

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 3150, THE  
BANKRUPTCY REFORM ACT OF 1998

## HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I had the honor, along with my colleagues Congressman JIM MORAN of Virginia, RICK BOUCHER of Virginia, and BILL MCCOLLUM of Florida, to submit to the Congress legislation to reform the Bankruptcy Code. This measure, the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1998—H.R. 3150—will be referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary, and then to the Judiciary Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law. As the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law I can assure the Congress that this measure will be given an expeditious review and brought to the full House of Representatives as soon as possible. Why? Because bankruptcy reform is needed, and needed now.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit to the body two items for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD which detail my position on bankruptcy reform and the major provisions of H.R. 3150. There will be much, much more information offered on this topic, this bill and the arguments for, and against, what is here being proposed. I look forward to a spirited debate and enactment of the best bankruptcy reform bill possible.

## THE BANKRUPTCY REFORM ACT OF 1998

## MAJOR PROVISIONS

The Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1998 was introduced on February 3rd by Rep. GEORGE GEKAS (R-Pa.), Rep. JAMES MORAN (D-Va.), Rep. BILL MCCOLLUM (R-Fla.), and Rep. RICK BOUCHER (D-Va.). The bill is designed to restore personal responsibility to the bankruptcy system and to ensure that it is fair for debtors, creditors and consumers. Topics covered by the bill include:

*Consumer Bankruptcy*

In 1997, Americans filed an all-time record of 1.33 million consumer bankruptcy petitions, which erased an estimated \$40 billion in consumer debt. Those losses are passed on to all consumers, resulting in a hidden tax of \$400 for every American household. In other words, consumers who pay their bills are forced to pick up the tab for those who do not. The consumer bankruptcy provisions of the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1998 are designed to address a flaw in bankruptcy law that allows individuals to file for bankruptcy and walk away from their debts, regardless of whether they are able to repay a portion of what they owe.

Needs-based bankruptcy—The Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1998 creates a system that would determine the amount of financial relief a debtor needs and require people to repay what they can. The amount of relief would be calculated based on a formula that

uses a debtor's income and obligations to determine his or her ability to repay.

If the debtor cannot repay all of his or her secured and priority debts, and at least 20 percent of unsecured debts over five years, the debtor has the option of filing for complete relief under Chapter 7 of the bankruptcy code. (Examples of secured debts are car loans and mortgages. Priority debts are such obligations as alimony, child support and back taxes. Unsecured debts include installment loans and credit card debts.)

If the debtor could repay all of his or her secured and priority debts and at least 20 percent of unsecured debts over five years, the debtor may not file under Chapter 7; if the debtor still chooses bankruptcy, he or she would file under Chapter 13 and begin a repayment plan. (Under Chapter 7, a debtor receives nearly complete relief from debts. Under Chapter 13, the court establishes a timely repayment plan that can run up to five years.)

Those debtors with an annual income of less than 75 percent of the national median family income can choose automatically whether to file for bankruptcy under Chapter 7 or Chapter 13; the needs-based test does not apply to these individuals.

Debtor's Bill of Rights—This provision would protect consumers from "bankruptcy mills"—law firms and other entities that steer consumers into filing bankruptcy petitions without adequately informing consumers of their rights and the potential harm bankruptcy can cause. Under the legislation, an attorney is required to refund the full cost of representing the consumer if he or she does not provide full and fair representation. The bill would also crack down on misleading advertisements and other tactics by requiring full disclosure about an organization's services, and sets out a series of rules under which for-profit "debt relief counseling organizations" must operate so that consumers are assured that they will get proper and adequate advice.

Consumer Education—The bill contains two education-related provisions. First, each consumer must receive information prior to filing for bankruptcy about his or her options, both within the bankruptcy system and alternatives to bankruptcy. Second, the bill creates a pilot program of financial management training for debtors and allows the Court to require a debtor to complete such a program as a condition of having his or her debts discharged.

Exemptions—The bill increases from 180 to 365 days the time in which a debtor must live in a particular state in order to take advantage of that state's asset exemption rules. This provision is designed to limit a debtor's ability to move into a state with broader exemptions immediately prior to filing for bankruptcy.

*Small Business Bankruptcy*

More than 50,000 American businesses file for bankruptcy each year, including many small ones. The Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1998 implements reforms recommended by the National Bankruptcy Review Commission to streamline the treatment of small business Chapter 11 cases. The legislation defines a small business as one with less than

\$5 million in debts. The Commission found that the Chapter 11 process, which is designed to give business owners time to reorganize and get the business back on its feet, often had inadequate oversight and was ineffective for small businesses. Major reforms in this area include:

Requiring all small businesses to confirm Chapter 11 plans within 150 days of filing, or prove that they are deserving of an extension.

Enlarging the grounds for conversion to Chapter 7, under which a Bankruptcy Trustee is required to liquidate the business.

Charging U.S. Trustees and Bankruptcy Administrators with overseeing small business debtors and "blowing the whistle" early on cases that cannot succeed in Chapter 11. (The current oversight system, which involves court-appointed creditors' committees, has proven ineffective).

*Single-Asset Realty Cases*

These provisions also implement recommendations of the National Bankruptcy Review Commission in a specific area of Chapter 11. Single-asset realty cases typically involve in office or apartment building where the rents are inadequate to cover payments due on the mortgage. Owners often file Chapter 11 to postpone foreclosure. Usually there are few or no creditors other than the mortgage holder. The Commission found that owners in this situation often propose "new value" plans, whereby the mortgage holder's claim is reduced to the current value of the building, the excess claim is canceled, and the owner contributes a new amount of money toward the new value. The Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1998 takes steps to streamline this process and to ensure that the "new value" must be in cash equal to 25% of the full value of the property.

*Enhanced Data Collection*

A common complaint about the current bankruptcy system is that data is limited, making it difficult for Congress to recommend changes. The Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1998 would require: Uniform, national reporting forms for Chapters 7, 11 and 13; monthly filing forms for Chapter 11, so that the progress of a business reorganization can be easily monitored; a "sense of the Congress" declaration that all non-confidential data should be stored electronically and be made available to the public via the Internet; and a "Sense of the Congress" declaration that a national data system should be established for tracking bankruptcy trends.

*Bankruptcy Tax Issues*

The Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1998 makes a number of changes to existing law to close loopholes that limit the government's ability to collect taxes. The bill also improves the system for notifying government representatives of a bankruptcy filing in which taxes may be involved.

The Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1998 also incorporates the major elements of S. 1149, the Investment in Education Act, which was unanimously reported by the Senate Judiciary Committee last October. This language ensures that local school districts and governments are given a priority in bankruptcy proceedings to recover back property taxes.

● 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.

School districts around the country are losing money because they tend to be last in line to collect back taxes owed by property owners who have filed for bankruptcy. These provisions ensure that more money is put back into schools.

#### *Direct Appeals*

Under current law, there are two levels of appeals in bankruptcy cases. The first is an appeal to a district court or a bankruptcy appellate panel and the second is to the U.S. Court of Appeals. This proposal would streamline and expedite the appeals process by eliminating the first step and allowing appeals to be taken directly to the U.S. Court of Appeals.

#### *Making Chapter 12 Permanent*

The bill would also make permanent Chapter 12 of the Bankruptcy Code, which is scheduled to expire in 1998. Chapter 12 is designed to preserve family farms by limiting the power of a bank to exercise a veto over a farmer's reorganization plan. This provision was adopted unanimously by the Senate in October.

#### STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN GEORGE W. GEKAS, CHAIRMAN, JUDICIARY SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMERCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE LAW—BANKRUPTCY REFORM ACT OF 1998

The greatest, and perhaps most dangerous, irony I have come across in the past decade is that despite economic growth, low inflation, low unemployment, and increasing personal income, our nation has seen an alarming increase in the number of bankruptcy filings—1.3 million in 1997 to be exact. Think about that for a second. That's more than one family per every hundred in the United States and over \$40 billion in debt that has been erased—in a year of strong economic growth. It only further illustrates the problem when you consider that the number of filings in the '90s is eight times as many, per household, as there were during the Depression.

It wasn't always this way. The so-called "bankruptcy of convenience" is a new phenomenon, borne out of the loss of stigma the word "bankruptcy" once, but no longer, carried. It used to be a sense of responsibility, or perhaps more appropriately, a sense of disgrace and embarrassment that discouraged Americans from declaring bankruptcy. Deals were cut to make sure that creditors would at least eventually see their money and that debtors paid off, rather than legally erased, their debt.

Harry S. Truman, the 33rd President of the United States, spent the better part of the 1920s in debt due to the collapse of his clothing business in 1922. Truman was both a man and a President of the highest moral character with a tremendous sense of responsibility, which was reflected in the motto that sat on his desk in the Oval office—"The buck stops here." Truman eventually paid off all of his creditors by working out deals and payment schedules, thereby keeping himself out of bankruptcy court and ensuring that he lived up to bills he amassed.

As an attorney in practice, I can remember negotiating such a repayment arrangement for a client in the late '60s. With just a few phone calls I was able to appease my client's creditors and arrange for payments to be made on a regular basis until my client's debt could be discharged. While my client's creditors were demanding their pound of flesh, they knew all too well that a deal was in their best interests. The creditors would get paid, albeit not immediately. The other option was for my client to declare bank-

ruptcy, which would have erased his debt and left his creditors high and dry. Both parties agreed that an arrangement based on responsibility and good faith was the better alternative.

Today's situation is tremendously difficult to comprehend, because times are good. The only reasonable explanation is that the stigma of bankruptcy is all but dead. How do we know? Other than the last two decades, we only see "spikes" in the number of bankruptcy filings during times of recession—which makes sense. During difficult economic times it is always tougher to make ends meet. But the past six years have been a period of unparalleled economic growth—as any Wall Street broker would be happy to tell us. So obviously the growth in the personal bankruptcy market is not a response to the economy.

Nor can we justifiably point an accusing finger at the credit card industry. The popular myth is that the credit card industry is flooding consumers with credit they can't afford thereby causing a surge in filings. However, those accusations are misdirected. Credit card debt accounts for only 16% of all bankruptcy debt. With some quick calculations you can see that leaves \$33.6 billion of some \$40 billion in debt still unaccounted for—so it is not likely nor is it fair to blame the credit card industry for the rapid increase in bankruptcy filings.

The lack of stigma has become a weed infesting the bankruptcy landscape. And the seed that sprouted this condition was Congress, or more correctly our predecessors in Congress. The Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978 changed the code dramatically, making the system decidedly pro-debtor. The 1978 reforms were appropriate for the times. But the times have changed. In the twenty years since, filings have gone from 200,000 to 1.3 million.

In his 1997 Economic Report, President Clinton also acknowledged that the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978 is the primary culprit for the increased filings of the past two decades. The report states that "recent rises in nonbusiness bankruptcies is probably the result of changes in the bankruptcy law and a number of broader social changes . . . researchers generally attribute much to the increase in bankruptcies since the late 1970s to effects of the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978."

The weed has spread as bankruptcy became viewed more as a financial planning tool, government debt forgiveness program, and a first choice, rather than a last resort. Bankruptcy has even become fashionable—the Hollywood trend setters do it. People Magazine recently ran a cover story to illustrate the problem. Willie Nelson, Burt Reynolds, Kim Basinger, M.C. Hammer, former Baseball Commissioner Bowie Kuhn, Arizona Governor Fife Symington, former Philadelphia Eagles owner and Pennsylvania trucking magnate Leonard Tose are just a few of the high profile filers lending their help, albeit unconsciously, to make bankruptcy en vogue. Just last week, Grammy Award winning singer Toni Braxton, who has sold more than 15 million records in the past 5 years, declared bankruptcy.

It is simply too easy to file. I sent my bankruptcy counsel, Dina Ellis, to Bankruptcy court a few weeks back and what she reported to me was mind boggling. Lawyers who have never met their clients looking like limousine drivers at the airport as they try to identify their clients and get them in front of the judge. Scores of cases decided over the course of a few hours, spending an

average of 1 to 5 minutes to decide each case. Can you imagine? Spend a couple of hours filling out forms and a couple of minutes before a judge and you can kiss your debts goodbye. You want to put that in perspective? By the time this press conference is finished 20 people will have had their debts discharged.

Of course, any remnants of the bankruptcy stigma are easily erased by our daily dose of media. Bankruptcy lawyers have taken to advertising on TV, radio and in the papers to tout the benefits of stiffing your creditors or how to restore your credit immediately after declaring bankruptcy. The way they make it sound, you would think that you are crazy to responsibly pay your bills or mortgage. It pays to go into debt.

The crux of the problem is that too many consumers are choosing convenience rather than responsibility for the debts that they have accrued and can afford to pay. This is why you and I should care about stemming the tidal wave of bankruptcies.

When irresponsible spenders who can afford to pay all or some of their debt declare bankruptcy, you and I get stuck with the bill. It's a \$40 billion bill that we share this year, or \$400 per household. I don't know about you but \$400 dollars is 5 weeks' worth of groceries or 20+ fill-ups at the gas pump to me. It has also been estimated that it takes 15 responsible borrowers to cover the cost of one bankruptcy of convenience.

When consumers file for bankruptcy, retailers pass on the costs in the form of higher prices, layoffs and/or buying less from suppliers. Lenders redistribute bankruptcy debt by charging you and me higher interest rates and insurance premiums.

Now my colleagues and I have a decision to make: plow new ground or let the weeds grow. Mr. Moran, Mr. McCollum, Mr. Boucher and I have decided to plow. The bill we are introducing here today is a conglomeration of ideas, strategies and solutions that, when enacted, will put an end to the abuse, protect the downtrodden and keep you and I from footing the bill for someone else's irresponsibility.

