

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE 1998 U.S. FOREST SERVICE ORGANIZATION REFORM LEGISLATION

HON. JOE SKEEN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that is long overdue and desperately needed. My legislation, the 1998 U.S. Forest Service Organization Reform bill is simple legislation. Under this proposal the current Regional Offices of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) would be eliminated. In the terms of organization structure they would be replaced by state USFS offices. Each state would have a state director, just as several other agencies within the U.S. Department of Agriculture operate. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), in the Department of the Interior also is organized in this manner.

Authority would be granted for the establishment of up to six technical support centers as well as allowing the USFS to have multi-state directors where the Federal presence is minor. The Forest Service office for a state would be responsible for the administration of National Forest System lands within the state.

I have come to the conclusion that I can no longer wait for the USFS to do the right thing. I can no longer wait for them to solve their management problems. I can no longer wait to see our Forests suffer from neglect, mismanagement and misuse. This administration's record on addressing the major issues facing our Forest on these issues is dismal. Reinventing government in the USFS today means that nobody is in charge. It means forest plans that nobody can understand. It means lawsuits and court decisions that destroy people's livelihoods and damages their families irreparably.

USFS state offices will be the first step in bringing accountability into this agency of government. This office will be closer to the people in the state. The Director will interface directly and often with state officials, local government and concerned citizens. The Director will be accountable for what happens in the forest of the respective states. No longer would the USFS be able to hide in their regional offices. No longer would they be able to ignore problems in the respective states. The BLM manages more land than the USFS. The BLM planning program has been a model of unbridled success when compared to the disastrous Forest Service process. Part of the reason for this success is having a more responsive State office.

I would add at this point I have met numerous excellent USFS employees and I have been continually puzzled as to why these good people cannot make this agency work? Why, year after year, do we have study after study that talks about the mismanagement? I

have finally decided that it is the structure of the USFS that is smothering the abilities of the individual employees and stopping them from solving the problems on our Forest Service lands. Today, we have "teams" and "team leaders" in government but not supervisors. Let me repeat, we have teams and team leaders, but not supervisors. Our forests deserve attention not unsupervised teams. We need people who will be responsive to the needs of our natural heritage—not to the faceless bureaucracy that currently exists in the Forest Service.

There is no doubt that the USFS will say the cost of implementing this legislation is too expensive. It will not be too expensive or more expensive. Not if they do it right. They need to stop trying to protect their sacred regional office turf. If USDA agencies can do it and BLM can do it, then so can the USFS.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREYSTONE PARK ASSOCIATION GREYSTONE PARK, NJ

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Greystone Park Association. Founded in 1948, the Greystone Park Association is an auxiliary to the Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital. The association was formed to augment the services provided by the state and is dedicated to working for the welfare of the patients.

The Greystone Park Association was founded through the efforts of Mrs. Eads Johnson of Morristown, New Jersey. The main focus of the organization was to interest the public in the needs of mental hospitals, particularly Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital and to interest people in volunteering for service either in the hospital proper or in the association.

Since its establishment in 1948, the association has been dedicated to serving the needs of patients at Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital. The Greystone Park Association is directly affiliated with the State Hospital. The association's membership is drawn from Morris, Passaic, Hudson and Bergen counties, which the hospital serves.

Many people have benefited from the 50 years of tireless work of the members of the Greystone Park Association. The members continue to operate shops containing clothing, jewelry, antique treasures, etc. two days a week on a year round basis. Also, they hold an Annual Fall Festival, which is the most ambitious fund-raising project and reflects the combined efforts of the hospital, community and the Greystone Park Association.

The Greystone Park Association provides admission packets, clothing, good grooming

items, games and books to patients throughout the year, and each patient receives a personal gift during the Holiday season. The Greystone Park Association is committed to improving the quality of life of the patients at the Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital.

Mr. Speaker, my fellow colleagues, please join me in congratulating the Greystone Park Association for providing 50 years of important service to the community at Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Police Week to recognize the service of all the law enforcement officers in the 5th Congressional District of Washington who have answered the call to public service.

Society places large responsibilities on our law enforcement officers and they perform tasks well beyond the call of duty. They are often the first contact individuals have with government. They should be commended for the great wisdom and compassion they show when assisting individuals during times of great personal sorrow.

By nature of their profession, law enforcement officers encounter individuals every day who reject every moral and ethical code of conduct. In some cases, police risk their lives, emotional well-being and future happiness to ensure that our laws are enforced. They should be commended for their samaritan service.

Mr. Speaker, law enforcement is not a profession for everyone, but it is a worthwhile calling. I encourage my colleagues and all Americans to take some time this week to thank a law enforcement officer in their community for all the hard work and dedication they give us all.

MICHAEL J. BURKE: BOYS HOPE/GIRLS HOPE HEART OF GOLD AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the contributions of Michael J. Burke, a constituent and community leader who will receive Cincinnati's Boys Hope/Girls Hope's highest honor, the Heart of Gold Award, on May 26, 1998.

Mike Burke's personal commitment to numerous charities in our region reflects his philosophy of giving back to our community. For

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

over 10 years, Boys Hope/Girls Hope has been blessed by Mike's tireless energy, talent and dedication. Boys Hope provides talented, underprivileged grade and high school children and young men with a safe, wholesome living environment from which they can pursue their studies and prepare for college. The goal of Boys Hope/Girls Hope is to overcome the obstacles of poverty, abuse and neglect and provide a structured, caring educational experience for students through high school and college.

Through Mike's leadership, Boys Hope is concluding a successful effort to bring Girls Hope to Cincinnati. Girls Hope will permit the expansion of services to include young women in Greater Cincinnati.

Mike's vision has provided so many young people in our area with an exceptional opportunity to succeed. All of us in Greater Cincinnati owe Mike a debt of gratitude and congratulate him on receiving the Heart of Gold Award.

RECOGNIZING THE GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR GOVERNMENT AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the outstanding performance of the Governor's School for Government and International Studies in Richmond, Virginia in the "We the People * * * the Citizen and the Constitution" national finals held in Washington, DC, over May 2-4.

After beating other school teams on the State level, these talented, hard-working students went on to compete against 49 other classes from across the nation. The performance demonstrated their remarkable understanding of the fundamental ideals and values embodied in the Constitution and the United States government.

I commend students Anne Carpenter, Tiffanie Chan, Amy Depcrynski, Beky Dohogne, Chris Farrell, Melanie Forbes, Shannon Goodwyn, Jennifer Gunter, Lauren Hamilton, Mason Hedgecoth, Zoe Heiberger, Serena Homes, Chris Kessler, Mat Reynolds, Takeisa Rowlett, Derick Russell, Sada Smith, Anne Sommers, Amol Tripathi, Mei Hwa Yeh and their teacher Philip Sorrentino on this achievement.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT HARVEY TOMLINSON

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sergeant Harvey Tomlinson for providing 30 years of meritorious law enforcement service to the community. Sergeant Harvey Tomlinson is retiring May 27, 1998. Sergeant Tomlinson has saved 15 lives

in his career and is respectfully deserving of this honor.

Sergeant Tomlinson started his career by volunteering for the Mariposa County Sheriff's Posse in 1968. He was hired as a deputy by Mariposa County in 1969 and later attained the position of undersheriff before leaving the department in 1975. He then joined the Madera County Sheriff's Department where he became promoted to sergeant in 1981. Sergeant Tomlinson served as the coordinator for both the Search & Rescue and the Posse, and has served in these departments up until his retirement.

During his career, Mr. Tomlinson worked in the Madera County Jail, served as a patrolman, served as a detective, served as a detective sergeant, and for all but two summers, was in charge of boating operations on Bass Lake.

The highlights of his career are his Search & Rescue accomplishments. He directed and executed over 500 missions, directly saving 15 lives by his actions. Additionally, he has located and helped more than 900 people who have been lost or injured.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to Sergeant Harvey Tomlinson. Sergeant Tomlinson's accomplishments in law enforcement and devotion to saving lives should serve as a model for anyone interested in a career in law enforcement. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Sergeant Harvey Tomlinson continued success with any future endeavors.

GREENFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HONORED BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the students, faculty, and administration of Greenfield Elementary School, whose outstanding performance was recently honored by the Department of Education and the National Association of State Coordinators of Compensatory Education. Greenfield Elementary is one of only 109 schools nationwide to be recognized by the Title I Recognition Program. The Title I Recognition Program honors schools that have set and reached high student achievement goals, fostered professional development, and built partnerships with parents and the community.

Greenfield Elementary School is a great example of what our public schools can accomplish with a lot of effort and some additional resources. Eighty percent of Greenfield's students are eligible for free or reduced price lunches. Their ethnically diverse student body is 65% African-American and 20% foreign-born. 95% of the students are bused to school. Title I has allowed the school to reduce its first-grade class size to 18 students and provide instructional assistants to all grade levels. The people there believe this lower adult-to-child ration, which increases the interactions children have with caring and sensitive adults, is critical to creating a productive learning environment.

The results at Greenfield are impressive. The children are in school 91% of the time. They are ranked among the top five schools in the district in communications and mathematics. They have used the diversity of their student body as a teaching resource, which allows students to learn about other countries, places, and customs.

I applaud Greenfield Elementary School for its accomplishments. I know their success is a result of a great deal of hard work by teachers, students, administrators, parents, and the Pittsburgh community.

TRIBUTE TO GENE CAPLINGER, RALPH CARTER, BOBBY G. MILLS AND RAYBURN SMITH

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor four great Americans.

Gene Caplinger, Ralph Carter, Bobby G. Mills and Rayburn Smith are veterans of World War II and have been members of the American Legion post in Harrisburg, Arkansas, for 50 years.

As members of the American Legion, these men have been tremendous supporters of the community. The contributions they have made to future generations are immeasurable. Arkansas Boys State, the American Legion baseball program, and countless scholarship funds have flourished in Harrisburg due to the leadership of these four individuals.

Our nation is fortunate to have been represented in times of trial by men of character like Gene Caplinger, Ralph Carter, Bobby G. Mills, and Rayburn Smith. When their tours of duty ended, these men chose to return home and serve their hometown as they had served their country. Mr. Speaker, the people of Harrisburg could have asked for nothing more.

A TRIBUTE TO LT. COL. MARK A. SCHOENROCK

HON. BILL BARRETT

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, Lt. Colonel Mark A. Schoenrock of Fairbury, Nebraska, completes 20 years of service in the United States Army this month. After being posted in Washington, DC, for the past 7 years, Lt. Col. Schoenrock and his family will be moving on next month to new challenges in Denver, Colorado, where Lt. Col. Schoenrock has received a new posting as the Inspector General of the Colorado National Guard. Having gotten to know Lt. Col. Schoenrock in his capacity as a legislative liaison with the Army, let me share with you some of Lt. Col. Schoenrock's career milestones.

He was commissioned an officer in the United States Army on May 13, 1978, in Lincoln, Nebraska, upon graduation from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UN-L) and the

Army Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC). He was a 4-year Army ROTC scholarship winner, graduated from UN-L with distinction, and was a Distinguished Military Graduate. He completed the Quartermaster Officer Basic Course at Fort Lee, Virginia, with honors and was assigned as an Assistant Brigade Logistics Officer, Platoon Leader, and Battalion Logistics Officer with the 25th Infantry Division (Tropic Lightning) at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. While assigned to the Tropic Lightning Division, Lt. Col. Schoenrock deployed three times to the Republic of Korea. Following his three years in Hawaii, Lt. Col. Schoenrock completed the Quartermaster Officer Advanced Course at Fort Lee, Virginia, again graduating with honors. He was selected as the Outstanding Logistician for the course. He was subsequently assigned to Fort Riley, Kansas, and the First Infantry Division (Big Red One) where he served as a Company Commander and Maneuver Brigade Logistics Officer. In this agreement, he deployed twice to the Federal Republic of Germany. He was responsible for the entire logistical support of 2,500 soldiers for eight weeks and their safe and efficient transport from Kansas to Germany and back.

Upon the completion of his 4-year tour at Fort Riley, Lt. Col. Schoenrock was selected to represent the Army in the highly competitive Training With Industry (TWI) program. He served as the Army's first representative with the General Motors Corporation, Allison Gas Turbines Division. He played an instrumental role in the development of the T-800 engine, which is now the engine in the Army's Comanche helicopter.

Following TWI, Lt. Col. Schoenrock served as a Contracting Officer and Contracting Section Chief in St. Louis, Missouri, responsible for the development and acquisition of petroleum and water logistics. He was responsible for the acquisition of many end items that served our soldiers so well during Operation Desert Storm and that were vital to our ultimate victory in the deserts of southwest Asia. He then was selected to attend the Army Command and General Staff College (CGSC) at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Following CGSC graduation, Lt. Col. Schoenrock was selected to be the principal acquisition advisor to the Inspector General of the Army in Washington. In this role, he advised and assisted the Inspector General with some of the Army's most sensitive acquisition programs and other matters. He then was selected to serve as an executive officer in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Research, Development and Acquisition). He served as a key facilitator in preparing the Army leadership for senior level Secretary of Defense and Congressional reviews for programs that were valued in excess of \$30 billion.

He then was selected to serve as an Army liaison officer with Congress. Lt. Col. Schoenrock has worked directly with the Army leadership and with Members of Congress and their staffs in resolving matter of the utmost sensitivity and urgency.

Through the programs he has worked these past seven years in our nation's capital, Lt. Col. Schoenrock has made a difference in the lives of thousands of people. He has worked

to ensure programs totaling billions of dollars are wisely and prudently executed to provide maximum benefit to the Army and to the communities that are so clearly related to the Army.

Lt. Col. Schoenrock was recently selected as the next Inspector General for the State of Colorado's National Guard. In this position, he will advise and assist the State Adjutant General and Governor regarding military matters within their area of responsibility, I'm confident Lt. Col. Schoenrock will do his utmost to continue his outstanding record of achievement and service to our nation in this new duties.

Mr. Speaker, as a career Army officer, as a husband and father, and dedicated churchman, I wish Mark Schoenrock well as he and his family depart Washington for Colorado.

TRIBUTE TO DR. WILLIAM LLOYD BIRCH

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. William Lloyd Birch of the Sixth Congressional District of South Carolina. Dr. Birch has taught at Francis Marion University in Florence, South Carolina, since he moved to the Palmetto State in 1971. It is on the occasion of his retirement that I pay tribute to his 27 years of tireless involvement in the community surrounding the Pee Dee area of South Carolina.

A native of Louisville, Kentucky, Dr. Birch received his B.A. at Georgetown College in Georgetown, Kentucky. He received a Th.B. from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1955. From 1949-1960 Dr. Birch conducted summer youth revivals throughout the state for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He was a Mission Pastor and served as Interim Pastor for First Baptist Church in Prestonsburg, Kentucky. From there, he was pastor at Shakertown Baptist in Harrodsburg, Visalia Baptist in Covington, Wildwood Baptist in Ashland, and Chevy Chase Baptist in Lexington. He served on the Board of Directors for The Western Recorder, the Kentucky Baptist state paper, and was an Executive Board Member of the Kentucky Baptist Convention from 1964-1967. He was also on the Board of Directors of the Christian Life Committee.

In 1969, Dr. Birch received an M.A. in Sociology from the University of Kentucky. He received his Ph.D. in 1971. Dr. Birch began his distinguished teaching career at Georgetown College in Georgetown, Kentucky as a part-time instructor and then Assistant Professor.

Dr. Birch moved to the Sixth Congressional District of South Carolina in 1971 and began as an Associate Professor of Sociology at FMU. In 1972, he established the Sociology major and Department of Sociology. He served as Chairman of the department for 23 years. From his leadership during the founding of the Sociology department, the Sociology major was the third most popular major on campus for many years. Through 1994, it remained in the top 5 largest majors of bachelor level graduates. Since the University opened,

35% of all graduates have taken Dr. Birch's Courtship and Marriage course, a course not required by any major. During his stint at FMU, Dr. Birch has also made professional presentations and published articles or book reviews a total of 45 times. In addition, he has made an average of one presentation per month during his tenure to workshops, civic clubs, hospitals, hospices and Family Life Conferences for a total of 297 presentations.

Dr. Birch has received numerous awards during his tenure at FMU. He was awarded the Distinguished Professor Award in 1977-1978 and held the Joan and Garry Gladstone Chair in Sociology since 1989. He is also a member of the Alpha Kappa Delta Honorary Society and the Pi Gamma Mu Honorary Society. Among his professional affiliations are the American Sociological Association, Southern Sociological Society, Association for the Sociology of Religion, and the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. He was a charter member and served as Vice President of the South Carolina Sociological Society and is a Legacy Council member of the National Council on Family Relations. He also served on the Board of Directors and was Chairman of the Legislative Action Committee of the Southeastern Council on Family Relations. He was President and served on the Executive Committee of the South Carolina Council on Family Relations, is a Clinical Member of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy, and served as Vice President of the South Carolina Association Marriage and Family Therapy.

Aside from his professional organizations related to Sociology, Dr. Birch is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. He remains in private practice at Family Therapy Associates in Florence where he has practiced since 1974. Dr. Birch has been a therapist at the Pastoral Counseling Service in Florence, a Consultant to the S.C. Department of Youth Services, and a Consultant on Human Sexuality for the National Council of Churches Task Force on Developmental Disabilities. He has also served as a member of the Ethics Committee of McLeod Regional Medical Center.

Dr. Birch's first professional appointment came from Governor West in 1973. He was appointed to the S.C. Council for the Developmentally Disabled and served as the Chairman of the Committee on Deinstitutionalization and Institutionalization Reform. He also co-authored South Carolina's first plan for deinstitutionalization. Governor Campbell next appointed Dr. Birch to the S.C. Board of Examiners for Licensure of Professional Counselors, Associate Counselors, and Marital and Family Therapists. He was re-appointed to the S.C. Board by Governor Beasley and will serve as Vice President through 2001. He is also Chairman of the Marriage and Family Therapy Standards Committee that reviews the credentials of all applicants seeking licensing as marriage and family therapist in South Carolina. Dr. Birch has also been a recent S.C. delegate to the Annual Meeting of the Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards.

Although he is retiring from FMU, Dr. Birch will continue to impact the lives of many of my constituents through his service as interim pastor at South Carolina's Southern Baptist

Churches. During the past 27 years, he has served as interim pastor 31 times, delivered 2,275 sermons. For seven of 27 years, he has filled a pulpit every Sunday. Dr. Birch has also conducted over 100 Family Life Conferences for Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopal and Catholic churches.

Throughout his 27 years in South Carolina, Dr. Birch has served, and continues to serve, his State and community tirelessly. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in extending best wishes to him for a fulfilling retirement.

COMMEMORATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF LEVI'S JEANS

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask members of the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the 125th Anniversary of an American legend: blue jeans. Or more specifically, Levi's jeans.

On this day, the 20th of May, 1873, a California businessman named Levi Strauss patented the process of putting rivets in blue denim pants for greater strength. He did so with the help of his business partner, Jacob Davis, a tailor from Nevada. From that moment on, Levi's jeans have been a part of daily life in America and around the world.

Initially, the jeans gained popularity for their superior quality and durability, but the invention was destined to become an international phenomenon because of what they came to represent: the spirit of personal freedom and originality.

For more than a century, Levi's jeans have been part of the cultural experience in the United States and overseas. From frontier independence to the fall of the Berlin Wall; from Woodstock to the White House; from the assembly line to casual Friday, blue jeans have been the uniform of individuality allowing the wearer to express his or her essential self.

It's remarkable to think that what was conceived as a garment for California gold miners has evolved into a global icon for independence. But then again, good ideas have a way of making themselves well-known to everyone. The familiarity we all share with blue jeans is proof of that.

On this, the 125th anniversary of the invention of Levi's, please join me in acknowledging the spirit of freedom and limitless possibilities that they symbolize.

