

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

UNCOMMON COURAGE—PROVEN
LEADERSHIP

HON. BOB LIVINGSTON

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, the stunning events of the war in the Persian Gulf had just begun to unfold as American combat crews faced the enemy of the decade.

It was late in the afternoon of January 27, 1991, only 10 days after the war between Iraq and the allied coalition forces began, when then Lt. Col. Jim Gibbons and Major John Fuller of the 192d Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, Nevada Air National Guard, were called upon to fly north to Kuwait. Their mission was to acquire detailed photographs of open oil manifolds which were draining crude oil into the Persian Gulf at the order of Saddam Hussein. Unarmed and equipped only with special cameras to provide highly detailed photographs of small ground targets, the two RF-4C aircraft took off from Sheik Isa Air Base, Bahrain, without fighter escorts. Relying only on their speed, skill and experience of the aircrew, the "Phantoms" had to enter the heavily defended enemy territory alone and unarmored.

The requested target was located in a 40-kilometer strip of the most heavily defended coastline adjacent to Kuwait City. Approaching the target area, Lt. Col. Gibbons, the flight leader, determined that due to the heavy smoke cover from burning oil wells and low clouds, the planned altitude for the photo run would not work.

Instead, the flight would have to approach the area much closer, parallel to the coast to obtain useable photographs of the target. This would bring the flight just below the clouds and smoke, but now well within the range of enemy and antiaircraft artillery and surface-to-air missile range.

As the RF-4's approached the target area, they were detected by enemy radar. Suddenly golf ball size tracer bullets began snaking their lethal paths toward the aircraft. In addition, the radar warning receiver in the cockpit alerted Lt. Col. Gibbons that two Iraqi surface-to-air missiles had been launched and were streaking toward his aircraft. The enemy antiaircraft shells and missiles would miss their mark, but not the cameras of the two RF-4's. The intense enemy fire and low visibility required Lt. Col. Gibbons to make a second target pass through the same heavily defended area to ensure that adequate coverage and clear photos were obtained. Because of his extraordinary valor and courage and in the face of overwhelming danger, Lt. Col. Gibbons action enabled allied fighter-bombers to attack and destroy the oil manifolds and stop the flow of oil in the Persian Gulf. As a result of his leadership, courage and heroic effort on this mis-

sion Lt. Col. Gibbons, Vice Commander, Nevada Air National Guard received one of our Nation's highest recognitions for bravery under fire—the Distinguished Flying Cross.

TRIBUTE TO MATTHEW CAPANO

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the selfless and steadfast dedication and outstanding public service of Matthew Capano, to the community of West Paterson, N.J. As Mayor of the Borough of West Paterson from 1994 to 1997, Matt has demonstrated time and again effective responsibility and leadership. Before becoming mayor, Matt served the people of West Paterson as a member on the Borough Council, from 1987 to 1992.

Matt has made significant contributions, politically, to West Paterson through his involvement as a member of the West Paterson Democratic Club, of which he at one time served as the club president.

Matt's involvement both politically and civically, has instilled pride amongst the people of West Paterson. There is a renewed sense of commitment to making the Borough an even greater community for its present and future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Matt's wife, Donna, and their family, as well as the people of West Paterson, in recognizing the outstanding achievements and commitment to public service of Matthew Capano.

A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
FRANK M. TEJEDA

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to our colleague and dear friend, Frank Tejada. Because of an illness I was unable to cast a vote on the legislation in Frank's honor, but I support it wholeheartedly. Frank represented the best and the brightest that America offers. He was a man who never ceased to find ways to serve his country, many times at the risk of his own life. Whether on the battlefields of Vietnam, where he earned a Purple Heart and Bronze Star for valor, in this body, where he earned the respect of his colleagues, or on the streets of his home town of San Antonio, where he earned the love of his neighbors, Frank gave everything he had every day.

Frank never stopped fighting. Just weeks ago, he vowed to fight the illness that eventually claimed him. We all believed him when he said he'd be back here with us. Frank was a man of honor and integrity. So we believed everything he said. Sadly for us, his last promise was the only one he could not keep.

Frank stood for many things. But most of all, he stood for excellence. He left school at 17 to fight with the Marines in Vietnam. He was fond of saying, "I was a grunt and proud of it. I wouldn't have it any other way." He carried that philosophy throughout his public career. He did whatever need doing in order to serve his constituents.

He matched his heroism on the battlefield scholarship at some of this country's most prestigious universities, earning advanced degrees from the University of California, Berkeley, Harvard, and Yale. But most importantly, he never forgot the people of his beloved San Antonio. And they never forgot him. Over and over again, they called upon him to serve in ever higher office. For 10 years, he represented his neighbors in the Texas House. He served in the Texas Senate for 6 years, until his constituents honored us by sending Frank to serve in this body.

Mr. Speaker, let us honor the memory of Frank Tejada by renewing our commitment to serving the American people. His spirit will be here with us always. We should respect that spirit by following his example.

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is truly amazing how many of the problems our country is contending with on a daily basis can be traced directly to the disintegration of traditional family values. Rising juvenile crime rates, an alarming rise in teen drug usage, and the large numbers of people on the welfare rolls are but a few of the symptoms of a society that has ceased to elevate to a place of importance the traditional family structure. In fact, the problem has become so bad that just last year, we in Congress were forced to pass a law affirming a basic principle of society that has never before been called into question: marriage means the union between one man and one woman.

I applaud World Marriage Day, observed February 9th, as a celebration of the traditional family values that have made our country the greatest Nation on the face of the earth. The celebration of love and mutual commitment between a man and a woman is a welcome sign in a world where traditional concepts society are being challenged on a daily basis by all types of extremists. I pledge

● 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.

to continue my efforts to preserve and protect the institution of marriage, and I thank World-wide Marriage Encounter for all its hard work to preserve an institution that is the bedrock of our society, and for reminding all of us that some things are far too important to take for granted.

RECOGNIZING THE NETDAY
PROJECT

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievement of the NetDay project in its efforts to connect schools and libraries across the country to the Internet.

My 7-year-old daughter's computer skills put mine to shame, and I think that's great. We all need to commit to preparing our kids for the technological requirements of the future. It is so important that all our kids, regardless of their backgrounds and resources, are provided with the kind of computer training that will allow them to compete in today's global economy.

NetDay has emerged as a direct result of the universal access intent of the Telecommunications Reform Act of 1996 and has been made possible through the efforts of thousands of volunteers in business, education, and neighborhood communities. I urge my colleagues to join the celebration of the spirit of volunteerism that has allowed NetDay to be the huge success it is.

ENDANGERED PLANT
PRESERVATION

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I recently introduced a bill, H.R. 570, seeking \$1.5 million for a genetic plant conservation project that would collect and preserve genetic material from the Nation's endangered plants. A total of 513 U.S. plants are listed as endangered and 101 as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Precious species such as the eastern prairie fringed orchid in northeastern Illinois, the just-listed Stebbins' morning glory native to the central Sierra Nevada in California, and many other declining plant species have been listed under the Endangered Species Act [ESA] and recovery actions have shown success. However, a lack of sufficient resources for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [FWS] and inadequate ESA funding make it difficult to ensure that all of these species will be saved from extinction.

A crucial part of the solution to save our endangered species is this genetic plant conservation project, which will save and catalog genetic material for later propagation. As genetic technology develops, we would have

saved essential materials necessary to restore plant populations, preventing extinction.

My bill requests \$1.5 million for activities such as rare plant monitoring and sampling, seed bank upgrade and curation, curation and propagation of endangered plant collections, expanded greenhouse capacity, nursery construction, cryogenic storage research and development, and in-vitro storage expansion.

In my State, this project could help combat Hawaii's endangered species crisis by collecting genetic material from native plants—275 plants native to Hawaii which are already listed under the ESA as endangered or threatened. This represents a startling 45 percent of the total number of U.S. plants listed. About 75 percent of plant and bird extinctions in the United States have been Hawaiian species, despite that fact that the Hawaiian Islands make up less than 0.2 percent of the country's total landmass.

A recent study in the journal *Science* highlighted the serious extent of Hawaii's endangered species crisis by naming Hawaii as one of four hot spots in which the Nation's endangered species are concentrated. The other hot spots are Florida, southern Appalachia, and much of southern California.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support H.R. 570 and this forward-looking, necessary genetic plant conservation project, which will preserve plants that many of our ecosystems cannot afford to lose.

ROMA SPORTS CLUB MAN OF THE
YEAR

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like for you to join me in honoring Charlie Stillitano, of Westfield, NJ, as the Roma Sports Club "Man of the Year." Charlie has proven to be a leader in the soccer community of New Jersey for the last two decades, eventually becoming vice-chairman of the U.S. Soccer Federation Foundation, a position which he currently holds.

Charlie's commitment to soccer began when, as an undergraduate student at Princeton University from 1977 to 1981, he was a key player on the university's soccer team, becoming an All-America and All-Ivy League defender. In 1978, Charlie was a member of the United States under-19 team, and in 1981, played professionally for the New York United Soccer Club.

