EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DEMOCRATIC REFORM DEALT BLOW IN SLOVAKIA

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I recently had the opportunity to meet with the Speaker of the Slovak National Council, Ivan Gasparovic, during his visit to Washington in early June. In fact, this was my second meeting with the chairman of Slovakia's legislature, whom I had also met in late 1994. I welcomed this opportunity to renew my contact with this important leader and am grateful to Mr. HYDE, who organized this meeting.

Unfortunately, since my meeting with Speaker Gasparovic in 1994, some of the most significant accomplishments of the post-Communist and independent Slovak state have come under threat, as sadly illustrated by two recent events.

Last November, when Slovak legislator Frantisek Gaulieder renounced his membership in the Prime Minister's party, he was also stripped of his deputy's mandate on the basis of a letter of parliamentary resignation which he says he never penned. Not to put too fine a point on the message he was being sent, a bomb went off on Mr. Gaulieder's porch a few days later. Unfortunately, Mr. Gasparovic had no real response to the concerns I expressed regarding this matter except to say that Mr. Gaulieder's case is still pending before the Slovak Constitutional Court.

Although the Slovak Constitution Court has earned international respect as one of the leading post-Communist courts in Central Europe, it, too, is sadly under siege. On May 23, the Slovak Ministry of Interior flagrantly violated orders of the court by willfully manipulating the administration of a referendum on NATO and the direct election of the president. In particular, the Ministry of Interior blocked one of four referendum questions scheduled for presentation to the Slovak voters and, in so doing, provoked a boycott of the entire referendum.

The disrespect shown by the Ministry of Interior for the constitutional court is nothing less than shocking. More to the point, the government's disregard for the rule of law—coming on the heels of the extraordinary means by which Frantisek Gaulieder was stripped of his parliamentary mandate last November—suggests an escalation in the tactics of the ruling coalition. It was not surprising that Slovakia's own Foreign Minister resigned after this fiasco, stating that he was unable to perform his job under such circumstances. Certainly, Mr. Gasparovic's reassurance that the Gaulieder case is pending before the constitutional court—the very court his Ministry of Interior had just defied—does little to reassure me that democracy is being effectively safeguarded in Slovakia.

In light of my concerns, I welcomed the opportunity to discuss these matters with four other Slovak parliamentarians at the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Warsaw last week: Jan Cuper, Dusan Slobodnik, Jan Carnogursky, and Peter Magvasi. I was joined in that meeting by Representatives /SLAUGHTER, DANNER, and KING.

In that meeting, I reiterated my concern regarding the Gaulieder case and the Interior Ministry's disrespect for constitutional order. In addition, I flagged concern regarding the continued exclusion of opposition members from key oversight operations, such as the State board for radio and television, the parliamentary committee which deals with security, and the National Property Fund which oversees privatization. Finally, I expressed my concern that the Ministry of Education had issued a patently anti-Semitic textbook in April. While Prime Minister Meciar has just announced that the book would be withdrawn from school use, the Ministry of Education continues to defend this text, revealing a serious streak of anti-Semitism in the current ruling coalition.

Throughout all this, the Slovak Government has continued to assert that Slovakia is interested in joining NATO. But the Slovak Government has simply failed to implement the kind of human rights and democratization reforms that would make consideration of Slovakia for NATO accession realistic at this point. And as Slovakia's human rights record diminishes, so does its prospects for integration into trans-Atlantic institutions.

Mr. Slobodnik did his best to convince me that Slovakia's record is really no worse—and, indeed, he asserted, probably much better—than the records of many other post-Communist countries in Central Europe. But the facts speak more clearly than Mr. Slobodnik's words. In short, the process of democratic reform in Slovakia has simply failed to keep pace with the reform process in other post-Communist countries in the region. The Baltic States, which were brutally occupied by the Soviets for 50 years, have made peace with the Soviet-era immigrants to their countries and have shown their strong commitment to their international human rights obligations; Romania, which had one of the most repressive regimes of the Communist era, has elected a pro-reform government that emphasizes tolerance and reconciliation in its political platform; Bulgarian voters, too, recently signaled that their future lies in the west, and not in the east.

During my meeting in Warsaw, I suggested to my Slovak colleagues that our discussion should be viewed not as a confrontation among enemies—the way such discussions might have rightly been viewed during the cold war—but as a conversation among potential partners. I believe that bringing Slovakia into the NATO family will contribute not only to Slovakia's security, but to the security of the entire NATO community. Each time I hear that Slovakia remains interested in joining NATO, I am heartened. Ultimately, I believe that if the people of Slovakia want that goal, they will be able to implement the changes necessary to make it happen.

TRIBUTE TO AMANDA ELIZABETH GREEN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Amanda Elizabeth Green. Ms. Green is the recently elected Miss Tougaloo College for the 1997–98 school year. She is a junior with double majors in English and history with an emphasis in pre-law from Kokomo, MS.

Amanda is the daughter of Mr. Arthur Lee Green and Mrs. Debora P. Green. She is the youngest of two children. Her brother, Arthur Bernard Green, has had a tremendous impact on her life. She quotes the best advice given to her by him, "If you believe it, conceive it, then you will achieve it." While attending Tougaloo College, Amanda has participated in many student activities which include serving as president of the Tougaloo Modeling Squad, Miss Reuben V. Anderson Pre-Law Society, the NAACP, the National Political Congress of Black Women, the committee to re-elect Supreme Court Justice Fred Banks, and has served as an intern for the Mississippi State Supreme Court.

Amanda is currently the president of the Reuben V. Anderson Pre-Law Society, vice-president of the junior class, a member of the Student Activities Council, Tougaloo Ambassadors of Merit Scholars, a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and a resident assistant. Amanda is a strong believer that the children are our future. Following that belief, she serves as a tutor for an after-school program at Rowan Middle School in Jackson, MS and a mentor at the Kokomo Head Start Center in Kokomo, MS. Although she is involved in several extracurricular activities, Amanda still has time to excel as a Dean List scholar at Tougaloo. She is also a member of the New Damascus M.B. Church in Kokomo and plays an active role in the community. She believes that all of her strength comes from God and acknowledges that all the glory belongs to him.

After obtaining her two bachelor of arts degrees from Tougaloo, Amanda plans to further her education at a prestigious law school where she will receive both her masters of arts and doctoral degrees. Amanda plans to one day establish a college fund in her parents name for needy students diligently seeking an education, holding true to the African adage "It takes an entire village to raise a child."

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring Ms. Amanda Elizabeth Green, Miss Tougaloo College 1997–98 school year.

RECOGNIZING MURRYSVILLE CHRIST'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of 12 members of the Murrysville Christ's Lutheran Church. This week, a group of 10 youths and 2 adults will embark on a work trip from my place of residence, Murrysville, PA to Washington, DC. They will spend an entire week volunteering at homeless shelters, food kitchens, and assisting Habitat for Humanity with home construction in the Anacostia section of this city.

In his address to the attendees of this past spring's Presidential Summit for America's Future, President Clinton issued a call to action to all Americans "to serve our children, and to help teach them to serve—not as a substitute for government, but to meet our major challenges as one community, working together." The members of the Murrysville Christ's Lutheran Church have issued and answered that call.

While most young people their age are spending their summer at pools or camps, these young people have chosen to donate their time for the benefit of others. It is most admirable that Lauren Caywood, Mandi Falvo, Allison Long, Brandon Rioja, Michael Ross, Rachel Gray, Ken Nemit, Matt Barnwall, Kym Brown, Molly Endres, Mrs. Gretchen Endres, and Rev. Roger Steiner would take time to give back to those who are not as fortunate.

