

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## AMERICA'S HONG KONG

## HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to encourage my colleagues to read an article entitled "America's Hong Kong" in the current edition of the American Enterprise, the journal of the prestigious American Enterprise Institute. In the May/June edition, Ronald Bailey provides an indepth analysis of his recent fact-finding trip to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands [CNMI].

Bailey recounts the history of the islands, which were the scene of some of the heaviest fighting during World War II. As he explains, it took more than 25 days of fierce fighting for the United States to secure the islands from Japan at a cost of more than 3,000 American casualties and more than 30,000 Japanese defenders.

He explains that after the war, the poor and underdeveloped islands were administered by the U.S. military until 1975 when a covenant was negotiated with the United States that established CNMI as a "self-governing entity under the sovereignty of the United States."

Until the covenant, Bailey points out that the islands "were an impoverished ward living off meager Federal handouts." By the mid-1980's, a series of factors "converged to create a remarkable economic boom."

Bailey refers to the Marianas as "a true free-market success story."

He details the growth of the economy, increases in per capita GDP, and the drop in unemployment from 15 to 4 percent. The economic growth enabled the government to reduce tax rates.

We can learn from their example. It is worth stressing that even though tax rates were cut, CNMI government revenue increased from \$5 million in 1978 to \$220 million in 1996. As a result, U.S. contributions to their government operation ended in 1992.

Bailey also addresses the charges of labor abuses and concedes that these existed, but that local officials were working to improve conditions. He cites Gov. Froilan Tenorio to the effect those who abuse workers "are being investigated, prosecuted and convicted of crimes or administrative violations."

Mr. Speaker, there are some in this body and this administration who believe that they can manage the islands better from Washington. Bailey responds by quoting the Governor's simple plea: "Don't permit Washington to micromanage us or impose its policies and theories on us. Don't send us back to the old cycle of dependency on Federal handouts."

I agree with this approach and hope that this article will serve to shed new light on how this American commonwealth has prospered and reduced its dependence upon the Federal bureaucracy.

## AMERICA'S HONG KONG

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) is a chain of 14 tiny islands directly north of Guam in the western Pacific. The island of Saipan is home to 90 percent of the commonwealth's population. For centuries, Spain administered the islands as colonial possessions; then they were sold to Germany and eventually handed over to Japan after World War I.

As the Second World War approached, the Japanese fortified the islands. U.S. troops invaded Saipan on June 15, 1944. It took 25 days of fierce fighting to secure the island at a cost of more than 3,000 dead American soldiers and more than 30,000 dead Japanese defenders. The islands are still littered with the debris of the battles: rotting gun emplacements, Japanese command posts and bunkers, rusting armored vehicles. Of the many war memorials that dot Saipan, the most sobering is at Suicide Cliff. From that precipice, hundreds of Japanese men, women, and children jumped several hundred feet to their deaths rather than surrender to the American invaders.

After the war, the poor and undeveloped islands were administered by the U.S. military, which closed them to outsiders because of a very elaborate, secret CIA covert operations base on Saipan. In the 1970s, this sleepy tropical backwater began to negotiate a new status with the United States. This eventually resulted in a 1975 covenant that established the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands as a self-governing entity under the sovereignty of the United States. The relationship is made clear on island license plates, which proudly read "CNMI USA."

Essentially, the locals became U.S. citizens, but without the right to vote in presidential elections, and without federal income taxes. Although most federal laws apply, the covenant reserved some crucial areas to the control of the CNMI government, including minimum wage rates, immigration rules, and customs. In 1978, the islands established a democratically elected bicameral legislature with a Senate and a House of Representatives, an executive branch headed by a governor, and an independent judiciary.

Until the covenant, the Mariana Islands were an impoverished ward living off meager federal government handouts. In 1970, the 1,000 or so indigenous people who were employed had annual wages totaling \$1.5 million, and the largest employer was the Trust Territory government. In 1970, the total number of hotel rooms in the islands was 83.

Even after the covenant, full economic takeoff had to wait for the conferring of American citizenship on CNMI residents to be finalized by various bureaucrats. But by 1986, three factors—the stability assured by affiliation with the United States; the opening of air service to Japan; and the abandonment of restrictions on foreign investment—converged to create a remarkable economic boom. A tourist flood resulted—the number of hotel rooms rose from 740 accommodating 117,000 visitors who spent \$59 million in 1980, to 3,600 rooms for 650,000 tourists who spent \$522 million in 1995. The second pillar of the

CNMI economic miracle in the garment industry. It rose from essentially nothing in 1985 to a \$419 million business in 1995. Total gross commercial revenue in the islands has grown from \$244 million in 1985 to \$1.5 billion in 1994.

What I found on a recent fact-finding trip to the Marianas was a true free-market success story. The economy grew at 13 percent per year from 1980 to '90, and per-capita GDP quadrupled from \$2,400 to \$10,000. Unemployment dropped from 15 percent to 4 percent. In addition, the Commonwealth slashed income taxes by 90 percent, cut capital gains taxes to half the U.S. rate, reduced excise taxes, and eliminated import duties. There are no inheritance, property, or sales taxes on the islands. Meanwhile, CNMI government revenues have increased from \$5 million in 1978 to \$220 million in 1996, and the U.S. contribution to government operations ended entirely in 1992.

The flood of private investment in the Marianas soon ran up against a dilemma. There were not enough local people to fill the new jobs being created. The solution was hiring thousands of temporary "guestworkers."

Under the covenant, the CNMI has complete control over immigration. The hotels, garment factories, and construction firms currently employ 29,000 guestworkers, and guestworkers make up nearly half of the islands' population of 60,000. Some 20,000 of the nonresident workers are Filipinos, while 7,000 are from mainland China.

"If you look at a map, you will see that we are the first tropical beach immediately south of Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and the China coast. This means that we have enormous potential to reap the benefits of our geographic location. But we cannot achieve that potential with our tiny local population alone," says CNMI Governor Froilan Tenorio. "What kind of investment climate do you think we will have if I have to tell a prospective investor, 'Sorry, we can't supply enough local manpower, and the federal government won't let us bring in any more foreign workers?'"

The Government's question is not merely a rhetorical one. Pushed by U.S. labor unions—who are upset by the prospect of a laissez-faire, loose wage, low-tax economic model blossoming under American sponsorship—and emboldened by instances of guestworkers being cheated and mistreated, the Clinton administration is threatening to clamp down on this mini-Hong Kong.

Allen Stayman, Director of the Office of Insular Affairs in the U.S. Department of the Interior, has threatened to rake control of immigration and wage policy away from the CNMI government. Clinton officials "are firmly convinced that a gradual increase in the CNMI wage rate and the eventual full application of the Fair Labor Standards Act would benefit the economy," testified Stayman this past February in support of a bill that would force up CNMI minimum wages. Governor Tenorio, on the other hand, argued in his own House testimony that all such federal intervention will do "is ruin our economy. . . and assure that our Commonwealth will remain permanently dependent on federal assistance."

● 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.

The irony is that these interventions are being proposed just when other Pacific territories are jealously eyeing the CNMI's humming economy. One hundred twenty miles to the south, Guam is trying to negotiate a covenant with the U.S. similar to the one the CNMI has, in which Guam would gain control over immigration and labor regulations. And even as Clinton administration officials attack the CNMI, they have had a change of heart that leaves them looking favorably at Guam's request. Why? In February, the Washington Post reported that Guam got the attention of the Clintonites after Governor Carl Gurierez raised and delivered nearly \$900,000 in combined contributions to the Clinton-Gore re-election campaign and the Democratic National Committee. These handsome campaign contributions made the citizens of Guam, who cannot vote in U.S. elections, the biggest donors to the Democratic Party per capita of any part of the U.S. Governor Gutierrez has met with President Clinton in person twice since making the contributions.

Maybe the CNMI missed a bet. If Governor Tenorio had hosted a fundraiser for Clinton, and then flown to the White House for a coffee date, he might not be facing today's threat to the common-wealth's right to direct its own economy.

Certainly there are problems in the CNMI. One is a large local bureaucracy. The 1997 budget shows that nearly 4,600 of the 27,500 U.S. citizens on the islands work for the government. The islands' long period of federal dependency fed cultural attitudes that are found all too often in poor countries around the world today. "Our people were enticed out of the fields and fishing boats and into desk jobs where they were taught that working for the government was the road to riches and that other people would do the dirty work," Governor Tenorio testified at a recent Congressional hearing. "Worse, we were inculcated with a welfare mentality. Uncle Sam paid the bills and cleaned up the messes, and we came to rely on that."

When I suggested to one government official on my recent visit that too many locals were working for the government, he answered: "Well, they're not trained for anything else. If we didn't pay them to work for the government, they'd be on welfare." A tourist boat captain joked to me that the traditional Marianas' greeting, "Hafa Adai," really means "half a day," which is all that an islander wants to work. Several other locals proudly cited the claim that islanders consume more Budweiser per capita than any other people in the world. Anheuser-Busch has twice sent out a vice-president to see what is going on.

There is also little question but that some guestworkers have been mistreated. Government officials do not deny this, and say they are making new officers to enforce contracts and apply existing labor standards. "Employers and others who abuse our guestworkers are no better than common criminals," testified Tenorio on Capitol Hill. "They are being investigated, prosecuted, and convicted of crimes or administrative violations."

The Governor argues "It would be impossible to understand how [federal agencies] could possibly do a better job in the CNMI than we are now doing." Taking over Immigration control and raising minimum wages would only destroy economic opportunities and hurt employees and employers alike. The current minimum in CNMI garment factories, \$2.90 per hour, is already more than ten times the average wage in mainland

China, which the *New York Times* has recently reported to be 28 cents per hour. The overwhelming majority of CNMI guest workers request that their labor contracts be renewed upon expiration. Governor Tenorio's summary plea to Congress is a simple one: "Don't permit Washington to micro-manage us or impose its policies and theories on us. Don't send us back to the old cycle of dependency on federal handouts."

#### IN HONOR OF RETIRING TEACHERS

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, teaching our children is one of the Nation's most important tasks. The professionals who devote their career to it are worthy of our highest praise.

Let us commemorate the careers of two fine teachers from Cleveland's public schools: Carolyn Harrison and Artha Mae Vincent.

Carolyn Harrison devoted 30 years of service to the Cleveland public schools where she taught social studies to hundreds of students and taught elementary school to many children. A mother, grandmother and great grandmother, Carolyn also found time to be active in her church and to serve on the mayor's parent involvement committee.

Artha Mae Vincent served Cleveland's parents and children for 30 years as a science teacher. She also served as the department chairperson at Wilbur Wright Middle School and was a winner of the Martha Holden Jennings Scholar. She was also active in her church, volunteered her time generously, and raised a family.

Thirty years of service to the cause of instructing America's youth is a landmark achievement. Mr. Speaker, we honor its attainment by two fine teachers from Cleveland. They retire with our unending gratitude and appreciation.

#### EXPERTS NOTE IMPORTANCE OF BURDEN SHARING

### HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, rollcall recently put out a very useful supplement on the question of America's defense. One of the articles, written by two very well informed defense specialists, Michael O'Hanlon and William Durch, makes an important point which is often left out of discussions of how much America should be spending on the military. Much of what America spends on the military is essential for our national security. But a significant part—tens of billions per year I believe—is spent as an active international charity. That is, the United States continues to subsidize our wealthy European and East Asian allies, in a pattern which made sense when it began in the late 1940's after World War II, but no longer has any real justification. In the closing paragraphs of their report, the

authors note that "those who argue for greater international burden sharing have a point: The United States does do more than its fair share today." And they go on to state, in what should be the central point of our defense budget debates, "it is time to start asking our major allies, especially the wealthy and well established democracies of Western Europe, to do their fair share."

These authors fully understand the importance of a strong national defense, and the point they make is that we could make considerable savings for the U.S. taxpayers in ways that would have no negative effect whatsoever on our national security or international objectives, simply by ending the unjustified policy of subsidy of the wealthy which is an unfortunate continuing part of our military spending. I am inserting the relevant part of their article here:

#### BEYOND QDR

At a more general level, those who argue for greater international burdensharing have a point: The United States does do more than its fair share today.

Not only in backstopping difficult peace operations, but in maintaining its forces from Korea to the Taiwan Straits to the Persian Gulf to Bosnia, the United States undertakes activities and maintains stability in a way that no other state can rival. It also spends a considerably higher share of its GDP doing so than most allies devote to their militaries—roughly 3.5 percent of the GDP in this country, versus an average of just more than 2 percent among the NATO allies and just over one percent in Japan.

Some of these costs and risks ought to be reallocated. For starters, US dues for U.N. peacekeeping should be reduced through negotiation with other countries. But that is not enough. Perhaps the most serious flaw of the QDR is that it lets the major allies off the hook. They have no role in US war plans under the Bottom-Up Review, and apparently will have no role under the QDR's assumptions either. That is partly because we cannot dictate political decisions to our allies about when to fight. But it is also because they have not done enough to equip their forces for the types of wars that are most likely in this post-Cold War era.

It is time to start asking our major allies, especially the wealthy and well-established democracies of Western Europe, to do their fair share. They should buy military airlift and sealift, more logistics capabilities like trucks, and other assets that would help them help us fight the next war in a place like Southwest Asia.

Though depending heavily on imported oil, they provided only one-tenth as many forces to Desert Storm as the United States—and could probably not do even that well today.

Overall, the Pentagon, has done a passable job with the defense review. Give the generals and Cohen a solid B. But rough spots remain—and plenty of defense challenges await lawmakers on Capitol Hill in the months and years ahead.

High on the list are implementing the recommendations of the ODR, further scrutinizing weapons modernization programs, finding money for unforeseeable needs like peace operations, and pressing our wealthy allies to reshape their policies and force structures for the post-Cold War world.

IN HONOR OF MR. AND MRS.  
CACCIAPAGLIA

**HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 1997*

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to and congratulate Frank and Kitty Cacciapaglia, a couple who have been helping to build and improve our community for many years. June 14, 1997, marks the 50th wedding anniversary for Frank and Kitty Cacciapaglia. The couple were married in Staunton, VA, before moving to northern Virginia, where they raised their five children.

During the couples first years of marriage, Frank was a chemist at the Food and Drug Administration. In 1955, he started at the Patent Office and served in numerous special assignments, including Primary Examiner of the Patent Drug Division, an Administrative Assistant to the President's Commission on the Patent System, Director of the Patent Office Speaker's Bureau, Executive Secretary of the Commerce Technical Advisory Board, and the Chairman of the Com-Sci Fellowship. Frank is also an active member of the Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity.

During the 50 years of their marriage, Frank and Kitty have witnessed the growth of northern Virginia from a sleepy bedroom community of the early 1950's to the large urban metropolis it is today. As a successful realtor, Kitty has watched and participated in the growth of our region. She has been an active member of her community by participating in many clubs and activities. She was a member of the Northern Virginia Board of Realtors for 17 years. Kitty has also been active in politics, serving as a member of the local Republican Women's Club.

Today, Frank and Kitty are the proud parents of 5 children and 10 grandchildren. They are enjoying their retirement years by wintering in Indialantic, FL, while maintaining their residence in Ravenwood Park, near Seven Corners in Fairfax County. They also spend a great deal of their time traveling and visiting with their children and grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me, their neighbors, family and friends in wishing Frank and Kitty Cacciapaglia, Jr., a happy 50th anniversary as the Cacciapaglias celebrates their special day on June 14, 1997.

TRIBUTE TO ELINOR AND  
RANDOLPH GUGGENHEIMER

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 1997*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a respectful tribute to Elinor and Randolph Guggenheimer on the occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary. The Guggenheimers are graciously sharing their milestone this evening at a reception hosted by the Council of Senior Centers and Services of New York City, Inc. [CSCS]. Ely and Randolph have both devoted their lives to helping

others and making New York City a better place to live.

Ely has spent most of her life volunteering her services to people of all ages and walks of life. She has played a significant role in improving many teenage girl's educations through her work with the Educational Alliance. Women have benefited from the organizations Ely has founded, including the National Women's Political Caucus, the New York Women's Forum, the National Women's Forum, the International Forum, and the New York Women's Agenda. Families have been afforded more options because of the Day Care Council of New York, the Day Care and Child Development Council of America, and the Child Care Action Campaign, all of which Ely founded.

Ely has also been a vocal advocate for the Jewish and elderly communities through her trustee position at the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, her founding of the Jewish Association for Services for the Aged and through CSCS, as founder and former executive director. Among her many other achievements, Ely has been commissioner of consumer affairs of New York City, a television anchor, and a member of the City Planning Commission.

Randolph's contributions are equally impressive. He was almost solely responsible for the creation of the North General Hospital. Later, as chairman of the hospital's board, Randolph fought to save the troubled hospital from financial ruin. He has remained chairman of the board of the hospital, helping it survive and provide essential health care to the Harlem community. His leadership at the hospital also enabled the construction of a much-needed new medical facility at North General.

Randolph has dedicated his time to a variety of other philanthropic organizations and led a distinguished legal and military career. He is also the former chairman of the board of Mills College of Education and the Westchester Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise and join me in paying tribute to Elinor and Randolph Guggenheimer on their 65th wedding anniversary. The Guggenheimers are a couple whose dedication to each other and to the organizations they have founded and supported over the years should serve as a model of commitment to us all.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INTER-  
NATIONAL TAX SIMPLIFICATION  
FOR AMERICAN COMPETITIVE-  
NESS ACT

**HON. AMO HOUGHTON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 1997*

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I am joined by my colleague, Mr. LEVIN in introducing legislation to simplify and reform our current international tax laws. As all of you know, we are in a period of fundamental re-examination of the Internal Revenue Code. One of the most complicated and impenetrable areas of the Code and most in need of change is the foreign area. Our international trade laws have

gotten ahead of our tax laws for this area. We consider our bill to be a down payment on needed changes in this area.