Graduating from Rutgers University law school in 1987, Charlie when on to become an attorney, first with the AT&T Credit Corp., and then with the law firm of Crummy, Del Deo, Dolan, and Griffinger and Vecchione. Although a successful attorney, Charlie never gave up on his commitment to soccer, becoming, in 1994, an integral part of the World Cup being hosted by the United States at Giant Stadium. It was Charlie who, in his capacity as venue executive director for New York/New Jersey and Giant Stadium, oversaw the \$1 million project that enabled the Bermuda grass field to be grown over the stadium's astro turf.

From the World Cup, Charlie has since gone on to become vice-president and general manager of the MetroStars. Seeking to give back to the community, Charlie has in recent years become a factor in the advancement of the sport of soccer in New Jersey on all levels. From his becoming first vice-president of the New Jersey State Soccer Association to his coaching of many teams within the New Jersey State system, Charlie has proven his commitment to the sport of soccer and the community at large.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Charlie's wife Cary, their daughter Isabella, and all of the soccer players, young and old, in New Jersey, in honoring a true pioneer in New Jersey soccer.

EQUAL STATUS FOR DS AGENTS

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to introduce today legislation in support of the agents of the Bureau of Diplomatic Security within the U.S. Department of State.

Despite performing traditional law enforcement activities and being placed in high-risk security situations on behalf of the United States at home and abroad, Diplomatic Security [DS] agents of the State Department are currently treated differently than all other Federal law enforcement agents in regard to their retirement annuity calculations. The security functions that DS agents carry out every day include protecting U.S. personnel and the security of vital U.S. information and installations both domestically and internationally. Their duties are critical to the viability of overseas operations of the United States and to the protection of thousands of U.S. citizens around the world.

Agents of the Bureau of Diplomatic Security are charged with the security of American diplomatic personnel overseas. These agents also protect Members of Congress and their staffs while on official business overseas. We have seen time and time again the threats that DS agents face protecting America's interests. In the last few years alone, Diplomatic Security agents have been placed in harm's way while on duty in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Burundi, Liberia, and Haiti. These dedicated security agents deserve to be fairly compensated.

In order to rectify this inequity I have introduced this bill that will classify DS agents as equivalent in status to Federal law enforcement personnel for the purpose of retirement annuity calculations. This measure will change the amount of Federal employee deductions and matching contributions of DS agents for retirement purposes. My bill will simply bring DS agents into accord with other Federal law enforcement agents whose retirement annuities are calculated at a rate of 7½ percent payroll deduction, the current rate for all other Federal employees is 7 percent; the rate for Members of Congress is 8 percent.

Under the bill, future agents of the Bureau of Diplomatic Security would be eligible to receive the law enforcement retirement annuity

calculation 6 months after the date of enactment of the legislation. Current DS agents would be required to make an election based on the calculation of the individual's annuity which is attributable to service preceding the effective date of the legislation. Consequently, current DS agents electing to be covered under the new annuity rate would have to make a special monetary contribution or have an actuarial reduction to compensate for the shortfall in employee contribution levels for service prior to the date of enactment.

U.S. AID Inspector General investigators and Capitol Police officers have both received this designation through congressional action in recent years. In recognition of the physical strain and mental stress caused by the performance of life-threatening work, designated Federal law enforcement personnel may retire with full benefits after 20 years, while paying slightly more out of each paycheck for these increased benefits. While DS agents may currently retire at age 50 with 20 years of service, their annuity calculation is based on the smaller level of contribution.

My bill helps correct a basic matter of fairness. Diplomatic Security agents perform the functions of law enforcement officers, and they should receive the benefits associated with those responsibilities.

TRIBUTE TO THE QUBA INSTITUTE

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Quba Institute, which has educated members of Philadelphia's Muslim community since 1968. The institute offers varied forums of Islamic studies, such as lectures, classes, workshops, reading groups, day school, and Qur'an school. Students at the Quba Institute are encouraged to strive for overall academic excellence in addition to pursuing traditional Islamic scholarship. In order to achieve the optimal balance, traditional religious studies are paired with modern techniques to achieve a well-balanced academic experience.

Mr. Speaker, in light of the Quba Institute's record of producing rigorous scholarship and building character among its students, I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring this fine school on this day.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1997

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I was very pleased to introduce on Tuesday, February 4, along with our distinguished colleagues JOHN DINGELL, JIM SAXTON, and JOHN TANNER, the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997.

This measure, which is the product of several years of careful deliberation, would be the first comprehensive refuge reform legislation since the enactment of the National Wildlife Refuge Administration Act of 1966. In fact, this is an improved version of the bill that the House of Representatives overwhelmingly adopted on April 24, 1996, by a vote of 287 to 138.

By way of background, it is important to note that the National Wildlife Refuge System is comprised of Federal lands that have been acquired for the conservation of fish and wildlife and offer recreational opportunities for millions of Americans. Totalling about 91.7 million acres, the System provides habitat for hundreds of species, including nearly 700 kinds of birds, 200 mammals, 250 reptiles and amphibians, and 200 kinds of fish. These refuge lands are not Federal parks, wilderness areas, or national marine sanctuaries. In fact, hunting and fishing occur on more than 95 percent of the total acreage of the System.

The first wildlife refuge was created at Pelican Island, FL, in 1903, by one of our Nation's most prominent sportsmen and conservationists, President Theodore Roosevelt. Today, the System has 511 refuges, which are located in all 50 States and 5 territories. These units range in size from the smallest of 1 acre at Mille Lacs National Wildlife Refuge in Minnesota to the largest of 19.3 million acres in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska. In the last decade, more than 80 refuges and approximately 4 million acres have been added to the System. Funding for refuge acquisitions comes from two primary sources: First, annual appropriations from the Land and Water Conservation Fund; and second, the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund, which is funded from duck stamps and refuge entrance fees. In fiscal year 1995, \$410.9 million was collected from our Nation's anglers and sport hunters.

While the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, authored by the distinguished gentleman from Michigan, JOHN DINGELL, has been a landmark law, there are many people who believe that this act is in need of modernization. For instance, there is no statutory list of purposes for the National Wildlife Refuge System, there is no statutory definition of what constitutes a compatible use of a refuge, refuges are not managed as a national system, fishing and hunting are arbitrarily prohibited on new refuge lands until governmental studies are completed, and there is no requirement to complete comprehensive conservation plans for any of the 511 refuges.

Under the terms of our new legislation, we have established for the first time a nationwide set of six purposes for our Refuge System. These purposes are: to establish a nationwide network of lands to conserve and manage fish, wildlife, and plants; to preserve, restore, and protect endangered and threatened species; to conserve and manage migratory birds, anadromous fish, and marine mammals; to allow compatible wildlife-dependent recreation, which has been defined as fishing, hunting, wildlife observation, and environmental education; and to fulfill international treaty obligations.

Second, we have defined the term "compatible use" by using the language the U.S.

Fish and Wildlife Service incorporated into their operating regulations years ago. While a refuge manager will retain the power to determine what is a "compatible use," this definition should provide the guidance needed to make the proper decision.

Third, wildlife-dependent recreation will be allowed to occur during the interim period after the land has been acquired, but before the implementation of a management plan, as long as the refuge manager determines that those activities are compatible.

The author of this "open until closed" provision is the Gentleman from New Jersey, Jim Saxton. It is an essential change because there are a growing number of Americans who are angry and frustrated over the Service's land acquisition process. These Americans have worked hard to protect certain lands, they have contributed millions of dollars to the purchase of refuge lands, and they have found, much to their dismay, that for no rational reason their favorite fishing spot is not off limits during open-ended periods of governmental studies.

Fourth, this legislation provides that fishing and hunting should be permitted unless a finding is made that these activities are inconsistent with public safety, the purposes of the specific unit, or are not based on sound fish and wildlife management.

Finally, the proposal requires the formulation of conservation plans for each of the 511 refuges within 15 years of the date of enactment. It is important for the public to know what kind of archeological, natural, or wildlife resources exist on these refuges, and the allowed public uses of these resources. This inventory has been a goal of the environmental community for many years.

While this is a brief overview of the provisions of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, there are a number of things that the legislation does not address. For instance, it:

does not permit or require hunting and fishing to occur on every wildlife refuge. These activities must be found "compatible" and must meet a three-part test. Fishing and hunting can only occur on refuges when consistent with sound fish and wildlife management practices, with the fundamental reasons the refuge was created, and with public safety;

does not affect Federal, State, or local water rights. This bill does not limit the ability of the Federal Government to secure water for a refuge;

does not facilitate nonwildlife-dependent uses such as grazing, farming, mining, oil and gas development, jet skiing, etc. As under current law, nonwildlife-dependent uses may continue to occur when compatible, and when the Fish and Wildlife Service lacks legal authority or sufficient ownership interest in the property to prevent them. But this bill does not mandate, enhance, or protect such uses;

does not increase or decrease the size of any of the 511 refuge units;

does not permit unapproved pesticides to be used by row farmers or anyone else in the Refuge System;

does not permit the commercialization of our Refuge System. To repeat, this bill makes only compatible wildlife-dependent recreational uses a purpose of the system. They are clearly defined as fishing, hunting, wildlife observation, and environmental education; and

does not limit the Fish and Wildlife Service's ability to acquire new refuge lands at existing refuges. In fiscal year 1998, the service will propose to spend millions of dollars to acquire additional new acreage for our Refuge System. Our bill will not delay, stop, or otherwise affect those acquisitions.

