

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE PRESIDENTIAL MANAGEMENT ALUMNI GROUP

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 20th anniversary of the Presidential Management Intern Program [PMI]. On August 25, 1977, by Executive order, President Jimmy Carter introduced and implemented this effective and constructive program, to encourage the best and brightest into public service.

Mr. Speaker, the Presidential Management Intern Programs have a mission to help build the character and credentials of our citizens. The Presidential Management Intern Program's goal is to "Attract to Federal service men and women of exceptional management potential who have received special training in planning and managing public programs and policies."

Although the requirements are strenuous, the lessons learned through this program compel individuals to reach beyond themselves and touch the lives of others. The selection process requires the recipients to have pursued a course of study oriented toward public management at a graduate level. The final selection of interns is made by the head of the government, agency, or component within the Executive Office of the President in which the intern is to be employed. No more than 500 interns can be actively engaged at one time. However, interns who display exceptional aptitude and attitude may be granted competitive Civil Service status.

Mr. Speaker, what is impressive is that over 3,500 individuals have served as Presidential management interns. Even more astounding is that nearly 50 percent remain employed with the Federal Government today. It has been said "That the apple doesn't fall far from the tree." The truth to this quote is that the Presidential Management Intern Program is rooted in wholesome, educational opportunities. This program has promoted and produced opened doors for thousands of ambitious and bright individuals who may have never witnessed the privilege of public service. Today, Presidential management interns are active in all three branches of Government, ranging from the House of Representatives to the White House.

Mr. Speaker, it is programs like PMI which enhance, encourage, and empower the full potential embedded in the lives of people like these.

When we labor in the life of another our hours are never spent in vain but valiantly invested in tomorrow's leaders.

Mr. Speaker, and colleagues, please join with me in wishing the Presidential Management Intern Program continued success and congratulations on their two decades of helping young leaders reach their fullest potential.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, July 28, Tuesday, July 29, and Wednesday, July 30, I appreciated being granted excused absences due to a death in my family. Due to that absence, I missed several rollcall votes.

Had I not been unavoidably absent on Monday, July 28, I would have voted in the following manner on H.R. 2209, the fiscal year 1998 Legislative Branch Appropriations Act:

Aye on rollcall vote No. 335, on making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes;

Nay on rollcall vote No. 334, on a motion to recommit with instructions;

Aye on rollcall vote No. 333, on agreeing to the Klug amendment to reduce the number of full-time personnel in the Government Printing Office by 10 percent;

Nay on rollcall vote No. 332, on agreeing to the Fazio amendment to reduce the funds appropriated in the bill for the Joint Tax Committee by \$238,000, maintaining the current funding level for the committee.

Had I not been unavoidably absent on Tuesday, July 29, I would have voted:

Aye on rollcall vote No. 340, on Mr. JONES' motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1348, the Expanded War Crimes Act, amending United States Code, title 18, relating to war crimes.

Aye on rollcall vote No. 339, on Mr. BARCIA's motion to suspend the rules and agree to House Concurrent Resolution 75, expressing the sense of Congress regarding States' efforts against repeat criminals; that States should work more aggressively to attack the problem of violent crimes committed by repeat offenders and criminals serving abbreviated sentences.

Also on Tuesday, July 29, I would have voted in the following manner on H.R. 2266, the fiscal year 1998 Department of Defense Appropriations Act:

Aye on rollcall vote No. 338, on making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

Nay on rollcall vote No. 337, on agreeing to the amendment to reduce the overall amount of funds appropriated in the bill by \$4.3 billion.

Nay on rollcall vote No. 336, on agreeing to the Obey amendment to eliminate the \$331 million appropriation in the bill to begin advanced procurement of an additional 9 B-2 bombers; and transferring the funds to other procurement accounts, the Army Breast Cancer Research Program and applying the balance to deficit reduction.

Had I not been unavoidably absent on Wednesday, July 30, I would have voted:

Aye on rollcall vote No. 348, on House Concurrent Resolution 133, on agreeing to the

resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the terrorist bombing in the Jerusalem market on July 30, 1997.

Nay on rollcall vote No. 347, H.R. 2159, on agreeing to the Paul amendment to strike all the funds in title I of the bill which essentially eliminates all funding for export and investment assistance.

