

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

VETERAN SERVICES

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill that requires the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to truly consider the needs of our veterans who so bravely served our Nation.

The VA has devised a plan called the veterans equitable resource allocation. However, the funding formula simply considers population trends, the cost of labor, and specialized care.

There is no mention of the special needs and challenges that are unique that each veteran community across the country. As we all know, a multitude of other factors, both non-medical and medical, plague our veterans.

How could it be proposed that a formula for distributing dollars for VA health care not take into account medical conditions of the veterans it serves?

If we allow the VA to implement their plan as it exists today, the VA will be sending a message to its sicker, poorer, older, and service-disabled veterans that they just don't care.

My bill addresses a fundamental problem with the VA's plan. My legislation charges the VA to certify to Congress that they have accounted for such critical factors as catastrophic injuries, disease, homelessness, poverty, cost of living and care, the age and type of infrastructure used by the Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities, and so forth.

Until these conditions are met, we might as well remove the word equitable from the VA's so-called equitable resource allocation model.

I would like to add that many of the established health care facilities in the northeast are considered centers of excellence. Just last year, the Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association [EPVA] made 164 trips transporting patients to and from VA hospitals. Eleven of those trips were made from southern VA facilities to northeast medical centers because of their ability to perform specialized surgeries and treatment.

No trips were made from the Northeast to the Southwest.

I am pleased to inform you that I have introduced my bill today along with 25 of my colleagues.

I encourage my other colleagues to sign onto the bill. A veteran in the Southwest who needs care is no more important than one in the North.

We owe it to our veterans to make available the highest quality of care.

I would like to submit the attached text of my bill for the RECORD.

H.R.—

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CERTIFICATION THAT PLAN FOR ALLOCATION OF VETERANS HEALTH CARE RESOURCES CONSIDERED CERTAIN MEDICAL AND NONMEDICAL FACTORS.

(a) **CERTIFICATION REQUIRED.**—The plan for allocation of health care resources of the Department of Veterans Affairs submitted to Congress under subsection (c) of section 429 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997 (110 Stat. 2929) may not be implemented until after the Secretary of Veterans Affairs certifies to the Congress that the Secretary, in developing such plan, took into account the medical-related factors described in subsection (b) and the nonmedical factors described in subsection (c). Such certification shall be accompanied by the data the Secretary used in considering such factors.

(b) **MEDICAL-RELATED FACTORS.**—The medical-related factors described in this subsection are the following:

(1) The medical condition of veterans residing within each region served by a Veterans Integrated Services Network.

(2) The cost for each Veterans Integrated Services Network to meet the specialized medical needs for veterans suffering from catastrophic injury, disease, or illness, including spinal cord dysfunction, amputation, blindness, and mental illness.

(3) The cost for each Veterans Integrated Services Network to meet the rehabilitative needs of veterans suffering from such catastrophic injury, disease, or illness.

(4) The cost for each Veterans Integrated Services Network to provide medical support services, including prosthetics, pharmaceutical supplies, social services, and medical transportation to and from Veterans Integrated Services Network medical facilities.

(5) The cost for Veterans Integrated Services Network facilities to provide for the treatment and care of those members of the veterans population suffering from substance abuse, psychological problems, of AIS.

(c) **NONMEDICAL FACTORS.**—The nonmedical factors described in this subsection are the following:

(1) The expected reliance of veterans on Department of Veterans Affairs health care facilities for medical care as a result of—

(A) the cost of living for veterans residing in the region served by each Veterans Integrated Services Network; and

(B) the size of the population of veterans in each such region who are impoverished.

(2) The size of the population of homeless veterans in each such region and the wider array of disease and illness due to the hardships and lack of hygiene from which the homeless suffer.

(3) The age of the veterans population residing in each such region and the costs associated with long-term care necessary to meet the needs of the aging veterans population.

(4) The age and type of infrastructure used by Department of Veterans Affairs medical

facilities, including the cost of operating, maintaining, repairing, and remodeling such facilities and the costs associated with adverse weather conditions, such as snow removal, in regions in which such facilities are located.

(d) **VETERANS INTEGRATED SERVICES NETWORK DEFINED.**—For purposes of this section, the term "Veterans Integrated Services Network" means the network developed by the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide for the health care of veterans.

TRIBUTE TO THE EL CARISO HOT SHOTS

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the outstanding bravery of a dedicated group of firefighters in California, the El Cariso Hot Shots. Over 30 years ago, a dozen men gave their lives and many more were injured while fighting a particularly dangerous fire in a steep canyon near Pacoima.

On November 1, 1966, a U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service firefighting crew, was trapped by flames in the Loop Fire. The El Cariso Hot Shots were constructing a fireline downhill into a chimney canyon and were within 200 feet of completing their assignment when a sudden shift of winds caused a spot fire directly below where the crew was working. Within seconds, flames raced uphill, engulfing the firefighters in temperatures exceeding 2,500 degrees. The fire flashed through the canyon in less than 1 minute trapping many in the crew. Ten brave El Cariso Hot Shots perished on the Loop Fire that day and another two died in the following days. Many of those who survived, were critically burned and remained hospitalized for some time.

Gerald Smith, who brought this heroic action to my attention, suffered third degree burns on his face, hands, arms, and legs and has had over 20 surgical operations as a result of his injuries. After overcoming many personal challenges, he has now completed training as a registered nurse and is making a difference in the lives of many people.

Mr. Speaker, in November 1996—the 30th anniversary of this tragedy—a monument was erected and dedicated to the firefighters of the Loop Fire. Over the years, the lessons of the Loop Fire have been shared with other firefighters around the world and have saved many lives. I believe it is only appropriate that the House remember the names of those firefighters below who lost their lives as well as those who survived the Loop Fire of 1966.

Those who lost their lives include: Raymond Chee, James Moreland, Michael White, John

● 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.

Figlo, William Waller, Joel Hill, Steven White, Carl Shilcutt, John Verdugo, Daniel Moore, Kenneth Barnhill, and Frederick Danner. Those who survived the Loop Fire include: Gordon King, Warren Burchett, Glen Spady, Joseph Smalls, Edward Cosgrove, Rodney Seewald, Stephen Bowman, Charles Gibson, Franklin Keesling, Jerry Gunter, William Davidson, Thomas Sullivan, Gerald Smith, William Parshall, John Moore, Richard Leak, Robert Chouard, Patrick Chase, and Thomas Rother.