Once again, I urge my colleagues to rise and recognize the efforts of the Murrysville Christ's Lutheran Church. They are fine representatives of their church, their community, and the entire Fourth Congressional District.

THE DOUGLAS APPLEGATE U.S. POST OFFICE

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, last week I introduced legislation, H.R. 2129, to designate the U.S. Post Office in Steubenville, OH, as the "Douglas Applegate U.S. Post Office." I respectfully urge my colleagues to cosponsor this bill, which will pay a much-deserved tribute to a strong leader, a loyal friend, and a great man.

Doug Applegate was not only a colleague, but a great friend as well. He worked hard to make new Members feel comfortable and to help them acclimate themselves to the Capitol Hill environment. When I first came to Congress in 1985, Doug was always willing to give me advice and guidance. Over the years I had many opportunities to work with this fine man, and was always impressed by his integrity and his dedication to the causes in which he believed. He was a true leader in every sense of the word. He chose his battles and fought them to the end. While he could work to build a consensus, he was not afraid to stand alone. A moderate Democrat, he would support his party, but if his conscience pulled him in another direction he would not fail to follow it. Doug was an inspiration and an example to us all.

As many of you may remember, Doug was not one to grandstand or bring attention to himself. While many of his Democratic colleagues in the class of 1976 went on to become the big players in the congressional arena, Doug chose to work quietly, from the sidelines, for his constituents and for the issues that he felt were deserving of his attention. Without bringing large amounts of attention to himself, he affected important change. Instead, his quiet, but devoted adherence to key areas of interest won him the respect of his colleagues and the loyalty of Ohio's 18th Congressional District, who consistently voted him into office with well over 50 percent of the vote.

At the top of Doug's list of legislative priorities was protecting the benefits that go to our country's veterans. He believed that the great sacrifices of these brave men and women are worth compensation, and as chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Compensation, Pensions, and Insurance, he worked to increase, substantially, the benefits to the survivors of those that did not make it home. While he realized that no amount of money would ever make up for such a terrible loss, he also realized that such compensation can help to ease the suffering by making life a little less complicated for those who were left behind.

Witnessing firsthand devastating economic hardship in his district, Doug was also a great defender of American jobs. His House stationery was emblazoned with the slogan, "Buy American! Save American Jobs!," Doug fought tenaciously to protect our workers and our industry from unscrupulous corporate practices. He worked to expose a scheme concocted by American companies that cut labor costs by having United States flags made by a Taiwanese company and then labeling them "Made in America." In doing so, he demonstrated his own resolve and the determination of all Americans to promote our own jobs and industry. He wanted to ensure that when a label proclaimed "Made in the U.S.A." it was, in fact, "Made in the U.S.A.'

Doug was also a man who held firm to his beliefs. He would not play partisan politics if his conscience guided him in another direction. An opponent of abortion, he did not hesitate to part ways with the leadership and support a bill calling for parental notification. Never failing to stand up for what he believed in, he was the definition of a leader.

H.R. 2129 is but a small tribute for a man with as much integrity as Doug Applegate, who was as true a friend, and who fought for what he believed in the way Doug did. Again, I urge everyone who believes that great leaders should be memorialized, to cosponsor my bill to designate the U.S. Post Office in Steubenville, OH the "Douglas Applegate Post Office."

REAUTHORIZATION OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION ACT, H.R. 1818

SPEECH OF

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the re-authorization of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, which would extend through fiscal year 2002 a valuable program treating juveniles in our society who are delinquent.

The purposes of the Juvenile Justice and Prevention Act are clear: early intervention and prevention of delinquency for juveniles; as well as proper management of the juvenile once the child is in custody. We must not forget that these are children that we are dealing with. Youth that we must reach as soon as possible and we must protect to ensure we do not lose them in the system.

I am glad to see that this bill is not another get tough on kids' bill as we saw earlier this session. H.R. 3, the Juvenile Crime Control Act of 1997 provided no balance of prevention and accountability to reduce the number of violent youth. H.R. 3 was simply in response to public misperception that all juvenile crime is escalating out of control when in actuality this is not so. The level of juvenile crime, including violent crime has actually declined over the past 20 years with one exception: juvenile homicides committed with handguns. It is important to note that juvenile homicide represents only one tenth of 1 percent of all juvenile offenses. In determining how best to respond to juvenile crime, we cannot simply respond to a small percentage of juvenile crimes that make the headlines, we must continue to include a proper balance of prevention and accountability for all juveniles who are delinquent.

I am happy to see that the four core mandates of the JJDPA will be retained in this bill. I am particularly glad to see that this bill will continue to address sight and sound separation as well as prevention efforts to reduce the disproportionate number of minorities that come in contact with the juvenile justice system.

Once a juvenile has been determined delinquent, we must make sure that the juveniles' first contact with the justice system does not shatter these children. We must make an effort to ensure the majority of juveniles who come in contact with the justice system are properly handled. H.R. 1818 in retaining sight and sound separation, continues to do this while safely adding more flexibility for the States complying with this requirement.

In my home State of Hawaii, status offenders comprised one-third of all juveniles arrested in 1994. These children need our help and must be exposed to community-based programs where they can receive the assistance they require. They should not be treated as disobedient minors, many if not most of these status offenders are fleeing physical or sexual abuse. H.R. 1818 not only retains the core requirement of deinstitutionalization of

status offenders but continues funding for runaways and homeless under the newly created State block grants.

While Hawaii prides itself as a multicultural State, Samoans and Native Hawaiians continue to be overrepresented in our juvenile's system. Hawaiians and part-Hawaiians represent only 31 percent of the population across the State, while accounting for 35 percent of juvenile arrests and 53 percent of juveniles in the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility. By strengthening and clarifying the disproportionate minority confinement core requirement, states may continue to take the necessary steps to properly address this problem.

I am glad to see that H.R. 1818 continues to provide funding to the programs that have proven their effectiveness in reducing juvenile crime. Programs such as mentoring, truancy prevention, recreation, job training, and drug rehabilitation to name a few will be streamlined into one block grant.

Having said that, I must express some concern over the prevention block grant formula. While it will streamline the discretionary grants in the JJDPA, we also must make sure it received adequate funding. Historically, block grants end up receiving less money once consolidated than the original program before consolidation. These discretionary grants go to the people on the front lines of juvenile justice, working day to day and reaching out to these children who need their help. We must make sure they are not short-changed.

I am glad to see bipartisan agreement that we must pass a strong comprehensive bill that will ensure that we take a balanced approach to juvenile crime. The passage of H.R. 1818 will ensure we have proper prevention to augment the purely punitive legislation passed earlier this year.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2107

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I spoke yesterday in opposition to Representative ISTOOK's amendment to H.R. 2107, the appropriations bill for the Department of the Interior and related agencies. The amendment would have prohibited new lands from being placed into trust for American Indians unless the tribes entered into agreements concerning the collection of certain taxes with local and State governments. I was not able to give my entire statement in the time allotted, and had submitted my entire statement to be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. This was not done. The following is my entire statement as I intended it to be entered in the RECORD:

MR. CHAIRMAN. I rise in strong opposition to the Istook/Visclosky amendment which would prohibit the use of BIA funds to transfer any new land into trust unless a binding agreement is reached between Indian tribes, states, and local governments regarding state and local excise taxes on retail sales to non-Indians on new trust land.

There are many reasons to oppose this amendment. First, as a matter of procedure, this is more than a matter of setting a level of appropriations. This amendment sets legislative policy on a subject under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Resources.