Aye on rollcall vote No. 345, H.R. 2015, the Balanced Budget Act Conference Report, on agreeing to the conference report providing for reconciliation pursuant to subsections (b)(1) and (c) of section 105 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1998.

Aye on rollcall vote No. 343, House Resolution 202, on ordering the previous question; waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2015) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to subsections (b)(1) and (c) of section 105 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1998.

Aye on rollcall vote No. 342, on House Resolution 201, on agreeing to the resolution waiving a requirement of clause 4(b) of rule XI with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules.

Aye on rollcall vote No. 341, on House Resolution 201, on ordering the previous waiving a requirement of clause 4(b) of rule XI with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ACID DEPOSITION CONTROL ACT OF 1997

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to fight acid rain and air pollution. This legislation will build on the Clean Air Act and the provisions dealing with the pollutants most responsible for acid rain. I am pleased to have the support of Congressman JOHN MCHUGH in this legislation as well as Senator D'AMATO and Senator MOYNIHAN who will be introducing the identical legislation in the Senate.

Although we've made tremendous progress in cutting down on pollution through the original Clean Air Act, it hasn't been enough in cutting the pollution responsible for acid rain and excessive air contamination we suffer from in New York. The forests and waterways of the Hudson Valley and the Adirondacks have become a dumping ground for this pollution and will be destroyed if we don't do something to stop it. As an outdoorsman and life-long resident of this beautiful region, I'm not going to stand by and watch our area be destroyed.

This legislation, entitled the Acid Deposition Control Act of 1997, focuses on further reductions in the emissions of nitrogen oxide [NO_x] and sulfur dioxide [SO₂], the two primary components of acid rain. Sulfur dioxide emissions

• 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.

have been declining under the emissions cap currently in place, but not fast enough for environmentally sensitive areas like the Adirondack Mountains and the Hudson Valley. This bill would cut the amount of SO₂ emitted in half in 2003 so dirty power plants won't be able to continue business-as-usual and get around pollution restrictions.

But even more important, this proposal finally takes on dangerous nitrogen oxide emissions. The Clean Air Act as it stands virtually ignores nitrogen oxides which in many ways is the most dangerous pollutant because of its devastating contributions to acid rain and also ozone pollution which can cause significant health risks for people suffering from respiratory problems like asthma.

This bill creates a market-based cap and trade system for NO_x emissions similar to that already in place under the Clean Air Act of 1990 that regulates SO₂. Under such a trading system, States are given pollution allowances directly related to the percent of power the utilities in their state produce. The state then divides up these allowances to each utility in whatever manner they choose. The system provides incentives for utilities to produce less pollution than allotted because they can sell extra allowances to other utilities. However, if a utility exceeds its emission allowances, even after buying additional credits, they will be subject to serious financial penalty.

Another important provision dealing with NO_x emissions seeks to cut these emissions at the most dangerous point of the year for many elderly and children afflicted with respiratory problems. The bill cuts in half the NO_x allowance during the summer months of May, June, July, August, and September when the heat and sunshine combine with NO_x and other pollutants to create hazardous ozone pollution.

I am pleased with the support this legislation has already received from many environmental organizations and industry groups. I also look forward to working with all of the New York delegation in the House and Senate as well as my fellow Members of Congress that are serious about reducing pollution in this country. I urge all my colleagues to co-sponsor this legislation and become committed to this cause. It's time for all of us to get together to fight against acid rain and for the health of our citizens and the health of our vital natural resources.

CONGRATULATIONS ON 50 YEARS OF SUCCESS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the owners and employees of the Federal Bronze Casting Industries, Inc. of Newark, NJ, and the Fox Hills Industries, Inc., of Huntington Beach, CA, for over 50 years of service and dedication to their communities.

These companies are strong, small businesses which produce mainly bronze sand castings, but also work with other alloys such as aluminum and brass. Their membership in the Non-Ferrous Founders' Society, the association for nonferrous foundries, is a visible indication to their customers, as well as other in-

dustrial members, that they are concerned with quality issues and understand the necessity of moving the foundry industry into the next century. Today, I would especially recognize John W. Burk, president, and Douglas J. Reichard, vice president. I am confident that under their leadership, Federal Bronze and Fox Hills will continue to flourish.