It is my hope that during the debate on this bill in the 105th Congress, we will witness an accurate portrayal of the true impact of the provisions of this proposal. It is time to stop the misrepresentation of this bill as an effort to require hunting on refuges and the commercialization of the System.

This legislation is supported by the American Archery Council, the American Sportfishing Association, B.A.S.S., Inc., the California Waterfowl Association, Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, Foundation for North American Wild Sheep, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, International Bowhunters Organization, Masters of Foxhounds Association of America, Mzuri Wildlife Foundation, National Rifle Association, National Wild Turkey Federation, New Jersey Federation of Sportsmen, North American Waterfowl Federation, Quail Unlimited, Ruffed Grouse Society, Safari Club International, Wildlife Forever, and the Wildlife Legislative Fund of America. It has also been endorsed by the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, which has a membership of more than 200 Members of this body.

Finally, this legislation is an improvement over the President's Executive Order of March 25, 1996. While the Executive order contains nonbinding "directives" to the Secretary of the Interior, our legislation statutorily establishes six purposes for the National Wildlife Refuge System. The Executive order is also deficient in that it does not stipulate that 511 individual refuge units should be managed as a national system or that conservation plans should be completed. Furthermore, like all Executive orders, it suffers from the inherent problem that unlike statutory law, it can be easily modified, replaced or ignored by future administrations.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation's Wildlife Refuge System must be managed more effectively in the future. This System needs to have a statutory list of purposes, uniform guidelines to determine what activities are permissible, comprehensive conservation plans, and the enthusiastic support of the American people who finance this System with their hard earned tax dollars.

These are the goals of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997. It is a sound piece of conservation legislation that reaffirms the legacy of President Theodore Roosevelt and the vision of the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966.

I would urge my colleagues to join with me, JOHN DINGELL, JIM SAXTON and JOHN TANNER in this important effort to improve our National Wildlife Refuge System. This legislation will ensure that this system is alive and well for all our constituents for many years to come. It is interesting to note that the year 1997 has been designated as the "Year of the National Wildlife Refuge System". It would, therefore, be fitting to enact the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act this year.

THE HIGHWAY RAIL GRADE CROSSING SAFETY FORMULA ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased to introduce the Highway Rail Grade Crossing Safety Formula Enhancement Act, which is designed to provide a more effective method of targeting available Federal funds to enhance safety at our Nation's most hazardous highway rail grade crossings. This bipartisan legislation, which is the companion bill to legislation sponsored by Senators Lugar and Coats, will provide a more effective method of targeting available Federal funds to enhance safety at our Nation's most dangerous highway rail crossings.

Specifically, this bill would improve the Federal funding formula to account for risk factors that identify which States have significant grade crossing safety problems. The factors considered in the bill include a State's share of the national total for public highway rail grade crossings, its number of crossings with passive warning devices, and its total number of accidents and fatalities caused by vehicle-train collisions at crossings.

The Rail-Highway Crossing Program, also known as section 130, currently provides States with crossing safety funds as part of a 10 percent set-aside in each State's Surface Transportation Program [STP] funds. The program's goal is to provide Federal funds for State efforts to reduce the incidence of accidents, injuries, and fatalities at public railroad crossings. The States use these funds to build underpasses and overpasses, install passive or active warning devices, and improve pavement surfaces and markings.

Several hundred people are killed, and thousands more injured, every year in the United States as a result of vehicle-train collisions at highway rail grade crossings. A significant number of these accidents occur in rail-intensive States, such as Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Kansas, and Texas. More than one quarter of the Nation's 168,000 public highway rail grade crossings are located in these five States. One third of deaths caused by vehicle-train collisions nationwide between 1993-95 occurred in these states.

With 6,587, my home State of Indiana ranks fifth in the Nation for the number of highway rail grade crossings, and Indiana is annually among the top five States nationwide in terms of accidents and fatalities caused by vehicle-train crashes. Just 2 weeks ago, a 15-year-old boy from Valparaiso, IN was struck by a train while traveling to school. Several years ago, my own mother, fortunately, survived a vehicle-train collision at a crossing where there were no warning devices. This legislation will help prevent senseless accidents like these.

Maximizing the return from Federal funds requires that they be targeted to areas with the greatest risk. In a 1995 report to Congress on the status of efforts to improve railroad crossing safety, the General Accounting Office [GAO] found anomalies among the States in terms of the funds they received in proportion

to three key factors: Accidents, fatalities, and total crossings.

With the legislation I am introducing today, we have a unique opportunity to maximize existing resources, improve safety at highway rail grade crossings, and save lives. The establishment of a new funding formula is an innovative step in that direction. By targeting funds to States on the basis of risk factors, we can put scarce resources to work and use a commonsense approach by allocating Federal dollars where the need is greatest. This legislation does not call for new Federal spending, but rather a more equitable and effective distribution of existing highway funds to states to enhance safety at dangerous highway rail grade crossings.

States that would benefit under the revised formula are: Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin.

Finally, I would point out that my bill addresses the grade crossing safety problems by refining a key provision of the existing Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act [ISTEA]. Using my proposal as a foundation, I will work with my colleagues to help assure that Congress passes highway reauthorization legislation that makes the best use of available Federal resources for rail crossing safety. In the 104th Congress, I introduced a similar measure, in conjunction with the entire Indiana delegation, which I testified in support of last July during Surface Transportation Subcommittee hearings regarding ISTEA policy. I believe that continued emphasis on finding new and better ways to target existing resources to enhance safety at highway rail grade crossings will contribute to the overall effort in Congress and in the States to prevent accidents and save lives.

THE FEDERAL OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION ACT

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing important legislation that I hope will further our efforts to preserve land and open space.

I believe that our current tax law discourages individuals from conserving land, and our estate tax structure sometimes provides the financial incentive to sell land for the purpose of development, rather than maintain or donate land for conservation purposes.

The legislation that I am introducing today, the Federal Open Space Acquisition and Preservation Act, will credit the value of land donated to a Federal agency, for conservation purposes only, against the estate taxes owed on the property. This will create an incentive, absent before, for heirs to donate undeveloped land to the Federal Government, rather than choose the route of selling to developers.

As many individuals who live in the north-eastern metropolitan areas know, the amount

of open space is dwindling each day. However, there is some beautiful undeveloped land that needs to be preserved as such. I believe that this legislation will provide the incentive to maintain those open spaces.

I urge my colleagues support for this legislation.

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL OF WEST
ORANGE 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the 40th anniversary of St. Joseph's School of West Orange, NJ. I am very proud to have a school of this caliber in my district, and I am thrilled to play a part in honoring this institution.

St. Joseph's Church was established in 1931, with its first pastor being Monsignor Thomas Glover. In 1955, due to the very popular and well-attended CCD and Catholic Youth Organization programs, the decision was made to construct a school. In the fall of 1956, St. Joseph's School opened with a nine-room building for eight grades and a Kindergarten. The initial enrollment of 165 students doubled by November 1959. St. Joseph's School became an important part of the community, with nearly 95 percent of the parents belonging to the parents-teacher guild. The school also did not believe in overloading classes just for the sake of having a large enrollment. In contrast to the other schools, St. Joseph's maintained a limited enrollment in order to facilitate the development of each individual student.

St. Joseph's has been blessed with tremendous leadership since its inception. The school's founder, Monsignor Glover led the congregation for 35 years until his death in 1966, upon which Monsignor Lang succeeded him, serving with distinction until 1976. Father McCloskey, who runs the school to this day, has additionally served this church and school admirably. He has weathered financial difficulties, dealt with staffing problems by recruiting the sisters of charity to perform teaching duties, and maintained unparalleled standards of excellence.

Throughout the years, the school developed a highly-respected sports program, with many of its students going on to become high-school stars. In 1981, the school's baseball program won the Essex County CYO championship. The school also developed other extra-curricular programs, such as the school choir which has since become a highly respected aspect of the school. When the Metropolitan Opera Company of New York appeared at Newark's Symphony Hall, members of the St. Joseph's school choir were given the honor of joining them.

In the 1990's, the school began renovations to accommodate the growing academic programs. Glover Hall was renovated to house the seventh and eighth grades, the library, and the computer room. A science and technology lab was completed in 1996.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, the students of St. Joseph's past,

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present, and future, in recognizing the accomplishments of this fine academic institution, and wishing them even greater success for the next 40 years.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE
CONGRESSMAN FRANK TEJEDA

SPEECH OF

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 1997

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, today the House mourns the loss of one of its most respected Members, Congressman Frank Tejada. Frank Tejada was a true hero—the son of immigrant parents who raised himself out of the southside of San Antonio to become a decorated veteran, a distinguished scholar, and an honored statesman.

During the Vietnam war, Frank Tejada volunteered to join the U.S. Marine Corps, where he earned the Silver Star for valor, and received the Purple Heart for wounds sustained in action. As a Marine Corp officer candidate, he demonstrated his extraordinary leadership and academic excellence. In fact, he still holds the highest academic average in Marine Corps history.

Frank went on to graduate St. Mary's University with a bachelor of arts in government, a juris doctorate from the University of California at Berkeley, a master of laws degree from Yale University, and a masters degree in public administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

In 1977, Frank was first elected to the Texas House of Representatives for 10 years. He then served 6 more years in the Texas Senate before being elected to represent Texas' 28th District in 1993.