The focus of the legislation is to put some rationalization to the international tax area. In general, the bill seeks in modest but important ways to: (1) simplify this overly complex area, especially the foreign tax credit and the various antiferral mechanism; (2) encourage exports; (3) provide incentives for performance of R&D in the U.S.; (4) enhance U.S. competitiveness in other industrialized countries. And it seeks to achieve these objectives in a revenue-conscious manner.

For some period of time, the Committee on Ways and Means has been considering issues relating to international competitiveness and proper taxation of U.S. based multinational corporations. In 1991, the committee held 10 days of public hearings on the issues: international competitiveness including tax, trade, education, technology and other important issues affecting the nation's ability to compete internationally.

In 1992, two former members of the Ways and Means Committee, Messrs. Rostenkowski and Gradison, introduced H.R. 5270. It attempted to address many of the same issues included in our bill. More recently, the Department of Treasury introduced a new tax simplification package which included provisions similar to those contained in our legislation.

Now as we begin the process of re-examining in fundamental ways our income tax system, we believe it imperative to address the area of international taxation. In an Internal Revenue Code stuffed with eye-glazing complexity, there is probably no area that contains as many difficult and complicated rules as international taxation.

Neither one of us is under any illusion that the measure which we introduced removes all complexity or breaks bold new conceptual ground. We believe, however, that the enactment of this legislation would be a significant step in the right direction. The legislation would enhance the ability of America to continue to be the preeminent economic force in the world. If our economy is to continue to create jobs for its citizens, we must ensure that the foreign provisions of the U.S. income tax law do not stand in the way.

The law as now constituted frustrates the legitimate goals and objectives of American business and erects artificial and unnecessary barriers to U.S. competitiveness. In addition, the law stands as a monument to the fact that the conceptual complexity of man as applied to the Internal Revenue Code knows no limits. Neither the largest U.S. based multinational companies nor the Internal Revenue Service is in a position to administer and interpret the mind numbing complexity of many of the foreign provisions. Why not then move toward creating a set of international tax rules which taxpayers can understand, and the government can administer?

In summary, therefore the proposed changes we believe represent a creditable package and a down payment on further reform in the international tax area. We ask you to join us, in this bipartisan effort, by supporting our legislation.

June 4, 1997

A TRIBUTE TO MEADOWS  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize excellence in education and to congratulate Meadows Elementary School as a U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School.

The Blue Ribbon Schools Program is an outstanding program which challenges schools across the Nation to rise up and meet the educational goals of the 21st century. In order to qualify, schools must demonstrate clear leadership, high quality teaching, a solid commitment to parental involvement, and finally, evidence that the school helps all students to achieve high standards.

Meadows Elementary has not only achieved but has surpassed these goals. At Meadows teachers and students view themselves as a community of learners taking every opportunity to turn a problem into a chance to excel. It is this dedication to the true ideals of learning that I honor Meadows Elementary School.

Meadows Elementary is successful today largely because of the dedication of its parents and teachers. Every day teachers begin the school day before any other school in the district so that they can, have time to share ideas and train one another. Parents provide additional support in whatever form that they can, be it at home or school. One weekend several parents and teachers volunteered their time to help wire the school so that every classroom could have internet access. It is that extra effort to strive for scholastic achievement which has made Meadows a Blue Ribbon School.

I join the parents, teachers, staff, and students of Meadows Elementary and the city of Thousand Oaks in recognizing Meadows Elementary for its contributions toward teaching and the development of future leaders for our Nation. As a Blue Ribbon School, Meadows Elementary stands as an example for other schools in our community and our Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CASS BALLENGER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for rollcall votes 137 and 138 on May 16, 1997, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 137, an amendment to separate the Summer Youth Employment Program from the Disadvantaged Youth Block Grant Program included in the bill. I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 138, a vote on final passage of the Employment, Training, and Literacy Enhancement Act of 1997. As a cosponsor of this legislation, I support this program consolidation measure.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN MEMORY OF BRIDGET  
SWEENEY

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Bridget Sweeney, an active citizen and participant in the political process, wife and mother.

Bridget was born in Carrickmacross, County Monaghan, Ireland. She came to the United States after graduating from high school in 1930. She worked as a domestic servant during the Depression. Later, she worked as a customer service representative for the Cleveland Division of Water.

Bridget was active in Cleveland's civic life. She made countless telephone calls, handed out reams of leaflets, and spoke with scores of her peers to promote a better community.

She raised three children and worked to elect her son, State Senator Patrick Sweeney of Cleveland.

She also volunteered with her church, St. Ignatius. She was a member of the Altar and Rosary Society, as well as the St. Ignatius Citizens Group.

Bridget leaves behind eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. We will all miss her.

THE PRESIDENT'S GRADUATION  
REMARKS AT WEST POINT

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, last weekend I had the honor and privilege of welcoming the President of the United States to the graduation ceremony at our Nation's military academy at West Point, NY, just outside of my congressional district.

The President's graduation remarks to the 896 graduates of the West Point class of 1997 was an inspirational and encouraging clarion call to our Nation's military leaders of tomorrow.

Many of us especially welcomed the President's underscoring the importance of NATO expansion, an issue which I have championed for many years because it will help ensure not only our Nation's own security, but also that of our allies and those nations struggling to achieve democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I welcome this opportunity to insert the President's remarks in full at this point in the RECORD:

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AT THE U.S.  
MILITARY ACADEMY COMMENCEMENT

The President: Thank you very much. Please be seated, relax. Thank you, General Christman, for those kind introductory remarks and for your truly extraordinary service to your nation throughout your military career. Here at West Point, and before, when we had more opportunities to work together on a daily basis, I have constantly admired your dedication and your ability.

General Reimer, Secretary West, Senator Reed, Chairman Gilman, Congressman

10103

Shimkus, Congresswoman Kelly, Congressman Sessions, former Congressman Bilbray, parents and families and friends of the cadets, and especially, to the Class of 1997, I extend my heartfelt congratulations.

This has been a truly remarkable class. As General Christman said, you wrote an unparalleled record of academic achievement in the classroom. I congratulate you all, and particularly your number one honor graduate and valedictorian, Adam Ake. Congratulations to all of you on your accomplishments. (Applause.)

Now, General Christman also outlined the extraordinary accomplishments of your athletic teams, and he mentioned that I had the privilege of seeing Army win its first 10-win season in football and reclaim the Commander in Chiefs Trophy in Philadelphia. And he thanked me for that. But, actually, as a lifelong football fan, I deserve no thanks. It was a terrific game, and I'm quite sure it was the first time in the field of any endeavor of conflict where the Army defeated the navy not on land, but on water. (Laughter and applause.)

I know that in spite of all of your achievements as a class and in teams, a few of you also upheld West Point's enduring tradition of independence. It began in 1796 when President Adams' War Department ordered the first classes in fortification. And the troops here thought they already knew all about that, so they burned the classroom to the ground, postponing the start of instruction by five years. (Laughter.)

Today, I am reliably informed that though your spirits are equally high, your infractions are more modest. Therefore, I hereby exercise my prerogative to grant amnesty for minor offenses to the Corps of Cadets. (Applause.) The cheering was a little disconcerting—now, the operative word there was "minor." (Laughter.)

Men and women of the Class of '97, today you join the Long Gray Line, the Long Gray Line that stretches across two centuries of unstinting devotion to America and the freedom that is our greatest treasure. From the defense of Fort Erie in the War of 1812 to the fury of Antietam, from the trenches of Argonne to the Anzio in Okinawa, to Heartbreak Ridge, the Mekong Delta, the fiery dessert of the Gulf War, the officers of West Point have served and sacrificed for our nation.

In just the four years since I last spoke here, your graduates have helped to restore democracy to Haiti, to save hundreds of thousands of lives from genocide and famine in Rwanda, to end the bloodshed in Bosnia. Throughout our history, whenever duty called, the men and women of West Point have never failed us. And I speak for all Americans when I say, I know you never will.

I'd like to say a special word of appreciation to West Point and a special word of congratulations to the students in this class from other countries. We welcome you here; we are proud to have you as a part of our military service tradition. And we wish you well as you go back home. We hope you, too, can advance freedom's cause, for in the 21st century that is something we must do together.

Two days ago I returned from Europe on a mission to look back to one of the proudest chapters in America's history and to look forward to the history we all will seek to shape for our children and grandchildren. This week is the 50th anniversary of the Marshall Plan, what Winston Churchill described as the most unordained act in all history.

In 1947, Americans, exhausted by war and anxious to get on with their lives at home, were summoned to embrace another leadership role by a generation of remarkable leaders—General George Marshall, Senator Arthur Vandenberg, President Harry Truman—leaders who knew there could be no lasting peace and security for an America that withdrew behind its borders and withdrew from the world and its responsibilities. They provided the indispensable leadership to create the Marshall Plan, NATO, and the first global financial institutions. They, in effect, organized America and our allies to meet the challenges of their time—to build unparalleled prosperity, to stand firm against Soviet expansionism until the light of freedom shone all across Europe.

The second purpose of my journey was inextricably tied to the first. It was to look to the future, to the possibility of achieving what Marshall's generation could only dream of—a democratic, peaceful and undivided Europe for the first time in all of history; and to the necessity of America and its allies once again organizing ourselves to meet the challenges of our time, to secure peace and prosperity for the next 50 years and beyond.

To build and secure a new Europe, peaceful, democratic and undivided at last, there must be a new NATO, with new missions, new members and new partners. We have been building that kind of NATO for the last three years with new partners in the Partnership for Peace and NATO's first out-of-area mission in Bosnia. In Paris last week, we took another giant stride forward when Russia entered a new partnership with NATO, choosing cooperation over confrontation, as both sides affirmed that the world is different now. European security is no longer a zero-sum contest between Russia and NATO; but a cherished, common goal.

In a little more than a month, I will join with other NATO leaders in Madrid to invite the first of Europe's new democracies in Central Europe to join our Alliance, with the consent of the Senate, by 1999—the 50th anniversary of NATO's founding.

I firmly believe NATO enlargement is in our national interests. But because it is not without cost and risk, it is appropriate to have an open, full, national discussion before proceeding. I want to further that discussion here today in no small measure because it is especially important to those of you in this class. For, after all, as the sentinels of our security in the years ahead, your work will be easier and safer if we do the right thing—and riskier and much more difficult if we do not.

Europe's fate and America's future are joined. Twice in half a century, Americans have given their lives to defend liberty and peace in world wars that began in Europe. And we have stayed in Europe in very large numbers for a long time throughout the Cold War. Taking wise steps now to strengthen our common security when we have the opportunity to do so will help to build a future without the mistakes and the divisions of the past, and will enable us to organize ourselves to meet the new security challenges of the new century. In this task, NATO should be our sharpest sword and strongest shield.

Some say we no longer need NATO because there is no powerful threat to our security now. I say there is no powerful threat in part because NATO is there. And enlargement will help make it stronger.

I believe we should take in new members to NATO for four reasons. First, it will strengthen our Alliance in meeting the security challenges of the 21st century, address-

ing conflicts that threaten the common peace of all.

Consider Bosnia—already the Czech Republic, Poland, Romania, the Baltic nations and other Central European countries are contributing troops and bases to NATO's peace-keeping mission in Bosnia. We in the United States could not have deployed our troops to Bosnia as safely, smoothly and swiftly as we did without the help of Hungary and our staging ground at Tazsar, which I personally visited. The new democracies we invite to join NATO are ready and able to share the burdens of defending freedom in no small measure because they know the cost of losing freedom.

Second, NATO enlargement will help to secure the historic gains of democracy in Europe. NATO can do for Europe's East what it did for Europe's West at the end of World War II—provide a secure climate where freedom, democracy and prosperity can flourish. Joining NATO once helped Italy, Germany and Spain to consolidate their democracies. Now the opening of NATO's doors has led the Central European nations already—already—to deepen democratic reform, to strengthen civilian control of their military, to open their economies. Membership and its future prospect will give them the confidence to stay the course.

Third, enlarging NATO will encourage prospective members to resolve their differences peacefully. We see all over the world the terrible curse of people who are imprisoned by their own ethnic, regional and nationalist hatreds, who rob themselves and their children of the lives they might have because of their primitive, destructive impulses that they cannot control.

When he signed the NATO Treaty in 1949, President Truman said that if NATO had simply existed in 1914 or 1939, it would have prevented the world wars that tore the world apart. The experience of the last 50 years supports that view. NATO helped to reconcile age-old adversaries like France and Germany, how fast friends and allies; and clearly has reduced tensions between Greece and Turkey over all these decades. Already the very prospect of NATO membership has helped to convince countries in Central Europe to settle more than half a dozen border and ethnic disputes, any one of which could have led to future conflicts. That, in turn, makes it less likely that you will ever be called to fight in another war across the Atlantic. (Applause.)

Fourth, enlarging NATO, along with its Partnership for Peace with many other nations and its special agreement with Russia and its soon-to-be-signed partnership with Ukraine, will erase the artificial line in Europe that Stalin drew, and bring Europe together in security, not keep it apart in instability.

NATO expansion does not mean a differently divided Europe. It is part of unifying Europe. NATO's first members should not be its last. NATO's doors will remain open to all those willing and able to shoulder the responsibilities of membership, and we must continue to strengthen our partnerships with non-members.

Now, let me be clear to all of you, these benefits are not cost- or risk-free. Enlargement will require the United States to pay an estimated \$200 million a year for the next decade. Our allies in Canada and Western Europe are prepared to do their part; so are NATO's new members. So must we.

More important, enlargement requires that we extend to new members our Alliance's most solemn security pledge, to treat an at-

tack against one as an attack against all. We have always made the pledge credible through the deployment of our troops and the deterrence of our nuclear weapons. In the years ahead, it means that you could be asked to put your lives on the line for a new NATO member, just as today you can be called upon to defend the freedom of our allies in Western Europe.

In leading NATO over the past three years to open its doors to Europe's new democracies, I weighed these costs very carefully. I concluded that the benefits of enlargement, strengthening NATO for the future, locking in democracy's gains in Central Europe, building stability across the Atlantic, uniting Europe, not dividing it—these gains decisively outweigh the burdens. The bottom line to me is clear: Expanding NATO will enhance our security. It is the right thing to do. We must not fail history's challenge at this moment to build a Europe peaceful, democratic, and undivided, allied with us to face the new security threats of the new century. A Europe that will avoid repeating the darkest moments of the 20th century and fulfill the brilliant possibilities of the 21st.

This vision for a new Europe is central to our larger security strategy, which you will be called upon to implement and enforce. But our agenda must go beyond it because, with all of our power and wealth, we are living in a world in which increasingly our influence depends upon our recognizing that our future is interdependent with other nations, and we must work with them all across the globe; because we see the threats we face tomorrow will cross national boundaries. They are amplified by modern technology, communication, and travel. They must be faced by like-minded nations, working together. Whether we're talking about terrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, or environmental degradation.

Therefore, we must pursue five other objectives. First, we must build a community of Asia Pacific nations bound by a common commitment to stability and prosperity. We fought three wars in Asia in half a century; Asia's stability affects our peace, and Asia's explosive growth affects our prosperity. That's why we've strengthened our security ties to Japan and Korea, why we now meet every year with the Asian Pacific leaders, why we must work with and not isolate ourselves from China.

One of the great questions that will define the future for your generation of Americans is how China will define its own greatness as a nation. We have worked with China because we believe it is important to cooperate in ways that will shape the definition of that great nation in positive, not negative, ways. We need not agree with China on all issues to maintain normal trade relations, but we do need normal trade relations to have a chance of eventually reaching agreement with China on matters of vital importance to America and the world.

Second, we are building coalitions across the world to confront these new security threats that know no borders: weapons proliferation, terrorism, drug trafficking, environmental degradation. We have to lead in constructing global arrangements that provide us the tools to deal with these common threats: the Chemical Weapons Convention, the Nonproliferation Treaty, the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, and our efforts to further reduce nuclear weapons with Russia.

Now our great task is also to build these kinds of arrangements fighting terrorism, drug traffickers and organized crime. Three

weeks from now in Denver I will use the summit of the eight leading nations to press this agenda.

The third thing we have to do is to build an open trading system. Our security is tied to the stake other nations have in the prosperity of staying free and open and working with others, not working against them. In no small measure because of the trade agreements we have negotiated, we have not only regained our position as the world's number one exporter, we have increased our influence in ways that are good for our security. To continue that progress it is important that I have the authority to conclude smart, new market-opening agreements that every President in 20 years has had.

Some of our fellow Americans do not believe that the President should have this authority anymore; they believe that somehow the global economy presents a threat to us—but I believe it's here to say, and I think the evidence is that Americans, just as we can have the world's strongest and best military, we have the strongest and best economy in the world—the American people can out-work and out-compete anyone given a free and fair chance. (Applause.)

Not only that, but this is about more than money and jobs. This is about security. The world, especially our democratic neighbors to the south of us, are looking to us. If we don't build economic bridges to them, someone else will. We must make it clear that America supports free people and fair, open trade.

Fourth, we have to embrace our role as the decisive force for peace. You cannot and you should not go everywhere. But when our values and interests are at stake, our mission is crystal clear and achievable—America should stand with our allies around the world who seek to bring peace and prevent slaughter. From the Middle East to Bosnia, from Haiti to Northern Ireland, we have worked to contain conflict, to support peace, to give children a brighter future, and it has enhanced our security.

Finally, we have to have the tools to do these jobs. Those are the most powerful and best-trained military in the world and a fully funded diplomacy to minimize the chances that military force will be necessary.

The long-term defense plan we have just completed will increase your readiness, capabilities, and technological edge. In a world of persistent dangers, you must and you will be able to dominate the conflicts of the future as you did the battlefields of the past.

