

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DEA'S EXCESSIVE FINES

HON. TOM DeLAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, just before adjournment last year, Congress passed the Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations Conference Report directing the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to "exercise appropriate discretion" and "not impose unreasonable monetary penalties for minor, unintentional violations" of record keeping requirements.

Unfortunately, in January of this year, the DEA either failed to take that directive seriously, or they have a serious problem interpreting the definition of the words "appropriate discretion", "unreasonable penalties", and "minor, unintentional violations." In Wichita Falls, Texas, twenty-five pharmacies received letters from the DEA asking them to pay fines up to \$400,000 for record keeping mistakes that were not even their fault.

Mr. Speaker, it appears we may have another federal agency out of control. I only hope we don't have another IRS-type fiasco on our hands. At the very least, we have a flawed statute if it allows any federal agency to fine a business \$25,000 per paperwork mistake. If the shoe was on the other foot, and taxpayers were able to deduct a sum of that size from their taxes for unintentional errors generated by bureaucrats in federal agencies, the government would be dead broke.

Mr. Speaker, we should not take lightly or tolerate a federal agency's disregard or neglect of a very clear directive by the Congress. I plan to pursue this matter further and will solicit the support of my colleagues to come up with an appropriate solution.

TRIBUTE TO THE LOYOLA KNIGHTS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Loyola School Basketball team, the Knights, on their 1998 Independent School Athletic League championship win. This triumph is an important milestone in the school's history: the team's first championship in 18 years.

The young men on this basketball team have an outstanding record: 12-0 undefeated in the League, a 21-6 overall record and an impressive 17 game winning streak.

I must also pay tribute to the values instilled in these young athletes by the Loyola School itself. The exceptional teamwork and athleticism demonstrated by the Loyola

Knights is merely an extension of the spirit of the Loyola School.

The Loyola School, the only co-educational Jesuit high school in the tri-state area, was founded in 1900. Its mission is to challenge its young men and women to become intellectually fulfilled, open to growth, religious, loving, and committed to doing justice.

As a college preparatory school, Loyola is dedicated to challenging its students academically. The school places emphasis on personal study, reflection and leadership to help students expand their knowledge, to develop their skills, to grow as individuals and as members of a community.

The Loyola Knight's successes this year on the basketball court are a testament to the success of the Loyola School's efforts to develop the diverse and unique talents of each student.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to the Loyola School Knights. These young men have worked very hard towards their goal. I am proud to have the Loyola School and its outstanding student body in my district.

TRIBUTE TO CHUCK MONGES AND THE LEGION OF VALOR MUSEUM

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chuck Monges and the Legion of Valor Museum. Chuck Monges, a World War II war veteran, founded the Legion of Valor Museum in 1991. Chuck Monges has committed himself to the museum and is very deserving of this recognition.

The Legion of Valor is an association of those whose valor has been recognized by award of our nation's two highest decorations. These high medals of decoration are the Medal of Honor of the Navy, Army or Air Force; and the Army Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Air Force Cross.

Organized on April 23, 1890, The Legion of Valor is the nation's senior organization of veterans. It was chartered by public law 224, an act of Congress, and approved by the president on August 4, 1955. The principles of the Legion of Valor are patriotic allegiance to the United States of America, fidelity to its constitution and laws, the security of civil liberties, and the perpetuation of free institutions.

The museum was the dream of Chuck Monges, a retired Major of the United States Army. Major Monges was a recipient of the Navy Cross while serving as a U.S. Marine at the Battle of Saipan during World War II. Major Monges started his project in 1991 with his wife, Anita, working at his side. Major Monges received permission from the City

Council of the City of Fresno to rehabilitate an abandoned storeroom of the theater in the Fresno Memorial Auditorium. What started as an impossible pile of junk has developed into the most unique and inspiring military museum in the United States.

The museum staff currently consists of 25 volunteer docents. There is no paid staff. The 10,000 square feet of space is filled with uniforms, equipment, weapons and memorabilia representing all wars from the Civil War through Desert Storm. Included are numerous fighting plane and fighting ship models. All items on display have been donated to the museum.

The museum lobby contains large replicas of the Medals of Honor, Service Crosses, Silver Star, and Bronze and Purple Heart with the names of Fresno County recipients on brass plaques under the medals. In front of the building are flagpoles with the flags of the Armed Services and Veterans Organizations.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to Chuck Monges and The Legion of Valor Museum. It is the leadership and dedication exhibited by Chuck Monges that should serve as a model for service men and women the world over. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Chuck Monges and the Legion of Valor many years of continued success.

IN HONOR OF CHAUNCEY A. ALEXANDER, ACSW, CAE, CSWM

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exceptional man for his contribution to society. Chauncey Alexander continues his life-style of professional and community service following his second retirement after 12 years as half-time instructor for Social Policy and Management courses, Department of Social Work, California State University Long Beach. He first retired in 1982 after 13 years as National Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers.

Founder of the Orange County Health Care Council, now a 100 organization coalition, he continues as an active Executive Committee member. As President of the non-profit First Amendment Foundation, he heads a Board of Directors of nationally prominent civil liberties leaders, and is an active leader in the Democratic Party.

As a WWII veteran, Alexander's career includes: Associate Director for Health Planning, Regional Medical Programs, UCLA School of Medicine (2 years); Executive Director, Los Angeles County Heart Association (13 years); Southern California Society for Mental Hygiene (4 years); Los Angeles Veterans Service

● This "buller" 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.

Centers (3 years); and many years as a psychiatric social worker, community organizer and educator.

Author of more than 80 professional publications and numerous studies, reports and special articles, Alexander has given leadership to the unification of the social work profession, practice analysis, and political and community organization to improve health and social services. He is the recipient of numerous individual awards for volunteer contributions to community, health and social services.

Alexander has been accorded international recognition governmental officials and social work leaders of 52 countries during his decade in office and as president of the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW). Concomitantly, he authored the official International Code of Ethics for Professional Social Workers, the International Policy on Human Rights and other policy documents.

After graduating with a degree in psychology from the University of California at Los Angeles, he earned a Master's degree in Social Work at the University of Southern California. He completed his academic work and examinations for a doctoral degree.

Alexander, age 82, and his wife, Sally, age 84, have five children, eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize Chauncey Alexander. I thank him for his years of dedicated service and I wish him continued success in his professional outreach to our community.

BUILDING EFFICIENT SURFACE TRANSPORTATION AND EQUITY ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2400) to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes:

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to applaud H.R. 2400, Building Efficient Surface Transportation and Equity Act (BESTEA), and specifically the section that streamlines the environmental review process for highway construction projects.

The National Environmental Protection Act of 1969 (NEPA) requires that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) be prepared for any major federal undertaking that affects the environment. As various factors are considered, additional federal agencies become involved and additional reviews are proposed. Each review takes significant amounts of time, requires lengthy studies, and delays projects even further. While I support regulations which protect our environment, we must streamline the process to avoid the costly and timely delays that have affected so many projects. This bill will help keep projects in my district on track, streamlining this cumbersome approach and allow them to be completed in a timely, efficient manner.

Since the 1970's, local, state, and federal officials have been working in my Congressional District to provide an additional crossing of the Ocmulgee River for the city of Macon, Georgia. While the environmental process has yet to determine the route for this project, this much-needed fifth crossing would relieve the current traffic congestion that exists on the four bridges currently in Macon. In addition to easing Macon's traffic problems, the crossing could be used to link up middle Georgia with a statewide corridor which would connect Macon with the cities of Augusta and Columbus.

The bill before us today take great strides to remedy the bureaucratic problems we have encountered in my district and many others. This bill requires all involved federal agencies to be clearly identified at the outset and a reasonable time-line to be established and followed. All environmental reviews are then conducted concurrently rather than sequentially, moving the process along in an expedient manner without reinventing the wheel over or compromising important concerns. This legislative provision will help streamline one of the most exhaustive and burdensome processes in the country and I applaud its inclusion in BESTEA.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM RYUN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. RYUN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, April 28, 1998, I was unavoidably detained and missed roll call vote 110, 111, 112. If I had been here, I would have voted yes on roll call 110, 111, and 112.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, over the next several weeks the House of Representatives will finally be given the opportunity to vote on campaign finance reform. Having delivered a daily statement on the floor of the House of Representatives advocating for an open and honest debate, I am pleased to hear that we will soon be given that opportunity. I hope that our colleagues in the Senate will be given the same opportunity.

Earlier this year the Senate failed to pass campaign finance reform legislation in spite of the support of a majority of the members. Likewise, last month the House of Representatives attempted to push through sham legislation that they claimed was campaign finance reform. Luckily a majority of the members refused to fall for that trick. In fact, Mr. Speaker, the attempts by the leadership to kill campaign finance has backfired and forced this House to finally deal directly with this important issue. I hope that the leadership in the Senate will see that the will of the majority cannot be denied

and they will allow a fair vote on campaign finance reform.

Mr. Speaker this issue is too important to the people of this nation to deny the will of the majority. Now is the time for both houses of Congress to act to change our out of control campaign finance system. The people of my district will not accept "no" for an answer.

"MY VOICE IN OUR DEMOCRACY"

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I insert the following for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

MY VOICE IN OUR DEMOCRACY

1997-98 VFW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION COLORADO WINNER

(By Neil Rhodes)

A few years ago, when I was about eleven years old, I was profoundly affected by the chronicle of a young Jewish girl during the second world war: a girl who, while hiding out from the Nazis, wrote in the red-checked diary she had received for her thirteenth birthday; a martyr who was eventually discovered and sent to her death in a concentration camp; a visionary whose diary writings encompassed the plight of millions around the world. That little girl was Anne Frank.

One of the final entries in Anne's red-checked diary proclaimed the desperation of a nation without democracy. It read: "ideals, dreams, and cherished hopes rise within us only to meet the horrible truth and be shattered. * * *"

At the young age I was, this was the first real connection I had ever experienced with the evils of tyranny. Since then I've encountered a multitude of other stories and situations that have increased my awareness of democracy.

Like the time I visited a small holocaust museum and spoke with Mr. Kelen—a survivor of the holocaust himself, or the time I traveled just across the Mexican border, and witnessed first-hand the crippling poverty caused by government corruption; the time I sat glued to the television, my eyes locked on the image of a young Chinese boy facing certain death as he stood in the path of an oncoming military tank.

Every new experience helped shape my thoughts, mold my perspective, and strengthen my voice as an American citizen. I have come to realize just how fortunate I am—how fortunate we all are—to possess the light of democracy.

I've learned that democracy is priceless and powerful. Priceless, because our basic rights are stained with the blood of millions who fought to gain them. Democracy also has boundless power: quite simply, the power to shatter the chains of bondage forever.

But as we live our lives in freedom we must remember the horrible truth that Anne Frank wrote about. The horrible truth is that there are still millions of people living in the darkness of oppression. For those not yet experiencing liberty, we must continue the battle. If we believe in our own sovereignty, that is our duty. The Declaration of Independence does not say "All Americans are created equal" but that "All men"—all around the world—"are created equal." Thus, we cannot simply work to continue

our own democratic system; we must bring that system to the rest of the world. Only then will the visions of our forefathers be completed.

In the social and political arena every American has a voice—a platform from which to speak. In many parts of the globe that could not be farther from the truth. Anne Frank never had a voice. I, however, do. I stand before you now, and I speak on behalf of those who couldn't and those who still cannot.

My voice in our democracy is the reflection of a free person; my voice pays tribute to the thousands who died for the cause of liberty; my voice cries out an urging for the respect of our nation and an offering of hope for the future.

Yes, even in the midst of the cruelest oppression, hope is one thing that can never be destroyed. Because, you see, I never finished the quotation by Anne Frank that I gave earlier. Here is the quote in its entirety: "ideals, dreams, and cherished hopes rise within us only to meet the horrible truth and be shattered * * * yet in spite of everything I still believe that people really are good at heart."

Anne Frank's devotion to the human spirit should serve as an example to all of us, and especially to Americans. Progress in the world must begin with you and me. I would hope that one day all Americans would understand that with strength, compassion, diligence, and the fortitude of our voices, we have the ability to change democracy from an ideal, a dream, and a cherished hope * * * into a powerful and permeating reality.

**CONGRESSMAN JERRY COSTELLO
CONGRATULATES SPARTA HIGH
SCHOOL MATH TEAM**

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the new Illinois state champions on the Sparta High School Math Team. This victory marks the sixth consecutive time students from Sparta High School have won the state title in the small school division of the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics state competition.

The students serve as highly successful ambassadors for their school and the community of Sparta. Sparta High School students have won the state title in twelve of the past 18 years of competition. This Sparta team won this year's competition with a total score of 754 points.

Team members compete in twelve different areas of team and individual competition. Events include Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Precalculus, Eight Person Team, Calculator Team, Two Person, Relay, and an Oral Competition focusing on mathematics in medicine.

Coach and Sparta teacher Eric Hoflich encourages team members to take on some of the teaching responsibilities as another way for them to learn. Older students help younger ones, and the element of competition encourages students to improve their performance compared to other teams and to their own previous performance.

The Town of Sparta has proclaimed this week "Sparta High School State Champion

Math Team Week" in honor of the team's first place finish. Team members sharing in this victory are: T.J. Joiner, Vanessa Salarda, Jeff Russell, Jonathan King, Curt Holland, Brittany Godwin, Betsey Berry, Josh Holder, Jared Cox, Trevor Coop, Brad Ashley, Jimmy Conn, Patrick Zweigart, Brett Matzenbacher, Ryan Pigford, Rachel Shaw, J.R. Blind, Jennifer Ebers, Matt King, Angela Hess, Ryan Pillers, Reid Holland, Kendra Holder, Nathan Pigford, Nikki Joiner, Jamie Sparks, Erik Perks, Brett Lessley, Rachel Dickey, Sahra Kloth, Rachel Stephens, Cory Husemann, Erica Salarda, Erin Tolliver, Elizabeth King, Brandy Hagene, Kendra McConachie, Laurie Juenger, and Alicia Barrowes. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing these talented and accomplished students.

**HONORING THE BEST OF RESTON
AWARD WINNERS FOR 1998**

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to this year's winner of the Best of Reston Community Service Awards. These awards are made annually by the Reston Chamber of Commerce and Reston Interfaith to honor businesses and individuals who have provided extraordinary service to others in the community.

This year's winners are:

Appalachian Spring for community outreach and leadership as a small business. Manager Gina Cocomello and her staff have made enormous contributions to the community by conducting food and supply drives for the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, selling tickets to Reston Interfaith events, and supporting South Lakes High School and the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival. They are also active in the Chamber's Small Business Counsel. Appalachian Spring has generously provided community support wherever needed.

Atlantic Realty Companies for commitment to the belief that developers must help meet the needs of the communities in which they build and that a safety net of social services is important for the entire community. Atlantic Realty's contributions include supplying space for child care benefiting low-income families, a freshly mulched playground for homeless children, and a Village Center where senior Fellowship House residents can safely and conveniently shop. By joining their professional mission with the original vision of Reston, Atlantic Realty has improved the quality of life for those that work, live, and play in Reston.

David M. Haas for continuous service and outstanding leadership as a civic leader and arts supporter. As a member of the Reston Association Board of Directors, the Reston Community Center Board of Governors, and the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, David has exercised intelligence, compassion, and fairness in balancing economic needs with good planning and community stewardship. His artistic contributions have been highlighted in his work with GRACE, the Arts Alliance of

Reston, and the Reston Community Players. David has offered a wealth of enjoyment to the community through his artistic vision.

Calvin Larson for advocating the legal rights of AIDS victims and for thirty years of service to the Reston Community. Cal has provided pro bono legal advice to the Whitman Walker Clinic in Northern Virginia, treating clients and their cases with compassion and sensitivity. He has served in leadership positions on the Reston Community Association Board, RA Pathways, RA Elections committees and the Save Lake Anna Committee. As a member of Friends of the Community Center, he started the Venture Mentoring Program, Cal has helped shape Reston through his service and generosity to others.

Lynn Lienthal for her lifetime of tireless work as a children's advocate and for her leadership in the Greater Reston Community. Lynn served on the Reston Interfaith Board for twelve years, including five years as President. She is co-owner and Executive Director of PALS Early Learning Center, and is chairperson of the Embry Rucker Community Shelter Citizens Support Committee. Her three decades of community service have touched thousands of lives in the community.

Susan Spencer for recognizing the needs of under-privileged children in our community and for finding creative solutions to help the children and parents at Forest Edge Elementary School. A physical education teacher and technology specialist, Susan established the Community Service Club, to help students obtain holiday gifts for their families and friends. Sensing the need for students to be computer literate, she spent evenings, weekends, and holidays installing computer equipment and setting up computer labs. She donated her own money for equipment, then taught herself how to install it, bringing the Internet into the classroom. Susan's dedication to Forest Edge Elementary School has encouraged the hopes and dreams of its students and parents.