The genesis of this reform was the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1994 and its major tenet, the formation of the National Bankruptcy Review Commission. The Commission was charged with the duty of studying the bankruptcy code and submitting a report in two years suggesting proposed reforms. Last October, the Commission released its report and recommendations to Congress. To put it lightly, the report was disappointing (even by several Commissioner's own admissions), for it failed to identify the problem of increased consumer bankruptcies or offer adequate solutions. However, in its defense, it did provide a starting point for our debate.

Our bill is comprehensive—tackling both consumer and business bankruptcy. Let me highlight some of the fine points of our bill:

Our bill emphasizes responsibility and cuts down on abuse by implementing a needs-based system. Our plan mirrors previous legislation introduced by Congressmen McCollum and Boucher.

A unique portion of our legislation is what I call the "Debtor's Bill of Rights," which outlines protection for those who legitimately require bankruptcy's safety net and in particular would save them from becoming victims of the "bankruptcy mills."

There is also language included in the bill that provides a pilot program for consumer education to help debtors better manage their finances.

We have addressed the exemption issue, making it more difficult for those who are

dodging their debts to hide their wealth in exempted assets.

Our bill also permanently extends Chapter 12 bankruptcy to protect family farmers under the Code.

What you see before you is a tremendous accomplishment—reestablishing the link between bankruptcy and the ability to pay one's debts. Yet it still preserves the foundation of bankruptcy—providing the safety net that supports those who suffer a major life crisis.

My home state of Pennsylvania passed one of the first bankruptcy laws in our nation's history. The Pennsylvania Bankruptcy Act of 1785, called for consumers convicted of bankruptcy to be nailed to the pillory by the ear and then publicly flogged. After the flogging the ear would be cut off. By no means do we wish to return to those days.

To paraphrase my former colleague and former Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen: while there is nothing wrong in legitimately admitting financial defeat by filing bankruptcy when it becomes impossible to repay one's debts, we must make an effort to restore the justifiable sense of embarrassment Americans once felt asking their neighbors to shoulder their burden.

Another concern is that the current system—which breeds financial irresponsibility—is not the cure-all imagined by those who live beyond their means. By allowing people to escape from their financial obligations, we are doing those individuals a disservice by not encouraging them to manage their finances and control their debt. The end result is a citizenry caught in a never-ending cycle of debt. With bankruptcy filings expected to reach historic levels this year, I have grave concerns for the stability—economic and emotional—of the American family.

The time is now, while our economy is robust, to reform. Waiting until the dawn of the next recession or economic downturn will only allow this outbreak of bankruptcy to run into an uncontrollable epidemic. Historically, bankruptcy was intended as a last resort pursued only under the most dire of situations. We are committed to ensuring that the code will help those in dire circumstances get back onto their feet while protecting responsible consumers who are unfairly bearing the cost.

HONORING TROUSDALE HIGH  
SCHOOL STATE FOOTBALL  
CHAMPIONS FOR AN OUT-  
STANDING SEASON

### HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the accomplishments of a dedicated group of young men who worked together in the true spirit of sportsmanship to achieve a long-awaited goal.

The group is the Trousdale High School Yellow Jackets football team of Hartsville, Tennessee, and that goal was winning the state 1-A championship game. Their hard-fought victory, and the hard work and dedication they demonstrated throughout the year will not go unnoticed.

After all, they were honored as Region 3 1-A Champions, 1-A State Champions, and had a perfect 15-0 record.

These men of Trousdale High School trained vigorously, played tirelessly, and deserve recognition for a job well done.

I congratulate each member of the team, their Head Coach, Clint Satterfield, and all the assistant coaches, managers, school administrators and all other support staff. I know they won't soon forget this milestone, and those that are still to come.

The players are true champions: Taylor Dillehay, Brandon Eden, Thomas Payne, Ell Sanders, Robert Duncan, Chris Sutton, Travis Marshall, Casey Marshall, Jason Everts, Dominique Harper, Jason Vootoo, Corey Harper, Brandon Samson, Brent Dalton, Colin Meyer, Ryan McCellan, Nick West, Renard Woodmore, Craig Moreland, Bowdy Fain, Shawn Vaughn, Jatarious Osborne, Adam Harper, Daniel Towns, Joe Cornwell, Bobby Livingston, Adam Keeton, Tony Jewell, Junior Fields, Benjamin Blair, Earl Carman, Timmy Tomlinson, James Keller, Pete Wilkerson, Michael Scruggs, Blake Holder, Baxton Adams, Dion Burnley, Adam Bratton, Brian Haney, Corey Timberlake, Justin Smith, John Carey and Kevin Gregory.

### IN RECOGNITION OF MONTANA PERRY ROMINE

#### HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to Montana Perry Romine, a native of Mount Hope, West Virginia, who retired from the Mine Safety and Health Administration on January 3, 1998, after more than 47 years of federal service.

Mrs. Romine was first hired on June 26, 1950, by the U.S. Bureau of Mines in Mount Hope. During her career, she offered professional and dedicated service to the people of the United States through her work at the Bureau of Mines, the former Mining Enforcement and Safety Administration, and finally with the Mine Safety and Health Administration. In recognition of her service and professionalism, Mrs. Romine earned numerous awards, including a distinguished career service award.

I am sure that Mrs. Romine's many friends and colleagues at the Mine Safety and Health Administration will miss her both personally and professionally. Today, I join them in congratulating her for her service and wishing her continued health and happiness in retirement.

TRIBUTE TO DR. HAROLD P.  
SMITH, JR., ASSISTANT TO THE  
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR  
NUCLEAR AND CHEMICAL BIO-  
LOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAMS

#### HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute today to the numerous accomplishments of my constituent, Dr. Harold P. Smith,

Jr., the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear and Chemical and Biological Defense Programs. He is leaving his position to return to California. In his service to the Administration, he directed programs that re-focused national defense to respond to the growing threat posed by the potential proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD).

One of the most noteworthy programs benefiting from Dr. Smith's skillful leadership was the Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR) program. This program was designed to help the successor states to the Former Soviet Union eliminate WMD delivery systems and to promote the safety and security of the weapons remaining in Russia. Dr. Smith established a dedicated Program Office which successfully implemented agreements with the Former Soviet Union that eventually resulted in the denuclearization of Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Ukraine. This program initiated the construction of a major fissile material storage facility in Russia to provide secure, long-term storage for approximately 12,500 nuclear warheads. In addition, supercontainers, specialized railcars, emergency response equipment, computerized inventory and personnel reliability capabilities were provided to enhance the safe and secure transportation and storage of Russia's nuclear warheads. He personally negotiated an agreement with Russia to design the first Chemical Weapons Destruction Facility to begin the destruction of 40,000 metric tons of chemical weapons.

Dr. Smith significantly advanced the U.S. Chemical Demilitarization Program. The destruction process for the United States chemical weapons stockpile is currently underway at Johnston Island and Tooele Army Depot in Utah. Construction of destruction facilities at the other seven storage sites in the United States is on schedule to meet the requirements of the Chemical Weapons Convention Treaty that entered into force in 1997.

Unprecedented changes affecting nuclear matters occurred during Dr. Smith's assignment. He worked successfully with the Department of Energy and the Department of Defense to balance the nuclear stockpile in a non-testing environment. In anticipation of implementation of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, he collaborated with the Department of Energy to develop the Stockpile Stewardship and Management Plan (SSMP). This plan will eliminate nuclear explosive testing requirements. Dr. Smith also improved significantly our capability to monitor world-wide nuclear testing and organized the Department of Defense for this support.

In response to shortfalls in military capabilities identified during Operation Desert Storm, Dr. Smith established a Joint Program Office to ensure better management and higher visibility of Department of Defense chemical and biological defense programs. Resources required to counter proliferation of weapons of mass destruction were moved from research and development status to procurement programs in support of troops on the battlefield. He was instrumental in joint military service improvements of biological agent detection systems such as the establishment of the Joint Vaccine Acquisition contract. As a result, shortages of equipment critical for U.S. forces to survive and fight on contaminated battlefields have been remedied.

Two Defense agencies have enhanced their missions under Dr. Smith's leadership. The Defense Special Weapons Agency (DSWA) has responsibility for supporting a variety of programs dealing with WMD. This mission includes support for CTR, research and development for counter proliferation and arms control, as well as facility vulnerability assessments. DSWA is now the center for nuclear expertise in the Department of Defense. The On-Site Inspection Agency has set international standards in arms control monitoring through professional execution of inspection, reduction, liaison, escort, and monitoring missions for various regimes.

I commend Dr. Smith's leadership and accomplishments in reducing the threat of Weapons of Mass Destruction. He successfully tackled a very challenging mission and his contributions towards improving our nation's security are many and enduring.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE  
RONALD V. DELLUMS

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 1998

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to RON DELLUMS—a distinguished member of this body who has announced that he will retire this Friday.

The House will lose an outstanding Member of Congress with Representative DELLUMS's retirement. Congressman DELLUMS has served his constituents and the United States well and faithfully in the 27 years since he was first elected to Congress.

RON DELLUMS's career before his election to Congress helped prepare him for his outstanding service in the House. His service in the U.S. Marine Corps provided him with experience that would be of great use during his many years on the House Armed Services Committee. His experiences as a social worker and as a job training and development program manager provided him with insights into the everyday problems facing many American families. And his service on the Berkeley City Council provided him with valuable first-hand knowledge of the challenges facing municipal governments.

RON DELLUMS was first elected to Congress in 1970, campaigning on a platform of civil rights, environmentalism, and social justice. He clearly delivered on that promise in his first term and in his subsequent terms.

In his 14 terms in office, RON DELLUMS has served on a number of different committees, including the Foreign Affairs Committee, the National Security/Armed Services Committee, the District of Columbia Committee, the Post Office and Civil Service Committee, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Select Committee to Investigate the Intelligence Community. He served as chairman of the Armed Services Committee and of the District of Columbia Committee; he has the distinction of being the first Member of Congress to chair two different House standing committees.

RON DELLUMS has earned his reputation as an opponent of wasteful military spending. He believed that the defense budget could be reduced significantly without compromising our national security. He was unwavering in his efforts to cut military spending and shift federal resources to addressing pressing domestic needs. He worked diligently to halt the nuclear arms race, and with that end in mind he was a vocal opponent of strategically unwise weapons systems like the MX Missile and the B-2 Bomber.

Congressman DELLUMS was instrumental in recent years in drafting and offering an annual alternative budget that reflected progressive, fiscally responsible policies rather than the status quo, and he was an articulate and respected advocate for dramatic changes in federal spending priorities.

Congressman DELLUMS was active in a number of other areas as well. He introduced health care reform legislation as early as 1977. He introduced housing legislation and infant mortality bills. He led the fight against Apartheid in South Africa, introducing legislation as early as 1971 to impose economic sanctions on that country. He worked to help create the Department of Education and to fully fund Head Start. He was involved in environmental issues like dredging. And he was a strong supporter of the Civil Rights Restoration Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act in 1987.

Congressman DELLUMS has had a remarkable career in the House. He has left his mark, made many friends, and earned great respect on both sides of the aisle.

RON, we will miss you here in the House. We will miss your insight, your passion, your eloquence, and your sense of perspective. We wish you well in your future endeavors.

CORINNE ROTH SMITH NAMED  
HANNAH G. SOLOMON AWARDEE  
OF THE YEAR

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I want to ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating a Central New York woman of whom I and my community are very proud, Corinne Roth Smith, the 1997 Hannah G. Solomon Award Recipient.

This prestigious award is named in the memory of the founder of the National Council of Jewish Women. The concerns of the NCJW include the improvement of the quality of life for people of all ages and backgrounds. To paraphrase the recent tribute: Corinne Smith has helped to change and expand the role of other women in vital areas of the community. Her leadership has motivated others to fight for change and has resulted in public enlightenment.

This is the 25th year in which the NCJW's Greater Syracuse Section has presented this award. As I salute Corinne Smith, I congratulate the Syracuse Section as well.

Corinne is a volunteer, organizer and community leader extraordinaire. She has led the

United Way, been a board member of Hillel, chaired the Federal Campaign for the Jewish Community Center, and in fact was the first woman to serve as President of the JCC.

She has received the Jewish Family Service Humanitarian Award, as well as the Syracuse Post-Standard Woman of Achievement in Education award. As the Dean of Academic Programs for the School of Education at Syracuse University, Corinne has touched the lives of students, families and even indirectly other academicians through her outstanding publications which deal with learning disabilities, her specialty area.

It is with great pride that I enter Corinne Smith's name in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD today as an exemplary citizen, a mother, wife, and civic leader who rightly deserves this tremendous honor as well as our great esteem and deep respect.

HONORING THE REVEREND HARRISON T. SIMONS FOR PUBLIC SERVICE IN THE AREA OF RACE RELATIONS

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call the attention of the Congress to the work of the Reverend Harrison T. Simons of Oxford, North Carolina, for outstanding public service in the area of race relations. Reverend Simons received the Nancy Susan Reynolds Award on November 22, 1997 given by the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation. The Nancy Susan Reynolds Award was founded "to seek out unsung heroes who have made a difference in their North Carolina communities."

On January 1, 1998, Reverend Simons retired from his position as rector of St. Stephen's Church and vicar of St. Cyprian's Church in Oxford. As our nation prepares to celebrate Black History Month, it is appropriate to honor the work of Reverend Harrison, for his more than twenty-five years of service to the cause of racial harmony. I commend the work of Reverend Harrison and all members of the Oxford, North Carolina community of all backgrounds for their work in enhancing relations among people of every race. The Nancy Susan Reynolds Award to Reverend Harrison proclaims the following:

THE 1997 NANCY SUSAN REYNOLDS AWARDS

When Z. Smith Reynolds died in 1932, his two sisters and brother wanted their portion of his estate to benefit the people of North Carolina who had helped to create that wealth. So they formed the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation in 1936. When their uncle, William Neal Reynolds, died in 1951, he left the majority of his estate to provide additional support to the Foundation.