PEACEMAKER

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, for the past 2 years, Senator George Mitchell has co-chaired the multiparty talks on the future of Northern Ireland in Belfast. On the evening of March 13, 1997, in Washington, DC, he was presented the American Ireland Fund International Humanitarian Award. I would like to share Senator Mitchell's inspiring speech with you at this time.

EXCERPTS FROM REMARKS BY SENATOR GEORGE J. MITCHELL, AMERICAN-IRELAND FUND DINNER

I'm grateful for this award. The American-Ireland Fund is an important force for good in Ireland. I commend you for your efforts and I encourage you to continue them.

As you know, I've spent most of the past two years in Northern Ireland. On my trips back to the U.S., I've been asked two questions, over and over again, by Americans who care about Ireland: Why are you doing this? And, what can I do to help?

Tonight, I'll try to answer both of those questions.

Why am I doing this?

I've asked myself that question many times. To answer it, I must go back nearly 20 years, before I'd ever been to Ireland, before I'd ever thought seriously about Northern Ireland.

Before I entered the United States Senate I had the privilege of serving as a Federal Judge. In that position I had great power. The power I most enjoyed exercising was when I presided over what are called naturalization ceremonies. They're citizenship ceremonies. A group of people who'd come from every part of the world, who'd gone through all the required procedures, gathered before me in a federal courtroom. There I administered to them the oath of allegiance to the United States and, by the power vested in me under our constitution and laws I made them Americans.

It was always emotional for me, because my mother was an immigrant from Lebanon, my father the orphan son of immigrants from Ireland. They had no education and they worked hard all their lives at difficult and low-paying jobs. But because of their efforts, and, more importantly, because of the openness of American society, I, their son, was able to become the majority leader of the United States Senate.

After every naturalization ceremony, I spoke personally with each new American, individually or in family groups. I asked them where they came from, how they came, why they came. Their stories were as dif-

ferent as their countries of origin. But they were all inspiring, and through them ran a common theme, best expressed by a young Asian. When I asked why he had come, he replied, in slow and halting English, "I came because here in America everybody has a chance".

A young man who'd been an American for just a few minutes summed up the meaning of our country in a single sentence. Here, everybody has a chance.

I was one of those who had a chance, and I thank God for my good fortune. Now, by an accident of fate, in a way that I did not seek or expect, I have been given the opportunity to help others to have a chance. That they are in Ireland, the land of my father's heritage, is just a fortuitous coincidence. That I am able to help, even if in just a small way, is what matters.

No one can really have a chance in a society dominated by fear and violence. And so I, who have been helped by so many, now must do what I can to help others to try to end the violence, to banish the fear, to hasten the day when all the people of Northern Ireland can lead lives of peace, reconciliation and opportunity.

Let me say, as clearly and as emphatically as I can: There will be peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland. I don't know exactly when it will come. But I am convinced that it is inevitable, for one over-riding reason: It is the will of the overwhelming majority of the people of Northern Ireland.

They remain divided along sectarian lines, and they mistrust each other. But they share a fervent desire not to return to the violence which for so long has filled their lives with fear and anxiety.

It will take a very long time for the mistrust to end. But it need not take a long time for the violence to end. Once it does, once people can live free of fear, then gradually the walls of division will come down. Walls that exist on the ground, and in people's minds, will come down, brick by brick, person by person, slowly but inevitably.

Over the past two years I've come to know the people of Northern Ireland. They're energetic, intelligent and productive. I admire and like them. They deserve better than the troubles they have. But there is only one way to achieve that better life.

There is no alternative to democratic, meaningful, inclusive dialogue. For that to come about, there must be an end to violence and to intransigence. They are the twin demons of Northern Ireland—violence and intransigence. They feed off each other in a deadly ritual in which most of the victims are innocent.

There are those who don't want anything to change, ever. They want to recreate a past that can never be recreated. But their way will only guarantee never-ending conflict. It will insure that the next half century is as full of death and fear as was the past half century.

The people of Northern Ireland must make it clear to their leaders that they oppose intransigence, that they want meaningful negotiation. Not capitulation; not the surrender of conviction. But good-faith negotiation that places the interest of the people, the interest of peace, above personal or political considerations. Good faith negotiation can produce an agreed settlement that will command the support of the majority in Northern Ireland, including the majority in each community. I know in my heart that it can be done.

With an end to Intransigence must come a total and final repudiation of violence. There

is no justification for violence, or the threat of violence. To those of you who ask: What can I do? Here is my answer: You, the leaders of the Irish-American community, must say that you condemn violence, that you demand its end, that you will not support those who engage in or support or condone violence. You must say it publicly, you must say it loudly, you must say it forcefully. And you must say it over and over again.

Violence is wrong. It is counter productive. It deepens divisions. It increases hatred. It hurts innocent people. It makes peace and reconciliation more difficult to attain. It must end.

Let me be clear on one more point. They must be twin demons but there is no moral equivalence between intransigence and violence. They are both wrong. But as bad as intransigence is, violence is worse. Intransigence takes away people's hopes. Violence takes away their lives.

There exists an historic opportunity to end centuries of conflict in Northern Ireland. If it is not seized now, it may be years before it returns, and the failure could cost many their lives.

Peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland is a worthy cause. It deserves your attention and support. You can make a difference. What you say is heard, what you do matters.

As you leave tonight, ask yourself this question: Wouldn't it be a wonderful thing if, on St. Patrick's day next year, rather than praying for peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland, we were celebrating its existence?

If you agree, then beginning tomorrow, do all you can to make it happen. When you do, you will reap the greatest of all rewards: You will have earned the title of peacemaker.

TRIBUTE TO KIWANIS CLUB'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the Kiwanis Club of Warren, MI, as they celebrate their 40th anniversary on May 9, 1997.

In 1957, a group of concerned Warren citizens felt there was a need to join Kiwanis International and form the Kiwanis Club of Warren. Their goal was to aid the public in ways that other charities and the Government could not.

In the past 40 years, the Kiwanis Club has contributed their time and resources to the betterment of their community. Among their many contributions include the funding of a handicapped fitness trail at the Council Park and the donation of a Salvation Army bus. The club has also donated funds for thousands of individuals in need of operations, utility bills, and handicapped ramps.

I would like to thank the hundreds of volunteers, past and present, who have donated their various talents to improve the quality of life in the Warren community. The self-sacrificing qualities of the Kiwanis volunteers is what makes our communities successful.