Charles Veatch for his dedication to preserving Reston's past and improving Reston's future. Chuck's contributions include starting Ethics Day at South Lakes High School, creating an archival record at George Mason University detailing the Development of Reston, serving on the board of Reston Historic Trust for Community Revitalization, and donating the use of a large storage facility to the Embry Rucker Community Shelter for collecting food and supplies for those in need. Chuck has helped thousands in the community develop a sense of the past and of the success that the future may hold.

Richard Williams for kindly and quietly supporting the less fortunate in the Greater Reston Community through an endless number of volunteer activities. Since retiring from the government, Richard dedicates his time to his family, his community, and those most in need. His efforts include donating food to a single parent undergoing chemotherapy, building a house with Habitat to Humanity, shopping for swimsuits for homeless children attending Laurel Learning Center, cooking dinner for Reston Interfaith-sponsored parenting classes, and providing rides for those needing transportation. Nicknamed "Saint Richard" by staff and children at Laurel Learning Center, Richard unassumingly touches the lives of hundreds of the community.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in commending the Best of Reston Award winners for all of their hard work and dedication in making their community an outstanding place to live and work.

GREAT MILLS HIGH SCHOOL
EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of the outstanding high schools in the great State of Maryland. Since 1927, Great Mills High School has set an example in Southern Maryland and across the State for its dedication to educating tomorrow's leaders. For more than 70 years, Great Mills has been a partner with the local community, providing students valuable opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom.

As we celebrate the success of Great Mills High School, we must not forget the partnerships the school has forged with the community. Through a joint initiative called "Partnerships for Success", students have had the opportunity to become involved in all aspects of the St. Mary's County community. Whether taking advantage of after school tutoring by personnel at nearby Patuxent River Naval Air Station, working in a cooperative program with a local business, taking classes at St. Mary's College through the Charlotte Hall Fellowship Program, or volunteering with the Special Olympics, Great Mills students are an important and vital resource to the County.

Today, Great Mills offers a richly diverse student body the same valuable opportunities in education and extracurricular activities, as it did seventy years ago. Whether students choose to go on to pursue a bachelors degree, join the workforce, or serve our country in the Armed Services, all of them possess a solid high school education and a firm foundation for succeeding in life.

While the surrounding region has transformed, the quality of the Great Mills graduate has not. Thanks to a hard working faculty, a strong network of parent volunteers, a student body of academic achievers and a caring community, graduates continue to excel. Their academic success can be measured in their career choices—championship coaches, test pilots, doctors, Congressmen, olympians and teachers. All of them have gained their educational foundation in the classrooms of Great Mills High School.

In the coming years, the list of outstanding graduates is certain to grow. Great Mills is poised and ready to give its students a quality education as we approach the new millennium. While the Southern Maryland region continues to lead the State in growth, the \$14 million dollar expansion and renovations of the school are sure to ease the pressures of a growing student body. With a first rate faculty, new computer and science labs, superior athletic facilities and expanded capacity, students have all of the tools necessary for the future. The dedication of the new and expanded Great Mills High School represents a true

Celebration of Community. Congratulations and best wishes to the students, faculty, staff and to each and every one of the individuals dedicated to the future of Great Mills High School.

A TRIBUTE TO ROBERT BRAEGER
1998 LANCE SIJAN AWARD WINNER

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during Armed Forces Week to recognize a truly outstanding member of my district, Mr. Robert W. Braeger, whose dedication in both his military and civilian careers has led to his being named this year's recipient of the Lance Sijan Award from the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

Enlisting in the US Army Air Corps in 1942, Mr. Braeger flew 29 missions over France and Germany including 2 anti-personnel missions over Normandy on D-Day. The remarkable contributions of his military career were noted by several prestigious awards. These include the Air Medal with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters, European theater ribbon with 2 major battle stars, a Presidential Citation awarded to the 34th Bomb Group for an outstanding raid over Hanover, Germany, and the Normandy Freedom medal.

Mr. Braeger's distinction in service continues to be recognized after the war by such awards as the Department of the Army, Commander's Award for Public Service as well as a Citation for Public Service from the Veterans of Foreign Wars 1994.

Currently Civilian Chairman of the Milwaukee Armed Services, Bob's leadership transcends his military career and carries into his community involvement. In addition to his integral involvement in Milwaukee Boys & Girls Club and the Boys & Girls Club of America, Mr. Braeger has been a trustee for both the Milwaukee Lutheran Hospital and the War Memorial Corporation Board.

Bob's professional career exhibits remarkable examples of dedication and leadership. As chairman of the Braeger Company of Wisconsin, he has received such prestigious awards as the Time Magazine Quality Dealer Award as well as the Wisconsin Dealer of the Year in 1993.

A heartfelt congratulations to Robert Braeger as the 1998 recipient of the Lance Sijan Award, presented to him on May 14, 1998.

IN SUPPORT OF NIH

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, last night Members from both sides of the aisle stood together in their commitment to doubling our nation's investment in biomedical research at the National Institutes of Health. I wasn't able to

join them last night but want to add my voice to theirs in support increasing support for the NIH.

Disease is not a Democratic or a Republican issue. It is a human issue. Bad health can strike any one—man or woman, old or young, rich or poor, of any religion or race or background.

We know that scientists are on the cusp of extraordinary breakthroughs to treat and cure deadly diseases like cancer which kill hundreds of thousands of people a year—a very real plague on our society. With just a little more time and research funding, we can make huge strides into treating—and preventing—debilitating conditions like diabetes, asthma and Parkinson's. With enough scientific research, we can make Alzheimer's disease a plague of the past and improve the quality of life for millions of senior citizens and the families who love and care for them.

But all of this promising, life-saving research costs money. We can't just sit back and hope that treatments and cures fall into our hands. They won't. If we want to cure, and prevent, deadly diseases, we need to make a long-term investment into biomedical research.

That begs an important question: where will the money come from to cure cancer, to solve the mysteries of Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease, to end diabetes?

And increasing our knowledge of basic science does us no good if we don't put it to use in hospitals, in doctor's offices—and in programs to prevent disease in the first place. Right now we spend only one percent of a trillion dollar health care budget on prevention. But again—prevention programs do us no good if people do not have access to health care. And today, 44 million Americans, many of them working full time, still can not afford access to quality health care.

I strongly believe that we should use funds from tobacco legislation to pay for health research.

For years, the tobacco industry lied to the American people—and people around the world—about the addictiveness and health consequences of smoking. Tobacco companies paid for biased research that concluded smoking doesn't cause cancer. Tobacco executives pressured scientists to suppress important new findings about the negative health consequences of smoking—and even worse, buried research showing how to avoid those health problems.

In 1993 alone, Americans spent more than \$50 billion to treat health problems associated with smoking. It is only right that a portion of the funds from any tobacco settlement goes to improve health care and cure the diseases that cigarettes caused.

The Smoke-Free and Healthy Children Act, which I introduced in the House and which Senator KENNEDY introduced in the other body, is the only piece of legislation right now which increases funding for the NIH and provides a source of revenue for those funds. By raising the price of cigarettes by \$1.50 a pack, we will not only put smoking further out of the reach of children—which is our overriding goal with any piece of tobacco legislation—but we will raise \$10 billion a year for NIH research.

At a time when we are operating under enormous budget constraints, and working to

continue our investment in health research without busting the budget agreement, the Smoke-Free and Healthy Children Act presents us with the perfect solution. Raise money for health care while reducing teen smoking. It makes perfect sense.

I thank my colleagues again for organizing this special order to give us the opportunity to speak about the importance of doubling our investment in finding treatments and cures for disease. I urge my colleagues to support increased funding for the National Institutes of Health by supporting the Smoke-Free and Healthy Children Act.

TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF CLAYTON
HUNTER HUEY

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute in memory of Clayton Hunter Huey. Clayton was born on December 27, 1989 to Lisa and Chuck Huey. According to Lisa, Clayton was a "bouncy, very active baby boy with beautiful brown eyes and a heart of gold." Early on in Clayton's life, his parents noticed that he acted differently than did his two brothers. At about three years of age, Clayton was diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and at the age of four, was put on antidepressant medication. However, over the next two years of changing medications, treatments and numerous therapy sessions, Lisa came to understand that Clayton was Manic/Depressive.

Despite Clayton's personal challenges, he was a very cheerful and loving child who worked very hard to express himself positively during his down-swings. Even when Clayton was at his very lowest, he was always more concerned about how it affected others in his life than how it affected him personally. Clayton often said to his mother, "Mom, it's my job to keep everyone happy." In recognition of his selfless struggle with his mental challenges, on May 2, 1996, Clayton was chosen by the Missouri Statewide Parent Advisory Network (MO-SPAN) and the Missouri Department of Mental Health as "Missouri Child of the Year." Exactly one year later to the day, Clayton's life came to an end. As eloquently stated by Clayton's mother, "he lived out his reign as Child of the Year and then, as if to say my job is done, he walked out of our lives."

As Clayton's mother shared his life story, it became clear that Clayton was a wonderful and very brave young boy who was certainly wise beyond his years. She shared Clayton's story with the hope that it would help erase the stigma our society often associates with mental illness.

I am now sharing Clayton's story for the record with the hope of furthering the Huey family's efforts to honor Clayton's memory. By doing so, I hope we can accomplish three things. First, to let other families know that they are not alone in their daily struggle to care for mentally challenged children. Second, to make it known that there are family support groups such as MO-SPAN, which offer tre-

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mendous support services. And finally, to provide some comfort and understanding to others during this difficult time.

This Saturday, May 2, 1998, the Huey's and MO-SPAN will be sponsoring a benefit walkathon in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, in memory of Clayton. All funds raised in this walkathon will go to the Clayton Hunter Huey Memorial Fund. The fund will provide scholarships for parents of Seriously Emotionally Disturbed (SED) children so that they can obtain training on how to handle the stress related to caring for SED children and on how to advocate on behalf of their SED children.

Mr. Speaker, Clayton is very fortunate to have had such a caring and attentive family, and I want to commend the Huey's—parents Lisa and Chuck, and brothers Trae and Burton—for having the strength and courage to reach out to other families. On this day, my thoughts are with Clayton and his family, as well as with all the other families in Missouri and across the nation who are and have been faced with similar circumstances.

TRIBUTE TO BAND DIRECTOR
EDWARD FULTON

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Edward Fulton, a dedicated teacher in O'Fallon, Illinois in my Congressional district.

Mr. Fulton serves as the band director and music instructor at Marie Schaefer Junior High School. He and his wife, Karen, live in O'Fallon, where they raised their daughters. For twenty-seven years Mr. Fulton has been a dedicated teacher, helping hundreds of students appreciate music, learn their scales, and have confidence in themselves.

Over the past two decades, Mr. Fulton has earned many honors. At the beginning of his teaching career, his skill with children was already apparent which is why the O'Fallon Jaycees named him "Outstanding Young Educator." Over the years, he has been named as an outstanding community leader, and an outstanding educator in his county and the southern portion of Illinois. He served as an officer on the Board of Directors for the Illinois Music Educators Association and has served as a conductor and judge for numerous band and music festivals. It is apparent that Mr. Fulton is active in his community.

What is most obvious about Mr. Fulton is his love of teaching and his commitment to his students. As O'Fallon prepares to name a junior high school after Mr. Fulton, I want to join the community in thanking Mr. Fulton for his dedication and for sharing his gifts with the many children who filled his classroom.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Edward Fulton for the example he has set for us all.

April 29, 1998

TRIBUTE TO HON. JUSTICE ALICE
ROBIE RESNICK

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very special constituent and friend of mine, Ohio Supreme Court Justice Alice Robie Resnick, on the occasion of the Ohio Women's Bar Association's creation of its highest award for professional excellence in her name. It gives me great pleasure to wish Justice Resnick my warmest congratulations on this truly special occasion.

Alice Robie Resnick was the fourth woman to be elected to statewide office in Ohio when elected to the Supreme Court of Ohio in 1988. She has been extremely dedicated to improving the legal profession, the judiciary and assisting the status of women in Ohio during her thirty year career as a lawyer and judge.

In December, 1991, Justice Resnick, along with U.S. Magistrate Judge Patricia Hemann and Cleveland attorney Pamela Hultin, initiated the formation of the Ohio Women's Bar Association. The Ohio Women's Bar Association is the only statewide bar association with in Ohio solely dedicated toward advancing the interests of women attorneys while encouraging the networking and creation of a statewide mentor program for women attorneys.

In recognition for Justice Resnick's education, professional endeavors and commitment as a leader in the legal field in Ohio, and award in her name. This award will be bestowed upon a deserving attorney for each year to follow.

On May 8, 1998, Ohio Women's Bar Association President Kirsti S. Talikka will be presenting Justice Resnick with the Ohio Women's Bar Association's Justice Alice Robie Resnick Award of Distinction, at its annual meeting in Dayton, Ohio.

It gives me great pleasure to rise today, Mr. Speaker, and join the OWBA in congratulating Justice Resnick and wishing her continued success.

NLRB THRESHOLD LEGISLATION;
THE MOST IMPORTANT LEGISLATIVE
INITIATIVE IN I.E.C.'S 40-
YEAR HISTORY

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, last week, a delegation of the Independent Electrical Contractors visited my congressional office in Washington. They presented several issues they are tracking in Congress. IEC is a national trade association representing more than 3,100 independent electrical contracting companies in 74 chapters across the nation. IEC members are engaged in the installation and maintenance of electrical wiring and devices for homes, schools, stores, highways, industrial plants and other projects.

The delegation of IEC members I met with were all from Colorado and represent the best electrical workers the industry has to offer.

Mr. Speaker, the Colorado IEC delegation presented me with an executive summary of the association's position and concern regarding the National Labor Relations Board Threshold Legislation, which I hereby submit for the RECORD.

NLRB THRESHOLD LEGISLATION: THE MOST IMPORTANT LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE IN I.E.C.'S 40 YEAR HISTORY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 1959, the National Labor Relations Act set the jurisdiction of the NLRB over small businesses by the amount of interstate commerce in one year. Interstate commerce is defined as "trade between states". When a business receives revenue from out of state or purchases materials which originate from out of state, that business affects this trade. For example, the small electrical contractor affects this trade by the materials purchased from a local supply house. Almost all of the materials purchased can be shown to have originated from out of state.

During Mr. Borman's research, he discovered that the monetary value used to reflect a businesses affect on interstate commerce and used to establish NLRB jurisdiction has not changed in over 38 years! The value set in 1959 (\$50,000) is still the same in 1998. One of the causes of the threshold remaining at its original level is the creation of a "bracket creep". This "bracket creep" has allowed the NLRB to take new cases involving smaller and smaller businesses each year. In turn, the NLRB uses the "bracket creep" to justify to Congress the need for additional funding. In 1959, the NLRB had jurisdiction over small businesses with 15 or more employees. Now it has jurisdiction over businesses with only one employee. Almost 40% of the NLRB caseload involves businesses with 15 employees or less. The idea behind the legislation is to simply raise the threshold to \$300,000. This would have an immediate impact on the current jurisdiction of the NLRB and reduce their caseload significantly, thus ending the current "bracket creep" on small businesses, and effectively ending the NLRB's justification for additional manpower and funding each fiscal year.

Mr. Borman and IEC National have worked with Rep. Istook (R-OK) and Rep. Hostettler (R-IN) on this issue. Rep. Hostettler introduced A. 64 during the appropriations debate and it was defeated by the House in a close vote (235-176). This past January, the IEC Legislative Committee voted unanimously to put 100% of IEC's government relations resources behind this proposal. IEC is currently working to pursue a Chief Sponsor for the proposal and have it introduced as a single piece of legislation during the 2nd Session of the 105th Congress.

If you have any questions regarding IEC's proposal, please call Anthony Bedell, Director of Government & Public Relations at the IEC National Headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, I fully commend this issue for Members' consideration and express my deepest appreciation to IEC for their vigilance and dedication to free markets and professional service.

HONORING JOSEPH DUNNWALD

HON. JIM NUSSLE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to submit the essay written by high school senior Joseph Dunnwald which won third place honors in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Script Writing Contest. Joseph is from Waverly, Iowa. Joseph received a \$10,000 scholarship in the contest which more than 93,000 secondary school students entered. The theme for this essay contest was "My Voice in Our Democracy." Joseph was sponsored by the VFW Post 1623 and its Ladies Auxiliary in Waterloo, Iowa.

I am pleased to see young Iowans taking an interest in their government. I also want to thank the VFW for sponsoring this contest to make this opportunity possible for people such as Joseph.

1997-98 VFW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION, "MY VOICE IN OUR DEMOCRACY"

(By Joseph Dunnwald, Iowa Winner)

"Well, it sounds crazy," my uncle told me. "I guess maybe there was only one thing I thought of when I got wounded. I didn't know whether I was gonna die or not, but I thought I might, but all I could think of? I finally get to sleep between clean sheets, and get warm, and stay warm." The 60 acre farm had been his whole world. He was a boy that hadn't been so far from home that he couldn't see the smoke from his chimney. The postcard he received read, "your friends and neighbors have selected you for one year of military service." Before he would come home again, four and a half years later, he would see five invasions, two in Africa, Italy, Sicily, Southern France and the Battle of the Bulge. He doesn't regret one minute of his sacrifice, and he still tears up when he hears the National Anthem.