H.R. 1872—SATELLITE REFORM LEGISLATION

HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, two weeks ago the House overwhelmingly approved legislation to procompetitively privatize the intergovernmental satellite organizations—INTELSAT and Inmarsat—that dominate international sat-

ellite communications today. This legislation, H.R. 1872, garnered near unanimous support of the House, which demonstrates the bipartisan commitment of this body to enact this form of satellite reform legislation this Congress.

During the debate on the bill, there was considerable discussion on whether the bill could be ruled a "taking" of COMSAT's property. The House soundly rejected this notion. Absent from that debate, however, was an important commentary done by Mr. George L. Priest, former member of President Reagan's Commission on Privatization and now the Olin Professor of Law and Economics at Yale Law School. Mr. Priest conducted an analysis of the takings issue regarding H.R. 1872 which he reflected in a lengthy monograph. This monograph was circulated to Members prior to the debate on the bill and a similar version has been subsequently published in the May 11, 1998, issue of Space News in an article entitled "Breaking Comsat's Hold." In summary, Mr. Priest concluded that COMSAT's takings argument "will not hold legal water."

I think the House would benefit from Mr. Priest's viewpoint on this important matter and I ask that it, along with a letter from the Washington Legal Foundation and a letter from United States Trade Representative Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky relating to a World Trade Organization issue discussed in the debate, be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD at this point.

[From Space News, May 11, 1998]

BREAKING COMSAT'S HOLD

(By George L. Priest)

In recent weeks, several commentators including Comsat and supporters such as Nancie G. Marzulla in an op-ed piece entitled "Deregulation or Plain Old Theft," Washington Times, April 27, have argued that legislation introducing competition in the international telecommunications satellite industry constitutes a taking under the U.S. Constitution's 5th Amendment, which would require the government to compensate Comsat for all its losses if Congress has the nerve to pass the bill.

In principle, I applaud the defense of private property rights against government intrusion. But Comsat and Ms. Marzulla mistake protection of property rights with the protection of monopoly and confuse the defense of investor expectations with the deregulation of a telecommunications monopoly to expand services and enhance consumer welfare.

Comsat was created by the Satellite Act of 1962, which, like much activist legislation of that era, derived from the view that government-controlled investment buttressed by heavy regulation was superior to private-market initiative in developing industries. Indeed, the Satellite Act took this thinking to the next level: If heavy regulation by the U.S. government was needed for U.S. satellite investment, then heavier, worldwide intergovernmental regulation was needed for international satellite investment.

Thus, the Satellite Act tackled the problem of "too few satellite communications facilities" by establishing Comsat as the U.S. participant in an international satellite venture known as Intelsat.

Intelsat, in turn, is owned mostly by government-owned or protected telephone monopolies. In essence, Intelsat controls satellite facilities that possess dominant posi-

tions over much of the world to which Comsat has exclusive—which is to say, monopoly—access in the United States.

Comsat and Intelsat, in fact, are among the last vestiges of exclusive governmental monopolies, at least in the United States. They have retained their near-monopoly position despite the general deregulation of industry that began in the late 1970s and 1980s in the United States, not to mention the vast privatization of government enterprise proceeding worldwide.

Intelsat operates the world's largest satellite fleet, comprising 24 satellites in prime geostationary orbital locations. Moreover, Intelsat and Comsat enjoy a host of competitive advantages because of their intergovernmental or quasi-governmental status.

Intelsat is completely immune from U.S. antitrust laws. It has preferential access to new orbital locations, and is exempt from myriad U.S. Federal Communications Commission regulatory requirements that apply to private satellite competitors.

In addition, Intelsat and Comsat have competitive advantages by virtue of Intelsat's ownership structure. Intelsat's owners have a financial stake in denying overseas access to competitors. Each use of a private, international satellite to access a foreign country reduces the financial dividend from satellite services that would otherwise flow to that country's Intelsat signatory. Private U.S. satellite companies, as a consequence, continue to be shut out of many foreign markets.

Within the last decade and a half, most American consumers have received direct and dramatic benefits from the breakup of the AT&T monopoly, a breakup which gave rise to an extraordinary flowering of new telecommunications services. Unleashing competition in the international telecommunications satellite industry holds similar promise.

The neglect of satellite competition, however, appears to have ended. The U.S. House of Representatives May 6 passed legislation sponsored by Rep. THOMAS J. BLILEY (R-Va.), chairman of the House Commerce Committee and Rep. EDWARD J. MARKEY (D-Mass.), ranking minority member of the committee, that would require Comsat to compete in the satellite market stripped of its government-conferred privileges and immunities.

Comsat has battled these efforts, claiming that the legislation constitutes a breach of the 1962 Satellite Act contract, an unfair disappointment of reasonable investor expectations and, most dramatically, a compensable taking under the 5th Amendment. In rhetoric, these appear to be good conservative positions: All conservatives believe in protecting investor expectations and compensating victims of breach of contract or of governmental takings. These principles, however, are horribly misapplied with respect to Comsat and Intelsat.

Every monopoly in history has complained about damage from competition.

Indeed, Comsat's complaints could be taken verbatim from the 1602 Case of Monopolies in which the person to whom Queen Elizabeth had granted a monopoly over the sale of playing cards protested when the English Parliament introduced competition.

Standard Oil back in 1911 complained about impairment of contracts and disappointment of expectations when the Justice Department sought to break it up. The courts in 1602 and in 1911 rejected those arguments, establishing and encouraging the competitive economy we enjoy today.

It is not conservative policy to protect the property rights of a monopolist. From Adam Smith to the Chicago School more recently, true conservatives know the benefits of the maximum competitive order, compelling the break-up of monopolies or cartels to engender the most vigorous competition possible.

The Bliley-Markey legislation may not go far enough in this regard.

Although the legislation appropriately encourages the break-up of Intelsat, it does not specify the number of competing entities to result (three or four are a minimum to establish long-term competition), and the deadline it sets for the break-up—January 2002—is unnecessarily protracted.

Once agreement is reached, Intelsat could be broken up within short months, unleashing competitive energies immediately. Nevertheless, the bill's reduction of Comsat's governmental privileges and the opening-up of potential entry are surely important first steps.

The notion that this legislation violates the 5th Amendment will not hold legal water. The 1962 Satellite Act contains a provision that reserves the right of Congress to repeal, alter or amend the act. Even without this provision, this case is far different from the recent decision—loudly invoked by Comsat—in which the Supreme Court held that various savings and loan associations could sue the government for breach of contract when Congress enacted the Federal Institutions Reform, Recovery, Enforcement Act of 1989.

In the savings and loan cases, in order to induce a solvent savings and loan to take over one that had failed, the Federal Home Loan Bank Board promised a favorable accounting treatment that made the acquisition profitable. Congress later renounced the accounting treatment. The Supreme Court held that, in the earlier contract, the government had expressly assumed the risk of the regulatory change that Congress subsequently enacted.

There is no parallel with respect to international satellites. One cannot construe the 1962 Satellite Act as a governmental assumption of all risks of subsequent regulatory changes with regard to international satellites. This is particularly obvious when Congress incorporates into a law as it did in the Satellite Act a provision reserving the right to repeal, alter or amend the law.

It is an interesting but unanswerable historical question whether the international telecommunications satellite industry would be more advanced and developed today if Congress had kept out of the business in 1962 and allowed the private market to develop on its own. I believe it would, though that is largely beside the point now.

The conservative (as well as liberal) agenda here, as in all other areas of economic life, is for the U.S. government and governments around the world to reduce their regulatory role, especially where that role is to protect an entrenched monopoly.

Congress must withdraw the deadening hand of the 1962 Satellite Act and introduces maximum competition in the international telecommunications satellite industry to the benefit of all consumers.

WASHINGTON LEGAL FOUNDATION,
Washington, DC, May 5, 1998.

HON. TOM BLILEY,
Chairman, Committee on Commerce, House of Representatives, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BLILEY: This is in response to your letter requesting a clarification of

WLF's views regarding the "Communications Satellite Competition and Privatization Act" in light of concerns that WLF's views have been mischaracterized.

I want to make it very clear that the Washington Legal Foundation does not in any way oppose your bill or in any manner support amendments to your bill.

WLF does not engage or participate in any lobbying activity whatsoever. In fact, some members of WLF's own Advisory Boards disagree with WLF's legal analysis of the Takings Clause in connection with this legislation.

Unfortunately, when we sent our analysis to the Members who requested it, we did not anticipate that it would be used as the basis for any legislative tactics or strategy which would oppose your satellite reform bill. We take no legislative position whatsoever.

We are grateful for your leadership on free enterprise issues and appreciate the opportunity to clarify this matter with you.

Sincerely,

DANIEL J. POPEO,
General Counsel.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE,
Washington, DC, February 12, 1997.

MR. FREDERICK A. LANDMAN,
President and Chief Executive Officer,
PanAmSat Corporation, Greenwich CT.

DEAR MR. LANDMAN: I am writing in reply to a letter of January 31, 1997, from your legal counsel, regarding the negotiations on basic telecommunications services at the World Trade Organization. The U.S. goal in these negotiations is to strengthen the ability of the U.S. satellite services industry to compete globally, and on a level playing field, with the inter-governmental satellite services organizations and with satellite service providers of other countries.

The United States has taken a number of steps to make certain that our key trade partners provide market access for satellite-based delivery of basic telecom services. Based on a note issued by the chairman of the negotiations in November, 1996, which has become part of the formal record of the proceedings, we have clarified the scheduling approach with regard to satellites. As a result, close to forty countries have made offers that would provide full market access for satellite-based delivery of all scheduled services, on an immediate or phased-in basis.

WTO members that make specific commitments on satellites will be subject to allocating and assigning frequencies in accordance with the principles of most-favored-nation and national treatment, as well as in accordance with the requirement for domestic regulations in the General Agreement on Trade in Services. Almost all of the countries making full satellite commitments have also adopted the reference paper on pro-competitive regulatory commitments. As a result, they will be obligated to provide additional regulatory safeguards with respect to allocation and use of radio frequencies.

A successful agreement on basic telecom services would also obligate those countries which have not made satellite commitments to provide treatment no less favorable to satellite service providers of the United States than the treatment provided to service suppliers of other countries. This would apply, for example, to how WTO members reach decisions regarding new market access arrangements involving service suppliers of other countries.

I share your deep concern regarding the possible distortive impact on competition in

the U.S. satellite services market of certain proposals for restructuring INTELSAT. The United States has proposed a restructuring of INTELSAT that would lead to the creation of an independent commercial affiliate, INTELSAT New Corporation (INC). If made independent, the United States believes that the creation of INC will enhance competition and help ensure the continuation of INTELSAT's mission of global connectivity for core services. As you are aware, however, many INTELSAT members are resisting the idea of independence for INC and we believe that a failure to achieve independence could adversely affect competition in the U.S. satellite services market. In the WTO negotiations we have taken pains to preserve our ability to protect competition in the U.S. market.

Our legal conclusion, for which there is a consensus among participants in the WTO negotiations, is that the ISOs do not derive any benefits from a GBT agreement because of their status as treaty-based organizations. The status of ISOs was discussed in detail in the GBT multilateral sessions. No delegation in the GBT negotiations has contested this conclusion.

We have also concluded that the United States cannot be forced to grant a license to a privatized ISO (should the ISO change its treaty status and incorporate in a country) or to a future privatized affiliate, subsidiary or other form of spin-off from the ISO. Existing U.S. communications and antitrust law, regulation, policy and practice will continue to apply to license applicants if a GBT deal goes into effect. Both Department of Justice and FCC precedent evidence long-standing concerns about competition in the U.S. market and actions to protect that competition. We have made it clear to all our negotiating partners in the WTO that the United States will not grant market access to a future privatized affiliate, subsidiary or other form of spin-off from the ISOs, that would likely lead to anti-competitive results.

It has always been U.S. practice to defend vigorously any challenge in the WTO to allegations that U.S. measures are inconsistent with our WTO obligations. There is no question that we would do the same for any FCC decision to deny or condition a license to access an ISO or a future privatized affiliate, subsidiary or other form of spin-off from the ISO. For your information, Section 102(c) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, specifically denies a private right of action in U.S. courts on the basis of a WTO agreement. Therefore, a FCC decision is not subject to judicial review in U.S. courts based upon a WTO agreement, such as the General Agreement on Trade in Services.

The United States is confident that it would win if a U.S. decision went to WTO dispute settlement. If the United States did not prevail, however, we would not allow trade retaliation measures to deter us from protecting the integrity of U.S. competition policy.

I appreciate the support your firms' representatives have expressed for our objectives in the WTO negotiations.

Sincerely,

CHARLENE BARSHEFSKY,
United States Trade Representative—Designate.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF THE EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS AWARDS

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to day to congratulate Kuckenbecker Tractor of Madera, Boys and Girls Clubs of Fresno County, Bank of the Sierra of Porterville, Community Health System of Fresno, Duncan Enterprises of Fresno, Valley Public Television of Fresno, Denham Personnel Services of Fresno, Sherwood Lehman Massucco, Inc., Pearson Realty of Fresno, Gottschalks Inc. of Fresno, and Hall of Fame winner, Marilyn Hamilton of Fresno for being honored by the Fresno Bee with the Excellence in Business Award.

For the third year now, The Fresno Bee is recognizing some of the most respected names in business in the San Joaquin Valley. The businesses selected were chosen because of setting trends and serving customers unlike any other business. The winners were also recognized for success, growth, and setting high ethical and community standards. The judges for this event include Fresno Business people, a retired school principle, a member of the Kings County Board of Supervisors and other selected community leaders.

Kuckenbecker Tractor of Madera is a family owned business that started in 1945. Richard Kuckenbecker took the small company that employed six people in Madera in 1961 and expanded it into a two-store operation in both Fresno and Madera that employs 40 people and generates \$8 million in revenue.

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Fresno County is a charitable organization that has a staff and volunteers who work with thousands of children each year. The organization is instrumental in providing educational, social and cultural reinforcement for children.

In 1977, Bank of the Sierra, Porterville was started with a single branch in Porterville by 17 Tulare County residents. It hosted 11 employees and garnered \$1.5 million in assets. Today, it has grown into the largest Valley-based bank with nearly \$387 million in assets and more than 230 employees with nine branches and eight specialty credit centers.

Community Health Systems of Fresno is a \$400 million-a-year organization that employs more than 4,700 people and has a medical staff of more than 1,100 physicians. Its chief executive officer is Dr. J. Philip Hinton.

Duncan Enterprises of Fresno makes paint and other items for hobbyists. The company expects a 37 percent growth in sales this fiscal year. Duncan Enterprises has been a fixture in Fresno for many years. The company brought the assets of a Massachusetts company and planned to move its operations to Fresno over six months. It worked with the production employees of the company to allow them to stay employed during the phase-out of the operation, while also coordinating training for them in resume writing and interviewing skills.

Valley Public Television of Fresno has operated the San Joaquin Valley's only public tele-

vision station from its Fresno studios since 1977. It has continued over the years to provide services and programs to meet the diverse demands of the changing community. Colin Dougherty serves as the general manager and executive director of the station.

Denham Personnel Services of Fresno was founded 28 years ago by B.G. "Bud" and Jean Denham. It started off as a single office and has grown to include offices in Madera and Selma and a full-time staff of 14. On every working day of the year, an estimated 200-300 people in the Valley get up and go to work because they have been placed in jobs by Denham Personnel Services.

Sherwood Lehman Massucco, Inc. of Fresno is an executive search firm that has been finding top management talent for companies located in Central California since 1978. The firm believes in recruiting locally if possible, but has extensive experience in nationwide searches when the best candidate is not available in the Valley.

Pearson Realty of Fresno was founded in 1919 and has become one of the largest independently owned commercial real estate firms in the Valley. Its farm division is the largest in California and possibly the nation. The company pays a portion of net profit back to employees in the form of bonuses.

Gottschalks, Inc. of Fresno was founded in 1903 in downtown Fresno by Emil Gottschalk. The regional retailer has grown to 37 department stores and 22 specialty stores employing more than 5,500 people at sites in California, Nevada, Washington and Oregon. It is the only Central Valley-based company traded on the New York Stock Exchange, going public in 1986.

Hall of Fame winner, Marilyn Hamilton of Fresno had a sudden turn of events in her life almost 20 years ago when she became paralyzed in a hang-gliding accident. Frustrated by the clunky design of her wheelchair, Hamilton and two hanglider friends built their own lightweight chairs. They formed Motion Designs, which was bought by Sunrise Medical in 1986. Hamilton is now vice president of consumer development at Sunrise, and the Quickie wheelchair she designed has become an industry leader.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate these fine businesses and business leaders in the community. These exceptional businesses and business leaders were honored for their unique contributions to the business community and exemplary business skills. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Kuckenbecker Tractor of Madera, Boys and Girls Clubs of Fresno County, Bank of the Sierra of Porterville, Community Health System of Fresno, Duncan Enterprises of Fresno, Valley Public Television of Fresno, Denham Personnel Services of Fresno, Sherwood Lehman Massucco, Inc., Pearson Realty of Fresno, Gottschalks Inc. of Fresno, and Hall of Fame winner, Marilyn Hamilton of Fresno many more years of continued success.

CLASSIFICATION OF NATURAL GAS GATHERING LINES

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced legislation, H.R.—to provide much needed certainty with respect to the proper depreciation classification of natural gas gathering lines. Natural gas gathering lines play an integral role in the production and processing of natural gas as they are used to carry gas from the wellhead to a gas processing unit or interconnection with a transmission pipeline. In many instances, the gathering network for a single gas field can consist of hundreds of miles and represents a substantial investment for natural gas processors.

The proper depreciation classification for specific assets is determined by reference to the asset guideline class that describes the property. Asset class 13.2, subject to a 7-year cost recovery period, clearly includes:

... assets used by petroleum and natural gas producers for drilling wells and production of petroleum and natural gas, including gathering pipelines and related production facilities.

Not only are gathering lines specifically referenced in asset class 13.2, but gathering lines are integral to the extraction and production process. Nonetheless, it has come to my attention that some Internal Revenue Service auditors now seek to categorize natural gas gathering lines as assets subject to a 15-year cost recovery period under asset class 46.0, titled "Pipeline Transportation."

Over the past several years, I have corresponded and met with officials of the Department of Treasury seeking clarification of Internal Revenue Service policy and the issuance of guidance to taxpayers as to the proper treatment of these assets for depreciation purposes. These efforts have been to no avail. In the meantime, the continued controversy over this issue has imposed significant costs on the gas processing industry on audit and in litigation, and has resulted in a division of authority among the lower courts as to the proper depreciation of these assets. While it is not my intent to interfere with ongoing litigation, I do believe that legislation is needed to clarify the treatment of these assets under the Internal Revenue Code in order to provide certainty to the industry for tax planning purposes, and to avoid costly and protracted audits or litigation.

Accordingly, I have introduced legislation that would amend the Internal Revenue Code to specifically provide that natural gas gathering lines are subject to a 7-year cost recovery period. While I believe that this result should be axiomatic under existing law, this bill would eliminate any uncertainty surrounding the proper treatment of these assets. The bill also includes a proper definition of "natural gas gathering lines" to distinguish these assets from pipeline transportation for purposes of depreciation.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

H.R. —

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

SECTION 1. NATURAL GAS GATHERING LINES TREATED AS 7-YEAR PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (C) of section 168(e)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to classification of certain property) is amended by redesignating clause (ii) as clause (iii) and by inserting after clause (i) the following new clause:

“(i) any natural gas gathering line, and”.