I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the Kiwanis Club of Warren a joyful 40th anniversary. Their long history of public service is

sure to last at the very least, another 40 years.

HONORING STATE
REPRESENTATIVE KEITH MCCALL

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a close personal friend and colleague from my congressional district in Pennsylvania, State Representative Keith McCall.

Representative McCall will be honored by the Panther Valley Irish American Association as its 1997 recipient of the Shamrock Award. I am pleased to have been asked to participate in this prestigious event.

The youngest son of the late Representative Thomas J. and Mary Ann McCall, Keith began his career in the Pennsylvania State Auditor General's office in Harrisburg while he was attending Penn State and Harrisburg Community College. His father's untimely death in 1981, while serving his fourth State legislative term, brought Keith to succeed his father in the Assembly. Now a high ranking Representative in the Pennsylvania General Assembly, Keith has followed in his father's footsteps by serving his district for 15 years.

Keith McCall is one of the finest legislators that I have had the privilege to work with during my years in Congress. He has been responsible for helping numerous local constituents and bringing millions of dollars in economic development to his district.

Keith's hard work and tenacity on numerous issues of importance to his district demonstrates his commitment to his constituents. His attention to the needs of the residents of his legislative district is unsurpassed and manifests itself in the strong results he receives.

Keith has consistently worked closely with me on numerous projects for Carbon County, from flood control to highway projects, I can always count on Keith to be an energetic ally with all the projects that involve the state.

A few of his major projects and accomplishments include Lehigh Gorge State Park, rail infrastructure improvements, a visitors center for Delaware and Lehigh Navigation Canal National Heritage Corridor, and preservation of historical buildings.

In the State Assembly Keith wrote the Pennsylvania Enhanced Automobile Emission Inspection law and is now considered an expert on this issue.

Along with his work in the State assembly, Keith builds upon his dedication to his community by being an active participant in community service organizations. Keith's community involvement includes the Elks, Summit Hill Fire Company, Knights of Columbus, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Council, and his work as past president of the Panther Valley Irish American Association.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join with the community, his friends and family in paying tribute to an exemplary legislator and public

servant. I congratulate the Panther Valley Irish American Association on its 50th year, for the work they do in the community, and for their outstanding choice for this year's Shamrock Award.

A TRIBUTE TO KEVIN "CASEY"
GENTHER

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the fine work and outstanding public service of Kevin "Casey" Genther, the commander of American Legion Rim of the World Post No. 360. Casey will be relinquishing his position in July after 2 years of remarkable service to our community.

Casey has played an instrumental role in the growth and success of American Legion Post No. 360 since he assumed his position upon the resignation of the previous commander.

In that time, the enrollment of new members has increased by 20 percent. Casey has also been the driving force in getting Rim of the World Post No. 360 to participate in the activities of the Mountain Thrift Shoppe, a nonprofit resale store that benefits nine charitable and service organizations in our mountain community. In addition, donations and grants to local organizations in need of financial support have increased fivefold during his tenure in office.

Casey has also made a major contribution to local educational efforts and the lives of young people in our community. Scholarship funding for local high school graduates has increased from \$350 to \$4,000. Educational incentive grants for graduates of the local continuing education school have risen considerably. In addition, Casey has formalized the annual American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest. He has also overseen a 100-percent increase in attendance at Boy's State and Girl's State by local high school juniors. Since Casey assumed his leadership position, Post No. 360 has sent eight local teachers to teaching workshops at the Freedom Foundation in Valley Forge, PA.

Mr. Speaker, Casey Genther has made a remarkable difference in the lives of many people through his leadership of the American Legion Rim of the World Post No. 360. His many contributions toward the betterment of Post No. 360, local education, and our community is certainly worthy of our appreciation and recognition. It is only appropriate that the House recognize Commander Genther today.

IN THE SPIRIT OF ST. PATRICK'S
DAY

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, in the spirit of St. Patrick's Day, I am inviting all my colleagues to become a Friend of Ireland. The

Friends of Ireland is a bipartisan congressional organization established in 1981 by the late Speaker, Thomas "Tip" O'Neill. Every successive Speaker has carried on the tradition and my appointment as chairman by Speaker GINGRICH is a clear demonstration of the bipartisan nature of the Friends. The Speaker and Minority Leader GEPHARDT serve as honorary chairmen of the group.

The purpose of the Friends of Ireland is to increase the bonds of friendship and understanding between the American people and the people of Ireland. We look for a peaceful solution to the problems of this troubled land. Our organization is open to all members of the 105th Congress who share its principles and has attracted widespread support over the years. There are also several Senators who are members of the Friends.

Over the years, the statements of support for peace in Ireland, condemnations of human rights abuses, assistance to the International Fund for Ireland, and general expressions of goodwill have made a difference. The voice of the United States Congress is listened to very attentively in Ireland both in the Republic and in the North.

I would like to share with you this year's St. Patrick's Day statement:

STATEMENT BY THE FRIENDS OF IRELAND, ST.
PATRICK'S DAY 1997

On this St. Patrick's Day, we the Friends of Ireland renew our call for the IRA to restore its cease-fire, which should be followed by Sinn Fein's immediate entry into the Northern Ireland all-party peace talks when they resume in June.

The Friends of Ireland commend our former colleague, Senator George Mitchell, for his outstanding service as chairman of the talks. The talks offer an historic opportunity to address the three key relationships which must underpin any settlement—those within Northern Ireland, between North and South, and between Ireland and Britain. We fully support this process, and recognize that there is much greater likelihood for success if all parties with an electoral mandate, including Sinn Fein, participate in the talks. Sinn Fein's participation in the talks, however, is properly conditional on the unequivocal restoration of the cease-fire by the IRA.

We also recognize that the IRA maintained a cease-fire for 17 months, from September 1994 to February 1996. It is of deepest concern that, during that long and hopeful period, additional obstacles were laid in the way of bringing all parties to the table. We hope that a renewed IRA cease-fire will on this occasion be met with an appropriate response by the British Government, including the taking of necessary confidence-building measures.

Basic issues of equal justice and human rights are at the heart of the conflict in Northern Ireland and they must be central to any realistic resolution of the conflict. Peace without justice is not sustainable. It is only likely to flourish when all sides feel that their basic rights are respected and protected. Accordingly, we urge prompt action to remedy outstanding miscarriages of justice such as the Casement and Latimer cases. In light of the compelling new evidence surrounding Bloody Sunday, we add our voice to the calls for a new inquiry into this tragedy.