Fifty-five years ago, in the early days of World War II, General George Marshall, the man we honored this week, spoke here at your commencement about the need to organize our nation for the ordeal of war. He said, we are determined that before the sun sets on this terrible struggle, our flag will be recognized as a symbol of freedom on the one hand and of overwhelming power on the other.

Today, our flag of freedom and power flies higher than ever, but because our nation stands at the pinnacle of its power, it also stands at the pinnacle of its responsibility. Therefore, as you carry our flag into this new era, we must organize ourselves to meet the challenges of the next 50 years. We must shape the peace for a new and better century about to dawn so that you can give your children and your grandchildren the America and the world they deserve.

God bless you and God bless America. (Applause.)

TRIBUTE TO GIRL SCOUT JUNIOR/ CADETTE TROOP 659

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Girl Scout Junior/Cadette Troop 659 of Lebanon, NH. On April 23, 1997, as part of their trip to our Nation's Capital, the girls of Troop 659 performed their Girl Scout American Flag Ceremony for me in my office in the Cannon House Office Building. These girls and their leaders, Suzi Madison and Mary Ames, represented their town, State, and country with the respect and class that the Girl Scout laws strive to uphold. Hence, I respectfully request that the copy of their ceremony, with the girls' names, be placed into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

GIRL SCOUT AMERICAN FLAG CEREMONY

Anne Friedman: Red for Valor—For the courage of all women who, with a dream in their hearts, crossed the ocean to begin life anew in a free land. For the bravery of women who, with hope and faith, crossed the prairie and mountains of our vast land. For the steadfastness of these women who, through all adversities, shouldered the country's burdens to emerge as strong individuals. (Places red stripes into pot)

Sarah Ames: White for Purity—For the integrity of all women whose fortitude wove the strands of diverse cultures into an integral national heritage. For the piety of all women whose faith formed the foundation upon which our country was built and continues to grow. (Places white stripes into pot)

Kate Polito: Blue for Justice—For the foresight of all those women who created an atmosphere in which each of their children would develop to their fullest potential. For the perseverance of all those women who contributed their talents to further the development of our country. (Places blue rectangle into pot)

Elaine Morlock: Stars for Dreams—For the dreams of the future so that the generations of tomorrow may fulfill the promise of the past 200 plus years; so that the visions of our forebears will be revitalized and the future will hold hope and promise for all generations to come. (Places white stars into pot)

Lea McBain: Stirring are the stories of my stars and stripes. I symbolize the soul of America, typifying her ideals and aspirations, her institutions and traditions. (Stirs pot with spoon)

Christie Wentworth: (Pulls flag out from pot) This flag, which we honor and under which we serve, is the emblem of our unity, our power, thought and purpose as a nation. Please join us in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Holding pot: Crissa Owen.  
Humming "America, the Beautiful" in the background were: Nicole Dolloph, Jessi Madison, and Nia Perkins.

FAITH AND LOVE MINISTRIES

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, in March, I became a member of the Renewal Alliance, a

group of 28 Congressmen and Senators committed to promoting local volunteer-driven, faith-based solutions to problems associated with poverty and cultural decline. While at home in California for Memorial Day recess, I was able to further my efforts with the Renewal Alliance by joining forces with Faith and Love Ministries, a volunteer group that networks with several churches in my district to feed impoverished families while helping them regain self-sufficiency.

I served meals to needy families in the community because I believe that there are no limits to what a caring community can do to touch lives. Faith and Love Ministries in Vista, CA, is a wonderful example of what can result from a compassionate heart and a helping hand.

Mr. Speaker, Washington simply never had an answer or replacement for the family, community, or church. For 30 years, we have watched poverty rates rise and the quality of life decline, despite billions of Federal dollars and hundreds of programs. We must now refocus and empower families, churches, and community groups to heal broken spirits and restore hope.

Faith and Love Ministries is powered by volunteers from several local religious organizations and depends entirely on donated surplus foods and other items to meet the needs of the community. Last year, the group provided over 36,000 hot meals, as well as job-assistance, laundry service, haircuts, and showers to several hundred. This year, their food pantry is experiencing severe shortages which threaten the operation.

Mr. Speaker, many of us think of can-drives and other charitable causes only around the holidays. Unfortunately, hunger is a yearlong problem. Most groups that serve the needy, including Faith and Love Ministries, find themselves short on donations and volunteers through the long summer months. If we are going to heed Gen. Colin Powell's call in Philadelphia to become active in volunteering and serving others, this is where it must begin.

CONGRATULATIONS ON AN OUTSTANDING JOB BY LOUISVILLE MALE HIGH SCHOOL IN THE WE THE PEOPLE CONTEST

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, on April 26-28, 1997 the We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution national finals were held here in Washington. More than 50 classes were represented by high schools around the Nation, and I would like to take this time to congratulate Louisville's Male High School on their outstanding job. These students showed a remarkable understanding of fundamental ideas and values of American constitutional government. The recognition of Male High School's accomplishments is a vital one, because it is important we encourage constitutional understanding in our Nation's schools.

Louisville Male High School teacher Sandy Hoover, brought to Washington the amazing

talent of students: Alexander Cherise, Jessika Berry, Ryan Bigg, Matt Blanford, Christine Bowman, Carrie Cahill, Yvette Clay, Samantha Cline, Amy Elzy, Candice Faulkner, Crystal Haynes, Lisa Knight, Tia Mitchell, Trivis Newman, Katherine O'Neil, Emily Pittard, Tyra Redus, Dara Shirley, John Sponcil, Zach Storer, Kieth Thomson, Joyce Walker, Scott Walker, and Angie Wielage.

They are to be congratulated on a job well done.

#### IN HONOR OF DAVID LYNCH

### HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today and pay tribute to one of northern Virginia's outstanding citizens, David Lynch. David is retiring after 50 years of Federal service to the U.S. Marine Corps and the Postal Service.

David joined the U.S. Marine Corps in January 1947 and served 21 years in posts throughout the world including China, Korea, Vietnam, the Mediterranean region, and Puerto Rico. He served in the Korean war at Inchon where he was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat V recognition. Dave's entire military career was with the Fleet Marine Force except for his one tour of duty at Marine Corps Headquarters. He retired from the Marines in December 1967 and settled in the Woodbridge area.

Dave is a longtime resident of Dale City and has been very active in his community. In 1968 Dave joined the U.S. Postal Service as a letter carrier. He took this position because it allowed him to keep in close contact with the people in his community. The greatest testimony to his friendliness is exemplified by the children of Dale City. When Dave appears on his route, children rush to greet him with, "Hi, Mr. Sunshine." During his time as a letter carrier Dave has helped rescue small puppies from storm drains, helped lost children find their way home, and has fortunately not been bitten by a dog.

One of Dave's most spectacular achievements is the Safety Program. As the Safety Chairman, Dave transformed the program to one of the best working offices in Virginia. He spent much of his own personal time bringing the program to the local elementary schools where he demonstrated the importance of safety in our community by inviting fire marshals and police in for safety lectures, as well as providing helpful literature to the elementary schoolchildren.

Dave has been an active member in many veteran organizations such as the American Legion Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Marine Corps League. In 1977, he was appointed the National Deputy Chief of Staff of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. During the past 3 years, he conducted a highly successful Santa Letter Writing Program that won a national award from the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The program has grown to such proportions that it was turned over to the Salvation Army this past year. Dave is the founder of

the Potomac Region Veteran's Council and was chairman for 2 years. He was instrumental in having a county park and road, the Veterans Memorial Park and Drive in Woodbridge, VA, named after veterans to honor their service to this Nation. In 1975, Dave was awarded the George Dalby Trophy as the outstanding veteran for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Dave's two most outstanding accomplishments were his State and district support of the new National Cemetery at Quantico, VA, and his efforts for the continued support of funding to the Rehabilitation Center for Alcoholics at Lorton.

Dave has been instrumental in the growth of the Woodbridge community. He was influential in the planning and construction of the Dale City Recreation Center, a \$1.2 million project dedicated to the youth of Dale City. Dave was also a key player in planning the successful preservation of the old court house site, Brentsville, Cedar Run, Grayson's Monument, and Lee Monument.

David Lynch is a remarkable man whose contributions to his community and his country as a leader and volunteer have made a great difference. I know my colleagues join me in honoring this outstanding man.

#### IN MEMORY OF "DR. JOHN" ELEFTERAKIS, M.D.

### HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, with a heavy heart, to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Dr. John Elefterakis, a father, friend, and healer.

"Dr. John," as he was known to family, friends, and patients, was much too young when he was taken from our midst. However, I do not wish to stand here today and be sad for his passing; instead I would like to celebrate a life so richly lived and shared with others.

Dr. John came from humble beginnings, a son of immigrants, he quickly learned to work hard for a good life. He excelled in school, played sports and participated in a variety of clubs and other extracurricular activities in his academic days. As always, Dr. John quickly rose to the top.

Following his interest in science, he attended City College Center for Biomedical Education. He later went on to New York Medical School in Valhalla and graduated in 1982. He completed his rotations in local hospitals such as Lincoln, St. Vincent's, Metropolitan, Cabrini, and Lenox Hill. That next year he was accepted into the Lutheran Medical Center, completed his internship and became a permanent resident physician. Five years later, he opened his own medical offices, the Gerritsen Beach Medical Plaza on Gerritsen Avenue.

His commitment to the well-being of others extended well beyond the examination room. He was known to have generously donated of his time and his services to school football teams, religious groups, and scout troops; he worked with youngsters through the DARE or-

ganization. For 12 years he was the medical director of the Gerritsen Beach Volunteer Fire Department. And, he had a healthy passion for the Knicks which he shared with many of his patients.

He was the classic small-town doctor, who still made house calls. To borrow the words of another, he was a caring, straight forward, and down-to-earth individual. He knew the importance of a few kind words, a tender touch, and loving understanding. Sometimes that was all that was needed.

I ask my colleagues to join me today to posthumously honor Dr. John for living a rich, rewarding, and full life. For his generosity and bedside manner made him a favored son in the community. I, too, will miss you, Dr. John; thank you for showing us how to make use of our time here on earth wisely. Your legacy will live on in the hearts and minds of those fortunate individuals who had the chance to know you.

#### COMMEMORATING THE EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TIANANMEN SQUARE MASSACRE

### HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today we commemorate the eighth anniversary of the massacre in Tiananmen Square, and the task of people who believe in truth and justice is more difficult than ever before.

Eight years ago, the world watched in horror as the Chinese military, under the direction of General Chi Haotian, rolled into Tiananmen Square and gunned down thousands of people—young and old—who had gathered in the Square, the heart of China, to peacefully seek reform and greater freedoms from their government. In minutes, the hopes and dreams of people the world over united in solidarity with the Tiananmen Square protesters were destroyed, and millions stood in disbelief that any government could unleash such terror on its people while the world watched.

I am sure that Chinese Government officials believed that, in time, the world would forget what happened in the early hours of June 4, 1989. But the spirit of those thousands who died there lives on. Their blood cries out so that we will not forget. Our hearts still ache for the dead, the injured, the arrested. Mr. Speaker, the world has not forgotten the martyrs of Tiananmen Square.

But there is something going on now that would be even more tragic than forgetting the Tiananmen Square Massacre and those who gave their lives on that day 8 years ago.

Now, the Chinese Government does not want us to forget this event happened, it wants us to believe that it never happened—that thousands of peaceful young people were not shot down in cold blood, that hundreds more were not injured. The Chinese Government wants us to believe that what we witnessed, what has been reported by observers, is a fabrication. A big lie. That instead of innocent students who were attacked, it was the People's Liberation Army which was under attack and on the defense.

The Butcher of Beijing, Gen. Chi Haotian, who ordered the troops into Tiananmen Square, and who is ultimately responsible for every death, every injury, every arrest, is now the Defense Minister of China. Just 6 months ago, this man was the honored guest of the Clinton administration—meeting with the President, given full military honors, and addressing top U.S. military officials.

The civilized world was stunned during his visit when General Chi told us that "not a single person lost his life in Tiananmen Square" and that the People's Liberation Army did nothing more violent than the "pushing" of "hooligans."

But, Mr. Speaker, we know the truth. We know that thousands died and more were injured. Witnesses have told of the horrors as people died standing up for freedom, democratic reform, and human rights.

Mr. Speaker, today is not enough for us to just remember. We must raise our voices so that the lives and deaths of those martyred in Tiananmen Square will not be erased.

The memory of those who died 8 years ago must burn in our hearts not just today but every day. We must not allow their deaths to be in vain. We must not allow the deeds of evil people to be rewarded and their lies to go unchallenged.

Mr. Speaker, today, we stand as one, to remember the courage of those who gave their lives in Tiananmen Square, and to commit ourselves to continue working together to carry on their dreams to bring about a free and democratic China.

STATEMENTS BY TIM BLAIS, JOSEPH BOUSQUET, AND KEITH McMANIS, MONTPELIER HIGH SCHOOL REGARDING DOMESTIC AFFAIRS

### HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of my colleagues I would like to have printed in the RECORD this statement by high school students from Montpelier High School in Vermont, who were speaking at my recent town meeting on issues facing young people.

Mr. BLAIS: Congressman SANDERS, in the early days of the Government, debt was considered to be a last resort. The only justification for debt of any kind was by war. In 1849, the Government had \$70 million in the bank; after the Civil War we were down to about negative \$3 billion. Ever since then it has gone down.

Debt is not really serious compared to the total assets of the country. That is from Congressman PETER STARKE.

Mr. BOUSQUET: Good afternoon, Congressman SANDERS. The remark by Congressman STARKE is not true. \$5,403,449,382,255.58 is a problem. This country knows it just as well as I do that this country is in trouble. Although the national debt has gone down in the 1990's, it is still very, very high.

Some of the facts: There are 267,204,471 people roughly in America. The debt increases \$722 million everyday. At this rate each citizen's contribution to the debt to make it go

away is \$222,000.15, and that means a baby, a child and a man, and infant, whatever.

Mr. BLAIS: What we are asking is why is it our responsibility to pay for Government debts and what is Congress doing honestly to bring us out of debt and what is the future for our kids going to be like? From what I have gathered there has been a lot of—I do not how to explain it but there have been many attempts to bring the debt down, and yes, it has gone down some by cutting budgets and whatnot, but in the last roughly 55 years there hasn't been any major decrease in the debt that we have.

Mr. BOUSQUET: It is obviously going down, and I see that. Why cannot we keep on going down and try to get it to a reasonable \$50 million or a reasonable \$25 million. The debt is still going up but it is not increasing as rapidly. The only possible solution that I can come up with is cutting back on something and it could be a number of things. The budget is divided up into sections, right? One of the highest is armed forces. We need defense, granted, but it is too high, I think, and that is my personal opinion. I do not know the background behind it.

Mr. BLAIS: Well I have to say like Government funding for—I mean, I cannot give you exactly but I know a lot of things that are Government-funded aren't going anywhere and haven't been going anywhere in the last I do not know how many years, and I would take a deep look at what everything is producing and how much money you are giving them and look at it from there.

### THE BUDGET

### HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, May 28, 1997 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

#### THE BALANCED BUDGET: AGREEMENT AND LONG-TERM CHALLENGES

Last week, with my support, Congress approved a budget resolution for fiscal year 1998 which provides a blueprint for how Congress and the President intend to balance the federal budget over the next five fiscal years. The budget resolution reflects the recent budget agreement worked out between the White House and congressional leaders, and marks the first concrete step in enacting a balanced budget. Congress will work over the next several months to make specific changes in law, including spending cuts, tax changes, and entitlement reforms, which will aim to bring the budget into balance by fiscal year 2002.

The budget resolution proposes to balance the budget over five years, while providing a net tax cut of \$85 billion. The highlights of the budget plan include \$139 billion in cuts in discretionary spending, \$170 billion in entitlement spending cutbacks, and \$13.2 billion in interest savings. Changes in the Medicare program will ensure the solvency of the hospital fund over the next 10 years. Defense and education spending will rise slightly. The resolution also assumes that \$16 billion would be spent over five years to provide health insurance for up to 5 million children who are currently uninsured.

Congress must now work out the details of a balanced budget on several different

tracks: discretionary spending, through the 13 annual appropriations bills; entitlement spending, including spending on Medicare and Medicaid; and a separate measure to make changes in tax law. The expectation is that the tax package will include a reduction in the capital gains tax and estate taxes, as well as a child tax credit and a deduction for higher education expenses.

#### GENERAL ASSESSMENT

I voted for the budget resolution because it provides a reasonable plan for balancing the federal budget in the next five years. A strong economy and two budget agreements in 1990 and 1993 have helped reduce the deficit from a high of \$290 billion in the early 1990s to the current level of \$70 billion. The recent agreement worked out between the President and Congress will close that gap, provided, of course, that the economy continues to grow.

The plan endorsed by Congress last week provides for an historically modest level of deficit reduction. This year's agreement is expected to reduce the deficit by a total of \$204 billion over the next five years. The 1990 agreement, in contrast, produced \$593 billion in deficit reduction and the 1993 accord \$487 billion.

I do have some concerns with the current plan. First, it does not provide adequate funding for infrastructure. I voted for a substitute measure which would have increased highway and transit funding by \$12 billion over five years and provided additional resources to Indiana and other states which receive less than they pay out in federal gas taxes. Unfortunately, the House defeated the amendment by a two vote margin. Second, the budget plan could have achieved balance more quickly if we had deferred or limited the scope of tax changes. Third, the package did not include enforcement mechanisms to ensure that we hit deficit reduction targets each year until the budget is in balance.

#### LONG-TERM BUDGET CHALLENGES

Most importantly, the budget agreement does not address long-term challenges to the federal budget. There is little in this agreement to avert the spending problems caused by our aging population. Once the Baby Boomers (i.e. those born between 1946 and 1964) start to retire early in the 21st Century, huge demands will be placed on Medicare, Social Security, Medicaid and other entitlement programs, but the budget agreement is silent on these issues. The Medicare reforms in the agreement, for example, would provide a ten-year fix to the Part A (hospital) trust fund. The budget plan makes no changes in the Social Security program, and only minimal changes to Medicaid, the program which pays for much long-term care for the elderly.