One of the founders of the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation was Smith Reynolds' sister, Nancy Susan Reynolds, who has been called "the most remarkable woman of widely diversified philanthropy in Twentieth Century America." She believed in taking risks, even risking failure; she respected leadership and those who exhibited the courage "to try again and again."

She held strongest to the conviction that the best societies are those built from the

bottom up and that a good community is not improved by grand gestures alone but by many people working together for common goals. In 1986 the Trustees of the Foundation created the Nancy Susan Reynolds Awards to honor her by seeking out unsung heroes who have made a difference in their North Carolina communities.

This is the twelfth year that the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation has presented the Nancy Susan Reynolds Awards, recognizing the uncommon leadership of North Carolinians whose vision, determination, resourcefulness, and strength of character have caused them to succeed where other individuals would have failed.

Even today, few people outside the recipients' neighborhoods would recognize their names. You will not find among the previous winners a governor, a corporate executive, or a bishop. You will find a priest, a teacher, a carpenter, a forester, a farmer, a librarian, and a physician assistant. What is remarkable is how each, usually with limited resources and in spite of the odds, has accomplished extraordinary good in his or her community.

The recipients this year—a Catholic nun from Belmont, an Episcopal priest from Oxford, and a dynamic young woman from Sunbury—are no less remarkable.

During its history, the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation has made grants of more than \$240 million to projects in all 100 counties in North Carolina. While the Foundation's geographic boundary of North Carolina is firm, the Foundation's grantsmaking strives to be far-reaching. It often seeks to initiate rather than to react, to question rather than to accept, to challenge rather than to affirm. The Foundation currently gives special attention to certain focus areas—community economic development, the environment, pre-collegiate education, issues affecting minorities, and issues affecting women.

#### LATIN AMERICA: PROGRESS IN DEMOCRACY

### HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, while members were in their districts for the recent recess, several countries in Latin America and the Caribbean held important political elections. In every instance, these elections were seen as free, fair and transparent as observed by representatives of the international community. These success stories have once again demonstrated the growing acceptance and strength of democracy in the region. This nation has worked very hard to promote regional democracy through our Agency for International Development as well as through our efforts here in the Congress. As Chairman of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee, I believe we can be very encouraged by the progress that is being made and we should commend those nations, and others, for their commitment to democracy and free and open elections.

I also want to commend the nations of Latin America and the Caribbean for the economic progress they are making as many of them progress to open market economies. According to a recent report by the United Nations

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean experienced their best economic performance as a region in almost twenty-five years averaging a rate of growth of close to 5.3 percent while experiencing an average inflation rate of just 11 percent. This is truly good news and serves to reinforce the fact that the region is making steady and impressive progress.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate President Janet Jagan of Guyana, President Carlos Flores of Honduras, Prime Minister P.J. Paterson of Jamaica, President Miguel Rodriguez of Costa Rica, as well as all of the candidates for Congress and municipal seats in both Chile and Colombia who won their respective elections.

Mr. Speaker, I am submitting a brief description of several of the elections which took place during the recess.

Colombia—On October 26, 1997, Colombia held nationwide municipal elections. These elections portrayed the worst and best aspects of modern Colombian democracy. Unfortunately, leftist rebels (a.k.a. "narco-guerrillas") attempted to disrupt the elections, especially in the rural areas which they control, by kidnapping and murdering many of the candidates. These efforts were modestly successful in twenty municipalities where elections were not held. Despite this disruption, and more positively, over 10 million Colombians voted, showing their strong support for the electoral process. The right to choose municipal officers is only about ten years old, so this affirmation of that right is encouraging, considering the rebels and drug lords assault on Colombia's democracy.

Guyana—The December 1997 presidential election was won by Janet Jagan's People's Progressive Party (the Chicago-born widow of the former president). However, this election was significant in that the opposition People's National Congress fomented rioting for several weeks after disputing the election results, charging fraud in the victory of the People's Progressive Party. Many experts, including those at International Foundation for Elections Systems, agreed that there were irregularities, but doubted that they had any conclusive impact on the outcome. Recently, the opposition signed an agreement with President Jagan to accept the results of the vote and end the street demonstrations.

Honduras—The November 1997 presidential election was momentous for the fact that it allowed the citizens for the first time to vote in their residential districts using new national identity ID cards. As a result, there was much less confusion for voters and irregularities were held to a minimum as the Liberal Party's Carlos Flores won the presidency. Importantly, the army played a vital role of supporting democracy. Observers noted that if it had not been for the army's help in transporting the ballots and election results, the chances of fraud and diminished public confidence would have been much greater. The Honduran governments is committed to addressing problems for future elections as well: turnout has dropped off somewhat, and the voter list is not as accurate as it should be.

Jamaica—The December 1997 parliamentary elections witnessed the historic second

re-election of Prime Minister P.J. Patterson's People's National Party over the Jamaican Labour Party and the National Democratic Movement. While the elections were mostly free and fair across the country and the results are not in dispute, international observers, which included President Carter and Gen. Powell, noted that Jamaican politics still suffers from the problem of the garrison communities in the capital of Kingston. These are parts of the city wherein one of the major parties is dominant by means of patronage or intimidation; therefore, election results continue to return few or no opposition votes in these communities.

Chile—The December 1997 congressional elections resulted in victory for the Concertacion, the center left ruling coalition, and improved showings for both the hard right and the hard left; the more moderate left- and right-wing forces did worse than last time out. Aside from some poll workers showing up late for work, a commonality in Latin America, and a high abstention rate, there were no irregularities, and the vote represents for many observers evidence that Chile's democracy is quite stable.

HONORING WHITE HOUSE HIGH SCHOOL STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON

### HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the accomplishments of a dedicated group of young men who worked together in the true spirit of sportsmanship to achieve a long-awaited goal.

The group is the White House High School Blue Devils football team of White House, Tennessee, and that goal was winning the state 3-A championship game. Their hard-fought victory, and the hard-work and dedication they demonstrated throughout the year will not go unnoticed.

After all, they were honored as Region 4 Champions, 3-A State Champions and had a perfect 15-0 record. The team also had 5 Associated Press All State players, 2 Tennessee Sportswriters All-State players and 8 All Region 1st team members.

These men of White House High School trained vigorously, played tirelessly, and deserve recognition for a job well done.

I congratulate each member of the team, their Head Coach, Jeff Porter, and all the assistant coaches, managers, school administrators and all other support staff. I know they won't soon forget this milestone, and those that are still to come.

The players are true champions: Jarod Jullierat, Corey Coker, Joey Rodgers, Jim Smith, J.R. Carroll, Andy Tucker, Ryan Sherrill, James Harper, Chris Barnes, Rudy Farmer, Brock Waggoner, Brian Whittaker, Josh Lanus, Jonathan Finch, Josh Barton, Chuckie Jarrett, Clint Ruth, Brent Bunn, Josh Harrison, Eddie Carrigan, Jeremy Perry, Alan Hargrove, Jon Shelton, Adam Smith, Jim

Stacey, Brian Jones, Jon Simpson, Jason Faulk, Chad Rogers, Josh Ahmic, Roger Smith, Chris Gaddis, Chris Laroy, Tyler Judge, Scott Hawkins, Will Bush, Aaron Holmes, Jeremy Adcock, Ryan Cole, Jesse Sharp, Kevin Harris, Dustin King, Joseph Dillehay, Justin O'Guin, Josh Widener, Nathan Jarrett, Joe Bledsoe, Daniel Gray, David Mapes, Andrew McGreggor, Jessie Wagner, Michael Day, Matt Armistead, Josh McEarl, Adam Hanes, Jason Buckner, Ryan Holmes, Jonathan Miller, Mychael Smith, Ricky Ellis, Eric Carpenter, Clinton Van Der Westhuizen, Gary Adcock, Darrell McDaniel, Robert Keene, Brandon Barker, Joe Armistead, Casey Nash, Brandon Scott, Todd Stephens, and Pete Bloodworth.

#### HONORING RENEE NOLAN AND FRIENDS

### HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 4, 1998*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a group of remarkable young women in the 11th District of New Jersey and to share with my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives a story of selflessness and friendship.

In September 1996, Renee Nolan, a college sophomore at Seton Hall University, was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor. Radiation and chemotherapy treatments forced her to leave college and an experimental treatment left her paralyzed on her right side.

Despite her illness and many setbacks, this courageous woman has continued her valiant fight, regaining some movement in her right hand and learning to walk again. Renee received tremendous support from friends that deserve recognition.

Daniela Matria, Beth Reynolds, Jennifer Franke, Jennifer Kelleher, and Alexis Smith of Boonton, New Jersey, and Donna Polizzi and Domenica "Mimma" Avena of Lincoln Park, New Jersey, have all been friends with Renee since their grade and high school days. When Renee's friends learned of her devastating illness, they began one of the most touching and determined crusades that I have ever known.

Immediately, Renee's friends made and randomly passed out fliers, set up a bank account, and rented a post office box to receive donations. Then, they sponsored a dinner dance to honor Renee and to raise additional money to help defray Renee's growing medical expenses.

Since June of 1997, this amazing group has raised approximately \$32,000 for their friend and her family. Of even greater importance to Renee, these devoted friends have provided continual and invaluable moral and emotional support. When Renee is well enough, they plan outings. When she is not, they are with her at home with ice cream, games and smiles to help her and her family keep their spirits up. When Renee is most ill, they help nurse her.

This group of friends, all college students, have visited Renee daily at home or in the hospital, cooked for her family, and taken

#### EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Renee back to Boonton High School, where she was once co-captain of the cheerleading squad. They have given selflessly of themselves, by any standard, often giving up their college and social activities to be available for Renee and her family.

It is heartwarming to see the selfless dedication with which these women have acted for their friend. In fact, as a result of her experience with Renee, one of the young women has changed her college major to nursing, so that she can better continue her legacy of caring.

These young women were recently honored by the New Jersey State Assembly and by Governor Christine Todd Whitman. This proved to be an especially moving and encouraging experience for Renee and her family.

Mr. Speaker, I know that all of my colleagues in the House join me in congratulating and thanking these exceptional women and friends, and that you will also join me in wishing them, Renee and her family well.

#### TRIBUTE TO EDUARDO PALACIOS

### HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 4, 1998*

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to my good friend Eduardo Palacios, who for 27 years has been a bona fide hero to hundreds if not thousands of immigrants in the San Fernando Valley. In 1971, Eduardo started an immigrant rights and resource clinic in a tiny one-room office in the City of San Fernando. Today these kinds of centers are common, but that wasn't the case in the early 1970s.

Eduardo was motivated by humanitarian concerns and a strong sense of Chicano pride. He witnessed Mexican immigrants who were being exploited by unscrupulous businesses. Language and culture prevented many from seeking or receiving help. By offering his services, Eduardo filled a huge need.

Soon after opening, the clinic moved into a room with a couple of desks and file cabinets in Santa Rosa Church. The clinic adopted the name Immigration Services of Santa Rosa. Using a corps of dedicated volunteers, Eduardo expanded the clinic to include job referrals, medical assistance, food and shelter. He was doing everything possible to provide his clients with the tools to make a good living in this country.

It's hard to believe that Eduardo was doing this work while employed full-time at Harshaw Chemicals. In 1983, he left his job with Harshaw to devote himself to assisting immigrants. Two years later Immigration Services of Santa Rosa was accredited by the Board of Immigration Appeals, which led to more clients. The timing could not have been better; new arrivals were now coming to Southern California from Central America as well as Mexico.

Immigration Services of Santa Rosa is a family affair. In 1988, Eduardo hired his daughter, Victoria Aldina, as Assistant Executive Director; three years later his son, Carl

Alan, joined the organization as Administrative Director. Together the Palacios have been a godsend for Spanish-speaking immigrants.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting Eduardo Palacios, a leader in the effort to improve the lives of immigrants. His compassion, sensitivity and extraordinary energy inspire us all. I am proud to be his friend.

#### SOLVE OUR NATION'S NUCLEAR WASTE PROBLEM

### HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 4, 1998*

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, before the larger issues of election year politics and balancing the federal budget eclipse this short legislative cycle, there is an urgent need for Congress to solve the nation's nuclear waste problem.

For 16 years, we have witnessed the Department of Energy's (DOE) hesitation to move this project forward, despite a clear statutory obligation established in the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982. As we are aware, January 31 marked the deadline for DOE to begin accepting used nuclear fuel from nuclear power plants and defense facilities in 41 states and storing it in a single, federally monitored location.

This failure by DOE to act is simply irresponsible. I can find no reason that the department has disregarded the deadline other than a slate of serious consequences or the miscarriage of its fiscal duty and unconscionable behavior.

For one, DOE had a clear obligation to accept used nuclear fuel, not only according to a federal statute, but also according to federal court. In two rulings since 1996, a federal appellate court reaffirmed DOE's legal obligation to take nuclear fuel under a contract with electric utilities.

As if those rulings were not enough, DOE's offense could land it in court again—this time to defend challenges that utilities and electricity consumers are entitled to a full refund, plus damages for financing a disposal program that never materialized. Those damages could amount to \$56 million by some estimates. Where will that money come from? Taxpayers, no doubt. Whatever the source, one thing's for certain—any refund or damages owed to utility customers undermine this Congress's efforts to balance the federal budget. It also puts all taxpayers at risk of paying a hefty lawsuit for capricious delays.

For these reasons, it is essential that the House and the Senate leaders appoint conferees to negotiate minor differences in the nuclear waste reform bills passed overwhelmingly by both chambers last year.

I urge my colleagues to pass this legislation as early as possible, so that it is not obscured by other weighty matters that await us this session. Let us solve the nuclear waste problem swiftly, for the sake of taxpayers—our constituents—who have already sent \$14 billion to the Nuclear Waste fund without getting anything in return.