Newly wed, the early 50's held more promise for my grandparents than at any other time before them. The young couple however, would have to wait to begin their new life together, as his country called my grandfather to serve in the embattled country of Korea. No one could know what would lie ahead for the handsome soldier, but to this day, he doesn't watch war movies, he'll never sleep in another tent and he never never talks about his bronze star.

The whole generation before him cursed the war, and chanted to make love instead, but my father saw an opportunity to get out of the home town factory, and maybe a better life with a college education. He speaks with pride about helping with the evacuation of Lebanon, and his memories of bringing in the astronauts from Skylab always puts a gleam in his eye and a yearning to go the stars someday. As I look at the photo albums and touch his ribbons, I ask "why don't you put this one with your others Dad?" "That's the Viet Nam service ribbon. I never had to fight. They gave it to me because I enlisted during the war, but I don't deserve it. That honor goes to those who were there and fought."

My father, my grandfather and my great uncle. Not a day goes by that I don't wear my pride for them like the medals they earned making a better life for me. This is my heritage, but how do I repay them? How

can I use my voice in our government to make things better for them and for others?

I look at the sacrifices they've made, and realize that what they did for my country, I will probably never be asked to do. I appreciate what these brave men and women have done, and contemplate how to give them something back, to keep their efforts alive. True, they have their freedom, something that many of us take for granted, but is that enough? My voice could help others realize how precious their gift of freedom truly is.

Just one voice can turn into many, giving us all the chance to be involved in our community, to work for improvements, to share opinions that will bring the changes that will make our country a better place. To carry the message of the opportunity we all have, to do and to be whatever we want to be. So that, people of all races and creeds can work in peace, side by side for one vision.

One voice, my voice, can echo their passion for the freedom to make our own choices. To decide who is going to lead us, by exercising our right to vote. I am not yet old enough to vote, but I just cannot understand how people can pass up the opportunity to control their own lives? The very thing that these men and women fought for. Our right to vote guarantees the same rights to every citizen. The right to work, the right to get an education, the right to religious freedom, and the right to be an American. We must be informed on the issues, to find out the true intents of all of our leaders, and pick them, not solely on the basis of political party, or on how much they promise to give us, but on their person as a whole. We must find that true person. I know that I will try my hardest not to abuse this freedom, and to be wise in my choice of leaders.

I also know that in twenty years, when I have my own home, and am well educated, married, with a good job, and am happy. I'll roll out of bed after sleeping late on a Saturday morning, I'll pour myself a cup of coffee, and step onto the front porch to absorb the beauty of the day, I will think back to the brave people that made all of this possible. My heritage, my country, my democracy.

IN HONOR OF THE SPECIALIZED TREATMENT PROGRAM FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS AND THEIR FAMILIES

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Specialized Treatment Program for Holocaust Survivors and Their Families, begun by Dr. Rachel Yehuda, which celebrated its fifth anniversary on April 27, 1998, in connection with Yom Hoshoh, Holocaust Memorial Day.

Established in 1993, the Specialized Treatment Program for Holocaust Survivors is the leading program of its kind in the world. The program was created to study and treat Holocaust survivors suffering from Posttraumatic Stress Disorder. It is the only treatment program which offers comprehensive psychotherapeutic services to survivors and their families.

Dr. Yehuda's work has illuminated the field of traumatic stress research. She has found,

for example, that there is a demonstrated neurobiologic difference between trauma survivors and individuals exhibiting other kinds of stress. She has shown that these variations are found in Holocaust survivors, rape victims, and combat veterans, among others.

In addition to these findings, Dr. Yehuda's work has enabled her to recommend improvements in current methods of treating traumatized individuals. Not only have her findings provided a "biological blueprint" for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, they explain why more traditional psychiatric treatments for trauma survivors have failed.

One especially noteworthy aspect of her work has been the potential genetic links. Adult children of Holocaust survivors demonstrate similar biological alterations to those of their parents, and also exhibit symptoms of Posttraumatic Stress.

Dr. Yehuda's efforts have played an important role in helping Holocaust survivors receive long overdue reparations from the German Government. Germany has often denied survivors reparations claiming the survivor has not been able to demonstrate to the government's satisfaction that a particular illness or medical condition is a direct result of Nazi atrocities in ghettos and concentration camps. Biological proof of suffering in Holocaust survivors determined by Dr. Yehuda has prompted the German Government to pay reparations in several cases.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to Dr. Rachel Yehuda and the Specialized Treatment Program for Holocaust Survivors, a program whose research is pivotal in the treatment of traumatized individuals. I am proud that such an effort is taking place in my district.

TRIBUTE TO OPERATION GANG RESCUE

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the law enforcement officials and central California valley youth who have contributed to the 3rd annual community service "Operation Gang Rescue." Fresno, Madera, Merced, and Los Banos communities, local officials, and the Central Valley Dermatology and Laser Medical Center have joined together in support of the community Gang Intervention program and gang related tattoo removal for Valley youth. I applaud their efforts and dedication.

"Operation Gang Rescue" is a community service program in cooperation with "Gang Intervention Units" of the police departments of local communities from Fresno, Madera, and Merced Counties. Men and women in the law enforcement organizations serve as mentors, providing direction and encouragement to the youth involved in the program. The participation of the law enforcement organizations, which includes the Fresno County Probation Department, Madera Probation Department, Merced Police Department, and Los Banos Police Department, is commendable.

The objective of the program is to establish a long term community service program where the Central Valley Dermatology and Laser Medical Center contributes its time, facility, and laser equipment to provide treatment sessions and removal of "gang related tattoos" free of charge. The participation of Dr. Syed Pervaiz and the Central Valley Dermatology and Laser Center has been instrumental to the program for the past three years. Dr. Pervaiz is credited with being a community leader and exemplary citizen. He and his staff are a credit to the community.

The youngsters that participate in this program are selected by the Fresno County Probation Department, Madera Probation Department, Merced Police Department South Station, and Los Banos Police Department. They are all deserving of this recognition.

For all of their hard work and dedication I would like to recognize Probation Officers Phillip Fuentes, Kristine Kelly, and Gerald Sandoval from the Fresno County Probation Department, Juvenile Division. I would also like to recognize youths Dawn Dervisian, Joe Madrid, and Jonathan Franco who were selected for the program by the Fresno County Probation Department.

I would like to congratulate Naomi Saldivar-Wyatt and Daniel Nunez from the Madera Probation Department. Additionally, I recognize Obed Reyes, Timothy Edwards, Angel Ortega, and Michael Ramon for actively participating in this program under the guidance of the Madera Probation Department officers.

I would like to recognize Commander Wally Broughton, D.A. Penn, and Richard Morgan from the Merced Police Department South Station. Under their guidance, Erick Smith, Mimi Mojica, Khou Moua, Daniel Aguilar, John Stephens, and John Vang all actively participated.

From the Los Banos Police Department, Chief Mike Hughes and Wayne Small oversaw youths Ernie Alvarez and Celina Basch. These devoted individuals have made concerted effort to make a difference in the San Joaquin Valley.

It is through the community efforts displayed by these individuals that we can reach a higher level of tranquillity in our respective communities. The program is a multi-agency effort to give "at risk" youth a chance to lead productive lives. Additionally, the program offers young people the opportunity to rid themselves of gang tattoos free of charge.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to the law enforcement officials and central California valley youth who have contributed to the 3rd annual community service "Operation Gang Rescue." I commend Dr. Pervaiz and his staff for facilitating the services and procedures to give these young citizens an opportunity for a brighter future. The efforts of the law enforcement officers of Fresno, Madera, Merced, and Los Banos bring unmeasurable rewards for the youths participating in the "Operation Gang Rescue" program. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing "Operation Gang Rescue" many more years of success.

HONORING MIKE NYE

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join the citizens of Hillsdale and Branch Counties to pay special tribute to our representative in the Michigan legislature.

So many people talk about the kind of leader they want to represent them in government and Mike Nye fits that definition by every measure.

This week, my friends in Hillsdale County will honor Mike Nye for his sixteen years of dedicated leadership in Lansing. They know, as I do, that few people have accomplished more in that time for the people of Michigan.

Mike Nye's retirement from the state legislature is a great loss. As a member of the House, he fought for commonsense legal reform and worked to provide better health care to poor children and was the innovator of reforms that have resulted in a better education system for Michigan. Mike Nye's improvements in court reform, school reform, tort reform, and juvenile justice reform will be a continuing legacy of his knowledge, ability and leadership in the Michigan legislature.

In an era of overheated rhetoric and blatant partisanship, Mike Nye stands out as a conciliator—a legislator who brought people together. Mike Nye was often the man people turned to when they needed a leader to finalize and pass legislation.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I here in Washington can learn a lot from the service of Mike Nye. His contributions to public policy are equaled by his and his wife, Marcie's, dedication to their community. Marcie's leadership in working in the prison system with her Kids Need Moms program is a great example of their commitment to help people.

I know Mike's future contributions will be just as worthwhile to all of us, regardless of what path he may take. God bless you, Mike, and good luck.

THE PAOLI BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION ACT OF 1998

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the Seventh District of Pennsylvania which I represent is exceptionally rich in historical sites which serve to remind us of our colonial and early-American heritage. As we commit resources to allow our school children to revisit history via virtual reality, I feel it's important that we preserve the true reality of significant historical sites such as the Paoli Battlefield in Malvern, Pennsylvania.

This land was the site of the "Paoli Massacre" in which British troops led by Major General Grey attacked the American Army of Pennsylvania Regiments on the wooded hillside and two fields between what is now Sugartown Road and Warren Avenue. The ensuing battle resulted in at least 52 American

deaths and 7 British fatalities. The British night-time bayonet charge was aided by the fact that Americans were silhouetted against the light of their campfires. Some American troops panicked and fled and general disorder spread throughout the American line. British dragoons, arriving on the field, shattered the American column and pursued retreating Americans as far as Sugartown Road. Only the more disciplined American soldiers escaped the original onslaught unscathed, but a following British assault, conducted by the Royal Highland Regiment, completed the rout.

The Paoli Massacre was part of the military conflict between British and American forces during the Revolutionary War's Philadelphia Campaign, a chapter of the war that witnessed the occupation of Philadelphia and the famed American encampment at Valley Forge in the winter of 1777-78. The first two American attempts to stop the British invasion that Fall were the Battle of Brandywine, September 11, 1777, and the unsuccessful Battle of the Clouds, September 16, 1777. The Paoli Massacre was part of the third effort to contain British General Sir William Howe's advance on Philadelphia.

The Paoli Battlefield Site and Parade Grounds, containing 62 acres, is situated in the Borough of Malvern, Chester County and consists of two adjoining parcels. In 1777, these parcels represented the northern portions of two farms and were the location of the heaviest action of the battle. The eastern parcel, identified as the Battlefield Site, is approximately 40 acres and consists of a forested ravine and slope rising to a plateau containing a plowed field and surrounding woods. The western parcel is the 22 acre Parade Grounds, established in 1822, where the local militia drilled and the community used as a commemorative property focusing on honoring all veterans. Monuments honoring World War I and II veterans can be found there, as well as the mass graves of the slain soldiers of the American Revolution, where a fieldstone wall surrounds a mound and obelisk monument. The tremendous historical value of this land is without question and should be preserved for future generations to appreciate.

The Battlefield Site is presently owned by the Malvern Preparatory School. The School's Board of Trustees recently voted to sell the Battlefield for \$2.5 million but have resisted placing the land on the open real estate market to provide the local community the opportunity to raise the funds necessary to purchase the land. To date, the Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund has raised in excess of \$1 million. The purpose of the Paoli Battlefield Preservation Act of 1998 is to authorize the addition of the Paoli Battlefield site to the Valley Forge National Historical Park and to authorize the appropriation necessary to complement local funds raised to ensure the purchase of the site for preservation purposes.

Having recently been listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the National Park Service recognized the Paoli Battlefield citing its importance "in the area of American military history as a Revolutionary War battle and for honoring the commemorative efforts of the local community to preserve this important site." Patrick McGuigan, retired Command Sergeant Major of the U.S. Army and Presi-

dent of the Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund, has put succinctly describes the importance of this bill: "This community of 2,944 people possesses a part of American history in our own backyard, a memorial to the highest price Americans have paid—laying down their lives for our freedoms. We are trying to purchase the site for all Americans, and the Chester County Historical Society wants to hook this up with their education program involving local battlefields. Individually, saving this site is a good thing, but collectively, in conjunction with American history, it's a great thing."

The Battle was a true massacre, henceforth inspiring American Revolutionary troops to cry "Remember Paoli!" This legislation merely seeks to facilitate local efforts to preserve this invaluable land—the site of a massacre that henceforth inspired American Revolutionary troops, and now us today, to cry, "Remember Paoli!"

BLOOMFIELD CITIZENS COUNCIL AWARDS

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a number of Pittsburgh residents who will be honored on May 1 with Bloomfield Citizens Council Awards. Every year, the Bloomfield Citizens Council makes these awards as a way of recognizing members of the community who have made a significant contribution to the quality of life in Bloomfield. I would like to take this opportunity to mention the 1998 award winners and commend them for their efforts to make Bloomfield a better place to live.

For their work with Operation Charlie, which ministers to the needs of needy children and senior citizens, Donna and Dennis Ramallo have been selected as the 1998 recipients of the Mary Cercone Outstanding Citizen Award. This award is given to individuals who demonstrate "an unselfish commitment to others and a deep love for the community of Bloomfield. Through Operation Charlie, the Ramallos have provided gifts of clothing, toys, personal items, and school supplies to needy local residents. They have also made contributions to local food pantries, and they have college scholarships to deserving high school students.

A Community Commitment Award will go to Rose Larus, who has volunteered her time and energy in the community for more than 13 years. Over that period of time, she has organized events to educate and screen residents for a host of health-related problems, established the non-profit organization Senior Friends, helped with the annual Senior Festival, co-chaired the Immaculate Conception/St. Joseph blood drives, raised money for Meals on Wheels and local food banks, worked with the Catholic Youth Organization, and volunteered for many worthy causes. She volunteers an average of 100 hours per month.

A Public Safety Award will be bestowed upon Officer Mildred Johnson, who has

worked for a number of years out of Zone Five Station to prevent crime and keep young people from using drugs.

The Bloomfield Citizens Council is presenting a number of Youth Dedication Awards this year. One recipient of the Youth Dedication Award this year will be Dan Brannigan, who has been actively involved with the Bloomfield Catholic basketball team, composed of high-school-age boys, for the last four years. Another Youth Dedication Award will go to Lundo DiMarco, who was actively involved in putting together the Tri-Ward Baseball League, which consists of more than 200 boys from the ages of 5 to 17. Lawrence Camerota will also receive a Youth Dedication Award for his many efforts to teach young people the joys of athletic competition. Mr. Camerota coached Little League Baseball with the Bloomfield Youth Athletic Association for more than 30 years. He coached the Immaculate Conception football team for a number of years, and he recently helped to organize the Tri-Ward Baseball League. Dominic Piccola will get a Youth Dedication Award for coaching young people in Little League, the Tri-Ward Baseball League, and the Bloomfield Street Hockey League. Marlene Hennigan and Barbara Zielmanski—also known as "the Thompson Sisters"—will share a Youth Dedication Award for their more than 20 years of work with the Bloomfield Girls Athletic Association. Finally, Vinessa Gentile Turpin will receive a Youth Dedication Award for more than 25 years of teaching at Immaculate Conception School and Peabody High School, as well as her many after-school volunteer activities, which included the National Junior Honor Society, school yearbooks and newspapers, science fairs, spelling bees, debate leagues, Upward Bound, as well as stints as tennis coach, soccer coach, and basketball coach.

The Bloomfield Citizens Council will also present a host of awards for Christmas decorations again this year. Nancy Goldberg will receive the Most Festive Award for her Christmas light display in memory of her husband Sam Goldberg. John and Nancy Greegus will receive the Most Artistic Design Award for the decorations adorning their home. Mike and Ortenza Magliocco will receive the Best Use of Frontage Award. John and Norma Feigel will receive the Keeping Christ in Christmas Award for their decorations with a religious theme. Nick and Dolores DiGiacomo will receive the Most Outstanding and Completely Decorated Home Award this year, their third award in as many. And finally, Phyllis Kutosky and Lucille Tortorea—a mother-and-daughter team—will receive the Most Elaborate Property Decoration Award for decorating the property they share.

The individuals receiving 1998 Bloomfield Citizens Council awards have all helped to improve the quality of life in Bloomfield. I commend them for their efforts.

HONORING THE KIT CARSON
WOODWIND ENSEMBLE

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Kit Carson Woodwind Ensemble from Kit Carson School for representing the state of Colorado at the National Festival of the States in Washington, D.C.

The National Music Festival honors all American music, focusing on patriotic music as our country continues to salute an era of veterans and civilians who served their country, paying the highest price for Liberty.