(b) NATURAL GAS GATHERING LINE.—Subsection (i) of section 168 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(15) NATURAL GAS GATHERING LINE.—The term ‘natural gas gathering line’ means the pipe, equipment, and appurtenances used to deliver natural gas from the wellhead to the point at which such gas first reaches—

“(A) a gas processing plant,

“(B) an interconnection with an interstate natural-gas company (as defined in section 2(6) of the Natural Gas Act), or

“(C) an interconnection with an intrastate transmission pipeline.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

ON THE SPEAKER'S VISION FOR HEALTH IN THE 21ST CENTURY

HON. RICHARD K. ARMEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert in the RECORD a transcript of a recent speech on the subject of health in the 21st century by the Speaker of the House, the gentleman from Georgia, Mr. GINGRICH.

As is so often the case, this speech by the gentleman, given to the American Association of Health Plans in mid-February, is full of insight.

At a time when the liberals and some doctors' associations are pressing for new government mandates on health insurance companies, and President Clinton is trying to achieve socialized medicine incrementally, it is important that we step back, as the Speaker wisely observes, and rethink the whole question of how to improve health and not just health care or health insurance.

In the coming health-care revolution, which promises to be an age of highly informed consumers and entrepreneurial doctors and insurers coming together to provide ever greater quality for customers at ever lower cost—in such an age the old prescriptions of regulation and mandates will be shown for the anachronisms they really are.

America's health-care system, for all its many faults, is still the best system in the world when it comes to the quality of our doctors, our drugs, our devices, our treatments, our techniques, and our technologies.

But all of that progress would be threatened by the Democrats' "Patients' Bill of Rights Act," H.R. 3605. This bill puts me in mind of medieval barbers applying leeches. It is one of the more misguided, irresponsible, and politi-

cally inspired bills I have seen. It is a breathtaking collection of costly mandates and grants of bureaucratic power. It would regulate the health insurance industry in every imaginable way. It would eliminate all but the most restrictive HMOs. It would enable nurses and doctors to go on strike. It would divert scarce health resources to lawyers and bureaucrats. It would make insurance unaffordable for millions of working Americans. It would swell the ranks of the uninsured. And it would impose innovation-stifling restrictions on the practice of medicine, just to name a few of its likely effects.

Happily, I have confidence that this Congress is not going to pass this backward bill, or anything like it. Members are increasingly aware of the dangers of such politically inspired legislation, and will, I think, warmly embrace the happier, freer vision for health in America outlined in the address of the gentleman from Georgia. I commend that address to the attention of all of my colleagues.

“HEALTH CARE REFORM IN 1998: WHAT CAN WE EXPECT FROM THE 105TH CONGRESS?”—KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY NEWT GINGRICH, AAHP 1998 POLICY CONFERENCE, FEBRUARY 22, 1998

Let me tell you where I think we are on health, and I want to start with a very simple planning model of eight words. I want to share this model with you because I think it's the heart of our current challenge in health. It's four words that are a hierarchy and then four words that are a straight line. The top word is “vision,” and I think this is the place we most have failed. What is our vision of America's future in health? And notice, I didn't say “health care.” I think when you say “health care,” you've already come down a layer of detail.

Our interests ought to be health and then, secondarily, health care. Take the example of diabetes. We know there are Indian tribes that have 50 percent diabetes rates. If we could save 45 of that 50 percent from needing kidney dialysis, we would lower the cost of health care because we would increase health. So it's very important at the vision level what words do you use, what do they mean, because that then defines all the other layers.

The second layer is strategies. What are your strategies for getting something done? For example, I am passionate about preventive care and wellness, and one of our strategies in Medicare reform was to begin to move towards more early screening, more preventive care, which we believe will ultimately save money, but is scored in this city as a cost. The Centers for Disease Control estimates if you had really effective screening and education on diabetes, it would save \$14 billion a year. Yet you cannot get the Congressional Budget Office or the Office of Management and Budget to score that.

The third level is a project, and a project in this model is the real building block of management, but it's an entrepreneurial model, so I want to give you a definition. A project is a definable, delegatable achievement. That's a very important distinction.

The bottom line is tactics. What do you do every day? And tactics relate directly back to the top. For example, if you're interested in preventive care and wellness, one of the things you do every day to remind people that they have an obligation to check at least once a year to see how they are doing. One of the things you try to figure out is to remind diabetics they have an obligation every day, several times a day, to check

their blood sugar, so that it's a very different model than the model we've traditionally had.

Now, coming off of tactics, I put four words in a straight line because they are a process; that is, they are not a hierarchy. They are all equally important, but they occur in a sequence, the words which we use for what we think is the essence of leadership, and they are very simple, but I think they apply directly to the challenge you all face: listen, learn, help, and lead. Now, we figured out in a democracy in the Information Age, the first job of leadership is to listen.

Now, we put “learn” second because we discovered two interesting phenomena about Americans. Americans will spend a lot of time with their eyes glazed over standing next to somebody at a cocktail party while that person babbles. That is not listening; that's patience. We also discovered that most Americans have a habit of paying very careful attention to their own arguments. If you get in an argument, you really listen to yourself when you argue. When it's the other person's turn, you pretend to listen, but you're actually restructuring your own argument. That's not listening; that's cheating.

What we are trying to do is what consultants describe as appreciative understanding. You have to understand what the other person is saying and appreciate why it is true for them. You don't have to agree with them. You don't have to sympathize, but you have to understand what they are saying. So you haven't finished your listening/learning phase until you know what they are saying and why they think it makes sense, even if you don't.

Now, in a rational world, as a general principle, if somebody will listen to you and learn from you, you help them. First of all, because they ventilate. You help them, second, because you put them in that position where you might ask them good questions, so they think thoughts they never had before; you open them up. You might have ideas they didn't have. You may have information to empower them that they didn't have. You may actually have authority or resources you can give to them.

In a rational world, if somebody knows you will listen to them, learn from them, and help them, they will ask you to lead. Now, what I usually do is I draw a line, then, from the word “lead” back up to “vision.” You then say: Here is my vision, here are my strategies, here are my projects, here are my tactics, and you immediately go back to listen and say, what do you think of them? Now I think that model applies exactly to where we are in health in America today.

Now, let me tell you the mistake I think we all make. When the Clinton administration came in, they saw a charge, which is very real, which is that we need to rediscuss health in America. Notice, I didn't say “health care.” This is going to be one of my first real efforts at redefining this dialogue. We should not talk about health care in America until we first finish talking about health in America, because they are not the same topic. And the minute you get into health care, you're already in a narrower and smaller future than if you start by discussing health, a subset of which is health care.

And I think the president was right in 1993 to say we need a dialogue. I think he was wrong in offering a solution that was a failed, centralized, bureaucratic model of control. And the country, after it thought about it for a year, decided that was the wrong answer. But I think where we all collectively failed is that at that point what we

should have said is, okay, now can we go back to the original dialogue? And instead, what happened was all the folks were very busy. Everybody went back to their own game, most of which are at the level of a tactic or a project. So there is almost no vision-level discussion in America about health. And yet the most objective fact about health in America is that it is an obsolete model of delivery based on, first, you have to get really sick.

We need to return to the overall dialogue on health. Let me give you a very simple premise for that dialogue. The National War Labor Board, in 1943, for totally wartime-related, wage-and-price-control reasons, created the tax incentive and the way we now structure third-party payments. And this is entirely an artificial artifact. It makes no sense. If you were to actually sit down and say, let's design health for America, you would not say, if you pay all your own health costs, you get no tax deduction until seven percent of your income has been spent, but if you will go and work for a company, you can get a 100 percent. By the way, if you're self-employed, you won't get the 100 percent. It is all a historical anachronism.

In this national dialogue on health, we need to start with basic health research. We need to look at things like the National Institutes of Health database MEDLINE and the ability to create a computer-based system where any patient anywhere in the country can get access to any information, which is, frankly, going to drive doctors nuts because it's going to mean they are going to have patients with specialized diseases who know more about the state of the art than they do, and you're going to have a patient-led information system.

And the real reason we are having a fight over HMOs has nothing to do with quality of care; it has to do with power. This is a country which hates concentrations of power, and in a very real sense HMOs are suffering from the same challenge that any other concentration of power suffers from. Americans hate to be controlled. Remember, we did have a flag in the Revolutionary War on which was a snake, and which said: "Don't tread on me." It's very close to the American model.

There is a wonderful new history by Paul Johnson called "A History of the American People," which I recommended to all of you; he really captured the heart of American civilization. One of his lines is that in 1775, we were possibly the lowest taxed people in the history of the world, and we hated every penny. There was no sense of gratitude.

Now, the reason I'm suggesting this is, we are trying to design a health system for Americans. Americans believe it is their natural right, that they are endowed by their creator with the right to have total access, with the right to question any authority figure, with the right that if they don't like the first diagnosis, they get a second one. They need a ventilation point that is an authority figure that they can go to beat up the other authority figure that they are mad at. We need to ask: What are the patients' rights? What are their responsibilities? Do they agree those are their rights and their responsibilities? What's their ventilation point?

There is a power struggle between medical professionals and administrators, and that's a big part of what's happening with the HMOs because every time the medical doctor is mad, he or she explains to the patient that it's the HMO's fault. Or every time they can't do something the patient wants, they say, "I would, but they won't let me." And so you have a real power struggle.

If you look, for example, at the PARCA bill, it is largely a design of all the professionals who now want their share of the pie, and it's their version of how they would redesign it if health care was a pork-barrel project. But what you need to understand is, that is a natural partner of historic evolution once you politicize these decisions.

I'm not up here today to say anybody is right. I'm up here today saying let's look at the whole country. The M.D. is going to be threatened because the truth is we can begin to turn into expert systems. We can begin to have more preventive care. We can begin to have more patient responsibility. We can begin to have more information to the patient.

All of that is going to threaten the medical doctor. But their problem now is going to be science and the Information Age, not the HMO administrator. The HMO administrator must recognize that if you don't have a very high-quality response, if you're not very customer oriented, and if you haven't built a very good response system for your customer so that they have a ventilation point where they can get a second opinion, where they can appeal to a higher authority against the authority that's made them mad, you're guaranteed to get political action; that the only way to avoid political action is to have a self-fine-tuning, a self-responding, and a self-evolving system that is customer-friendly and consumer oriented.

In addition, I would argue that if we are really at the vision level talking about the future of health in America, it's likely to be a different system than anything we've seen, that the ideal model is one that goes back to dramatically strengthening the patient, that the patient ought to have a lot more choices and more responsibilities.

I've always like the International Paper model where they list every doctor in the area and every hospital in the area, and they say, here is how much they cost, and here is their background, and, by the way, we'll pay 100 percent of the median price. Go to anybody you want to. Now, if you want to go to a more expensive doctor, fine, you pay the additional costs. But it begins to dramatically transfer knowledge and power and responsibility.

Dr. Tom Coburn, who serves as a Member of Congress for Oklahoma, came up to me at our retreat in Williamsburg, and he said, I think we ought to reapply free-markets principles to health care; and being a conservative, I promptly said, yes, what do you mean? I know it's right theoretically. I know Adam Smith is right theoretically, but what does it mean in the middle of this 1943 tax code, third-party payment, highly convoluted, big structure, HMO, provider-sponsored network, hospital-based, doctor-based, secondary professions—in this mess, this huge, complex ecosystem of health, what does "free market" mean?

He said, I'll tell you a true story. He said, during the break, I had a couple who were between jobs and they had lost their health coverage, but they had savings. She needed an operation. I gave her five surgeons and three hospitals to call. They negotiated. They got an \$11,000 procedure for \$5,000, but they paid in cash without paper work.

Now, that's a fairly astonishing number. My guess is all of you could find similar stories or already know similar stories. From my standpoint, what I want to do is say, so how do we maximize the rate of change? Because what the human genome projects is telling you and what lasers are telling you and what all the other breakthroughs are

telling you is you're going to see a rate of change in health capabilities. And, again, I don't want to talk about health care yet. You're going to see a rate of change in health capabilities that is stunning.

So how do we maximize that rate of change? How do we maximize the citizens' access to knowledge, including their knowledge about their own responsibilities and knowledge about their own characteristics and knowledge about how to stay well rather than get sick? How do we maximize the ability to connect the citizen to the professional at the minimum cost with the maximum choice? How do we create feedback loops, both so that we know it's the right professional, and so if something goes wrong, we can check on it?

And if you could tomorrow morning take your HMO or take your health organization and find a way to have 100-percent deductibility for health, so that a person who paid out of their own pocket had exactly the same deductibility as a big corporation and said to all of your members, "Here is basically a cafeteria plan. Which of these nine things do you like better?" you would lose some of your mass purchasing power, but you would put back on their shoulders their responsibility. So you like the HMO? Fine. Come in and join one. You would rather go and buy it all on your own? Fine. Go buy it all on your own.

And what I'm suggesting is that where we need your help is not only doing better, and a lot of you represent some of the most enlightened and most aggressive and most patient-oriented and also most health-research-oriented people in the country. But I'm also asking you to take a little extra time, go back up to the vision level. Help us solve the big issues. Help us think about what do we mean in the 21st century by health in America. What should a citizen have access to? How do we maximize the rate of change?

And I'll just close with this thought. Health is not a problem. Health is an opportunity. Health will be the largest, foreign-exchange, income earner in the 21st century. If we have the best system of health on the planet, if we have the best research on the planet, if we provide the best care on the planet, as people get wealthier worldwide, they will come to America, either personally, or by electronic means, in order to have access to the finest health in the world.

We will earn far more money out of providing the best health capabilities on the planet than we will earn out of the motion picture industry, jet airplanes or computers, and we ought to see health as that opportunity—the opportunity to provide the best health for our own citizens and to provide the highest-paying jobs on the planet in a growth industry of enormous potential if we maximize the rate of change and innovation and bring to bear the best science we can as rapidly as we can.

And if we then educate our citizens into a knowledge-based model of caring for themselves, we will maximize their health and minimize their costs, and we will do so in a way that I think will be profoundly different than the current debate between more bureaucracy-less bureaucracy, more trial lawyers-fewer trial lawyers, and I think we need this much larger level dialogue in order to define where we want to go over the next 15 or 20 years.

DRUG-FREE AMERICA TASK FORCE
AWARENESS

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of the Drug-Free America Task Force, I have had the opportunity to meet with numerous organizations and individuals interested in finding ways to reduce drug use. One of the studies that caught my attention was a study by the Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse. It stated that a 12-year-old who smokes marijuana is roughly 80 times more likely to use cocaine than one who does not, adults who as adolescents smoked marijuana are 17 more times likely to use cocaine regularly, and 60 percent of adolescents who use marijuana before age 15 will later use cocaine.

It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that the key to reduce overall drug use is to find ways to curtail the number of our children who use drugs. As a parent, I realize that the lifestyle decisions my wife and I make will impact our children. Our children are fortunate that they have had a good example set for them, but there are many kids whose parents or other role models send them the wrong message that drugs are acceptable by their own drug use. I believe the government has an obligation to punish more severely those who influence the children of America by using or possessing drugs in their presence.

Mr. Speaker, the Save Our Children Act, which I am introducing today, sends a strong message that drug use or possession of drugs around children will not be tolerated. Under current law, there are enhanced penalties for the distribution of a controlled substance to persons under age 21 by persons over age 18 (21 U.S.C. 859); employment of persons under age 18 for violation of the Controlled Substance Act or unauthorized distribution to a pregnant individual (21 U.S.C. 861) and distribution or manufacturing of a controlled substance in or near schools, colleges or youth-centered recreational facilities (21 U.S.C. 860).

The Save Our Children Act, Mr. Speaker, fills a gap in our Sentencing Guidelines by directing the U.S. Sentencing Commission to enhance the sentences for the commission of a drug offense in the presence of a minor. While the Sentencing Commission is given discretion to amend the Sentencing Guidelines, the Save Our Children Act sets a minimum of two offense levels greater or 1 year whichever is greater for the first offense, and 4 offense levels greater or 2 years for a second offense.

I urge all my colleagues to consider becoming a cosponsor of my legislation.

WEST LIBERTY CLASSICAL ACADEMY HONORED BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the students, faculty, and administration

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

of West Liberty Classical Academy, whose outstanding performance was recently honored by the Department of Education and the National Association of State Coordinators of Compensatory Education. West Liberty is one of only 109 schools nationwide to be recognized by the Title I Recognition Program. The Title I Recognition Program honors schools that have set and reached high student achievement goals, fostered professional development, and built partnerships with parents and the community.

West Liberty Classical Academy is a magnet middle school located on the South side of Pittsburgh. Using a team approach, the staff plans interdisciplinary lessons like Classical Studies, African-American history, and Contemporary Crafts. They also created an 8th period every Wednesday so that students could participate in the band and orchestra ensemble, or choose among a journalism program, the science club, the garden club, the hiking club, creative writing lessons, or the drama club. The students also participate in School-to-Work activities in which they visit senior citizen centers, a neighborhood school for handicapped children, several area elementary schools.

Parents are an integral part of the learning experience at West Liberty. A "Computer Night Live" gives parents and students the opportunity to learn to use computers. Parents and children can also work on their math skills during "Family Math Night."

Thanks to the effort of teachers, students, administrator, and parents, West Liberty provides a quality learning experience while living up to its school motto, "Safe and Secure." I commend West Liberty Classical Academy and the Pittsburgh Public School System for their accomplishments.

THE FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1998

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce The Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1998, legislation to streamline and improve the federal grant process.

I'm sure all of us have heard from state and local governments or non-profit organizations in our districts who have grown frustrated with the federal grant application process. Most recently, I have heard concerns expressed from around the country about the implementation of the Drug-Free Communities Act, legislation I sponsored that was enacted last year. Anyone who has attempted to apply for a federal grant has grown frustrated by the miles of red tape, regulations and duplicative procedures they encounter. Applying for the grant is just the beginning of the problem—the administrative and reporting requirements attached to certain grants often make potential recipients wonder whether to apply for funding in the first place.

The legislation we have introduced addresses these concerns. It requires relevant Federal

agencies, with oversight from OMB, to develop plans within 18 months that do the following: streamline application, administrative, and reporting requirements; develop a uniform application (or set of applications) for related programs; develop and expand the use of electronic applications and reporting via the Internet; demonstrate interagency coordination in simplifying requirements for cross-cutting programs; and set annual goals to further the purposes of the Act.

Agencies would consult with outside parties in the development of the plans. Plans and follow-up annual reports would be submitted to Congress and the Director of OMB and could be included as part of other management reports required under law.

In addition to overseeing and coordinating agency activities, OMB would be responsible for developing common rules that cut across program and agency lines by creating a release form that allows grant information to be shared by programs. The Act sunsets in five years and the National Academy for Public Administrators (NAPA) would submit an evaluation of the Act's effectiveness just prior to its sunset.

The bill builds on past efforts to improve program performance through the Government Performance Results Act and to reduce federal burdens through the Paperwork Reduction Act and Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. It has been endorsed by state and local organizations such as the National Governors Association, the National Conference of State Legislators, the National Association of Counties, and the National League of Cities. Identical legislation, sponsored by Senators GLENN and THOMPSON, was recently reported out of the Senate Government Affairs Committee.

This is a good government measure that will make it easier to interact with our federal government, and result in cost savings for grant applicants and federal agencies.

I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland, Mr. HOYER, and the other original cosponsors for joining me in this bipartisan effort and I encourage my colleagues to support the bill.

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW JERSEY FIREMEN'S HOME, BOONTON, MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the New Jersey Firemen's Home located in Boonton, New Jersey on the occasion of their 100th anniversary. This anniversary marks the culmination of a long, proud history of providing housing for retired, disabled and indigent firefighters of all ages in the State of New Jersey.

The firefighter's home was the vision of Bird Spencer, President of the New Jersey Firemen's Association. A couple of years before the turn of the century, at the nineteenth annual New Jersey State Firemen's Association convention, President Bird Spencer addressed

the need of suitable housing for the state's firemen. He promised that he would make an effort to obtain legislation for the purchase and building of such a place.

Early records indicate that on April 2, 1898 the New Jersey Firemen's Home was incorporated by the New Jersey Senate and General Assembly and on June 27, 1898 the Firemen's Home was purchased.