We are also concerned by the deteriorating conditions under which Republican prisoners

are being held in Britain and in particular the treatment of Roisin McAliskey. It is essential, in negotiating a new political framework for Northern Ireland, that respect for human rights be guaranteed. The creation of a Bill of Rights, and a police service with the confidence of the whole community, are essential to ensure the protection of the rights of all and to lay a solid foundation for a lasting peace.

We strongly oppose the continued and increased punishment beatings by paramilitaries in both communities. Such atrocities have no place in society, and we call for an immediate end to these attacks.

It is essential that there be no repeat of the deplorable events during last year's marching season. The RUC behavior at Drumcree further eroded the confidence of the Catholic community in fairness of the police force. As the State Department's Country Reports on Human Rights Practices recently noted: "Many observers on both sides of the community perceived the Government's reversal in the face of unlawful Unionist protests as a victory of might over the rule of law, and the incident damaged the RUC's reputation as an impartial police force."

We therefore strongly endorse the recommendations in the North Report that an independent parades commission be given full decision-making powers to deal effectively with controversial parades. We are concerned at the British Government's decision to delay implementation of significant sections of the report, which in our view must be in place in advance of this year's marching season.

The Friends of Ireland welcome the strong commitment of President Clinton and the Congress to the success of the peace process in Northern Ireland, and the transformation in the situation which all have helped bring about. We are confident that the United States will continue to play a constructive role in encouraging an early and peaceful resolution of the conflict for the benefit of all of the people of Northern Ireland.

FRIENDS OF IRELAND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Edward M. Kennedy, Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Christopher J. Dodd, Newt Gingrich, Richard A. Gephardt, and James T. Walsh.

TRIBUTE TO DICK LANGE

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to Dick Lange as he retires from the Macomb Intermediate School District. His friends and colleagues will host a party in his honor at Partridge Creek Golf Course.

Education has always been central in Dick's life. His hard work in school was rewarded when he was honored with a 4-year Ford scholarship to the University of Michigan. While at U. of M., Dick was extremely active in intramural sports. His experience and success as a student gave him the insight he would later need as a teacher, administrator, and educational leader.

After college graduation, Dick taught high school social studies at Lakeview High School. His dedication to his students was not limited to the classroom. As a football coach, he was

able to give to his students the same satisfaction in sports that he enjoyed as a student. As a teacher and coach, Dick was able to capture the energy and minds of the students he taught.

Not only was Dick an inspiration to students, but also to teachers. In 1972, he began representing teachers with the Michigan Education Association. His dedication to improving education prompted him to cofound Local 1, the first collective bargaining unit in Macomb County. Dick was instrumental in bringing together 16 school districts into 1 united group.

In 1982, Dick returned to Lakeview Public Schools as the assistant superintendent of curriculum and personnel where he turned his talents to review texts books and curriculum. For the past 11 years, Dick has been the director of consultant services of the Macomb Intermediate School District. His vision to provide quality education for our youth has made him successful in training teachers. He has used his leadership skills to guide teachers to inspire and teach the next generation.

I have known Dick for over 20 years and have witnessed the caring attitude that Dick has toward both teachers and students. His simple goal of providing a quality education for our youth has inspired not only teacher and students, but parents and the community. Throughout the years, Dick has been a dedicated volunteer in Macomb County as well as defending and improving public schools.

On behalf of myself and those who have had the opportunity to work with Dick, I would like to wish him well and thank him for his numerous contributions to our community.

FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK
HONOR JUDGE BLEWITT

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, Pittston, PA, in paying tribute to the Honorable U.S. Magistrate Judge Thomas M. Blewitt. The judge will be the recipient of the W. Francis Swingle Irishman of the Year Award at their 83d annual St. Patrick's Day banquet. I am extremely pleased to have been asked to participate in this annual tradition.

Judge Blewitt was appointed on February 21, 1992, to an 8-year term. From January 1, 1986 through February 1992, he served as assistant Federal public defender in the Scranton division. From May 1984 to January 1986, he was assistant district attorney for Lackawanna County. From December 1972 to October 1980, he was a special investigator for the Pennsylvania Department of Justice, Bureau of Consumer Protection.

A graduate of Scranton Prep in 1968, he went on to the University of Scranton, Marywood College and earned his juris doctorate from Temple School of Law in 1983.

Mr. Speaker, Judge Blewitt is well deserving of this prestigious award not only for his professional accomplishments but for his sincere commitment and involvement in his community. He has served on the board of directors

for the Friendship House Children's Center, Family Services of Lackawanna County, and is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association as well as the Federal Magistrate Judges Association.

Once again, I am pleased and proud to have the opportunity to bring Judge Blewitt's accomplishments to the attention of my colleagues. I congratulate the judge on this fine honor and the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick on their 83d year.

A MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO
ALEXANDRA APOSTOLIDES
SONENFELD

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the recent passing of Alexandra Apostolides Sonenfeld, a role model and inspiration to many throughout California. Alexandra died in her sleep in San Francisco on July 26, 1996, just 10 days shy of her 100th birthday.

Alexandra Sonenfeld was born on August 6, 1896, in Sokraki on the Island of Corfu, Greece. One of nine children of Father Mandilla, a priest, and Barbara Chondroyianis, a schoolteacher, Alexandra accompanied her father on a trip to the United States when she was 10 years old. She remained in the United States until her recent passing, never rejoining her family in Sokraki.

Alexandra married Dr. Emmanuel Apostolides at the age of 20 and together they settled in San Francisco and raised three children—Alexander, Zoe, and Kleo. Her first husband passed away and she later married her second husband, Howard Sonenfeld.

In 1929, Alexandra Sonenfeld opened her home to wives of the members of the Order of AHEPA in San Francisco to discuss the formation of a women's auxiliary. Shortly thereafter, the first chapter of the Daughters of Penelope was established. In 1931, the Daughters of Penelope was chartered and incorporated in the State of California as a non-profit organization. In the decade that followed, Alexandra Sonenfeld devoted her time to the development and expansion of this organization across the United States as well as the formulation of bylaws and a constitution. In 1939, she was elected the first grand president of the Daughters of Penelope. Over the years, this worthy organization has grown to its current 390 chapters throughout the United States and Canada, including 4 chapters in Greece.

Mr. Speaker, words do not begin to convey the love and admiration with which Alexandra Sonenfeld was held by her family, friends, and supporters. Her life journey stands as a remarkable testament to faith and hope and her memory will continue to inspire countless people. It is only appropriate that the House pay tribute to this courageous woman today.

