessary to comply with them. One such service, created in 1962 and computerized in 1972, is the Multiple Listing Service which assists members in their endeavor to list and sell properties for their clients and customers.

The Realtor Association of Bay County is a member of the world's largest trade association, the National Association of Realtors, which consists of over 750,000 members and the Michigan Association of Realtors, which consists of over 25,000 members.

With a membership that has grown to over 300, the association is involved in 12 diverse community service projects. Groups such as Junior Achievement, American Home Week, Women's Center, and Safety Through songs for Kindergartners have all benefited from their relationship with the Realtors Association.

Mr. Speaker, realtors adhere to a strict code of ethics and level of professional conduct that benefit us all. Couple that with their dedicated involvement to the community and you have an organization which exemplifies the professionalism and caring to which all business and business associations should aspire. Please join me in congratulating the Realtor Association of Bay County on its 50th anniversary, with best wishes for many more.

LEGISLATION EXTENDING CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM CONTRACTS

HON. PAT ROBERTS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation to restore to the Secretary of Agriculture the optional authority to extend existing Conservation Reserve Program [CRP] contracts. This action is necessitated by a provision contained in the 1997 agricultural appropriations law that rescinded that long-standing authority at a time when the Secretary is attempting to implement a revised CRP that currently does not have final regulations in place.

Contracts covering 24 million acres, or two-thirds of the existing enrolled acres, are scheduled to expire next September and must be considered for re-enrollment before that time. Congress devoted considerable time and resources during the farm bill to insuring the continuation of the CRP with its important conservation and environmental benefits. The administration was tasked with proposing new regulations for the CRP by early June of this year to give farmers sufficient time to understand the revised program and make decisions on their participation.

Unfortunately, USDA's proposed regulations did not appear until mid-September. The proposed changes are so massive and so many factors are still unknown, it is unlikely that

farmers will have the final details well into next year. If the proposed changes are contained in the final rules, it is clear that many weeks of intensive work by USDA will be needed to apply the general rules to each individual farmer's land before the producer will know whether he is eligible and whether he wants to make a bid to enter the program.

It was the clear intent of Congress to give the producer the maximum flexibility in making the decision on whether or not to continue his land in the CRP. Farmers cannot sensibly make that decision until all the information is available to them. The slightest delay in USDA's schedule will create chaos on the farm with an arbitrary deadline forcing a decision for which the producer has insufficient information.

If this situation arises, which in the mind of this Member is a probability rather than a possibility, it is imperative that the Secretary of Agriculture retain the authority to extend existing contracts so that properly thoughtful decisions can be made that will affect farmers and our environment for a decade to come.

By eliminating the limitation on the Secretary's authority contained in this year's agricultural appropriations law, this bill will insure that USDA has the flexibility to implement the Conservation Reserve Program successfully and avoid a train wreck next August.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO MY
FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES

HON. G.V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, as I prepare to retire at the end of this Congress, there are many people that I want to express my appreciation. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues for the great help and respect they have given me through out the years. In the recent months, they have made a special effort to tell me how much they enjoyed serving with me. My fellow Representatives wished me well in my future endeavors, and I do appreciate all the warm regards and kind thoughts.

Additionally, I owe the staffs on Capitol Hill my thanks. The staffers have given my office a great deal of help and assistance over the many years. Because of them, my job was made much easier.

Finally, a special thanks to all the different organizations that have honored me in the last few months: National Guard Association of the United States, Mississippi State University, the veterans organizations, the armed services YMCA, and the Mississippi Society, just to name a few, have given me receptions, dinners, and many wonderful memories.

Thank you all.

TRIBUTES TO CONGRESSMEN
JACOBS AND MYERS

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I am inserting these statements into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. They were to be given as part of a Special Order for Congressman JACOBS and MYERS last week:

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE JOHN CONYERS, JR., PRAISING THE CAREER OF ANDREWS JACOBS, JR.

There have been a number of colleagues with whom I have become friends as well as legislators, but none as close to me as Andy Jacobs. On January 4, 1965, we began an intermittent association that makes me feel able to say that I have a dear friend leaving Congress.