The Kit Carson Woodwind Ensemble consists of twenty students, ranging from elementary to high school. These students are from a small town, with a population of 300, in the middle of Colorado's most productive farming and ranching community.

Kit Carson is a town of achievers and civic-minded people who realize that nothing comes free. This special community raised more than \$25,000 in two months to send every child in the Wind Ensemble to Washington, D.C. The students and parents recycled aluminum, held spaghetti feeds and washed cars until their hands were raw. I am very proud of these young citizens and their parents for their hard work and dedication to making this trip possible.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming band members Sarah Wolff, Michelle Wolff, Bethany Schallenberger, Adrienne Steiner, Latisha Robinson, Jennifer Johnson, Helyna Bledsoe, Jessica Kent, Andrea Johnson, Melissa Kliensen, Cheryl Steiner, Matthew Maxcy, Samuel Maxcy, Aaron Perdue, Scott Oswald, Joshua Schnable, David Thatcher, Kent Lewis, Nathan Maxcy and band instructors Brian Edgar and Dan Parmentier to Washington.

TRIBUTE TO BOB LENT

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I take great pride in rising to recognize Bob Lent, UAW Region 1 Director, who will be retiring at the end of June. On May 5, 1998, Bob Lent will celebrate his retirement with his friends and colleagues at Penna's in Sterling Heights.

Through the years, Bob Lent has been a fighter. His tireless efforts have improved the lives of the working families throughout Southeastern Michigan. Bob is a man who has dedicated his life to securing dignity and respect for all people. He has been a champion of civil rights and civil liberties, and has helped create a stronger, more united community.

In 1949, Bob Lent began a career with the UAW that has spanned forty-nine years. He started as a spray painter at the Dodge Main plant of Local 3 in Hamtramck, Michigan. After serving his country as an Army paratrooper

from 1951 to 1953, Bob returned to Michigan to become a millwright apprentice and a skilled tradesman at the Chrysler 9-mile Road Press Plant, Local 869.

While at UAW Local 869, Bob's strong leadership and vision were recognized and he was chosen by his colleagues to serve in a distinguished list of appointed and elected positions. He was an alternate chief steward, trustee chairman, vice president, president, education representative, and assistant director. His vast knowledge and experience made him a logical choice for director.

Bob was first elected to the UAW Executive Board as a regional director at the UAW's 27th Constitutional Convention in May, 1983, at Dallas, Texas. After his re-election to a third term, Bob was elected director of UAW Region 1 which covers Detroit's east side, Pontiac, Macomb and St. Clair Counties and part of the thumb area of Southeastern Michigan, and Canada.

Bob is not only an active union leader, but a community leader as well. He served on the Labor Advisory Committee at both Oakland and Wayne State University. He has been a Democratic precinct delegate. He is a lifetime member of the NAACP. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the United Way of Pontiac-Oakland County and Detroit Area United Foundation.

Few people have given to their community with the vision and commitment that Bob Lent has given to his. He is a person who has inspired the admiration of many. I am honored to call him a friend. I would like to congratulate Bob on his very distinguished career and I wish him and his family all of the best.

MY VOICE IN OUR DEMOCRACY

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, each year the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and its Ladies Auxiliary conduct the Voice of Democracy contest. This year more than 93,000 secondary school students participated in the contest competing for the 56 national scholarships which were distributed among the 54 national winners. The contest theme this year was "My Voice in our Democracy."

Hillary Anne Underwood is this year's Latin America/Caribbean winner. She is the recipient of a \$1,000 Roy Chandler VFW Post 762 and its Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Award.

I want to congratulate Hillary on her accomplishments and her scholarship award. I would also like to share Hillary's award winning script with my colleagues.

1997-98 VFW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION, "MY VOICE IN OUR DEMOCRACY"

(Hillary Anne Underwood, Latin America/Caribbean Winner)

Welcome! I'd like to thank each of you for attending choir tryouts. "Democracy" is the theme song for today.

Let's begin rehearsal by reciting the first of three verses.

FREEDOM. Isn't it amazing how just one word can hold so much? We live in a democ-

racy, and HERE people are free to say what they please, ask what they may, and be whomever they want to be.

Our forefathers fought endlessly for freedom through the American Revolution and the Civil War. Through these two very significant wars, the government of the United States separated itself from the threshold of the church, developed the sovereignty of the people that still lives today, wrote the constitution, and have offered insights that have aided other countries in their quests for democracy.

Today, my voice for democracy can be heard through my greatest freedom . . . the right to vote.

Freedom is the core of democracy. Without the freedom of speech . . . press . . . and religion . . . Our society would sound like this: ----- Perfectly silent. No opinions, No thoughts, No voices, . . . ALL of our voices would be mute.

My Voice, Your Voice

We are the voices of freedom,

We are the Chorus of Democracy.

Excuse me, before we continue, you two, in the back, . . . tyranny and prejudice . . . I am going to have to ask you BOTH to leave. There is absolutely no room for you in a democracy.

Now, Let us continue with the second verse . . . EQUALITY.

In our Declaration of Independence and in Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, "All men are created equal."

Some people are still struggling in their never ending fight for equality; where women are regarded as inferior. They are not acknowledged as equal human beings.

If you listen carefully, you can hear the desperate cries for help from the heart-broken little girls in orphanages, abandoned by their families.

Can you imagine living in a society like that . . . Where you are practically non-existent because of your gender or race? I consider myself fortunate, we've never had to experience a situation of this kind . . . Because we . . . live in a democracy. There is only ONE single race . . . HUMANITY.

My Voice, Your Voice

We are the voices of Equality,

We are the Chorus of Democracy.

Congratulations, you are all doing a wonderful job, and are all strong candidates for the choir. Now, let us continue with the final verse . . . JUSTICE. This . . . is the foundation of a government.

Thomas Jefferson stated: "Democracy is the only form of government which is not externally at open or secret war with the rights of mankind."

This is Justice. This is what people risk their lives everyday in search of . . . democracy, where "No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law"; where we are "innocent until proven guilty"; where we are guaranteed "the right to a fair trial."

Imagine yourself, your children, your family, being used as an object. A human shield used to protect weapons, people, and their power. You are a pawn with no individual liberties, where a single person has taken your fate into their own hands. This is not justice.

My Voice, Your Voice

We are the voices of Justice,

We are the Chorus of Democracy.

Democracy is defined as a government in which the supreme power rests in its people. But in defining the word democracy, we are encompassing an endless wilderness of ideas

within a tiny barrier of words. The Freedom, Equality, and Justice in a democracy are enjoyed by all of us today.

This concludes our tryouts. All candidates have had an equal opportunity to become part of a democratic choir. The finalists have been chosen, and they are . . . ALL of us. Each of us is important to the choir, just as every citizen plays an important role in America.

We must always remember that Our America is unified and free. So raise your voices! Sing out America! Let our voices be heard! Let our song echo throughout generations, as we harmonize in the words of Gerald Lee

"America is a single tune, and it must be sung together."

WELFARE REFORM JUST ENDS
WELFARE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today's Washington Post article about Arkansas Governor Huckabee's flight from a group of welfare protesters confirms my greatest fear about the 1996 welfare law—welfare reform was about cutting caseloads, not about helping ex-welfare recipients become self-sufficient. In the first 13 months after welfare reform was signed into law in August 1996, welfare caseloads dropped 19 percent nationwide. Almost 2.4 million fewer people received welfare assistance in September 1997 than in August 1996. The rate of welfare reciprocity in the United States has reached its lowest level since 1969.

What's happening to these families and children? Olivia Golden, the Health and Human Services Assistant Secretary responsible for implementing the welfare reform law, told the Ways and Means Committee last month that "one of the challenges we face is to get better information about what is happening to families who are leaving assistance." The protesters in Little Rock complained that they haven't been able to find jobs. Ms. Golden confirmed that, when she reported that research from several states suggests that 50 to 60 percent of families leaving welfare are employed at follow-up. That means 40 to 50 percent were not employed.

The Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation recently released an interim report on its multi-year evaluation of Florida's Family Transition Program, one of the first programs to include a time limit on the receipt of cash assistance. Although claiming that longer-term follow-up is needed to track how people fare in the aftermath of reaching the time limits, MDRC found that only 52 percent of the FTP group were employed two years after entering the study despite an unusually generous array of support services and financial incentives. Nonetheless, almost everyone who reached the time limit had their benefits entirely canceled.

In the almost two years since passage of the Republican welfare reform law, a period of sustained economic growth and low unemployment, we have learned two things about

the effects of the law—nearly one million families are no longer receiving welfare assistance and only about one-half of the families who have left welfare are working. Unfortunately, my dire predictions about the impact of welfare reform are being borne out—imposing time limits and ending assistance to needy families leaves them out in the cold whether or not jobs are available.

The article is as follows:

HUCKABEE FLEES FORUM AFTER WELFARE
PROTEST

LITTLE ROCK, April 28.—Angry demonstrators pounded their fists on Gov. Mike Huckabee's vehicle today after he fled a conference that they crashed.

About 250 protesters, complaining that ex-welfare recipients haven't been able to find jobs, stormed the hall where Huckabee was scheduled to talk, but the governor left the Southwest Regional Civil Rights Conference rather than speak with them.

"I'm disappointed for the people that came from other places and I would have loved to have been part of the conference, but that's life," Huckabee said.

The protesters charge that former welfare recipients haven't been able to find jobs since being dropped from the rolls. The number of welfare recipients in Arkansas has fallen from more than 21,000 last June to fewer than 14,000 last month.

The protest was organized by the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now. Huckabee left the hotel as protesters called on him to speak on the welfare issue.

Huckabee's office called the protest an insult to the civil rights workers at the conference. About 900 people from Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas attended.

A MEMORIAL TO THE HONORABLE
RALPH HEDRICK

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to pay tribute to a fine Missouri legislator, former State Representative Ralph Hedrick, who recently passed away at the age of 72.

Born in Sedalia, MO, on May 9, 1925, Ralph Hedrick spent his life contributing to the State of Missouri as a public servant and to our nation as a sailor in the Navy. Mr. Hedrick attended schools in Sedalia and Appleton City, MO, before serving in the United States Navy in World War II. During the war, he served on the U.S.S. Virginia, seeing active duty in the Pacific. For his honorable service, he was awarded the Pacific Area Campaign Medal (4 stars), the Philippine Liberation Medal (2 stars), the World War II Victory Medal, and the American Area Campaign Medal.

Ralph Hedrick began his public service career as the Southern District Judge of the Bates County Court. However, his political career started much earlier, when he passed out campaign cards for Harry S. Truman's senatorial race in 1933. Ralph was elected to the Missouri House of Representatives in 1970 and served a total of 18 years. During his tenure, he represented districts 111, 116, and 123. Ralph Hedrick enjoyed working for and

with people, and as a State Representative, he became very popular because of his respectfulness and honesty.

Mr. Speaker, I am certain that the Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to Ralph Hedrick, an outstanding Missourian.

A TRIBUTE TO THE
WESTHAMPTON BEACH HIGH
SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL
TEAM

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and emotion that I rise today in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the boys high school basketball team at my alma mater, Westhampton Beach High School, on Long Island. This past weekend, the Hurricanes came home with the school's first ever New York State high school basketball championship trophy.

Steeped in a proud athletic history, the Hurricanes of Westhampton Beach had to climb a steep mountain to attain this landmark championship. In the six years previous to winning the 1998 title, coach Rich Wrase led his team to six straight league titles, three Suffolk County championships and a trip to the state Final Four championship round. Their quest culminated last weekend when the Hurricanes rolled over defending state champion Syracuse-Westhill to win the New York State public school title, then whipped New York City powerhouse Wadleigh High School to win the state Federation Class B championship.

So much credit for Westhampton Beach's 28-0 season success lies in the contributions of its leaders on and off the court. Coach Rick Wrase's disciplined leadership kept these young men focused on winning a state title. On the court, senior point guard Dale Menendez proved himself a team leader by scoring 19 points, adding 5 rebounds and 4 steals in the win over Syracuse-Westhill to earn the Most Valuable Player honors for the Class B Tournament. Senior classmate Jermain Hollman also came up big for the Hurricanes, contributing 22 points, 8 rebounds and 4 assists to earn the Most Valuable Player award in the Federation title game.

As impressive as Menendez' and Hollman's offensive contributions are, Westhampton Beach earned its championship with impenetrable team defense. Utilizing an aggressive, trapping attack, the Hurricanes dogged opponents mercilessly, holding Syracuse-Westhill to just 36 points. Up by just two points at half-time of the Federation title game, the Hurricane defense stepped up and held previously undefeated Wadleigh to just 19 second half points.

The work ethic and close-knit feel of this high school basketball team is a true reflection of my hometown, Westhampton Beach. The entire community is filled with pride for these young men, who have worked hard and sacrificed together to reach their goal. So I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me and all my neighbors

in saluting the Westhampton Beach Hurricanes, the 1998 New York State high school basketball champions.

HONORING CHRIS LYNCH

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, during my service here in the House, I have had many advantages that have helped me in serving the people of Maryland's Third Congressional District. None has been more valuable than the services of my Legislative Director, Chris Lynch.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, I rise today in sadness but also with great pride and satisfaction to recognize Chris's outstanding work on the eve of his departure from my office. After nearly twelve years on my legislative staff, including ten as Legislative Director, Chris has decided to return to Baltimore.

He has accepted a position at the University of Maryland hospital. Fortunately, he will not serve on the medical staff there. Instead, he will work on Community Development and Community Relations, where he will no doubt continue the outstanding contributions he has made to the people of Baltimore.

Chris joined my staff before I even won election to the House. During my first campaign, in 1986, Chris served as Policy Director, researcher, driver, and all-purpose volunteer. In addition to knowledge of issues and the local community, Chris brought a great natural inquisitiveness and an unfailingly cheerful manner. His commitment to that campaign was a vote of confidence in my candidacy, and his contributions helped make the confidence seem well-placed.

After we won, Chris joined my House staff as a legislative assistant. His experience in environmental policy issues and economic development and transportation issues in the metropolitan Baltimore area made him a natural to handle my work on the Committee on Public Works and Transportation.

When I moved to the Ways and Means Committee, Chris took on the challenge of handling trade and welfare issues. He demonstrated his versatility and range of expertise by mastering the intricacies of both issues. Through the historic debates on NAFTA, GATT, fast track, and welfare reform, he provided invaluable assistance. His program knowledge, tactical savvy, and legislative creativity were tremendous assets throughout these battles.

Beyond his Ways and Means responsibilities, Chris supervises the other members of my legislative staff, and handles issues of local importance. From the reauthorization of the Chesapeake Bay clean-up legislation to the construction of local mass transit lines, Chris had had an impact that benefits all the people of central Maryland.

Now he will spend more time in Baltimore. He will, he promises, get home for dinner more often with his wife, Maggie, his daughters, Cricket and Charlotte, and his new baby, who will be born in August. He may even have

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

time for walks with his family along the greenways in Baltimore that he has worked so hard to bring to reality.

So, thank you, Chris, for your public service. It has been a great pleasure working with you, and we all wish you the best of success in your new job.

HONORING THE CONNECTICUT OLYMPIC ATHLETES

HON. BARBARA B. KENNELLY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mrs. KENNELLY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my congratulations for the achievements of five world-class athletes from Connecticut. I am impressed with the remarkable showing of Connecticut's athletes in the 1998 Olympic Games. It is an accomplishment for such a small state to be home to five such gifted competitors. These young people embody not only incredible talent, but also a strong sense of sportsmanship. Connecticut is home to Sue Merz and Gretchen Ulion of the Women's Hockey Team, Beth Calcaterra-McMahon of the Luge Team, Chip Knight, an Alpine Skier, and Stacy Blumer, a Freestyle Skier. All five of these athletes are incredibly gifted and should be recognized and applauded.

The efforts of Olympic and Paralympic teams is awe-inspiring. The athletes symbolize the motto of the Olympic games: "swifter, higher, stronger." They are the strongest and the fastest. They are the best in the world. Olympians are leaders and role-models who play for the love of their sport. All athletes who have the opportunity to participate in the Olympics has proved themselves both dedicated and successful. These athletes should be commended for their commitment to enhance and develop their abilities. Their training is rigorous and the choice to pursue an Olympic medal is praiseworthy.

I would like to thank these athletes for proving themselves such honorable ambassadors of the United States. Their sportsmanship and dedication is unyielding. I am proud to stand and congratulate not only the five athletes from Connecticut but every member of both the 1998 USA Olympic and Paralympic teams.

23D ANNUAL CAPITAL PRIDE FESTIVAL MAY 30-JUNE 7, 1998

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to 23d Annual Capital Pride Festival, a celebration of and for the National Capital Area's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transsexual communities and their friends.

Since its 1975 inception, the Capital Pride Festival has grown from a small block party into a nine-day series of events which culminate in a parade and a Pennsylvania Avenue street fair on June 7th. Last year, nearly

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200 contingents marched in the parade. Hundreds of exhibitors participated in the street fair. More than 120,000 people attended this celebration.