On June 23, 1900, President Bird Spencer's promise was realized as the doors of the New Jersey Firemen's Home were officially opened during a dedication ceremony attended by Governor Voorhees. On September 22, 1900, the first two New Jersey firemen from Paterson, New Jersey entered the home as the first residents.

For over a century the Firemen's Home has offered housing for any paid or volunteer firefighter who has served at least one year on a department, or who was injured while on duty. Since its inception, the New Jersey Firemen's Home has housed approximately 1,775 men. Some have been guests others have been long-time residents. Today the home is operated by a twenty-three member board and the staff is made up of one or two firefighters from each county in the State of New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, throughout its long history, the New Jersey Firemen's Home has provided a place to live for retired and injured firefighters from across the state. I ask you, Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues, to please join me in commemorating the 100th anniversary of the New Jersey Firemen's Home.

CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF PORT ARTHUR, TEXAS

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Centennial Anniversary of the City of Port Arthur, Texas and request that the following Proclamation be made a part of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

PROCLAMATION

Whereas Arthur E. Stilwell of Rochester, New York founded the City of Port Arthur on the western shoreline of Lake Sabine in 1898, and

Whereas the City of Port Arthur has grown and developed into a major center of petrochemical manufacturing, shipping, and offshore oil exploration, and

Whereas the City of Port Arthur has been home to such industrial giants of the 20th Century such as Texaco, Inc., the Gulf Oil Company, Chevron Companies, Fina Oil and Chemical Corporation, Clark Manufacturing Corporation, Star Enterprise, Huntsman Corporation, Equistar Corporation, and

Whereas the City of Port Arthur has served not only the industrial and consumer needs of the United States and the world, it has also contributed significantly to the defense of the nation in World Wars I and II and other international conflicts by providing men and women as well as ship construction, merchant marine services, and a sea of petroleum products necessary to win those wars, and

Whereas the City of Port Arthur has been home to some of the most colorful people of the 20th Century including former Texas Governor Allan Shivers, Oscar award winner Leach Rhodes, former President of the American Medical Association Daniel "Stormy" Johnson, NFL Coach Jimmy Johnson, rock icon Janis Joplin, abstract expressionist Robert Rauschenberg, motion picture actress from Hollywood's Golden Era Evelyn Keyes, Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Lucian Adams, Texas businessman and Presidential appointee Mach Hannah, rhythm and blues great Ivory Joe Hunter, and hundreds more who have contributed not only to life in this community, but persons whose contributions are recognized not only to life in this community, but persons whose contributions are recognized throughout Texas, the nation and around the world.

Now therefore be it resolved that the City of Port Arthur, a progressive community proud of its multi-cultural heritage of 60,000 citizens, is hereby recognized on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

NATIONAL BONE MARROW REGISTRY REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1998

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. YOUNG. Of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD, this statement which should have followed my remarks in the House yesterday during Consideration of H.R. 2202, to Reauthorize the National Bone Marrow Donor Registry.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this measure and thank the Chairman of the Commerce Committee, Mr. BLILEY, and the Health Subcommittee Chairman, Mr. BILIRAKIS, for their efforts to help bring this legislation reauthorizing the lifesaving work of the National Marrow Donor Program to the floor for consideration.

H.R. 2202 will guide the National Marrow Donor Program into the next century by reauthorizing the program's core function of maintaining a bone marrow donor registry, strengthening efforts to increase minority recruitment, and improving patient and donor advocacy.

Mr. Speaker, with 218 cosponsors this bill enjoys the broad bipartisan support of our colleagues, as well as the support of the National Marrow Donor Program, the American Red Cross, the American Association of Blood Banks, the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute, and the Department of Health and Human Services.

The National Bone Marrow Donor Registry is an outstanding program that was created by the Congress to give hope to families where none would have otherwise existed. Since its establishment a little more than 10 years ago, this program has given life to thousands of people here and around the world.

It was on April 2, 1987 that I first testified before the House Commerce Committee on this issue. That was very early in my search for a home for a national bone marrow registry. In fact, that was very early in my education on the many issues that surrounded

bone marrow transplantation. What I knew at the time, though, was that without a national registry, men, women, and children with leukemia and other fatal blood disorders would continue to die because there was no way to find unrelated marrow donors for them.

What I remember from that hearing 11 years ago was that there was nowhere within the Department of Health and Human Services to call home for a national registry. In fact, the Director of the National Institutes of Health testified after me that day saying there was no way that a national registry of unrelated volunteer donors would ever succeed. He told the Committee we would never find more than 50,000 people willing to take the simple blood test required to enter such a registry.

Mr. Speaker, while I already felt personally challenged to do something about creating a national registry, those remarks that day gave me the final incentive I needed to do all within my power to make this program a success.

A little over six months after that hearing, with a small appropriation I requested for the United States Navy, we activated National Marrow Donor Program. And on my birthday, December 16, 1987, an airplane took off from a snowy airfield in Milwaukee to deliver the first bone marrow to a dying child from North Carolina.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I proudly report to you that we proved those skeptics wrong. We now have a national registry of 3,134,601 people willing to donate their bone marrow to save a life. In addition, our national registry is linked with 14 other similar registries around the world to allow us to ship bone marrow across the oceans to save lives.

There are so many heroes that have made this program such a success that my time today does not allow me to name them all. There are my colleagues in the House and Senate who were willing to take a chance and support this program when the so-called experts said it couldn't be done. A number of our colleagues have been personally touched by the success of this program when they were called to donate bone marrow or when one or family members received the tragic news that they would die without a bone marrow transplantation.

There are many other heroes, some such as Admiral Bud Zumwalt. It was Admiral Zumwalt that I bumped into in the early months of 1987 when he was working the halls of Congress searching for the same thing as I was, a home for this national registry. Together we joined as a team with Dr. Bob Graves, a cattle rancher from Colorado, Dr. John Hansen, a rising young physician and researcher from Seattle, and Captain Bob Hartzman, a Navy doctor from Bethesda. Together we found a willing partner in the United States Navy whose Surgeon General said he would give us a federal home for this great national program.

Then Mr. Speaker, there are the countless heroes around our nation who are the volunteers willing to be a part of the national registry and the patients who have undergone bone marrow transplants and have helped us learn and improve the process with each and every procedure. There are the families who have given us the support and the energy to

push ahead. And there are those who have sponsored the thousands upon thousands of recruiting drives all around our nation to help us build such a large and diverse registry.

The result of our work is a program that saves lives every day by matching patients and donors. Few federal programs have been as successful in such a short period of time and it is the involvement of the federal government that has been the key to this success. Prior to our establishment of a national registry, there was only a piecemeal network of independent local registries of all sizes, with very little intercommunication. With the support of Congress, we activated a national registry in September 1987 that now links together more than 98 donor centers, through which donors are recruited and entered into the registry, and 112 transplant centers, which work with the patients to complete the transplants. From a small, fragmented system of individual donor centers was born a true national and international treasure that is the National Marrow Donor Program and links the United States with eight foreign donor centers, 23 foreign transplant centers, and 14 national registries in foreign nations.

With the support of Congress, the United States Navy, and the Department of Health and Human Services, we have come a long way these past 11 years, but there is still a ways to go. With the number of bone marrow transplants using unrelated donors still increasing dramatically from year to year, it is obvious that we must continue to grow the size of the registry to save lives and give the largest number of children and adults the best possible opportunity to find a matched donor. While the likelihood of a patient identifying a fully matched unrelated donor has increased dramatically from 30 percent in 1989, to nearly 80 percent today, our continued commitment can help bring that figure closer and closer to 100 percent.

Much of the federal support we provide each year is for donor recruitment and education activities. With this federal support, we are maintaining the registry's remarkable rate of growth. Last year the donor rolls increased 17 percent by a total of more than 450,000.

Still, despite all of our good work, we have a ways to go to ensure that all ethnic groups have the best possible chance of finding a matched donor. The federal resources we began earmarking for minority recruitment beginning in 1991 have made a tremendous difference in the rate at which we have been able to increase minority participation in the program. In fact, the number of minority donors in the national registry have increased by 140 percent in the past four years, a rate far greater than the growth of the overall registry. As a result, there has been a corresponding 140 percent increase in the number of minority patients receiving life-saving transplants over the past four years. More minority patients received transplants last year than in the program's first seven years combined.

Mr. Speaker, as I have said time and time again, the key to the success of the National Marrow Donor Program is people—people who are willing to save a life by donating a small amount of their bone marrow. Unfortunately, people alone have not made this program the success that it is today. Without the

federal support Congress has provided the National Marrow Donor Program over the past 11 years, we would still have a fragmented network of donor centers each sponsoring bake sales and other fund raising drives to pay for the testing of donors. Without federal support, it would be virtually impossible to maintain, let alone continue to increase the donor rolls of the national registry. With an attrition rate of just 5 percent, the national program will have to recruit more than 150,000 donors per year just to maintain the current size of the national registry.

Suffering the greatest from any reduction in our federal support for this program, would be the minority groups that we are working so hard to recruit and continue to be underrepresented in the national registry.

Our efforts here and now must build on our success, taking what we have learned since the program's establishment and applying this to improve our future. Likewise, we must recognize that we have learned of ways in which the program could do a better job. This is the goal of H.R. 2202.

The program's success is grounded in the more than 3 million donors who have volunteered to donate their bone marrow, in the coordinated system of donor, transplant and recruiting centers that has grown around the registry, and in the increased awareness of bone marrow transplantation. My legislation will continue this by supporting further recruitment, coordination and educational activities.

However, if there is one thing we can agree on above all else, it is the fact that without continuing to increase the numbers of minority donors on the Registry, patients of these groups will continue to face a greater difficulty in finding a matched unrelated donor. For this reason, H.R. 2202 places a special emphasis on the need to increase potential donors of racial and ethnic minority heritage and makes this the priority of the program's recruitment efforts.

We have also learned a lot about the needs of patients and their families as they face the challenge of finding an unrelated donor match for their loved one. H.R. 2202 formally establishes an Office of Patient Advocacy and Case Management within the program to provide individualized services for patients requesting assistance. The office will provide information and coordinate all aspects of the search and transplantation process to ensure the needs of the patient are being met. While much of this work is already being done by an office within the program, H.R. 2202 builds on these efforts by codifying the office and granting it additional authority recommended by the Senate in legislation approved by that body in 1996.

My wife Beverly and I have met with and befriended hundreds of donors, patients, and their families from all over our nation. To each of these patients, I promise that I will continue to do all that I can to ensure that they have the best possible chance to find a donor. Unfortunately, some of these families never found a donor before it was too late. Many others, however, found their miracle match and they are alive and doing well today because of the living medical miracle that is this national registry.

There is nothing I have done in public service that I am more proud of than establishing

the National Marrow Donor Program. Every member of Congress should share that pride as they are a part of a great federal program that works. The measure of this program's value is the lives it saves throughout our nation and throughout our world. As we continue to increase the number of life-saving transplants that take place each year, we know that our work is not yet finished and that there are more lives to save. In making tough budgetary decisions, Congress must measure the value of each and every program to the American taxpayer. With that as our test, their can be no disputing the success of the National Marrow Donor Program because there is no higher priority then giving someone back their life.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the Congress' strong support for this program and for my legislation that will enable us to continue on with our life-saving work for the next five years. That commitment to this program is evident from the special joint House-Senate hearing recently held and by the willingness to work together, House and Senate, to expedite the passage and enactment of H.R. 2202. On behalf of all those donors and patients still awaiting their opportunity to unite in the most special of ways, I say thank you to all my colleagues. And on behalf of those families who will experience the second chance to enjoy their life with a child, with a husband or wife, or with a brother or sister, I say thank you for being one of the countless heroes throughout the short history of this program. Together, day after day, we will continue to give the most precious gift of all, here and abroad, the living gift of life.

THE SENIOR CITIZENS' FREEDOM TO WORK BILL

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that will eliminate the so-called "Social Security Earnings Test." Under current law, our senior citizens aged 65–69 can earn only \$14,500 before they lose \$1 in Social Security benefits for each additional \$3 of earnings. This test is unfair, discriminatory, and adversely affects our country's economy. The Social Security Earnings Test must be eliminated.

The Social Security Earnings Test is unfair and inappropriate because it imposes a form of a "means" test for a retirement benefit. As we all know, Social Security benefits have been earned by a lifetime of contributions to the program. American workers have been led to regard Social Security as a government-run savings plan. Indeed, their acceptance of the 12.4 percent Social Security payroll tax has been predicated on the belief that they will get their money back at retirement age. Thus, most Americans do not accept the rationale that the return of their money should be decreased just because they continue to work.

Additionally, the Social Security Earnings Test discriminates against senior citizens who must work in order to supplement their benefits. Currently, income from investments does

not affect the amount of Social Security benefits that a senior citizen receives. It simply does not make any sense to treat less favorably income from work than income from investments. Clearly, the Social Security Earnings Test is inequitable to our nation's senior citizens who are in the greatest need of additional income.

The Social Security Earnings Test also negatively affects work incentives. The disincentive effect is magnified when viewed on an after-tax basis. Senior citizens who work lose a large percentage of their Social Security benefits due to the Social Security Earnings Test, but they must also continue to pay Social Security taxes, and probably federal and state income taxes as well. The Social Security Earnings Test forces senior citizens to avoid work, to seek lower paying or part-time work or to seek payment "under the table."

In addition to being complicated and difficult for the individual senior citizen to understand, the Social Security Earnings Test is complex and costly for the Government to administer. For example, the test is responsible for more than one-half of retirement and survivor program overpayments. Elimination of the Earnings Test would help minimize administration expenses, and recipients would be less confused and less tempted to cheat on reporting their earnings.

Finally, repealing the Social Security Earnings Test would greatly aid our country's economy. Our senior citizens would be likely to work more and the American economy would benefit from their experience and skills. The combined increase in the amounts that they would pay in Social Security and other taxes, as well as the additional contribution to our Gross National Product, would largely offset the increase in benefit payments. For decades, our senior citizens worked and dutifully paid their Social Security taxes, it is only fair that they fully receive their Social Security benefits when they are at the retirement age.

H.R.—

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Senior Citizens' Freedom to Work Act of 1998".

SEC. 2. ELIMINATION OF EARNINGS TEST FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE ATTAINED RETIREMENT AGE.

Section 203 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 403) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(1), by striking "the age of seventy" and inserting "retirement age (as defined in section 216(1))";

(2) in paragraphs (1)(A) and (2) of subsection (d), by striking "the age of seventy" each place it appears and inserting "retirement age (as defined in section 216(1))";

(3) in subsection (f)(1)(B), by striking "was age seventy or over" and inserting "was at or above retirement age (as defined in section 216(1))";

(4) in subsection (f)(3)—
 (A) by striking "33 1/3 percent" and all that follows through "any other individual," and inserting "50 percent of such individual's earnings for such year in excess of the product of the exempt amount as determined under paragraph (8)."; and
 (B) by striking "age 70" and inserting "retirement age (as defined in section 216(1))";

(5) in subsection (h)(1)(A), by striking "age 70" each place it appears and inserting "re-

tirement age (as defined in section 216(1))"; and

(6) in subsection (j)—

(A) in the heading, by striking "Age Seventy" and inserting "Retirement Age"; and

(B) by striking "seventy years of age" and inserting "having attained retirement age (as defined in section 216(1))".

SEC. 3. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS ELIMINATING THE SPECIAL EXEMPT AMOUNT FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE ATTAINED RETIREMENT AGE.

(a) UNIFORM EXEMPT AMOUNT.—Section 203(f)(8)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 403(f)(8)(A)) is amended by striking "the new exempt amounts (separately stated for individuals described in subparagraph (D) and for other individuals) which are to be applicable" and inserting "a new exempt amount which shall be applicable".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 203(f)(8)(B) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 403(f)(8)(B)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking "Except" and all that follows through "whichever" and inserting "The exempt amount which is applicable for each month of a particular taxable year shall be whichever";

(2) in clauses (i) and (ii), by striking "corresponding" each place it appears; and

(3) in the last sentence, by striking "an exempt amount" and inserting "the exempt amount".

(c) REPEAL OF BASIS FOR COMPUTATION OF SPECIAL EXEMPT AMOUNT.—Section 203(f)(8)(D) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. (f)(8)(D)) is repealed.

SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) ELIMINATION OF REDUNDANT REFERENCES TO RETIREMENT AGE.—Section 203 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 403) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c), in the last sentence, by striking "nor shall any deduction" and all that follows and inserting "nor shall any deduction be made under this subsection from any widow's or widower's insurance benefit if the widow, surviving divorced wife, widower, or surviving divorced husband involved became entitled to such benefit prior to attaining age 60."; and

(2) in subsection (f)(1), by striking clause (D) and inserting the following: "(D) for which such individual is entitled to widow's or widower's insurance benefits if such individual became so entitled prior to attaining age 60.".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT TO PROVISIONS FOR DETERMINING AMOUNT OF INCREASE ON ACCOUNT OF DELAYED RETIREMENT.—Section 202(w)(2)(B)(ii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 402(w)(2)(B)(ii)) is amended—

(1) by striking "either"; and

(2) by striking "or suffered deductions under section 203(b) or 203(c) in amounts equal to the amount of such benefit".

(c) PROVISIONS RELATING TO EARNINGS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN DETERMINING SUBSTANTIAL GAINFUL ACTIVITY OF BLIND INDIVIDUALS.—The second sentence of section 223(d)(4) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 423(d)(4)) is amended by striking "if section 102 of the Senior Citizens' Right to Work Act of 1996 had not been enacted" and inserting the following: "if the amendments to section 203 made by section 102 of the Senior Citizens' Right to Work Act of 1996 and by the Senior Citizens' Freedom to Work Act of 1998 had not been enacted".

SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments and repeals made by this Act shall apply with respect to taxable years ending after December 31, 1997.

THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MINE HILL, MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of the Township of Mine Hill, New Jersey as they commemorate the 75th anniversary of the incorporation of their community.

In the early years, Mine Hill centered around a diverse history of rich iron ore veins and active mining operations. The Delaware Indians, known as the Lenni Lenape were aware of the iron outcroppings and named the area Succasunny meaning "black stone". The settlers realized the potential and developed the "black stone" into a profitable commodity. Some of the mines date back to the Revolutionary War when iron ore was provided to nearby forges.

Because the iron ore was one of the finest quality and in such great abundance, mining, not farming became the primary industry in the area. This led to the development of the Village of Mine Hill. Mine Hill is also known for the Dickerson Mine, named after Governor Mahlon Dickerson, a resident of Mine Hill and Governor of New Jersey from 1815 to 1817. The Dickerson Mine was the first and oldest iron mine in the state.

The Township of Mine Hill is a small community of approximately 2.95 square miles, located in central Morris County. In 1993, this quiet community was recognized by the Federal government as having one of the best elementary schools in the country. The Canfield Avenue School was named a Blue Ribbon School which means that it placed in the top 200 schools in the United States in quality of education.

Once a prominent iron mining community, Mine Hill has kept its small town American identity. The 75th anniversary of Mine Hill's incorporation is a great achievement. It is a time for celebration and reflection for the residents.

Mr. Speaker, my fellow colleagues, please join me in congratulating the Township of Mine Hill Township on this important milestone.

IN OPPOSITION TO RIGGS AMENDMENT TO H.R. 6

HON. VINCE SNOWBARGER

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. SNOWBARGER. Mr. Chairman, I rise to explain my opposition to the Riggs Amendment to H.R. 6, the Higher Education Amendments of 1998.

The principal purpose of our important civil rights reforms, now more than thirty years old, was to help eradicate systematic and structural racism. Our hope was to keep the government and its agents from treating people differently because of their race or ethnicity. As Martin Luther King, Jr. said the law cannot make us love one another. We can, however,

work together to ensure that, at the very least, our government sees its citizens as individuals. Each one is unique and worthy of respect.