Congressman Tejada never forgot where he came from or who he represented. As a member of the National Security Committee and the Committee on Veteran's Affairs, Frank fought vigorously for health care access for veterans and for a strong military. Whether it was getting the Environmental Protection Agency to clean up soil pollution at the San Antonio Alamodome or working with Federal officials when Wilson County residents were about to lose their homes in a Federal property sale, Frank was always willing to lend a helping hand.

Frank Tejada leaves behind three children, Marissa, Sonya, and Frank III. He was a good friend, a valued colleague, and a great American. Frank Tejada will be sorely missed.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ROCCO
AND NORMA FERRARO

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rocco and Norma Ferraro, of Lake Grove, Long Island, NY, a truly devoted couple who will be celebrating their 50th glo-

February 6, 1997

rious wedding anniversary this Saturday. This romance, grown out of a winter's blizzard, has now reached the half-century mark, so I rise to congratulate Rocco and Norma Ferraro in the celebration of this, their golden anniversary.

While a snowy blizzard raged outside, Rocco and Norma were married at St. Monica's Church in Jamaica, Queens, NY, on February 8, 1947. Over the past half-century, Rocco and Norma have rarely failed to demonstrate their true devotion and commitment to each other, to their family and community.

During their years of marriage, the hallmark of their lives has been a relationship based on faith in God, love of family and mutual respect for each other. Rocco and Norma have been blessed with two children, Vito and Donna, and are also the proud and devoted grandparents of four wonderful grandchildren, Christopher, Michael, Matthew, and Stephanie.

Rocco and Norma's enthusiasm, generosity, good humor, and fellowship have touched all that have come to know them. The Ferraros are longtime residents of Lake Grove, living in and contributing to the surrounding communities that I am privileged to represent in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, Rocco and Norma are two individuals who exemplify what is good and right about our Nation. Through their love of God, family, and this great Nation, they have shown the rest of us the true meaning of love. As we begin 1997, it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join with me in extending to Rocco and Norma Ferraro our warmest wishes for a wonderful 50th anniversary and fervent hope for health and happiness for many years to come. Congratulations.

TRIBUTE TO THE ASIA OBSERVER
ON ITS FIRST ANNIVERSARY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, the month of February 1997 marks the 1-year anniversary of the inaugural edition of The Asia Observer. In the 12 months since the launching of this weekly newspaper, the Asia Observer has provided timely and insightful coverage and analysis of the South Asia region, including India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Nepal. In addition to its coverage of overseas news, The Observer also provides information on domestic issues and trends affecting the immigrant community.

I value the information provided by The Observer, ranging from security issues, to trade and investment to cultural matters. The paper has proven itself to be a solid addition to the ever-growing ranks of what is often referred to as the ethnic media—a term I use with great reluctance because it does not do justice to the truly multicultural quality and international outlook of the excellent publications addressing issues confronting the Asian-American community. We live in an era when relations with Asia are assuming ever-greater importance in United States international concerns. Here at home, people who trace their ancestry to Asia constitute a growing force in our business, professional and cultural life. Yet, I regret

to see that there has recently been unfair scrutiny directed at Asian-Americans, while people of Asian descent continue to grapple with discrimination and mistreatment. Thus, while the Asia Observer is targeted primarily for a South Asian-American readership, I hope that the larger American community will make a better effort to understand this important part of the world—and to get to know the people of South-Asian descent who are making such a positive contribution to our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, as a nation of immigrants, we should value the contributions of people who come to America seeking a better life for themselves and their families, who come into our country legally, who work hard and play by the rules. As the founder and cochairman of the bipartisan Congressional Caucus on India and Indian-Americans, I believe we should devote more attention to improving and expanding relations between the world's two largest democracies, India and the United States, and redouble our efforts to represent the needs and concerns of the more than 1 million Americans of Indian descent.

Last year, when the Asia Observer published its first issue, I joined with other elected leaders—including Members of this Body—in extending my congratulations and well wishes. I am delighted to be doing the same on the newspaper's first anniversary. I wish to express my appreciation for Mr. Surinder Zutshi and his talented, hard-working staff, and urge them to keep up the good work. I look forward to reading the Asia Observer for many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS GILMARTIN

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Thomas Gilmartin, on the occasion of his retirement.

Tom Gilmartin served the town of Hamburg as superintendent for buildings and grounds from July 1974 until December 1996. As a former supervisor of the town of Hamburg, I witnessed first-hand Tom's intense work ethic, professionalism, and integrity.

Tom currently also serves as an usher at Saints Peter and Paul Church in Hamburg. A prominent Irish-American in western New York, Tom's community service includes work with the Knights of Columbus, the Irish-American Cultural Association, the Gaelic-American Athletic Association, and the Irish Parade Committee. In recognition of that dedicated service, volunteerism, and hard work, Tom will serve as the grand marshal of the 1998 St. Patrick's Day Parade in the city of Buffalo.

Mr. Speaker, today I would like to join with Tom's wife, Mary; his children, Katie, Tom, Tim, and Mary Alice; the town of Hamburg; and indeed, our entire western New York community to pay tribute to Mr. Thomas Gilmartin. With retirement comes many new opportunities. May he meet every opportunity with the same enthusiasm and vigor which he demonstrated throughout his brilliant career; and may those opportunities be as fruitful as those in his past.

Thank you, Tom, for your tireless effort and personal commitment to our Western New York community. As you enter retirement, I wish you nothing but the best.

AMBASSADOR SAMUEL G. WISE, JR.

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, today my colleague BEN CARDIN and I mourn the loss of a gentleman known to many of you in this House and in the international community. For almost 20 years, Sam Wise guided the work of the Helsinki Commission and advanced the cause of human rights around the world.

Ambassador Wise joined the Commission in 1977, the year following its creation, and served with distinction until his untimely death last month. We had the privilege of working with him for more than a decade, and can state without qualification that Sam Wise was the preeminent expert on the Helsinki process and an adept facilitator of its guiding principles. Ambassador Wise participated in every meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and its successor, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. His keen negotiating skills and calm demeanor earned him the respect and trust of the entire OSCE community and substantially enhanced the effectiveness of the Commission in the international arena. He was well known and liked in virtually every European capital.

Ambassador Wise brought to the Commission a wealth of experience from a distinguished career as a Foreign Service officer. During his years with the Commission, that experience and in-depth knowledge of the Helsinki process guided our work and advanced U.S. interests. His efforts helped to shape the policy and institutions which moved the process forward and demanded the world's attention to the plight of those struggling against tyranny and oppression. We believe the Helsinki process was a driving force in bringing an end to the cold war. Ambassador Wise's contribution to that effort is immeasurable.

Mr. Speaker, the death of Ambassador Sam Wise saddens us all and leaves a void in the OSCE and the international human rights community that cannot be filled. Know that you are in our thoughts and our prayers, and know that Sam's life of superb accomplishment and dedication to liberty and human dignity is a legacy that will inspire and guide generations to come.

RETIREMENT TRIBUTE TO FRANK A. ORECHIO

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like for you to join me in honoring Frank A. Orechio, of Nutley, NJ, who is retiring from his

position as director of Facilities Planning and Water Resources Development for the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission.

As a lifelong resident of Nutley, Frank has always been an active member of the community. As a teenager, Frank was involved in helping his neighbors become naturalized citizens and then registering them to vote. As a young activist, Frank rose rapidly through the ranks of the Essex County Republican Party, becoming chairman of the Essex County Young Republican Party and then eventually being elected chairman of the New Jersey's State Young Republicans in 1948.

In the late 1950's, Frank turned to newspaper publishing as a career, and purchased his hometown newspaper, the Nutley Sun. Eventually he acquired several other newspapers and these served as the nucleus for what has since become known as Orechio Communications Co. Although now a newspaper publisher, Frank never abandoned the political field, serving in the capacity as either campaign director or confidential aide to such prominent national figures as Nelson Rockefeller and Richard Nixon.

Eventually Frank's dual commitment to politics and community led him to be appointed as a commissioner to the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission in 1966. In his capacity as commissioner, in which he served 16 years, Frank was able to depoliticize the commission and provide leadership for the commission's operations at Wanaque.

After serving 11 years as project coordinator for Wanaque South, Frank was appointed director of facilities planning and water resources development in 1993, and served in this position until his retirement in January 1997. Upon his retirement, Frank can proudly claim accomplishment for the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission being recognized not only as the motivating force for water resource development in New Jersey, but also as an innovator when it comes to overcoming obstacles associated with similar large-scale public works projects throughout the Nation. Also, Frank deserves praise for the computerization of filtration plants, which although were built in the 1970's, are still hailed as the most modern and effective in the world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Frank's wife, Edith and the citizens of Nutley in recognizing the accomplishments of Frank A. Orechio and his dedication to the public.

DR. DORIS ALVAREZ: NATIONAL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Doris Alvarez, a distinguished leader from my hometown of San Diego, who has made a positive impact on thousands of young lives in our community. I am proud to congratulate Doris Alvarez, the principal of Hoover High School in San Diego, who today was named the National Principal of the Year by MetLife and the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the

largest school leadership organization in the Nation.