This year its organizers and sponsors, the Whitman-Walker Clinic and One-In-Ten have selected "Diversity+Unity=Strength" for the Festival's theme.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in saluting the 23d Annual Capital Pride Festival, its organizers, and the volunteers who make it possible.

EARTH DAY

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, April 29, 1998 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

EARTH DAY 1998: THE STATE OF OUR ENVIRONMENT

Twenty eight years ago, on the very first Earth Day, I stood on the lawn of the Indiana University commons and talked with students about a wide variety of environmental issues, from pulling tires out of rivers to marching in Washington for a better environment. Those of us who celebrated the first Earth Day were convinced of two things: the environment was a mess, and a lot of work was needed to do something about it.

What began as a teach-in in Bloomington and other communities has grown into a national event involving tens of millions of people across the country. The environmental movement has transformed our environment and our national politics. Environmental issues come up all the time in my work with constituents—from students talking about global warming and the future of the planet to public officials talking about upgrading water and sewer facilities in their communities. Environmentalism has firmly taken root in our political system.

On this, the 28th anniversary of Earth Day, we can take great pride in the advances that have been made in environmental protection. We have succeeded in reducing the levels of lead and other dangerous pollutants from the air. Lakes and rivers, once so contaminated they could catch on fire, now support large fish populations. Forests are rebounding. Endangered species, like the eagle and the buffalo, have been saved from extinction and are now thriving.

Hoosiers strongly support cleaning up our air, water, and land, and they want to leave the environment safe and clean for the next generation. They do not want to cut back on our environmental investment. Hoosiers do not say to me that we have too many parks, or that the air and water are too clean. They recognize, however, that we face new environmental challenges as we head into the 21st Century and need to adopt new strategies to build on our successes.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL RECORD

This country has achieved substantial gains in environmental protection over the last three decades. The Clean Air Act, passed in 1970, has dramatically reduced air pollution levels even though we drive twice as many cars twice as many miles. In the last

decade, emissions of lead declined by 89%, particulates by 20%, sulfur dioxides by 26%, and carbon monoxide by 37%. Congress revised this law in 1990 to strengthen the ability of the Environmental Protection Agency, states and the private sector to work cooperatively to improve air quality, particularly in cities with significant pollution problems. The new law also aims to reduce pollutants which cause acid rain and contribute to global environmental problems, including ozone depletion and global warming.

We have also made gains in water quality. The Clean Water and Safe Drinking Water Acts have succeeded in sharply reducing pollution in our rivers, lakes and streams while improving the quality of drinking water. Since 1972 the number of people served by modern sewage treatment facilities has almost doubled and the level of pollution discharged by municipal treatment plants has declined by 36%.

Our record on conserving critical lands and wildlife habitat is noteworthy. Many of our forested areas have been expanding, not contracting. The national forest system encompasses about 192 million acres, including the Hoosier National Forest in southern Indiana. We have also protected endangered species from extinction, and have largely curbed the dumping of hazardous materials.

CHALLENGES

Despite our achievements, we face daunting environmental challenges. First, a growing population and expanding economy continue to put stresses on our environment. Species continue to disappear; the tall-growth forests in the Northwest continue to decline; fishery stocks in our rivers and coastal areas are shrinking; and the list goes on. The challenge will be to continue our economic gains without jeopardizing the environment and public health.

Second, the environmental challenges are more complicated. For example, controlling the run-off of chemicals from thousands of farms and city streets, which is necessary to improve water quality, is difficult. Furthermore, many environmental problems, like global warming, ozone depletion, and threats to our fisheries, are global in nature, but achieving global consensus on any issue is not easy.

Third, our environmental laws need updating. Most environmental programs are of a "command and control" variety. The federal government sets regulations which the public and private sectors must follow. This approach made sense when we needed to make substantial gains in environmental quality. Now that we have achieved those improvements, the question is whether we should stay with the current system, which can be costly and cumbersome, or take a more flexible approach.

NEW APPROACH

I believe we need to rethink how we regulate the environment. This does not mean repealing current standards. The American public firmly rejected efforts in Congress a few years ago to weaken key environmental laws. Rather, they want a sensible role for government, one which includes less regulation while improving environmental protection.

I believe the following principles should, where appropriate, guide future policy on environmental regulation with the objective of making such regulation more flexible, less costly and less complex:

First, we should find market-based solutions to environmental problems. Such an

approach might entail providing incentives to private business or local governments to meet or exceed environmental standards; or it might involve creating a system of marketable pollution permits. Second, we should encourage cooperation between the federal government and the regulated community. Environmental regulation will always involve some tension between the two, but the federal government can take steps to minimize such conflict by working cooperatively with businesses, land-owners and other private interests to find solutions.

Third, we should give more discretion to state and local governments in managing environmental problems because they are often closer to the problems, and may have better ideas about solving them in innovative, cost-effective ways. Fourth, we should allocate federal resources to the most pressing environmental problems, particularly in an era of tight federal budgets. Too many federal dollars are wasted on programs of marginal social or economic benefit. Federal agencies should conduct risk assessment, based on scientific evidence, and cost-benefit analysis before implementing new regulations.

TRIBUTE TO MING PAO DAILY NEWS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ming Pao Daily News. Ming Pao Daily News celebrated their first anniversary on April 8, 1998.

Since Ming Pao Daily News' entry into the northeast market last year, it has quickly grown to become one of the most widely circulated daily publications within the tri-state area. Ming Pao Daily News' circulation in Hong Kong, Canada, and now the United States, has made it one of the most influential Chinese newspapers internationally.

For the past year, Ming Pao Daily News has reached out to New York's Asian community and forged a positive and hopefully long lasting relationship. Ming Pao Daily News has hosted various charity fundraisers, events, and activities that not only benefitted the Asian community, but all of New York City.

It is the media's responsibility to accurately, objectively, and timely report international, national, and/or local news to their audience and I encourage Ming Pao Daily News to continue with that role. It is that valuable service that their readers have come to rely upon.

It is my pleasure to recognize Ming Pao Daily News on the auspicious occasion of their first anniversary and their contributions this past year.

RECOGNIZING "HIRE A VETERAN WEEK" IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring the attention of the Nation

to the cause of improving the employment opportunities of our military veterans and to the commendable efforts of the State of California during its upcoming "Hire A Veteran Week" of May 3-9.

One of the commitments we make to the men and women who serve our Nation in the military is to provide them assistance in finding employment when they re-enter the civilian economy. Most of our military service members develop skills and personal attributes that will serve them well in the civilian economy. But even in the best of economic conditions it can sometimes take a long time to find a job, and as a Nation we should help shorten that time for our military service members.

I have sponsored efforts in Congress to improve veterans' employment prospects, and I have admired the efforts made on behalf of veterans in these areas day-in and day-out by service organizations and by employment specialists with federal and state agencies. The State of California is continuing a strong tradition of assistance to veterans' employment prospects by sponsoring "Hire A Veteran Week" this first full week of May 1998.

I commend California for this effort, and I commend the men and women of California's public-and-private-sectors who will take part in promoting veterans' employment this coming week and year-round.

MINNESOTA AMERICA READS PROGRAM

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the work of Minnesota volunteers participating in the America Reads program. There is perhaps no issue more important to the future of this nation than education. The volunteers I speak of have shown a true dedication to the welfare of our youth by ensuring that children in Minnesota elementary schools get the attention and assistance they need to improve their reading skills.

Twenty-three Minnesota colleges and universities are currently involved in the America Reads program, which was started by President Clinton in 1996. The goal is to ensure that every child can read well and independently by the end of third grade. We all know of the links between literacy and future success. However, according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress, 40 percent of America's fourth graders aren't reading at basic levels. The America reads program reaches out to children and gives them the individual attention necessary to make sure they don't fall through the cracks of the system.

If children lose interest in reading early, their chance of being successful later in life is difficult. Quoting an educator who recently visited with me, "In the first three grades, children learn to read. The rest of their lives, they read to learn". Volunteers help students realize that reading is not only fundamental, but fun. The time spent with tutors enables children to relax and enjoy books, which is something that can't always be done in the classroom.

I have attached an article from the Saint Paul Pioneer Press for my colleagues' review. It describes the America Reads program in Minnesota, and highlights just one of the many success stories this initiative has produced. I applaud the efforts of these volunteers, and wish to thank them for their dedication to the education of our youth.

I am especially pleased to note and thank some familiar names and friends who are highlighted in these reports—our former colleague Senator Harris Wofford, Saint Paul's former Mayor James Scheibel, and his spouse Mary Pat Lee. Their willingness to share their time, talent and energy is an extraordinary example of public service, and I wish them continued success in their endeavors; helping students learn to read so that they might read to learn!

[From the Pioneer Press/Pioneer Planet,
April 20, 1998]

VOLUNTEERS REAP THE REWARDS OF TEACHING
YOUNGSTERS TO READ

(By THOMAS J. COLLINS)

No tear-welling crescendo or awe-inspiring fireworks marked the encounter last week between a middle-aged Minneapolis bar owner and a bubbly St. Paul first-grader.

Life-changing moments rarely are showy. If you see them at all, they are reflected briefly in a gleam of an eye or a confidently raised chin—unspoken signals between David Arone and Klara Renfro as they read together in a Daytons Bluff Elementary School classroom.

Yet it is partly as a result of this encounter that the 44-year-old Arone, whose family has owned Arones Bar in Minneapolis since 1935, has decided to pursue a new career by becoming an elementary school teacher.

For Klara, 7, the encounter also has been a transforming experience, giving her the help she needs to continue to teach her brothers to read.

Scratch the political pronouncements and doomsday warnings about the decline of America's public schools and you'll find enclaves, like this one created by Arone and Klara, where just the reverse seems to be true.

He is a volunteer in Metropolitan State University's America Reads programs and spends 15 hours a week helping first- through third-grade students at Daytons Bluff improve their reading.

She is a first-grader on a mission to make something of herself despite challenges that define her inner-city elementary school—high poverty and student mobility as well as many students who do not speak English. And, of course, looming in her future is a deadline: National research shows that if she doesn't learn to read by the end of third grade, she'll be more prone to a lifetime of ignorance and poverty.

On this particular day, Arone is leaning over Klara as they read a book about fishing bears. Together they sound out difficult words, "shh . . . shh . . . shake." She glides over words she recognizes. "Good job!" he says, as she masters each page.

Later, he bends close to Klara and whispers in her ear: "Some day you will write a book."

MINNESOTANS HEED THE CALL

It is not only Klara's life that has been changed, thanks to President Clinton's plan to mobilize 100,000 work-study students and other volunteers under the America Reads program. Arone's life has taken a new turn as well.

"From my experience here at Daytons Bluff, I've decided to change careers and go into teaching," he says, with a hint of shyness in his voice. "This is going to sound corny, but I knew this is where I needed to be. I love this atmosphere. I love kids, and I've loved being here."

Clinton's call to improve reading for young students seems to have been embraced with particular enthusiasm in Minnesota.

Metropolitan State in St. Paul was the first Minnesota college or university to join more than 70 colleges and universities nationwide that joined the reading program in 1996, its inaugural year. The school, long involved in community partnerships to help educate children and their parents, also developed a college course to better prepare its student tutors for their often challenging urban K-12 students.

Twenty-two other Minnesota colleges and universities now have developed programs of their own to buoy educational and community partnerships and training provided by the 45 members of the Minnesota Campus Compact. The wide-ranging programs include reading to at-risk children and a study of ways to strengthen the housing stock and economy of the Daytons Bluff neighborhood.

The campus compact takes seriously its goal of changing lives and communities, says Mark Langseth, executive director of the compact.

"There has been much too much effort elsewhere on the romantic and recreational notions of volunteerism," he said, noting that his coalition is in the second year of a 10-year focus on early- and family-literacy programs, of which America Reads is part.

To that end, Harris Wofford, a key player in the America Reads program nationally, will address the Youth Service Leadership Conference later this morning at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

The campus compact also is co-sponsoring a gathering Tuesday in Minneapolis of 20 college and university presidents, 20 superintendents of Minnesota public schools and various corporate and foundation leaders. The meeting is expected to result in stronger campus community and school partnerships throughout the state, Langseth said.

NEW APPROACHES

The compact's interest in America Reads and other literacy programs was piqued by a startling statistic: Four of every 10 fourth-grade students failed to attain the basic level of reading on the National Assessment of Education Progress in 1994.

The resulting trend was equally alarming: Students who fail to read well by fourth grade have higher dropout rates and often have much more difficulty learning to read later in life, explains Catherine Korda, the compact's VISTA literacy coordinator.

However, she noted that national research shows "sustained, individualized attention and tutoring after school and during the summer, when combined with parental involvement and quality school instruction, can raise reading levels."

Armed with the knowledge, Clinton called for college presidents to increase their work-study allocations to finance 100,000 America Reads tutors. As of Feb. 23, more than 900 colleges and universities nationally have accepted the challenge.

Congress allocated \$52 million to improve and expand existing programs that support children's and literacy programs as well as training teachers to run them. The Corporation for National Service got an extra \$24 million for VISTA programs, \$25 million for AmeriCorps, and \$19 million for the National

Senior Service Corps. programs to aid in that effort.

Beginning in July, 14 VISTA workers will be assigned to Minnesota college and university campuses to organize literacy programs like America Reads in elementary schools. In a break from the past, college students no longer will have to be eligible for federal work-study programs to participate in America Reads.

"This is such a natural fit for college and university students to tutor other students," said Jim Scheibel, senior adviser to Wofford and a former St. Paul mayor. "You can't sit with these kids and become part of their lives and not be committed to paying attention to the kinds of schools we have for young people."

Scheibel understands the process all too well. For the past four years, he has served as a mentor/tutor for Antonio Murden, a poor Washington, D.C., public school student.

Scheibel and his wife, Mary Pat Lee, successfully sued the district school system to help Murden, now 17, get the education he needed in a private school for special needs students. (The Pioneer Press profiled Scheibel's efforts to help Murden two years ago.)

"We've seen great improvement in Antonio," Scheibel said. "He recently went up another level in school. His spelling is terrific, and I've seen his whole self-image greatly improve as he's learned to read."

"We have to do this just like that—one student at a time, one school at a time, one neighborhood at a time. Just look at the work Metro State has done in St. Paul."

AN INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY

Metropolitan State's tutors and volunteers in the America Reads program this year have served more than 200 students at Daytons Bluff and the Richard R. Green Central Park School in Minneapolis, said Susan Giguere, director of the university's Center for Community-Based Learning.

All told, the university and its community partners provided child and family literacy services to 420 people during the academic quarter ending March 31.

"It's hard to judge from (standardized) testing whether we are making a difference because many of the students you test today will be going tomorrow," Giguere said. "But I can see progress in the eyes of these students. They are reading more now. Even their parents are excited about reading."

Maureen Sauve, 35, a single mother of 2-year-old Hannah, is such a believer in the program that she will begin work on a master's degree in education at the University of Minnesota this summer. Like Arone, she hopes someday to be a licensed teacher.

"This has been an incredible opportunity for me," she said. "At first I was really distracted. The kids have so much energy. But I can see the progress these children are making. All of a sudden, reading clicks for them."

The former legal secretary returned to school after the birth of her daughter to fulfill a lifelong dream of being a teacher. She's getting a taste of that dream on a federal work-study grant through Metropolitan State.

FOUR BOOKS, NO DOUBT'S

Arone didn't qualify for a work-study grant because he makes too much money. But he, too, was hooked by volunteering in Metropolitan State's after-school and family-literacy programs at Daytons Bluff.

He decided to return to school two years ago at the suggestion of his wife, Debra,

after working in a smoke-filled bar began to irritate his asthma.

Now he gets to work in a smoke-free environment and has the incalculable pleasure of seeing a young mind bloom with the joy of reading.

His reading session this day with Kiara ends on a positive note. She has read four books, her progress marked by tiny footprint-shaped stickers that eventually will earn her a free book.

Kiara, like her mentor, has no doubt she will achieve her goal.

"I was the first one to learn to read in my family. So I will be able to do more things when I grow up," she volunteers before breaking into a broad smile. "I'm the most responsible one. I do the chores around the house. I also taught my little brother and biggest brother to read."

Arone sits nearby with a big smile of his own, acknowledging later that by fitting him into her busy schedule, Kiara has changed his life as well.

MAY 3—POLISH CONSTITUTION DAY

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, it is Spring, and we live in a glorious time of rebirth and renewal. We meet to celebrate Polish Constitution Day. And how appropriate it is that we celebrate as well the Senate vote approving NATO expansion.

In 1791, enormous challenges faced Polish reformers. Prussia, Russia and Austria, aggressive, imperial states, threatened the Polish Lithuanian Commonwealth. In 1772, they partitioned the Commonwealth, and were threatening to repeat the disgraceful deed. The Commonwealth was but a Russian satellite, and its once powerful parliamentary democracy weakened by political corruption. The moment was now to transform Poland into a new nation, with the full benefits of liberty, equality, and fraternity available to every citizen.