The issue of whether any additional statutory conditions should be placed on transfers of land into trust for Indian tribes deserves public hearings and the deliberations of the committee of jurisdiction. The subject of this amendment has not been considered by the Committee of jurisdiction. By proceeding with an appropriations rider, we lose the value of public input to Congress available through committee hearings, and those of us who serve on authorization committees are again locked out of the full deliberative process.

Many of you have seen the conflicting statements of the many "Dear Colleague" and other letters which have been circulated over the past ten days. In many cases, these letters are in direct conflict with one another. This is happening because there have been no hearings through which facts can be sought and properly reported from the committee of jurisdiction to the House. Now I ask you, is this the best way to set the nation's policy? When voting on a subject of this significance, wouldn't you be more comfortable having the benefit of prior legislative deliberations?

Turning now to the merits of the legislation, I believe it is not controverted that current law and regulations mandate that the Secretary of the Interior provide notice to state and local governments prior to making a final determination on taking Indian land into trust status. Additionally, the Secretary must consider the impact on state and local governments of removal of the land from the tax rolls.

Furthermore, state and local governments who disagree with a decision of the Secretary can appeal adverse decisions within the Department of the Interior and in the federal courts. If the land proposed to be transferred into trust is not part of a current reservation and the proposal is for economic development, the transfer is subject to a higher standard of scrutiny. This is a sufficient regulatory scheme already in place to protect the rights of state and local governments, and it keeps the negotiations between the Indian tribes and the United States, which is consistent with our government to government relationship.

If this amendment were enacted into law, state and local governments would be given an absolute veto over all future transfers of land into trust status. This is a significant change in national policy, and as I noted earlier, this change would be made with our only deliberations being today's debate.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, as a matter of equity, I find it very disturbing that we are debating today, yet another attack on the American Indian. I fear that efforts like this are a renewal of the efforts of Congress' in prior decades when actions were taken to make sure our first Americans are never given the opportunity to achieve success.

There was a recent advertisement I heard that pretty well summed up our treatment of this country's Indians. It went something like this: two hundred years of exploitation and neglect, more than 700 broken treaties, $2 billion in tribal trust funds lost or mismanaged, $200 million in funding cuts last year, and now politicians want to levy new taxes against tribal governments. Haven't they paid enough?

The ad was a brutally-accurate summary of our past treatment of the American Indians. The question for today is, do we continue along that destructive line of reasoning, or do we provide today's tribes with the opportunity to determine their future through their own self-initiative.

Most Indian reservations contain lands which are inholdings, plots of land within the reservation which were sold out of trust decades ago pursuant to the 1887 General Allotment Act. In many instances these plots contain homes occupied by tribal members who have inherited them or acquired them but have not had them taken back into trust by the Secretary of the Interior. Many tribes are extremely poor and have been in the process of having these homesites taken back into trust for decades.

The tribes are not doing this to set up truck stops or tobacco shops or any other form of commercial operation. Usually the tribes are merely working to reacquire their lands and to insure that those lands and the Indians who live on them will be eligible to participate in the various Bureau of Indian Affairs programs which apply only to trust lands.

Tribes are doing this for reasonable, practical purposes. The Bureau of Indian Affairs operates road maintenance programs, environmental services programs, real estate services programs, water resources programs, and a large number of other programs which only apply to trust lands. Tribes want their members to participate in and benefit from these programs.

However, if the Istook amendment is adopted and the Secretary of the Interior is precluded from taking any of these former trust lands back into trust, we will eventually have a new second class of citizen in this Nation. If the Istook amendment is adopted we will have some Indians living the life of the poorest of the poor who don't even qualify for various Bureau of Indian Affairs programs. We will have Indians living on Indian reservation land which does not qualify for any Indian program.

This is absurd, Mr. Chairman.

The gentleman from Oklahoma is trying to prevent a handful of Indians from setting up businesses which do not collect State and local sales and excise taxes. He is trying to resolve a problem that exists in a very few instances in a few States.

The vast majority of lands taken into trust by the Secretary of the Interior have nothing whatsoever to do with diesel fuel or tobacco or tax advantages. Instead of solving a problem common to only a few individuals, this amendment would create a whole new level of second-class citizens. This amendment would create a class of Indian which lives on lands within a reservation but receives no Bureau of Indian Affairs services; a class of Indian which receives no State sewer, no State water, no State police protection, no State fire protection, on other State services except State tax collection services.

Mr. Speaker, few lands have ever been enacted which would do so much damage while solving so few problems.

The gentleman from Oklahoma apparently is trying to stop Indian Tribes from setting up businesses which do not collect State and local sales and excise taxes. He is trying to resolve a problem that exists in a very few instances in a few States.

However, this limitation on appropriated funds would impact all Indian tribes in all

States. The way I understand this amendment, not a single acre of land could be taken into trust, anywhere, for any reason. If that is not the first step toward ending any possibility of economic development for the poorest of this Nation's poor, I don't know what is.

In my opinion, this draconian limitation on appropriated funds is far worse than the problem.

I understand that a few Indian businesses are selling diesel fuel and tobacco and a few other types of merchandise without collecting State and local sales and excise taxes. I can appreciate how this gives a competitive advantage to a handful of Indian businesses. I will support a bill which will cure this problem to the satisfaction of all of the interested parties.

But, the vast preponderance of land being taken into trust by the Secretary of the Interior has nothing whatsoever to do with tax advantages. Most parcels of land being taken into trust are small tracts consisting of an acre or two which lie within an existing Indian reservation, non-trust land scattered like a checkerboard between trust lands. Economically fencing, accessing, monitoring, and developing these checker boarded lands is extremely expensive, almost impossible.

The Interior Department spends millions upon millions trying to block up these lands and put them into useful production. But because of the 1887 General Allotment Act which allowed Indian lands to be sold and thereby taken out of trust, the Department has to take these lands back into trust.

The effect of the Istook amendment would be catastrophic for any Indian tribe which is trying to have even the smallest plot of land taken back into trust.

This spending limitation is aimed at solving a commercial problem which many of the States have already solved. Even Oklahoma has worked out most of its problems with these tax havens owned by an Indian tribe.

However, this limitation on appropriated funds ignores all of these solutions. Instead, this language would completely eliminate the Secretary of the Interior's ability to take any land into trust, in any State.

Mr. Chairman, this amendment is not only unnecessary but also wrong. The Indians of this Nation suffer the highest unemployment anywhere. Health care, child care, economic opportunity, and just about any other social service available to the average American is barely available on a marginal basis to Native Americans.

What we do not need is this strangle hold on the Secretary of the Interior.

I urge my colleagues to oppose the Istook amendment.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK PARKER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Mr. Frank Parker who died on Thursday, July 10, 1997. He was born in Mount Pleasant, PA. He graduated from Oberlin College in 1962 and then spent 2 years at University College, Oxford University, England. In 1966, he received his juris doctorate degree from Harvard Law School.

After law school, he began his distinguished career in the Office of the General Counsel of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission. He wrote the commission's report, "Political Participation" in 1968.

Mr. Speaker, I first met this giant of a man in 1968 while he was a lawyer in the Mississippi office of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. He served courageously in the protection of civil rights of black Mississippians in this office for 13 years. Mr. Parker was a strong advocate for voting rights and worked vigorously for passage of the Motor Voter Act. His tireless fight for justice and equality is one of the defining principles of his life.

Mr. Parker was a MacArthur Foundation Distinguished Scholar at the Joint Center for Political Studies in Washington, DC, in 1985 and 1986 and spent the year doing research for "Black Votes Count." The book was honored by the American Political Science Association, the Mississippi Historical Society, and the Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Human Rights in the United States.