## A GIFT

**HON. STEVE C. LATOURETTE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 4, 1998*

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, as a proud co-sponsor to H.R. 1500, America's Red Rock Wilderness Act of 1997, I would like to insert the following poem, written by Ms. Anna Taft on October 27, 1997, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

The desert gave me a package: a pile of sand wrapped in a bundle of cottonwood leaves. This gift contains a mixture of all the medicine of this land. It has red and white powders from slickrock sculptures, crushed juniper berries and pinon nuts, tiny bits of cryptogamic castles, damp sand from deep canyon streams, desert varnish from narrow blackened slots, and minuscule shards of Anasazi cookware. All blended together, its contents are no longer discernible, but it smells distinctly of triumph over adversity, of trees sprouting up far from water, of pot-hole creatures emerging from dormancy as raindrops rehydrate their world, of topographic contour lines at last clicking into place to match landforms, of hikers passing packs past the last ledge to reach a canyon rim, of warm sleeping bags inside a megamid covered with snow, of evaporation off of hot bodies as they emerge from a sweat lodge into cold night air, of a group of people learning to live together in harmony in the desert, of balance, neither superabundance nor emptiness. This bundle is wrapped tightly, but as I travel its leaves will start to come apart. The sand inside will spill out, spreading its magic through all the places I go. Everyone I meet will smell the job of accomplishment, the peace of harmony. One or two of them will recognize the scent and pull out their own little bundles, letting their own magic flow over them again. The others will smell and know of the wonderful things that are out there. For some, it may be the signal to go out and find that essence of life for themselves. For others it will be enough simply to breathe deeply and understand. If I don't keep the leaves moist, they will dry out and crack and I will lose more sand. But some will always be with me and the medicine will always be there.

The desert has given me a package, but what can I give to the desert? I can give only sweat and blood, perhaps tears, and my love and gratitude, my commitment to walk softly and protect this land as best I can. The desert asks only this in return: that I let it live and share its magic with others, that they, also, may learn to love the land.

TRIBUTE TO DR. AND MRS. ZERZAN ON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROBERT SMITH**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 4, 1998*

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding achievement of two of my fellow Oregonians, Dr. Charles and Mrs. Joan Zerzan of Milwaukie, Dr. and Mrs. Zerzan will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on February 7,

1998, and I believe this body would be missed in not taking note of this accomplishment.

Dr. and Mrs. Zerzan met while attending college at Willamette University in Salem, Oregon. Dr. Zerzan was a veteran of the United States Army, having fought for our country in the China-Burma-India campaign in an effort to free those nations from the Imperial Army of Japan. Mrs. Zerzan, known at that time as Joanie Kathan, was an outstanding violinist from Rogue River, Oregon. Her talents as a violinist won her a scholarship to Willamette. The two met when Dr. Zerzan was running for President of his class, and Mrs. Zerzan was running for Secretary. Although both lost their respective races, they won something more important: each other's hearts. The two were married in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where Dr. Zerzan was attending medical school at Marquette University.

Upon graduating from medical school, Dr. Zerzan re-enlisted in the Army. The Zerzans were stationed all over America, including here in Washington at Walter Reed Army Hospital. Somehow they found the time to have 12 children, four daughters and eight sons, who in turn have given Dr. and Mrs. Zerzan 29 healthy, happy grandchildren. Dr. Zerzan retired from the Army with the rank of Lt. Colonel in 1968, and the entire family moved back home to Oregon.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. and Mrs. Zerzan's accomplishment would be notable enough for its longevity. But, for the reasons I have outlined above, and for countless others that time will not permit me here to mention, their accomplishment serves as an example to future generations of the awe-inspiring power of love. Strong families are truly the bulwark of this nation, and it is individuals like Dr. and Mrs. Zerzan whose dedication to one another, and to America, give this nation its greatest strength. Mr. Speaker, I know that you and this entire body join me in saying to Dr. and Mrs. Zerzan, congratulations on your 50 years together, and thank you for the example you have set. St. Paul said long ago, "in the end there abideth faith, hope and love, these three; and the greatest of these is love." Dr. and Mrs. Zerzan, long driven by these words, have once again proven their enduring wisdom.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE  
RONALD V. DELLUMS

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 4, 1998*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the most respected members of the House of Representatives, the ranking Member of the House National Security Committee, RON DELLUMS. I know that I safely speak for all of my Colleagues when I say that the House will not be the same without his thoughtful leadership when he leaves this body on Friday.

Chairman DELLUMS has served in the House of Representatives for over twenty seven years, arriving in 1971 as an intense young

man, committed to his principles of justice, education and health care for all. His legislative goals including cutting back on defense spending and using that money to help local communities, and to ending apartheid in South Africa.

In the 27 years since arriving in Washington, Mr. DELLUMS may have gotten a little bit more gray hair, but one thing hasn't changed: His intensity and commitment to the people of California's Bay Area and to the United States.

RON DELLUMS has taken stands on issues that sometimes have been at odds with many other Members. For example, when most members fought to join the House Armed Services Committee to increase defense spending, Mr. DELLUMS joined for another reason. He said at the time, "I did not join the Armed Services Committee to learn about missiles, planes and ships; I joined because I knew I would need to become an expert in this field in order to argue successfully for military spending reductions that would free up resources for the desperate human needs that I see every day in my community."

His stands on other issues have been just as principled. In 1971, the Freshman from California introduced legislation to impose economic sanctions on the apartheid regime of South Africa. It would be fifteen years before this legislation was enacted into law, enacted over the veto of President Ronald Reagan. Lesser members may have given up the cause, but not RON DELLUMS.

It will be this that I will always remember RON DELLUMS. For his hard work and commitment to his ideals and his willingness to always seek an alternative. RON DELLUMS always could be counted on to develop alternatives that reflected his beliefs, so that he would never have to sacrifice his principles.

RON DELLUMS will be missed by the House of Representatives and by me. I wish him the best of luck in all of his future endeavors.

HONORING RIVERDALE HIGH  
SCHOOL STATE FOOTBALL  
CHAMPIONS FOR AN OUT-  
STANDING SEASON

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 4, 1998*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the accomplishments of a dedicated group of young men who worked together in the true spirit of sportsmanship to achieve yet another milestone.

The group is the Riverdale High School Warriors football team of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and that goal was winning the state 5-A championship game. Their hard-fought victory, and the hard work and dedication they demonstrated throughout the year will not go unnoticed.

After all, they were honored as 5-A State Champions and fought to a 14-1 record for the season.

I congratulate each member of the team, their Head Coach, Gary Rankin, and all the assistant coaches, managers, school administrators and all other support staff. I know they

won't soon forget this milestone, and those that are still to come.

The players are true champions: Ron Akins, Carmoski Mitchell, Quentez Mitchell, Shawn Sanford, Kyle Jones, Eric Locke, Jason Hill, Deran Martin, Conner Barnett, Marvin Smith, Guy Freeman, Brad Garrett, Chance Dittfurth, Donnie Ayers, Jessie Chesterfield, Vincent Watkins, Dejuan Duke, Aundrell Cummings, Dario Hodge, Craig Garrison, Todd Howard, Jeremy L. Davis, Donte Bell, Chad Mackens, Keane McDonald, Larry Verge, Marcus Limbaugh, Rashad Watkins, Jeremy R. Davis, Tarius Davis, Aaron Macedo, Billy Arrasmith, Troy Broughton, Gene Thorpe, Matt Sawyer, Michael Smallwood, Jonathon Davis, Jon Kelly, Brian Travis, Ryan Gjertson, Gabriel Besleaga, Bill Massaquoi, Justin Prince, Wes Denney, Scott Lowman, Harrison Mullins, Malachi Hernandez, Donald Morris, Chris Brown, Walker Thomas, Darnell Gresham, Rashawn Ray, Justin Waller, Rusty Stephens, Kolas Hughes, Terry Daniels, Josh Stewart, Kevin Bane, Joe Moos, Rhett Bass, Nick Patterson, Corneice Hoke, Andy Davis, Matthew Young, and Eric Greer.

TRIBUTE TO CAPT. ROBERT E.  
ANDERSON

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pleasure to honor and acknowledge Robert E. Anderson for his distinguished career and his contributions to family, community, and nation. On February 1, 1998, Captain Anderson retired from his position as Delta Air Lines Chief Pilot based in Los Angeles, culminating an illustrious career. I thank you Mr. Speaker and esteemed colleagues for joining me in commemorating this occasion.

Robert Anderson embarked on his path of lifetime achievement in 1955, graduating as valedictorian from Roosevelt High School in Gary, Indiana. He earned both academic and Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps scholarships to the University of California, Los Angeles (U.C.L.A.). Upon graduation from U.C.L.A. in 1960 with a bachelor of science degree in Electrical Engineering, Captain Anderson was commissioned an Ensign in the United States Navy.

Captain Anderson served his country in the Navy for five years. After flight training in Pensacola, Florida, and Corpus Cristi, Texas, he was deployed to Vietnam where he patrolled the coast at the controls of a P2V airplane. Following his 1965 Honorable Discharge from active duty in the Navy, Captain Anderson returned to Los Angeles and continued military service until 1972 as a member of the United States Naval Reserve. During this time he was employed by I.B.M. as a systems engineer.

In 1968, Captain Anderson began his career as a commercial aviator with Western Air Lines. He was the second African-American pilot hired by the airline and began with the rank of Second Officer flying 737s. At Western, Anderson steadily progressed through the ranks. He was promoted to First Officer in

1972 and earned his Captain's wings in 1979. In June of 1980 he made the transition to DC-10s as a First Officer. Also a member of the Air Line Pilot's Association (ALPA) since 1968, Capt. Anderson's colleagues expressed their esteem for him by selecting him to serve as Chairman of ALPA's Grievance Committee for five years.

Captain Anderson flew 737 and DC-10 jet aircraft for Western until its acquisition by Delta Airlines in 1987. He retained his rank of Captain, flying 727 jets for the carrier. In 1989, Captain Anderson took on additional responsibilities as Line Check Airman; and in 1991 he became an Assistant Chief Pilot based in Los Angeles and in 1996 was promoted to become Delta's first African-American Chief Pilot, a position he held until retirement.

In addition to his distinguished aviation career, Captain Anderson has been a devoted family man. Robert and Yolanda Anderson are the proud parents of four: Roderick Eldon, Kimberly Mauriere, Staci Larelle, and Roslynn Elise; and the grandparents of young Tyrone Pierce Hinderson, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Captain Robert Anderson on his service to our nation and on a stellar career in aviation. I ask that you join me in commending and extending our best wishes to him and Yolanda for many years of good health and prosperity.

KEEP GUNS OUT OF THE HANDS  
OF CRIMINALS

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation intended to keep firearms out of the hands of those convicted of misdemeanor drug offenses. Current federal law prohibits a person convicted of a felony crime involving drugs and firearms from owning a firearm. However, those convicted of lesser drug offenses can legally own a gun. My legislation would impose strict penalties and fines for misdemeanors during crimes such as use or possession of an illegal substance when a firearm is present. Similar to legislation I have introduced in the past, my bill has had the endorsement of the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police and the National Association of Chiefs of Police.

Quite simply, this bill would expand current law to treat individuals who commit less-serious drug offenses in the same manner as people involved in other drug crimes, such as drug trafficking. Those found guilty of simple possession of a controlled substance, and who possesses a firearm at the same time of the offense, will face mandatory jail time and/or substantial fines in addition to any penalty imposed for the drug offense. Mandatory jail time and fines would be required for second and subsequent offenses.

The guilty party would be prohibited from owning a firearm for 5 years. Exceptions could be granted depending upon the circumstances surrounding each individual's case. Current law states that a person convicted of a drug crime can petition to the Secretary of the

Treasury for an exemption to the firearms prohibition provided it would not threaten public safety. This legislation will not affect a law-abiding citizen's right to own a firearm.

By imposing stiff penalties on people convicted of lesser drug offenses where a firearm is present, we will send a serious message that the cost of engaging in this activity far outweighs the benefit. If my bill becomes law, individuals owning firearms for legitimate purposes (hunting, target-shooting, collecting, or personal protection) and who also engage in the use of illicit drugs, will think twice before participating in their drug-related endeavors, facing the prospect of enhanced penalties and the loss of their firearms.

Mr. Speaker, the 104th Congress passed legislation that will prevent the early release of drug traffickers and provide increased enforcement on our borders to reduce drug trafficking. Last year, the House passed legislation to establish a program to support and encourage local communities who demonstrate a comprehensive, long-term commitment to reduce substance abuse among youth. I urge my colleagues to continue to focus its efforts on the drug war by passing this legislation in an effort to crack down on this criminal behavior. Drugs and guns are a lethal combination that must not be tolerated by a civilized nation.

TRIBUTE TO ELLEN STRAUS

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, last week, I had the privilege of taking part in a ceremony to honor a true American hero. Ellen Straus, and her family, were named the recipients of the 1998 Steward of the Land award by American Farmland Trust. Ellen was selected because of her tireless efforts in promoting responsible land stewardship, farmland conservation policy and the use of environmentally and economically sustainable farming practices. This national award could not have gone to a more deserving person.

Born in Amsterdam, Holland, Ellen came to the United States in 1940. She met and married Bill Straus in 1950 and moved to his dairy on the Tomales Bay, in Marin County, where they have been farming ever since. In 1993, the family converted their traditional dairy to an organic operation. The Straus Family Creamery, the first organic dairy and creamery west of the Mississippi, now sells over one million bottles of organic milk per year, in addition to cheese, butter and yogurt.

Their commitment to environmentally sound practices dominates their operation. Their cows are fed 100 percent organically grown feed and are not treated with hormones or antibiotics. Their milk is sold in reusable glass bottles. A windmill pumps water to cows pastured uphill to reduce land erosion. Their bottle washing equipment has been redesigned to use 90% less water than originally designed, and the reclaimed water is used to wash floors. Wastewater generated at the creamery is treated in containment ponds and is later used to irrigate pasture lands. And,

they are the first ranch in the area to use a no-till drill for seeding crops. The Straus family's farming practices have been a model to ranchers throughout Marin County and serve as a standard for organic farming nationwide.