The reformers gathered in Warsaw on May 3, 1791, met the challenge. Motivated by a deep desire for freedom, they set about to liberate themselves "from the disgraceful shackles of foreign influence." "Prizing more than life and every personal consideration, political existence, external independence, and internal liberty of the nation," they adopted a constitution for "future generations, for the sake of the public good, for scurrying our liberty, and maintaining our kingdom and our possessions."¹

The new constitution electrified Europe. Shunning the violence of the French Revolution, the Polish reformers revolutionized their government and their society. The King, Stanislaus August, was now a constitutional monarch. The political devices which had opened the way for the corruption of the Commonwealth—the liberum veto (free veto) and the confederation—were abolished forever. Religious freedom was proclaimed. The burg-

ers acquired political rights. The new constitution also implied a radical improvement for the peasant serfs, the largest social class.

Poland's rebirth threatened her feudal neighbors. In 1793 and 1795 they partitioned the Commonwealth twice more. For 123 years, until the end of World War I, Poland was missing from Europe's map. President Woodrow Wilson supported Poland's rebirth, and independence came again, but it was brief. In 1939, Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia repeated the crimes of their 18th century predecessors; they invaded and partitioned Poland. And at the war's end, Churchill and Roosevelt conceded Eastern Europe to Soviet control.

The memories of May 3, of 19th century insurrections against Russia, and of heroism and martyrdom during the Holocaust of World War II, sustained the Polish people during the long-night of Soviet occupation. Poles objected to being cut off from Europe and confined to an alien empire. In 1956, 1968, 1970, and 1976, Poles protested.

Inspired by Pope John II, Poles underwent a modern rebirth. Solidarity and Lech Walcsa challenged the false Soviet ideology. The weapons were not guns and tanks, but the truth, human dignity and civil rights, and the eternal insistence upon individual freedom. The West hailed the Polish workers' heroic, non-violent struggle. In 1983 Lech Walesa received the Nobel Peace Prize.

The patient struggle finally bore fruit in 1989. The countries of Eastern Europe regained their sovereignty, and the civil empire disintegrated.

The Soviet Empire collapsed because of internal pressures, but also because of Western resolve. Since 1949, NATO, a system of collective security based on shared democratic values, kept the peace and kept the Soviets in check. NATO is history's most successful alliance.

Now is the moment to consolidate the western victory in the Cold War, and to take into NATO the new democracies of Eastern Europe. NATO expansion will enhance Europe's political stability. It will strengthen the new democracies. These countries can no longer be the target of Russian or other imperial ambitions.

Since 1989, the countries of Eastern Europe have undergone a remarkable rebirth. the reconstruction of democracy and of democratic societies is underway. Free elections are a hallmark of new political cultures. The East Europeans have also begun to integrate themselves into Western economic institutions. They are on the way back to Europe.

Membership in NATO is a culminating moment in Eastern Europe's political and economic rebirth. Today we gather here to celebrate Poland's constitution of May 3rd, 1791 and her rebirth in the 18th century. At the same time, we celebrate and recognize her modern rebirth. We welcome Poland, the Czech Republic, and Hungary as America's newest NATO allies. With a Europe renewed and re-invigorated, we move forward with confidence into the next millennium. In securing north Atlantic collective security, we secure and pass on to the next generation our common democratic values.

TRIBUTE TO DICK FEENEY, PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. ELIZABETH FURSE

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant. When I was elected to Congress in 1992, one of my top priorities was securing the funding to guarantee that the important Westside Light Rail project would open on time and on budget. While I have had the opportunity to work with many good people at Tri-Met throughout my six years in Congress, Dick Feeney has been a constant source of good counsel and support. I would not have had as much success without his steady influence.

Dick's contributions to Oregon are not limited to his work with our local transit agency, Tri-Met, where he has worked for twenty years. Dick began his distinguished career in 1966 as a Legislative Assistant to Congresswoman Edith Green, and later worked for the Multnomah County Chairman. He was an instructor at Portland State University and served as Director of the Institute of Policy Studies. He has been President of the Oregon Transit Association, and is currently a member of the Archdiocesan Board of Catholic Charities and the disciplinary panel of the Oregon State Bar. I also know that Dick can carry an Irish tune with the best of them.

Dick Feeney is one of those people who effectively and consistently serve the public, day in and day out, and never ask for any recognition. Today, on behalf of Portland and all my constituents, I would like to give him the credit he deserves. Happy Birthday, Dick.

RETIREMENT OF FREDERICK P. HITZ, INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, on April 30, Fred Hitz will complete seven and one-half years in office as the Central Intelligence Agency's inspector general, and a career in the federal government which exceeds twenty years.

In addition to service at the CIA before his confirmation as Inspector General, Mr. Hitz served in Republican and Democratic administrations in a variety of demanding positions at the Departments of State, Defense, and Energy. His tenure in each of these posts was characterized by uncommon dedication and exceptional performance. Mr. Hitz' experience in government, his first-hand knowledge of the unique aspects of working in the CIA, and the high regard in which he was held on Capitol Hill, made him an excellent choice in 1990 to be the CIA's first presidentially appointed inspector general.

Inspectors general with independence guaranteed by the fact that they are appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of, the President are

¹"New Constitution of the Government of Poland established by the Revolution of The Third of May, 1791." (London: J. Debrett, 2nd edition, 1791), 4.

essential to the effective operation of executive agencies, and to the maintenance of the public's confidence that officials at these agencies will be held accountable for their actions. I suspect that only by serving in one of these posts could someone fully appreciate how difficult it is to function simultaneously as a senior manager, and an independent critic, of the same agency. As challenging as service as an inspector general must be at most agencies, it is even more so at the CIA where the need to compartment activities for security purposes makes it hard to trace the path of certain decisions, and where the inclination is not to volunteer information, especially to those not perceived to be part of "the team."

Fred Hitz has worked tirelessly to create and sustain an inspector general's process which was supported both inside and outside of the CIA. That he has succeeded is a testament to his great ability and unquestionable integrity. The reputation which the Office of the Inspector General enjoys for conducting audits, inspections, and investigations which are thorough and follow the facts wherever they might lead, and for making tough recommendations for improvement regardless of their popularity, is a reflection of Mr. Hitz' leadership abilities. He will be sorely missed at the CIA, but his most important legacy may be the degree to which he has institutionalized in the inspector general's office his commitment to uncovering the truth.

A graduate of Princeton University, Mr. Hitz will be returning to his alma mater, this time as a member of the faculty. Anyone who has heard or read Fred's views on subjects like the organization of the intelligence community, or the community's role in the post-Cold War world, knows him to be a person who gives important issues great thought and who expresses himself on them with clarity and care. He will be an excellent teacher from whom students at Princeton will learn a great deal.

Mr. Hitz has served the country with great distinction. I want to wish him, and his wife, Mary Buford, only the best in the years to come. I hope that he will not mind an occasional call for advice from those of us who have come to rely on his counsel.

**BUILDING EFFICIENT SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION AND EQUITY
ACT OF 1998**

SPEECH OF

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2400) to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes:

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to state my disappointment that this legislation contains no legislative language authorizing Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ) funds to be utilized for the operation and construction of telecommuting centers.

In 1991 ISTEA broke new ground by allowing CMAQ funding to be used to study the

benefits of telecommuting centers. These centers are presently funded by the General Services Administration and allow federal employees to use an alternative workplace in lieu of traveling to their main offices several times a month. This concept, which has been tested in Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties, has been very successful.

I remember vividly speaking to a young woman about the impact of telecommuting about a year ago. She was the mother of two small children who lived about an hour and a half outside of Washington. Every morning she got up before 5 a.m. in order to get her children to daycare and still be at work by 8 a.m. On a good day, her morning commute was about 90 minutes. However, if there was an accident or bad weather it could take her two or more hours to get to work. After getting two sleepy children ready for the day and fighting traffic she told me that she often felt exhausted before she even started her job as a computer programmer.

Mr. Speaker, there is a telecommuting center located not far from her home in Lexington Park. A few times a month she works out of the telecommuting center instead of driving up to Washington. What is the impact? For starters there is one less car on the highway. One less car equals less congestion on the crowded Washington metropolitan corridor and a decrease in air pollution. She is also more productive at her job as a programmer because she is better rested and less stressed, she gets to spend more time with her children, and she saves money, gas, and wear and tear on her car with a shorter commute.

Mr. Speaker, telecommuting makes a real difference in the lives of constituents in my district. There is a need for additional centers in Maryland and the rest of the country and I hope that H.R. 2400 will be amended in Conference to allow CMAQ funds to be used for the design, construction, and operation of telecommuting centers.

**HAMPTON HIGH SCHOOL WINS
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, on May 2-4, more than 1200 students from across the United States will be in Washington, DC to compete in the national finals of We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program. I would especially like to congratulate the Hampton High School State Championship team from Allison Park, Pennsylvania, which will represent the state of Pennsylvania in the competition. After months of studying constitutional issues to prepare for the competition, the students in Mrs. Tara O'Brien's sixth period political science class won the state competition, entitling them to participate in the national competition.

The We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program provides curricular materials at upper elementary, middle, and high school levels for more than 75,000 teachers and 24 million students nationwide. The

three-day national competition simulates a congressional hearing. Students demonstrate their knowledge by defending positions on historical and contemporary constitutional issues. Entire classes participate together, so students learn team skills in addition to civics.

The following are the students who will represent Hampton High and the state of Pennsylvania in the national finals: Angela Ambrose, Rebecca Amrhein, Aren Bierkan, Christine Brady, Heather Gahagan, Emily Huie, Jessica Kiefer, Lauren Klemens, Jessica Lin, Rina Mansukhani, Lauren Montgomery, Laura Ostapenko, Andrew Scharff, Christian Spearline, Countney Vetter, and Katrina Werger.

Again, I would like to congratulate these student son their accomplishments and wish them the best of luck in next week's competition. I am proud to represent such accomplished young people, and I look forward to meeting them when they visit Capitol Hill.

**IN RECOGNITION OF CLARA
BARTSCH**

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exemplary work of Ms. Clara Bartsch, who for many years has served as Illinois' Congressional Liaison for Medicare. Because Clara's employer, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, will not be retaining its contact with the Health Care Finance Administration, she will be leaving her position. Together with all members of the Illinois Congressional Delegation, I want to let Clara know how much we appreciate her dedication and her tremendous work on behalf of Medicare recipients throughout our state.

Every member of this body understands the vital role our offices fulfill in assisting constituents overcome difficulties in dealing with federal government agencies. As caseworkers endeavor to explain and interpret the often confusing maze of federal rules, guidelines and regulations, they depend heavily upon liaison personnel. As all the caseworkers in my office and other offices in our delegation will attest, Clara Bartsch is among the very best liaisons in the business.

Clara's commitment to the people we all serve is second to no one. She consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty—making sure that all congressional inquiries are handled expeditiously and professionally. The caseworkers who have relied upon Clara will tell you that her responsiveness and outreach efforts are nothing short of outstanding. In particular, her annual Medicare Seminars have been invaluable to all of our offices, helping us stay on top of changes in the Medicare program and providing in-depth information on the latest developments.

In short, Mr. Speaker, Clara Bartsch leaves a legacy of outstanding service in her role as Medicare Liaison and has helped the entire Illinois delegation better serve the people we are privileged to represent. For her tremendous contributions, she has the gratitude of

every member of our delegation and our very best wishes for her future success and happiness.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 3744 LEGISLATION AMENDING THE FOOD FOR PEACE PROGRAM

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a bill designed to help farmers participating in the PL 480 Food for Peace Program who have experienced trouble moving their product by rail to U.S. ports.

Under PL 480, the Department of Agriculture invites farmers and processors to sell their product (e.g. grain, peas, lentils, barley) to the federal government. At the time they advertise their tender, the Department also specifies where and when the product has to be delivered. Farmers and processors are able to calculate their bids based on the cost to produce, the cost associated with rail shipment, the time normally required to get empty rail cars, and the time needed to have the railroad move cars to the port specified by the Department. Successful bidders sign a contract with the Department prior to shipping their product, but they don't receive payment from the government until after it is delivered to the port.

This arrangement has generally worked well over the years, but last summer and fall a large number of farmers and processors—through no fault of their own—experienced tremendous difficulty abiding by the terms of their contracts with the Department. Rail congestion in the midwest and west caused many shipments to arrive late, thus missing sailing dates and generating expensive damage claims against farmers and processors. My bill would hold farmers and processors harmless against these kinds of damages.

It is unreasonable for the government to hold farmers and processors liable for damages in instances where they make a good faith effort to load and transport their product on a timely basis. Farmers and processors surrender their product to a railroad for shipment to a port, but they have no ability to control its delivery and, under current program rules, they pay damages for late arrival.

As an aside, I am aware that the Department of Agriculture has relieved some PL 480 participants from damages arising from last summer's rail service difficulties in the midwest, but I don't think it prudent to leave the issue of future damages to the discretion of the Department. Farmers and processors need the certainty of knowing that they will not be liable for transportation problems beyond their control.

I ask all Members to cosponsor this legislation. The PL 480 Food for Peace Program is an important market for many farmers and processors, but under the current rules, it presents a whole host of unknowns that jeopardize future participation, especially in light of ongoing rail service problems.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SENSE OF CONGRESS ON 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDING OF MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, in commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the creation of the State of Israel, I rise to pay tribute to the pioneers and visionaries who survived the holocaust and who built this magnificent nation. Fifty years after its creation, Israel is still the lone beacon of democracy in the Middle East, and our most stalwart ally.

At midnight on May 14, 1948, the State of Israel was established as the British mandate over Palestine ended. The moment that Israel declared itself a free state, U.S. President Harry S. Truman of Independence, Missouri declared our country's support for this fledgling nation. President Truman's words still ring true. He said, "I had faith in Israel before it was established, I have faith in it now. I believe it has a glorious future before it—not just another sovereign nation, but as an embodiment of the great ideals of our civilization." On May 15, the day after President Truman recognized the state of Israel, the surrounding nations invaded to crush this newly free society.

Mr. Speaker, in 1993 I visited Israel to study their culture, their laws and their government, and I was impressed by the accomplishments of the citizens who built a thriving economy and ability to manage its diversity. Throughout all of challenges that this nation has faced, its citizens remain positive about the future and secure in their belief in democracy and personal liberty.

In 1998, 50 years after President Truman's prescient remarks, Israel is a vibrant democracy experiencing strong economic growth and a period of relative peace. As we congratulate the people of Israel on their 50th anniversary, we must not forget the mutual support and the strong ties that exist between us. As the Congressperson who represents President Truman's home, I feel a special connection to the people of Israel, and on this day I would like to congratulate them and wish them success as they decide on a common purpose that will unify the country.

PROSPECT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I bring to the attention of the American public and the U.S. House of Representatives an upcoming celebration in Connecticut's 5th Congressional District that commemorates the 200th anniversary of the Prospect Congregational Church in Prospect, Connecticut. The event will be during May 16th and 17th, 1998.

The Prospect Congregational Church typifies the image that most would have of

churches in the New England region of our country. It is a white clapboard style structure that sits on a town green. It serves a congregation of 336, mostly from the Prospect, Waterbury and Cheshire areas, and is a member of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ, which traces its history to the Connecticut Missionary Society, founded in May, 1798. The church was organized officially on May 14th, 1798 by sixteen local residents on land owned and donated by John Lewis for the purpose of building a religious structure. The first pastor was the Rev. Oliver Hitchcock. Some fifty years later, his grandson, Rev. Joseph Payne arrived and brought new vitality to the church. Rev. Payne was related to Lyman Beecher and Harriet Beecher Stowe and through his leadership, a strong anti-slavery influence was felt in the church and throughout the community.

During the course of the past two hundred years, the Prospect Congregational Church has been housed in four different structures. These structures were necessary due to both growth of the congregation as well as to the occurrence of two fires—one on November 17, 1906 and a second one on November 29, 1941. The current structure was dedicated on July 15, 1951.

There have been 44 different pastors in the Church's history, including one woman, from 1957 to 1966. The current pastor, the Rev. Howard L. Hinman, has served the church since 1988.

Mr. Speaker, the Prospect Congregational Church has served as a mainstay not only for its congregation, but for the community as a whole. It has been a source of strength to individuals for two centuries and will continue to add to the civic and religious foundation that has long served the Prospect community. On behalf of the 5th Congressional District and the House of Representatives, I congratulate all members, past and present, of the Prospect Congregational Church and send best wishes for a very successful celebration of this historic event.

CONGRATULATING ISRAEL'S ANNIVERSARY

HON. SIDNEY R. YATES

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. YATES. Mr. Speaker, my time in Congress is almost the same as Israel's birth and growth. I was elected to the House for the first time in November 1948. Israel became a Nation in May 1948. I have known all of its leaders and Ambassadors to the United States, including Yitzhak Rabin, Ben Gurion, Levi Eshkal, Golda Meir, Moshe Dayan, and the other stalwarts in a long line of patriots who have developed Israel into the splendid nation it is today.