In 1992 and 1993, Mr. Parker returned to the Joint Center for Political Studies and did research for a book supporting affirmative action. Mr. Parker taught at the District of Columbia School of Law from 1992 to 1995. He taught law at American University for a year before leaving to take a position as a visiting professor of constitutional law at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, VA.

Mr. Parker leaves a proud legacy as a husband, father, brother, mentor, civil rights leader, community activist, and great American.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in saluting the late attorney Frank Parker for his outstanding contributions to this Nation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CHILD ABUSE NOTIFICATION ACT

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce the Child Abuse Notification Act of 1997. Children are solicited by pedophiles on the Internet everyday, and child pornography rings are doing a thriving business peddling their filth over the Internet. These actions are crimes. However, few perpetrators are apprehended because law enforcement can't effectively police the Internet, and Internet crimes are frequently not reported.

Federal law requires photo developers, doctors, teachers, and therapists to report incidents of suspected child abuse to law enforcement. However, Internet service providers [ISP's] are not currently held to that same standard. As a result, ISP's often respond to complaints of criminal activity against children by simply removing the offender from their system. Perpetrators are free to move to a new system or re-register under a new name. Either way, children are no safer.

That's why I hope you will join me as a cosponsor of the Child Abuse Notification Act. This bill would add Internet service providers to the categories of professionals who must report suspected child abuse to law enforcement. This simple and effective legislation will help make the Internet safer for our children.

I hope my colleagues will join me by cosponsoring this important legislation. We must not allow a small band of criminals take the opportunities provided by the Internet away from our children.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF SISTER FRANCINE NOLAN

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sister Francine Nolan on her retirement after 48 years of service to the Diocese of Pittsburgh and Greensburg, PA.

Sister Francine graduated from St. Xavier in 1948 and has been touching people's lives ever since. Having been raised in Pittsburgh's St. Paul Orphanage, Sister Francine devoted her life to giving back to the diocese and to teaching God's children. Since 1949, she has taught at various area schools.

Throughout her career Sister Francine has been recognized for her achievements. In 1975 Sister Francine was recognized as the National Teacher of the Year and in 1976 she was named the Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year. The people of western Pennsylvania are truly blessed to have had sister Francine as a part of their education community.

Sister Francine Nolan epitomizes the spirit of sharing and caring that makes our Nation great. Her legacy of teaching children will live on through those who have had the opportunity to work and learn with her. The French satirist Voltaire said that "We must cultivate our garden." Sister Francine, you have cultivated your garden and now it is time to sit back and enjoy the fruits of your labor.

So my fellow colleagues, it is with great pleasure that I urge you to join me in commending Sister Francine for her achievements. She has touched the lives of all who have known her and has demonstrated a commitment to service that the Diocese of Pittsburgh and Greensburg, as well as the entire fourth congressional district, can be proud of.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE VICTIMS OF THE "13TH OF MARCH" TUGBOAT MASSACRE

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, we recently marked the third anniversary of one of the many heinous crimes committed by the Castro regime against the enslaved people of Cuba.

It was on July 13, 1994, that a group of 72 Cuban refugees boarded the "13th of March"

tugboat in an effort to find freedom in the shores of the United States. But shortly thereafter their vessel was ambushed and savagely attacked by Cuban gunboats while still in Cuban waters.

Survivors tell the tale of how Cuban authorities mercilessly fired water cannons at the liberty seeking refugees, while at the same time ramming the tugboat in an effort to destroy it. Women and children screamed for pity—for mercy—but their cries for help went unanswered.

As the boat sank, refugees scrambled for their lives in the deep, warm ocean of the Caribbean, but it was all in vain for the Cuban gunboats circled the sinking ships creating a whirlpool that literally sucked the life of the refugees. Among the dead were 2-year-old Sixdy Rodriguez, 3-year-old Angel Rene Abreu, and dozens of other women and children. The death toll is estimated at 42, but we will never know the exact number.

This is the brutality that the Cuban people have faced daily for the past 38 years and it is why this Congress and this Government must continue to do all it can to help the Cuban people in their struggle to achieve freedom.

THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, July 16, 1997, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT

The key question in American democracy has always been the proper role of government: what it can do, what it should do. Some people believe that government should solve problems and protect people. Others think that government should stay out of people's lives. Still others believe it should help people equip themselves to solve their own problems.

President Reagan said that government is the problem. President Clinton has said that government is neither the problem nor the solution but the instrument by which we give each other the tools to make the most of our own lives. Throughout our history we've been trying to find the right balance between what the state does and what is best left to the individual or the private market.

Changing attitudes: There has been a major shift in attitude toward the role of government in recent decades. In the early 1960s many were brimming with optimism over the potential of federal programs to solve all kinds of problems: alleviating poverty, curbing racial discrimination, extending health insurance, and rebuilding America's cities. More recently the mood has shifted toward pessimism about what government can achieve that is worthwhile. Many believe that government creates more problems than it solves, and some people today loathe or even fear the government. As is often the case, the truth is probably somewhere between the gloom and the euphoria about government's role.

Skepticism toward government has always been a healthy strain in American thinking. The Constitution with its emphasis on measures to check official power reflects that view. But overall, most Americans probably recognize that government has several important roles.

Meeting important needs: One role of government is meeting important needs. Polls show that programs like Medicare and Social Security, which have greatly improved the lot of older Americans, remain very popular. There is also widespread support for a strong national defense, public education, law enforcement, environmental protection, and immigration control.

America is an individual-centered society, but when violence spreads and prisons explode with new inmates, when social divisions widen between society's have's and have not's, when the schools lag behind those in other countries, then part of the way to cope with these problems more effectively is to have government action.

Providing opportunity: Government also helps provide equality of opportunity. Over the years it has stepped in through civil rights laws, free public education, progressive taxation, and transfer programs to moderate some of the inequality in our market-based economy.

Most of us recognize that the notable achievements of our nation occur where individual talent and creativity blossom. Often that happens without government, but sometimes government is important in ensuring that individuals receive the opportunity and the backing they need to get ahead if they work hard.

Reflecting core values: Another role of government is to reflect important values. Government steps to prohibit child labor, preserve endangered species, or help keep older Americans out of poverty give expression to important social values.

Often people judge government policies less in economic terms than in moral terms of right and wrong. For example, they support Head Start, not because of its impact on the economy but simply because it is right to give a child a chance to get an education. They talk about protecting the environment as a way of preserving certain values for future generations, and urge campaign finance reform to remove corruption from the system.

Curbing excesses of market: Government is also needed to curb excesses of the market. Government doesn't replace the market but it can on occasion usefully complement it. The market clearly was not working well in the Great Depression, and the government stepped in to promote maximum employment and purchasing power.

We should rely on private sector markets but we should also be aware of market imperfections. Left to themselves markets can produce too little of some goods like scientific research and too much of other goods like pollution. They can leave behind large parts of society, particularly in the inner cities or in remote areas.

Limited, efficient government: Although government plays several important roles, most Americans also recognize its weaknesses. They clearly favor a limited, more efficient, less costly government.

Certainly there is a lot wrong with government. It can be wasteful, make mistakes, and be paralyzed by gridlock. It can fail to deal successfully with issues of great importance to the American people. Problems of cooperation can crop up repeatedly among the various levels of government. Yet we have a very difficult time shifting through the many activities of government and discarding programs that are no longer needed or are ineffective. Once established, government programs tend to keep going, protected by affected constituents, lobbies, and congressional committees. Many people will tell you that the functions of government must be kept to a bare minimum but then casually accept the benefits of many government programs, such as driving on a federally built highway. However difficult, we must continue our efforts to streamline government.