The demographic changes facing this country in the next century are staggering. First, the number of elderly Americans will increase very rapidly as Baby Boomers reach retirement age. The Social Security Administration estimates that over the next 35 years the number of people age 65 and older will double. This population change, combined with the fact that people will be living longer, will place strains on federal retirement and health care programs. Federal spending on Social Security and Medicare now constitutes almost 7% of national income. By 2030 those two programs will consume almost 14% of national income.

Second, the growth in the labor force will slow dramatically as the Baby Boomers retire. The Social Security Administration projects that, because of a declining birth rate and other factors, the average rate of

growth of the labor force will slow from the current rate of 1% annually to 0.2% in 2010. This trend is significant because, under the current Medicare and Social Security systems, workers help pay for retiree benefits through payroll and income taxes. With more retirees and fewer workers, the average worker would have to pay significantly more in taxes to maintain the current level of benefits for the average retiree.

The challenge for Congress is to address these problems in the nearterm before they overwhelm the federal budget. There are numerous proposals for reforming entitlement programs. Some have called for raising the retirement age, reducing or means-testing benefits, of limiting cost-of-living adjustments. Others have called for privatizing the Social Security system so that government exposure to future costs is limited. Still others have proposed converting Medicare and Medicaid into managed care systems in an effort to curb costs and limit services.

#### CONCLUSION

Balancing the federal budget will be an important accomplishment. As the 1990 and 1993 deficit reduction agreements have shown, smaller deficits mean greater private investment, stronger economic growth, and more job creation. The real test will be keeping the budget in balance into the next century. This year's agreement, while providing a short-term fix, does not address the long-term problems associated with an aging population and shrinking workforce. We must now begin to find solutions to these challenges.

#### TRIBUTE TO KEY LARGO ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL

##### HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Key Largo Elementary and Middle School for being selected by the U.S. Department of Education as a 1996-97 Blue Ribbon School Award winner. The Key Largo School was given this prestigious award because of its excellence in preparing our young people for the challenges of the next century. Through the school's strong leadership, ingenuity in teaching, and commitment to the community, the Key Largo School is a model for all elementary and middle schools throughout the State and the Nation.

Located in the Upper Florida Keys, 105 miles from district services in the Lower Keys, the Key Largo School has used their geographical challenges as a way to enhance educational opportunities for the students as well as the community. For more than 20 years, the school has successfully practiced school based management which has encouraged risk taking, accountability, and the management of the entire school budget at the school level.

Today, the school educates 1,293 students from 3 years old to 15 years old providing them with an educational environment that is conducive for productive learning. Among their scholastic accomplishments, this past year Key Largo School scored above average on the Stanford Achievement Test in Reading and Math, scored an average of 3.9 on the

Florida Writes Exam with 96 percent of the eighth grade students scoring three or above, and, since 1972, has received consecutive accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. In addition, the school has written and received many large and small grants including a Customer Focused School Grant, Retrofit Grant, Home School Connection Grant, and Learn and Serve Grant. The grants have helped to make the school a model technology school for the district and the State; initiate the research, development and implementation of a block scheduling program; develop a theme based alternative education program for at risk students from grade 4 through 8; and service more than 300 exceptional students ranging with disabilities from pre-school handicapped to severely emotionally disturbed to gifted. The support of the community, business partners, teachers, and parents has been instrumental to the successful learning behaviors of the students at Key Largo Elementary and Middle School.

I commend Key Largo Elementary and Middle School on receiving the distinguished 1996-97 Blue Ribbon School Award. I know that the students and faculty will continue to exceed beyond their scholastic abilities and continue to be a model for schools throughout the country.

#### IN MEMORY OF HENRIETTA LACKS

##### HON. ROBERT L. EHRlich, JR.

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. EHRlich. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Henrietta Lacks, a woman whose contributions to medical science and research have gone relatively unnoticed for the past 46 years. Ms. Lacks provided a crucial sample of cells that has furthered our knowledge of medical science and disease prevention, and for this contribution, we are all grateful.

Henrietta Lacks was born in 1920 in Clover, VA. At the age of 23 she moved to Turner's Station, near Baltimore, MD, joining her husband David. She had five children, four of whom—Deborah, David Jr., Lawrence, and Zakariyya—still survive. Ms. Lacks was known as pleasant and smiling, and always willing to lend a helping hand.

After the birth of her fifth child, Ms. Lacks was admitted to the hospital at Johns Hopkins University where she was found to have cervical cancer. Before her death, she donated a tumor biopsy section which became the first human cell line to survive outside the body. This cell line has proven instrumental to medical research.

Due to traditional patient confidentiality requirements, Ms. Lacks was not acknowledged as the donor of the cells. Instead, the donor remained anonymous, and the cell line was known only as the HeLa cells. Under the care of Dr. George O. Gey, the cells flourished due to his innovative methods of preserving them. Dr. Gey went on to cultivate more cells which could be used for a variety of medical research. These cells proved instrumental in polio research, and they helped establish the

fields of molecular biology and virology. Henrietta Lacks' cells are still used in research today, more than four decades after her death.

Henrietta Lacks' selfless contribution to the field of medicine has gone without acknowledgment for too long. Her cells made her immortal: through her death, countless others have been saved by the research that was made possible through her cell line. It is for this reason that I extend my deepest thanks to Henrietta Lacks and her family. I sincerely hope her name will also be immortalized as one of courage, hope, and strength, and that due recognition will be given to her role in medicine and science.

#### THE CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PILOT CLUB OF YORK, INC.

##### HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Pilot Club of York on their 50th anniversary. This international organization, comprised of executive, business, and professional leaders, has worked for many years to improve the quality of life in local communities.

I am proud to say that the York Chapter, chartered on May 2, 1947, has one of the largest memberships. Since 1947, it has truly upheld its motto of "Friendship and Service" through extraordinary service to the York community. The organization has received many local and national awards for their volunteer activities which include sponsoring highway rest stops during the holiday season, financial contributions to the York Hospital, the York County Historical Society, Access York, the Moul Home and the Atkins Halfway House, and the establishment of a scholarship program. Their financial support and commitment to education has enabled 35 young people to attend college and pursue their dreams in fields such as medicine, engineering, and teaching.

On behalf of the residents of the 19th Congressional District, I want to thank each member of the Pilot Club for their years of service toward improving our community and enabling so many individuals access to the American dream. I hope the next 50 years are as fruitful as the past 50.

#### STATEMENTS BY TOM DOUTHAT AND KEVIN BELANGER, MONTPELIER HIGH SCHOOL REGARDING INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.

##### HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of my colleagues I would like to have printed in the RECORD this statement by high school students from Montpelier High School in Vermont, who were speaking at my recent town meeting on issues facing young people:

Mr. DOUTHAT. I would like to thank you for coming to our school, Congressman Sanders, and we are going to be talking about some of the U.S. drug policies in South America.

Clinton proposed to spend \$16 billion this year on the War on Drugs. This figure is up from \$10 billion spent during the 1980s over the entire decade. 70 percent of the money spent on drugs is spent on actual prevention and keeping it out of the country, whether that be through South American programs or Border Patrol and 30 percent is spent on drug rehabilitation.

During the Bush Administration he proposed a five-year, \$2.2 billion program for Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, and in 1993 he granted \$716 million to the South American nations and Mexico as long as they committed themselves to reducing their product production and respect for human rights.

The U.S. also helped to train local police forces in these countries, to dispute drug trafficking and the destroying of cocoa. Also we sponsored their rates in any of these countries.

Although this policy has been in effect for a long time it really hasn't worked in curbing the influx of drugs into this country or the use of them once they are in here, and during this period of time spending has ballooned and the amount of drugs hasn't gone down. Basically, the only thing that this has affected now is there are 400,000 Americans in the jail on drug possession charges and trafficking charges.

Our question is do you think this policy could be used more effectively in the zero tolerance policy or do you think there is a better philosophy in and attacks at curbing drug production and use in the United States if you think that is a significant problem?

Mr. BELANGER. Well we basically got together and when we were talking, actually it was a little bit ago, we were thinking of proposals in which in order to cut the spending that the government could possibly use, so we thought of—we think it might be actually in the process the government is considering this, but we are thinking like what happens, instead of spending like the \$16 billion—billion I mean, fighting like the so-called War on Drugs and like cutting off the supply from the drugs coming up, maybe the government controlled as in they would—how would you say?

Mr. DOUTHAT. They would sell—the government would be sort of the handler of drugs, sort like methadone clinics but modified more than that, not quite suppliers but something near to that. And we think that is a good idea because really the only thing that our drug policy has affected in the last ten years, it is really gotten a lot of South American drug dealers and drug producers and drug traffickers in this country quite wealthy.

Mr. BELANGER. What we were thinking is if the government was basically like the pharmacist, like if you had any addiction whatsoever, you would go to them and like the government could actually make—I do not know if they would make money off this, so that is one aspect, but they also would lower the street value so that the drug dealers couldn't make a business.

Mr. DOUTHAT. It wouldn't be quite like methadone clinics and it wouldn't be completely medical. If they did also supply drugs to non-addicts it would virtually—for one thing, it would take away the AIDS threat from IV drug users and also it would make it—drugs have been in cultures for as long as humanity has existed, so I really do not

think it is realistic to completely curb recreational drug use and it has been shown through prohibition of alcohol and marijuana and other drugs that it just doesn't work.

So I think that the government sponsoring it would make it clean, would make the drugs safer and it would make people who are occasional users, they wouldn't have to be criminals, they would be living much more normal lives.

Mr. BELANGER. Legalize drugs in the form where the government would be your supplier, so it is in a more controlled area, cleaner drugs.

Mr. DOUTHAT. And I think some drugs would have to be treated differently and I think cocaine and crack and heroine especially are the ones that are really addictive would have to be treated differently than the drugs like marijuana.

Mr. BELANGER. And maybe as a suggestion to you and the people you work with, treat like the U.K. and I think it is Denmark hashish bars, stuff like that and Holland has basically testers and like as examples like to see how things have gone over there, and if things have worked well.

## EDUCATION STANDARDS

### HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, June 4, 1997, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

#### NATIONAL EDUCATION STANDARDS

Contrary to the grim portrait often painted of American education, I believe we do a reasonably good job of educating our students and preparing them for work. But I also believe we can do better, and so I have had an interest in the debate now building in the country as to whether there should be national education standards for U.S. schoolchildren. Central to this debate is the desire to ensure that our children have the base of knowledge they need to lead productive lives in a competitive workplace.

#### NATURE OF STANDARDS

Education standards set out what students should be expected to know at certain grade levels. For example, standards for math might say that by the 4th grade students should know how to work with fractions and decimals and by the 8th grade they should know how to apply algebra and geometry to real-world situations.

Most industrialized nations have stringent national academic standards and tests for core academic subjects. The U.S. does not. The U.S. has created some voluntary national education standards, most notably in math. Some states have used them as guidance for setting their own standards. Some 46 states have developed or are in the process of developing challenging standards in the core academic areas. In Indiana, for example, Hoosier students in grades 3, 6, and 10 must take tests measuring their mastery of essential math and English skills. But the standards and testing vary considerably across the country.

#### CONTROVERSY

To be sure, national standards are a controversial topic. Supporters see them as a

way of giving content to national education goals and holding students and teachers accountable. They believe national standards provide a benchmark against which state and local curricula may be judged. They stress that students in every state need to know the same math and English and develop strong reading and problem-solving skills. They point out that U.S. students often score lower on achievement tests than students in other countries, and see standards as a way of encouraging equal opportunity and excellence in education.

Opponents think the national standards would do more harm than good. They think the likely result would not be better schools, but a shallow national curriculum and too large a federal presence in what has been an area of state and local control. They worry about what happens when students or schools fail to meet the standards, and think the states and localities can do a good job in determining what their students should know.

Most of the experts have endorsed the idea of national standards generally, pointing out that the new math standards have shown that standards can be done at the national level without federalizing the educational system. At the same time, the experts are cautious, saying that the standards should steer clear of too many specifics.

My view is that it would probably be useful to have more national standards of what students should be expected to know at given points along the educational path. Student advancement ought to be more or less the same thing in California or Indiana or Mississippi. It is difficult for me to see how we achieve both equity and excellence in education without high standards.

#### PROCESS

Yet I also realize that the prospect of national education standards makes a lot of people nervous, even if they are voluntary standards. That is why it is critically important that the standards be developed through a credible public process, one that relies heavily on consensus-building.

The standards should be national standards, not standards developed by the federal government. Developing credible national standards is going to take some time. The formulation of the standards should involve not just teachers and educators but members of the public. These standards should be reasonably precise and not too lengthy. They should cover both content and performance, and focus on what students should know so that they are well prepared for subsequent education and careers. They should be scrutinized in public forums and be widely distributed for comment. They will clearly have to be tested and revised as experience with them grows. The success or failure of national standards, quite simply, depends on how they are developed.

In addition, whatever is done, I think state and local officials should be free to adopt these standards as they please, as they set concrete, rigorous standards of what students must learn in basic areas such as math, science, and English. In addition, teachers and schools must remain free to use their own educational methods and their own judgment on how best to achieve the standards. That's the way it ought to be in a country as large and diverse as ours.

#### LINGERING QUESTIONS

Setting the standards does not by any means resolve all the tough questions, such as whether high standards alone will really increase achievement or whether high standards alone will really increase achievement

or whether in the end states and communities will be committed to sanctions such as holding students back. One question that lingers in any discussion of national standards is how to measure whether the students are meeting the standards. Assessment is a very complex topic, posing questions of cost, equity, and political control. These questions have not all been worked out. But they should not deter us from proceeding with national standards, and I do think the debate over what we expect from our schools is healthy.

#### CONCLUSION

It will certainly take some time before voluntary national standards are available in every subject area, and it will also take some time before the standards are broadly accepted by school officials, teachers, and parents. But we must push ahead. Such standards clearly have the potential to improve the quality and equity of American education. They can represent a vision of what can be accomplished and can challenge a community or state to create circumstances in every classroom to achieve those standards. They should not be a national curriculum, nor should they imply a standardized education. They should be a goal that permits local administrators and teachers to find ways to achieve the standards. Excellence in education and equal opportunity will not be achieved without high standards.

#### TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR SOHIKIAN

##### HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations and best wishes to Arthur Sohikian, assistant director for government relations for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, as he prepares to leave his position to enter the private sector. Many of my colleagues in the House and Senate have had the opportunity to work with Arthur, and know of his intelligence, commitment, and effectiveness.

Arthur has contributed over 10 years of public service to the citizens of Los Angeles County. After working for California Assembly Speaker pro tempore Mike Roos from 1987 through 1991 in both Los Angeles and Sacramento, he began his career in transportation policy with the Southern California Rapid Transit District in Los Angeles. Since 1993, he has been the primary Los Angeles County MTA contact with the administration and Congress, developing legislative strategies and overseeing one of the most ambitious transportation policy and funding programs in the country.

It has been a pleasure to work with Arthur over the past 4 years as he has used his talent, energy, and persistence in advocating for the LACMTA and the residents of Los Angeles County. His knowledge of transportation policy, the political intricacies of transportation decisionmaking, and his commitment in pursuing short-term and long-range legislative objectives in Washington have served the MTA very well. Even in the most difficult circumstances, he has sought to keep Washington informed with an attention to detail and

candor that is deeply appreciated. I have no doubt that the qualities that have served Arthur and the MTA so well, will lead to great success.

As he begins this next stage of his professional life, I want to extend my warmest wishes to Arthur, his wife Annee, and his daughter Audrey, as well as my congratulations on last week's birth of their son, Andrew Charles. In recognition of his service to Los Angeles County, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending him for his role in moving the region's transportation priorities forward and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

#### RACE UNITY DAY

##### HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, there can be no greater cause in the United States of America today than the promotion of unity among the races. Recognition of unity in diversity is the foundation for true and lasting peace in our great country. Race unity is the most challenging issue facing our Nation. Only by achieving it can we aspire to exert moral leadership for peace among Nations.

June 8, 1977 marks the 38th annual observance of Race Unity Day, inaugurated by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States. The purpose of Race Unity Day is to focus our attention on the oneness of humankind and to celebrate our unity amidst our diversity. With its diverse ethnic and racial make up, the State of Florida is an excellent location for a state-wide celebration of this day.

The Honorable Lawton Chiles, Governor of the State of Florida, has proclaimed Sunday, June 8, 1977 as Race Unity Day in Florida. Many county commissioners and mayors are signing similar proclamations across the Sunshine State.

We commend the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States for inaugurating Race Unity Day 38 years ago. We also commend Baha'i communities, throughout Florida and other groups like NAACP in Key West, and Multi-Ethnic Advisory Board of Broward County for initiating and cosponsoring State-wide celebrations of Race Unity Day.

The text of the Proclamation of the Honorable Governor:

Whereas, the United States was founded and peopled by individuals of many different ethnic and racial origins; and

Whereas, our nation's Declaration of Independence articulates the credo upon which our nation was built, that all men and women are created equal; and

Whereas, we live in a world that makes universal peace our first priority if civilization is to survive and advance; and

Whereas, the United States of America has sought to serve as an example to other nations of the world; and

Whereas, the state of Florida has a population which represents highly diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds; and

Whereas, a free people must remain vigilant and mindful of the goals of achieving peace and unity among all peoples; and

Whereas, every individual is like a flower in the garden of humanity:

Now, therefore, I, Lawton Chiles, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the state of Florida, do hereby proclaim June 8, 1997, as Race Unity Day in Florida with the fervent hope that Americans everywhere will take this time to accept and wholeheartedly celebrate unity in diversity.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE SEVENTH ANNUAL HALL OF FAME DINNER DANCE OF THE PORT WASHINGTON YOUTH ACTIVITIES

##### HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my constituents and the residents of Port Washington as they gather with the members of the Port Washington Youth Activities [PYA] in celebration of their Seventh Annual Hall of Fame Dinner Dance.