Andy will be known and remembered for his unfailing ability to bring a smile to your face no matter what is happening in the Congress or in your life. He believes that a laugh can lift you, and I have come to believe it too. After all, he has practiced more jokes on me than perhaps any other member of the House within the course of our friendship.

Now that he is ending his legislative career, may I reflect upon several achievements that may not have been covered during the course of our discussion. The first is the Viet Nam War debates that were conceived by Representative Jacobs. He led the fight to end the war in 1969, in an all night session on the House floor. Andy's efforts led to the beginning of the end of the Viet Nam War.

The second matter is the Adam Clayton Powell Committee, to which then Speaker John McCormack appointed us both. Through his ability to persuade people, Andy was able to at least have a hearing that afforded then Chairman Powell a modicum of due process. He was skillful at it, and he was able to turn away some of the intense emotion that led many members to want to make short shrift of our jobs on the committee. But Jacobs predicted with a usual clarity that any attempt to ouster Chairman Powell would be rebuffed by a Supreme Court which would be reluctant to allow us to determine who should represent the people from a congressional district.

The third matter was the impeachment hearings of Richard Milhouse Nixon. And here again, Andy Jacobs was helping to lead us to a decision that was inescapable in terms of our duty; to recommend impeachment proceedings against a sitting president.

The years have been good to both Andy and myself. His support on the homefront and in the family setting is a beautiful one. I know his wife, Kimberly, and his children, and Andy has never been happier; and I have never been happier for him. He has truly been a man of the people, and I can say that he has never compromised his beliefs in the political arena or anywhere else. He is a leader, an unusually forceful speaker, and a mental giant both in his writing and his law-making. I wish him every continued happiness from this day forward.

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE MICHAEL
BILIRAKIS

A FOND FAREWELL TO JOHN MYERS

I rise today to say farewell to a dear friend and colleague who will be retiring at the end

of this Congress—the honorable John Myers from Indiana.

Calling John Myers honorable is an understatement. He is much more than that, and has served the citizens of the 7th District of Indiana superbly since coming to Congress in 1967.

John is one of the most well-liked and respected members of the House of Representatives, and his departure will not only be a loss for his constituents, but also for this venerable institution that he devoted so much of his life to.

In his time in Congress, John has been known as a staunch fiscal conservative, and has backed up his words with action—never voting to raise taxes. Since the day he began his service until today, John has maintained his passion and enthusiasm about debating the issues that affect his constituents and our country.

As Chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, he has provided critical flood control relief to his largely rural district. He has also been instrumental in the continued funding of high-tech research projects, such as new cancer treatments, at several state universities in Indiana.

As the third most senior member in the first GOP congress in over forty years, John has been a forceful and influential voice in determining the direction of important policy initiatives. He has provided leadership and exuberance in moving power and influence out of Washington and back to the people where it belongs. His legacy of integrity and legislative achievement has won him the respect, praise and admiration of members from both parties, political pundits and members of the media.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to add my voice to those who are bidding farewell to John Myers. John—congratulations on your outstanding record of service, and best of luck to you and your wonderful wife Carol in the future. You'll be missed.

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE MICHAEL
BILIRAKIS OF FLORIDA

BEST WISHES TO ANDY JACOBS UPON HIS
RETIREMENT

I rise today to pay tribute and say goodbye to a close friend and colleague who I have had the honor of serving with in the House of Representatives, Andy Jacobs.

Andy is one of the true gentlemen in Congress, and has served admirably and with great fervor since coming to Congress in 1965. He wasted no time getting into critical legislation, and as a member of the Judiciary Committee, helped write the historic Voting Rights Act of 1965.

In 1969, Andy led a night long debate on the Vietnam War, which the Washington Post described as "the first serious congressional discussion of U.S. policy in Vietnam."

As Chairman of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Health, Andy has also played an integral role in shaping the Medicare and Social Security programs. He has also been a leading proponent of pre-school programs for educationally-disadvantaged children.

Andy has been an exceedingly effective legislator in his years in Congress, and had been praised by two Indianapolis mayors for protecting the city's interests.