**CODIFICATION OF RECENT LAWS
IN TITLE 49, UNITED STATES
CODE, TRANSPORTATION**

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to codify in title 49, United States Code, recent laws related to transportation, and to make other technical and conforming amendments to the Code. This bill was prepared by the Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House of Representatives under its statutory mandate to prepare and submit periodically revisions of positive law titles of the Code to keep those titles current. This bill makes no change in the substance of existing law.

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the bill and a section-by-section summary—containing reviser's notes—of the bill should contact John R. Miller, acting law revision counsel, U.S. House of Representatives, H2-304 Ford House Office Building, Washington, DC, 20515-6711. The telephone number is (202) 226-2411.

Persons wishing to comment on the bill should submit those comments to the acting law revision counsel no later than April 30, 1997.

**FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
BOMBING OF THE ISRAELI EM-
BASSY IN BUENOS AIRES—HOUSE
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 50
URGES ACTION FROM ARGEN-
TINEAN AUTHORITIES**

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, 5 years ago, on March 17, 1992, the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina, was destroyed by a massive suicide bomb, and several nearby buildings were also destroyed. In that bombing, 29 people were killed and an additional 252 innocent people were injured, many seriously.

Victims of the attack included employees of the Israeli Embassy and their families, children from a nearby Roman Catholic primary school, men and women from a nearby Roman Catholic church shelter, a Roman Catholic priest, and others. Two years later the Jewish Community in Buenos Aires was also destroyed in a terrorist bombing in which 86 people died and over 200 were injured.

Despite worldwide attention to these catastrophes, we are now marking the fifth anniversary of this hideous terrorist bombing and yet we still have had no prosecution and even no sign of progress in identifying those who carried out this vicious attack. It is time for the Congress to express our serious concern about this outrageous and unacceptable situation.

Mr. Speaker, on this tragic anniversary, with 12 of our distinguished colleagues, I intro-

duced House Concurrent Resolution 50 which notes the fifth anniversary of the bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on March 17, 1992, and calls upon the Argentinean Government to take more aggressive steps to solve the crime. Our resolution "notes with regret" that this is the fifth anniversary of the Israeli Embassy bombing and "police and judicial authorities in Argentina have not identified and initiated prosecution of the perpetrators of these two barbarous acts of terrorism." The resolution also urges the Supreme Court of Argentina to designate a single judge to conduct the investigation of the Embassy bombing in order to improve the efficiency of the inquiry. Currently, the full membership of the Supreme Court is in charge of the investigation, and this has hampered the effectiveness of the investigation.

I invite my colleagues to join as cosponsors of this legislation and urged redoubled effort to solve these horrendous crimes. The text of House Concurrent Resolution 50 follows:

H. CON. RES. 50

Whereas on March 17, 1992, the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina, a school, and several nearby buildings were destroyed by a powerful suicide car bomb blast in which 29 innocent children, women, and men lost their lives and an additional 252 innocent people were injured;

Whereas the victims of this terrorist attack included employees of the Israeli embassy and their families, children from a nearby Roman Catholic primary school, women and men from a nearby Roman Catholic church shelter, a Roman Catholic priest, and people across the spectrum of Argentine society;

Whereas Argentina's Jewish community, which numbers over 300,000 and is the largest Jewish community in Latin America, has suffered periods of severe Anti-Semitism during periods of military rule and feels particularly vulnerable to assault from certain radical Islamic groups and from indigenous far right extremists in Argentina;

Whereas Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the bombing of the Israeli Embassy and praised the name of the alleged suicide bomber, Abu Yasser, by calling him a "martyr struggler," and Islamic Jihad is a terrorist organization that is supported by Iran and United States State Department officials have stated that Iranian diplomats collected information to plan the bombing;

Whereas the failure of Argentine and international efforts to bring the perpetrators of the embassy bombing to justice made Argentina a prime target for a second devastating terrorist attack on July 18, 1994, just two years after the bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, when the Asociacion Mutual Israelita Argentina (AMIA) Jewish Community Center was destroyed in a similar car bombing in which 86 people died and over 200 people were injured; and

Whereas the effectiveness of the investigation of the Israeli embassy bombing, which is being conducted by the Supreme Court of Argentina, has been hampered by the inefficiency of having the entire membership of the court in charge of the investigation:

Now, therefore, be it—
Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring) that the Congress

(1) Notes with regret that March 17, 1997, marked the fifth anniversary of the bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, that it is now more than two and a half years since the bombing of the AMIA Jewish Com-

munity Center, and that policy and judicial authorities in Argentina have not yet identified and initiated prosecution of the perpetrators of these two barbarous acts of terrorism;

(2) Urges the Supreme Court of Argentina to designate a single investigative judge to conduct the investigation of the terrorist bombing of the Israeli Embassy in order to improve the efficiency of the inquiry;

(3) Urges Argentinean judicial authorities to move forward aggressively in the investigation of the terrorism bombing of the AMIA Jewish Community Center because of the probability that there is a connection between that bombing and the bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires;

(4) Urges Argentinean authorities to acknowledge publicly the reports submitted by Argentinean, United States, and Israeli experts, which determined that the explosion at the Israeli Embassy took place outside the walls of the embassy;

(5) Urges the President and appropriate executive agencies to provide all appropriate assistance which has been or which may be requested by Argentinean government authorities in order to help that government in investigating these acts of terrorism; and

(6) Directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives to forward a copy of this resolution to the government of Argentina.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAROLYN
LANIER

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, the pages of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD chronicle two centuries of actions affecting the everyday lives of Americans. Today, I'd like to add to that history with the account of an everyday American who has affected the lives of the needy beyond the boundaries of her community.

Carolyn Lanier has for 14 years served as the South Plains Food Bank executive director in Lubbock, TX. Her leadership has brought the food bank from its beginnings as a simple storeroom with shelves of canned goods, to its modern-day operation with refrigeration, a working farm and a dehydration plant. The food bank's success in feeding the needy and in helping other food banks created the necessity for the facility's Breedlove Dehydration Plant. Each day, the South Plains Food Bank under the leadership of Carolyn Lanier, its patrons and the many volunteer workers, feed as many as 16,000 people through 254 charitable agencies in a 20-county area of the vast Texas Panhandle-South Plains-Permian Basin Region.