One of Ellen's greatest legacies is the organization she co-founded in 1980, the Marin Agricultural Land Trust (MALT). MALT was the first land trust in the country to focus exclusively on the protection of farm and ranch lands. Through her efforts, Ellen was able to build a consensus among the agricultural, environmental and political communities to protect the farmland which is such an important part of the heritage of Marin County. Currently, MALT holds easements on over 25,000 acres of land, protecting 38 Marin County farms from development. Ellen's vision has served as a model for other land trusts which have been developed across the country.

As a Member of the House of Representatives, I have the good fortune to represent some of the greatest constituents in the country, and Ellen Straus is one of these people. She and Bill have advocated for a lifestyle in which they truly live and believe. Ellen has been an inspiration to me for her vision, her dedication, and her desire to protect the environment and agriculture as a way of life. Without her efforts, the agricultural heritage of West Marin County would have disappeared to development and urban sprawl many years ago. Instead, Ellen Straus has protected the peace and beauty of the West Marin hills for generations to come.

#### INTRODUCTION OF SEN. ROBERT C. BYRD

#### HON. ROBERT E. WISE, JR.

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, I recently had the opportunity to be at an event with Congressman NICK RAHALL and Senator ROBERT C. BYRD in Beckley, West Virginia. That day Congressman RAHALL gave a wonderful introduction of Senator BYRD. I would like to submit a copy of his remarks for the RECORD.

REMARKS OF U.S. REP. NICK RAHALL, INTRODUCTION OF U.S. SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD, COLLEGE OF WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARY, NOVEMBER 22, 1997.

Thank you, Dr. Polk.

"I cannot live without books." Declared Thomas Jefferson at age 72.

As we dedicate this state of the art learning resource center today, we should reflect that books and Beckley and Senator Byrd share a rich history.

John Beckley, our Town's namesake was the first Librarian of Congress, appointed by Jefferson.

The Library of Congress houses perhaps the greatest collection of human knowledge ever assembled—with one glaring exception.

The greatest collection of knowledge on the United States Senate rests here with us today in the form of our state's senior senator, our esteemed guest, The Honorable Robert C. Byrd.

I do believe Senator Byrd would agree with Jefferson that life without books makes living difficult, but Senator Byrd would go a step further.

You see when Senator Byrd studies history, he studies not for leisure, though it is a passion with him, he studies for the future of our Country, and of our State of West Virginia.

As has been said a good book is one "which is opened with expectation, and closed with profit."

America and West Virginia have greatly profited by the books read by Senator Byrd.

President Polk, Senator Byrd is probably the best student you ever had because he still thirsts for knowledge. Knowledge not for knowledge sake, but knowledge put to work for the people.

I would like to cite one example.

Senator Byrd addressed his colleagues starting on May 5, 1993, in 14 addresses on the pitfalls, the hazards, the constitutional danger and the sheer stupidity of a line-item-veto concept.

He drew heavily from the lessons of the Roman Senate, applied them to the constitutional system we have benefited from for over two hundred years, and showed them for what they are. If I may Senator Byrd put it best, I quote:

"The Budget medicine men have once again begun their annual pilgrimage to the shrine of Saint Line-Item Veto, to worship at the altar of fools' gold, quack remedies . . . and other graven images—which if adopted would give rise to unwarranted expectations and possibly raise serious constitutional questions involving separation of powers, checks and balances, and control of the national purse."

But his voice of principle rose above and went right over the heads of the petty politics of the day and a concocted line item veto was passed by the Congress. Senator Byrd has said teaching the Constitution to his colleagues is like reading the Bible to a herd of buffalo.

When the majorities in the Congress handed the President the power of the line item veto, guess what? He used it.

The first time he used it, the cry went up from the Congress, even from those who had voted to give away their power.

Do you know what the same Congress that had given the President the power of the veto, that same Congress over rode his vetoes—all of them—in the first bill he vetoed.

I share this example with you to say, Robert C. Byrd was in this case, one man armed with truth who made a majority.

When Senator Byrd is able to provide federal funding for a resource center such as this, he builds with more than bricks and mortar—he builds with minds and character for those who will use and grow within these walls and those connected to this center through cyberspace.

Today is not an end, it is a beginning, a new dawn. It is a culmination of the efforts of the tireless worker, a man who believes in West Virginia and in its people.

Builder of highways, mover of mountains, job creator, student, scholar, teacher—a man whom we respect, we know, we love and we thank.

It has been said, a teacher affects eternity, he never knows where his influence will end.

It is indeed my great privilege, my high honor to introduce you to our friend, our neighbor, our senior Senator, whose influence will never end.

#### CONCERN ABOUT "THE TURKISH UNDERWORLD"

#### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention to a growing problem in Turkey. Although it is a member of NATO and a democracy, Turkey is currently experiencing a growth of government-connected crime. Indeed, a recent official report has found that former Prime Minister Tansu Ciller's administration conspired with a broad range of criminal organizations to eliminate political enemies of the Turkish government domestically and abroad. I commend the following editorial, "The Turkish Underworld", published in the New York Times on January 30, 1998, to my colleagues for a fuller explanation of this serious dilemma.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the article be printed at this point in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From the New York Times, Jan. 30, 1998]

#### THE TURKISH UNDERWORLD

Turkey's secular leaders like to talk about the subversive activities of Islamic politicians and Kurdish separatists, but the gravest threat to democratic order in Turkey in recent years seems to have come from the secular leadership itself. An official investigation has found that between 1993 and 1996 the Government of Prime Minister Tansu Ciller connived with drug gangs, gambling moguls and right-wing hit men to assassinate enemies at home and abroad and sponsor a failed coup attempt in nearby Azerbaijan.

The current Prime Minister, Mesut Yilmaz, has properly expressed outrage at these abuses and promises further inquiries into possible misconduct during the Ciller era. But the problem was not limited to Ms. Ciller's term, and Mr. Yilmaz must not restrict further inquiries to protect government agencies and officials. His recent declaration that he opposes probing into areas that would "harm the state" sounds like a transparent pretext for circumscribing further investigation.

The initial investigation was spurred by the 1996 crash of a car carrying, among others, a senior police official, a drug smuggler wanted on murder charges and a pro-government Kurdish militia leader. These unlikely companions were traveling together, investigators found, because police and intelligence agencies, under government orders, were contracting with criminal gangs to murder real and imagined political opponents. The targets included Kurdish rebels, suspected Armenian terrorists and those believed to be their financial supporters. The report also found that the Ciller Government had aided a failed plot to overthrow the Azerbaijani President, Heydar Aliyev, in hopes his removal would protect drug smuggling routes through Azerbaijan.

The investigators looked mainly at the Ciller period, but also found that links between government security agencies, right-wing death squads and criminal gangs went back much earlier, at least to the time of a 1980 military coup that was followed by a period of severe repression. These earlier links should now be explored more closely, including the period in the early 1990's when Mr. Yilmaz previously served as Prime Minister.

Further investigation is also needed into possible connections between the armed forces and death-squad-style killings in Kurdish areas. The collusion between the Government and the underworld that has now been exposed must be eradicated and never repeated.

#### A TRIBUTE TO B.L. (BUD) FREW

### HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that an outstanding career in the agricultural industry is coming to an end in Missouri. B.L. 'Bud' Frew, president and CEO of the Mid Continent Farmers Association, is retiring after having served Missouri's farming community for nearly 28 years.

Bud Frew's distinguished career in agriculture began in 1960, when he worked at the Illinois farm cooperative, FS Services, Inc. In 1970, Frew crossed the state line, and joined the Mid Continent Farmers Association (MFA). After 10 years of dedicated service to the MFA, Frew became the company's chief operating officer, and just four years later he was appointed as president and CEO.

While representing Missouri farmers at the MFA, Bud Frew involved himself in many agricultural affiliations. He has served as a Board Member of both CF Industries and the National Council of Farm Cooperatives, and as member of the Advisory Committee for the University of Missouri College of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources. He has also served on the Governor's Advisory Council on Agriculture. In addition, he has been president of the MFA Foundation, and he has received recognition from the Missouri Young Farmers, the FFA, and the University of Missouri.

Bud Frew's commitment to the community and the MFA is to be commended. MFA's recent success stands as a legacy to Bud Frew's dedication to Missouri farmers. As he prepares for quieter times with his wife, Kit, I know the Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to Bud Frew and wishing him the best in the days ahead.

#### SOUTH BRONX MENTAL HEALTH COUNCIL, INC. SEVENTH PATIENT RECOGNITION AND EMPOWERMENT DAY

### HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the South Bronx Mental Health Council, Inc., which this past Friday celebrated its seventh annual "Patient Recognition and Empowerment Day."

Created in 1968, the South Bronx Mental Health Council, Inc. was previously named the Lincoln Community Mental Health Center. It is a community-based organization which provides treatment and mental health services to the local population and to area schools and senior centers.

While it is important, and appropriate, to recognize the care givers who provide these services, it is even more important that those individuals who have made special efforts to overcome their challenges also receive our attention and support.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting our friends at the South Bronx Mental Health Council, who on Friday, January 30th, celebrate the seventh annual Patient Recognition and Empowerment Day.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE YALE LIONS CLUB

### HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the Lions Club of Yale, Michigan as they celebrate their 50th Anniversary on February 14, 1998.

In 1948, sixteen concerned Yale citizens felt there was a need to charter the Yale Lions Club. Though their membership has grown and changed, their goal has remained the same: to dedicate their talents to people in need. As DeWayne Wissel, a member of the Lions Club has said, "To know that even one person was helped through our efforts, makes it all worth it."

During the last fifty years, members of the Lions Club have contributed their time and resources to the betterment of their community. Among their many contributions include purchasing eye exams and glasses for area residents, Diabetes Assistance and Awareness programs, Lion's Quest, and funding scholarships for Yale High School students. The members of the Lions Club have also been strong supporters of D.A.R.E., the Yale High School Seniors All-Night Party, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and the Leader Dogs for the Blind. I would like to thank all of the members, past and present who have donated their various talents to improve the quality of life in the Yale community.

The self-sacrificing qualities of the Lions Club members are what makes our communities successful. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the Lions Club of Yale a joyful 50th Anniversary. Their legacy of public service is sure to last well beyond another fifty years.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE RONALD V. DELLUMS

SPEECH OF

### HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 1998

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Missouri, Mr. SKELTON, for arranging for this time to honor our colleague, RON DELLUMS, as he prepares to retire from the United States House of Representatives.

Throughout his tenure in this House, he has served his constituents from the 9th congress-

sional district of California with great distinction. Since first being elected to the House in 1970, RON DELLUMS has used a unique combination of common sense, grace, compassion and his strong intellect to become a champion of many causes. He has worked tirelessly on a wide range of issues, indeed, in almost all of the most important issues of our time. He has fought for civil rights, for equal rights for all. He has stood tall as a strong steward of our environment. He served as a powerful voice of reason in the struggle to challenge the militarization of U.S. foreign policy. He was a frequent and eloquent speaker against our misguided military and foreign policies in Latin America in the 1980's. Indeed, while I worked on the investigation of the murders of the Jesuits, their housekeeper and her daughter in El Salvador, I frequently enjoyed having RON's counsel.

As Chair of the Rules Committee, I enjoyed working with RON in his capacity as Chair of the House District of Columbia and in his role as Chair of the Armed Services Committee. It was during this time that I admired RON as he became a masterful practitioner of the art of coalition-building. RON has crossed lines of all types. He always set aside racial, cultural, political, class or gender considerations when dealing with people. Indeed, RON has earned the respect of Members and staff regardless of ideology. RON, you should be most proud of this accomplishment.

Today, it is most appropriate that we take time to honor RON DELLUMS. His service to his constituents and to this nation has been strong. The House of Representatives and all of its members will be diminished by your departure. RON, I wish you continued good health, happiness and a long life. I have enjoyed working with you and will always be proud to call you my friend.

#### CLINTON'S CHILD CARE PROPOSAL

### HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member highly commends this January 12, 1998, Omaha World-Herald editorial on President Clinton's child care proposal to his colleagues.

#### BIG GOVERNMENT ERA LIVES ON IN CLINTON'S CHILD CARE PROPOSAL

Bill Clinton is playing Daddy President again. The same president who announced the end of the era of big government in 1996 is now advocating a major new government benefit: subsidized child care.

Clinton has proposed a five-year combination of spending increases and tax incentives that would cost the Treasury almost \$22 billion. Of that, he would spend \$14.3 billion on child care subsidies for low-income families, increased funding of Head Start for preschoolers and a new federal program to promote training and safety at child care centers.

The plan would let families with incomes of up to \$30,000 take a tax credit for 50 percent of child care expenses up to a limit of \$2,400 for one child, \$4,800 for two or more. Families above \$30,000 in annual income could also claim credits on a sliding scale as

income rises. At \$60,000, their maximum credit would be 20 percent of child care costs. The current credit is 20 percent—30 percent if family income is \$28,000 or less.

The plan has shocking implications. It would eliminate federal income taxes for a family of four with an annual income of up to \$35,000 a year. So long as the family used the maximum credit, life would be tax-free as far as the Internal Revenue Service was concerned.

Reducing the tax burden on the poor is one thing. A family that earns \$35,000 a year is not poor.

Accompanied by a dozen children for the announcement, Clinton called the plan "the single largest national commitment to child care in the history of the United States." His plan would in fact be an unprecedented foray by the federal government into the way American children are raised.

And what of the families who have planned and sacrificed to allow one parent to stay home with the children? Many families with a stay-at-home mom or dad are not wealthy. The Clinton proposal ignored them. Indeed, the Clinton plan could encourage more families to send both parents to work outside the home.

Federal income and payroll taxes eat up so much family income that some families decide that both parents must work full time. Clinton would best serve families by reducing government and reforming Medicare and Social Security, thereby making it possible to further reduce the tax burden on families. Instead, he seeks to expand government, further complicate the tax code and encourage the funneling of children into day care.