Like those before her who have received this high honor as the Nation's best principal, Doris Alvarez has worked tirelessly for the benefit of every student enrolled at her school. Ten years ago, Hoover High was best known for the crime-ridden neighborhood in which it was located and its excessive dropout rate of 13 percent.

Then Doris Alvarez took the helm. Today, Hoover graduates 98 percent of its students. Hoover's dropout rate of 2.3 percent is less than half of the average national dropout rate. Hoover has been transformed from a school where dropping out was the norm to a flourishing environment where half of its students go to college.

Doris Alvarez has produced these results in an environment where students are faced with a host of challenges. Most students at Hoover live in neighborhoods with high crime rates. Eighty-two percent of Hoover students are poor. Ninety-three percent are immigrants or minorities, who speak a total of 30 languages.

Doris Alvarez has been so successful with these students because of her own challenging background. She grew up poor in Albuquerque, NM, and San Diego as the child of Spanish-speaking parents who taught themselves English and left school after the 8th grade. She and her family were discriminated against at every turn—a fact that motivated Doris to succeed.

She has put her credo—"all kids need equal opportunity"—to practice at Hoover High School. With innovative alumni mentoring, student-teacher "academic families," and an on-site school clinic, Doris Alvarez has brought the community together in the interest of educating its young people.

Mr. Speaker, President Clinton this week called upon the American people to work together, to realize that every student deserves the opportunity to succeed, and to improve America's educational system for the benefit of all students. Doris Alvarez accomplishes this goal every day at Hoover High School. I am pleased to see both her goals realized and her efforts recognized with the National Principal of the Year award.

THE INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO END THE ABUSE OF THE FRANKING PRIVILEGE

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, last year I introduced H.R. 1137, a bill that ends the most pervasive abuse of the frank—sending out unsolicited, self-promotional mass mailings. My bill specifically targets this abuse. It would crack down on mass mailings harder than any other legislation currently under consideration. The current, increased interest in reforming the way campaigns are conducted only increases the relevance and importance of this bill.

Title 39 of the U.S. Code defines the types of mailings that are frankable. Included in this

definition are the "usual and customary" congressional newsletter, press release, or questionnaire. The legislation I am reintroducing would simply strike mailings of this type from the code, thereby disallowing future use of the frank for these purposes.

Other franking reform proposals have centered around dangerous numbers games that leave open the possibility of abuse. Rather than try to settle on some arbitrary formula, my legislation will get to the heart of the problem. Reducing the definition of mass from 500 to 100, or debating whether the franking allowance should be reduced by 50 percent or 33 percent misses the mark. The problem that needs to be addressed is use of the frank as a campaign tool whose real information purpose is to make constituents aware of how deserving we are of reelection.

I urge my colleagues to consider cosponsoring this important piece of legislation.

THE RIGHT TO LIFE ACT OF 1997

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on an issue that is of great concern to many Americans, abortion. Mr. Speaker, approximately 1.5 million innocent babies are intentionally killed every year because of abortion. This represents 4,000 times a day that an unborn child is taken from its mother's womb prematurely and denied the opportunity to live. Section 1 of the fourteenth amendment to our Constitution clearly states that no State shall "deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." I wholeheartedly believe that these constitutional rights should include our country's unborn children.

Mr. Speaker, in the landmark case of *Roe versus Wade*, the Supreme Court refused to determine when human life begins and therefore found nothing to indicate that the unborn are persons protected by the fourteenth amendment. In the decision, however, the Court did concede that, "If the suggestion of personhood is established, the appellants' case, of course, collapses, for the fetus' right to life would then be guaranteed specifically by the Amendment." Considering Congress has the constitutional authority to uphold the fourteenth amendment, coupled with the fact that the Court admitted that if personhood were to be established, the unborn would be protected, it can be determined that we have the authority to determine when life begins.

It is for this reason that today I am introducing the Right to Life Act of 1997. This legislation does what the Supreme Court refused to do and recognizes the personhood of the unborn for the purpose of enforcing four important provisions in the Constitution: First, the due process clause, section 1 of the fourteenth amendment, which prohibits States from depriving any person of life; second, section 5 of the fourteenth amendment, which gives Congress the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this

amendment; third, the due process clause of the fifth amendment, which concurrently prohibits the Federal Government from depriving any person of life; and fourth, article 1, section 8, which gives Congress the power to make laws necessary and proper to enforce all powers in the Constitution.

The Right to Life Act of 1997 will protect millions of future unborn children by prohibiting any State or Federal law that denies the personhood of the unborn, thereby effectively overturning *Roe versus Wade*. I urge my colleagues to join me in this very important endeavor.

H.R. 624, THE ARMORED CAR RECIPROCALITY AMENDMENTS OF 1997

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to reintroduce the armored car reciprocity amendments, legislation that I sponsored in the 104th Congress amending the Armored Car Industry Reciprocity Act of 1993 to better reflect Congress' original intent when it enacted that law.

Armored cars and their crews annually transport billions of dollars in currency, bonds, food stamps, and other negotiable documents. Even though most armored car shipments are local, many of the larger and more valuable shipments can include stops in anywhere from 5 to 10 States. Since the value of a typical armored car shipment in interstate commerce can range from \$100,000 to \$40 million, these vehicles are ripe targets for thieves and the lives of armored car crews are often placed in grave danger.

Recent crime statistics bear out this reality. According to the FBI's violent crime section, during fiscal year 1995 there were 68 robbery attempts against armored vehicles. This statistic, combined with the fact that several crew members have lost their lives in recent years defending their cargo and themselves, demonstrates the continuing need for these crew members to be armed.

Despite the fact that there is a demonstrated need for armored car crew members to be armed, in the past there was no uniform method of ensuring that armored car crews were licensed to carry their weapons in each State in which they operated. Often crew members would have to go through different licensing procedures for each State in which they operated, or worse, travel through the States without the proper licenses in the hopes that they wouldn't get caught.

In order to address this burden on interstate commerce, in 1993 the Congress enacted the Armored Car Industry Reciprocity Act. The purpose of the bill was simple: It permitted armored car crew members, when licensed to carry a weapon by a State that required criminal background checks and regular weapons training, to operate as an armored car crew member in any State, much like a driver's license works today. It did not allow anyone to carry a gun who was otherwise prohibited from doing so under existing Federal statutes.

It was a narrowly drafted statute with a narrow purpose: to allow armored car crews to operate easily in interstate commerce.

In the time since the act was implemented, a number of parties, primarily the States charged with enforcing the statute, have come forward and identified technical concerns with how the statute operates. Last year, the Commerce Committee, on which I sit, heard testimony from representatives of the armored car industry and the States about the necessity of these changes. As a result, the House passed my bill, H.R. 3431, with overwhelming bipartisan support. Unfortunately, due to the crush of last minute business, the Senate was unable to act on my legislation in the 104th Congress.

The armored car reciprocity amendments of 1997 make some simple and straightforward changes to the Armored Car Industry Reciprocity Act:

First, it grants reciprocity for both weapons licenses and any other permits or licenses required in a particular State so long as the crew member has met all of the requirements in the State in which he or she is primarily employed.

Second, it makes clear that it is the State which should conduct criminal background checks and permits the States to do so in whatever manner they deem appropriate; and,

Third, it eliminates the requirement in the original act that renewed permits be reissued annually, and instead conforms the statute to the vast majority of States which have 2-year renewal periods. The bill also provides a grandfather clause for the two States which have longer renewal periods, Alaska and Pennsylvania.

These changes represent a major step forward in achieving the objectives of the original act and differ only in technical respects from the bill that the House passed last session. Under the act as originally signed into law, only Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, North Carolina, and Virginia met the requirements for reciprocity. With the changes under this bill, 28 other States will qualify, truly easing the flow of these valuable goods in interstate commerce.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

INTRODUCTION OF MEDIGAP PORTABILITY REFORM LEGISLATION

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker. Over the course of the last 2 years, we have spent a great deal of time in Congress debating the future of Medicare. The debate between my colleagues from both sides of the aisle has been sharply partisan and at times bitter. It is my hope that we can move past the rhetoric and begin to work on legislation which will improve the health care coverage of seniors in our country. I am happy to say that the legislation we are introducing today accomplishes these goals.

I am proud to join Congresswoman JOHNSON and Senators CHAFFEE and ROCKEFELLER

in introducing this legislation. Our targeted Medigap bill will provide the same guarantees of portability and pre-existing condition protections to seniors enrolled in Medigap, achieved in the health insurance portability and accountability law. This very important legislation will improve the health care coverage of America's seniors. This legislation embodies a policy I have always supported to ensure that seniors can get continuous coverage for their Medigap policies. With this legislation, seniors will be able to explore options such as managed care, secure in the knowledge that they can return to Medicare as they know it. Seniors are now free to try new health managed care options without being permanently locked into potentially costly out-of-pocket expenses from which they were previously protected by their Medigap policies.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in passing this legislation and I commend Congresswoman JOHNSON and Senators CHAFFEE and ROCKEFELLER for their work on this issue.

"MARKET'S HELP U.S. SPACE COMPETITIVENESS"

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, January 6, the Orlando-based Florida Today newspaper printed an interesting article about the growing competition within the United States to launch commercial satellites into space. In particular, the article reports on the new Long Beach, CA-based Sea Launch Co.