Mr. Speaker, I will certainly miss Andy, and especially his good humor. He could always brighten a dismal day with a joke. In fact, he has been described as having a "Lincolnesque" sense of humor.

Congress is losing a fine man and a terrific legislator. I am thankful for having served with such a fine man.

LEST WE FORGET

HON. JON D. FOX

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to submit for the RECORD the following tribute to our veterans which was written by Rev. B. Robert Gillis of the Gloria Dei Church, Huntingdon Valley, PA, in the 13th Congressional District. It is a stirring testament to the debt our Nation owes to its veterans.

LEST WE FORGET

Lest We Forget.—That our country was founded on the principles of freedom and justice for all.

That our forefathers were people of vision who exhibited unswerving faith in the worth of both people and principles.

And that God has been an integral part of the foundation and fabric of our nation.

Lest We Forget.—That freedom and justice carry a substantial price tag that is non-negotiable.

That the price tag has been very high.

And that sacrifices have been made with little regard for personal comfort, safety or recognition.

Lest We Forget.—That people of vision and passion saw beyond themselves to a larger, better world for all.

That our forefathers have exchanges the security of what is for what might be.

Lest We Forget.—That freedom and justice are never guaranteed.

That there are always those intent upon infringing on the rights and responsibilities of others.

That both freedom and justice must be defended.

And that each successive generation must continue to pay the price to keep our dreams * * * alive * * *

Lest We Forget, We Must.—Build on the foundation of the past and follow the example of our predecessors.

Embrace a simplicity of purpose that turn confusion to commitment/diversity into unity.

And invest our effort and energy without regard for convenience or self-serving ends.

We Must.—Dream of a future that honors a heritage of commitment.

Value people over programs—principles over practicality.

And renew our faith in God as we explore the opportunities for our future together.

Must We.—Be "One Nation Under God With Liberty And Justice For All."

May We.—Never forget!

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMODITY EXCHANGE ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1996

HON. THOMAS W. EWING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, as a point of departure as the 104th Congress passes into the historical record, today I am introducing legislation to reform the Commodity Exchange Act [CEAct], the law governing the regulation of futures and options on our Nation's commodity exchanges and other risk management finan-

cial instruments that are traded in over-the-counter markets.

Although this legislation is not massive in size, it is sizable in scope. This area of Federal regulation—the importance of our futures and option markets—demands new treatment. Although the Commodity Futures Trading Commission [CFTC] was just reauthorized through the year 2000 last April, the Congress took more than 3 years to agree on the Futures Trading Practices Act of 1992—1992 FTPA. Needless to say, that law was a contentious debate; this bill may be similarly contentious. For that reason, it should be viewed as a discussion document. We will have several months to think about it and discuss it prior to the introduction of a new bill in the 105th Congress.

The purpose of the bill is to reestablish the concept of self-regulation with CFTC oversight. The commodity exchanges are self-regulatory organizations; they regulate their members and the trade and financial practices of their members. The National Futures Association [NFA], at this time the sole registered futures association, regulates the professional futures community, setting industry-wide standards of sales and trade practice conduct.

The aim is to keep the U.S. futures industry competitive as it enters the next century. The price discovery and hedging functions of our futures markets still are paramount. The law, however, must recognize that technology is constantly changing and that our commodity exchanges serve a sophisticated, mostly institutional clientele these days, not small, retail traders.

With that in mind, let me briefly outline the contents of the bill I am introducing.

Section 2(a)(1)(A)(ii), is known commonly as the Treasury amendment and was enacted as a part of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission Act of 1974. Unfortunately, this language has created numerous legal problems the courts have dealt with inconsistently.

Title II of the bill offers a solution to these problems. It is one solution. Obviously, there are others. Attempting to deal with a controversy of this magnitude is not easy. The solution in the legislation will be disputed and argued. I welcome all interest groups, including Members of the other body, to help to solve this matter in the next Congress.

Section 3 of the CEAct describes the reasons for Federal regulation of futures and option markets and a great deal of this section is simply outdated and does not fit today's regulatory requirements or needs. The bill substantially restates the purposes of Federal regulation.