Certainly the government might properly help provide temporary child care assistance for families in emergency circumstances, or while a single parent prepares for a job. That does not change the general concept that people should not have children unless they can care for them or can afford to pay someone else to care for them.

However, Clinton's proposal to turn federally subsidized child care into what amounts to a middle-class handout is bad policy. It undermines the fundamental notion that parents—not the Daddy President—should be primarily responsible for the care of their children.

#### THE HOLOCAUST VICTIMS REDRRESS ACT

#### HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to lend my strong support to the Holocaust Victims Redress Act. The Holocaust Victims Redress Act will provide redress for the inadequate restitution of assets that belonged to victims of the Holocaust seized by the United States Government during World War II. We can never do enough to help end the suffering of the 125,000 Holocaust survivors living in the United States and the approximately 500,000 survivors living around the world. Many of these victims still bear the scars of the most brutal regime in history.

The United States Government seized more than \$198,000,000 in German assets along with over \$1,200,000,000 in assets of Swiss nationals and institutions during World War II.

It had long been believed that some of the bank accounts, trusts, securities, or other assets belonged to victims of the Holocaust. Although Congress and the Administration provided \$500,000 to the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization of New York in 1962 to nominally reimburse Holocaust victims, this action was nowhere near the sum of financial losses most victims suffered.

After World War II, United States support for an independent Jewish homeland was fueled by our desire to help settle the large number of Jewish refugees, displaced persons, and survivors of the Nazi holocaust. Ever since President Harry Truman recognized Israel on May 15, 1948, minutes after Israel declared its independence, the United States Government has maintained a strong relationship with Israel, the Jewish community around the world, and survivors of the Nazi holocaust. The Holocaust Victim Redress Act continues to shine light painfully on a wound that has not yet been healed.

It is important that our country continue to aid holocaust victims recover lost assets and even more important to continue pressuring other nations to completely open their wartime records so we can fully account for all lost assets. It would be easy for the United States and other nations around the globe to sweep this problem under the rug 50 years after the holocaust. However, this great nation founded under the principles of liberty and justice for all will never rest until victims of the holocaust can finally receive the justice they deserve.

#### TRIBUTE AND MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE EDNA KELLY

#### HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, on December 14, 1997, Edna F. Kelly passed away at the age of 91. Mrs. Kelly served as a Member of Congress for twenty years, from 1949 to 1969.

I did not know Congresswoman Kelly personally, but I did know her through her daughter, Maura Patricia (Pat) Kelly who works in the Clerk's office on the Daily Digest, and Jean Gilligan, a longtime friend of the Kelly family and a Hill retiree after 45 years of service.

Edna Kelly was the fifth daughter of Patrick J. Flannery, an Irish immigrant, and his wife, Mary Ellen Flannery. Mrs. Kelly, after graduation from Hunter College in 1928, married Edward L. Kelly, an attorney who was active in Brooklyn Democratic politics and later became a judge on the New York City Court.

Mrs. Kelly was one of the those pioneers who paved the way for more representation by women on the local and federal level. Her active political career began when her spouse met an untimely death in 1942. She was active in the Women's Auxiliary of Brooklyn's Madison Democratic Club. She then joined the county executive committee and became research director for the Democrats in the State Legislature. In 1949, she was elected to fill the unexpired term of deceased Representative Andrew L. Somers' vacant seat in the 81st

Congress and was reelected by her constituents nine times. Her constituents affectionately called her "Kelly."

Mrs. Kelly became known as an expert in Soviet issues and became the third-ranking member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. During the cold war she headed several fact-finding missions to Berlin, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Greece and Turkey. Her intensive studies and reports raised our country's awareness of the threat of international Communism and the importance of NATO. She firmly opposed Communist expansion. As chair of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe, she advanced the advantages of rebuilding a strong Europe. In 1963, President Kennedy appointed Mrs. Kelly as a member of the U.S. delegation to the United Nations. She was instrumental in creating the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and she served as co-chair of the first United States-Canada Interparliamentary Conference.

Mrs. Kelly is known for her sponsorship of legislation creating the Peace Corps.

Mrs. Kelly's interests went beyond the international scene. She was a sensitive yet outspoken champion of those who were oppressed. She sponsored legislation to improve the economic status of American families and refugees of World War II. Her bill, the Mutual Security Act, helped to find homes for more than 1.5 million people dislocated from the Soviet Union and Europe. She also supported the civil rights legislation, the newly formed State of Israel, and pleaded for Irish unity. She denounced political and religious persecution as an indignation to humanity. She stood for peace and understanding among all people.

As the only Congresswoman in the New York delegation at that time, Mrs. Kelly was at the center of a group of bipartisan women legislators who focused their attention on the economic problems of women in their roles as homemakers, widows, and employees. The work, tenacity, and joint efforts of these Members of Congress resulted in legislation to correct discrimination in laws denying women employment, credit, housing, pensions and educational opportunity. Passage of her bill in 1963 established the principle of "equal pay for equal work" and launched a new era in the struggle for women's equality.

Edna Kelly was pivotal to the progress made by women in our country today. She will be remembered by those who knew her as a person of strong character, sharp intellect and gracious Irish charm. For those who did not have the privilege of knowing her personally, she is, in the words of her daughter, Pat, " \* \* \* a great person to emulate."

#### REMEMBERING GEORGE WASHINGTON

#### HON. BENJAMIN G. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw my colleague's attention to my Concurrent Resolution on the remembrance of the 200th anniversary of the death of the father of our nation George Washington. The contributions of this former farmer and member of the

Virginia House of Burgesses have played an integral role in the formation of our nation's history and culture.

Little did Washington know that those fateful shots fired in Lexington and Concord would eventually lead him down a path that would cause him to forever be synonymous with the ideas of freedom worldwide.

His reluctant acceptance of the Second Continental Congress' appointment to head the American Continental Army resulted in one of the world's greatest triumphs against tyranny. The example he displayed was used by nations around the world who desired freedom from their tyrannical rulers and oppressors. It is also important to note the pivotal role General Washington played in the drafting and ratification of the United States Constitution, which has also served as a model for other nations around the globe.

However, the most important role he may have played was as the first President of the newborn United States of America. His influence on the designs and ideals for our government was of great assistance to the formation of a system where no one body could achieve an overabundance in power. In turn his selflessness would limit his own Presidency. His reasoning was sound though, for the elimination of the possibility of tyranny in the nation he fought so hard to create.

Biographer James Thomas Flexnr said, "From the first moment in command, Washington was more than a military leader; he was the eagle, the standard, the flag, the living symbol of the cause."

The selfless bravery and astute decision making of this man helped to formulate our great nation into what it is today. That is why I wish to bring this Concurrent Resolution to the attention of my colleagues. I can think of no one person more deserving of such an honor.

I ask my colleagues to join Speaker GINGRICH and myself in approving this Concurrent Resolution, and to join me in the celebration of this outstanding human being.

CONGRATULATIONS SAMUEL A.  
"SKIP" KEESAL, JR.

**HON. JANE HARMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 4, 1998*

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Samuel A. "Skip" Keesal, Jr. on his recognition as Distinguished Citizen of the Year by the Long Beach Area Council Boy Scouts of America.

Skip has dedicated himself to the local community by supporting numerous charitable and civic projects. His enduring commitment and outstanding leadership are reflected in the Boards on which he serves: the Boards of Directors for the Long Beach Area Council of Boys Scouts of America, YMCA of Greater Long Beach, and the Board of Trustees at Long Beach Memorial Hospital. His strong support of education is exemplified in his founding membership in the Board of Governors at California State University Long Beach and his support of many programs

sponsored by the local schools. Further recognition of Skip's efforts include the "Outstanding Corporation" award presented to Keesal, Young & Logan, the law firm of which he is founding partner, on National Philanthropy Day in Los Angeles.

He serves on the Advisory Board of the Children's Health Fund which awarded him the "Big Apple" award for his outstanding contributions to children's health care.

Support of his profession through excellence and personal commitment also deserves recognition. As a result of Skip's trial practice, he has been named to the "Best Lawyers in America," both in civil litigation and maritime law. In 1990, he was selected as one of 500 lawyers in the world to join the prestigious International Academy of Trial Lawyers, where he sits on the Board of Directors of the Academy and the Academy's Foundation. Among other distinctions, Skip is a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates. California State University Long Beach named him "The Distinguished Alumnus" of the Business School in 1991.

Congratulations, Skip.

CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL  
FOR NELSON MANDELA

**HON. AMO HOUGHTON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 4, 1998*

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of you and a bipartisan group of our colleagues, to introduce a bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal, our nation's highest civilian honor, to Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, President of the Republic of South Africa.

Nelson Mandela has dedicated his entire life to the abolition of apartheid and creation of democracy in his beloved country, South Africa. His story is familiar to us all; his impact on Members of this body and citizens of our nation—immense. This will be his final full year in office. We therefore thought that honoring him might be appropriate.

For the three decades that he was in prison, Nelson Mandela never once gave up on the struggle to free South Africans from their racist oppressors. He sacrificed his life, his youth. His daughter, Zindzi, often said that she "grew up without a father, who, when he returned, became the father of a nation." There is no doubt that he became and remains South Africa's best known and most beloved hero, a sentiment that exists here in the United States.

As President of South Africa, Mandela's dedication to his people did not cease once the apartheid laws were lifted. He refocused his efforts toward his nation's reconciliation by creating the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Chaired by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. This Commission has been a fair, no-nonsense forum to expose an uncomfortable past in a constructive—not divisive—way.

When he accepted the Nobel Peace Prize with then-President FW de Klerk in 1993, he did so as a tribute to all people around the world who have worked for peace and stood

against racism. This of course includes former South African Nobel Peace Laureates Chief Albert Luthuli and Bishop Desmond Tutu, and so many others, including some of our colleagues and fellow citizens.

Here in the United States, I think especially of our colleague, RON DELLUMS, who retires at the end of this week, as someone who fought so hard against apartheid, and worked to convince members of this body to impose sanctions on the South African government, which eventually led the events that culminated with apartheid's demise.

Our bill also specifically recognizes American student Amy Biehl, and her parents, Peter and Linda Biehl. Amy lost her life in the struggle against apartheid when she was murdered by the hands of an angry, racially-charged mob, in the Guguletu township outside Cape Town. Amy was a bright young woman, full of potential. She had traveled to South Africa to help register African women to vote. Peter and Linda are extraordinary people. When they confronted Amy's murderers last year, they showed an element of forgiveness and compassion rarely seen on this earth. They are an example to us all.

So, Mr. Speaker, I would especially like to express my thanks for your cosponsorship and the other Members who have joined us as original cosponsors—Mr. GEPHARDT, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. WATERS, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. HAMILTON, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BEREUTER, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. SANFORD, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. DELLUMS, Mr. MCDERMOTT, and Mr. HALL of Ohio. I hope, with your help, we can assemble an appropriate number of cosponsors to move this bipartisan bill through the House and Senate—then welcome President Mandela to the United States this year and offer him this gift to recognize our immense appreciation for all he has done to rid the world of the scourge of racism.

HONORING DAVID SAMSON

**HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 4, 1998*

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, on December 18, 1997, I had the pleasure of honoring David Samson at a meeting of the Concerned Citizens of Northeast Dade. Below is the text of my speech:

TRIBUTE TO DAVID SAMSON

Today I rise to honor a man who has proven himself to be a true leader in one of the most civic and politically involved communities in these United States. I am speaking of The Honorable David Samson, Mayor of Sunny Isles Beach, Florida. When Mr. Samson moved to Florida 25 years ago, he planned to retire after a successful business career in Chicago. But for a man like Dave Samson, retirement didn't come easily. He got involved in his community, became the president of his condominium, and has held that office for the past 23 years. I believe he is the longest standing condominium president in Florida's history. Dave also has been Chairman of the Citizens Advisory Committee for the Metro-Dade Police Department Station 6 for the past eight years. To

his credit, he has raised thousand of dollars to assist the police department and the families of fallen police officers.

For the past 13 years, Dave has been President of one of the most active and influential civic groups in all of Miami-Dade County, Concerned Citizens of Northeast Dade. During his tenure, Dave has improved the quality of life for residents, most of who are in their golden years. He created the Vial of Life Program for seniors in emergency situations, created programs to educate residents on hurricane preparedness, improved police protection, street lighting, and urged the formation of a much needed fire rescue unit on the beach. Under Dave's leadership, this group has also been responsible for tremendous support in "getting out the vote" initiatives for important issues and candidates they felt were worthy of their support. I have been a beneficiary of this support and feel that we have an excellent partnership working on issues that greatly affect this community such as beach renourishment and seniors' right related to adult-only condominiums. This outstanding organization is honoring Dave at a most-deserved affair to pay tribute to him as the outgoing president. I am proud to be a part of this tribute.

Ladies and Gentlemen, there's still more. At the ripe young age of 80, Dave Samson led the fight to incorporate his beautiful area of Sunny Isles Beach and befittingly became its first mayor. This doesn't surprise those of us who know Dave personally. He is truly a dynamo and a man filled with heart. Perhaps the person who knows best is Dave's beautiful wife of 58 years, Marion. They say behind every great man is a strong woman. To have endured a lifetime with a man whose career that just won't quit, I believe Marion deserves a medal.

On behalf of Emilie and myself, I congratulate Dave on his many years of dedicated service to Concerned Citizens of Northeast Dade and to the entire community who has benefited from all his tireless efforts on their behalf.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF MR. JACK ALLAN BELL

### HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of Mr. Jack Allan Bell of Columbus, who passed away on December 22nd. His life should serve as an example to all of us who seek to serve our families, communities, states, and nation.

A son of the South, Mr. Bell was born in Birmingham, Alabama, educated at Birmingham Southern College and the University of Alabama, and spent most of his life in Columbus, Georgia, where his widow still resides.