Today, Addie and I would like to extend our profound congratulations to Israel, whose courage and dignity have been an inspiration to the world.

Happy Anniversary Israel.

FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE
CLARIFICATION ACT

HON. HARRIS W. FAWELL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. FAWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill which would make reasonable, and much needed, changes to the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993. The Family and Medical Leave Clarification Act will help the FMLA be implemented and enforced in a manner Congress originally intended when it passed the Act in 1993.

I do not think anyone would dispute that the FMLA has done some good for those with serious family and medical crises. However, some of the troublesome results are difficult to ignore. The fact of the matter is there is compelling evidence of problems with the implementation and enforcement of the FMLA—problems which affect both employers and employees. The FMLA is still a relatively young law. In fact, the final rule implementing the Act was not published until 1995. As with any new law, there are some growing pains that need to be sorted out.

As became evident during an extensive hearing last year in the Committee on Education and the Workforce, there is evidence of myriad problems in the workplace caused by the FMLA's intermittent leave provisions, of additional burdens from overly broad and confusing regulations of the FMLA—not the least of which is the Department of Labor's ever-expanding definition of "serious health condition", of inequities stemming from employers with generous leave policies being in effect penalized under the FMLA for having those policies, and of often incomplete FMLA medical certifications filed under the Act.

Mr. Speaker, the FMLA created a Commission on Leave, which was charged with reporting the FMLA's impact. Upon release of the Commission's report in April 1996, we were told that all was well with the FMLA. But contrary to these assertions, the report was not a complete picture. In fact, the Family and Medical Leave Act Commission admitted its report was only an "initial assessment." Its 2-year study began in November of 1993, just three months after the Act even applied to most employers and more than a year before the release of final FMLA regulations in January of 1995. Simply put, the Commission's report was based on old and incomplete data, looked at long before employers or employees could have been fully aware of the FMLA's many requirements and responsibilities.

Mr. Speaker, the first area the FMLA Clarification Act addresses is the Department of Labor's overly broad interpretation of the term "serious health condition." In passing the FMLA, Congress stated that the term "serious health condition" was not intended to cover short-term conditions for which treatment and recovery were very brief, recognizing specifically in Committee report language that "it is expected that such conditions will fall within the most modest sick leave policies."

Despite Congressional intent, the Department of Labor's current regulations are extremely expansive, defining the term "serious

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

health condition" as including, among other things, any absence of more than three days in which the employee sees any health care provider and receives any type of continuing treatment (including a second doctor's visit, or a prescription, or a referral to a physical therapist). Such a broad definition potentially mandates FMLA leave where an employee sees a health care provider once, receives a prescription drug, and is instructed to call the health care provider back if the symptoms do not improve.

Most of the leave taken under the FMLA has been for employee's own illnesses most of which were previously covered under sick leave policies. The FMLA has become a national sick leave program—contrary to the strong assertions of the bill's original supporters. Furthermore, the Department of Labor has been inconsistent and vague in its opinion letters, leaving employers guessing as to what the DOL and the Courts will deem to be "serious."

The FMLA Clarification Act reflects Congress' original intent for the meaning of the term "serious health condition," by taking word-for-word from the Democrats' Committee report, and adding to the statute, the then-Majority's explanation of what types of conditions it intended the Act to cover. It also repeals the DOL's current regulations on the issue and directs the agency to go back to the drawing board and issue regulations consistent with the new definition.

My bill also minimizes tracking and administrative burdens while maintaining the original intent of the law, by permitting employers to require employees to take "intermittent" leave—FMLA leave taken in separate blocks of time due to a single qualifying reason—in increments of up to one-half of a work day.

Congress drafted the FMLA to allow employees to take leave in less than full-day increments. The intent was to address situations when an employee may need to take leave for intermittent treatments, e.g., for chemotherapy or radiation treatments, or other medical appointments. Granting leave for these conditions has not been a significant problem. However, the regulations provide that an employer "may limit leave increments to the shortest period of time that the employer's payroll system uses to account for absences or use of leave, provided it is one hour or less." 825.203(d). Since some employers track in increments of as small as six or eight minutes, the regulations have resulted in a host of problems related to tracking the leave and in maintaining attendance control policies. In many situations, it is difficult to know when the employee will be at work, and in many positions, an employee who has frequent, unpredictable absences can play havoc with the productivity and scheduling of an entire department when employers do not know if certain employees will be at work. Allowing an employer to require an employee to take intermittent leave in increments of up to one-half of a work day would ease the burden significantly for employers, both in terms of necessary paperwork and with respect to being able to cover efficiently for absent employees.

Where the employer does not exercise its right to require the employee to substitute other employer-provided leave under the

FMLA, the FMLA Clarification Act shifts to the employee the need to request leave be designated as FMLA leave, and requires the employee to provide written application within five working days of providing notice to the employer for foreseeable leave, and within a time period extended as necessary for unforeseeable leave, if the employee is physically or mentally incapable of providing notice or submitting the application.

Requiring the employee to request that leave be designated as FMLA leave eliminates the need for the employer to question the employee and pry into the employee's and the employee's family's private matters, as required under current law, and helps eliminate personal liability for employer supervisors who should not be expected to be experts in the vague and complex regulations which even attorneys have a difficult time understanding.

With respect to leave taken because of the employee's own serious health condition, the FMLA Clarification Act permits an employer to require the employee to choose between taking unpaid leave provided by the FMLA or paid absence under an employer's collective bargaining agreement or other sick leave, sick pay, or disability plan, program, or policy of the employer. This change provides incentive for employers to continue their generous sick leave policies while providing a disincentive to employers considering getting rid of such employee-friendly plans, including those negotiated by the employer and the employee's union representative. Paid leave would be subject to the employer's normal work rules and procedures for taking such leave, including work rules and procedures dealing with attendance requirements.

Despite the common belief that leave under the FMLA is necessarily unpaid, employers having generous sick leave policies, or who have worked out employee-friendly sick leave programs with unions in collective bargaining agreements, are being penalized by the FMLA. In fact, for many companies, most FMLA leave has become paid leave because the regulations state that an employer must observe any employment benefit program or plan than provides greater rights than the FMLA. Furthermore, because employers cannot use the taking of FMLA leave as a negative factor in employment actions, such as hiring, promotions or disciplinary actions, nor can they count FMLA leave under "no fault" attendance policies, the regulations prohibit employers from using disciplinary attendance policies to manage employees' absences, even though employers are required to pay for the absences under their short-term disability programs if either the employee or the employer elects to substitute paid leave.

My bill also addresses some of the problems employers often face in determining the validity of an employee's FMLA certification, by clarifying that sufficient certification under the FMLA must include "the appropriate medical facts, which must be documented by objective medical findings."

Health care providers are accustomed to responding to telephone inquiries from employers' health care providers and the information they provide on the FMLA certification form is often internally inconsistent or does not support a finding of incapacity. The bill would require the employee's health care provider to

document on the form the objective medical findings supporting the finding of incapacity. Due to the limits imposed by the Department of Labor's regulations, the employer's health care provider cannot even call the employee's health care provider if the employee declines to give permission. Nor can the employer's health care provider obtain the usual documentary support for a disability. These limitations either lead the employer to deny FMLA coverage due to lack of sufficient certification, or to grant FMLA coverage despite the lack of sufficient factual support just to avoid a dispute. This clarification would simply give the employer more information upon which to determine whether or not a leave request qualifies under the FMLA.

SINGING LANCERS—A SOURCE OF PRIDE FOR THE SPRINGFIELD COMMUNITY

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, the choirs of Lee High School in Springfield, Va. drew words of praise from faculty and community residents following their participation in the competitive April 17 Boston Music Festival.

Every year the group competes in Music Festivals representing Lee High School and the community's finest youth. Under the direction of Mr. G. Lindsey Florence, the Singing Lancers, known for their high standards of music excellence, returned from the April 17 competition holding their silver and bronze trophies high with pride. The Madrigals and Ladies Chamber Choir carried the Silver and the Concert and Lee Freshmen Choirs held the Bronze. This is an exceptional honor because the four choirs' performance were adjudicated on a college and professional level by a panel of three judges.

Their achievement deserves recognition, and it gives me great pleasure to acknowledge each of these fine young men and women. Congratulations to: Matt Aberant, Denise Absher, Karen Albers, Jessica Alonzo, Amanda Anderson, Kristine Antiporda, Mary Assad, Hyun Bae, Lena Berdecia, Katie Brado, Kelly Brehm, Lauren Buchanan, Ashley Bush, Nicki Clark, Rachel Cooper, Liz Cego, Lindsay Cronin, Rachel Cully, Jeni Davis, Abigail Dosh, Kelly Dreier, Mary Fitzgerald, Ashley Flanders, Heather Flemming, Kristine Foulkes, Kyle Freesland, Chris Fritz, Reagan Goodman, Brian Gresham, Rachel Griffin, Kristen Hampton, Chipp Hewitt, Dan Hinson, April Holloman, Michelle Hudgens, Brandy Hume, J.P. Javier-Wong, Tim Jeffers, Erlend Johnson, Dan Kim, Tasha Kulenguski, Peter Laver, Danielle Lawson, Mike Lazear, Darice Lee, Natalie Lent, Amanda Lindberg, Jennifer Little, Madeline Mace, Candace Mallon, Courtney Mallon, Chris Marfori, Maggie Martin, Tara McCabe, Heather McKay, Darin McMillen, Dave McMullin, Meg Meyer, Abby Meyer, Carrie Moore, Jason Morgan, Shaun Newman, Jared Orton, John Oudomsouk, Tim Parsons, Alicia Perretti, Jessica Piansky, Rachel Plowman, Michelle Poling, Jason Potts, Leslie

Potts, Alicia Powell, Lindsay Powers, Anna Ramedo, Davis Reynolds, Ian Richmond, Brook Rubeor, Amy Simpson, Julie Saholsky, Jenny Sellers, Liz Shwaery, Sara Sikorra, Leslie Simpson, Beth Sivola, Justin Smallwood, Kirstin Stamper, Julie Stoops, Stacey Stratton, Dawn Thompson, Christal Wells, Mellissa Wilkerson, Sarah Wills, Eric Womac, Kelsey Wright, and Christina Yip.

PALCARE—MODEL CHILD CARE CENTER

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, last week President Clinton delivered an important address in the Rose Garden about the critical need for quality, affordable child care in our country. The President reviewed several ideas and proposals designed to meet this demand, contending that we have "to act on the overwhelming weight of the evidence about the importance of the earliest years in the child's life."

I wholeheartedly agree with President Clinton, and I believe that I can point him to an outstanding example of what can and should be done. Palcare in Burlingame, California, is an exceptional, nonprofit child care center designed to address the most serious concern that dual-income and single-parent families in the Bay Area are forced to confront—the need to ensure a safe, nurturing environment for their children. I visited Palcare last month and came away with an immense appreciation for its educational excellence, its devoted staff, and, most of all, its invaluable assistance to mothers and fathers from across the Peninsula.

I am delighted to congratulate Palcare on the fifth anniversary of its opening and on its exceptional record of community service in San Mateo County.

As our country has shifted from an industrial to a service-based structure, the traditional one-income family has become more the exception than the rule, and 9-to-5 work days are increasingly becoming a rarity. Many single parents hold three or more jobs, struggling to create a positive environment for their children while fighting to earn the financial resources to feed them, clothe them, and educate them.

Palcare responds to their social dilemma described by former U.S. Secretary of Labor Robert Reich during a visit to the child care center in 1995: "Finding good child care is a challenge for everyone, but it's compounded by nonstandard hours. Our service-based economy is increasingly running 24 hours. Parents are required to work early in the morning, nights and on weekends."

Mr. Speaker, this excellent child care center provides the highest quality service night and day, seven days per week, for over two hundred families. It enhances the work force by enabling parents to take jobs they would otherwise be unable to accept; it gives our youngest citizens a constructive educational milieu in which to grow; and, perhaps most im-

portant, Palcare allows mothers and fathers employed at the San Francisco International Airport and its surrounding communities to work without fear for the safety and well-being of their sons and daughters.

Palcare's origins reflect the diverse coalition of Bay Area organizations that rely on its vital work. Corporations and labor unions, public interest groups and private foundations, county and local governments alike joined together during the late 1980's and early 1990's with the goal of reducing pressure on working parents. These disparate elements disagreed on many political and economic issues, but they were united in their vision of the benefits which hard-working mothers and fathers were entitled to receive.

They wanted a top-notch, secure facility with the space and comfort to serve as a cocoon for the intellectual, social, and physical development of young children; an educated and motivated staff with an Early Childhood Educator devoted to each and every boy and girl; a level of flexibility to accommodate the complex and hectic work schedules of single parents and multiple-income families, and a measure of affordability that would allow mothers and fathers to avoid painful choices between important parenting priorities. These ideals guided the creation of Palcare and formed a combination of values which has resulted in Palcare's extraordinary success over the past five years.

Mr. Speaker, to give credit to all of the individuals and organizations that have contributed to Palcare's growth and acclaim would require a book, but I want to mention some of the key ones. Its Founding Partners, the varied array of interests determined to develop a solution for the area's child care crisis, deserve special recognition: United Airlines, the San Francisco International Airport, the Airport Labor Coalition, San Mateo County government, the City and County of San Francisco, Mills Peninsula Health Services, The Child Care Coordinating Council, the San Mateo Central Labor Council, and The United Way. This partnership has been bolstered by many large and small employers from throughout the Bay Area who have contributed generously to Palcare's scholarship fund to dilute the financial burden on working parents, and who have donated valued supplies and services to the center. Recent benefactors have included The Gap Foundation, PG &E, Xerox Corporation, and the Visa Corporation.

The organization has also been blessed by the sincere efforts of Palcare Parents, several of whom sit on the 21-person Board of Directors and many of whom formed an active Parent Advisory Committee to suggest improvements to the center. Above all, Palcare is the product of its talented and nourishing staff under the leadership of Executive Director Nirmala Dillman. Mr. Speaker, these fine individuals and bodies stand proudly as a model for child care providers and community leaders across America.

I am joined in my appreciation of Palcare by many impressive entities. The center has been recognized by the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor, the Association of Work/Life Professionals and the California Association for the Education of Young Children as an example for others to emulate. These experts

are exceeded in the degree to which they cherish Palcare only by the mothers and fathers who draw comfort and security from its services. Art Pulaski, a good friend of mine who is Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, and a Palcare Parents, said: "The thing I think about most is my kids—that they're safe, well cared for, and happy. It's important to me that they are prepared for school, academically as well as socially."

For the sake of Art's son, Luke, and for all of the other Bay Area families that value its services, it is a privilege and honor for me to congratulate Palcare on five years of invaluable contributions, and to express my hope that every parent in America will eventually have access to the type of care which Palcare so ably provides for our community.

IN CELEBRATION FOR THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHESTER, NEW YORK

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to call attention to the 200th anniversary of the First Presbyterian Church of Chester, NY.

For two hundred years the First Presbyterian Church has served the community of Chester, bringing neighbors, friends and the community as a whole together. The church has been instrumental in the development of Chester, helping to educate and fill the spiritual needs of residents and families throughout the region.

The First Presbyterian Church is truly a remarkable organization, built in 1798 the church has been an active part of Chester's community. Beyond its normal church activities the church provides: a nursery school, a food pantry and also sponsors a local boy scout troop.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to Rev. Karen Patricia to her church councils, and her congregation for the 200th anniversary of their important and noteworthy church. I would also like to take this opportunity to invite my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the great contributions of the First Presbyterian Church in Chester, NY.

HONORING OUTSTANDING HISPANIC BAYTONIANS

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor 50 outstanding hispanic individuals and organizations who will be recognized May 1, 1998 in special programs at Exxon, Lee college, and San Jacinto Mall in Baytown, TX. These individuals and organizations are historical pioneers who have helped pave the way for Bay-

town's growing and vibrant community. As the citizens of Baytown and Texas celebrate the first 50 years of this great Texas city, we also honor the following hispanic Baytonians for their leadership and commitment to the future of the Baytown Hispanic community:

Mayor Pete Alfaro, Antonio Bañuelos, Bañuelos Boys Band, Baytown Mexican School, Baytown Mexican War Heroes killed in action, (Don) Fermin Beltran-Juarez, The Honorable Eva Benavides, The Honorable Tony Campos, U.S. Marshall Art Contreras, Amelia deHoyos, Guadalupe Aleman deHoyos, Ruben deHoyos, Councilman Manuel Escontrias, Manuel Espinoza, Jr., Gilberto Garcia, Frank Gonzalez, Sr., Luciano and Manuela Gonzalez, Regina Gonzalez-Martinez, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Greater Baytown, Humble 997 Baseball Team, Ladies Auxillary—Sociedad Mutualista, La Tipica Orchestra Fem., Las Guadalupanas, Mexican American Graduating Seniors (M.A.G.S.), Pioneer Mexican Laborers, Jose and Virginia Moreno, Marta Moreno, Willie Moreno, Alfonso Nava, Vicente Nieto, Aurora Porter, Ignacio Ramirez, Sr., Eugenia Renteria, Pablo Reyna, Ambrose Rios, Jr., Eugenia Renteria-Rios, Feliciano Rios, M.D., Freddy Rios, Geneva Renteria-Rios, Janie Salinas-Bricker, Rufo Sanchez, Hilda Sandoval-Pena, Eugenio Santana, Sr., Sociedad Mutualista, Rudolph Torres, Eloy Valdes, Lucas Vegas, Jr., Elena R. Vergara, George Zamora, Mercedes Zamora.