Section 4 is amended to include specifically an exemption for certain professional markets whose participants are recognized under current law. These appropriate persons are described in sec. 4(c)(3) of the CEAct and include futures commission merchants, floor brokers, and floor traders. In light of the exemptions afforded other professional traders by the 1992 FTPA, I believe this language is consistent with congressional intent in this area.

Sections 103 and 104 of the bill enhance the self-regulation of exchange institutions by providing simplified and streamlined contract market designation and rule submission proce-

dures. These are necessary in my view to maintain the competitiveness of our commodity exchanges in a world that has come to understand the importance of risk management on exchanges with sound, but limited, regulatory programs.

These amendments presume a commodity exchange develops sound contracts with economic purposes that are widely recognized and will be used by commercial and speculative interests for price discovery and risk-shifting that have long been viewed in this country and by the Congress as beneficial to our Nation's economy.

Section 105 of the bill seeks to improve commodity exchange audit trails without impairing the functions of the markets. Audit trail issues date from the establishment of the CFTC but have been actively debated in the CFTC's regulatory programs since 1986, when the CFTC proposed a 1-minute, verifiable standard.

Understanding that each commodity exchange has different trade customs and systems unique to each institution means there are numerous ways to obtain adequate, verifiable audit trails. These trade recordation systems have changed dramatically over the years, and U.S. commodity exchanges constantly are improving and upgrading their audit trail systems. The amendment seeks to develop standards that are objective and reasonable.

Section 106 of the legislation provides benefit-cost analysis to the CFTC's regulatory program. Regulation under Republican administrations and new law under this Republican Congress has moved us further in that direction. There is no reason we cannot bring similar sound, reasonable, and fair regulation to our commodity exchanges and preserve the public interest.

Finally, section 107 is a housekeeping matter of interest to the Committee on Agriculture. An objective of the committee during the reform of U.S. agriculture embodied in the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 [FAIR Act] was to use fewer words. The FAIR Act is literally one-half the volume of the 1990 farm bill. With that in mind—and there may be further improvements later—section 107 repeals section 8e dealing with CFTC oversight and deficiency orders. It is my understanding that after the nearly 4 years this section has been law it has never been used. That makes it unnecessary in my view.

I look forward to comments on the legislation and working with interested parties as we proceed with this necessary reform in the 105th Congress.

GAMBLING CREDIT REFORM ACT

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing legislation to protect consumers, financial institutions, and taxpayers from the unwarranted use of credit cards for gambling. My legislation the Gambling Credit Reform Act, would prohibit the extension of credit under

any open-end consumer credit plan where a creditor knows or has reason to believe that such credit will be used to make a bet or wager, or to play any game of chance in a casino or other gambling establishment.

I was appalled to read recently that the New Jersey Casino Control Commission had approved the use of credit cards for the purchase of playing chips and slot tokens in casinos at Atlantic City. This means that gamblers who run out of cash can obtain more playing chips or tokens with the wave of their hand without even leaving a playing table. Gambling industry experts see this as one of the "most potentially dramatic" changes in gambling in years and one that will result in more impulse gambling and higher revenues for casinos.

The use of credit cards directly to make bets or wagers has never been permitted in this country and with good reason. Allowing gamblers to use credit cards to obtain more chips without leaving a gambling table removes one of the last remaining checks on compulsive or problem gambling—the need to walk away to find more cash to gamble. Permitting the use of credit cards will make it significantly easier for problem gamblers not only to bet all their disposable income, but to tap into available credit lines on one or more credit cards.

This is particularly troubling at a time when our Nation's financial institutions, and credit card banks in particular, are threatened with unprecedented levels of consumer debt and personal bankruptcies. Consumer debt has increased at double-digit rates since 1994 while personal incomes have stagnated. Accumulated consumer debt is now estimated at nearly 85 percent of the Nation's disposable income. Consumer debt service is at a near-record level of 17 percent of disposable income and loan delinquencies are at record levels.