The PYA is a volunteer youth organization dedicated to supporting sports programs for youngsters between the ages of 6 and 14. The goal of the organization is to teach children the valuable lessons of leadership and good sportsmanship. Induction into the PYA's Hall of Fame is reserved for those unique and caring individuals who have given so much to the support to the program over the years.

Three most unique and dedicated individuals, Bob Busby, Jack Eaton, and Vinnie Sombrotto will be so honored by induction into the Port Washington Youth Activities Hall of Fame. Bob Busby has been a significant contributor through his service as wrestling coach, commissioner, and director for over 10 years. Jack Eaton has greatly distinguished himself in the role of officer, commissioner, and coach of the baseball and basketball teams. Vinnie Sombrotto is being cited for his athletic achievements in lacrosse at the collegiate and professional levels. Many of his skills and dedication were developed in his active days as a youth in PYA football and lacrosse programs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join with me and rise to honor these community members for their individual and collective contributions to youth sports and all they embody. They are an excellent reflection upon themselves, their families, their community, and the volunteer spirit of American volunteer groups. They are most deserving of this great honor.

#### STATEMENT BY KAILEAH CHRISTIE, GAILER SCHOOL, MIDDLEBURY, VT REGARDING DEMOCRACY AND STUDENT PARTICIPATION

##### HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of my colleagues I would like to have printed

in the RECORD this statement by a high school student from Gailer School in Vermont, who was speaking at my recent town meeting on issues facing young people:

Ms. CHRISTIE. Good afternoon, Mr. Sanders. There are many high school students in Vermont between the ages of 14 and 17 who are not receiving the leadership skills they require to become like insightful world citizens in our society. It is required that governments and communities do as much as they possibly can to enhance these skills so that when we do become adults we can be productive.

Our school is the Gailer School in Middlebury and we are a small private school. We have been a member of a group called the Coalition of essential Schools since 1994 and we are the only school in Vermont that is a member. This coalition encourages student leadership. In December I started writing grants on trying to send a group of students from Gailer out to the coalition because they value the student leadership and we have been working with others or we are attempting contacts to work with other schools, but we have not found other schools in Vermont.

Vermont has—I have not noticed in other schools major leadership opportunities available for students. The most leadership I have seen, I was in public school in 7th grade and there was a school government, but majority of the talk was about having more dances or like pizza on Fridays.

And I realize that the Student Congressional Town Meeting is a very good start, it is giving students a chance to come and voice their opinions and make sure they are heard and we need to include more, and I thank you for having this.

An option that I have thought of is there would be one student from each county who could stay in steady contact with you, and that student would talk to other students in their county about issues that are in-house, that affect students, like year-round schooling or drug legalization, any of those issues, and they would report back to you what students think of those issues so that way you would have a better idea of how to represent the issues that deal with students more than parents or more than adults, or so that you can know how to deal with issues that really only affect whomever they affect, as long as they affect students. And I would be willing to develop this idea further and put it into a formal proposal if it is something in which you are interested.

I realize that for many people 14 is a young age, but I am almost 15 and I will soon be an adult, I will be the age of 18. And when those adults are older and retired they are depending on me to be a productive citizen and how can I be a productive citizen if you try and restrain my abilities to succeed as much as I can no matter what my age is.

Our school has a decision-making body called the school forum. In our school forum there are six students, one from each grade, grades 7 through 9, and all of the teachers and faculty. In the forum students have an equal say as the teachers and in a sense we are running the school and it has worked out very well. Whenever there is basically curriculum change, a suggestion as to how we should deal with the disciplinary process to how we should make decisions in the forum, those students in that room at that time have the same say or power as the teachers and they are valued just as much.

I think if you encourage and help students develop those leadership skills then they can run the school with adults, not by themselves.

## TRIBUTE TO DR. LESLIE SINGER

### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, It gives me great pleasure to congratulate Dr. Leslie Singer on receiving the 1997 Indiana University-Northwest Chancellor's Distinguished Service Award. This award was presented to Dr. Singer earlier this spring in recognition of his lifetime of service to Indiana University-Northwest.

An economics professor at Indiana University-Northwest for 43 years, Dr. Singer has made numerous contributions to the fields of financial economics, regional and industrial economics, economic forecasting, and economics of art markets. His ground-breaking scholarly publications in the area of fine arts, for instance, have received world wide recognition and have been cited by numerous scholars. Such publications as *The Wall Street Journal* and *Business News* often quote Dr. Singer's opinions and forecast on the prices of fine art. In addition, Dr. Singer has written two economics text books, and has been published in several distinguished journals, including "The American Economic Review," "The Social Science Quarterly," "The Journal of Business Forecasting Systems and Methods," and "The Journal of Cultural Economics."

Through his extensive studies, Dr. Singer has also served to aid Northwest Indiana businesses, as well as Indiana governing bodies, in a variety of capacities. Throughout his career, he has written numerous articles pertaining to the local economy, with a specific emphasis on Northwest Indiana's steel industry. In addition, Dr. Singer participates in the Indiana Economic Outlook panel, which presents a forecast for the Northwest Indiana regional economy each year. Dr. Singer also served as an advisor to the budget committee of the Indiana General Assembly, as well as to the late U.S. Senator, Paul Douglass. Several major corporations and hundreds of local businesses have grown to rely upon Dr. Singer's expertise for location and market analysis.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Dr. Leslie Singer on his receipt of the 1997 Indiana University-Northwest Chancellor's Distinguished Service Award. His notable achievements in the field of economics have proven to be valuable assets to businesses within Indiana's First Congressional District and across the Nation.

## TRIBUTE TO MRS. VATICE WALKER

### HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, today I would like my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the accomplishments of an exceptional person, Mrs. Vatrice Walker, on the occasion of her retirement.

Mrs. Vatrice Walker began her teaching career in Somerset County, MD in September 1959, serving the Maryland school system for 11 years.

Mrs. Walker continued to teach in Maryland until June 1970, at which time she moved to New Jersey. In the ensuing years she was employed as a teacher in New Brunswick and, in recognition of her outstanding ability, received tenure after her first year. Mrs. Walker served the New Brunswick school system for 2 more years, continuing her trend of noteworthy teaching.

Upon leaving New Brunswick, Mrs. Walker became employed by the East Orange School District, where she gave 24 years of dedicated service to the children of East Orange. Mrs. Walker has been involved in a wealth of activities pertaining to staff development and the training of future teachers. Her efforts include, but are certainly not limited to, the demonstration of teaching lessons, peer coaching, and facilitating workshops in classroom management and conflict mediation. In addition, Mrs. Walker has served as mentor for student teachers.

Mrs. Walker has received many accolades during her career as result of her innovative teaching techniques. For 2 consecutive years she was voted Teacher of the Year by her colleagues.

Her love and dedication to the East Orange school system has, undoubtedly, touched the lives of many children. Mrs. Walker is a distinguished professional. I know my colleagues join me in offering our appreciation to Mrs. Walker for her exemplary public service and offer her our best wishes in the coming years.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE VOTER EMPOWERMENT ACT

### HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, exactly 1 month from today is the deadline imposed by President Clinton in his State of the Union address for Congress to vote on a campaign finance reform bill. But the reality is that the deadline will come and go with no action taken because the most widely debated proposals, which violate our constitutional right to free speech and protect incumbents by imposing campaign spending limits, are rapidly losing support with each passing day.

It is time to consider new ideas that will enhance, rather than undermine, voter participation in our Federal elections process, and restore public accountability in the campaign process. That is why I have introduced H.R. 1780, the Voter Empowerment Act. It takes a different approach to addressing the problems of our campaign finance system. It will enable voters to make more informed voting decisions by giving them greater access to more campaign information. To this end, the legislation requires all disclosure information to be made available on the Internet, and establishes a disclosure limit for issue advocacy and soft money expenditures.

It also requires the Federal Election Commission [FEC] to facilitate disclosure by mandating electronic filing for individual Federal

candidates, PAC's and national parties within the next 2 years. After the implementation of electronic filing, the FEC would publish an expansive Internet site on the World Wide Web which would contain a separate page for every congressional and Presidential candidate, each PAC, and every national party. A congressional candidate's page, for example, would contain the aggregate contribution and expenditure amounts for the previous and current election cycle. If a candidate received money from a PAC, a link would be available to the PAC's page so that the public could learn more about their goals and beliefs. With the disclosure information freely available in an understandable format on the Internet, Americans will no longer need to rely on special interests and the media to interpret the FEC data for them. And most important, the new information will allow voters to make more informed choices at the polls.

The Voter Empowerment Act will further increase the amount of information that is made available to the public by requiring persons or groups that spend more than \$100,000 on specific advertisement to disclose to the FEC within 24 hours the amount of money spent, the type of communication and where it was broadcast or distributed. In 1996, issue advocacy communications inundated the voting public through voter guides and radio/television advertisements. Regrettably, the public had no idea who paid for or published these communications.

During the 1996 election, many of the issue advocacy communications were paid for with soft money contributions, which are not subject to Federal disclosure regulations. Recognizing the need to facilitate disclosure without impeding the free speech rights of contributors, the Voter Empowerment Act contains a disclosure provision for individuals who contribute \$250,000 in soft money to national parties. The bill requires individuals who contribute more than a quarter of a million dollars to inform the FEC of that amount, and it requires national parties to disclose to the FEC where the soft money was spent or distributed.

Some of my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, may criticize these two disclosure provisions for either doing too much or too little. Some claim that increased disclosure provisions regarding soft money and issue advocacy communications will restrict an individual's free speech rights. However, the Supreme Court has upheld reasonable disclosure limitations on campaign expenditures. Furthermore, the limits have been set extraordinarily high so only the largest donors, not grassroots activists or small contributors, would be required to file with the FEC. On the other hand, some may argue that the advent of soft money marks the ruin of our campaign system, so it should be banned. According to the Supreme Court, independent expenditures and soft money must be considered as political speech and deserve to be protected under the first amendment. Therefore, efforts to ban soft money are blatantly unconstitutional.

In addition to facilitating disclosure, the Voter Empowerment Act encourages more individual participation in campaigns by indexing all Federal contribution limits to 1974 dollars. Established in the Federal Election Campaign

Act of 1974, the current contribution limits were meant to lower the cost of campaigns and eliminate the advantages of incumbency. However, the opposite has occurred. Between 1974 and 1994, total campaign spending, in constant dollars, by House candidates has nearly tripled, and reelection rates for House incumbents hit an all time high in 1988. By raising the contribution limits, individuals will be able to exercise their right of free speech more effectively and candidates will not be forced to spend a large amount of their time raising campaign funds.

To further encourage increased participation by individuals, the Voter Empowerment Act reinstates the tax credit for individual contributions. Similar to the credit repealed in 1986, individuals would be able to claim a 50-percent tax credit up to \$200—\$400 for joint filers—if they contribute to a Federal candidate, PAC or national party. The credit would apply to the total contributions for the year.

Encouraging individual contributions to Federal candidates is one of the best ways to eliminate the advantages of incumbency. In a recent study, Dr. Gary Jacobsen, a political science professor who specializes in the American campaign system at the University of California, San Diego, found that the positive effect of increased expenditures on behalf of incumbents was low to nonexistent, while the positive effect of increased challenger spending was enormous. It was no coincidence that, in the last election, all of the incumbent Senators who spent less than the limits set in the so-called McCain-Feingold bill won their races, and the challengers who spent less than the limits lost. Incumbents have free mail privileges, paid staff and the ability to generate press coverage. For challengers, additional campaign contributions are the only equalizer to those inherent advantages.

I would also note, Mr. Speaker, that the FEC has become ineffective in its responsibilities to enforce our campaign finance laws. Frequently, the FEC takes an excessively long time to file a complaint against candidates or parties who violate campaign finance laws.

For example, last month the FEC filed suit against the California Democratic Party for violations of election laws in the 1992 election. Five years after the alleged violations, the FEC is finally getting around to prosecuting those who broke the law. The American public cannot rely on the FEC to prosecute violations 5 years after the fact. Certainly, the FEC cannot turn back the clock and redo the 1992 elections. The FEC can only ask for a monetary fine, which would be a small price to pay for winning the Presidency and two Senate seats.

Many other experts in campaign finance reform have suggested that the FEC is not capable of handling its enforcement authorities. In a 1989 report, common cause suggested, "the best \* \* \* remedy may be to abolish the FEC altogether." While the Voter Empowerment Act does not pursue that goal, it does transfer the FEC's enforcement authority to the Department of Justice. The Attorney General would have the latitude to design and develop the campaign finance enforcement division. The task of establishing a new office to enforce campaign finance laws would not be

impossible for the Justice Department. In the past, the Attorney General has been given the responsibility to create new offices within the Department of Justice. Three years ago, she formed a new office comprised of lawyers from different departments to compensate citizens who were exposed to nuclear testing.

Without its enforcement powers, the new FEC would be free to focus exclusively on those duties for which it was originally created. That is to facilitate disclosure and providing contribution and expenditure information to voters. With this limited responsibility, my legislation reduces the number of Commissioners from 6 to 2, with their terms staggered and limited to two full terms. In addition, the FEC would be required to work with the Justice Department in the development of new regulations, and would have to publish a compilation of advisory opinions with an index and publish names of candidates and committees who have accepted illegal contributions.

Finally, my legislation eliminates the Presidential Election Campaign Fund and tax checkoff. Thomas Jefferson wrote, "To compel a man to furnish contributions of money for the propagation of opinions which he disbelieves, is sinful and tyrannical." The Presidential Election Campaign Fund forces Americans to give their tax dollars to campaigns which they may not agree, and most Americans have not been supportive of the tax checkoff and campaign fund. Since 1981, the participation in the tax checkoff program has declined quite steadily. The repeal of taxpayer subsidies for Presidential candidates is what the American people want and it is long overdue.

Mr. Speaker, over 50 bills have been introduced to change the campaign finance system in this country. While we all agree that change is necessary and improvements are possible, I believe the Voter Empowerment Act offers a more reasonable approach to improving our campaign finance system without undermining public participation in our electoral process. I urge my colleagues to join with me in cosponsoring this legislation.

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DESECRATION OF GOLDEN TEMPLE SHOWS INDIAN DEMOCRACY IS A FRAUD

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 1997*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a tragic chapter in history, India's 1984 desecration of the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the highest shrine of the Sikh Nation. From June 3 through June 6 of that year, the Golden Temple and 38 other Sikh temples were subjected to the kind of military assault which would have stirred the world's outrage if it had occurred at the Vatican or Mecca. More than 20,000 Sikhs died at the hands of the Indian regime in these attacks. Yet the world hardly noticed.

On this sad anniversary, the Indian regime maintains police surveillance at the Golden Temple for no purpose other than to harass Sikhs who seek to worship at their holiest

shrine. The newly elected Chief Minister of Punjab, Parkash Singh Badal, promised during his campaign that he would remove this intrusive, authoritarian presence. That pledge has not been carried out. There could be no more appropriate way to observe the anniversary of the Golden Temple massacre than for Chief Minister Badal to reiterate his order to remove the security forces and fire any officials who defy this order. If he cannot or will not do so, then we will be forced to conclude that the Punjab elections were a sham and the new government has no power. This will show that India's repression of the Sikhs in Punjab, Khalistan is just as tight as it ever was.

In this context, the Sikh Nation's demand for freedom is more urgent than ever. As many of us have pointed out, the Sikh Nation declared its independence on October 7, 1987. They called their new country Khalistan. The United States should go on record in support of freedom for Khalistan. If India is truly the democracy it claims to be, it should hold a plebiscite in occupied Khalistan to let the Sikh Nation decide its own political future. It should also end its campaign of ethnic cleansing against the Sikhs and other peoples of South Asia, such as the Muslims of Kashmir, the Christians of Nagaland, the Assamese, Manipuris, Tamils, and the aboriginal people of South Asia, the Dalits—also known as the untouchables.

If India is unwilling to do these few, simple things then it will prove once and for all that all of India's claims that it is the world's largest democracy are a cruel hoax. It will show the world that in reality, India is one of the world's most tyrannical police states.

The United States can and should encourage India to take these steps for freedom in the subcontinent. We can raise our voice on behalf of freedom by declaring our support for an independent Khalistan, cutting off U.S. aid to India, and hitting this repressive regime with an embargo similar to the one that helped bring down apartheid in South Africa. By these modest measures, we can help end the repression in South Asia so that the subcontinent can have a new birth of freedom. That is the best way to ensure peace, prosperity, and stability in this unhappy region. Let us honor the struggle of the Sikh Nation on this terrible anniversary by initiating these policies today.

LET'S HELP AND NOT HINDER  
SMALL BUSINESS

**HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, during Small Business Week, I stand here to pay tribute to the engines of our economy—those small businesses across the country which provide goods and services—and most importantly jobs—to the American people.

I am here today to implore my colleagues to recognize how small businesses are improving our economy.

And I implore my colleagues to recognize that these job creators are being hassled and regulated by a Federal Government which has

no regard for how much small businesses drive this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, small businesses account for 99.7 percent of the Nation's employers.

They employ 53 percent of the private work force, and they contribute 47 percent of all sales in the country.

In fact, small businesses are responsible for 50 percent of the private GDP of this country.

Yet, the small business owners of this Nation face a tax system and regulatory burdens which limit growth and discourage development.

If Government is meant to be the servant of the people, our current tax and regulatory systems are certainly not assisting our Nation's small businesses.