The U.S. nonferrous foundry industry is comprised of companies producing aluminum, brass, bronze and other nonferrous metal castings, principally via the sand and permanent mold casting processes. Nonferrous foundries constitute nearly two-thirds of the entire U.S. foundry industry. Though some foundries specialize producing castings primarily of one metal type, many nonferrous foundries routinely produce both aluminum and copper-based castings. Other nonferrous foundries may produce castings from zinc, magnesium or ferrous metals as well. Nearly every manufacturing sector of the economy employ nonferrous castings, which are particularly important in areas such as automotive production, plumbing and fluid handling, industrial, marine, aircraft and aerospace products; machine tool and heavy machinery, housing and construction, appliances, and defense and military, ordnance, applications.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the owners and employees of Federal Bronze and Fox Hills for their untiring efforts to provide quality products. I would also like to recognize the thousands of small foundries, located in urban and rural areas alike in all 50 States, which help make America stronger and more prosperous.

IN HONOR OF VIRGINIA AND PAWEL BEDNAREK

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a respectful tribute to Virginia and Pawel Bednarek who have been chosen as the Marshals for the Greenpoint, Brooklyn contingent in the 1997 Pulaski Day Parade in New York City. As editors of Greenpoint's local paper, the Greenpoint Gazette, and through their civic activities, the Bednareks have contributed immensely to the Greenpoint community.

Virginia Bednarek, born and raised in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, is the daughter of the late Adelle Haines, the founder and original editor of the Greenpoint Gazette. After her mother passed away, Virginia Bednarek assumed the position of editor of the Gazette.

Pawel Bednarek met his wife in 1978 when he came from Europe to the United States to continue his study of music and singing. During the early years of their marriage, Pawel achieved wide acclaim for his vocal talent. In 1992, he joined Virginia at the Gazette.

Through the Gazette, the Bednareks keep the community informed about current events while highlighting subjects of local importance each week. They also devote much of their free time to community causes. They led community opposition to New York City zoning laws that permitted X-rated stores to open in Greenpoint.

The Bednareks' personal dedication to the Greenpoint community is evident in their sup-

port of organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America, the YMCA and St. Stan's Athletic League. They are both parishioners at St. Stanislaus Kostka Church where Mr. Bednarek is the vice-president of the Third Order of St. Francis of Assisi. The Bednareks have a son, John Paul, and a daughter, Maria Yvonne.

For their wideranging efforts and accomplishments, the couple has been honored by organizations such as the Catholic War Veterans, the Northside Community Development and St. Stan's Athletic League.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to Virginia and Pawel Bednarek. Mr. and Mrs. Bednarek are tremendously talented and exhibit extraordinary dedication to their community. I am delighted that they live in my district.

HELPING AMERICA'S CHILDREN AT RISK

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, last night, I had the distinct honor to have dinner with Mr. Wintley Phipps, who many Members know from his extraordinary singing during Mother Theresa's visit a few weeks ago. Following that ceremony, I met with Mr. Phipps to discuss how we can ensure that some of our most underprivileged young people can participate in the amazing opportunities in the Information Age.

He responded by assembling more than a dozen of the brightest minds in the African-American community—educators, doctors, bankers, computer graphics specialists and others. They have developed what I believe is a brilliant plan to save those children most likely to be considered at-risk as well as reaching out to lower the recidivism rate in our prison populations. The group proposes, "to build a national, faith-based, on-line academy that will facilitate and coordinate the training of as many as possible of America's children at risk."

This is a project which can be attained. Wintley Phipps and his associates' idea is of such merit that I submit their statement into the RECORD and highly recommend studying it to all those either reading these printed words or viewing them on the THOMAS system.

OPENING STATEMENT, JULY 30, 1997

(By Wintley Phipps)

Mr. Speaker, just a few short weeks ago you called me into your office and shared with me your concern that too many of America's children were falling behind in this information age. You asked me to call together a few leaders for an informal dinner meeting, where we could explore concepts and strategies that might result in an initiative offering character development as well as educational and vocational preparedness for life in the 21st century.