With consumer debt continuing to grow nearly three times faster than income, it is no surprise that a record number of American families will declare bankruptcy this year. If current trends continue, more than 1 million families—or 1 percent of all U.S. households—will file for bankruptcy this year. This represents a 26-percent increase over 1995 and a bankruptcy filing rate equal to one bankruptcy filing every 2 minutes throughout the year.

By almost every account, the primary contributor to these problems has been what Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan described as the "extraordinary rise" in credit card issuances and debt. Outstanding credit card debt increased 16 percent in 1995, to a total debt of \$454 billion. However, a far greater potential problem comes from the vast, still untapped credit lines already granted to consumers on existing credit cards. Available credit lines increased by 30 percent in 1995, providing consumers with an additional potential debt of \$1.1 trillion.

It is clear that existing credit card balances are already becoming too much for consumers to handle. More people are late in making their credit card payments than at any time in the past 15 years. And the American Bankers Association reported in mid-September that credit card delinquencies had reached the highest level on record.

Allowing gamblers to use credit cards directly for gambling will only exacerbate these trends. It will lead to greater financial strain and anguish for many American families, increase credit delinquencies and losses at financial institutions, and contribute to potential losses to our deposit insurance system that, conceivably, would have to be covered by taxpayers.

No responsible financial institution would grant a loan to an individual for the purpose of going to Atlantic City to gamble. But this is exactly what we are condoning and encouraging with the use of credit cards. It accentuates the already serious problems of consumer debt and rising bankruptcies and it presents additional and unwarranted risks for financial institutions. My bill will stop these developments before they spread to all forms of gambling throughout the country.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that there is little chance that this legislation can be considered this year. My purpose in introducing the bill is to give notice that there are Members of the Congress who consider this misuse of credit cards to be unacceptable. I intend to refine this legislation and reintroduce a similar proposal early next year and I hope that, upon its return, the Congress will consider this legislation and enact it into law promptly.

VETERANS' BENEFITS IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 1996

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Veterans' Benefits Improvements Act of 1996. This House-Senate compromise bill contains program improvements for several veterans benefits, and these provisions will make a difference in the lives of thousands of veterans and their survivors. It is a bipartisan bill and I thank all the Members on both sides of the aisle and both sides of the Chamber for their support.

Section 211 would amend the statute governing burial eligibility to incorporate the regulatory definition of "minor child."

Section 212 would provide burial benefits for approximately 300 of the 2,500 veterans who die in State nursing homes yearly, but do not qualify for priority care in Veterans Health Administration facilities.

Section 213 would authorize VA to issue a voucher equal to the average cost of a grave liner to survivors who elect a burial vault other than the national cemetery system's provided grave liner.

Title four makes change to the administrative functions within the VA Life Insurance Program. Provisions include merging the Retired Reserve Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance and Veterans' Group Life Insurance programs and extending Veterans' Group Insurance to members of the ready reserve; allowing veterans' group-insureds to convert to a commercial policy at any time; and renaming the Servicemen's Group Life Insurance Program to Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance to make it more gender neutral.

Section 502 would limit the clothing allowance for veterans incarcerated for more than 60 days in a penal institution where they receive clothing at no cost to them.

Section 503 would authorize an additional \$150,000 to the Veterans' Claims Adjudication Commission and extend their final report date to December 31, 1996.

Section 504 would establish a pilot program under which contract physicians would provide disability examinations to applicants for VA benefits. The pilot program is anticipated to speed up the examination-gathering process for the adjudication of claims.

Section 505 would expand the time period that currently defines the beginning of the Vietnam era from August 5, 1964 to February 28, 1961. Benefits would be granted to those eligible veterans that served in theater only from February 1961 thru August 1964 and limit Agent Orange benefits to those who served from January 9, 1962.

Section 506 would allow a surviving spouse to retain compensation or pension payments for the full month instead of the end of the month before the veteran died.

Section 507 would increase the period of time for which accrued benefits are payable to a surviving spouse from 1 year to 2 years. These are spouses of veterans who die while their claim is being adjudicated. This provision is the result of the committee recognizing the length of time it takes VA to adjudicate claims.

Section 508 clarifies that a power of attorney applies to a veterans service organization as a whole unless the veteran designates one person specifically.