This new Boeing-led consortium will transport rockets out to a floating launch platform in the Pacific southeast of Hawaii, where they can be launched more efficiently from the equator. Last year I attended the groundbreaking of Sea Launch's facilities in Long Beach along with several other colleagues, and can report that their initiative is most impressive.

But the focus of the article is on how the Sea Launch effort poses a competitive threat to the older Cape Canaveral Air Station, where the Air Force's 45th Space Wing operates the eastern range and several part-Government, part-commercial launch facilities. In particular, the question of why Boeing would create a project to launch satellites elsewhere than Florida—or the new California and planned Alaska commercial spaceports—is raised.

And the not-too-surprising answer comes from the House's own DAVE WELDON, the distinguished Representative of Florida's space coast region: Since many observers agree that Government-managed launches have too much redtape and extra expense, the Air Force needs to step back from the day-to-day operations. My colleague was exactly on point, and courageous for saying so, albeit politely.

Let me be more blunt. The fact is that we've been launching satellites on expendable rockets for nearly 40 years. The high costs of space lift today are a result of throwing away

the rocket as we launch it, and the huge bureaucracy we've put in place to run the launches.

We're already making significant investments in new technology with the NASA X-33 program to move toward fully reusable, single-stage-to-orbit rockets. But it's just as important that we bring the efficiencies of competitive free enterprise to bear on such well-understood activities as space launch. Which means we have to decrease the Government's involvement.

Besides, the Air Force should be investing its limited resources in applying technologies such as those resulting from X-33 and the prior DC-X program to realize new capabilities like military spaceplanes, which could revolutionize warfighting and force structure requirements.

In other words, if the Air Force can transfer the mundane function of space cargo transportation to the private sector, the Air Force can on space warfighting, becoming the "Space and Air Force" described in its new vision statement, Global Engagement.

In summary, I strongly support the gentleman from Florida, Mr. WELDON, in his statements, and commend the entire article to my colleagues.

[From Florida Today, Jan. 6, 1997]

SPACE COAST HAS NEW CHALLENGER AS LAUNCHES HEAD OUT TO SEA

(By Robyn Suriano)

CAPE CANAVERAL.—Far away, in the cold shipyards of Scotland and Norway, work is under way on a project that gives local space advocates the shivers.

The object of their worry is a floating launch platform longer than a football field that will be used to send rockets and their satellites into space from sea.

The Boeing Co.-led international venture, called the Sea Launch Co., is the first of its kind and more than a novel way to get payloads into orbit.

It could be a serious threat to Cape Canaveral Air Station, where U.S. companies are fighting to keep their share of the world's commercial launch business.

"What worries me is Boeing finding it more attractive to go through all the complexities of a sea launch operation as opposed to using the existing launch pads that we have here at Cape Canaveral," said Ed O'Connor, executive director of Florida Spaceport Authority, the Cocoa Beach-based organization trying to increase the state's commercial space business.

"There is a message in that, and that message concerns me more than anything."

The new company was formed in April 1995 when Boeing, the Russian space agency and private companies in Norway and the Ukraine joined hands.

Although military rockets have been launched from ships since the late 1940s, Sea Launch is the first attempt to move commercial space missions off land.

What makes the venture potentially attractive to companies—and such a threat to the Cape—is that it will be the only launch site to be directly on the equator.

That's critical because most communication satellites must be placed into equatorial orbits to do their jobs.

By launching from that spot, satellite manufacturers could get an added benefit not found at the Cape, where rockets take off 30 degrees north of the equator.

A trajectory from the Cape requires the rockets to use more fuel to get their payload

into the right orbit. Because they have to carry extra fuel to get in place, the rockets can't carry larger satellites.

Officials hope the sea launch plan will allow rockets to carry larger satellites into orbit at less cost, making more money for the companies involved.

"The shortest distance to that orbit (for communications satellites) is from the equator because it's straight up," Sea Launch President Ron Olson said. "Therefore, at that shortest distance you can put a bigger satellite into space."

If all goes according to plan, the first rocket should take off from the sea platform in June 1998 carrying a Hughes Communications satellite.

Another 14 launches—all using Ukrainian-made Zenit rockets—follow. Ten of those also will carry Hughes Communications satellites.

Sea Launch plans to run the operation from corporate offices in Long Beach, Calif.

From the California coast, the company's ship will set sail carrying the Zenit rockets in its hull while its upper decks serve as luxurious quarters for business executives.

The ship, currently under construction in Scotland, will need eight to 10 days to sail to a point southeast of Hawaii—smack on the equator.

There, it will meet a floating launch pad that has its own engines and can move under its own power. The mobile pad is a former oil drilling platform undergoing renovation at a Norwegian shipyard.

For the first few launches, the rockets will be transferred from the ship to the floating pad while the two are docked together in port, then set sail simultaneously for the equator.

But Sea Launch eventually wants to leave the launch pad at sea for several months, using the ship to carry satellite-laden rockets to the site, where they will be transferred to the platform by cranes.

The Zenit rockets then would be launched from the pad using an automated system that will reduce the number of people needed to get the rockets ready, said Olson.

"The infrastructure that's required for launching at sea is about half of what you see at the Cape," Olson said. "We just won't have a lot of people running around like they do at the base."

"So therefore, the operating costs are considerably less than what other people have to offer."

Olson declined to discuss Sea Launch prices, saying only the company follows trade agreements made by the U.S. government. In doing so, Sea Launch cannot cut its prices any more than 15 percent below launches by other U.S. companies from the Cape.

A Hughes official, Barry Fagan, said the Sea Launch concept is attractive for many reasons—including price—but mainly because the demand for launches is growing fast.

Seventeen Lockheed Martin Atlas and McDonnell Douglas Delta rockets were launched from the Cape in 1996, keeping Space Coast pads full for the year.

Fagan said the site simply can't support all the launches in upcoming years as more satellites are put into orbit to supply mobile phones, direct-to-home television and other communications services.

"The biggest (factor) is the overall need for more capacity," said Fagan, launch services acquisition manager for Hughes. "If you look at Atlas and Delta and the Cape in general, there's just more demand than they can satisfy."

However, with the advantages of Sea Launch also comes risks, including the company's use of an untested three-stage Zenit rocket.

Although a two-stage Zenit rocket has been used for years, the three-stage design that Boeing will use for Sea Launch never has flown. The new rocket will not have any test flights before its first liftoff.

Nonetheless, officials from Hughes and Sea Launch say the rocket is not that big a risk.

"There are no real stretches technologically," Fagan said. "We're talking about all proven pieces. The real challenge is just fitting all the pieces together and making sure the system works as a whole."

"It's one of the latest developed rockets available, and we think it's the best," Olson added.

Fagan and other Hughes officials are so confident Sea Launch will work that they are calling on U.S. companies to consider building their own mobile launch platform for equatorial liftoffs.

"It may be something that's too new and too different, but if Sea Launch proves the concept, and I think they will, then the government and U.S. space industry might want to take a look at this," Fagan said.

One Cape customer—McDonnell Douglas—already is considering taking its business south and launching its rockets from a site 5 degrees north of the equator run by the European Space Agency in South America.

Such a move would be devastating to the Brevard County economy, space officials say.

Each launch of a Delta and Atlas mission infuses about \$10 million into the local economy from salaries and money spent on services needed to get the rocket ready, according to Florida Spaceport Authority.

But rather than focusing on an elaborate sea operation, it may be more realistic for Space Coast officials to look for ways to make the Cape more attractive to commercial customers.

For example, the Air Force may need to step back from its day-to-day role in overseeing the Cape's launch pads, said U.S. Rep. Dave Weldon, R-Palm Bay.

The Air Force runs the Eastern Range, the tracking system that monitors all rocket and shuttle launches from the Cape. Some observers say the government-run launches are encumbered by too much red tape and extra expense.

While the military is taking steps to make the Cape more competitive, more must be done, Weldon said.

"We're probably going to have to pick up the pace in the next few years as the competition gets more intense," Weldon said. "Especially as it relates to updating the range and redefining Air Force involvement as the operations become increasingly commercial."

"We need to bring the Air Force more and more out of daily operations if we're going to bring down the costs."

No matter what happens at the Cape, however, Sea Launch officials say the Florida launch site is not going to be hurt by their mobile platform—at least not now.

"There's enough business for everyone, there's just not enough launchers right now to take care of it all," Olson said.

Said Fagan: "The good news is that there's room for everybody. If the Cape were to modernize and streamline, I think they're going to maintain a significant portion of the market."

Sea Launch Co. at a glance:
Companies: Joint venture between Boeing, Russian space agency, and private companies in Norway and the Ukraine.

Launch site: Floating launch pad longer than a football field that will be stationed along the equator near Hawaii.

Rockets: Ukrainian Zenit rockets will be used to launch satellites in orbit.