Conclusion: The character, initiative, and resourcefulness of the American people are still key to the nation's success. But so are various government activities like good education, basic research, and infrastructure. Good policy choices by the government, the skill with which legislation is crafted and implemented, and the effectiveness of government can make a big difference and can help restore confidence in our national institutions.

Government may be part of the problem for the United States, but it is also part of the solution. I don't see any way out of many of the difficulties that confront us without enlightened public policies. Whether we like it or not, government will play a significant role in our lives. We have to work harder at making that government work better and cost less.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF COMMISSIONER CHARLES H. "CHUCK" SHOUDY

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, the life and achievements of the Honorable Charles H. "Chuck" Shoudy, Commissioner of the Albany Department of Human Resources, were an inspiration to many. It is with great sadness that I inform the House that Chuck Shoudy died in a car accident on June 30, 1997. He was 50 years old.

With Chuck's death, the City of Albany, NY, lost a much loved and valued public servant—and I lost a good friend. His life was motivated by a tireless and creative commitment to helping economically disadvantaged individuals help themselves.

Chuck Shoudy was named director of the Albany County Neighborhood Youth Corps in July 1971—a program he helped to develop. In 1974, he was appointed director of the city of Albany's Department of Human Resources, holding such positions as deputy commissioner and executive deputy commissioner before becoming commissioner of the department in July 1990.

Born in Albany, he knew every nook and cranny of the city but, above all, he knew the people—the young and the elderly—and he was devoted to them. He reached out to the jobless and sought to help them by providing them with education, skills training, and jobs.

Chuck believed that everyone—given the opportunity—would choose to be a productive citizen. Over the years, he enabled tens of thousands of men and women to enter the workforce. At the time of his death, he was administering and coordinating 10 programs,

including On-the-Job Training, Albany Service Corps, Services for Dislocated Workers, an older worker program—Club 55, Training for Trades, and a youth internship program.

He was a devoted father to his children, Elizabeth and Daniel—and a devoted brother to his only sister, Linda C. Martin.

Chuck Shoudy made a difference, and he will be sorely missed.

SALUTE TO CORNELIUS "NEAL" GREEN, JR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Mr. Cornelius "Neal" Green, Jr. On April 21, 1997, Mr. Green departed this life at the age of 49 due to an extended illness.

He attended Jackson public schools and graduated from Jim Hill High School. After high school he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served 3 years of active duty and he remained active in the Army Reserve until January 1990. His last duty assignment was with the 185th Aviation Battalion where he was the communications section leader and attained the rank of sergeant first class.

After his 3 years of active duty, he returned to Jackson and enrolled in Jackson State University where he received a bachelor of arts in political science and masters of science in counseling. Cornelius was an active member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. Cornelius began a career with the Travelers Insurance Co. as a financial services sales representative and continued his career as a marketing associate, agency supervisor, production supervisor and senior account analyst. He had an outstanding career and received many awards for his job.

Mr. Green's memory will be forever cherished by his devoted and loving wife of 24 years, Tomie Zean Turner Green; two children: Nikisha and Synarus, and a host of relatives. Mr. Speaker will you join me today in honoring late Mr. Cornelius "Neal" Green, Jr.

THE INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1997

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, last week I introduced the International Arbitration Enforcement Act of 1997, H.R. 2141, a bill designed to protect the investments of U.S. citizens overseas. It will provide a civil remedy in U.S. courts for damages suffered from a violation of the New York Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards by a foreign state.

The New York Convention is a multilateral international treaty drafted in New York in 1958. The United States joined the convention in 1970. Binding arbitration clauses are frequently used in international business contracts, providing a prompt and relatively inexpensive dispute resolution mechanism. Signatories to the convention commit themselves to enforcing awards of foreign arbitration panels in their domestic courts. Failure to enforce an award, unless based on one of the limited defenses specified in the convention, in my opinion, raises an obligation on the part of the offending signatory to satisfy the debt at issue.

Arbitration clauses such as those governed by the convention are especially important in countries that do not have a tradition of adhering to the rule of law as we know it. There, if a conflict arises triggering arbitration, a neutral third-country forum enables resolution of the dispute free from the biases of local courts and the vagaries of an unresponsive judiciary. The usefulness of this mechanism depends, however, on the commitment of signatories to the convention to provide a process through their courts when the prevailing party returns to enforce and collect. When a signatory fails to provide such a process or otherwise impairs the ability of parties to collect on foreign awards, U.S. citizens often find themselves without any remedy notwithstanding an award in hand obtained through process measure of protection to U.S. citizens against economic injury resulting from violations of the New York Convention by foreign states by creating a civil remedy against the foreign state in U.S. courts and providing for enforcement of any resulting judgments against certain assets of the foreign state in the United States.

The case of the Ross Manufacturing Corp. of Florida illustrates the need for the remedy provided for in this bill. In July 1993, Revpower Limited, owned by Ross Manufacturing Corp.—f/k/a Ross Engineering Corp.—obtained a unanimous arbitral award in the amount of US$4.49 million against its Chinese State-owned trading partner, the Shanghai Far East Aero-Technology Import and Export Corp.—SFAIC. With interest the award now totals almost $9 million. Since that time, Revpower has been trying to enforce its award through the Chinese court system with essentially no success. Indeed it was only after enlisting the interest and support of the United States State and Commerce Departments and numerous Members in both Houses of Congress that the Chinese court even accepted Revpower's enforcement action for filing. A review of Revpower's 4-year effort to enforce its award makes it abundantly clear that the Chinese Government has, by failing to provide a viable enforcement mechanism in accord with its obligations under the New York Convention, effectively blocked and delayed Revpower's enforcement efforts and rendered its arbitral award worthless for all practical purposes.

By its actions in this dispute, China has signaled that it is no longer bound by the terms of the New York Convention and, consequently, Revpower and Ross Manufacturing are without any remedy to redress their economic injuries. This bill would provide that remedy to Ross Manufacturing and all citizens and corporations of the United States who encounter foreign nations unwilling to live up to their obligations under the New York Convention.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill and, in so doing, underscore the importance of the rule of law and respect for international treaty obligations.

THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAWYER FARM IN ORANGE COUNTY, NY

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to call to the attention of our colleagues the 250 anniversary of the Sawyer Homestead and Farm, in Orange County, NY. It is my unique pleasure to rise before the House today and call upon my colleagues to join with me in congratulating the Sawyer family in maintaining a heritage which extends back so many generations.

It was on the fourteenth day of September, 1747, that an indenture was made, allowing Richard Sawyer to acquire the initial properties at Maple Avenue, on which the Sawyer Homestead and Farm rest to this very day. This homestead is one of the oldest in the state, still retained by the original family. This is made all the more unique due to the fact that it has never in its 250 year history gone out of the original surname.

Maintaining a homestead and the traditions that become attached to it, throughout the generations, through political upheavals and monumental changes in the world and in society should be admired by all. The value of the family, both present and past, is at the core of this establishment, and is an example to us all.

The descendants of Richard Sawyer are celebrating this anniversary on the weekend of August 2, 1997 at Sawyer Farm, where so many generations were born and raised. On this auspicious occasion, I would especially like to mention Ethel Sawyer Martin, who will reach the age of 99 on November 11, 1997, and is the oldest living Sawyer family member. My heartfelt congratulations go to her, and may she have many more happy years on the Sawyer Homestead and Farm.