Mr. Bell demonstrated his patriotism at a young age, serving in combat during both World War II and the Korean Conflict. Even in times of peace, Mr. Bell served in extremely dangerous positions, including piloting RB-45 reconnaissance aircraft for the Strategic Air Command (SAC). These reconnaissance missions produced invaluable intelligence information regarding Soviet defenses but also resulted in the loss of two-thirds of Mr. Bell's

squadron. And as an Air Force test pilot, Mr. Bell again proved his skill, gaining certification in over 40 different U.S. military aircraft.

Following his military service, Mr. Bell made countless contributions to the Columbus community as both a businessman and a benefactor. He served as president of the Gas Light Company of Columbus, the Southern Gas Association, the Muscogee Lions Club, and the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce, as well as Director Emeritus for Sun Trust Bank.

As a member of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Bell was instrumental in the growth and development of the Columbus Museum and the Springer Opera House. He also was a leading force in the Chattahoochee Council Boy Scouts.

Jack Bell is and will be greatly missed in Columbus. As a father, husband, patriot, and community leader, Mr. Bell will continue to serve as a shining example of the great impact that one individual can have on his community and on his country. I am honored to have had the opportunity to represent him.

### SALUTE TO COLONEL PETER A. HADLEY

### HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to salute Colonel Peter Hadley for many years of outstanding service to his country and community on the occasion of his retirement.

I have known Peter Hadley for over forty years and I can attest to his devotion to the United States and his home State of California. Following graduation in 1964 from the California Military Academy, Colonel Hadley was commissioned a second lieutenant in the California National Guard and the United States Army. He soon distinguished himself in a variety of important command and staff positions culminating in his assignment as the Director for Reserve Affairs in the Pentagon's Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Research, Development and Acquisition.

During his outstanding career, Colonel Hadley received numerous decorations and awards including the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (with five Oak Leaf Clusters), the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with two Hourglass Devices), and the California Commendation Medal with Pendant (with three Oak Leaf Clusters). He retired on January thirtieth, 1998 after thirty-four years of service to the California National Guard and the United States Army.

In addition, Colonel Hadley had a distinguished career with the California Department of Transportation from 1960 to 1985. He was an associate transportation engineer and a registered professional engineer in the State of California. In this capacity, he received an award for the design, development and fielding of equipment to monitor air pollution in Los Angeles, California.

I have had the great pleasure of not only knowing Colonel Hadley but also knowing his father and mother, Al and Cecelia Hadley, since I was a boy growing up in Huntington Park. Al Hadley was my Scout Leader and he had a tremendously positive influence on my life as he did on the lives of his two children, Peter and David. Both Al and Cecelia Hadley can be proud for having raised such a wonderful family.

It has been an honor to have known Colonel Hadley for these many years. During that time he has been responsible for numerous accomplishments and outstanding contributions to our Nation's defense. He will be missed greatly in both the United States Army and by all those who worked with him throughout his military career.

His innumerable contributions will serve as a legacy to his years of dedication. I want to congratulate him and wish him the very best in his retirement.

### STATE OF THE UNION

### HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, February 4, 1998 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

### THE STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

Washington took a time out from all of the scandal talk to listen to the President's State of the Union address. This was hardly a normal State of the Union address. I've never seen the House gallery so packed with media. But everyone was on their best behavior for his annual ritual of American democracy.

The President's speech was long, about 72 minutes, interrupted by applause a hundred times. Hoosiers can take some pride that one of the special guests was a mother of four from Indianapolis who served as an example of successful welfare-to-work efforts. As expected, the President said the State of the Union is strong. He struck several themes that have now become the hallmark of his presidency: a smaller but more progressive government; an economy that offers opportunity; a society rooted in responsibility; and a nation that lives as a community. All of the 35 proposals in the State of the Union address had been skillfully crafted over the last few months while the president controlled the political environment with Congress out of Washington.

The most dramatic moment in the address was the President's stern and direct warning to Saddam Hussein: "You cannot defy the will of the world." With the increasing feeling that the diplomatic options have been exhausted in preventing Iraq from producing weapons of mass destruction, the President's words were taken very seriously by everybody in the chamber if not in the world. The President also emphasized several other international initiatives that face very tough fights in Congress. He urged us to make good on our debt to the United Nations. He urged an expanded commitment to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to deal with the Asian crisis, arguing that this was the right thing to do for a safer world.

He renewed his plea for fast track authority to negotiate trade pacts, and urged the Senate to ratify the treaty expanding NATO.

In domestic policy, education occupied a principal place in the President's address. He wants to reduce class size in grades one through three by spending over \$12 billion over seven years to hire 100,000 new teachers, and proposed programs to help modernize or build some new schools. The President also proposed a \$22 billion 5-year initiative to make child care more available and affordable. He wants to use the money from the proposed tobacco settlement to finance some of these initiatives, going outside the normal appropriations process.

President Clinton said he would submit a balanced budget for 1999, three years earlier than required under the budget agreement struck last year. He proposed raising the minimum wage and asked Congress to give him a bipartisan campaign finance reform bill. And he advocated reform of the IRS, with new citizen advocacy panels, a stronger taxpayer advocate, and phone lines open 24 hours a day.

Probably the President's most important initiative is to set aside the expected budget surplus as a reserve for the long-term deficit in the Social Security system. The President did not present a detailed plan to preserve Social Security, but called for conferences around the nation to discuss the issue. He also launched a new clean water initiative and pleaded for action to deal with the crisis of global warming. He was adamant that it is possible to grow the economy and clean the environment at the same time as we have often done in the past. He said, "Discrimination against any American is un-American," and urged everyone to "Work together, learn together, live together, and serve together."

The President gave us some tantalizing glimpses of the 21st Century. The entire store of human knowledge doubles every five years. All the phone calls on Mother's Day can be carried on a single strand of fiber the width of a human hair. A child born this year may well live to see the 22nd Century. So he proposed a 21st Century research fund for groundbreaking scientific inquiry and the largest funding increase in history for the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. He urged a ban on the cloning of human beings.

At the end of the speech there was a touching moment when the President wished John Glenn Godspeed on his upcoming space trip.

There was not much doubt that President Clinton achieved one of his principal purposes, which was to come across as presidential, an engaged Chief Executive eager to move on with the national agenda. The President was disciplined, dignified, and presented a constructive agenda for the American people to consider. I left the Capitol impressed that there is too much work to do to waste a lot of time speculating about the scandals. We will simply have to let the facts unfold.

Of course, the test lies ahead, and it will take unusually skillful presidential leadership to enact even a small part of the President's proposals. It is, for example, by no means clear that he can emerge with the government's fiscal integrity intact with all of the pressures for additional tax cuts and spending increases. Using the projected budget surpluses to shore up Social Security could slow the push for tax cuts. Whatever the merits of the President's Social Security proposal, it's good to get a dialogue going on a very important problem.

The education and child care proposals are worthy, but how the President would fund

them demands more examination. I am troubled by his linking domestic spending proposals to a tobacco settlement and a large increase in the federal cigarette tax. I look upon the tobacco settlement as essentially a one-shot revenue increase but not a sustained way to finance programs. Moreover, the settlement's prospects for congressional approval are very uncertain. The President's plan to extend Medicare to retirees aged 62 to 64 needs to be examined very carefully for its affordability and for the precedent it might set for a costly expansion of the program in coming years. Extraordinary presidential leadership will be needed to get the increase in the U.S. contribution to the IMF or to get the approval of Congress for fast track authority. All in all a real test of leadership lies ahead for the President.

Like most State of the Union speeches this was a wish list, but the President understands as well as anybody that he proposes and Congress disposes. Both Houses in Congress are controlled by the opposition party and the President's influence with members of his own party is limited. Congress and the President must concentrate on moving forward with the important work of the nation.

#### CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

#### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, will 1998 be the year the U.S. House of Representatives finally considers and passes meaningful campaign finance reform? Debate on this issue is long overdue. I urge you to take the first step and open this issue for discussion on the floor.

Much of the controversy over campaign financing has to do with perception—how things might appear to the voting public. Are certain interests buying access to elected officials through campaign contributions? Are elected officials using the power of office to solicit campaign contributions, thereby perpetuating themselves in office? To some, it appears that way. I ask you, Mr. Speaker—What is the voting public's perception of your refusal to allow this issue up for debate? President Clinton has called for it. The Senate has agreed to debate it. Still, the House remains silent. The voting public—my constituents included—want to know why.

Mr. Speaker the people refuse to accept "no" for an answer.

#### CONGRATULATING THE RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

#### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Riverside Community College District, located in Riverside, California, for their innovative education initiative, Passport to College, which makes college education a reality for the students of six school districts in Riverside County. The Passport to College program is being honored at a White House

ceremony today as one of ten exemplary educational programs in the United States. The president is using this ceremony as an opportunity to demonstrate to the nation educational programs that are worthy of duplication.

In 1996, Riverside Community College District began the program working with fifth graders in the Riverside, Alford, Corona-Norco, Jurupa, Moreno Valley and Val Verde unified school districts. If the fifth graders follow the program guidelines and graduate from high school, Riverside Community College District has pledged free tuition and fee assistance. This amounts to 12,000 eligible students participating in the program. In addition, working with local universities, the Passport to College Program has secured the commitment of La Sierra University, California Baptist College, and the University of California, Riverside to provide \$2,500 a year in scholarships for graduates of the program who transfer to their schools. The University of Redlands has pledged \$5,000 per year in scholarship assistance.

Today's youth are our leaders of tomorrow, and Passport to College is a model program that demonstrates what can be achieved when a community comes together. Riverside Community College District recognized a need to help children understand at a young age that college is available for everyone. All that is required is some hard work and commitment. When we hear about the poor state of education in our country, or the problems with the youth of today, think about the success of this program and the lofty goals it is working hard to accomplish. The program achieves two very important objectives by involving parents in their children's education from a very early age, and making students begin to think about the importance of college early in their academic careers.

Dr. Salvatore Rotella, President of the Riverside Community College District, Amy Cardulo, Director of the Passport-to-College program, and all of those participating are to be commended for their dedication and hard work to ensure the success of future generations. The success of this program is due to the hard work and tenacity of both administrators and students. On behalf of the residents of the 43rd Congressional District, I would like to congratulate them on the Passport-to-College program and wish them continued success in the future. They are a credit to their community, their state, and their nation.

#### MULTI-AGENCY AUTO THEFT TASK FORCE

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to my colleagues' attention the attached article from the October, 1997 edition of APB and place it into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. The article illustrates the importance of anti-theft VIN labels when used in identifying "re-numbered" stolen cars.

**MULTI-AGENCY TASK FORCE FIGHTS AUTO THEFT AND WINS 3M/IAATI/AWARD**

A Florida multi-agency auto theft task force was selected to receive the 1997 3M/International Association of Auto Theft Investigators (IAATI) Vehicle Theft Investigation Award for an investigation that led to several federal and state indictments and the recovery of vehicles valued at nearly one million dollars.

Detective John Pierce received the award on behalf of the Dade County Multi-Agency Auto Theft Task Force at the Annual IAATI Conference August 4-8 in Brisbane, Australia, for an investigation coordinated by Sergeant Dave Rehrig. All task force members, represented by U.S. Customs, FBI, Florida Highway Patrol, Dade County State Attorney's Office, Metro-Dade Police, Miami Police, Miami Beach Police, Hialeah Gardens Police, and the National Insurance Crime Bureau, demonstrated excellent teamwork to successfully close down an organized auto theft ring.

The case was initiated when task force detectives learned of an apartment complex where several high value sport utility vehicles were being recovered on a regular basis. Surveillance of these vehicles led to the discovery of a large, loosely organized, but very professional group of individuals responsible for vehicle smuggling to South American countries. The group also had been "re-numbering" vehicles for domestic sale.

During the investigation, Detective Pierce discovered that an employee at the Port of Miami was selling lists of vehicle identification numbers (VINs) from exported vehicles that had been showing up on stolen re-numbered vehicles. This discovery, in turn, led to the recovery of several vehicles. "Almost all the cars had counterfeit labels on them," Sgt. Rehrig said. After obtaining a warrant, tools of the counterfeit VIN label operation were uncovered, which included over 150 counterfeit anti-theft labels.

The counterfeiting technique used by the subjects produced, at first blush, visually perfect labels. Investigators were able to determine they were counterfeit, however, by examining for a covert security feature and by the way the labels peeled off, leaving a paper residue pattern. "VIN labels on re-numbered cars peel right off but they don't leave a footprint like the 3M anti-theft labels," explained Sgt. Rehrig. The counterfeit labels also were discovered because they were produced on a flat paper that did not have the "window" in the middle, which is characteristic of authentic 3M anti-theft labels.

Even though the vehicles were missing their public and confidential VINs, Detective Pierce was able to prove the vehicles were stolen and make arrests by finding at least one component part with an intact anti-theft label. Several vehicles were identified using the original 3M anti-theft label which the subjects had missed when they were sanitizing the stolen vehicles.

For example, one recovered Toyota Landcruiser had been re-numbered and the thieves replaced the 3M anti-theft labels with counterfeits. The frame rail was stamped, and even the window glass (etched with the VIN) was changed. Despite these extraordinary measures, the subjects missed removing a single anti-theft label. "There is no question the anti-theft labels were a crucial part of the investigation," Sgt. Rehrig said.

"Vehicle identification labels are often the key to cracking vehicle theft cases," said Kevin Curry, Verification Systems, 3M Safe-

ty and Security Systems Division. "The winner of this year's award is a concrete, real-world example of the value and role that anti-theft labels play in the investigation and recovery of stolen vehicles."

According to preliminary reports conducted by the National Institute of Justice and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, anti-theft labels have been a significant contributor to the continued decline of auto theft in the United States since the early 1990's. The study reports that component parts anti-theft labels assist most big city and state auto theft investigators to arrest car and parts thieves and to prosecute them.