Affirmative action, which originally meant ensuring that all should have the opportunity to compete on their merits, has now become a persistent challenge to these principles of fairness. If our government, through quotas and set-asides, continues to treat Americans differently because of their race or ethnicity, it becomes even harder to eliminate racism wherever it festers.

The amendment to the Higher Education Act Reauthorization offered by Representative FRANK RIGGS was mostly consistent with these principles of fairness and equal opportunity for all. Representative RIGGS' amendment would have prohibited preferential admissions treatment based in whole or in part on the race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin of applicants by institutions of higher education. A special exemption was included in the amendment to exempt preferential treatment on the basis of affiliation with an Indian tribe by any tribally controlled college.

I opposed the amendment because I was concerned that Haskell Indian Nations University, which is located in my district, would be adversely affected by the amendment. Haskell Indian Nations University is the only federally owned and operated four-year institution for Native Americans in the country. Because the University is controlled by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and not by a tribe, I felt that it would not qualify for the exemption included in the Riggs amendment.

Additionally, I opposed this amendment because I believe that we must seek to end policies that discriminate. This cannot be done in a piecemeal fashion. We must reach out to all groups to ensure that all Americans have equal access to opportunities. Quotas and set-asides undermine our effort to secure this for everyone.

For these reasons, I opposed the amendment.

**NORMAN THOMAS ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL**

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the generous efforts of 560 Norman Thomas Elementary School students and staff in Freer, Texas, to collect thousands of cans and boxes of food for the Freer Food Bank. The school's venture helped stock the pantries of 70 neighbors in desperate need of food.

This good deed is especially remarkable because about two-thirds of the Norman Thomas Elementary School students qualify for free or reduced school lunches. Despite the personal challenges many of these students face they saw a need to help those less fortunate than themselves and learned a very valuable lesson while volunteering in their community.

For their efforts the school was recognized with a community award by the USA Weekend

magazine sponsored by Make a Difference Day. The students and staff at Norman Thomas Elementary School have made a difference which will help feed people in their community. Volunteering in one's community sets a high standard for better living. And such a young group of individuals accomplishing community goals means Freer, Texas, will look forward to a fruitful future.

"MY VOICE IN OUR DEMOCRACY"

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Zachary Hicks, a student at Hawaii Baptist Academy in Honolulu, who recently won the 1998 Voice of Democracy broadcast scriptwriting contest for Hawaii.

Each year, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary sponsor the Voice of Democracy contest to recognize writing and oratorical skills of students. Zachary Hicks related the democracy demonstrations of Tianamen Square in the People's Republic of China to the freedoms to enjoy and the need to exercise freedom of speech.

I would like to share the script with the House and America, Mr. Speaker, which I am submitting. I am certain Leon and Brenda Hicks, Zac's parents, as well as his teachers and fellow students at Hawaii Baptist Academy, have great pride in Zac and his accomplishment.

"MY VOICE IN OUR DEMOCRACY"

(By Zachary Hicks)

Not long ago, a number of young men and women broke out in protest of a government they did not believe in. With fear overpowered by conviction, these students stared communism in the face and said, "We will no longer be shut up, pushed down, and unheard." That night in Tianamen Square, the cries for a democracy rang out loud and clear, yet they soon would be replaced by different cries. With hearts of fire, the students would not back down to words of warning. The air of freedom was faintly tangible but soon dissipated as the piercing crack of gunfire drove fear back into the hearts of the young people. Shot down . . . beaten . . . imprisoned . . . in one way or another they were all silenced. And the freedom, once so close, was now ripped from their hands.

This tragedy can conjure up a lot of emotions. For me, all I can do is feel grateful. Surely I have taken for granted the freedom of a democracy. I have the privilege to stand up and not be pushed down. I don't have to look over my shoulder in fear every time I speak up about the government. I have a voice. But what is so beautiful about America's democracy is that this voice is just as important, just as valid as the next man's. Though led by presidents, governors, senators, and representatives, I have just as much power to speak out as they do. My voice matters.

Our forefathers designed the United States Constitution to keep the government from ever becoming so powerful, so tyrannical, that I no longer have the freedom to speak my mind. At the same time, the constitution keeps me in line and helps remind me of what is important to our democracy, so that

I fight for ideas that are true, right, and noble.

Personally, I've only recently begun to see how powerful my voice is, even though it is just one. A project was assigned in my political science class in which I needed to interview various state representative and senators. I was surprised at how easy it was to schedule an appointment with an elected official. When I was sitting in the office of my representative, my eyes were opened to the power of my own voice. I used to believe that my voice meant nothing because I wasn't old enough to vote. But what is amazing to me now is that I'm able to walk straight into our state's capital building, climb a few stairs, enter right into an office of a senator or representative, and explain to them exactly what I believe and why I believe it. Not only that, our government allows what I say to be taken into consideration. I can persuade others to take up my passion, believe what I believe, and push for a change. Though funded in basic principles, democracy is not set in stone. If I don't agree with something, I have the ability to work to change it. America, the world's largest democracy, will take time to listen to what I have to say.

Because my voice in our democracy matters so much, I hold a tremendous respect for the United States of America. I see the value in a peaceful transition of leadership. I see the value of a "majority rules" policy. I see the value of my voice. Therefore, I will not sit back when I have such freedom in my grasp. I will use my voice to make our democracy a better place to be. In the words of Edward Everett Hale, "I am only one, but still I am one . . . I cannot do everything, but I can do something. . . and what I can do, I should do . . . and, with the help of God, I will do."

**INTRODUCTION OF THE "NIGERIAN
ADVANCE FEE FRAUD PREVEN-
TION ACT OF 1998"**

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I am joining with a bipartisan group of colleagues in introducing legislation to prevent further growth of the international crime, Nigerian Advance Fee Fraud.

Every day, thousands of Americans fall subject to get rich quick schemes. Unfortunately, Nigerian Advance Fee Fraud is a whole new era of scamming money out of innocent people. Known internationally as "4-1-9" fraud after the section in the Nigerian Penal Code which addresses fraud schemes, these scams have reached epidemic proportions.

As a personal target of such scams, I am introducing the Nigerian Advance Fee Fraud Prevention Act of 1998 to bring this swindle and its perpetrators into the forefront of the American public, and focus the Government on implementing a national and international strategy to combat these shams.

This form of bilk is widespread, targeting over 60 countries worldwide. The perpetrators of these hoaxes don't discriminate when choosing their targets, everyone from small to large corporations, religious organizations, and individuals are all fair game to these criminals.

I myself have been targeted four times by these flimflams in just over 7 months.

The perpetrators of this swindle will send letters to unknowing victims, mostly senior citizens, claiming that the Nigerian Government overpaid the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation on a contract. Instead of giving the money back to the government, the scammer indicates they need a foreign bank account to deposit \$50 million, of which 30% would remain in the victims' bank account for them to keep.

So, what is the actual scam? The scam does not actually require the transmission of a bank account number (although many victims obligingly provide it). The victim supplies a letterhead, which is used to forge letters of recommendation to the American Embassy for travel visas and it is also used to persuade other prospective victims.

They way they get money from the victims is much craftier. Victims are pressured into sending money for unforeseen taxes, fees to the Nigerian Government, and attorney fees. These fees can reach hundreds of thousands of dollars. The perpetrators of these scams often allege that the victim must travel to Nigeria in order to complete the transaction. If the victim is unable to travel to Nigeria, they proceed to demand more money from them for power of attorney fees and other associated taxes. Often when a victim does travel to Nigeria, the scammer explains to them that there is no need for a visa. In fact, a visa is required by the Nigerian Government. The perpetrators then bribe airport officials to bypass immigration, and use this illegal entry as leverage to coerce the traveler into releasing more money.

Violence and threats of physical harm may also occur. To date, 15 foreign businessmen and two United States citizens have been murdered in Nigeria in connection with a "4-1-9" scam. Perpetrators of these scams are rarely prosecuted or jailed by the Nigerian government, which is also suspected of playing a role in these schemes.

Money garnered from these schemes is used to fund other illegal activities, including drug trafficking or violent crimes. This is a growing concern to the international community, and among the thousands of Americans who fall victim to these scams.

The Nigerian Advance Fee Fraud Prevention Act of 1998 will direct the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Treasury to jointly report on actions taken by the Nigerian Government in apprehending the perpetrators of 4-1-9 scams, efforts taken by the United States to inform American about such schemes, and other such actions which are or should be undertaken to end of these schemes, including the imposition of sanctions on the Nigerian Government.

Health Organization. I want to congratulate them, and everyone else who has joined in the fight against infectious disease around the world. I also congratulate Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland, the recently-elected Director-General of the World Health Organization, who has announced her commitment to improving the lives and health of children around the world.

In the last five decades, human longevity worldwide has increased by more than 40% and the average life expectancy at birth rose from 46 years in the early 1950s to almost 65 years by 1996. These great strides forward in health would not have been possible without the efforts of WHO and their many local and international partners in the private, public and non-profit sectors.

In 1967, WHO started an ambitious effort to eliminate smallpox worldwide. At the time, no one believed that a disease which afflicted up to 15 million people annually could be eradicated in just thirteen years—but that's exactly what happened. According to WHO, if smallpox had not been eliminated in 1980, the past twenty years would have witnessed some 350 million new victims—roughly the combined population of the USA and Mexico—and an estimated 40 million deaths—a figure equal to the entire population of Spain or South Africa.

Today, close to 90% of children in the world are being reached by immunization services—a dramatic increase from the 5% vaccinated only twenty-five years ago. Two million deaths from measles alone are prevented worldwide every year by current immunization efforts. WHO, its Member States and international partners are conducting extensive immunization, treatment and prevention campaigns to end polio, malaria, tuberculosis, cholera, dracunculiasis, Chagas disease, and HIV/AIDS around the globe.

Unfortunately, this story is not entirely filled with happy tidings. Today, malnutrition is implicated in the deaths of seven million of the twelve million children who die of preventable causes each year. Many households around the world still lack access to safe drinking water and often use the same water supply for cooking and sanitation. Deaths from easily preventable, waterborne illnesses and the more elusive but equally deadly diseases like Ebola make the battle against infectious disease a war with many fronts.

To further complicate the picture, non-communicable diseases like cancer and heart disease—the leading causes of death in the United States and Europe—are making inroads into Africa, Asia and South America. WHO projects that deaths related to tobacco use over the next 30 years will rise from 4 million to 10 million by the year 2030, with 70 percent of these deaths occurring in developing countries.

The unfettered globalization of the tobacco market—which is dominated by U.S. companies—will cause untold devastation on the health of every citizen on the planet over the next few decades. We cannot stand idly by when we have the tools to stop such practices.

I am proud to be an original co-sponsor of the Bipartisan NO Tobacco for Children Act of 1998 which will establish an international "code of conduct" for U.S. tobacco companies

selling their products abroad. If tobacco companies cannot market in a particular way to American children, they should also be prohibited from using those methods on children in other parts of the world.

HONORING THE GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH OF NANUET

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, a great Baptist Church located within Rockland County of the 20th Congressional District of New York, will observe its bicentennial, as this County celebrates its 200th birthday.

In 1798 a small gathering of Baptists in Rockland County formally established what is today the Grace Baptist Church of Nanuet. This Church was instrumental in starting six new Baptist congregations in Rockland County and subsequently established the first Sunday School there in 1828.

A far-sighted and courageous action that this Church took on April 12, 1817, fifty years before President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, was its declaration that members who owned slaves could no longer remain fellows of the Church.

The growth of the Grace Baptist Church over the past 200 years has kept pace with the growth of Rockland County. The current congregation is multi-ethnic with Caucasian, Afro-American, Hispanic, Asian, Korean, Haitian and Philippine congregation members. All these reflect the current cultural and ethnic composition of Rockland County.

This Church has been an important factor for the development of the Rockland community. Throughout the years it has been an invaluable community presence, making certain that it responds to the special needs of the population. It has been a social and religious institution that always acts in the best interests of the community.

I am certain that the Grace Baptist Church of Nanuet will keep up its good works, not only in spreading out its religious traditions and observances, but also promoting its religious teachings and morality in Rockland's community.

TRIBUTE TO "BUCK" LONG

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, on June 1, 1998, D.H. "Buck" Long will retire from his long-time service as President and General Manager of WKRG-TV, Inc., the CBS affiliate in my hometown of Mobile, Alabama.

For over 30 years, Buck has been an innovator in the broadcasting industry, always keeping his station on the cutting edge of technology. Furthermore, he has set an example for his peers and employees alike by giving much back to his community. Quite frankly, Buck's service to the Mobile area has been unrivaled in many ways.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the Fiftieth Anniversary of the World

Buck Long was born on April 9, 1929 in Spartanburg, S.C., where he attended Spartanburg High School. Soon after graduation, he moved to Mobile to attend Springhill College in 1947. As a student at Springhill, Buck worked part-time as a record librarian, station-break announcer and disc-jockey at WMOB Radio, which marked his first job in the broadcasting field to which his father had introduced him years before as a young child.

In 1950, Buck became the nighttime announcer and disc-jockey at WABB Radio where he became known as the host of "Buck Back Room." With his ingenious business style and optimistic attitude, Buck sold his show to the listeners of Mobile who grew to appreciate and admire not only the show but also the announcer. In return for his hard work and success with the show, WABB promoted Buck to the position of full-time sales associate the following year and by 1955, he was named local sales manager at WABB.

After his initial success in radio, Buck left the station in 1957 and became an account executive with Jack Lewis Advertising. Two years later, in 1959, he joined the sales department at WKRG-TV. That year marked the beginning of what would turn into a long and dedicated relationship with the WKRG corporate family.

In 1967, Buck Long was promoted to local sales manager as a reward for his hard work. A few years later, he was elected Vice President, and later Senior Vice President, of WKRG. In 1982, Buck was once again elevated, this time to Executive Vice President and Station Manager. Finally, on January 1, 1986, the Board of Directors of AM-FM radio stations.

Throughout his distinguished career, Buck has always demonstrated his genuine concern for the Mobile community through his commitment to quality family programming. In addition, Buck has also believed the public deserves to be kept informed with a top notch news department and a public affairs division that is second to none. Along these lines, I would be remiss if I didn't mention one such program, *The Gulf Coast Congressional Report*, which has been a mainstay on WKRG for more than 20 years. In fact, with Buck's strong support, several of my colleagues and I, most notably former Congressman Earl Hutto and the Senate Majority Leader, TRENT LOTT, have been able to appear on WKRG on a regular basis keeping the viewing audience in Northwest Florida, Southwest Alabama and the Mississippi Gulf Coast informed on the latest news coming out of Washington.

As you can imagine, Buck Long has received numerous awards over the years but three in particular stand out. Not long ago, the Alabama Broadcasting Association named Buck Alabama Broadcaster of the Year. In addition, he has also been named a Paul Harris Fellow from the Mobile Rotary Club and an Honorary Fellow to the University of Mobile.

Buck resides in Mobile with his wife, the former Sara Kerr. Their daughter, Karen St. Clair, also lives in Mobile with her husband Jeffrey Miles St. Clair, and their children, Sara, Katherine and Andrew.

Mr. Speaker, Buck Long is a good friend but more than that, he is a good citizen. His leadership in our community and at WKRG serves

as an inspiration to young and old alike, and it is indeed a pleasure for me, as his congressman, to enter this recognition in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, so that on behalf of his viewing audience and my constituents, a proper "thank you" for his many efforts to make Mobile and South Alabama a better place can be duly noted. And to Buck and Sara, here's for many more years of success, good health and happiness in all your future endeavors.

SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES
FIRST FEMALE ENGINEER RETIREES

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Betty Carrell, a constituent from Livermore, California and one of science's true female pioneers.

While at Oregon State University in the 1950s, Betty Carrell was the only female student enrolled in the university's engineering program. In fact, because of her welding classes, Mrs. Carrell was the only woman allowed to wear pants on campus.

In 1959, Mrs. Carrell graduated and was quickly hired by Sandia National Laboratories in Livermore, California where she became their first female engineer. After five ground breaking years, where she was the only woman among the 350 engineers at Sandia, Betty left just prior to the birth of her first child.

While raising her two children, who it should be noted are now both mechanical engineers, Betty somehow found time to serve on the Livermore School Board, including two terms as its president. Among her other civic activities, she also sat on the Chabot Community College Foundation and the Livermore Chamber of Commerce.

In 1984, she returned to Sandia where she worked on a number of projects including solar thermal technology, warhead dismantling programs and toxic waste reduction. Betty is most proud of the environmental management work she did in Washington, D.C. for two years while on loan to the Department of Energy. Earlier this year at the age of 60 and after 20 fulfilling years at Sandia, Betty Carrell retired from the working world.

Betty Carrell is truly an inspiration to young woman everywhere who dream of entering the workplace as scientists and engineers. At an early age, she shared her parent's love of math and science so it was a natural for her to want to become an engineer.

Betty can be delighted with the progress women have made in the sciences. Of the 630 technical engineers at Sandia today, 107, 17 percent of them, are women. Betty Carrell should take great pride in the trail she blazed for women everywhere in engineering and in the sciences. We in the 10th Congressional District are extremely fortunate to have someone as special and as courageous as Betty Carrell living in our community. I applaud her for her efforts on behalf of women everywhere and I wish her the best in her well-deserved retirement.

TRIBUTE TO ROY TOWERS

HON. FRANK RIGGS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, one of my best friends left this world for a better one last week. His name was Roy Towers. He had one mission in life, to help make his country, his state and Del Norte County a better place to live, work and raise a family.

Some people sit on the sidelines and say why bother. Not Roy Towers. He was the type of person to get involved and make a difference. And make a difference he did. In the political arena there was no one better at organizing to elect the candidate he felt would do the best job for the people. Where some people just give money, and others only give their time, Roy Towers gave both.

Most people will remember him as a political activist, but he was so much more than that. Few people will recall that it was Roy Towers who was one of the prime movers of the effort to get quality care in Del Norte County. Yes, as a member of the Local Hospital Board of Directors, he convinced Sutter Health Systems to invest millions of their dollars to build a new hospital in Crescent City. He made sure that poor people were guaranteed access to good health care by convincing the board to bring in a medical clinic to serve those who could not afford medical and dental care.

Roy was also a dependable friend. I often sought his advice and counsel, and he was always forthright with his thoughts and ideas.

He was a person who was active right up to the end, fighting for his beliefs.

[From the Daily Triplicate, Tuesday, May 19, 1998]

ROY TOWERS, 1920-1998

A MAN OF INFLUENCE AND DILIGENCE, ROY TOWERS WORKED HARD TO LEAVE HIS LITTLE CORNER OF THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE

If someone met Roy Towers walking down the street, at least in the 1990s, most people would not see the clout the gentleman held in the area. They would have seen a tall, orderly man with quiet eyes and reserved demeanor. Flashy was not part of his wardrobe or his lifestyle.

Yet Towers was far different than some others with power. First, Towers' influence wasn't because of his money, although he did have a dime or two. No, it was built on respect. It was anchored in hard work. He was willing to fight his own battles. For example, he saw a need for leadership on what is now the Del Norte Healthcare District's board of directors, and for 17 years he provided that in a determined, yet civilized, manner.

Towers was also a man who understood principles and accepted the fact that other people had principles that didn't always match his goals. As long as an opponent had a good reason for disagreeing with him, Towers understood.

Roy Towers died last week. He took with him a wealth of knowledge about many subjects, such as making friends and making Del Norte County a better place to be. He will be missed.

"MIRACLE AT MIDNIGHT:" AN EXTRAORDINARY FILM AND A VALUABLE LESSON FROM THE PEOPLE OF DENMARK

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor today an outstanding film, "Miracle at Midnight," that appeared on ABC television's "The Wonderful World of Disney" on Sunday night, May 17. This moving drama, which was created by ABC, the Disney Company, and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, is a stirring description of the story of Danish courage during World War II.