Even with the legislation Congress has passed to help small business get out from under the thumb of the Federal Government, more assaults are now being urged by the Clinton administration.

With such economic and growth potential within small businesses across this country, we should be doing all we can to assist them.

We must act as their servants—instead of hindering their progress.

They need relief from encumbering taxes and from job-killing regulation.

For starters—we could repeal an unfair estate tax which targets the very families and small businesses which are creating employment in their communities.

Because of this tax, millions of small business owners are in jeopardy of losing the businesses which they have spent their entire lives building.

Under this oppressive IRS Code, someone can work a lifetime—and the moment they die, so could all the jobs of the people who work for them.

Mr. Speaker, Ron Hill of Lancaster, PA is an entrepreneur.

He has spent a lifetime building a healthy business and generating jobs.

The state of his company has a direct effect on 35 families.

Is it justifiable that individuals like Ron Hill must worry that when he dies—his family won't be able to pay the hefty estate tax—and so the jobs of his employees will be in jeopardy.

For too long, the estate tax—in order to raise just 1 percent of total Federal revenues—has been burdening the people of this country with the increased cost of capital and stifled economic growth and higher interest rates.

Even though our budget agreement takes a step in the right direction by raising the ceiling on the taxed amount—we should not end there.

If the tax were repealed this year, the Nation's economy would increase by as much as \$100 billion over the next 9 years.

This extra capital would also allow an average of 145,000 additional new jobs per year to be created.

Personal income would rise above current projections by an average of \$8 billion per year.

Most importantly, small business owners in this country would be encouraged, and not discouraged, as they work hard to pass on an enterprise of value to their children.

We must not stop until this tax is repealed.

Another effort that the Federal Government can undertake to assist small businesses is to keep damaging and unnecessary regulations off their backs.

In November of last year, the Environmental Protection Agency proposed harsh new national Air Quality Standards.

Since then, there has been significant outcry over these regulations.

While the EPA is required to review standards every 5 years, they are not required to change them without sufficient proof of the benefit to public health.

It would be extremely difficult for the EPA to justify an additional \$10 billion plus annual price tag for the American people if these new regulations go into effect.

This costly unfunded mandate will force many small businesses to close their doors—small businesses like dry cleaners, bakeries, and printers.

Mr. Speaker, I recently held a forum for small business leaders of the 16th Congressional District.

Small business representatives such as Carol Hess of Lancaster Labs, Andy Cuiffetelli of Custom Casings, and Howard Winey of Martin Limestone—each can tell a story of hardship caused to their growing businesses because of these regulations.

Not only do these companies deal with multiple permits from the Pennsylvania and the Federal Environmental Departments, but expanded regulations mean businesses spend time trying to bend over backwards to comply with Federal regulations.

This translates into an entire year's worth of capital spending which would otherwise go to improving quality and making businesses more competitive.

In the words of Howard Winey of Martin Limestone, "ours is a progressive area and one of the only areas of Pennsylvania that has sustained growth. If our growth is inhibited, everyone suffers."

We cannot afford to do this to our communities.

Yes, we must all support enhancing the quality of life—but this regulation solves no legitimate public health hazard.

These EPA regulations are bad science and bad for business.

Another important workplace issue to small businesses is allowing small business owners to deduct 100 percent of their health insurance costs when they fill out their tax returns.

Start-up and maintenance costs are far and above some of the toughest costs to overcome.

It is patently unfair that large corporations can deduct 100 percent of their share of employees' health-care costs while the self-employed farmer or home business owner can only deduct 40. Even though last year's bill increased the deductibility to 80 percent by 2006, that is not good enough.

Small business owners need a level playing field to assist their growth.

Additionally Mr. Speaker, 14 million Americans now operate home-based businesses.

Because of corporate downsizing, improvements in technology, and a desire to be close to family—individuals choose to work from home.

Tax equity between those who work from home and those who rent office space—and can deduct the costs of renting—is a reasonable request and should be allowed.

Mr. Speaker, I have listed just a few of the regulatory and tax relief measures which could go a long way in helping small businesses of this country to grow even faster and stronger than they are today.

It is these businesses which carry a large portion of the load for our Nation's economy.

We, here in Congress, have a responsibility to lighten their load—and help them along the road to economic prosperity—for their businesses and for our communities.

I salute the small business owners of America.

We must pledge to work to ease their burden.

I now yield back the balance of my time.

STATEMENT BY SPENCER CRISPE,  
BRATTLEBORO HIGH SCHOOL,  
REGARDING EDUCATION FUNDING  
AND TAX REFORM

**HON. BERNARD SANDERS**

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of my colleagues I would like to have printed in the RECORD this statement by a high school student from Brattleboro High School in Vermont, who was speaking at my recent town meeting on issues facing young people.

Mr. CRISPE. Hello, Congressman Sanders. On February 6th the state Supreme Court ruled on the Brigham vs State of Vermont case claiming there is a statistically significant relationship between the wealth of a school district and its spending per student. They decided that there is a great disparity in the quality of education that a student in Vermont receives. It depends on where he or she resides; thus they ruled the current property tax for funding education is unconstitutional and it is up to the legislature to overhaul this unjust system.

The House Ways and Means Committee set to work and on March 19th of this year the legislature passed the controversial House Bill, 527 for property tax reform. I am a concerned Vermonter and so I want to see this new bill equalize educational opportunity.

The bill which the Senate is currently reviewing I believe to be better. I also understand that property tax reform is a tedious, confusing, and almost insurmountable task that legislatures have faced, and for me to try to understand how to make the bill better is even more difficult. However, I do believe there are some important additions that could be made.

There is a large, non-residential tax rate for second homeowners and large businesses of \$1.32 per \$100 value of property. Under this progressive tax formula people will pay based on their ability. Places like ski areas and second homeowners in Vermont will pay more while residential property taxes will be cut by two-thirds. I believe the higher income earners should pay more; however, in Vermont the highest income earners are already paying the highest rates in the country.

The high non-residential tax could drive out businesses and hurt Vermont's largest

industry, tourism. For a hypothetical example, Mt. Snow Ski Area has lots of money, but if it is taxed a lot more the ticket prices could go up and tourists refusing to pay the exorbitant amount will to Maine or New Hampshire to ski. All in all, it could create a cyclical domino effect that would end up hurting Vermont's economy and stunt its growth.

Furthermore, second homeowners in Vermont will be hit hard under the non-residential tax. I feel they should pay more, but we should keep in mind that many of them are already paying for their own children's education in their respective states. We should not place a burden so high that they move away or our state is less attractive to stay in. It is important that income earners at all levels pay their fair share, but the non-residential range should not be so high as to end up damaging Vermont's economy by making it unreachable to outsiders.

Also in the bill is the net residential tax of two acres of land. Basically any resident will pay the residential rate of 39 cents per \$100 property value on up to two acres of land. After that two acres, they pay the large non-residential rate of \$1.32 per hundred dollar value. This is unfair to Vermonters because two acres is a meager amount of land to only be able to afford. If people have to get rid of their land over two acres because they cannot afford the non-residential rate, we will not be using our land effectively and it is simply unfair.

Another last thing to think about is the local income tax. This would be the third tax Vermonters pay: State, federal, local. We want to equalize education but we are doing it at the local level with the presumption that the towns are going to tax themselves to raise money above the state block grant. This may be a poor presumption because honestly people care about education but gag when they hear anything about more taxes. If this presumption fails and the towns do not tax themselves as planned, we could end up with the same educational disparities as the present system.

House Bill 537 is generally good, but some of the aforementioned taxes could be eased by a couple of things: I propose to fix some of the problems of the bill by taxing heavily products totally unnecessary to Vermonters. We could put a larger tax on tobacco products, all lottery tickets and games, alcoholic beverages and even candy. I understand that in 537 there is going to be broad-based taxes on things like rooms, meals and gasoline, but a heavy tax on the mentioned products ought to generate a lot of additional revenue to ease the other taxes.

Also for revenue a higher tax should be put on inheritances and trust funds, but not for inherited agricultural land. With the revenue from these taxes we could put forth the money to fixing some of the problems with the bill. We could allow a residential tax for maybe up to six acres of land and reduce the monetary need for the local income tax by pouring some of the revenue into the state pool for block grants.

Other revenue could go to reducing the non-residential tax so businesses and non-residents won't move out or be discouraged from coming here. This can make our state attractive to prospective businesses which if they moved in could stimulate our economy.

Lawmakers need to move slowly and do this reform correctly. We definitely do not want as equally a poor system that will just have to be overhauled again in another couple of years. We should run statistic tests and implement the reform gradually to see

how it evolves and works—I know the revenue from alcohol, tobacco and other products fluctuates—to examine the amount of the income the proposed taxes do indeed generate.

Lastly, politics should be left out of this bill. It is important to remember that the bill is for the kids and justice in funding education and remember that a good education makes for the best economic climate.

I think that everyone has made this bill so complicated, I didn't touch on a lot of the nitty-gritty complications of it and I think they get lost in all those complications, so if you just think about it sensibly and make it simple. As I mentioned in my presentation that people who earn more should pay more. The progressive tax format I believe works for property but I think and I do like House 527, I just think there are things that might be made better partly because they made it so complicated.

You can get into a whole other topic because sure, the federal government subsidizes or whatever education and you get into issues like how much—I mean if you look at the pie chart of what they spend each year, they spend five to ten percent on education and then you get into issues of how much they spend on defense and the military as opposed to education.

The present system basically there was a lawsuit that stemmed out of this whole thing and it is actually been a problem for a number of years. Matter of fact, in 1987 Madaline Kunin said years ago that the quality of education that a child in Vermont receives depends on where he or she resides, she just said it straight out, and people all the way back to the 70's and before. The problem—but it is being forced that the legislature has to do something and something has to be done because of the Supreme Court decision stemming from a lawsuit or whatever, the case of Amanda Brigham, and they ruled last February that it was unconstitutional and that they should totally—that it is going to be totally overhauled and the legislature should do it as fast as they can.

Some property-rich towns were spending twice as much, say between eight and \$11,000 for people for education while other property-poor towns under the present and all funding systems were paying half that, 3,000, 4,000, \$5,000 for people.

Thank you for your time, Congressman Sanders.

RECOGNITION OF TEACHERS OF  
THE YEAR

**HON. LARRY COMBEST**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to bring to the attention of my colleagues several distinguished teachers from the 19th Congressional District of Texas. My home district extends from the Panhandle of Texas through the South Plains to the Permian Basin, and encompasses various cultures, personalities, and dreams. I am pleased to recognize these recipients of the Teacher of the Year Award who enable our students to understand and learn from each other, and strive to achieve their goals.

Good teachers nurture our country's best hope for tomorrow, her children. Their perseverance and dedication challenge and shape

students to dream, and to work hard to make those dreams come true. Unfortunately, educators toil with little public thanks or appreciation, even though their efforts are essential to a strong future. These teachers, in particular, go beyond the call of duty and wholeheartedly devote themselves to this important mission.

It is my pleasure to present to you the 19th District of Texas' Teachers of the Year: Ms. Dee Ann Liles and Ms. Kathleen McDowell, Sunray ISD; Ms. Candace Dyer, Farwell ISD; Mr. W.W. "Bear" Mills and Ms. Rebecca T. Watson, Midland ISD; Ms. Narelle Horton, Bushland ISD; Ms. Ann Green, Hartley ISD; Ms. Julie Harris and Ms. Laura Landes, Amarillo ISD; Ms. Pam Perrin, Vega ISD; Ms. Connie Gilbert and Ms. Janie Rendon, Hereford ISD; Ms. Clarice Andres, Slaton ISD; Ms. Sonya Wilson and Dr. David LeMaster, Odessa ISD; and Ms. Jan Morris and Ms. Shelli Stegall, Odessa ISD.

As a former teacher, I know firsthand the importance of a quality education; however, it is outstanding teachers like these who strive for excellence, knowing the worth of this goal. I thank these educators for all they do for our children and our Nation.

#### THE PROMISE OF CONSERVATISM

### HON. HELEN CHENOWETH

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, in these trying times when many of our leaders appear to be second guessing our moral and political underpinnings, I commend to my colleagues' reading an address by former U.S. Senator Malcolm Wallop of Wyoming entitled, "The Promise of Conservatism." It is one of the best descriptions of the crossroads at which we find ourselves:

#### THE PROMISE OF CONSERVATISM, AN ADDRESS BY MALCOLM WALLOP

Before this audience of conservatives, most of whom are Republicans, I would enjoy setting forth a conservative agenda for the Republican Party. I would like to think that you could then put whatever insights I might give you to work for the Republican Party. But I'm afraid that the most useful insight I can give you is that the Republican Party seems well on the way to denying its conservative birthright, and that with every passing day you and I are becoming strangers to it.

The party's leadership seems determined to follow the disastrous example of the Canadian conservative party, which became afraid to challenge the socialists except with empty rhetoric, and which was entirely wiped out at the polls. But that's all right. Parties are born when they take up important tasks, and die when they let them drop. We cannot control the destiny of the Republican Party. We can control the destiny of the American conservative movement—and conservatism is a permanent fixture of American life, because the American people always need some shield against overweening government.

But I want to impress upon you that the character of conservatism is not written in the stars. It is subject to change for the better or the worse. It could just as easily come

to resemble more the small and mean minded thing we see nowadays in Europe than the conservatism of Reagan, Goldwater, Coolidge, Lincoln, Clay, the Adamsses, and Washington. My task here today is to help clarify the difference between the kind of conservatism that made this country great and a Republican Party so fearful of the shadow of principle that it is cowering before Bill Clinton. I suggest to you that Bill Clinton and all his works are examples of the difference between government as it has been practiced since the New Deal and the way of life established by the Founding Fathers. The exposure of President Clinton's conversion of power into money is giving the conservative movement a historic opportunity to instruct itself and the country about the consequences of discretionary government power. The conservative movement dare not let it pass because it makes our point: Big government is corrupting America. It deprives us of freedom, makes us poorer, sows strife among us, undermines our families, and debases our souls.

Let's first address the Republican default, then turn to the practical, everyday mission of American conservatism: to cut back the extent and power of government.

From the time of Abraham Lincoln, the Republican Party has been a party of principle. The Democratic Party lives now as it has lived for most of its history as a brokerage house for government favors. Lots of people make a living out of being Democrats. The teachers' unions, the government workers' unions, the abortion industry, and a host of well connected businesses, the kind who get the U.S. government to set up deals for them abroad or to tailor regulations for them—they make a living out of being Democrats. Very few people make a living out of being Republicans. Today, many of our party's leaders envy the Democrats' vast network of patronage, and they have begun using Republican presidential victories in the '80s and congressional victories in the '90s to try to set up shop like the Democrats. In front of us all during the last campaign and now with the new Congress, Republican leaders are running away from the issues.

Nowhere was this clearer than in California, where the California Civil Rights Initiative, a reaffirmation of equality before the law, withstood a titanic campaign against it. It won by ten points, yet our Republican candidate, down by double digits, waited till the final week to associate himself with the issue, and then weakly. The Republican leadership's unwillingness to ride a horse that was obviously heading for victory, a horse that was so rightly its own, indicts its elementary political competence, as well as its commitment to conservative principles. Adding symbolic insult to injury, the Speaker decided to have as his guest to the State of the Union, not Ward Connerly, but Jesse Jackson—someone who stands for group rights over individual rights, who heads a federally financed patronage network, and who is supporting the proposition that the judiciary can overturn the result of the California referendum.

Our leaders seem tacitly to accept the liberals' premise that the voters disapprove of the conservative vision of American society, that piety, propriety, responsibility, standing for the rights of citizens and families against bureaucratic encroachment amount to extremism. So the Republican leadership now presses upon us an agenda best characterized as Rockefeller Republicanism—fiscal stringency combined with claims of superior competence in management, and guilty protestations of moderation.

On top of this, they timidly set a veneer of procedural, contentless conservatism: The balanced budget amendment instead of a commitment to cut taxes; the line item veto instead of commitments to cut entitlements and de-fund leftist advocacy groups; propping up a ponzi scheme going broke instead of real efforts to privatize Social Security; a declaratory Defend America Act instead of a bill to build real missile defenses; touchy-feely talk about concern for the environment instead of reforming environmental laws so that they don't steal people's property. And then they wonder why Republican voters have lost their enthusiasm and why Bill Clinton, that thinly veiled blob of fraud, was able to cast himself as the defender of families, religion, indeed of "our values" and was able to cast the Republicans as dark forces threatening America.

On Election Day, according to exit polls, some 25% of self-described conservatives and a big majority of self-described moderates, most of whom share the cultural premises of conservatism, voted for Clinton. I stress that Clinton was able to occupy this conservative ground only because the Republicans vacated it. The cynically counterfeited character of Clinton's appeal to cultural conservatism could have been blasted away by a single picture of a partial birth abortion, or by a pointed reference to *Romer v. Evans*, or by a real commitment to tax reduction. But the Republican candidate and party seemed afraid of their own issues. The reason why our leaders flock to contentless issues is precisely that they spare them the trouble of taking on real interests and changing real habits.

The American conservative tradition, which began with Washington and Adams, is founded on human dignity and a concern for character. No phrase came from Washington more often than "We have a national character to establish." Following Aristotle, Cato the elder, and others, George Washington repeated that the Republic could only be built on the firm foundations of private morality. John Adams surveyed the world's peoples and found that only in America were there the same habits that under-girded freedom in a few ancient republics. In crafting our institutions, the Founding Fathers limited the power of government because only under limited government can we encourage those habits. The government established by the Founders did not make us moral. But it took pains to be on the right side of the great moral questions.

Now let me say a few words about our historic opportunity to make clear which way of life we want to foster and which way of life we abhor.