Carolyn is the first to answer the compliment about her service by praising those working with her and the many financial supporters of the South Plains Food Bank. In recognizing those good works, it is helpful for those of us here in Congress and for people who study the pages of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to know that people just like Carolyn Lanier, who was qualified by the experience of feeding and caring for her family, saw a need and a way to help feed and care for an extended family of thousands and thousands she had never met.

Carolyn's success—and thus the success of the South Plans Food Bank—comes from her caring and her determined effort. Those seeing the need in their community can take heart from Carolyn's example. And those of us here in Congress seeking ways to meet those needs are gratified by these efforts. Government must be a servant of the people, doing all it can to encourage these charitable works.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on Thursday, March 13 and was unable to be present for rollcall vote No. 50, final passage of H.R. 852, the Paperwork Reduction Act. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO REV. LESTER PRATT, SR.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Rev. John Lester Pratt, Sr., pastor of Zion Shiloh Baptist Church. Reverend Pratt was born in Fredericksburg, VA, and attended Storer College in Harpers Ferry, WV. As an undergraduate he majored in education. He graduated from Manhattan Bible Institute and American Divinity School of Religion; earning undergraduate and masters degrees in theology.

In 1977 he was elected pastor of Zion Shiloh Baptist Church. He abides by the philosophy of, "I accept the challenge." Currently he is serving as secretary of the Progressive National Baptist Convention. Pastor Pratt has served as past moderator of New York Missionary Baptist Association, been a member of Cumberland Community Board and served as a member of the board of Hampton Ministers Conference.

The reverend is married to Mrs. Gertrude Pratt, and they are the proud parents of two sons, Leo, John, Jr., grandson, Leo Sterling Pratt, and have a wonderful daughter-in-law, Michelle. It is my pleasure to introduce Rev. Lester Pratt, Sr., to my House colleagues.

CODIFICATION OF TITLE 36, UNITED STATES CODE, PATRIOTIC AND NATIONAL OBSERVANCES, CEREMONIES, AND ORGANIZATIONS

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to codify and enact certain gen-

eral and permanent laws, related to patriotic and national observances, ceremonies, and organizations, as title 36 of the United States Code. This bill has been prepared by the Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House of Representatives as a part of the responsibilities of that Office to prepare and submit to the Committee on the Judiciary, for enactment into positive law, all titles of the United States Code. This bill makes no change in the substance of existing law.

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the bill and a description of the bill, containing a section-by-section summary should contact John R. Miller, acting law revision counsel, U.S. House of Representatives, H2-304 Ford House Office Building, Washington, DC, 20515-6711. The telephone number is (202) 226-2411.

Persons wishing to comment on the bill should submit those comments to the acting law revision counsel no later than May 31, 1997.

THE SERIOUS PROBLEM OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN EGYPT

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, last week Egyptian President Mohammed Hosni Mubarak, as well as Foreign Minister Amre Mahmoud Moussa and other leaders of the Egyptian Government, were here in Washington for meetings with the administration and with Members of Congress. I was one of the Members who welcomed President Mubarak and his delegation at a lunch hosted by the Committee on International Relations.

As always, President Mubarak and Foreign Minister Moussa were gracious and frank in their discussion on a whole range of issues involving the relationship between the United States and Egypt. One issue which deserves particular attention, however, is the issue of anti-Semitism in the Egyptian press.

Shortly before President Mubarak arrived in the United States, the Anti-Defamation League [ADL] issued an excellent report "Anti-Semitism in the Egyptian Media." This report was another outstanding example of the kind of work that the ADL does in fighting racism and anti-Semitism here in America and around the world. At our meeting with President Mubarak, I presented him with a copy of this report and indicated to him my serious concerns about its disturbing findings.

President Mubarak responded that the Egyptian press was a free press, and even the Government media were quite independent. I told both the President and Foreign Minister Moussa that the press in Egypt is far from being truly free and independent. The moral authority of the President and the political, economic, and ethical leverage which the Government can exercise could go a long way to discourage and diminish the anti-Semitism that appears so frequently throughout the Egyptian press.

President Mubarak gave me a copy of the Egyptian Government response to the ADL

study, in which was included a collection of Israeli cartoons which were considered offensive to Egypt. There is, however, a significant difference. The Egyptian cartoons are patently anti-Semitic—vicious racial stereotypes of Jews appear and there are a number of cartoons in which the Star of David is transformed into the Nazi swastika. The Israeli cartoons are very much like the political cartoons we see here in the United States—Egyptian leaders are portrayed in caricatures and the cartoons satirize policies such as Herblock or Oliphant would do here. There are no racist stereotypes, there are no anti-Muslim overtones to the cartoons.

Mr. Speaker, as I told President Mubarak, peace must be won in the minds of the people—the Egyptian people must accept the Israelis if there is to be real peace in the Middle East. People must come to accept the right of the Jews to live in the land of Israel. These anti-Semitic cartoons do not create the climate that is essential for a lasting peace. I strongly urged the President to use his enormous prestige and moral authority to bring an end to this kind of racism.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the column of Stephen S. Rosenfeld from the March 14 issue of the Washington Post be placed in the RECORD. Mr. Rosenfeld also met with the Egyptian President as I did and his reaction was much the same as mine. I urge my colleagues to read carefully this article.

[From the Washington Post, Mar. 14, 1997]

THE WAR OF THE CARTOONS

(By Stephen S. Rosenfeld)

At breakfast in Blair House I asked President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt about those terrible antisemitic cartoons that for years have adorned the government-controlled Cairo press. The Anti-Defamation League had greeted him on this visit with a booklet and a challenge in a New York Times ad, and it seemed to me a good time to hear how the government that has led the Arab world in reconciling with Israel deals with the seemingly contradictory policy of perpetuating those vicious images.

Mubarak is rough and affable in an officers' mess style, an old hand at engaging with the foreign press. He looks you right in the eye, and plainly he was ready for the question. He said in essence that Egypt has a press law and he does not control the press, that he is himself criticized in the press and that he had advised editors not to get personal in dealing with Israel but to stick to criticism of official Israeli policies. He batted away my attempt to induce him to say whether the Egyptian press meets that excellent standard.

At one point in the discussion, he signaled to an aide who left the room and quickly came back with an exhibit so similar in format to the ADL attack booklet that it was almost amusing. Mubarak had suggested that the Egyptian press was merely indulging a type of criticism familiar in the Israeli press. He now handed me a sheaf of cartoons from both English- and Hebrew-language papers in Israel.