Section 509 would allow the Board of Veterans' Appeals to provide a copy of a decision to a veteran or veterans' representative by any means where delivery would be at least as fast as it would be if mailed via the U.S. Postal Service.

Section 602 would authorize the American Battle Monuments Commission to accept private funds to help maintain those overseas war memorials that are transferred to their care.

I am very pleased with the program improvements we are able to offer today. During these fiscally conservative times, we must not forget our veterans and the sacrifices they made on our behalf. I thank the ranking member LANE EVANS, for his hard work on behalf of this impressive benefits package and urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Lastly, I would like to take this final opportunity of the 104th Congress to publicly commend Chairman BOB STUMP and ranking Member SONNY MONTGOMERY for providing the sound bipartisan leadership that is always evident on the VA Committee. The reputation the two of you have within the veterans' community is stellar and one I hope to live up to.

A TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT LEE AND TAIWAN

HON. DAVID FUNDERBURK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, President Lee Teng-hui of the Republic of China is a

modern day giant. He is the first popularly elected President in the history of the Republic of China and has introduced and implemented a number of political reforms in Taiwan.

In the area of his country's foreign relations, President Lee has developed official ties whenever possible, upgraded existing nonofficial relations, and sought to participate in major organizations. In the early 1990's, President Lee deputized his former Foreign Minister Fredrick Chien to devise a strategy known as pragmatic diplomacy, the exercise of which was so successful that it culminated in President Lee's visit to Cornell University in June 1995.

The People's Republic of China was so alarmed by President Lee's visit that it staged a series of missile tests around the island, the most serious being conducted right before Taiwan's Presidential elections in March 1996.

Pragmatic diplomacy paid off for President Lee Teng-hui. In a paper presented at the 14th International Conference on Asian Studies at St. John's University, NY, Professor Nathan Mao gave a detailed analysis of President Lee Teng-hui's visit to the United States and his Presidential diplomacy. I hereby submit the conclusion of Professor Mao's article in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for the future reference of students of Chinese history and politics.

In the ever changing post Cold War period, Taipei has been changing with the world. It has banished its old rigid inflexibility. Mainland China too must learn to bend, to change its old mindset about Taiwan being a province. Taiwan has never been under People's Republic of China's jurisdiction.

Lee Teng-hui's presidential diplomacy has proven successful beyond anyone's imagination. It has earned him a strong mandate from his people and firmed up his image as a strong leader, undaunted by China's threats. He enjoys firm United States support and even grudging respect from a few mainland Chinese leaders. His pragmatic diplomacy has brought Taiwan many visible and concrete rewards. But events are also rapidly changing in China. No one can give an accurate assessment about the power struggle in the Mainland. China shows evidence of instability. It has numerous corruption problems and there is a power struggle among the leadership. There are conflicts between the central and provincial governments and conflicts between rich and poor provinces. China has its own daunting problems.

Since pragmatic diplomacy has worked for Taiwan so far, there is no real reason to abandon or radically modify it. Using Foreign Minister John H. Chang's counsel, President Lee has gained sufficient wisdom to deal with Taiwan's untractable adversary: Jiang Zemin and company in Beijing.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
STEVEN GUNDERSON ON HIS RE-
TIREMENT

HON. G.V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 1996

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize one of my good friends, the Honorable STEVE GUNDERSON. His office is just down the hall from mine and we have often passed each other in the hallways on our way to the House floor for votes.

His time spent on the Agriculture Committee and as chairman for the Dairy and Poultry Subcommittee has not gone unnoticed. He is widely respected in the House for his stand on agriculture issues. He worked hard to see that the 1995 farm bill that passed this year would be beneficial to all, and over the years, I have come to depend on the advice of Representative GUNDERSON in these matters.

He has spent his 14 years in Washington trying to find a balance between cutting expenses and ensuring the future of our children. As a member of the Economic and Educational Opportunities Committee, he has been successful in seeing that our children receive an education that will help them throughout their life.

So, good luck in all your future endeavors. Washington and the House of Representatives will miss you.