Other European nations, subdued by Nazi might, cowered at the feet of their conquerors and, in some cases, collaborated with them in their most despicable genocidal plans. The Danes stood firm against this affront to humanity, fighting back doggedly and bravely against German efforts to arrest Denmark's Jewish citizens. In a matter of hours, Danes of all religions and persuasions joined together to organize a rescue of miraculous success and unbelievable fortitude.

The swiftness and daring of the rescue illustrated in "Miracle at Midnight" is so monumental that it is difficult to believe. In fact, the entire account is based on the true experience of the Danish people.

On April 9, 1940, German tanks crossed the border into Denmark in an unprovoked attack upon a defenseless nation. As Nazi tanks rolled unhindered across the flat Jutland, the Danish government recognized the impossibility of resistance and surrendered within hours. As a reward for their initial passivity, the German occupiers allowed the Danes a modicum of freedom and a measure of civil life unparalleled under the Nazi yoke. Few *untersmenschen*—"subhuman" individuals of "degenerate" races—were molested by Gestapo thugs, and, for three years, life for most Danish citizens remained relatively unchanged.

In 1943, however, this changed. Ambitious SS officers in Copenhagen, perversely envious of their mass-murdering colleagues in Eastern Europe, ordered the arrest of the city's Jewish population to coincide with Erev Rosh Hashanah, the night before the start of the Jewish New Year. Word leaked quickly to the Jewish community, and men and women who arrived for celebratory synagogue services were immediately sent home to hide their families from the Nazi onslaught. Non-Jewish families, among them Dr. and Mrs. Karl Koster (skillfully portrayed by Sam Waterston and Mia Farrow) and their two teenage children, risked their lives by opening their homes to Jewish friends and neighbors. Dr. Koster, a leading Copenhagen surgeon, courageously converted the hospital which he directed into a refuge. Similar acts of principled, silent bravery dotted the historic city, making the "surprise" Nazi roundup an unmitigated failure.

Koster and his fellow protagonists soon realized that the Nazi thugs could not be evaded indefinitely, and they devised a plan to ferry their Jewish friends to neutral Sweden.

Against seemingly hopeless odds, their efforts were rewarded. Through sheer good fortune and the wit, wisdom, and valor of the many Danish heroes, 7,000 Jews escaped to Sweden. Only a few fell into Nazi hands.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot overemphasize the importance of studying the horrible illustrations of human brutality that mark the history of the Holocaust. I feel equally passionate about the need to study the causes of the widespread popular indifference to the Nazi crimes. But another type of example from these awful years must also be highlighted: the instances of uncompromising bravery that saved many men, women, and children from the gas chambers. The fortitude of Oskar Schindler was brilliantly recorded on film by Steven Spielberg in the epic "Schindler's List." The moral fight of the outnumbered and outgunned Jews of the Warsaw Ghetto tied down pivotal German forces for six weeks and, more importantly, served notice to Hitler's henchmen that the Jewish people would fight the tyranny forced upon them. For me and my wife, the lesson of Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish humanitarian who saved our lives and the lives of 100,000 Budapest Jews, is one that we never fail to teach our grandchildren. The sacrifices of the Danes must also never be forgotten, and the brilliantly constructed "Miracle at Midnight" helps to fulfill this vital mission.

Mr. Speaker, the extraordinary film would not exist without the luminous talents and firm backing of many important participants. "Miracle at Midnight" is produced by Davis Entertainment in association with Walt Disney Television. John Davis and Merrill Karpf are the executive producers, with Morgan O'Sullivan as producer. Ken Cameron directed from a script by Chris Bryant and Monte Merrick. Waterston, the acclaimed star of "The Killing Fields" and television's "Law and Order," joins Ms. Farrow, Justin Whalin, and numerous other brilliant artists in their magnificent acting performances.

"Miracle at Midnight" displays for us all the beauty and justice of a people comparatively unburdened by the racial and religious hatreds that indelibly stamped the Holocaust. Preben Munch-Nielsen, then a teenager, took part in that historic rescue: "We didn't recognize Jews as Jews, but as Danes. . . . The Jews . . . were victims of an insane movement created by lunatics. If you wanted to maintain your self-respect, you did what you could." This film is a wonderful lesson of tolerance, dignity, and selflessness. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending "Miracle at Midnight" and all those who contributed to its valuable historical lesson.

STATEMENT ON DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL—MOFFETT FEDERAL AIRFIELD, COMPOSITE MAINTENANCE HANGAR

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I'm disappointed that the National Security Committee was unable to include funding for the construction of

a new composite hangar for the Air National Guard 129th Rescue Wing stationed at Moffett Federal Airfield in California.

I understand the fiscal restraints placed on the Committee, especially in the area of construction and infrastructure. That is why I am urging the Administration to give careful consideration to including the project in the FY 2000 budget currently being developed.

Currently, the hangar and maintenance facilities for the 129th Rescue Wing at MFA are inadequate and unsafe for personnel and aircraft. The existing hangar (Hangar 3), built before World War II, was designed to house dirigibles and is much too large and in need of costly renovations and repairs. A newly constructed Composite Maintenance Hangar would greatly enhance the operational effectiveness and readiness of the California Air National Guard and the 129th Rescue Wing.

NASA was designated as the host agency to accommodate federal assets at Moffett as a result of the 1993 Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommendations. Subsequently, all tenants at Moffett were required to relocate to contiguous areas, using available facilities to house their activities. As a result, there are no aircraft hangar facilities available to house the nearly 200 maintenance personnel performing repairs to the HC-130P and HH-60G aircraft in the Air National Guard area. Hangar and related aircraft maintenance activities are currently being performed in a World War II hangar designed for dirigibles. The hangar is almost seven times the size of what is needed by the Air National Guard, and is located a substantial distance from the identified Air National Guard area. This building is constructed of wood with a metal roof and has no fire protection or state-of-the-art safety features.

The current facility has inefficient and obsolete utility and environmental systems. The building also requires extensive code upgrades to ensure seismic safety, and the alarm systems are inadequate. Because of the age and condition of the existing hangar, critical and substantial operation and maintenance (O&M) funds are being expended annually to keep the hangar marginally useful. A Life Cycle Cost Report done by the Air Force shows that there is a one year payback involved in the construction of this new composite maintenance hangar, and design of the project has been completed.

I urge the administration to include this project in next year's budget, and hope that at this time next year I can thank the Committee for its work in protecting and assisting the members of the Guard that serve California.

HONORING VINCE'S BRIDGE IN PASADENA, TX

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the site of Vince's Bridge in Pasadena, Texas, as it is rededicated on May 24, 1998, to the memory of the men and women who participated in the struggle for Texas Independence. In addition, this rededication is a

tribute to Pasadena's Our Neighborhood Association and its President, Nona Phillips, who not only spearheaded this rededication, but also conducted painstaking historical research in an effort to document the bridge's role in the Battle of San Jacinto.

At the Battle of San Jacinto, Texas Army General Sam Houston made a surprise attack on the Mexican Army near the mouth of the San Jacinto River, defeating the Mexican Army under General Santa Anna. This battle ended the war, and Texas earned its independence from Mexico. According to the research conducted by Nona Phillips and her neighbors, as well as other historians, Vince's Bridge played a critical role in this victory.

General Sam Houston and the meager Texas Army retreated eastward after the fall of the Alamo in the spring of 1836. The troops were increasingly impatient and demoralized by the time they reached Buffalo Bayou, a few miles southeast of present day Houston.

On April 19, the Texans crossed over and marched down the right bank of Buffalo Bayou to within half a mile of its confluence with the San Jacinto River. Here, the Texas Army prepared their defenses on the edge of a grove of trees. Their rear was protected by timber and the bayou, while before them was an open prairie.

The main forces of the Texas Army totaled about 750 men. They faced a force of 1,500 of the Mexican Army, confident because of their recent successes against the Texans.

Early in the morning of April 21, 1836, Sam Houston sent Erasmus "Deaf" Smith, the celebrated Texas scout, along with John Coker, Denmore Reves, John Garner, John Rainwater, Moses Lapham, and Y.P. Alsbury, to destroy Vince's Bridge over which the Mexican Army had passed, thus cutting off their only available escape. The stage set for battle, General Houston gave his long-awaited order to fight, and after only 18 minutes and shouts of "Remember the Alamo," the Texans were victorious. Santa Anna, who was taken prisoner, signed a treaty that granted Texans their independence and ended the war. The battle for Texas was won.

Vince's Bridge was, by most historical accounts, a relatively small wooden bridge spanning one of the many estuaries of Buffalo Bayou. While the San Jacinto Monument, which today is a museum housing artifacts of the battle, attests to the Texan victory, only a small granite marker along Texas 225, a seldom-travelled, two-lane road, denotes the location of Vince's Bridge. The marker, laid in the early 1900s by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, has almost been forgotten, the message nearly illegible from time and salt.

Longtime residents and members of Pasadena's Our Neighborhood Association believe the site deserves more recognition since the bridge was instrumental in the Texans' victory. So on May 24, 1998 they will rededicate the marker at the site of Vince's Bridge.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Nona Phillips and Our Neighborhood Association for their unrelenting efforts to carry out this project. Over the years, the bridge has maintained its own identity and symbolism. In the Association's words, "it was built with love and hope and dreams. It was destroyed to protect those

dreams. It comes back to life at a time when our children are sorely in need of dreams and example." It is fitting that we rededicate the Vince's Bridge marker to the women and men who participated in the struggle for Texas independence and helped the dreams survive.

THE CALIFORNIA COASTAL ROCKS
AND ISLANDS WILDERNESS ACT
OF 1998

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the California Coastal Rocks and Islands Wilderness Act of 1998. I am pleased to be able to offer this bill with the support of my colleague, Representative ELTON GALLEGLY.

The purpose of this bill is to recognize the ecological significance of the tens of thousands of small rocks, islands and pinnacles off the California coast, by designating them as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. These small islands and rocks provide important resting sites for California sea lions, Steller's sea lions, elephant seals and harbor seals, as well as providing a narrow flight lane in the Pacific Flyway. An estimated 200,000 breeding seabirds of 13 different species use these rocks and islands for feeding, perching, nesting and shelter. Birds that use these areas include three threatened and endangered species: the brown pelican, the least tern and the peregrine falcon.

The Wilderness designation afforded by this act would apply to all rocks, islands and pinnacles off the California coast from the Oregon border to the U.S. Mexico border, which are currently under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). This includes nearly all of the federally-owned lands above the mean high tide and within three geographical miles off the coast.

The designation would afford the highest protected status and highlight the ecological importance of all of the small rocks, islands and pinnacles off the California coast, which together comprise approximately 7,000 square acres. Adding these areas would also further the Wilderness Act's goal of including unique, ecologically representative areas to the System.

Rocks and islands which are already patented or reserved for marine navigational aids, National Monuments, or state parks will not be affected by the legislation.

I am pleased to be able to introduce this bill and look forward to its swift passage, so that these unique areas of California's ecosystem can be preserved and protected for generations to come.

INTRODUCING DISTRICT OF CO-
LUMBIA LEGISLATIVE AND
BUDGET AUTONOMY ACT OF 1998,
THE FIRST BILL IN A SERIES OF
DEMOCRACY TRANSITION BILLS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the District of Columbia Legislative and Budget Autonomy Act of 1998, the first in a series of bills that I will introduce this session to ensure a process of transition to democracy and self-government for the residents of the District of Columbia.

The National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act passed last summer eliminated the city's traditional stagnant Federal payment and replaced it with Federal assumption of escalating State costs including prisons, courts and Medicaid, as well as federally created pension liability. Federal funding of these State costs involve the jurisdiction of other appropriations subcommittees. The DC Subcommittee is put in the position largely of appropriating the District's own locally-raised revenue from its own taxpayers money! Any new federal money for the District will come on a targeted basis covered by other subcommittees. My bill corrects an untenable position in a democracy that operates under principles of federalism, namely a national legislature appropriating in whole the budget of a local city jurisdiction. The budget autonomy component of the bill would allow the District government to pass its own budget without congressional approval.

Congress has put in place two safeguards that duplicate the function of the appropriation subcommittees—the Chief Financial Officer and the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority (Financial Authority). Moreover, the District has already begun to demonstrate that it is capable of exercising prudent authority over its own budget. This year, an independent accounting firm certified the District's first year (FY 1997) of a balanced budget and surplus, and the District is scheduled to continue to run balanced budgets and surpluses into the future. Under the Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority Act (FRMAA), the Financial Authority will remain in place for two more fiscal years (FY 1999, FY 2000) in any case, allowing the necessary monitoring and affording a period for the city to exercise the new authority while being monitored.

Budget autonomy will also serve to encourage more rapid and effective action by the District government and the Financial Authority to return the District to permanent solvency and to reform its budgetary governmental procedures. Budget autonomy facilitates the two indispensable goals of (1) streamlining the District's needlessly lengthy and expensive budget process in keeping with the congressional intent of the FRMAA to reform and simplify D.C. government procedures, and (2) facilitating more accurate budgetary forecasting. This bill inserts into the DC reform process a carrot where there have been only sticks. Incentives will help to hasten reform.

This bill would return the city's budget process to the simple approach proposed in the Senate and the District of Columbia Committee during the 1973 consideration of the Home Rule Act. The Senate version, as well as the bill reported by the District of Columbia Committee, provided a simple procedure for enacting the city's budget into law. Under this procedure, the Mayor would submit a balanced budget for review by the City Council with only the federal payment subjected to congressional approval. A conference compromise, however, vitiated this approach treating the DC government as a federal agency (hence the 1996 very harmful shutdown of the DC government for a full week when the federal government was shut down). The Home Rule Act of 1973, as passed, requires the Mayor to submit a balanced budget for review by the City Council and then subsequently to Congress as part of the President's annual budget as if a jurisdiction of 540,000 residents were an agency of the federal government.

The D.C. budget process takes 18-22 months from start to finish. The usual time for comparable cities is six months. The necessity for a Financial Authority significantly extended an already uniquely lengthy budget process. Even without the addition of the Authority, the current budget process requires the city to navigate its way through a complex bureaucratic morass imposed upon it by the Congress. Under the current process, the Mayor is required to submit a financial plan and budget to the City Council and the Authority. The Authority reviews the Mayor's budget and determines whether it is approved or rejected. Following this determination, the Mayor and the City Council (which also hold hearings on the budget) each have two opportunities to gain Authority approval of the financial plan and budget. The Authority provides recommendations throughout this process. If the Authority does not approve the Council's financial plan and budget on second review, it forwards the Council's revised financial plan and budget (containing the Authority's recommendations) to bring the plan and budget into compliance) to the District government and to the President. If the Authority does approve the budget, that budget is then sent to the President without recommendations. The District budget includes proposed expenditures of locally raised revenues as well as a proposed federal payment. The proposed District budget is then included in the federal budget, which the President forwards to Congress for consideration. The DC subcommittee in both the House and Senate review the budget and present a Chairman's mark for consideration. Following markup and passage by both Houses, the DC appropriations bill is sent to the President for his signature. Throughout this process the bill is not only subject to considerations of fiscal soundness but individual and political considerations.

This procedure made a bad budgetary process much worse causing me to write a consensus budget amendment that allows the parties to sit at the same table and write one budget. Even so, instead of that budget becoming law now, the District is likely to be without a budget until close to the adjournment of Congress this year.

Under the legislation I introduce today, the District of Columbia still remains subject to the

full appropriations process in the House and Senate for any federal funds. Nothing in this bill diminishes the power of the Congress to "exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever" over the District of Columbia under Article I, section 8, clause 17 of the U.S. Constitution should it choose to revise what the District has done concerning locally raised revenue. Nothing in this legislation prevents any member of Congress from introducing a bill that addresses her specific concerns regarding the District. Once the District receives budget autonomy, the Financial Authority Act still mandates that the Authority review the District's budget. Granting the District the power to propose and enact its own budget containing its own revenue free from Congressional control during the period when the Authority is still the monitoring mechanism eliminates all risk in granting this power and provides an important incentive to help the District reach budget balance and ultimately meaningful Home Rule.

My bill also contains another important section. It eliminates the congressional review period of 30 days and 60 days respectively, for civil and criminal acts passed by the DC City Council. Under the current system, all acts of the council are subjected to this Congressional layover period. This unnecessary, unprecedented and undemocratic step adds yet another unnecessary layer of bureaucracy to an already overburdened city government.

My bill would eliminate the need for the District to engage in the byzantine process of enacting emergency and temporary legislation concurrently with permanent legislation. The Home Rule charter contemplates that if the District needs to pass legislation while Congress is out of session, it may do so if two-thirds of the Council determines that an emergency exists, a majority of the Council approves the law and the Mayor signs it. Emergency legislation, however, lasts for only 90 days, which would (in theory) force the Council to pass permanent legislation by undergoing the usual congressional review process when Congress returns. Similarly, the Home Rule Charter contemplates that the Council may pass temporary legislation lasting 120 days without being subjected to the congressional review process, but must endure the congressional layover period for that legislation to become law.

In actual practice, however, most legislation approved by the City Council is passed concurrently on an emergency, temporary and permanent basis to ensure that a large, rapidly changing city like the District remains running. This process is cumbersome and inefficient, and would be eliminated by my bill.

It is important to emphasize that my bill does not prevent review of District laws by Congress. The DC Subcommittee would continue to scrutinize every piece of legislation passed by the City Council if it wishes and to change or strike that legislation under the plenary authority over the District that the Constitution affords to the Congress. My bill merely eliminates the automatic hold placed on local legislation and the need to pass emergency and temporary legislation to keep the District functioning.

Since the adoption of the Home Rule Act in 1973, over 2000 acts have been passed by

the council and signed into law by the Mayor. Of that number, only thirty-nine acts have been challenged by a congressional disapproval resolution. Only three of those resolutions have ever passed Congress—two of which involved a distinct federal interest. Two bills, rather than a hold on 2000 bills, would have served the purpose and saved considerable time and money for the District and the Congress.

I ask my colleagues who are urging the District government to pursue greater efficiency and savings to do your part in giving the city the tools to cut through the bureaucratic maze the Congress has imposed upon the District. Congress has been clear it wants to see the DC government taken apart and put back together again in an effort to eliminate redundancy and inefficiency. Congress should therefore eliminate the bureaucracy in DC that Congress is solely responsible for by granting the city budgetary and legislative authority.

Only through true budgetary and legislative autonomy can the District realize meaningful self-government and Home Rule. The President and the Congress took the first step in relieving the District of costly escalating state functions in the President's Plan. This bill takes the next logical step by granting the District control over its own budgetary and legislative affairs. I urge my colleagues to pass this important measure.

THE FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1998

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, today Congressman PORTMAN and I have introduced The Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1998. This legislation eliminates duplicative paperwork for those individuals and groups attempting to get federal assistance. The bill also removes federal road blocks to coordinating service delivery for families receiving federal assistance. The Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1998 establishes the framework by which federal, state and local agencies can more efficiently deliver services to those in need.

We have asked families to get back on their feet so they can take care of themselves and their children but our maze of federal regulations makes it more difficult for community programs to assist families in doing this. We must help these families to help themselves. The Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1998 coordinates federal service programs to better serve our Nation's children and families and I am pleased to introduce it today with my colleagues ROB PORTMAN, JIM MORAN, CHRIS SHAYS, TOM DAVIS, STEVE HORN, GARY CONDIT, DENNIS KUCINICH, BOB WEYGAND, ROSA DELAURO, JIM MCGOVERN, CAROLYN KILPATRICK, JIM TALENT, MARK SANFORD, and JOHN SUNUNU.

IN TRIBUTE TO BOB CRANDALL

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, today marks the retirement of one of the most prominent figures in American aviation. After twenty five years, the last thirteen as Chairman and CEO, Bob Crandall is leaving American Airlines. His legacy is immense.