Mr. Speaker, in joining the celebration on this important occasion, I invite our colleagues to join with me in extending greetings and congratulations, and the best of luck for the next 250 years.

TRIBUTE TO A FALLEN HERO

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Det. Paul Hale of the Raleigh Police Department who was killed in the line of duty last Friday. Detective Hale is survived by his wife, Connie, and their daughters, Jessica Anne, age 10, and Stephanie Lynn, age 7.

Mr. Speaker, I did not know Detective Hale personally, but I know well of his work and that of his brother police officers. Law enforcement officers in North Carolina serve day-in

and day-out on the frontlines in the battle to secure safe streets and communities. As this tragic event illustrates, too often this battle is waged against long odds.

Paul Hale excelled at his dangerous, often thankless, job. His 7 years of exemplary service won him a promotion just last week to the esteemed rank of police detective. Recognized for his skills in pursuing lawbreakers, Detective Hale was hot on the trail of a murder suspect when a 9-millimeter bullet to the head snuffed out his young life. The perpetrator of this terrible crime is reported to be a teenager with a history of criminal activity.

Mr. Speaker, the tide of youth violence is rising at a rapid rate. I have spent several days in recent months on patrol with North Carolina's men and women of law enforcement as they endeavor to thwart this growing threat. Although statistics tell us overall violent crime is down some 5 percent nationwide, youth violence has risen by 6 percent in my home State.

We must adopt a tough and smart new approach to stem this rising tide of youth violence. Law enforcement is struggling hard to do the job, but they cannot do it alone. They need and deserve our help and support.

Mr. Speaker, last week, Paul Hale made the ultimate sacrifice to serve and protect the people of North Carolina. I call on this Congress to take aggressive action to crack down on violent criminals and demonstrate that this North Carolina hero did not die in vain.

CHANGE IN CHINA WILL COME THROUGH ENGAGEMENT

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this body has once again completed its annual debate over retention of MFN, or normal trade status, to China. While the actual fate of MFN was never truly in doubt, during the week or two before the debate, that debate was marked by a wide array of accusations and charges. In the aftermath of this debate, it is understandable that there is some confusion as to the precise nature of our vital interests in China, and how best to pursue those interests.

This Member believes that linkage of trade to human rights does not advance United States vital interests, nor does it promote democracy in China. As an excellent editorial in the Lincoln Journal Star recently noted, "there is a fine line between making our views known to China and trying to, or even thinking we can, impose our will. * * * While we should continue to speak up for the rights of other peoples, including those in Hong Kong, we will have more influence if we simply maintain an open relationship with China in which there is a free flow of people and goods."

Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues the July 2, 1997 editorial entitled "Best way to influence China through open relations, trade" in the Lincoln Journal Star and asks that it be submitted as part of the RECORD.

[From the Lincoln Journal Star, July 2, 1997]

BEST WAY TO INFLUENCE CHINA THROUGH OPEN RELATIONS, TRADE

The spectacle that unfolded in Hong Kong this week has provided a good opportunity for Americans to focus attention on China. The more we know about the world's most populous nation, the better we will understand it.

And that's imperative as China develops into a world-class economic power.

In the sweep of history, the return of Hong Kong from British to Chinese rule is a welcome event. Hong Kong belongs to China. It is Chinese. The passing of the racist-tinged relic of Western colonialism should be a cause for celebration, not mourning.

The legitimate concerns surrounding this week's historic transfer of power center on protection of Hong Kong's economic and political freedoms. While the former seem relatively secure, the latter may turn out to be not quite as broad as they once were, certainly not as unfettered as we would want them to be. We will have to wait and see.

While we can, and ought to, monitor events as they progress in Hong Kong, we should recognize that the economic forces already unleashed in China are likely to carry it along the path to broader personal freedom. And we need to understand that, try as we might, we cannot dictate the pace of change.

It is fair to expect China to abide by the agreement it negotiated with the British in which it promised to abide by a "one country, two systems" formula that guaranteed a level of autonomy for Hong Kong that would protect its market economy and democratic freedoms. China should be held accountable for keeping its word.

But there is a fine line between making our views known to China and trying to, or even thinking we can, impose our will. We need to be sensitive to such issues as sovereignty and national pride in making our case, and to China's long-held suspicion that we are embarked on a new form of colonial dominance called American hegemony.

It would be useful if we sometimes tried to step back and see ourselves from other people's eyes. China's leaders may ask how we would like it if they questioned our civil rights record, or the plight of our poor in the midst of vast wealth, in the court of world opinion.

While we should continue to speak up for the rights of other peoples, including those in Hong Kong, we will have more influence if we simply maintain an open relationship with China in which there is a free flow of people and goods.

In the long run, congressional approval of President Clinton's renewal of normal trading relationships with China will do more to positively influence the lives of Chinese citizens than any of our lectures.

It is difficult to keep societies open and regressive at the same time.

And economic freedom begets broader personal and political freedoms.

LET'S NOT REOPEN THE IMMIGRATION REFORM BILL

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I am outraged by the recent actions taken by Attorney General Janet Reno. Friday morning, I read that she unilaterally decided to suspend deportation proceedings for hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants. This decision to disregard the ruling by the Board of Immigration Appeals and attempt to overturn current law through administrative action is simply unacceptable.

Last year, we took strong and decisive action to curtail illegal immigration. Our immigration reform measure specifically raised the bar for those facing deportation because previous law enabled millions of illegal immigrants to remain in the United States permanently. It was an action taken to ensure that only those illegal immigrants who truly face an exceptional and extremely unusual hardship to an immediate relative remain in this country.

Now that we have shut the door on illegal immigration, the Clinton administration wants to reopen it. We have seen through the great failure of the Citizenship USA Program that this administration will do whatever it takes to allow illegal immigrants to remain in the United States. This most recent action is just another attempt at granting asylum for illegal immigrants. Illegal immigration is a growing problem and every illegal immigrant should be treated the same under current law.

Mr. Speaker, I have begun circling a letter to send to Attorney General Reno opposing her actions to suspend the deportation proceedings for illegal immigrants. The law is quite clear on this issue and everyone should be held to the standard that Congress set in last year's immigration reform bill. Illegal immigration is an enormous problem that affects every state in the nation. I encourage all of my colleagues to sign on to this important letter.

TRIBUTE TO BORINQUEN PLAZA SENIOR CENTER

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Borinquen Plaza Senior Center as it celebrates 20 years of existence. The organization is located in New York City in the community of Williamsburg, Brooklyn. Throughout the years, the Center has been a vital resource and has provided a safe haven for one of our communities most precious assets—our senior citizens.

The Borinquen Plaza Senior Center officially opened in 1977. However, before it was an established organization, it was first an idea born out of the hearts and minds of men and women of various cultures and nationalities. Through their tireless efforts and willingness to dream big, thus was born an organization whose ultimate mission is to care for the elders of our communities. Elders are the wise individuals who we also know as our parents and grandparents.

On any given day over 300 seniors pass through the doors of the Borinquen Plaza Senior Center, receiving services ranging from breakfast and lunch to assistance in obtaining entitlement benefits. An additional 200 homebound seniors receive meals delivered directly to their doorsteps as part of the Center's

Meals-on-Wheels Program. Furthermore, the Center is one of the few programs that opens its doors on Thanksgiving and Christmas day to provide meals to seniors.

As we move forward into the next century, I am confident that the Borinquen Plaza Senior Center will continue its outstanding work. The Center is a shining example of community service at its best and it will always have a friend and advocate in NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ.

In light of the above, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in Congress to join me in congratulating the Borinquen Plaza Senior Center on its 20th year anniversary.