First launch: Scheduled for June 1998. Fourteen other launches also are booked.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TEAMWORK FOR EMPLOYEES AND MANAGERS (TEAM) ACT

HON. HARRIS W. FAWELL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. FAWELL. Mr. Speaker, today, I am joining with a bipartisan group of my colleagues to introduce the Teamwork for Employees and Managers [TEAM] Act. The legislation is designed to remove roadblocks in current law to workplace cooperation and increased employee involvement, while not undermining the ability of workers to choose union representation. My colleagues and I have come to the inescapable conclusion that today global competition demands that American workers and their employers work together. The Federal Government should not stand in the way of employees playing a meaningful role in addressing workplace issues. As we join to introduce the TEAM Act, it is our fervent hope that Members on both sides of the aisle will begin a dialog to develop a proposal that will provide the flexibility for employers and employees in nonunion workplaces to resolve workplace issues together, while continuing to protect and secure the rights of workers to choose union representation.

As the Congress considered the TEAM Act in the 104th Congress, it became clear to me that labor-management cooperation and employee involvement techniques are a means of structurally organizing a workplace that can empower employees with a broad sweep of decision-making authority both about production and worklife issues. I was struck by the testimony received by the Subcommittee on Employer-Employee Relations, which I chair, from employees of both Texas Instruments and FMC Corp. where they expressed how important employee involvement was to their job satisfaction. The clearest message I took from their testimony was that a return to the old way of doing business—in the words of one TI employee, a return to "just work, don't think"—was unfathomable. My concern is that our labor law has not evolved with the changes in the workplace and, unfortunately, it is presenting just such a roadblock to employee involvement.

As I look at the modern workplace, I see a system of labor law that recognizes two extreme versions of workplace organization. The first is the top-down management of yesterday—"just work, don't think"—where the employer holds all the cards and closely guards decision-making authority. We all recognize that in today's workplaces, where job responsibilities are overlapping and interconnecting, a continuation of this form of management will place U.S. business at a competitive disadvantage. The other form of workplace organization that our labor law contemplates is the

independently selected union as the exclusive bargaining representative of employees. My sense is that the TEAM Act deals with a hybrid form of workplace organization that may not have been considered when our labor law was written many decades ago. Employee involvement is bottom-up management which recognizes that the interests of labor and management are less often mutually exclusive than the reverse.

The TEAM Act attempts to clarify that employers and employees in nonunion workplaces may establish structures to address matters of mutual interest. I believe that the safe harbor created in the bill for employee involvement and cooperative labor-management efforts recognizes that these are forms of workplace organization that can serve as well both employers and employees, while specifically acknowledging that these structures should not, and cannot, interfere with the right of employees to select a representative of their own choosing who will serve as their exclusive bargaining representative.

Admittedly, in the last Congress, we were not successful in convincing the President that this was the case, and, unfortunately, to the detriment of both employees and employers, the bill was vetoed. Again, though, I reiterate our commitment to the enactment of legislation that will provide employees and employees in nonunion workplaces with the flexibility to resolve workplace issue together, while protecting the right of all workers to representation by a union should that be their choice. My colleagues and I will work with all Members who have an interest in achieving this goal.

I realize that it has become a cliché, but both managers and employees have convinced me that employee involvement is a win-win proposition. Investing employees with decision-making authority with regard to the most integral aspects of a plant's operations gives them ownership and a sense of control over their worklife. Employee involvement also drives management toward the recognition that is human resources are its most valuable asset as the input of employees with regard to the production process has positive impacts on the bottom line. The TEAM Act is good for workers, good for businesses, and good for the American economy. I urge your support.

HONORING JOHN J. BUCKLEY

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, thousands of residents of Lawrence, MA, will pay a final tribute to the man who was known there as "Mr. Mayor" until the day he died—Mayor John J. Buckley. John J. Buckley served as mayor for 22 years, spanning three decades from the 1950's to the 1980's. During that time, he won the respect and friendship of President John F. Kennedy and countless other public figures who came in contact with this man who called himself "a mayor for all the people."

When he first took office at age 35 in 1951, the city had just suffered the devastating ex-

odus south of the textile industry which resulted in the loss of thousands of jobs. He started Operation Bootstrap to revitalize the city at a time when Federal and State programs were unavailable. Thus began a 14-year term as mayor in which he brought 70 new businesses and 12,000 jobs into the city.

After a one-term hiatus, Mayor Buckley regained the office in 1971 to serve his eighth term. He urged the citizens of Lawrence, the "Immigrant City" to embrace the influx of Hispanic immigrants just as their parents and grandparents had been welcomed in the early part of the century. During his time in office, the city built a new post office, public library, police station and boys club. Mayor Buckley came roaring back in 1983 after two defeats for his 17th and final run for mayor. This last hurrah and victory capped off his 22-year career as chief executive of the city of Lawrence. But even during the periods when he was out of elected office, he devoted himself to the public through service organizations and appointed positions.

In later years it was not uncommon to see John Buckley strolling Lawrence's main street as citizen after citizen greeted him with "Good morning, Mr. Mayor." He loved the city of Lawrence and it indeed loved him. This weekend, I will join with my friends in Lawrence to pay a final tribute to John J. Buckley, who died last Monday at the age of eighty, leaving the city he loved with a legacy of accomplishments.

MUSIC TO LIVE BY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Frankie Yankovic, America's Polka King, the Elvis of ethnic musical expression, ambassador of the great American melting pot, prolific composer, band leader, performer, and Cleveland.

Frankie Yankovic was born to Slovene immigrants in 1915. In their hardscrabble working lives, music expressed their hope and joy. Frankie began by playing accompaniment to the boarders in his family home.

He was an obvious talent and was instantly loved by all who heard his music. At age 23, Frankie had his first band and his first hit album. He began a lifetime of touring. Frequently, he made 300 appearances per year. Over the years, his bands have played in every major concert hall in America.

Frankie Yankovic heralded many polka tunes known widely to American listeners. In 1948, Frankie recorded "Just Because" with Columbia records. The tune was a breakthrough release, attracting both a polka and popular music audience. "Just Because" sold 1 million copies. In 1949, Frankie released the "Blue Skirt Waltz," which attained the coveted gold status even more quickly.

Frankie was also a great mentor. He discovered and cultivated the talent of the famous virtuoso, Joey Miskulin.

Frankie received many honors in his lifetime. He was inducted into the International

Polka Association Polka Hall of Fame as well as the Cleveland Style Polka Hall of Fame. In 1986, Frankie received the first Grammy awarded for polka music.

Beyond being the consummate performer, Frankie was also a lifetime union member of Local 4, American Federation of Musicians, and a patriot. Married and the father of two, he nevertheless voluntarily enlisted in the U.S. infantry in World War II and fought at the Battle of the Bulge. There, under extreme weather conditions, Frankie contracted gangrene in his limbs. Against the advice of doctors, Frankie resisted amputation. With a great deal of courage and persistence, Frankie brought his fingers and hands back to life. How fortunate we all are.

I commend Frankie Yankovic for his skill, his energy, and his ability to make people happy through the sounds and rhythms of polka.

THE REHABILITATION HOSPITALS AND UNIT'S MEDICARE PAYMENT EQUITY ACT OF 1997—A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR A NEW PAYMENT SYSTEM FOR PPS EXEMPT REHABILITATION HOSPITALS AND UNITS—THE TIME IS NOW

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

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

TEFRA limits were to be a short term solution to reduce the rate of increase in hospital payments pending adoption of a PPS for rehabilitation hospitals and units. TEFRA limits are based on Medicare operating cost of a hospital or unit in an assigned base year divided by the number of Medicare discharges in that year. This value is updated annually by an update factor, which is intended to reflect inflation.

A hospital's or unit's ceiling on Medicare reimbursement is the TEFRA limit for a given year times the number of its Medicare discharges in that period—the TEFRA ceiling.

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

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

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

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

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

By treating all rehabilitation discharges as having the same financial value, the TEFRA system provides a strong incentive to admit and treat short-stay, less complex cases and to avoid long-stay, more disabled beneficiaries. This is faulty and misguided public policy;

Because any change in services that will increase average length of stay or intensity of services will likely result in cost over a TEFRA limit, the system inhibits the development of new programs. This is also faulty and misguided policy; and

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

The very strong incentive to develop new rehabilitation hospitals and units has resulted in an increase in the number of rehabilitation hospitals and units. PROPAC reports that in 1985, there were 545 such hospitals and units. In 1995, there were 1,019. Between 1990 and 1994 Medicare payments to such facilities increased from \$1.9 billion to \$3.7 billion. This increase in part reflects the fact that rehabilitation services were not widely available in 1983.

Consequently, many older facilities have had to live with very low limits of Medicare reimbursement and have been paid less than their costs of operation. To the contrary, many new facilities are being paid much higher cost reimbursement and bonuses as well. It is hard to imagine a worse system.

The clear solution to this situation is to introduce a prospective payment system for rehabilitation facilities under which providers are paid similar amounts for similar services and payments are scaled to the duration and inten-

sity of services required by patients. Such a system has been devised by a research team at the University of Pennsylvania. It is based on the functional abilities of patients receiving rehabilitation services. It is now being used by the RAND Corp., under contract with the Health Care Financing Administration, to design a payment system. This work is to be completed before April of this year.

My bill would require that a PPS for rehabilitation be implemented by the Secretary of HHS for Medicare cost reporting years beginning on and after October 1, 1998. This date would allow adequate time to adopt regulations and administrative procedures. And my bill requires that this payment system is budget neutral.