A vehement opponent of deregulation in the 1970s, Bob Crandall guided American and, in turn, other airlines through the tumultuous 1980s. Bob Crandall's innovations—computer reservations systems, frequent flier programs, super saver fares and the hub and spoke system, to name a few—have become industry standards. American Airlines has tripled in size since moving its headquarters to Dallas-Fort Worth, which has grown with American to become one of the busiest airports in the United States.

We congratulate him as he leaves American and thank him for his visionary leadership both in the aviation community and in the Metroplex. We do not know exactly what his future holds, but we hope we have not heard the last of Bob Crandall.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND EMPLOYEE PROTECTION ACT"

HON. TED STRICKLAND

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation, along with my colleague Mr. ED WHITFIELD of Kentucky, which would guarantee that an amount equal to the tax windfall the federal government receives from the privatized United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC) would help to assist job creation and stimulate economic development in southern Ohio and western Kentucky. In the Energy Policy Act of 1992, the government-owned corporation USEC was created to assume responsibility for the Department of Energy's (DOE) uranium enrichment program. The 1992 Energy Policy Act not only transferred the Department's uranium enrichment program to USEC, but it also included a requirement that USEC prepare a strategic plan to privatize the corporation. On June 30, 1995, USEC issued its privatization plan. Today, that privatization plan is near completion and the transfer of this public asset will take place as soon as this summer.

Back in the 1950's the Department of Energy's gaseous diffusion plants in Piketon, Ohio and Paducah, Kentucky operated to supply enriched uranium for U.S. nuclear weapons and later for reactor fuel for nuclear submarines. Today, the Piketon and Paducah facilities provide an essential service in the production of fuel for commercial nuclear power plants operated by electric utilities. Unfortunately, the changes in DOE's mission have led to significant workforce reductions at the plant

in southern Ohio, and this downsizing dramatically affects a region which has not experienced the unparalleled economic recovery so many other communities throughout the country have enjoyed. Under privatization, USEC intends to restructure its operation and there is a growing uncertainty about the security of existing jobs at the plant. Therefore, I believe the bill we are introducing today provides a reasonable approach to addressing the needs of the workers, their families and the communities of Ohio and Kentucky that supported our efforts during the Cold War.

Specifically, the bill directs the Department of Energy's Worker and Community Transition Office to set up and manage a fund dedicated to improve economic security of the communities which depend on and support the operation of the two uranium enrichment plants located in Piketon, Ohio and Paducah, Kentucky. The appropriation to this fund would be authorized at a level equal to the tax windfall received by the federal government from the privatized USEC. Under the management of DOE's Worker and Community Transition Office, the allocation of funds to the regions would be directly related to the economic distress factors in the local communities surrounding the facilities and could provide the resources necessary to improve the economic health in these regions. Those counties experiencing the highest unemployment rates would receive larger allocations than counties with unemployment rates closer to the state average unemployment rate. These financial resources would be used to help train displaced employees and market the region for future business opportunities. This dedicated fund would dissolve when the local unemployment rates of the affected counties reach the average unemployment rate of the respective states for a period equal to at least one year.

While I recognize that downsizing at DOE facilities adversely affects local communities across the country, I doubt whether many of these communities have the pressing need that exists near the Piketon, Ohio plant. Recent unemployment statistics indicate that the average unemployment rate of the four counties surrounding the Piketon, Ohio plant is greater than 10%. The average unemployment rate in the state of Ohio is 4.3%, seasonally adjusted, and the national adjusted average unemployment rate is 4.7%. This bill is designed to address this unacceptable disparity and help to ensure that southern Ohio has an equal opportunity to contribute to this nation's economic recovery.

HONORING LOU BOOKER ON THE OCCASION OF 20 YEARS OF EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO THE SANTA FE SPRINGS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIAL LEAGUE

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lou Booker for 20 years of outstanding service as Executive Director of the

Santa Fe Springs Chamber of Commerce & Industrial League. Lou was recognized last week in Santa Fe Springs, California.

Lou Booker and her husband Vern have two children Steve and Lynn and six grandchildren. They reside in La Palma, California.

Lou began her career with the Santa Fe Springs Chamber of Commerce & Industrial League in 1978. Throughout her 20 years of service, she has implemented and maintained programs that have placed Santa Fe Springs Chamber of Commerce & Industrial League at the forefront of area chambers. One of the programs that Lou supports is the Rotary Club of Santa Fe Springs. Lou has also worked to expand the City of Santa Fe Springs' annual business and residential "Citizen of the Year" Award Ceremony and the biannual "Salute of Merit Award," to recognizing fire, police and highway patrol service personnel.

Lou has earned a state-wide reputation for developing a chamber that consistently has been on the "cutting-edge" of innovation. She is the editor of a highly acclaimed monthly newspaper—The Business & Industry News; the Business & Industry News Directory and a nationally recognized and awarded Business Emergency Preparedness Network. She has also assisted in the development and publication of the Legislative Action Guide for the Gateway Chambers Alliance. These publications keep constituents informed on local and national business issues.

In addition to her service to our local business community, Lou has also provided leadership and inspiration to the youth of Santa Fe Springs. She has assisted in the implementation of community Chamber/League committees and activities that have development school programs and projects focusing on drug awareness and career development. She is a strong supporter of the CHOICES Program and the DESTINY FUND, a school Mentor program.

Mr. Speaker, this afternoon, members and leaders of our community gathered to recognize Lou for her 20 years of exemplary service to the community of Santa Fe Springs. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Lou Booker's 20 years of selfless dedication to the Santa Fe Springs Chamber of Commerce & Industrial League.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to support provisions in our upcoming campaign finance debate which require full disclosure of all campaign contributions and expenditures.

In the past several years, we have too often seen abuses of the campaign financing system, where money is pouring into elections from foreign and other unknown sources with little consequence. I find it disturbing that campaigns are sometimes run behind the scenes, behind the backs of voters, so that the campaign finance process generates fear and distrust among voters, instead of honesty and openness.

Although the popular opinion polls may show an indifference or apathy toward campaign finance, I feel that many Americans see these questionable escapades as an inherent part of the campaign finance system, and they feel the situation may never improve.

As a Member of Congress who has no extravagant personal wealth, and no means to independently finance my own campaign, I believe in letting the system work. I believe that candidates young or old, rich or poor, black or white, can and must continue to be able to serve their community and country as a Representative in Congress. The opportunity to serve in Congress must not be limited to only those who have personal wealth, which is the effect that many of the campaign reform bills would have on candidates.

In order to preserve this opportunity for future Congressional aspirants, I believe we must focus our campaign finance reform efforts on getting the truth to the American people—because that is what they want. And finding the truth means opening up our books, all of our campaign finance documents, and letting the light shine brightly on who is giving money to our candidates, who is spending special interest money on their elections, and how much they are spending on these races.

Because too often, people inherently fear that which they do not know. The American people have been kept in the dark about who is getting what money, how much is coming in and from where it comes. Only then will the people be able to decide who best represents them.

Congress must support full disclosure of all campaign related financing, and full publication of campaign documents, and let the sun shine in on how candidates finance their campaigns.

SOUTH BEND TRIBUNE 125TH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION DAY

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, Thomas Jefferson once said of newspapers: "The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right; and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

Next Thursday, on May 28th, one of the great papers in the State of Indiana, the South Bend Tribune, will mark 125 years of continuous publication as a daily newspaper. Since its inception in 1873, the Tribune has compiled an outstanding record of professionalism and public service that continues today. South Bend, the State of Indiana, and portions of Michigan are all fortunate to have a newspaper that sets such a high standard for community service and journalistic competence.

The Tribune is an exceptional newspaper in a variety of ways. Allow me to mention a few examples. First, the Tribune has been recognized on many occasions by local, state, and

national newspaper organizations for its outstanding coverage and service to its readers. Year after year the paper wins awards in a wide variety of categories: from photography, to deadline reporting, to editorial writing.

Second, the dedicated and devoted staff of the Tribune produce a newspaper that is consistent in the high quality of its content. Readers all over Indiana have learned that they can depend on the Tribune to produce an excellent newspaper every day.

Third, the Tribune continues to be devoted to its community. In an era of cookie-cutter national newspaper chains that lack local flair or public concerns, the Tribune remains a locally owned and managed newspaper that is dedicated to promoting the health and civic discourse of its community.

When Joseph Pulitzer retired, he outlined a standard for newspapers that exemplifies the history of the Tribune: "That it will always fight for progress and reform, never tolerate injustice or corruption, always fight demagogues of all parties, never belong to any party, always oppose privileged classes and public plunderers, never lack sympathy with the poor, always be drastically independent, never be afraid to attack wrong, whether by predatory plutocracy or predatory poverty."

The residents of the Tribune will mark May 28th with the hope and assurance that the newspaper will continue to have a similar impact for many years into the future.

RETIREMENT OF REAR ADMIRAL
KENDELL PEASE

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished service of Rear Admiral Kendell Pease, who recently retired from the United States Navy as Chief of Information after 34 years of exemplary service.

After a brief period as an enlisted man and four years at the Naval Academy, Admiral Pease joined the fleet as a public affairs officer in 1968. He served his country in Vietnam, with subsequent assignments in Naples, Italy; Charleston, South Carolina; Washington, DC; and Norfolk, Virginia. He was public affairs officer at the Naval Academy, served on the staff of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs at the Pentagon, and was also public affairs officer at the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

It was at the Navy Office of Information in the Pentagon where Rear Admiral Pease really made his mark as a spokesman for Navy-wide operations and policy. He served in the Office of Information three different times, the final time in his position as Chief of Information, where he was the principal public affairs advisor to and spokesman for both the Secretary of the Navy and the Chief of Naval Operations for nearly six years, the longest term ever held by a Chief of Information. Admiral Pease's tenure spanned some of the most dramatic changes the sea service has experienced in more than 200 years. He saw the aftermath of Tailhook and the integration of

women into combat roles in the Navy; he saw the challenges of personnel drawdowns following the collapse of the Iron Curtain; he helped the Navy mold and then iterate a drastic change in mission philosophy, from a blue water fighting force designed to counter the Soviet threat to a brown water force capable of fighting in the littorals and projecting power from the sea. He was always engaged with the media, discussing necessary new acquisition programs like the F/A-18E/F Super Hornet; the *Seawolf* and the New Attack Submarines; the next generation aircraft carrier CVX and CVN-77, the transition ship to CVX; and DD21, the Navy's land attack destroyer for the 21st century. Over and over and over again, Rear Admiral Pease communicated the Navy's role of Forward Presence—operating ships, submarines and aircraft anywhere in the world, unencumbered by host country sensitivities.

Admiral Pease was the Navy's chief spokesman during numerous naval deployments to protect American interests in global hotspots like the Persian Gulf, Taiwan Straits, Somalia, and the Adriatic Sea off Bosnia. And on occasion, when force was the final resort as we have seen several times in the past few years in Iraq and Bosnia, Rear Admiral Pease was there, telling the story of the heroic American Sailor and his or her efforts in the face of adversity. Admiral Pease placed particular emphasis on the Sailor, because he realized that they were the backbone of the fleet—the ingenuity of the individual American Sailor is what make our Navy the greatest one in the world.

Rear Admiral Pease was a master of presenting the Navy's role in world events to the American public. He personally mentored hundreds of junior officers who were members of the Navy public affairs community; he was demanding, but mostly of himself, often arriving at the Pentagon before six a.m. and routinely working until nine or ten at night. His untiring commitment led to a remarkable increase in America's understanding of the Navy and its people. He clearly played a significant role in the shaping of public opinion and the future of the sea service.

Admiral Pease was an innovative communicator. He was at the forefront of promoting digital photography to tell a story half a world away; he also used video teleconferencing at sea and the internet to carry the Navy's message. And his tenure as the Chief of Information saw incredible evolution not only in the way the Navy communicates with the public, but also with Sailors. He refined the Navy's internal publications, reorganized and enhanced the Navy's weekly news program "Navy and Marine Corps News", and pioneered Direct to Sailor television aboard ships at sea—satellite technology destined to bring live television programming to all Navy ships in the next decade.

Perhaps most of all, Rear Admiral Pease was valued not only for his ability as a communicator, but more importantly as a strategic, big picture thinker, advisor and the voice of reason. He served three Secretaries of the Navy and three Chiefs of Naval Operations during his six years as the Chief of Information. A man of unparalleled vision, his opinion weighed significantly more than the two stars he wore on his collar would indicate. He is a

man who served his country loyally and truly epitomizes the Navy core values of honor, courage and commitment.

I know the Members join me in this tribute to Rear Admiral Kendall Pease, who has truly given his all to the United States Navy for the last 34 years.

ROSAS COMMUNITY AWARDS

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, one of my greatest pleasures in serving in this Congress is the opportunity to recognize outstanding people for their accomplishments. Former Councilwoman Joan Griffin McCabe, Captain James L. Luongo, and Edmundo Quinones are people who have dedicated their lives to the public good. In recognition of their service, they will be receiving the Revitalization of the Southern Area of the Slope community service awards this Thursday evening.

Former Councilwoman Joan Griffin McCabe has distinguished herself through her lifelong career as an education activist. Starting in 1991, Ms. McCabe spent six years as the representative of the 38th District in the New York City Council. During her two terms, Ms. McCabe produced many tangible benefits for the community, including protection of the environmental integrity of the Brooklyn Waterfront and \$120 million dollars from the city government for school textbooks. Her work on behalf of students in New York city has earned her wide recognition.

Captain James L. Luongo has earned recognition as a result of his nearly twenty years of service in the NYC Police Department. Captain Luongo is the commanding officer of the 78th Precinct and a member of the Honor Legion. He has previous experience in Patrol, Narcotics, and Detective work. Captain Luongo's work in the NYC has made the city a safer place in which to live.

Edmundo Quinones is the Deputy Director of Social Services at Project Reach Youth in Park Slope. Mr. Quinones has spent his life work for the public good with children and families. He has worked for a myriad of goals, leading support groups for parents and teens, organizing parent advocacy groups for school reform, and helping teen parents and run-aways. Edmundo Quinones has earned this recognition as the result of his lifetime of service to the families of Park Slope.

I hope that all of my colleagues will join me today in honoring these three, their lives spent working for the public weal are an inspiration to us all.

PORTSMOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL VISITS WASHINGTON, DC

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to praise the

hard work of those who organized the Portsmouth Middle School Annual Field Trip to Washington, DC. Every year a group of students from the school are taken to the Capitol to have a tour. A number of people put a great deal of time and effort into organizing this trip. In fact these same dedicated individuals have been making this trip for over twenty years. I would like to acknowledge these people for the work they have done. Richard Munch, Beverly Tavares, Paul Fuller, Andrew Schlachter, Harold Weymouth, Beverly Mankofsky, Jackie Shearman, Heather Baker. Without their constant help and support the trip would not take place.

The trip enables young students to see the Capitol up close and they learn a great deal of how the government works. It is important that our young people get to see for themselves the legislative process. The get a tour of the Capitol which goes through all aspects of the legislature. They are able to learn the procedures of Congress and they get a taste of how the process functions. This is a very educational tour as these students are able to hear the history of the nation and the capital. They go to Congressional offices, are shown through the Capitol and see the House in action.

I believe that it is an important aspect of our democracy that people can come and see the political process themselves. Many members of the populace never get a chance to do this. Often the legislative process seems far removed from the average persons everyday life. It is often seen as a process that they cannot have any part in. We need to educate people in what we do, to show them that we are here to serve them and that we are answerable to them. This is how our democracy works and young people should be aware of these principles.

The Capitol tour gives a taste of the history of the United States. I believe that these young people need to learn about their history and the work that our great leaders have put into creating the nation we have today. It is the people that I mentioned above from Portsmouth Middle School who make this trip possible. They have over the years acted beyond the call of duty to make these trips work. I would like to acknowledge their efforts and note that I appreciate the work they do to show a new generation of young people our democratic process.

SALUTING THE EARTHLINK NETWORK

HON. JAMES E. ROGAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, the truest test of a company's service is the satisfaction of its customers. As a testament to its high level of customer commitment, one company in my district has been recognized recently for rising to the top in the Internet Service Provider market: the Earthlink Network.

In mid-1994, an enterprising young businessman, Sky Dayton, founded a local Internet access provider to take advantage of a

void where larger national companies had lapsed. Mr. Dayton quickly capitalized on his local niche, and fostered the development of Earthlink Network into what is today the world's largest independent Internet access firm.

While achieving success was by no means a smooth journey, word of Earthlink's dedication to service quickly spread, winning them accolades from newspapers and magazines across the country. Among their achievements in the professional realm, none is more significant than the news last month that the Earthlink Network had surpassed the 500,000-customer mark.

By ensuring that its services were operational over 99 percent of the time, and by providing consistent quality customer service, Earthlink Network is demonstrating that true entrepreneurial spirit thrives in the 27th Congressional District. One man's idea for a new start-up business has steadily grown into a trendsetter in the industry. Just last year, the Los Angeles Times reported: "[Earthlink] has combined good marketing, good service, good capital-raising ability and good attention to strategic detail to grow from nothing to almost 400,000 subscribers in just three years."

Mr. Speaker, I echo these same sentiments. In just a few years the Internet has grown from the brainchild of a few computer experts to the modus operandi of school children, businesses, and industries around the world. Earthlink Network has developed a loyal following by harnessing the power of the Internet, and presenting it to consumers in an understandable and user-friendly format. For their dedication to quality and their innovations in the access provider industry, I ask my colleagues here today to join me in saluting the excellence of Earthlink Network, and in congratulating them on their 500,000th customer.

DRUG FREE BORDERS ACT

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to salute all of my colleagues who joined me last night in supporting the Drug Free Borders Act. I would especially like to commend Congressman PHILIP CRANE (R-IL) for his leadership in introducing this legislation and following through with its rapid progression.

The Drug Free Borders Act plays an important role in our renewed efforts to win the War on Drugs by authorizing an additional \$233 million for the U.S. Customs Service. This legislation also calls for 1,745 more Customs inspectors and special agents, as well as new drug-screening technologies to assist in existing interdiction efforts.

As a resident of the Southern California region bordering Mexico, I am well aware of the issues that surround the importation of narcotics. As the Congressional Representative for the 48th District of California, I know that our efforts are best directed at strengthening the security at our ports of entry in order to curb this disturbing practice.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday's passage of the Drug Free Borders Act is one more sign of

this Congress' commitment to winning the War on Drugs. I applaud my colleagues and urge them to persist with this battle.

CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, May 20, 1998 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

REFORMING CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL

One of the biggest changes I have seen during my years in Congress is an explosion in the number of complex issues Members of Congress are called upon to consider. Fortunately, Members have a host of resources on which they can rely for information, but these are no substitute for a Member's personal observations and experience. To get the broadest possible exposure to issues before Congress, Members must sometimes travel.

Congressional travel is frequently viewed with skepticism by the public, who worry that Members travel too often at too great an expense, with more emphasis on recreation than substance. They also voice concern about trips paid for by special-interest groups who are trying to influence the legislative process. Congress has in recent years placed greater restrictions on travel, but occasional reports of abuses continue to raise the public's ire, with the unfortunate effect of discouraging some legitimate and useful congressional travel. Many Members do not travel at all because they fear the political consequences from being accused of taking a junket. I recently introduced a travel reform package which seeks to address some of the problems with congressional travel while enhancing its benefits to Congress and the public.

Reasons for travel: Domestic and foreign travel can greatly enhance a Member's knowledge, improving the quality of legislation and congressional oversight. In our system of government, Congress has the power of the purse. With this power to spend money comes the equally important responsibility to ensure that it is well-spent; and direct, personal oversight by Members of Congress is essential. Some congressional trips save taxpayer dollars by exposing wasteful programs both at home and abroad. Travel can improve a Member's understanding of the impact government policies have on a particular region or group of citizens and can also increase the public's knowledge of issues before Congress.