SUPPORT THE LIBERTAD ENFORCEMENT ACT

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today the President served notice that he will waive key provisions of the LIBERTAD Act, otherwise known as Helms-Burton. This legislation had three significant provisions. First, it codified all existing Cuban embargo Executive orders and regulations. It denies admission to the United States to aliens involved in the confiscation of United States property or the trafficking of confiscated property in Cuba. Finally, title III of the act allows United States nationals to sue for money damages in U.S. Federal court those persons that traffic in United States property confiscated in Cuba when Castro took over. Essentially, Congress intended to let U.S. corporations and individuals who own property confiscated by Fidel Castro to recover the unjust enrichment from corporations of other countries who have been managing and making a profit on these properties. The President was given the authority to waive this last provision in exceptional circumstances if it would expedite the transition to democracy in Cuba and if it were in the national interest of the United States.

Unfortunately, the President has somehow come to the ridiculous conclusion that waiving the provision allowing suits to be filed has expedited the transition to democracy. As far as I can tell, there are absolutely no signs of democracy in Cuba. There is, in fact, no transition to expedite. Furthermore, U.S. nationals continue to suffer the loss of their property, now being used for profit by Castro and businesses of our trading allies. Apparently the President believes this is in our national interest—helping our European allies, Canada and Mexico profit at the expense of United States nationals. This is outrageous.

Mr. Speaker, as a result of this continued charade by the President, I am introducing legislation that will allow Helms-Burton to go into full effect despite the President's continued caving to pressure from our allies. Our colleagues, Mr. BURTON, Mr. GOSS, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mrs. ROS-LEHTINEN Mr. SOLOMON, Mr. LIVINGSTON, Mr. COX, and Mr. BALLENGER, are also joining in this effort. The bill is the LIBERTAD Enforcement Act, which would repeal the waiver authority granted to the President in the original Helms-Burton legislation. It is clear that the President has abused his authority, waiving critical provisions of Helms-Burton without making even a remotely convincing case that it is expediting democracy in Cuba or that it is in our national interest. Therefore, the authority should be repealed.

Let me explain why the repeal of the waiver authority is so important. Cuba has been under a dictatorship for about 38 years now. Castro's dictatorship makes a mockery of human rights and it is an absolute disgrace that we allow this to happen 90 miles from my home State of Florida. We need to end this situation, and we should have done so long ago. The biggest problem facing us is no mystery at all. It is our allies in Europe, Canada, and Mexico who sustain Castro's regime through continued economic activity. These accomplices have continued to argue that their involvement was used as leverage against Castro and his tyrannical regime to improve human rights and promote democracy in Cuba. To date, these efforts have had zero success. In fact, the economic relationships of their businesses have not only profited these foreign corporations at the expense of American owners of Cuba property, but also hurt efforts to end Castro's dictatorship. The continued flow of hard currency into the island has helped Castro maintain an otherwise difficult situation. The threat of Helms-Burton enforcement has at least forced some lip service from our allies about human rights and democracy in Cuba. Unfortunately, the President has received little more from them than that as he continues to bow to our allies' pressures to waive the right to file lawsuits against those who traffic in confiscated property.

It is these lawsuits that would curtail some, certainly not all, of the trade activity in Cuba. The cost and potential penalties involved in these suits would make dealing in stolen goods less appealing. It is this hit in the purse that will force our allies to confront the reality of abuses in Cuba. If their bottom line is affected, maybe then our allies would do the right thing in Cuba and end their trafficking in stolen property while working more effectively toward democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to stress that that is all we are talking about here. This is not whether people trade with Cuba. That is another topic for another day. This is only about dealing in stolen U.S. property—otherwise known as unjust enrichment. It is our obligation to ensure that property rights of U.S. citizens is protected. I realize that this is not a situation unique to Cuba. There are other countries around the world that share similar problems which also need to be addressed. We should work for a multilateral agreement recognizing unjust enrichment rights of owners of confiscated property. However, Cuba's natural relationship (geography, culture, etc.) to the United States is unique. Therefore, we must take unparalleled steps against this practice now. That is what Helms-Burton was all about.

Helms-Burton was designed to make tough action a reality. For whatever reason, the President has continued to kowtow to European pressure and eviscerate the legislation by waiving title III for patently phony reasons. This outrageous practice must stop. I urge my colleagues to support the LIBERTAD Enforcement Act.

A RECOGITION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE KARTAR SINGH DHALIWAL PROFESSORSHIP OF PUNJAB/INDIAN STUDIES

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the establishment of the Kartar Singh Dhaliwal Professorship of Punjab/Indian Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. This professorship, provided through a generous gift from Darshan Singh Dhaliwal to honor his father, will promote the study of the civilization of Punjab and India.

The professorship will focus on the study of the culture, religion, history, and civilization of this fascinating region. This professorship will allow American students to learn about an area that has existed since the beginning of civilization and whose constant development makes it one of the most exciting and innovative parts of the world. The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee will appoint a professor whose teaching will include Indian languages and courses in Sikh and Indian civilization. In addition, there will be collaborative research projects undertaken with universities in Punjab, an exchange of faculty and students with these universities and a biannual conference on Sikhs, Punjab, and its culture.

As the world we live in becomes more multicultural and our communities become truly international, the gift of this professionship will ensure that this generation and future generations will learn about and appreciate the rich history and culture of Punjab and India. Milwaukee, and indeed, all communities can only benefit from this endeavor. Therefore, I commend and congratulate Darshan Singh Dhaliwal and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee on the establishment of the Kartar Singh Dhaliwal Professorship.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill, H.R. 2107, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

STERLING FOREST

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Chairman, this is a proud day for the people of New Jersey and New York, and I want to thank Chairman REGULA for his diligence in seeing that the purchase of Sterling Forest becomes a reality.

The $8.5 million included in this legislation will ensure that northern New Jersey's drinking water will remain clean and safe.

For years, I have worked with Chairman REGULA to secure the appropriate funding levels for Sterling Forest. Last year the chairman was instrumental in seeing that language was included in the Interior appropriations bill which ranked Sterling Forest as one of the nation's top two priorities for land acquisition and he recommended that Sterling Forest receive $9 million as downpayment on the Federal Government's $17.5 million share of the purchase price.

Without this final $8.5 million Federal installment of funds, the entire $55 million project would be at risk. With the passage of this bill today, we are one step closer to celebrating the completion of this landmark project.

WALLKILL RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

I am also most grateful that the chairman included $1.3 million for the Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge. Wallkill is one of the most fertile valleys and natural wildlife areas in New Jersey. The environmental education opportunities provided at the Wallkill Refuge as well as the important resources protected there are certainly a worthwhile investment that will have lasting impacts for generations to come.

However, while I am grateful for the $1.3 included in this bill, I had requested $3 million for the project this year. That $3 million is needed this year to complete the acquisition of critical wildlife habitat lands along the river. I want to stress that these lands are currently available and ready for purchase from willing sellers. For this reason, I will continue to push for additional money to complete the acquisition.

Earlier this year, I joined several other members in sending a letter to Appropriations Committee Chairman LIVINGSTON urging him to increase the Interior Subcommittee's spending allocation for fiscal year 1998. After several years of continuous reductions for the subcommittee charged with ensuring adequate protection of our natural resources, I was pleased that our effort was successful and that the subcommittee was given an additional $500 million. In addition, I was pleased that the budget agreement included an additional $700 million for the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

I had hope that the committee would move to incorporate the additional $700 million in Land and Water Conservation funds provided for in the Balanced Budget Agreement so that it could be used for projects like Wallkill, Delaware Water Gap Recreation Area, and other worthy projects in New Jersey.