Enactment of this bill would have multiple benefits.

It would benefit patients by removing the implied financial penalty for treating severely disabled patients;

It would benefit providers of services by putting all rehabilitation facilities on a level playing field; and

It would benefit the Medicare Trust Fund by eliminating the enormous incentive in present law to duplicate service capacity.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this important legislation, and welcome cosponsorship of this measure. Any interested cosponsors should contact me or Carl Thorsen of my staff.

U.S. FOREIGN MILITARY SALES DURING FISCAL YEAR 1996

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 6, 1997

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to my colleagues' attention information submitted pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act with respect to U.S. foreign military sales during fiscal year 1996.

The first table details worldwide government-to-government foreign military sales [FMS] during fiscal year 1996 for defense articles and services and for construction sales. Total FMS sales for fiscal year 1996 were \$10.469 billion, an increase from \$9.054 billion in fiscal year 1995.

The second table details licenses/approvals for the export of commercially sold defense articles and services for fiscal year 1996. Licenses/approvals totaled \$14.558 billion in fiscal year 1996, a decrease from \$19.707 billion in fiscal year 1995.

The tables follow:

TOTAL VALUE OF DEFENSE ARTICLES AND SERVICES SOLD TO EACH COUNTRY/PURCHASER AS OF 30 SEP 96 UNDER FOREIGN MILITARY SALES (SEE PART II FOR CONSTRUCTION SALES)

[In thousands of dollars]¹

Countries	Accepted fiscal year 1996
Part I—Foreign Military Sales:	
Albania	3,417
Argentina	3,291
Australia	173,708
Austria	9,843

TOTAL VALUE OF DEFENSE ARTICLES AND SERVICES SOLD TO EACH COUNTRY/PURCHASER AS OF 30 SEP 96 UNDER FOREIGN MILITARY SALES (SEE PART II FOR CONSTRUCTION SALES)—Continued

[In thousands of dollars]¹

Countries	Accepted fiscal year 1996
Bahrain	98,059
Barbados	668
Belgium	57,490
Bolivia	378
Bolivia—Int'l NARC	5,274
Botswana	2,505
Brazil	49,429
Bulgaria	1
Cambodia	698
Cameroon	49
Canada	130,848
Chad	746
Chile	2,559
Colombia	8,920
Colombia—Int'l NARC	8,418
Costa Rica	117
Czech Republic	7,656
Denmark	139,289
Djibouti	190
Dominican Republic	441
Ecuador	405
Ecuador—Int'l NARC	415
Egypt	1,422,277
El Salvador	3,382
Eritrea	334
Estonia	531
Ethiopia	350
Finland	1,832
France	23,084
Germany	267,637
Ghana	368
Greece	205,722
Guinea-Bissau	307
Haiti	5,536
Honduras	5,515
Hungary	2,340
Iceland	12
Indonesia	27,698
Israel	883,284
Italy	78,318
Ivory Coast	6
Jamaica	870
Japan	525,623
Jordan	219,252
Kenya	4,588
Korea (Seoul)	998,875
Kuwait	239,084
Latvia	528
Lebanon	16,099
Lithuania	298
Luxembourg	3,223
Malawi	480
Malaysia	5,524
Mexico	4,837
Morocco	5,862
Nacisa	1,015
NAMSA—F104	2,800
NAMSA—General+Nike	8,290
NAMSA—Hawk	1,042
NAMSA—Weapons	5,942
NAPMO	144
NATO	2,339
NATO AEW+C (D+S)	18,342
NATO Headquarters	200
Netherlands	151,731
New Zealand	7,265
NHPLD	56
Norway	489,597
OAS HQ	561
Oman	2,555
Organization of African Unity	525
Panama	170
Peru	5
Poland	7,294
Portugal	4,007
Republic of Philippines	20,408
Romania	6,450
Rwanda	207
Saclant	173
Saudi Arabia	1,296,524
Senegal	395
Shape	13
Singapore	310,673
Slovakia	1,450
Slovenia	192
South Africa	1,639
Spain	119,932
Sri Lanka	112
St. Kitts and Nevis	80
Sweden	9,562
Switzerland	6,620
Taiwan	459,865
Thailand	508,272
Tonga	40
Trinidad-Tobago	347
Tunisia	6,743
Turkey	227,281
Uganda	154
United Arab Emirates	2,822

TOTAL VALUE OF DEFENSE ARTICLES AND SERVICES SOLD TO EACH COUNTRY/PURCHASER AS OF 30 SEP 96 UNDER FOREIGN MILITARY SALES (SEE PART II FOR CONSTRUCTION SALES)—Continued

(In thousands of dollars)¹

Countries	Accepted fiscal year 1996
United Kingdom	489,105
Urocha	1,358
Uruguay	1,375
Venezuela	23,501
Classified totals ²	528,713
Subtotal	10,386,379
Part II—Construction Sales:	
Bolivia—Intl NARC	388
Colombia	1,136
Colombia—Intl NARC	728
Ecuador—Intl NARC	752
Egypt	61,141
El Salvador	777
Honduras	2,263
Ivory Coast	194
Kenya	215
Morocco	1,359
Saudi Arabia	14,000
Singapore	65
Subtotal	83,018
Total	10,469,397

¹ Totals may not add due to rounding.
² See the Classified Annex to the CPD.

Licenses/approvals for the export of commercially sold defense articles/services—September 30, 1996

(Dollars in thousands)

	Cumulative
Afghanistan	4
Albania	1
Algeria	5,598
Andorra	203
Angola	89
Antigua	12
Argentina	57,421
Aruba	186
Australia ¹	1,117,515
Austria	8,725
Azerbaijan	541
Bahamas, The	61
Bahrain	9,256
Bangladesh	1,409
Barbados	46
Belarus	54
Belgium	290,289
Belize	1,412
Bermuda	1,071
Bolivia	2,552
Bosnia and Herzegovina	80
Botswana	6,607
Brazil	62,317
Brunei	68,269
Bulgaria	724
Burma	600
Burundi	9
Cambodia	4
Cameroon	48
Canada	49,268
Cayman Islands	29

	Cumulative
Chad	48
Chile	24,327
China	55,857
Colombia	12,934
Congo	43
Costa Rica	1,890
Croatia	238
Cote D'Ivoire	18
Cyprus	176
Czech Republic	12,604
Denmark	237,051
Dominica	6
Dominican Republic	2,716
Ecuador	12,456
Egypt	150,340
El Salvador	8,029
Estonia	553
Ethiopia	3
Fiji	293
Finland	33,653
France	194,957
French Gulana	120,384
French Polynesia	4
Gabon	120
Georgia	717
Germany	851,040
Ghana	4,010
Greece	242,890
Greenland	1,539
Guatemala	2,963
Guyana	181
Haiti	158
Honduras	5,089
Hong Kong	24,018
Hungary	23,771
Iceland	3,232
India	38,558
Indonesia	212,176
Ireland	4,295
Israel	696,201
Italy	362,216
Jamaica	430
Japan	1,058,537
Jordan	67,177
Kazakhstan	8,916
Kenya	21,355
Korea, Republic of	926,560
Kuwait	37,520
Latvia	832
Lebanon	2,077
Lithuania	108
Luxembourg	29,975
Macau	52
Macedonia	68
Malaysia	438,171
Mali	1
Marshall Islands	1,539
Mauritania	131
Mauritius	29
Mexico	94,450
Micronesia	2
Moldova	41
Monaco	2
Mongolia	9
Montserrat	3
Morocco	21,473
Mozambique	3
Namibia	563

	Cumulative
Nepal	37
Netherlands	463,398
Netherlands Antilles	144
New Caledonia	83
New Zealand	108,966
Nicaragua	22
Niger	44
Nigeria	19
Norway	107,262
Oman	4,115
Pakistan	74,793
Panama	9,147
Papua New Guinea	551
Paraguay	4,571
Peru	16,272
Philippines	140,268
Poland	5,534
Portugal	48,692
Qatar	8,529
Romania	5,063
Russia	77,709
Saudi Arabia	392,034
Sierra Leone	2
Singapore	524,084
Slovakia	1,808
Slovenia	380
South Africa	29,889
Spain	136,058
Sri Lanka	17,104
St. Kitts & Nevis Anguilla	6
St. Lucia	26
St. Vincent	5
Suriname	136
Sweden	172,417
Switzerland	348,417
Taiwan ²	786,718
Tanzania, United Republic	61
Thailand	342,764
Tonga	174
Trinidad & Tobago	332
Tunisia	4,951
Turkey	584,325
Turkmenistan	20
Uganda	2,203
Ukraine	885
United Arab Emirates	24,396
United Kingdom	1,422,605
United Nations	45,245
Uruguay	5,081
Uzbekistan	9
Various Countries	249,414
Venezuela	376,475
Vietnam	1,030
Yemen	843
Zambia	1,599
Zimbabwe	265
Classified totals ³	274,256

Worldwide total 14,557,740

¹ Australia was erroneously reported as zero for second quarter.

² Taiwan third quarter modified due to error found in calculations used to generate data.

³ See classified annex to CPD.
 Note.—Details may not add due to rounding.

Source: This information was prepared and submitted by the Office of Defense Trade Controls, State Department.