Because of my respect for you, I took your expression of concern as a personal mandate and set upon a course to facilitate this meeting.

All of the people before you today are people that I love, respect, and deeply admire. The gifts, experience, and passion they display for children and the disadvantaged is not only extraordinary, but awe-inspiring.

We have with us today; one who has given me invaluable assistance in preparing for

this meeting, Mr. Frank Hilton of Caslink. Caslink is an Internet provider and web hosting company located in Falls Church Virginia. With him is the Vice President of Caslink Mr. Robert Adkinson.

I'm sure you know Dr. Ben Carson, Head of Pediatric Neurosurgery, John Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Md. Dr. Carson's achievements and contributions to the well-being of children are recognized all over the world. Dr. Carson also heads the USA Scholars Fund, a scholarship program for youth dedicated to scholarship and excellence.

Dr. Clarence Hodges, former Deputy Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of State and the Former Commissioner U.S. Administration for Children and Families. He is presently Vice-President North American Division of SDA.

Dr. Calvin Rock, former President of Oakwood College, Huntsville, Alabama. Dr. Rock more than any other person alive has done more to ensure that I would have a chance to obtain a college education and live up to my fullest potential. For this I will always be deeply grateful. He is presently one of the Vice-Presidents for the General Conference of the Seventh-Day Adventist and heads an operation called Operation Reachback. Operation Reachback is a group of Christian professionals dedicated to giving back blessings and opportunities to those less fortunate.

Mr. H. Melvin Ming, Chief Financial Officer and Vice-President of Administration and Operations of the Museum of Television and Radio.

Dr. Harold Lee, Secretary of Columbia Union Conference of SDA. Also a member of the board of Operation Reachback.

Mr. Rudolph Stafford of the Pastor of the Riverside SDA Church in Nashville, TN, also a member of the board of Operation Reachback.

Ms. Deborah Myers, a social worker with the DC government adult protective services program. Ms. Meyers has also done extensive research into the intergenerational impact of criminal behavior.

Mr. Howard Bullard, originally from Los Angeles, CA, is a specialist in the area of computer technology and computer graphics.

I'm sure you know my friend Mr. Pat Nolan, currently President and CEO of Justice Fellowship and Senior Vice-President of Prison Fellowship Ministries. Pat, a former Republican leader of the Assembly in the State of California, authored California's enterprise zones.

Also with us are Doctors Hal and Betty Walker and President and co-founder of A-MAN, the African-American Male Achievement Network. Betty is a former middle school principal while Hal is the only one in this room to date who has been honored with an exhibit on his achievements in the Museum of American History. Hal, a scientist, was the one who designed the laser that was fired and reflected back from the moon during the Apollo 11 moon landing.

Mr. Speaker, all of us assembled here today share your concerns.

We come prepared to take whatever steps are necessary to design and deploy a vehicle which may prove to be the salvation of many of our youth.

We believe that every child to be successful in life must have:

First: A Vision of destiny-directed life that anticipates a bright, successful future. They must have a vision of some positive contribution they can and must make to the world with their gifts.

Secondly: they must have a core set of Values that frame a moral commitment. Simple universal values such as courtesy, gratitude, honesty, respect for God, respect for others, and self.

Thirdly they must have Vocational/Educational preparation that validates and fa-

cilitates their potential contribution to society in the Information Age.

Mr. Speaker, as you are well aware, our young people, by and large are not being prepared for the vocational realities that will come with life in the new millennium. As this nation and the world transitions to an information-based economy; those who are trained in using information technology will have access to important economic and social benefits.

Those who do not have access to communications and informational technologies will lack the necessary skills to compete in the 21st century.

Those youth who are trained to use computers at home will also have a decided advantage over those who do not.

If all our children do not have equal access to the same books or reference materials, this raises the frightening reality that those who are the information have-nots of today are at great risk of becoming society's economic have-nots tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, we as Americans can ill afford the social and economic impact of two nations divided by the ability to obtain access and mastery of the National Information Infrastructure. This new societal division carries with it the threat of unrest and civil disturbance.

Already statistics tell us that six percent of teenagers, a disproportionate number of them being high school dropouts, six percent of teenagers commit 50% of all crimes.