Foreign travel increases the expertise of Members on programs and issues that commit significant United States resources abroad, from programs to promote U.S. exports to overseas military deployments to food aid for developing nations. Travel also alerts Members to foreign trade opportunities which can directly benefit constituents in their home districts. Moreover, Members can advance our national interests: because they do not represent the President directly, sometimes they can say things that U.S. diplomats cannot. It is ironic that there are strong pressures against foreign congressional travel at the very time that America's security and economic interests are broader and more complex than ever.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Problems: The purpose of some congressional travel, however, is dubious. Particularly troublesome is travel paid for by groups who have a direct interest in legislation before Congress. Some groups, for example, will invite Members and staff to attend seminars or conferences at resorts or other appealing locations. Though these meetings are ostensibly to explore important issues, most are really aimed at advancing a specific point of view and gaining access for lobbyists to key Members and staff. These sorts of trips create at the very least the perception that Members of Congress are accepting nice trips in exchange for their votes. While I think this sort of gross exchange of votes for favors is rare, these trips do allow special interests to have greater access to Members of Congress, and with access often comes influence.

There are also questions about whether Members travel too lavishly and at too great an expense. Many congressional trips involve the use of military aircraft, which is sometimes justified. In addition, Members' spouses sometimes accompany them on trips, even though there may not be in all cases a legitimate reason for them to do so.

Reforms needed: Congress can do a better job of ensuring that travel serves legitimate purposes. Recent reforms have been helpful. In 1995, for example, the House enacted a gift ban which required Members and staff to disclose any travel paid for by private funds and emphasized that trips must relate to the official business of the House. But loopholes remain in the rules. In an effort to improve accountability in congressional travel, I recently introduced a travel reform resolution which would:

Improve reporting requirements: The House currently requires Members and staff to file reports for certain types of travel. These reports often include the source of funds paying for travel, and an estimate of the cost of transportation, food, lodging, and other expenses. My proposal would require reports to also include a detailed itinerary and policy findings and recommendations; more information on private sources who fund trips; estimates of the costs of travel provided by a foreign government; and, if transportation is provided by the Department of Defense, an estimate of the cost equivalent commercial transportation.

Make travel records more accessible to the public: Currently, only reports for government-funded foreign travel are made widely available to the public. My proposal would require the House to publish in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and on the Internet a compilation of all travel reports for each calendar quarter, as well as an annual summary of all House travel.

Ethics Committee approval for privately-funded trips: Under my proposal, travel funded by private sources would require advance authorization from the House Ethics Committee. The Ethics Committee would have to examine whether the person or group paying for the trip has a direct interest in legislation before Congress, and whether acceptance of the trip would have an adverse impact on the integrity of the legislative process.

Restrict perks: My proposal would prohibit Members and staff from accepting first-class airfare. Meals and lodging in excess of the federal employee per-diem rate would also be prohibited unless previously authorized by the House Ethics Committee. Moreover, travel by spouses or family members would be limited.

Conclusion: I firmly believe that when congressional travel is done right, it can greatly

benefit Members of Congress and the citizens they represent. The question is not whether to abolish congressional travel, but how to get rid of frivolous travel while maintaining the worthwhile. My hope is that by putting in place stronger safeguards against travel abuses, good, substantive congressional travel will enjoy the support of Members and the public.

CONGRESSIONAL SENIOR CITIZEN INTERN PROGRAM

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, each year during the month of May our nation celebrates National Senior Citizen Month. All throughout May, various communities around the nation celebrate the diverse contributions of their senior citizens. In recognition and in conjunction with National Senior Citizen month, senior citizens from across the United States are gathering on Capitol Hill to participate in the annual Congressional Senior Citizen Intern Program.

The annual senior intern program provides our nation's senior citizens with a firsthand look at their government in action. While participating as interns in Washington, D.C., they attend meetings, issue forums, and workshops on topics which impact the elderly community in particular. The Senior Citizen Intern Program also allows its participants a chance to engage their congressional leaders, members of the presidential cabinet, and other policymakers in extensive dialogue about the legislative process. I am extremely honored to salute Mrs. Gussie Jones, who has been selected as my Congressional Senior Citizen Intern. Mrs. Jones was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. A graduate of Case Western Reserve University, she is the type of person that my district is proud to have produced. Not only has Mrs. Jones handled the responsibilities associated with being a mother, grandmother and most recently being a great grandmother, but she is also a political activist and public speaker whose words of wisdom are well sought after in the Cleveland area. She has on many occasions represented me at various functions.

Mr. Speaker, for 32 years Mrs. Jones dedicated her career to being an assistant manager in the General Services Department and a member of the Ohio Bell Speakers Bureau. Her affiliations include the Inner Church Council, the Executive Board #1 of the Eliza Bryant Home for the Aged, the League of Women Voters, and the National Council of Negro Women. She also shares an affiliation with the Tau Gamma Delta Sorority Iota Chapter.

In particular Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Jones is very involved in the church environment. She is a very active member of both African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church. In addition to serving as administrative assistant to her Pastor and Presiding Elder, Mrs. Jones is the Director of Home Mission of A.M.E. Zion Church Conference, Secretary for the Cleveland District Connection, Executive Secretary of the Connectional

Claims Committee, Member of the Home Mission Board, and the Stewardess Board #2. She is also the Chairperson of the Life Members Council for the Missionary Society, Chairperson of the Scholarship Fund Committee, and an honorary member and narrator of the Chancel Choir.

Mr. Speaker, I take great pride in honoring Mrs. Gussie Jones. She is an exceptional Christian woman who serves her community well. I am certain that Mrs. Jones will do an outstanding job as a Congressional Senior Citizen Intern. I want to congratulate her and express my appreciation for her participation in this very important program.

HONORING HOWELL CARNEGIE
LIBRARY

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mrs. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to celebrate the Howell Carnegie Library, which will receive a Michigan Historical Marker on May 17, 1998.

The Howell library originated as the Ladies Library Association in 1875. That year, the ladies began offering books for lending. In 1902, this service grew to such lengths that a need developed for a town library. With the financial help of steel entrepreneur Andrew Carnegie, Detroit architect Elijah E. Meyers, who in previous years designed Michigan's Capital, designed the Neoclassical library with fieldstones collected throughout the country on land donated by the four sons of Howell pioneer William McPherson.

Reading is one of life's greatest pleasures and the knowledge gained through libraries is critical to maintaining our great democracy. With this dedication, we need to honor not only this important structure but the people who were so committed to this important community service many years ago. From A.G. Kuehne, a Howell native who hand built the library; to Andrew Carnegie, who funded over 2,500 free public libraries throughout the English-speaking world; to the people of Howell who established and supported the library throughout the years, this is an example of what can happen when dedicated people come together to meet the needs of the community. The Howell Carnegie Library is an important landmark and I am pleased it is getting the recognition it deserves.

COMMEMORATION OF SECOND AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE BROOKLYN
CHINESE-AMERICAN ASSOCIA-
TION

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Brooklyn Chinese-American Association on their second anniversary. This celebration is due to two years of com-

munity outreach. This organization began as a group of concerned citizens who wanted to better their community. Despite lack of funding and resources, the group managed to become an organized entity providing an array of vital services to the community.

The Brooklyn Chinese-American Association provides essential services in the areas of health, service, and education. They conduct a variety of health related workshops and provide medical check-ups, free eye-exams, blood pressure monitoring, and yearly flu shots. The organization also renders services to people of all ages from providing day care to supporting youth and senior citizen cultural activities. Educational programs such as citizenship classes, language skills, and music and dancing classes are also included in this multi-human service center. Enough cannot be said of the many services this organization provides to the community.

Despite the lack of government funding and manpower, the organization has already enrolled more than 1,600 members and serves more than 150 people per day. In its efforts to improve the overall quality of life, the Brooklyn Chinese-American Association has maintained ties with their local elected and public officials. Through town meetings and voter registration drives, the center has made efforts to increase the political participation of the community.

This organization has truly evolved in a short period of time to become integral to the community. Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in commemorating the efforts of the many who have struggled to make the Brooklyn Chinese-American Association what it is today. Let this organization be held as a prime example of how much can be accomplished when citizens care enough to make a change in their community.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. VALENTINA
UMANETS

HON. JACK METCALF

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a constituent of mine, Mrs. Valentina Umanets of Bellingham, Washington. Valentina passed away at her home on Friday, May 15th 1998. Valentina was instrumental to the Sister Cities agreement between Bellingham, Washington in my district and Nakhodka in eastern Russia.

In 1989, long before Perestroika allowed for the openness that is now sweeping across Russia, Valentina worked to bring about the Sister City agreement. She worked as the central staff member for the City of Nakhodka on this agreement. In 1993, Valentina immigrated to the United States at the request of Western Washington University and the City of Bellingham to enhance the Sister City program. Because of Valentina's hard work on this project, Bellingham and Nakhodka now have a vibrant Sister City agreement that has flourished in recent years with many valuable exchanges between the local governments, businesses and the citizens of these two communities.

Valentina worked as a Professor of Russian at Western Washington University, and had recently completed work on a new text book for teaching the Russian language. She was loved by her students, and her home always had visitors from either the University or the many Russian immigrants that call Bellingham and Whatcom County home. She was always willing to help those in the community that were in need of assistance with a government agency, a school or those that just needed something translated.

She also held events at the University and parties at her home to celebrate the rich Russian culture. Most recently, Valentina organized "An Evening of Russian Romance" at the University which featured Russian dance and music. The food for the evening was carefully prepared in Valentina's kitchen by her students and friends, but always under her watchful eye. Her home would be open each New Years Eve for a Russian celebration of one of the big holidays in Russia. On March 8th of each year, Valentina would again play host to a party in celebration of Womens Day, again an event of great importance in Russia.

Several American men in the Bellingham area, including a member of my staff, have married Russian women, and Valentina was often of great help for these couples as they worked to overcome cultural differences. She became a "den mother" of sorts to these women that were so far from home and their own mothers. Valentina was a very happy, caring person.

Mr. Speaker, the citizens of both Bellingham and Nakhodka have suffered a great loss with the passing of Valentina. She has started a wonderful program between these two cities, and has kept it going to the point that it will continue to prosper without her. But to those that have already made friends across the vast Pacific or to those that will in the future, a great deal of thanks is owed to Valentina Umanets.

Mr. Speaker, Valentina is survived by her husband Eugene of Bellingham; her daughter Erika of Sumas; her son Stanislav of Nakhodka and two grandchildren. Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my condolences as well as that of my staff to her family. She was loved by many and will be missed by all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM RYUN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. RYUN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for several roll call votes yesterday. Had I been present, I would have voted no on roll call votes 156, 157, 158, 159 and yes on roll call vote 160.

HEROES

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to honor and thank the residents of Bakersville, NC for their participation in a rescue that saved the life of a neighbor and defined a true community. On Wednesday, January 7, 1998, Joe Snyder, a resident of the 10th district of North Carolina, suffered a severe heart attack in his home. Meanwhile, the small town of Bakersville was experiencing severe flooding caused by torrential rains, which closed roads and stranded residents. Despite the harsh weather, once neighbors and friends heard of Mr. Snyder's condition, they worked together and successfully transported him to a medical clinic to get the attention he so desperately needed. Not just one neighbor or two friends, but many members of the community united to offer CPR, transportation, and other support.

To the people who were present that day, who volunteered their support and aid, and who helped to turn a tragedy into triumph, I salute your determination and selflessness. As flood waters rose, conditions became extremely perilous, and a friend was in need of a miracle, the community of Bakersville, NC, came together as neighbors to save a life.

TRIBUTE TO THE ISRAEL'S 50TH GALA HONOREES

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding collection of individuals for their unwavering commitment to the Jewish community in Los Angeles and their support of Israel throughout its 50 years. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Mr. and Mrs. Eric Alon, Ms. Lily Arstein, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Davidov, Mr. and Mrs. Shimon Erem, Mr. and Mrs. Jona Goldrich, Mr. Jonathan Mitchel and Ms. Gal Haas, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Sandel, Mr. and Mrs. Yehochai Schneider, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Shapow, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Shepher, Dr. and Mrs. Jose Spiwak and Mr. and Mrs. Ike Starkman for their innovative leadership of the years.

The Talmud states "He who does charity and justice is as if he had filled the whole world with kindness." In the spirit of these words, these leaders have infused Israel and Los Angeles with a sense of purpose and pride. Through their work, they have upheld the Judaic tradition of generosity and concern for others. Their exceptional leadership has been instrumental in laying the foundation for a strong and cohesive Jewish community in the City of Los Angeles.

In August of 1897, over a century ago, the first Zionist Congress affirmed its aspiration to form a Jewish homeland in the historic State of Israel. After the horrors of the Holocaust, in

which one-third of the Jewish population of the world lost their lives, the Jewish people returned to their ancient homeland and established the State of Israel.

Since the Nation's founding, over a million Jews from throughout the world have sought refuge in Israel. Over the last 50 years, Israel has rebuilt a nation, maintained a pluralist democracy—the only one in the Middle East—and based that democracy on freedoms and the rule of law. It has developed a thriving economy and society, transforming the desert into a land of milk and honey.

The State of Israel was formed in the face of tremendous adversity. Its survival has depended upon the support and involvement of people such as these special leaders. I rise today to congratulate these leaders along with the people of Israel on the 50th anniversary of their rebirth and independence.

CONGRATULATING JAMES MOSEMAN AND FINALISTS OF THE 19TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT ARTS COMPETITION

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my constituent, James Moseman, who attends Marion High School and has won first place in the 19th Congressional District Arts Competition. James was also the winner of the People's Choice Award, along with Trenton Kessler of Stewardson-Strasburg High School.

I was very proud to be honorary chairman of this distinguished event, which was held at Eastwood's Art and Teacher Supply Store in Marion. We had many outstanding contributions from high school students throughout the district. All the entries displayed so much beauty and potential, including finalists Sarah Thompson and Jill Zerrusen, both of Teutopolis High School; Kristin Jankowicz of MacArthur High School in Decatur; Shannon Gonzalez of Neoga High School; Ginnie Gessell of Benton High School; and Gabe McClellan and Candace Taylor, both of Marion High School.

I would like to thank the steering committee members for organizing the district competition. Mary Jo Trimble of the Little Egypt Arts Association and Cary Knoop, a retired Eastern Illinois University arts instructor, were instrumental in helping plan this special event. The judges for the contest, art educators Robert Maguire, Marie Samuel and Rebecca Spoon, also deserve special recognition.

As you know Mr. Speaker, this contest is held every year, after which the winner's paintings are proudly displayed in the United States Capitol building. James' excellent work will be exhibited along with other paintings from around the country, and I am honored to represent James and the other participants in the House of Representatives.

It is wonderful to not only see the incredible talents our youth possess, but also to be a part of the exciting events which showcase these talents. Mr. Speaker, please joint me in

recognizing James and the finalists from the 19th Congressional District Arts Competition.

HIV/AIDS VACCINE AWARENESS DAY

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, we are at an important crossroad in the history of the AIDS epidemic. Although dramatic new treatments and improvements in care for people living with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, have offered new hope in the AIDS fight, the number of new infections continues to rise among adolescents, women, and minority communities. In fact, about half of new HIV infections occur in young people age 15–24—our future generation. It is clear that the only way to halt the continued spread of this disease is by developing an AIDS vaccine.

"Only a truly effective, preventive HIV vaccine can limit and eventually eliminate the threat of AIDS . . . let us commit ourselves to developing an AIDS vaccine within the next decade," President Clinton stated one year ago today. We are closer now than ever before to developing a vaccine that prevents people from becoming infected with HIV. Recent scientific advances coupled with the dedication of thousands of volunteers suggests that the development of a vaccine is feasible. The anniversary of President Clinton's commitment to this goal will be marked by the first HIV/AIDS Vaccine Awareness Day, a national day dedicated to informing people about the vaccine initiative and its role in the fight against the AIDS epidemic in our communities. Enormous challenges remain in our effort to develop a safe and effective HIV/AIDS vaccine, and we, as a community must seize this opportunity to meet these challenges.

Seattle has played an integral role in the development of an AIDS vaccine. The AIDS Vaccine Evaluation Unit (AVEU) at the University of Washington is one of only six centers in the U.S. funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to conduct AIDS vaccine testing. Established 10 years ago, the AIDS Vaccine Evaluation Unit has benefited immeasurably from the dedicated participation of more than 650 community volunteers.

The AVEU volunteers are critical to the pursuit of an AIDS vaccine for many reasons, most notably the scientific and social challenges this vaccine presents. Volunteers are between the ages of 18 and 60, HIV-negative, and in good health. These community volunteers have made a very personal commitment to the pursuit of the AIDS vaccine by donating a great deal more than just their time. Although the vaccine does not infect the volunteers with HIV, there is some risk. We are grateful to them, for they test the vaccine to determine whether or not it is safe for you and me.

The community participants in AVEU have volunteered despite adverse social forces and scientific obstacles. Vaccine development has been influenced by the expectations of the public, media attention, and the interests of

pharmaceutical companies. With the publicity surrounding the new treatments available for HIV, such as the triple drug combination, attention to HIV infection has waned. Such drugs are indeed promising for people living with the AIDS virus, but a vaccine is the only effective way to prevent new cases of HIV/AIDS.

Thankfully, last year, the National Institute of Health's AIDS vaccine research budget was increased by 17.5 percent, to a total of \$153 million. This year, the President has asked Congress for another 17.5 percent increase to \$180 million. That means there has been an 80 percent increase in AIDS vaccine funding since 1995. According to the National Infectious and Allergy Disease Institute, there are currently 23 vaccine candidates and 49 clinical trials in the works. Nationwide, nearly 3,000 volunteers already have participated in studies.

An AIDS vaccine is possible in our lifetime. What we truly need is aggressive pursuit by federal, state, and local governments with the committed support of the public. President Clinton's AIDS vaccine initiative proclamation was a good first step, but much more is needed. We must make the development of an AIDS vaccine a national and an international priority.

Making the AIDS vaccine a reality will take the continued commitment of the dedicated volunteers, researchers, government, and the public. The President said it best when, on this day a year ago, he pledged, "If America commits to find an AIDS vaccine and we enlist others in our cause, we will do it." I would like to join Governor Locke, Mayor Schell, and the Seattle City Council in dedicating this day to the numerous vaccine volunteers in our community, and thank them for what they have allowed us to accomplish thus far.

Let us mobilize here in the community, as well as in the government, to push for what is on the horizon—an end to AIDS as we know it.

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.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

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, May 21, 1998, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 3

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on tribal justice programs, focusing on the Department of Justice's and Department of the Interior's Indian Country Law Enforcement Initiative and other related tribal justice issues.

SR-485

JUNE 4

2:00 p.m.

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

JUNE 10

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on Bureau of Indian Affairs school construction.

SR-485

JUNE 11

2:00 p.m.

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

JUNE 12

9:30 a.m.

Special on SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE YEAR 2000 TECHNOLOGY PROBLEM

To hold hearings to examine how the Year 2000 computer conversion will af-

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fect utilities and the national power grid.

SD-192

JUNE 16

10:00 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine mergers and corporate consolidation.

SD-226

JUNE 18

2:00 p.m.

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control

To hold hearings to examine United States efforts to combat drugs, focusing on international demand reduction programs.

Room to be announced

JUNE 24

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on S. 1771, to amend the Colorado Ute Indian Water Rights Settlement Act to provide for a final settlement of the claims of the Colorado Ute Indian Tribes, and S. 1899, "Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky boy's Reservation Indian Reserved Water Rights Settlement Act of 1998".

SR-485

JULY 21

10:00 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Department of Justice's implementation of the Violence Against Women Act.

SD-226

OCTOBER 6

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs on the legislative recommendations of the American Legion.

345 Cannon Building

CANCELLATIONS

MAY 21

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the content of certain music lyrics.

SR-25