The war of the cartoons may not seem very compelling at a moment when the whole structure of Arab-Israeli peace-seeking trembles on a knife's edge. Consider, however, that one important reason why the process is so precariously perched lies exactly in the fact that it is vulnerable to the popular sentiments evoked in those cartoons, especially the Egyptian ones.

The Egyptian cartoons have what is to a Western eye an unmistakably racist content. They rely on crude physical and cultural stereotypes of Jews, and they drape Israeli officials with Nazi swastikas. These images and accusations, says the ADL report on "Anti-Semitism in the Egyptian Media," are to be found in words but most flagrantly in political cartoons which, "often boldly displayed on newsstands, can inflame passions in a country where illiteracy is significant and where young people may not read the newspapers, but obtain a clear and distorted impression of Jews from the illustrations."

Mubarak cannot be taken literally when he claims that the Egyptian press is independent and that its independence absolves him of responsibility for its enthusiasms. There can be a discussion only over whether particular parts of the Cairo press are best described as "tame," "government-owned" or "controlled" or "semi-official." Egypt, for all the sophistication of many in its elite, remains one of those countries where editors get to massage major media themes with the president over coffee. A shrewd Third World leader like Mubarak would hardly ignore the capability his press gives him to conduct a certain second line of public diplomacy based on the domestic mass media to complement the first line conducted at the foreign office.

It is sobering to consider that no matter how often he is reminded that the cartoons measurably shrivel Israeli readiness for compromise and accommodation, Mubarak still lets them run. He does so apparently in order to appease hard-liners at home and in the Arab world. It is pale comfort to be told that many Arabs don't think those cartoons are all that abusive anyway and that Egypt is actually something of an island of tolerance in the larger Arab sea.

The Israeli cartoons have what is to a Western eye an unmistakably political content. The Egyptian information ministry's booklet describes them, in this instance fairly, as "Israeli Caricatures of Egyptian Policy." Caricatures they are, strong and abrasive but not racial attacks on Arabs. It is foolish to claim there is no trace of racialism in Israeli attitudes toward Arabs. But if you are looking for it on these pages chosen by Arab officials, you will not find it.

An Egyptian cartoon from Ros al-Yusuf of last Sept. 9 depicts an Israeli soldier bedecked in a Nazi flag. An Israeli cartoon in Maariv of Oct. 29 shows Mubarak unleashing a press attack on Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.

An American journalist has to be sensitive to the booby traps that imperil any effort to distinguish objectionable "racist" cartoons in one place from acceptable "political" ones in another. Such an effort cannot be used either to spare Israeli criticism for its policies or to rationalize censorship practices in Egypt. But the fact is there is an antisemitic strain on public view in Egyptian society and in the media. It is appalling in its own right and it does harm to constructive public policies. Rather than allowing it to go on, responsible Egyptian authorities ought to be repudiating it without equivocation.

ANCHOR CONNECTION'S HEROISM ON THE FRONT LINES OF AMERICA'S DRUG WAR IS RIGHTFULLY HONORED

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 17, 1997

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, it is all too easy to get discouraged when reading the latest statistics showing that marijuana and heroin use among teenagers has skyrocketed over the last 5 years. Day after day, it seems that our media reports are filled with reports of violence; depression, and lost opportunities. Yet as a counter-balance against these reports, I am encouraged to share the experience and success of the Anchor Connection in Trenton, NJ.

Anchor Connection is a specialized program operated within the Anchor House, a nationally recognized basic service center for runaway and homeless youth, and has served the residents of central New Jersey since 1979. The Anchor House also operates a Transitional Living Program, which helps reduce drug abuse by teaching independent living skills to troubled teens.

I am proud that Anchor Connection is being honored today for its hard work by three of our Nation's top drug prevention organizations at the Federal level: Gen. Barry McCaffrey, Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, Nelba Chavez, Ph.D., Administrator of the Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [SAMHSA], and Stephania O'Neill, Acting Director of the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention [CSAP].

Anchor Connection's outreach director, Heidi Camerlengo, and their drug prevention counselor, Ann Suabedissen, are doing marvelous and critical work in Mercer County and have earned our Nation's collective applause today. Anchor Connection, as the only comprehensive alcohol, tobacco, and other drug [ATOD] prevention program for runaway and homeless youth in central New Jersey, saw over 800 youth and families last year to help them resist the deadly allure of drugs and alcohol.

These children stayed in the custody of Anchor Connection for an average of 6 to 8 months, where they were introduced to Anchor House's enormously successful family of comprehensive programs that help troubled runaway youths. Anchor Connection's programs include resistance skills education and social skills training so that these teens can adapt and cope with life's day-to-day problems without having to resort to illicit substances of alcohol.

Their programs also provide transportation to needed services within the community, drug and alcohol screening, as well as life, education, and job skills training. This is in keeping with the idea that people who lack these basic life skills are more likely to succumb to the temptation of drugs. Through these programs, Anchor Connection enables these teens to adapt more readily for a normal, drug-free life.

Anchor Connection also conducts community awareness and education seminars to get

the facts out about drug and alcohol abuse, and conduct individual, group, and family counseling to help those whose lives are directly touched and affected by our Nation's drug epidemic.

This overall approach has paid big dividends to the troubled kids and teens of Mercer County. Anchor Connection boasts a drug-reduction rate of at least 25 percent for children who remain with the program for 12 months. Heidi Camerlengo has estimated that the program has an 80-percent success rate in reducing drug use and getting the youth participants interested in school and other activities.

Another important aspect of Anchor Connection's drug prevention program is its individual written service plan, which helps young persons understand and achieve set goals. Since the program has a focus on runaway youths, it actively gets involved in resolving family conflicts. Where possible, it encourages family reunification, and where this is not a viable option, Anchor Connection will place children into foster care or other families.