Sgt. Rehrig agrees. "The auto theft rate in Dade County dropped 17.5 percent in 1996," Rehrig said. "Furthermore, detectives have noticed a decline in the theft of Toyota Landcruisers countrywide."

Detective Pierce and the task force continue to follow-up leads from this case. To date, the case has yielded seven federal indictments, including the charging of the individual believed to be responsible for most of the overall operation of the theft organization. Four subjects have been arrested on state charges, and 38 vehicles, valued at some \$906,000, have been recovered.

The 3M/IAATI award is given annually to recognize superior efforts of an auto theft investigator or team where vehicle identification number (VIN) labels played a crucial role in the investigation. "We are very pleased and proud to be selected for this award," Rehrig said.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NAVY NURSE CORPS ON THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. RON PACKARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 4, 1998*

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to recognize the men and women who have honorably served in the United States Navy Nurse Corps. On May 13 of this year, the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps will celebrate their ninetieth anniversary of dedicated service to our country.

Established by an act of Congress in 1908, the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps has played an integral role in the day-to-day medical operations of the United States Navy. Serving in both times of conflict and peace, the men and women of the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps have bravely provided the highest level of medical assistance.

Beginning as a small, dedicated collection of twenty women, the Navy Nurse Corps quickly grew in numbers to support the expanding needs of the military. During World War I, the Nurse Corps totaled over 460 regular and reserve force nurses. By the end of the World War II, the Corps had an enrollment of over 11,000 nurses. Through their involvement in the two world wars and their service during the conflicts in Korea, Vietnam and the Persian Gulf, the Navy Nurse Corps has consistently proven their ability to adapt to changing circumstances and technological advances.

I respect the dedication, innovation and professional excellence that the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps has displayed since its inception. Dur-

ing my years of service in the Naval Dental Corps, I was able to experience, firsthand, the hard work and commitment shown by the nurses.

Mr. Speaker, it is with a great amount of pride that I congratulate the men and women that have previously and currently serve in the United States Navy Nurse Corps on their ninetieth anniversary. The United States Navy Nurse Corps truly represent nursing excellence.

**WELCOME TO REPRESENTATIVE STEPHEN CHEN OF TAIWAN**

**HON. DANA ROHRBACHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 4, 1998*

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join my colleagues in welcoming Representative Stephen Chen to Washington. Prior to his present assignment, he was a deputy secretary-general in the office of the President, Taiwan.

Representative Chen joined the Republic of China's foreign service early in his career and has been a career diplomat, having served in various Republic of China's embassies and consulates throughout the world. Representative Chen brings to his Washington post vast experiences and super knowledge of foreign policy issues affecting the Republic of China such as Taiwan's eventual reunification with the People's Republic and Taiwan's relations with the United States and Japan.

I wish Stephen Chen a pleasant tour of duty in Washington. These are trying times for the Republic of China's diplomats. But with patience and wisdom exercised by Taiwan's President Lee Teng-hui and Foreign Minister Jason Hu, I am confident that Taiwan will continue to be respected and recognized worldwide as a free vibrant democracy, deserving admiration from all freedom-loving people everywhere.

**TRIBUTE TO MARIE BIAGGI**

**HON. THOMAS J. MANTON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 4, 1998*

Mr. MANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Marie Biaggi, a true heroine—not one who has been heralded publicly, nor sought the fleeting fame of a celebrity—but a steadfast human being whose very being was the spiritual and emotional center of her family and whose guiding hand nurtured them in body, mind and soul.

Marie was an unassuming woman, whose strength, determination and sheer will is without peer. She was a matriarch in the most positive sense of the word—a leader in the microcosm of her family, who chose to stay in the shadows so that others could bask in the sunlight of their own accomplishments—husband, children, grandchildren, friends, academic associates and community and humanitarian activists. It was her strength that served

as a springboard for others to achieve, to be of service. It was her strength that made her a loyal friend, a good neighbor, the quintessential mother and wife.

Born in Colonie, New York on March 18, 1918, Marie came from a family of five siblings. She and her four brothers, Anthony, Gene, Jerry, and Neil, enjoyed the simple pleasures of life in upstate New York. But, in that simplicity was generated an understanding of the most profound values of human existence—love of family and friends, strong spiritual values, a pride in work, and a tenacity that would allow her to prevail when others would have long since dropped by the wayside.

When her family moved to New York City, Marie was employed at Schriff's and, because her inner beauty was matched by her head-turning outer beauty she was also employed as a model in the garment district. As life progressed, so did her commitment move more and more away from the business world to the world of her husband, children and family.

She delighted seeing her husband of 56 years, Mario Biaggi, progress from postman to policeman to lawyer and, finally, to United States Congressman. It was her unceasing giving and constancy that provided the foundation for her husband to achieve, knowing the hearth and home were well tended. This same feeling of security and support that she gave to her children, Jacqueline, Barbara, Richard, and Mario Jr., that engendered in them the confidence to pursue successful careers in law, nursing, and psychology.

No matter what tribulation, no matter how great the sacrifice, their mother was always there. This is surely lesson to be learned by individuals from all walks of life.

As the family grew, so did Marie's desire to fulfill her personal goals—goals always born out of service to others—President and life-long member of the Fordham Prep Mothers Club, member of AMITA, and Italian Women's Humanitarian Organization, member of the Board of Directors of the Bedford Park Senior Citizens Center, President and Member of the Columbia Association, founding member of the St. Philip Neri Assumption Society Security Patrol, and member of the St. Philip Neri Don Bosco Society—are some of her many accomplishments. Yet, while working in these volunteer capacities, she still had time at the age of 63 to graduate from Lehman College, having earned her Bachelor's degree in healthcare administration. Her motivation and grades were matched only by the warm way in which her professors and fellow students, albeit several years her junior, spoke of her.

Her achieving a college degree was the ultimate crown in a family whom she inspired and guided to academic excellence. Her reward was knowing that she had achieved her goal, yet, also knowing she had done it without sacrificing the care of her family, without compromising her ultimate *raison d'être*.

When one pictures Marie however, one also has to picture a woman whose sense of purpose had a lighter side as well. Who can forget the sound of the famous cowbell ringing throughout Baker Stadium as Marie and her family cheered her son Mario on during Columbia football games? She was a woman whose New Year's Eve parties were much an-

icipated and filled with song and laughter; whose Columbia Association Christmas parties for policemen and their children were characterized by an overflowing sense of generosity and love; whose square dances for AMITA brought even the most sedentary to respond to the callers hoots and hollers; whose culinary talents, especially her apple pie, were committed to book form; whose joys and blessings were found in the smiles and accomplishments of her 11 grandchildren—Julio, Vanessa, Marisa, Nicole, Justin, Veronica, Alessandra, Maria, Christina, Alexis and Mario III; and whose interest in police work was not limited to her husband's career and resulted in an outstanding citizen award by the New York City Police Department when she aided in the capture of a perpetrator. Marie was a diverse and robust woman whose touch and kindness towards others transcended every level of society and humanity. Indeed, a remarkable human being whose call to greatness was in the silence of knowing who she was and in the unrelenting giving of self that marks a true heroine.

If the spirit of a person is what distinguishes them; if this is what their "essence" is, then Marie will always be with us, doing what she does best—guiding, caring, forever loving those she loves, unfettered by the limits of earthly form, more expansive, more boundless in her love and strength than ever before.

She will be missed by all those who knew her or were touched in some way by her generous, caring nature.

#### 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, February 5, 1998, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

##### FEBRUARY 6

9:30 a.m.

##### Joint Economic

To hold hearings to examine the employment-unemployment situation for January. 1334 Longworth Building

##### FEBRUARY 10

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
To hold hearings to examine incidences of indecency on the internet. SR-253

##### Governmental Affairs

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations  
To hold oversight hearings on fraud on the internet. SD-342

10:00 a.m.

##### Armed Services

To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program. SR-222

##### Budget

To hold hearings to review recent revenue growth in the United States. SD-608

##### Foreign Relations

To hold hearings on the President's budget request for fiscal year 1999, and foreign policy issues for fiscal year 1998. SD-419

##### Judiciary

To resume hearings to examine certain issues with regard to the proposed Global Tobacco Settlement which will mandate a total reformation and restructuring of how tobacco products are manufactured, marketed and distributed in America. SD-226

##### Labor and Human Resources

To resume hearings to examine the scope and depth of the proposed settlement between State Attorneys General and tobacco companies to mandate a total reformation and restructuring of how tobacco products are manufactured, marketed, and distributed in America. SD-430

##### Special on Aging

To hold hearings on the goals that must be achieved by a reformed social security system. SD-628

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine computer security issues. SR-253

##### FEBRUARY 11

9:30 a.m.

##### Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business. SD-366

##### Labor and Human Resources

Public Health and Safety Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine the role of the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (Department of Health and Human Services) in health quality improvement. SD-430

10:00 a.m.

##### Appropriations

##### Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense. SD-192

**Budget**  
To hold hearings to examine the fiscal relationship between the Federal government and State and local governments.

SD-608

**Energy and Natural Resources**

To hold hearings on S. 1069, to designate the American Discovery Trail as a national discovery trail, a newly established national trail category, and S. 1403, to establish an historic lighthouse preservation program, within the National Park Service.

SD-366

**Finance**

To resume hearings on proposals and recommendations to restructure and reform the Internal Revenue Service, including a related measure H.R. 2676, focusing on proposals to protect spouses who file joint tax returns and are held responsible for the other spouse's errors.

SD-215

**Judiciary**

To hold hearings to review the national drug control strategy.

SD-226

2:00 p.m.

**Budget**  
To resume hearings on proposals to reform the national education system.

SD-608

FEBRUARY 12

9:30 a.m.

**Commerce, Science, and Transportation**  
To hold hearings on the nomination of Winter D. Horton Jr., of Utah, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

SR-253

**Small Business**

To hold hearings on proposals to reform the Internal Revenue Service.

SR-428A

10:00 a.m.

**Armed Services**  
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program.

SR-222

**Commerce, Science, and Transportation**

To hold hearings on S. 1422, to promote competition in the market for delivery of multichannel video programming.

SR-253

**Judiciary**

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD-226

**Labor and Human Resources**

To hold oversight hearings on the implementation of the Education of the Deaf Act.

SD-430

2:00 p.m.

**Commerce, Science, and Transportation**  
**Aviation Subcommittee**  
To hold hearings on the implementation of the Airport Improvement Program.

SR-253

**Energy and Natural Resources**

**National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee**  
To hold hearings on S.62, to prohibit further extension or establishment of any

national monument in Idaho without full public participation, S.477, to require an Act of Congress and the consultation with State legislature prior to the establishment by the President of national monuments, S.691, to ensure that the public and the Congress have the right and opportunity to participate in decisions that affect the use and management of all public lands, H.R.901, to preserve the sovereignty of the U.S. over public lands, and H.R.1127, to amend the Antiquities Act regarding the establishment by the President of certain national monuments.

SD-366

FEBRUARY 24

9:30 a.m.

**Commerce, Science, and Transportation**  
To resume hearings to examine the scope and depth of the proposed settlement between States Attorneys Generals and tobacco companies to mandate a total reformation and restructuring of how tobacco products are manufactured, marketed, and distributed in America.

SR-253

10:00 a.m.

**Judiciary**  
**Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information Subcommittee**  
To hold hearings to examine incidences of foreign terrorists in America five years after the World Trade Center.

SD-226

**Labor and Human Resources**

To resume hearings to examine the scope and depth of the proposed settlement between State Attorneys General and tobacco companies to mandate a total reformation and restructuring of how tobacco products are manufactured, marketed, and distributed in America.

SD-430

2:00 p.m.

**Energy and Natural Resources**  
**National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee**  
To hold hearings to examine the status of the visitor center and museum facilities project at Gettysburg National Military Park in Pennsylvania.

SD-366

**Judiciary**

**Constitution, Federalism, and Property Rights Subcommittee**  
To hold hearings to examine whether term limits or campaign finance reform would provide true political reform.

SD-226

FEBRUARY 25

10:00 a.m.

**Judiciary**  
To hold hearings to examine incidences of high tech worker shortage and immigration policy.

SD-226

2:00 p.m.

**Judiciary**  
To hold hearings on pending judicial nominations.

SD-226

FEBRUARY 26

9:30 a.m.

**Veterans' Affairs**  
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the Non-Commissioned Officers Association, the Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Jewish War Veterans, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Blinded Veterans Association, and the Veterans of World War I. 345 Cannon Building

10:00 a.m.

**Judiciary**  
Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD-226

**Labor and Human Resources**

To resume hearings to examine the confidentiality of medical information.

SD-430

2:00 p.m.

**Judiciary**  
**Antitrust, Business Rights, and Competition Subcommittee**  
To hold hearings on oversight of the antitrust division of the Department of Justice.

SD-226

MARCH 3

9:30 a.m.

**Veterans' Affairs**  
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. 345 Cannon Building

MARCH 5

2:00 p.m.

**Judiciary**  
**Immigration Subcommittee**  
Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD-226

MARCH 18

9:30 a.m.

**Veterans' Affairs**  
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the Disabled American Veterans. 345 Cannon Building

MARCH 25

9:30 a.m.

**Veterans' Affairs**  
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of AMVETS, the American Ex-Prisoners of War, the Vietnam Veterans of America, and the Retired Officers Association. 345 Cannon Building

OCTOBER 6

9:30 a.m.

**Veterans' Affairs**  
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs on the legislative recommendations of the American Legion. 345 Cannon Building

CANCELLATIONS

FEBRUARY 5

9:00 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry  
To hold hearings to examine the global warming agreement recently reached in Kyoto, Japan.

SR-332

10:00 a.m.

Judiciary

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD-226

POSTPONEMENTS

FEBRUARY 5

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to evaluate U.S. biologic vaccine programs as to their impact on Gulf War veterans, and to examine lessons learned for future deployments.

SH-216