Unfortunately, the committee chose not to allocate that $700 million in their report. However, I will continue to push for allocation of that $700 million as this appropriation's bill continues through the process.

I am painfully aware of how difficult a job Chairman REGULA and others on the Appropriations Committee have in this time of tight budgets. Please know that I am most grateful for the moneys included in this bill for Sterling Forest and Wallkill, and appreciate your continued support of these important New Jersey projects.

TRIBUTE TO TAVELLI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an excellent program that takes place in one of the schools of the 4th Congressional District in beautiful Colorado. This is a program called Dream Team, which endeavored about 5 years ago, to give additional assistance to children who needed a little extra help in reading. Since then, it has expanded into a comprehensive mentoring program where the older children get together every morning and help the younger children, not only in reading, but in math, and computer skills. This program was designed at Travelli Elementary School in Fort Collins, CO. The sixth graders run the program with the help of Mr. Bill Patterson, a physical education teacher, who saw a need and decided to fill it. The program's success is due in large part to the extensive participation of the students enhancing their own learning and teaching themselves new skills.

The Dream Team program teaches young children crucial lessons in leadership and teamwork. Guest speakers come in each week to discuss different topics which give the students a glimpse at the working world. I would like to take this opportunity to read a letter by one of the students participating in the program which will best explain the opportunities presented by a program such as this.

MY EXCITING MOMENT BY AMBER GILMORE

My significant moment was when I was ten years old and in the fifth grade. I was attending Travelli Elementary School.

At Tavelli there was an organization involving several fifth and sixth graders coming to Tavelli an hour before school starts, and assisting children who are in the Chapter 1 program in grades first through fourth with their reading and their dreams. What we means by dreams is, if a student has a dream to meet a specific person, he or she might dictate a letter to one of the fifth and sixth graders, the fifth or sixth grader would modify what the little kid said. We would send the letter and if he or she had the time they would come in and read us a story. One time astronaut Marty Fetman came in and told us about his experiences in the space program.

One time Sarah Smith and I (we were the people in charge of Dream Team) wrote to Bea Romer, Governor Roy Romer's wife. Mrs. Romer is very involved with literacy. Well, after we wrote her she responded and said that she would like us to visit her at her mansion in Denver. The entire Dream Team got dressed up, got onto a bus and headed for the Governor's mansion. We met her, it was so cool! I even have a napkin to prove it. She read us a story, and then she shared some cookies with us. Then her assistant showed us around the mansion. Mrs. Romer requested media there, but they didn't show. After that we went to the capitol house, and met with our state representatives. I don't think that the little kids really understood the experience but I really enjoyed it.

Mr. Speaker, this is an excellent example of how we can utilize resources outside the normal bounds and really reach children. This program is run by volunteers and the students help to write grants to assist with the funding. Involving the children themselves, teaching them how to lead and use their own capabilities is the best way to insure a good future for American's youth. Thank you Mr. Speaker for allowing me to show this fine example of a program that really works.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, July 17, 1997, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 18

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
Business meeting, to mark up proposed legislation making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998.
SD–124

JULY 21

10:00 a.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings to review the FBI crime laboratory.
SD–226

2:30 p.m.
Governmental Affairs
International Security, Proliferation and Federal Services Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the Department of Defense compliance review process to determine whether theater missile defense and systems comply with treaty obligations.
SD–342

JULY 22

9:00 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to review the Department of the Interior's handling of the Ward Valley land conveyance, S. 964, proposed Ward Valley Land Transfer Act, and related matters.
SD–366

9:30 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine certain clean air issues with regard to agriculture.
SR–332

10:00 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings on the nomination of Stanley O. Roth, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs.
SD–419

Governmental Affairs
To resume hearings to examine certain matters with regard to the committee's special investigation on campaign financing.
SH–216

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine federal antitrust policy in the healthcare marketplace.
SD–226

Labor and Human Resources
To hold hearings to examine women's health issues.
SD–430

2:00 p.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings on pending judicial nominations.
SD–226

2:30 p.m.
Appropriations
Business meeting, to mark up proposed legislation making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies, and the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998.
Room to be announced

JULY 23

9:00 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings on the nominations of Catherine E. Woteki, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Food Safety, and Shirley Robinson Watkins, of Arkansas, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services.
SR–332

Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings on pending legislation.
SR–418

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine natural gas issues, focusing on the world energy supply and demand to the year 2015, the role of government in large scale gas projects in foreign countries, and emerging technologies in gas field development that are making natural gas more economical to market.
SD–366

Labor and Human Resources
Business meeting, to mark up S. 1020, proposed Arts and Humanities Amendments of 1997, proposed National Science Foundation Authorization of 1997, proposed Workforce Improvement Partnership Act, and to consider pending nominations.
SD–430

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
District of Columbia Subcommittee
To resume hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the government of the District of Columbia, focusing on the Departments of Health, Human Services, and Public Works.
SD–192

Governmental Affairs
To continue hearings to examine certain matters with regard to the committee's special investigation on campaign financing.
SH–216

Judiciary
To hold hearings on proposed legislation to authorize funds for the Office of National Drug Control Policy.
SD–226

2:00 p.m.
Judiciary
To resume hearings to review the FBI crime laboratory.
SD–226

JULY 24

10:00 a.m.
Governmental Affairs
To continue hearings to examine certain matters with regard to the committee's special investigation on campaign financing.
SH–216

Labor and Human Resources
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Higher Education Act, focusing on title IV.
SD–430

2:00 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee
To hold hearings to review the process by which the National Park Service determines the suitability and feasibility of new areas to be added to the National Park System, and to examine the criteria used to determine national significance.
SD–366

Judiciary
Antitrust, Business Rights, and Competition Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposals on defense consolidation and its antitrust implications.
SD–226

Labor and Human Resources
Public Health and Safety Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services.
SD–430

JULY 28

1:00 p.m.
Special on Aging
To hold hearings to examine the amount of fraud in the home health care system and ways to identify and deter fraud, waste and abuse in health care.
SD–562

2:00 p.m.
Judiciary
Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine gambling on the Internet.
SD–226

JULY 29

9:00 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine the effect of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act (P.L. 104-127) on price and income volatility, and the properrole of the Federal government to manage volatility and protect the integrity of agricultural markets.
SR–332

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings on S. 967, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act to benefit Alaska natives and rural residents, and S. 1015, to provide for the exchange of lands within Admiralty Island National Monument.
SD–366

10:00 a.m.
Governmental Affairs
To resume hearings to examine certain matters with regard to the committee's special investigation on campaign financing.
SH–216

2:30 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings on S. 268, to regulate flights over national parks.
SR–253

JULY 30

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
Business meeting, to mark up S. 569, to amend the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 to provide for retention by an Indian tribe of exclusive jurisdiction over child custody proceedings involing Indian children and other related requirements; to be followed by an oversight hearing on the Bureau of Indian Affairs Special Trustee's strategic plan to reform the management of Indian trust funds.
SD–106

10:00 a.m.
Governmental Affairs
To resume hearings to examine certain matters with regard to the committee's special investigation on campaign financing.
SH–216

2:00 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee
To hold hearings to review the management and operations of concession programs within the National Park System.
SD–366

JULY 31

9:00 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine how trade opportunities and international agricultural research can stimulate economic growth in Africa, thereby en-

hancing African food security and increasing U.S. exports.

SR-332

10:00 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

To continue hearings to examine certain matters with regard to the committee's special investigation on campaign financing.

SH-216