I have been a longtime supporter and advocate for the Anchor House and its family of runaway youth programs, including the Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program run by Anchor Connection, as well as the Transitional Living Program administered by the Anchor House. Over the years, I have been honored to author many letters of support and have followed-up with the key Federal officials who administer Federal grant programs. Given the solid record of accomplishment they have built for themselves, Anchor House and Anchor Connection have proven that every cent of Federal support they have earned has been well worth the investment in our children.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, let me say that the employees and volunteers at Anchor Connection have every right to be proud and gratified by this national award today. Today's award honors not only Mercer County's successes, but all the heroes across America who work in obscurity and anonymity on the front lines and in the trenches of America's war on drugs. These are the heroes who are out there on the streets of America day and night saving our children from the scourge of drugs one kid at a time. When the fanfare from today's ceremony ends, their quiet, patient task of rebuilding and repairing lives will go on. The hope and promise of a drug-free America that Anchor Connection has amply demonstrated in 1996, is and should be inspiration to teachers, parents, and students everywhere. It is right and fitting that we honor their arduous efforts and successes today.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

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

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 18, 1997, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 19

- 9:00 a.m.
Judiciary
Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine Internet crimes affecting consumers. SD-226
- 9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
Strategic Forces Subcommittee
To resume hearings in open and closed session on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on Department of Energy weapons programs. SR-222
- Budget
To hold a meeting to discuss various budget proposals for fiscal year 1998. SD-608
- Commerce, Science, and Transportation Communications Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the Federal Communications Commission implementation of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, focusing on efforts to implement universal telephone service reform and FCC proposals to assess new per-minute fees on Internet service providers. SR-253
- Environment and Public Works
Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act, focusing on environmental programs and statewide and metropolitan planning. SD-406
- Labor and Human Resources
To hold hearings to examine proposals to reform the operation of the Food and Drug Administration. SD-430
- Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the legislative recommendations of the Disabled American Veterans. 345 Cannon Building
- 10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold closed hearings to review proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the intelligence community. S-407, Capitol
- Armed Services
Acquisition and Technology Subcommittee
To hold hearings to review the status of acquisition reform in the Department of Defense. SR-418

- Finance
To hold hearings on improving Medicare choices. SD-215
- Joint Economic
To hold hearings to examine the problems of the current automobile insurance system and how American motorists could benefit from reform of the industry. 2226 Rayburn Building
- 11:00 a.m.
Small Business
Business meeting, to mark up S. 208, to provide Federal contracting opportunities for small business concerns located in historically underutilized business zones. SR-428A
- 2:00 p.m.
Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Securities and Exchange Commission. S-146, Capitol
- Armed Services
SeaPower Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program. SR-222
- Armed Services
Readiness Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on military readiness accounts. SR-232A
- Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings on S. 377, to promote electronic commerce by facilitating the use of strong encryption. SR-253
- Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine efforts by private individuals, community organizations, and religious groups to prevent juvenile crime. SD-226
- MARCH 20
- 9:00 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for agricultural research. SR-332
- 9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for atomic energy defense activities of the Department of Energy. SD-124
- Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 414, to amend the Shipping Act of 1984 to encourage competition in international shipping and growth of United States imports and exports. SR-253
- Energy and Natural Resources
To resume hearings to examine issues with regard to competitive change in the electric power industry. SD-106

- Governmental Affairs
Oversight of Government Management and The District of Columbia Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the role of the Department of Commerce in United States trade policy, promotion and regulation, and opportunities for reform and consolidation. SD-342
- Rules and Administration
To hold oversight hearings to review the operations and budget of the Congressional Research Service and the Library of Congress. SR-301
- Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the legislative recommendations of AMVETS, the American Ex-Prisoners of War, the Veterans of World War I, and the Vietnam Veterans of America. 345 Cannon Building
- 10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Education. SD-192
- Appropriations
Transportation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on the implications of the proposed acquisition of Conrail by CSX Corporation. SD-192
- Armed Services
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on Department of Energy national security programs and to review environmental management activities. SR-222
- Finance
To continue hearings on improving Medicare choices. SD-215
- Labor and Human Resources
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Higher Education Act. SD-430
- Joint Economic
To hold hearings to examine the current economic outlook and monetary policy. 2175 Rayburn Building
- 10:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Foreign Operations Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for international narcotics, crime and law enforcement. SD-138
- Judiciary
Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business. SD-226
- 2:00 p.m.
Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the United Nations. S-146, Capitol

Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee
To resume hearings to examine the future of the National Park System and to identify and discuss the needs, requirements, and innovative programs that will insure the Park Service will continue to meet its responsibilities well into the next century.

SD-366

MARCH 21

11:00 a.m.
Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
To hold a briefing on prospects for elections, reintegration, and democratization in Croatia.

2200 Rayburn Building

APRIL 8

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-138

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Farm Service Agency, the Foreign Agricultural Service, and the Risk Management Agency, Department of Agriculture.

SD-124

2:00 p.m.
Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine child pornography issues.

S-146, Capitol

APRIL 9

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for Navy and Marine Corps programs.

SD-192

APRIL 10

9:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Bureau of Indian Affairs of the Department of the Interior and Indian gaming activities.

SD-124

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

S-146, Capitol

Appropriations
Transportation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Transportation

SD-192

APRIL 15

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SD-138

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Rural Utilities Service, the Rural Housing Service, the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, and the Alternative Agricultural Research and Commercialization Center, all of the Department of Agriculture.

SD-124

2:00 p.m.
Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on counter-terrorism issues.

S-146, Capitol

APRIL 16

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of the Army.

SD-192

Appropriations
Transportation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Transportation.

SD-124

2:00 p.m.
Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Federal Communications Commission.

S-146, Capitol

APRIL 17

9:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture.

SD-192

1:30 p.m.
Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Supreme Court of the United States and the Judiciary.

S-146, Capitol

APRIL 22

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the National Science Foundation and the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

SD-192

Appropriations
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Environmental Management Program of the Department of Energy.

SD-124

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Agricultural Research Service, the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, the Economic Research Service, and the National Agricultural Statistics Service, all of the Department of Agriculture.

SD-138

APRIL 23

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense, focusing on medical programs.

SD-192

APRIL 24

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the National Endowment for the Arts/National Endowment for the Humanities.

SD-192

Appropriations
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Corp of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior.

SD-124

APRIL 29

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SD-138

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and the Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Resources.

SD-124

APRIL 30

10:00 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Defense Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense, focusing on the structure and modernization of the National Guard.

SD-192

MAY 1

9:00 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Interior Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of the Interior.

SD-192

MAY 6

9:30 a.m.
 Appropriations
 VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

SD-138

MAY 7

10:00 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Defense Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense.

SD-192

MAY 14

10:00 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Defense Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense, focusing on environmental programs.

SD-192

MAY 21

10:00 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Defense Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense, focusing on Air Force programs.

SD-192

JUNE 4

10:00 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Defense Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense.

SD-192

JUNE 11

10:00 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Defense Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense.

SD-192

CANCELLATIONS

MARCH 18

10:00 a.m.
 Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SR-253

MARCH 19

9:30 a.m.
 Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 Aviation Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine international aviation and United States-United Kingdom bilateral agreements.

SR-253