I congratulate these outstanding citizens and organizations and commend them on their many contributions to the City of Baytown and the Hispanic community.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY TO MRS. REGINA HIEBEL

HON. JAY W. JOHNSON

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today, it is my great honor and pleasure to wish a very happy birthday to Mrs. Regina Hiebel of Appleton, Wisconsin on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Mrs. Hiebel will reach the century mark on May 8 of this year, an incredible milestone.

She has lived to enjoy what Cicero called "the crown of life." She is blessed by many years, and all who spend time with her are blessed by her company. Mrs. Hiebel's friends know her to be kind and fascinating and courageous. I am even told that she elected to have surgery at the tender age of 92, a brave decision indeed.

Mrs. Hiebel continues to lead a vibrant life. Even in her most recent years, she has traveled the country, and her friends tell me she still has meals with friends every day and has her hair done every week.

I know all of Appleton and the people of Northeast Wisconsin join me in wishing Regina Hiebel a happy, happy 100th birthday.

GRAND JURY REPORT ON THE 1993 SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT SEAT

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to submit into the record the findings of the Ninth Statewide Investigating Grand Jury's Report relating to the 1993 Special election for the Second Senatorial District Seat in Pennsylvania.

This election case serves as a grotesque example of the potential for voter fraud and abuse in our election system. This Grand Jury has taken an in-depth look at voter fraud in Pennsylvania and its report should compel us to review voting practices and affirm voter protection and fairness across the country.

As the attached information discloses, voter fraud can have broad abuses in the areas of PAC activities, false voter registration, absentee ballot irregularities, election certification processes, and candidate activities at the polling place.

Mr. Speaker, in every elective office of the United States, from President to Township Supervisor, we must maintain the integrity of the voting booth. If the voting booths cannot be a place of integrity and if Americans cannot cast their ballots knowing that the winner will ultimately be one who has garnered the most votes in a fair competition, then our democracy is in danger.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,

Harrisburg, April 6, 1995.

SUBJECT: Public Hearing on the Ninth Investigating Grand Jury's Report Relating to the 1993 Special Election for the Second Senatorial District

TO: Members of the House State Government Committee

FROM: The Hon. Paul I. Clymer, Chairman, House State Government Committee

The following is an overview of the Ninth Investigating Grand Jury's report relating to the 1993 special election for the Second Senatorial District seat. This overview includes a summary of the major issues reviewed by the Grand Jury, as well as findings and recommendations for legislative, executive and administrative action. You may want to pay particular attention to the recommendations. I've also enclosed a copy of the original text of the grand jury's recommendations.

As you know, the grand jury's report is the subject of the State Government Committee's April 10 hearing, scheduled for 10 a.m. in Room 140 of the Main Capitol Building. Please bring this information to the hearing with you. If you have any questions in the meantime, do not hesitate to contact Susan Boyle at 772-3465 (2-3465).

THE NINTH STATEWIDE INVESTIGATING GRAND JURY'S REPORT NO. 2 RELATING TO THE 1993 SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT SEAT

INTRODUCTION

In December 1993 the Ninth Statewide Investigating Grand Jury began its investigation of allegations of criminal activity with regard to the special election for the Second

Senatorial District seat held on November 1, 1993. The investigation began with an inquiry into reports and complaints of allegedly widespread illegalities in absentee voting. Those allegations involved: 1) improper distribution of absentee ballots where no application for such ballot had been made; 2) the distribution of absentee ballots to individuals not entitled to them; 3) use by these individuals of these ballots; and 4) forgery of absentee ballot related documents.

During the course of the investigation, other matters of concern came to light. They included: 1) allegations of questionable political action committee (PAC) activities; 2) allegations that WAM grant checks were provided to one of the candidates for distribution during campaign appearances; and 3) allegations that arrangements were made to have one of the candidates travel to Harrisburg to be sworn in before the election board even certified his victory.

The grand jury investigated each of these matters. In some instances, where the grand jury found criminal conduct and was able to identify the persons responsible, it recommended the initiation of criminal proceedings. In other instances, the grand jury recommended legislative, executive or administrative action to correct certain problems or perceived problems.

FINDINGS—THE STINSON CAMPAIGN AND ABSENTEE BALLOTS

The grand jury found that the campaign of candidate William Stinson made a concerted effort to generate absentee ballots. The campaign's strategy involved the extensive handling of both absentee ballot applications and ballot packages by campaign staff and volunteers. The ultimate goal was to generate a large number of ballot applications and submit them to the Philadelphia Board of Elections immediately prior to the deadline so that the Bruce Marks campaign would not have time to mount its own absentee ballot effort.

Individuals, many of whom were in dire need of money, were recruited by campaign staff and volunteers to go door to door and solicit ballot applications. They were paid \$1.00 per application generated. Many voters were told that, in filling out the applications, they were signing up for a "new way to vote." A number of the applications generated through this drive were not filled out properly and thus were rejected by the Board of Elections. Because of the sheer volume of absentee ballot applications generated and the fact that most of them were submitted either on or very close to the application deadline, many applicants were never made aware that their applications were rejected by the Board of Elections and thus were disenfranchised. Even more startling, is the fact that Stinson volunteers also rejected absentee ballot applications that were improperly completed.

Stinson campaign workers also obtained absentee ballot packages for delivery to applicants. Despite a 1978 memo from then-DA Ed Rendell to City Commissioner Marge Tartaglione indicating that such a practice violates the Election Code, all of the City Commissioners and many of their staff confirmed that the hand delivery of absentee ballots to applicants was a common practice.

FINDINGS—OTHER ABSENTEE BALLOT IRREGULARITIES

The grand jury found that lies and misrepresentations were used by Stinson campaign volunteers, as well as by others who were not affiliated with the campaign, to entice voters to sign absentee voter applica-

tions. Many voters who signed applications were not even told why they were doing so. Others were not even asked if they met the qualified absentee elector criteria set forth in the Election Code. Some voters allowed campaign workers to fill out portions of their absentee ballot and/or declaration envelope. In fact, some campaign workers went so far as to tell voters how to vote. Even more disturbing, a number of registered voters indicated that their signatures—on either the absentee ballot applications or the ballots themselves (or both)—had been forged.

FINDINGS—FALSE VOTER REGISTRATION

The grand jury found instances in which individuals who did not live in the Second Senatorial District were registered to vote there. In a number of cases, these voters used the registration address of the home of the judge of elections or committee person.

FINDINGS—EFFECTS OF FRAUDULENT ACTIVITY ON THE VOTING PROCESS

The above-referenced fraudulent activities had a significant impact on the electoral process, according to the grand jury. The most egregious effects include:

- * voters were, at best, mislead, at worst, disenfranchised;
- * fraudulent votes were cast and counted;
- * by personally delivering ballots to voters, campaign workers were able to accompany the absentee voter into his personal voting space.

FINDINGS—ELECTION CERTIFICATION PROCESS

The grand jury found that, although the Philadelphia City Commissioners and the State Senate did not violate criminal law in their certification and swearing in of candidate Stinson, the handling of these processes was rather "unusual." Candidate Marks' absentee ballot challengers were not permitted to testify before the City Commissioners during their certification meeting. The challenges, said Commissioner Talmadge, should have been made by poll watchers at the polling place, as required by the Election Code.

The Commissioners apparently certified Stinson first, after hearing only one witness. In the meantime, Stinson had been instructed to go to Harrisburg the night before so that he would be readily available to be sworn in. In fact, Marks was in the process of appealing the Commissioners' ruling when Stinson was sworn in. The grand jury suggested that this chain of events might lead one to believe that everything was prearranged and that the various decisions made in the certification process were based on partisan politics.

FINDINGS—POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEES

The grand jury examined the activities of both the FDR Federation PAC and the Committee of 17 PAC. The FDR Federation PAC put out a brochure which was targeted to Jewish voters in the Second Senatorial District and which featured a number of Jewish candidates, including Bruce Marks. Witnesses involved with this PAC admitted that it was established specifically for the purpose of putting out the brochure. The PAC had two members, neither of whom played an active role in making policy decisions relating to the brochure. Decisions relating to the PAC and the brochure were made by Senate Republican campaign staff. The grand jury did not consider the FDR Federation PAC a true PAC as defined in the Election Code. Rather, its members agreed, the PAC served as a front for the Senate Republican Campaign Committee.

The Committee of 17 PAC was created by William Stinson. Not only did the PAC's officers fail to register the PAC and file campaign expense reports in accordance with law, but Stinson's wife forged a number of checks by signing the PAC treasurer's name. The grand jury compared this PAC to the FDR Federation PAC, in that no one associated with the PAC had any idea what its purpose was and that it was controlled by a third party; in this case William Stinson.

FINDINGS—CANDIDATES' ACTIVITIES AT THE POLLING PLACE

The grand jury learned that candidate Stinson was involved in a number of questionable activities on election day. Not only did he open and close voting machines for his mother, who is the judge of elections for the 33rd Ward, 13th Division, but he allegedly opened and read a number of absentee ballots. The grand jury asserted that these activities are prohibited by the Election Code and, thus, recommended that Stinson be charged with certain violations of the Code. He was subsequently tried and found not guilty.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATIVE, EXECUTIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

The following is a list of recommendations for legislative, executive and/or administrative action made by the grand jury. The recommendations are based on the findings summarized above.

1. The Office of Attorney General should continue to investigate the allegations brought to light in the grand jury report.

2. The Election Code should be amended to specifically prohibit the payment of monetary incentives to individuals who solicit absentee ballot applications and/or distribute absentee ballots.

3. The elected office of City Commissioner of the City of Philadelphia should be abolished. The "ministerial acts" of registering voters, approving applications for absentee ballots and counting votes should be performed by civil service employees, not partisan politicians.

4. The Election Code specifically provides that any elector whose absentee ballot application is rejected by notified immediately of such action. To the extent that there is any ambiguity in the language of this section of the Code, the grand jury recommends that the Election Code be amended to require that this notification be made directly to the elector.

5. The Election Code should be amended to prohibit anyone other than employees of the City Commissioners' office from delivering absentee ballots to voters and delivering completed ballots to the Board of Elections.

6. The Election Code should be amended to establish a procedure whereby an absentee elector could designate an "agent" to deliver his or her absentee ballot application, obtain the absentee ballot from election officials, return it to the elector and/or return the completed ballot to election officials upon its completion.

7. The General Assembly should review existing classes of absentee voters and determine if additional classes of voters should be permitted to vote by absentee ballot.

8. The General Assembly should review the laws relating to challenges to absentee ballots and consider establishing a procedure for dealing with allegations of massive or organized absentee ballot fraud. Present law provides adequately for individual challenges but not for allegations of mass fraud.

9. The grand jury asserts that, under no circumstances should a candidate or members of his or her immediate family be involved in the opening/closing of polls or the

canvassing of votes, and recommends that the General Assembly amend the Election Code to specifically criminalize such activities.

10. The General Assembly should amend the Election Code to "better define" the terms "political committee" and "political action committee" and to make it a crime to use one political committee or PAC to hide the activities of another political committee or PAC.

11. The General Assembly should be amended to more clearly provide for the duties and responsibilities of PAC officers, particularly the chairman and treasurer. In particular, the Election Code should identify the officer responsible for registering political committees and for filing all of the reports required of such committees.

12. The General Assembly should enact legislation prohibiting governmental officials or employees from requesting that their subordinates engage in political activity.

13. The four caucuses of the General Assembly which distribute WAM grants should take steps to prohibit the distribution of such monies by non-incumbent candidates for public office for political purposes.

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, April 30, 1998, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 1

9:00 a.m.

Finance

To continue oversight hearings to examine the operation of the Internal Revenue Service.

SH-216

MAY 4

4:00 p.m.

Armed Services

Personnel Subcommittee

Closed business meeting, to mark up those provisions which fall within the subcommittee's jurisdiction of a proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999.

SR-222

MAY 5

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

Airland Forces Subcommittee

Closed business meeting, to mark up those provisions which fall within the subcommittee's jurisdiction of a proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999.

SR-232A

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings on the nomination of Deborah K. Kilmer, of Idaho, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources

Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To resume hearings on S. 1253, to provide to the Federal land management agencies the authority and capability to manage effectively the federal lands in accordance with the principles of multiple use and sustained yield.

SD-366

10:00 a.m.

Labor and Human Resources

To hold hearings on the success of the SAFE KIDS Campaign after its 10 years of implementation.

SD-430

Joint Economic

To hold hearings on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and international economic policy.

Room to be announced

10:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for foreign assistance programs.

Room to be announced

11:00 a.m.

Armed Services

SeaPower Subcommittee

Closed business meeting, to mark up those provisions which fall within the subcommittee's jurisdiction of a proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999.

SR-222

2:00 p.m.

Labor and Human Resources

Children and Families Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposals to expand opportunities for community and neighborhood partnerships through the Community Services Block Grant program.

SD-430

2:30 p.m.

Armed Services

Readiness Subcommittee

Closed business meeting, to mark up those provisions which fall within the subcommittee's jurisdiction of a proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999.

SR-222

3:15 p.m.

Armed Services

Acquisition and Technology Subcommittee

Closed business meeting, to mark up those provisions which fall within the subcommittee's jurisdiction of a proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999.

SR-232A

6:00 p.m.

Armed Services

Strategic Forces Subcommittee

Closed business meeting, to mark up those provisions which fall within the

subcommittee's jurisdiction of a proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999.

SR-232A

MAY 6

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation Communications Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on the Common Carrier Bureau of the Federal Communications Commission.

SR-253

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense, focusing on the U.S. Pacific Command.

SD-192

Armed Services

Closed business meeting, to mark up a proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999.

SR-222

Indian Affairs

To resume hearings to examine the status of tribal sovereign immunity and the role its plays to preserve the Federal Government's protection of tribal self-government, and its impact on Indian economic development, commercial dealings, and taxation, focusing on S. 1691, to provide for for Indian legal reform.

Room to be announced

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 94 and H.R. 449, bills to provide for the orderly disposal of Federal lands in Nevada, and for the acquisition of certain environmentally sensitive lands in Nevada.

SD-366

MAY 7

9:00 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine agricultural trade policies.

SR-332

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the National Science Foundation, and the Office of Science and Technology.

SD-138

Appropriations

Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Executive Office of the President.

SD-192

10:00 a.m.

Armed Services

Closed business meeting, to continue to mark up a proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999.

SR-222

2:00 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation Aviation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 1089, to terminate the effectiveness of certain amendments to the foreign repair station

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rules of the Federal Aviation Administration, focusing on a recent GAO report regarding aviation repair stations.
SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on titles VI, VII, VIII, and XI of S. 1693, to renew, reform, reinvigorate, and protect the National Park System.
SD-366

MAY 8

9:30 a.m.
Joint Economic
To hold hearings to examine the employment-unemployment situation for April.
1334 Longworth Building

MAY 11

2:00 p.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense.
SD-192

MAY 12

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on proposed legislation to revise the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988, focusing on lands into trust for purposes of gaming.
Room to be announced

2:00 p.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings on S. 1868, to express United States foreign policy with respect to, and to strengthen United States advocacy on behalf of, individuals persecuted for their faith world-

wide, to authorize United States actions in response to religious persecution worldwide, to establish an Ambassador at Large on International Religious Freedom within the Department of State, a Commission on International Religious Persecution, and a Special Adviser on International Religious Freedom within the National Security Council.
SD-419

MAY 13

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

MAY 14

9:00 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings on the Department of Agriculture's Year 2000 compliance.
SR-332

2:00 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on titles IX and X of S. 1693, to renew, reform, reinvigorate, and protect the National Park System, and S. 1614, to require a permit for the making of motion picture, television program, or other forms of commercial visual depiction in a unit of the National Park System or National Wildlife Refuge System.
SD-366

MAY 20

10:00 a.m.
Indian Affairs
Business meeting, to mark up S. 1691, to provide for Indian legal reform.
SR-485

MAY 21

2:00 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Energy Research and Development, Production and Regulation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 1141, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to take into account newly developed renewable energy-based fuels and to equalize alternative fuel vehicle acquisition incentives to increase the flexibility of controlled fleet owners and operators, and S. 1418, to promote the research, identification, assessment, exploration, and development of methane hydrate resources.
SD-366

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

POSTPONEMENTS

APRIL 30

2:00 p.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings on S. 1645, to prohibit taking minors across State lines to avoid laws requiring the involvement of parents in abortion decisions.
SD-226