Republicans did themselves and the country a disservice in 1996 by talking about the "Character Issue" without ever mentioning Bill Clinton's specific misdeeds and above all without explaining what about them is wrong. They failed to make the essential political point: The conversion of power into money, or sex is corruption and is the inevitable result of big government. Corruption can be fought only by restricting the opportunities to profit from it. The late Christopher Lasch wrote that whereas the American dream once was that any person, no matter his circumstances, could make his way without having to curry anyone's favor, now that dream consists of the opportunity to rise out of the class of the ruled, into the class of the rulers. We conservatives want to do away with Bill Clinton's America, where people must wheedle and pay for privileges as well as to stay out of trouble with the

government. We want to bring back the Founders' America of freedom, responsibility, and, yes, virtue.

Today government at all levels taxes, spends, and regulates roughly twice as much as when I grew up. It touches every aspect of our lives, and harms just about everything it touches. It will fine you for not wearing a seat belt, but will not protect your life from criminals. It will deliver contraceptives to your children, but cannot deliver the mail. It prohibits a Jewish community in New York from having a school district—who knows what politically incorrect things their kids might learn from reading the Bible—but it forces others to accept the normality of two moms. In the name of racial equality, the government forces us to discriminate on the basis of race. Once upon a time our government was a bulwark against domestic enemies. Now big government has become our chief domestic enemy.

That is why there is really only one issue. Who will stand on the side of the American people against their government gone bad? Make no mistake: America is rapidly dividing into two sets of people with two distinctive ways of life. One set has behind it the full power of Bill Clinton's corrupt state of clients and patrons. The other set, that tries to live virtuously and by their own hard work, is looking for political leadership. It is up to us to protect the vast majority of the American people against a government that is undermining our capacity for self government, our prosperity, our families, our spiritual lives, and even our capacity for self defense.

With each passing year, America resembles less and less what the Founders bequeathed us and looks more and more like the countries our immigrant forefathers tried to get away from. This is happening in large part because the ruling classes who run our government, the universities, the media, the entertainment industry, the arts, have gathered unto themselves enormously powerful means of governance.

They detest our patriotism. They dislike our people's prosperity. It is their policy that we consume too much of the world's resources.

But whether the excuse is environmentalism or poverty or crime, the recipe is always the same. Take money away from independent working people and give it to the favorites of the ruling class.

Of course, this is a recipe for economic decline. Nowhere in the writings of the Founding Fathers is there anything about managing the economy. Our Founders wanted to promote prosperity, not manage it. They set about ensuring that government would be small, frugal, impartial, and moral. We became rich because government, in Jefferson's words, would not "take from the mouth of labor the bread it had earned." If we abandon the Founders' mores, no economic policy can keep us out of the poorhouse.

The ruling class dislikes our tradition of self-government. They equate local control of crime with brutality and racism. Local zoning is racism. Local control of schools is racist. We are all racists—except they. They have turned laws that prohibit racial discrimination into mandates for racial preferences in everything from school admissions to hiring and firing. A whole industry has grown up to administer this American form of apartheid.

The ruling class does not care about public safety. Having made it very difficult for States and localities to police themselves, having left ordinary citizens with no choice

but to protect themselves as best they can, they now try to take our guns away. In fact they blame us and our guns for crime. This is so wrong that it cannot be an honest mistake.

The ruling class does not care that our children are being diseducated, that schools are becoming factories of ignorance and decay. Every proposal regarding education that has come out of the establishment calls for more money and more union control.

Above all, the people who run this country have deep contempt for the culture on which it rests. They tell us we are zealots if we talk about social issues like abortion, education, homosexuality, race relations, and the role of religion in public life. Because liberals have failed the country on these issues, they would rather we not talk about them—I say we must.

In this period of capitulation and bewilderment, it would be easy to wring our hands and say that it's difficult to know what to do. But it isn't. It's easy. The tools and policies are right in front of us.

We can and should end welfare—not "as we know it." Just end it, period. Charity for those who deserve it is something with a long and honorable history in America.

We can and should privatize Social Security—obviously people who are already retired should get every penny already promised. But just imagine if every penny deducted from us henceforth went into individual retirement accounts of our choosing and to our families. We could all look forward to a lot more money, and the government would have a lot less to spend from day to day.

For the monsters of Medicare and Medicaid, we can and should substitute individual medical savings accounts, backed up by vouchers.

We can and should be rid of the monstrous educational establishment by giving parents vouchers for whatever amount any level of government taxes them to educate their children.

We can and should re-establish the line between what is individual property and what is the government's property by replacing the failed Endangered Species Act with conservation programs that really work because they do not pit the interests of wildlife against those of landowners.

We can be rid of the terrible bureaucracy of the IRS, and of all the distortive inequities of the current system just by instituting a flat tax.

We can restore self-government by reducing the power of the federal courts to review the acts of state courts and the enactments of citizens. The Founding Fathers wrote Article 3, Section 2 of the Constitution precisely to make sure that the judiciary would be, in Alexander Hamilton's words, "the least dangerous branch." Now that the courts have become a clear and present danger to our democracy, it is time to use the Founders' remedy.

We can and we should thwart the administration's devilish and dangerous Chemical Weapons Convention and just say no to dishonest diplomacy that makes our citizens feel secure while their danger increases.

Shrinking the government would yield many specific benefits. But these are not the main reasons why we should cut government.

We want to cut taxes not primarily because doing so will put more money in our pockets, but because it will put the means of freedom in our hands. We want to cut the government's power to grant privilege not

primarily because privilege is economically inefficient, but because we don't want to be a nation of favor-seekers. We want to keep and bear our guns not because we want to shoot somebody, but because we have a right and duty to take care of ourselves. Moral leadership, today as in 1789, does not mean that the President of the United States forces anyone to go to church or synagogue. But it does mean that by word and deed he leads the country in giving unto God the things that are God's.

The dignity of citizenship has been co-opted by laws and rules. These confine and direct the lives of Americans away from liberty, faith, and prosperity, into behavior defined by the ruling classes as acceptable to them. Thus denied the gifts endowed by our Creator, we become sheep to be shepherded.

My friends and colleagues, we cannot succeed by proposing to take over management of the redistributionist state from the Democrats and pat ourselves on the back for doing it more efficiently. We must attack it root and branch. We cannot prevail by continuing to hand out the favors and the goodies, only fewer than the Democrats.

At this time when all too many Republican leaders have lost their way and don't know what to do except capitulate to forces of big government, it is up to conservative activities in this room to provide the nerve and backbone that the leadership so noticeably lacks.

I do not say this casually. The organization I founded when I retired from the Senate in 1995, Frontiers of Freedom, supported any number of conservative initiatives in the last Congress. But when the Republican leadership strayed, we did not hesitate in crossing swords, even with the Speaker of the House.

And so I say to you, where does the strength come from to be a vigilant conservative? From:

The dignity of citizenship  
the passion of patriotism  
the honor of freedom  
the security of property  
the joy of opportunity in a free society  
the nurture of family  
and the love of God.

These things belong to tomorrow no less than the past. Rise up my friends and demand that if Newt and Jack and the others will not lead us there . . . then by golly, get out of the way because that is our destination. That is the promise of conservatism.

#### A MESSAGE FROM THE ROMANIAN PARLIAMENT TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the United States' relationship with the Republic of Romania. Among the countries that were within the sphere of influence of the former Soviet Union, Romania stands out as a country that has made a rapid transition from an authoritarian form of government to a democratic nation and from a centrally planned economy to a free market economy. The road that Romania has traveled to arrive at a point where they now have a democratically elected government and a growing free market economy has

not been an easy one; however, the Romanian people have been steadfast in their determination to keep traveling down that road.

Today, Romania is seeking to join the ranks of countries that are members of NATO. Significantly, among Central and Eastern European countries, Romania was the first country to join the Partnership for Peace program. The Government of Romania has also reached out to its neighbors to insure regional peace as illustrated by their concluding a political bilateral treaty with Hungary and initialing a similar document with Ukraine. Romania should also be commended for its participation in the peace-keeping missions in Angola and Bosnia.

Membership in NATO is a primary goal of the Romanian Government and people. In April 1997, the Romanian Parliament, in a joint session of the Chamber of Deputies and Senate, unanimously passed an "Appeal of the Parliament of Romania to the United States House of Representatives." The Parliament's appeal to us was that the House support Romania in its efforts to gain NATO membership. I would ask my colleagues read this appeal by the Romanian Parliament so that they can gain a fuller appreciation of this friend of the United States that desires to join NATO so that they can more fully participate in the promotion of peace and stability in Europe:

APPEAL OF THE PARLIAMENT OF ROMANIA TO THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Now, at a time of crucial importance for Romania's destiny, we are writing, in hope and trust, to the members of the United States House of Representatives, having the profound conviction that the Romanian people will enjoy your help to build its future. Our country's choice for integration into NATO is a fundamental priority of the Romanian foreign policy, based on the natural and legitimate aspirations of the Romanian people to become a part of the Euro-Atlantic community of the states with which it shares the same values and principles of freedom and democracy.

Ours are strong arguments for having Romania included among the very first group of candidates—a democratic state governed by the rule of law, its internal stability, geo-strategic position, economic and military potential, the political consensus and massive popular support for NATO, the inter-ethnic harmony, a full civilian control over the army as well as over the institutions dealing with public order and national security, a high degree of interoperability with the armed forces of the Alliance.

The change of government following the November 1996 elections has demonstrated the consolidation and proper functioning of all institutions under the rule of law in Romania. Our new Executive has proved its commitment to a market economy and far-reaching economic reforms, all of which are oriented towards this objective—to accelerate privatization, to restructure economy, to facilitate foreign investment—and has succeeded to conduct an active and coherent foreign policy. Romania has established a solid partnership with Hungary, with the other applicant countries, and is now perfecting its framework of relations with Ukraine whose stability and independence we regard as being essential for the security of this region. In this context, we will foster a dynamic dialogue and cooperation with the Russian Federation, in line with the new political relations existing on the European continent.

Romania is an active member of the various regional cooperation agreements, while its participation in the Partnership for Peace, in the peace-keeping missions in Angola and Bosnia and, more recently, in the protection force in Albania has shown its capability to make a contribution to strengthening the security and stability in this area as well as on the continent, to be a security builder and an important factor within the Euro-Atlantic security system.

We can assure you that we will undertake the costs of Romania's joining the Alliance structures. In response to the economic difficulties during transition, we have developed an ambitious and pragmatic economic program that has support from the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, and gives prospects for a sustainable economic growth that will allow us to take the accession costs upon ourselves. Considering that Romania is, at present, one of the countries which is best prepared from the viewpoint of the criteria set for admission to the North Atlantic Alliance structures, we are submitting to you, before the Summit meeting in Madrid, our request to support Romania's application to be accepted as a member in the first round of NATO enlargement process.

Strongly believing that our appeal will find the desired interest and reception, we would like to assure you of our high consideration and extent our thanks for every action you may decide upon in order to back up our démarche.

This Appeal has been adopted by unanimous vote today, the 24th of April 1997, in a joint session of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate.

IN MEMORY OF FRANCES MARIE QUINN

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Frances Marie Quinn, who recently left us. Like many women of her generation, she began her family during World War II. While her husband, Coridon John Quinn II served his Nation across the world as a pilot, Frances gave birth to her first child. The Quinns had eight children and two of their sons carried on the family tradition of military service. That proud family tradition is now carried on by two of Frances' grandchildren.

After a full life marked by a strong family and care for her community, Frances passed away at the age of 76. Her family and friends will miss her greatly.

DES EDUCATION AND RESEARCH AMENDMENTS OF 1997

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce today the DES Education and Research Amendments of 1997.

Between 1938 and 1971, approximately 5 million pregnant American women took the

drug diethylstilbestrol, or DES, in the belief it would prevent miscarriage. Tragically, DES failed to impact miscarriage rates and instead caused severe health consequences for many of the children exposed in utero.

DES is now known to damage the reproductive systems of those exposed in utero and to increase the risk for cancer, infertility, and a wide range of other serious reproductive tract disorders. These include a fivefold increased risk of ectopic pregnancy for DES daughters and a threefold increased risk for miscarriage and preterm labor. One in one thousand DES daughters will develop clear cell cancer of the vagina or cervix. If diagnosed early, survival rates for this cancer are around 80 percent. However, there is still no effective treatment for recurrence of this cancer.

DES sons experience adverse health consequences as well, including an increased incidence of undescended testicles and fertility problems. Studies also indicate a higher incidence of breast cancer among mothers who took DES during pregnancy.

In the 102d Congress, Senator TOM HARKIN and I sponsored the DES Education and Research Amendments of 1992. This legislation, signed into law by President Bush, established the first Federal DES research and education efforts. Since that time, DES research has yielded important insights into the impact of synthetic estrogens on the human body. The associated education program has helped to identify people who did not previously know they were exposed to DES and educate them about their special health needs.

Our understanding of DES is still evolving and incomplete. Two of the most pressing research concerns at present are whether estrogen replacement therapy is advisable for DES-exposed women and whether DES may have a genetic impact on the third generation—the children of parents exposed to DES in utero. In addition, many thousands of affected Americans and their health professionals do not have adequate information about steps they should take to deal with the effects of DES.

The DES Education and Research Amendments of 1997 would extend authorization for DES research at the National Institutes of Health. It would also instruct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a national DES education program, based on the pilot projects conducted pursuant to the 1992 law.

The Federal commitment to DES education and research must continue. I urge my colleagues to support the DES Education and Research Amendments of 1997.

THE IMPORTANCE OF GUAM'S CORAL REEFS

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I was pleased that last month the House adopted House Concurrent Resolution 8, a resolution declaring the importance of maintaining the health and stability of coral reef ecosystems. On Guam, and throughout the Western Pacific, the importance of coral reefs is woven

into almost every aspect of our lives. Healthy coral reefs are vital to our economy which is largely driven by our tourist industry, but they are also an important part of our island culture. Our reefs also serve as natural protection to our coastline from high waves, storm surges, and coastal erosion especially during typhoons and tsunamis. As is the case with most of the coral reef ecosystems in the world, Guam reefs are being threatened by a variety of enemies. Guam's reefs are being especially threatened by sewage outfalls, runoff, sediment, silt, and environmental stress from an increasing number of visitors.

Governor Gutierrez recently took action to preserve and protect this fragile ecosystem so central to both our culture and economy through the enactment of the Guam Coral Reef Initiative and signing the island's first marine life restoration bill passed by the Twenty-Fourth Guam Legislature. This new law will also have a significant impact on the life of our coral reef by setting aside designated reef preserves to allow various marine species to repopulate. Limits on the harvesting of fish and restrictions on fishing methods will also create a more healthy environment in which our reef can thrive.

The Guam Coral Reef Initiative ordered by the Governor is a comprehensive conservation and management plan for Guam's coral reef ecosystem including our mangroves and sea-grass beds. This initiative seeks to bring together all of the stakeholders in Guam's coral reefs to coordinate solutions which take into account the wide variety of direct and indirect threats to our reefs. Education will also be a strong component of this initiative. Residents and especially visitors need to be educated about the importance of the reefs as well as how to take proper care of this fragile ecosystem.

In addition to establishing a process to improve the health of Guam's coral reefs, this initiative includes a monitoring and research element. In fact, the University of Guam's Marine Lab and the Guam Department of Agriculture held training sessions last week to teach the public how to help conduct reef surveys. These surveys will serve as a baseline from which researchers can compare future reef health.

The people of Guam have traditionally been exceptional stewards of our environment. These two actions again prove that the people of Guam, not the Federal Government, are the best stewards of our environment. Through this effort, Guam continues to stand as an example of local solutions to local problems.

A TRIBUTE TO THE MENORAH  
HOUSING FOUNDATION

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 1997*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the excellent work of the Menorah Housing Foundation and to congratulate them for 20 years of superior service to our senior community.

The Menorah Housing Foundation is a management company subsidized by the Housing

and Urban Development program. Menorah manages 613 units in nine locations around the Los Angeles area and has received funding for four more projects because of its success in improving the quality of life for thousands of individuals.

Those at the Menorah Foundation go beyond the call of duty in order to provide more than just safe, sanitary and affordable housing. The staff involves its residents in a vast array of social, recreational and educational activities, particularly reaching out to minorities. The foundation also cooperates with outreach programs including those of the Jewish Family Service and other Federal programs which provide nutritional assistance. In order to truly serve the residents each worker makes personal contact with each and every person in order to ensure that all tenants maintain the highest quality of life possible.

The success of the Menorah Housing Foundation is due largely in part to the leadership of Shirley Srery and her staff. I join the Los Angeles Community in recognizing the Menorah Housing Foundation for providing quality care combined with compassion and commitment to our senior community. The Menorah Housing Foundation stands as a model for all housing programs around the Nation.

CNA CELEBRATES ITS 100TH  
ANNIVERSARY

**HON. HARRIS W. FAWELL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 1997*

Mr. FAWELL. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 100th anniversary of CNA, the third largest property/casualty insurer in the United States and the leading provider of commercial insurance.

Founded in Detroit by Collins Hubbard with 15 employees, CNA moved to Chicago in 1900. It employs over 6,000 people in Illinois—many of whom reside in my congressional district—and 20,000 throughout the country.

During its 100 years of providing security to Americans, CNA has been a pioneer in developing insurance products to respond to rapidly changing lifestyles in the 20th century.

Its first product, accident and health insurance, was offered at a time when most insurance companies provided only coverage for accidents. Responding to the needs of farmers as agricultural production grew, CNA developed special accident and health insurance. In 1910 CNA moved into auto insurance and burglary insurance. The next year life insurance was added to CNA's products. During World War I, as factories dramatically increased output to meet war needs, CNA offered workers' compensation coverage.

At this point, I ask unanimous consent to insert in the RECORD a more complete history of CNA which was prepared by the company in anticipation of this important anniversary. I congratulate CNA for its remarkable achievements and for its service to all Americans:

A TRIBUTE TO CNA IN CELEBRATION OF ITS CENTENNIAL. CNA STANDS FOR COMMITMENT, 1897-1997

INTRODUCTION

CNA, one of the country's largest commercial insurance groups, is celebrating one hundred years of commitment and service to the American people both at home and abroad. Since 1897, whenever America has sought a sense of security, CNA has been there, anticipating that need and forging its reputation as an industry innovator. Railroad workers, teachers, movie stars, athletes, even U.S. Presidents have depended on CNA's protection against both expected risks and unforeseen dangers.

Since its modest beginnings in Detroit, Michigan, with \$100,000 in capital stock and a \$60,000 surplus, CNA has become one of the largest property/casualty insurers in the nation, with over \$60 billion in assets. Originally operating out of a two-room office with 15 employees, CNA today occupies some 400 office sites in over 100 cities and employs over 20,000 people nationwide. Now headquartered in Chicago, CNA directly employs more than 6,000 people in Illinois alone. Almost 80,000 agents currently represent CNA throughout the United States, testament to the company's successful alliance with independent agents.

CNA's exemplary accomplishment—a century culminating in financial stability and preeminence in the industry—attests to its history of astute leadership, integrity and commitment to quality service.

THE FOUNDING

Collins Hubbard, CNA's founder, set the course of perceptive leadership that has guided CNA to the top of the insurance industry. Calling together several of his colleagues, Hubbard proposed a company that would insure America's working class against unexpected disasters. The Continental Assurance Company of North America, as CNA was then known, provided coverage with an innovative twist: both accident and health insurance, at a time when most of its contemporaries offered only accident coverage.

Focusing on railroad workers as its initial customer base, CNA became the largest insurer in Michigan within two years of its founding. Despite its rapid growth, the fledgling company faced intense competition from other insurance companies. In light of this, the company underwent two major changes. First, it changed its name to the more forceful and representative, Continental Casualty Company. Then, in September 1900, the company merged with Metropolitan Accident Company, a Chicago insurer, and moved its headquarters to Chicago. This strategy catapulted the combined companies to fifth among the nation's accident insurers.

CNA BECOMES AN INDUSTRY LEADER

Early in the 20th century, CNA distinguished itself as a leader in the insurance industry by demonstrating the capacity for discerning new markets and developing innovative products. When women began to enter the work force, CNA was among the first to provide them with accident and health coverage. As agricultural production expanded, CNA devised new products specifically geared to farmers' accident and health concerns.

CNA reinforced its position at the forefront of the industry in 1910 by expanding beyond accident and health into different lines of insurance such as liability, auto insurance and burglary. In 1911, the company entered

the life insurance field by forming the Continental Assurance Company. In 1915, CNA began offering workers' compensation coverage as factories employed more people to increase output for the World War I effort.

Policies combining multiple lines of insurance proved successful, particularly as automobiles—and accidents involving automobiles—became commonplace. Motorist coverage insured both the driver and any persons injured or property damaged.

The growth of an affluent American middle-class meant increased incidents of theft. Property owners' concerns were met by CNA's wide range of burglary insurance—protecting against bank robberies, home break-ins and safe deposit box theft.

#### GROUPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

By the early 1920s, the flourishing company was operating in every state and territory of the United States, as well as every province in Canada. That decade also marked the beginning of CNA's pioneering relationship with associations, a relationship that has lasted until the present day and has played a significant role in CNA's rise to the upper echelon of insurance companies.

CNA is credited with the first teachers association group policy, written for the Cleveland Teachers Association in 1921. CNA insured the American Society of Civil Engineers in 1945, becoming the first insurer to successfully install a group plan for a nationwide association. Teaming up with the American Camping Association in the 1950s, CNA initiated an educational campaign to promote camp safety and insure campers. Camp insurance led to the formation of "PONY," Protect Our Nation's Youth, a youth program offering medical expense reimbursement from kindergarten through college.

CNA has also demonstrated unwavering commitment to the nation's retirement-age population. In the 1930s, before compulsory Social Security, the company was among the first to offer retirement income annuities. By 1955, CNA had developed the first group health plan for those over 65. Originally conceived as a group medical insurance plan for retired teachers associations, the plan evolved into "Golden 65", a policy offered directly to the individual. After the implementation of Medicare in the summer of 1965, CNA redesigned Golden 65 to complement the Medicare plan, while other insurers exited the over-65 health insurance field.

#### DEPENDABILITY IN TIMES OF CRISIS

Dependability in times of crisis is a CNA hallmark. The company refused to exit the field of polio insurance at a time when the nation was literally crippled by the rampant, dreaded disease. CNA introduced its polio coverage the year of the worse polio outbreak in two decades. It continued to provide comprehensive and affordable polio coverage for the duration of the epidemic.

The company's willingness to take on the challenge of even the most unusual coverage request has marked its true American spirit—bold, enterprising and innovative. Where other companies see uninsurable risks, CNA sees possibilities—a company trait that has ensured its success and longevity in the insurance business. CNA has staunchly stood behind Americans in all manner of pursuits and ventures, these past 100 years.

CNA insured presidential hopefuls Adlai Stevenson and Dwight Eisenhower against accidents during their campaign trips in 1952. When John F. Kennedy was inaugurated as the nation's 35th president, CNA provided liability coverage for the ceremonial activi-

ties. In 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson asked CNA to write the bond for the train that stood waiting in case emergency evacuation was necessary during Martin Luther King's civil rights protest march to Montgomery, Alabama. The 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago was covered by CNA's liability insurance.

A special CNA reinsurance policy covered the cancellation or postponement of the 1965 Shea Stadium performance of the Beatles for the Ed Sullivan show. The Apollo 16 astronauts were insured in case of accidental death on their 1972 flight to the moon.

Little League teams around the country have enjoyed CNA protection since 1948, as have Indianapolis 500 drivers, pit crews and race officials. The American athletes competing in the 1952 Helsinki Olympic games were insured by CNA. Water events at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics were covered by MOAC, CNA's marine insurance unit.

#### CNA CARES ABOUT COMMUNITY

CNA's commitment to its employees, its clients, and the American people extends far beyond insurance. The company encourages and subsidizes both employees and CNA leadership in community projects. In the 1920's, the company sought to enrich the lives of its employees through its Continental Welfare Association which offered disability pensions, life insurance and retirement pensions.

Later, during World War II, the employees reached out to help in the war effort. CNA employees organized their own chapter of the Red Cross, calling it the Continental Red Cross. By the midpoint of the war, Continental employees had invested \$232,418 in war bonds.

Today, in more peaceful times, CNA and its employees have dedicated time and resources toward the education of the nation's youth. In the early 1980's, CNA sponsored Illinois' first math contest. With the Chicago Urban League, the Chicago Board of Education, and the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics, CNA developed MATHCOUNTS, a model math tutorial program. The program quickly garnered nationwide attention. By 1984, MATHCOUNTS had evolved into the county's first nationwide math contest boasting as cosponsors the National Society of Professional Engineers, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the U.S. Department of Education.

CNA's investment in the nation's future—its children—is evident in CNA's involvement with the Leadership for Quality Education, a coalition of business and civil leaders working to improve the Chicago school system. Out of this, CNA created Project Participate, providing paid time off, resources and training to employees wishing to run for Chicago's Local School Councils. CNA has also adopted Chicago's Mark Skinner School as part of the Chicago Board of Education's Adopt-A-School Program.

#### CONCLUSION

CNA stands for a century of commitment, stability and financial strength. Entering the final years of the 20th century, the company prepared for the 21st century in typical CNA fashion—it acquired the Continental Insurance Company in 1995. This merger, the most significant property/casualty insurance merger in the last 25 years, expanded CNA's scope—elevating its presence worldwide, adding new specialty operations and pooling the considerable talent and resources of both companies.

As the new millennium approaches, unfathomable leaps in technology, social transformations and economic upheaval are as much a source of apprehension today as in 1897. CNA saw the birth of a new century that brought with it several wars, a severe economic depression, fantastic advances in modes of travel and communication, social change and natural disasters. It has met the challenges of the past 100 years and stands poised for another century, confident of its continued success based on its core values: commitment, stability and financial strength.

#### IF MY SON WERE ALIVE

#### HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, today, as we mark the eighth anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues a moving memorial statement by Ding Zilin, the mother of one of the young men killed by Chinese soldiers. This statement, which is being read at Tiananmen Square memorials in the United States, is an eloquent testament to the courage of Jiang Jielian, a 17-year-old high school student, and his mother, who has struggled to make sense of his tragic loss. I urge my colleagues to read this statement and to remember those who have given their lives and those who continue the struggle to promote democratic reform and basic human rights in China.

IF MY SON WERE ALIVE . . . ON THE 8TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JUNE 4TH

(By Ding Zilin)

"If my son were alive . . ." For eight years I have been preoccupied with this thought, which cut deeper whenever I saw youths of his age. I would be struck with an empty feeling, a sensation that I was falling into an abyss. If he were alive, he would be 25 years old. At that time he was only 17, yet he stood more than six feet. Now, he would be taller.

On the evening eight years ago, that most sinister moment, he left home, determined. He went to a most dangerous place. He never came home again.

"If you fall, we will take your place!" This was the slogan they held up while marching in support of the college students on the hunger strike. The date was May 17, 1989. Those characters were written in black ink on a white background and were eye-catching. He was marching in the front row, holding the banner of "People's University High School" and followed by all his schoolmates. He did fall, fulfilling his promise with his young life.

I often think: what is a person living for after all? If my son were still alive, I would give him all my love. I would do everything to support him to put him through college, get degrees, and go abroad for further studies, just like many other mothers of my generation. He died, however, taking with him all my love and hope. Does life truly end up in "nothingness"?

But I cannot forget what he said to me on that evening before leaving home: "If all the parents in the world were as selfish as you are now, would our country and our nation have any hope?" Indeed, what we adults dared not or would not take responsibility

for was placed on the shoulders of our young children. Perhaps his was only a momentary passion generated by idealism. However, why don't we adults give something for ideals?

A friend once tried to comfort me. She said: if a person lives just to be alive, his life would be meaningless even if he reached seventies. Although your son lived for only 17 years, he achieved a life full of value. I am not sure if my son's death was meaningful, because so-called meaning can only mean something to the living; some day the living might be talking about the "June 4th" and make only small talk about those who died on that day! But I still believe that people should not sustain a meager life, for such a life can only be sustained by compromising one's dignity.

I know my son. If he had not died during that massacre, if he were alive today, I believe he would not give up his pursuit for liberty. He would be fulfilling his duties to this era by plunging himself into the surging tide of democratization.

Here it suddenly occurs to me: what would I be if my son were still alive? After the "June 4th" disaster, perhaps I would be like a scared hen, to be more careful in protecting my son, to constrain his freedom in both thought and action with all the instinctive love of a mother, "making" him an obedient citizen. It is almost certain that such an attitude would give rise to conflict between mother and son, because he would not tolerate selfishness and cowardice. He would not despise me or sever the ties with me, because he loves his mother deeply, but he would take the road chosen by himself. In the end, I would have to go along.

It is often said that children are the continuation of parents' lives, which has been reversed in our family. I am still alive today. Moreover, I have awakened from ignorance and slumber, and have regained my dignity, but this rebirth has been achieved at the expense of my son's life. My breath, my voice, and my whole being are the continuation of my son's life, forever . . .

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to return to Washington, DC today due to a death in my family and missed the following votes:

Rollcall vote No. 157, ordering the previous question to H. Res. 159. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote No. 158, passage of the rule on H. Res. 159. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote No. 159, the Skaggs amendment (No. 45) as amended by Mr. DIAZ-BALART to H.R. 1486, to continue funding for TV Marti broadcasts to Cuba. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote No. 160, the Hamilton amendment (No. 65) to H.R. 1486, to authorize the President to implement, in the most efficient and effective manner possible, the President's proposal to consolidate and reinvent the foreign affairs agencies of the U.S. Government. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote No. 161, the Bachus amendment (No. 40) to H.R. 1486, to require the

State Department to report to Congress by March 1 of each year a listing of overseas U.S. surplus properties for sale and require the amounts received from such sales to be used for deficit reduction. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote No. 162, the Goss amendment (No. 108) to H.R. 1486, to strike bill provisions which establish new responsibilities for the Office of the Inspector General at the State Department. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote No. 163, the Paul amendment (No. 47) to H.R. 1486, to add new provisions to the bill which repeal the United Nations Headquarters Agreement Act, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organizations Act, and the United Nations Environmental Protection Act of 1973. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

Rollcall vote No. 164, the Stearns amendment (No. 6) to H.R. 1486, to allow Congress, instead of the Secretary of State, to decide to withhold 20 percent of the funds appropriated to the United Nations. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

#### IN HONOR OF ESSIE COLBERT'S DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Ms. Essie Colbert on the occasion of her retirement on June 3, 1997, after 18 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives. Essie Colbert works tirelessly during late night shifts cleaning congressional offices, including mine, with admirable attention to detail.

Walking into the office each morning, I inevitably notice how much pride Essie Colbert takes in her work. I have never been disappointed in her performance. I am, however, disappointed that she will be leaving us. My staff and I wish her a most relaxing and rewarding retirement.

#### SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 5, 1997, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 6

9:30 a.m.

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 the replacement of the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Bridge.

SD-406

Joint Economic

To hold hearings to examine the employment-unemployment situation for May.

1334 Longworth Building

JUNE 9

2:00 p.m.

Armed Services  
Readiness Subcommittee

Closed business meeting, to mark up those provisions which fall within the subcommittee's jurisdiction of a proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998.

SR-222

Judiciary

Administrative Oversight and the Courts Subcommittee

To hold hearings on conserving judicial resources, focusing on the appropriate allocations of judgeships in the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits.

SD-226

4:00 p.m.

Armed Services  
Personnel Subcommittee

Closed business meeting, to mark up those provisions which fall within the subcommittee's jurisdiction of a proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998.

SR-232A

JUNE 10

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources  
Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold hearings on miscellaneous water and power measures, including S. 439, H.R. 651, H.R. 652, S. 725, S. 736, S. 744, and S. 538.

SD-366

Environment and Public Works

To hold oversight hearings on the relationship between the Federal and State governments in the enforcement of environmental laws.

SD-406

Labor and Human Resources

To hold hearings on proposed legislation relating to national labor relations.

SD-430

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations  
Legislative Branch Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Senate Office of Compliance, and the Offices of the Secretary of the Senate,

June 4, 1997

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

10121

Senate Sergeant at Arms, and the Architect of the Capitol.

S-128, Capitol

10:30 a.m.

Armed Services  
Airland Forces Subcommittee

Closed business meeting, to mark up those provisions which fall within the subcommittee's jurisdiction of a proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998.

SR-222

2:00 p.m.

Judiciary  
Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine instances of gambling over the Internet.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Armed Services  
Strategic Forces Subcommittee

Closed business meeting, to mark up those provisions which fall within the subcommittee's jurisdiction of a proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998.

SR-232A

4:00 p.m.

Armed Services  
SeaPower Subcommittee

Closed business meeting, to mark up those provisions which fall within the subcommittee's jurisdiction of a proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998.

SR-222

6:00 p.m.

Armed Services  
Acquisition and Technology Subcommittee  
Closed business meeting, to mark up those provisions which fall within the subcommittee's jurisdiction of a proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998.

SR-232A

JUNE 11

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources  
To hold oversight hearings on the State-side of the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

SD-366

Labor and Human Resources

Business meeting, to mark up proposed legislation to reform the Food and Drug Administration, and to consider pending nominations.

SD-430

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

Armed Services

Closed business meeting, to mark up a proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998, and to receive a report from the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence on the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998.

SR-222

Judiciary  
Constitution, Federalism, and Property Rights Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine judicial activism and its impact on the court system.

SD-226

JUNE 12

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To resume a workshop to examine competitive change in the electric power industry, focusing on the benefits and risks of restructuring to consumers and communities.

SH-216

Environment and Public Works

Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on recent administrative and judicial changes to Section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

SD-406

Small Business

To hold oversight hearings to review the Small Business Administration's microloan program.

SR-428A

10:00 a.m.

Armed Services

Closed business meeting, to continue to mark up a proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998.

SR-222

Labor and Human Resources

To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Higher Education Act, focusing on opportunity programs.

SD-430

JUNE 16

2:00 p.m.

Special on Aging

To hold hearings to examine the problem of pension miscalculations, focusing on methods for educating people on the steps they can take to protect themselves and their pension benefits.

SD-628

JUNE 17

10:00 a.m.

Labor and Human Resources

To hold hearings to examine women's health issues.

SD-430

JUNE 18

9:30 a.m.

Labor and Human Resources

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD-430

10:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Resources on S. 569 and H.R. 1082, bills to amend the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978.

SD-106

JUNE 19

9:30 a.m.

Labor and Human Resources  
Public Health and Safety Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on emergency medical services for children.

SD-430

JUNE 20

10:00 a.m.

Labor and Human Resources  
To hold hearings on improving the quality of child care.

SD-430

JUNE 25

9:30 a.m.

Labor and Human Resources  
Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD-430

JUNE 26

9:30 a.m.

Labor and Human Resources  
Children and Families Subcommittee  
To hold oversight hearings on the implementation of the Family and Medical Leave Act.

SD-430

JULY 23

9:00 a.m.

Finance  
International Trade Subcommittee  
To hold hearings with the Caucus on International Narcotics Control on the threat to U.S. trade and finance from drug trafficking and international organized crime.

SD-215

JULY 30

9:00 a.m.

Finance  
International Trade Subcommittee  
To resume hearings with the Caucus on International Narcotics Control on the threat to U.S. trade and finance from drug trafficking and international organized crime.

SD-215

CANCELLATIONS

JUNE 5

10:00 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on NASA's international space station program.

SR-253

Judiciary

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD-226