Mr. Speaker, according to a statistic supplied by the Correction Education Association, sixty percent of prisoners who left America's prisons returned to prison. But of the prisoners who received post-secondary degrees while in prison, the recidivism rate nationally was 10-14%.

In the state of Texas the recidivism rate was 48%. The University of Houston offered degrees to prisoners from 1986-1992. Of those who left Texas prisons with Bachelor's degrees, 5.3% returned to prison. From Houston Chronicle, Feb. 1996.

The *LA Times* cite the same statistics but went on to add that the inmates in Texas who received just a 2-year degree, not a 4-year degree, the recidivism rate of 13.7%. In other words, the longer prisoners stayed in the College program the lower the recidivism rate.

Mr. Speaker, I have spoken to several Black College Presidents who would love an opportunity to work with these men via a Directed Distance Learning Program.

Not only will this program work to keep young men and women from returning to prison, it will also keep many from ending up in prison in the first place.

We believe a program like this one must be built to offer every child at risk:

(1) Access and Mastery of the National Information Infrastructure.

(2) On-line character, and educational assessment; as well as access to On-line remedial support. This tutorial support will be aimed at correcting individual character deficiencies uncovered.

We envision On-line High School and College Courses also being offered through the National Academy for Directed Distance Learning. These courses will be designed for and target at-risk children. Educational and role-model mentors will also be available to children falling behind.

Mr. Speaker, we propose to build a national, faith-based, on-line academy that will facilitate and coordinate the training of as many as possible for America's children at risk. These children will be identified and qualified from the names supplied by various existing agencies such as Prison Fellowship's Angel Tree Program.

Mr. Speaker, for this program to succeed, children in the pilot programs must have PC

software, hardware equipment and training to master their use.

Some of the expected societal benefits of a program like this are:

1. The ability to begin upgrading the computer skills of children at-risk without investments in major educational institutions.

2. Reduced cost.

3. Reduced civil tensions.

4. The ability to deliver remedial tutorial educational services tailored to the need of individual youth.

5. The advantage of an individual being able to use 21st century technology and equipment, supplied as part of the delivery system of their localized work.

6. The ability of an individual to go over the educational presentation multiple times until understood.

7. The ability to use core materials in many parts of the country.

8. The ability, if needed, to do various forms of multiple language education where a stereo-related track would allow for English on one track, a second language on another track, or where selected materials can be placed into a translation mode through postproduction procedure.

9. Immediate and continuous training of youth.

10. The use of materials in established institutions which may provide economic benefits to local teachers.

It is important to note that Northern Telecom proposes to accomplish the concept we envision but through their own closed network. Mr. Speaker, we foresee utilizing the open existing Internet structure through the use of PC's paid for by donations from private corporations, foundations, and individuals.

Mr. Speaker, we envision corporations designating unique entrepreneurial initiatives that will allow young people to earn the money to purchase a computer, insurance for that computer, as well as other ongoing On-line costs.

Mr. Speaker, we also envision a national advertising campaign utilizing sports, film, television, and music heroes to inspire and persuade young people to come inside off of the basketball court and experience the joys of learning and preparing for economic success in the 21st century.

Michael Jordan, the top money-maker in the basketball world will make over \$300,000 a game; \$10,000 a minute assuming he averages about thirty minutes per game. Assuming \$40,000,000 in endorsements next year, he'll be making \$178,000 a day working or not. Assuming he sleeps seven hours a night, he makes \$52,000 every night while he visions of sugar plums dance in his head. If he goes to see a movie, it will cost him \$8.00 but he'll make \$18,500 while he's there.

If he decides to boil a five-minute egg, he'll make \$618 while boiling it. He makes \$7,415 an hour more than the minimum wage after the wage hike. If he wanted to save up for a new Acura NSX which costs \$90,000 it will take him a whole twelve hours. If someone were to hand him his salary in endorsement money they would have to do it a rate of \$2 every second. Assuming at the beginning of the year he puts the federal maximum of 15% of his income into his tax-deferred 401k account he will hit the federal cap of \$9,500 at 8:30 am on January first.

If you were given a tenth of a penny for every dollar he makes you'd be living comfortably at \$65,000 a year.

He'll make about \$19.60 while watching the 100-meter dash in the Olympics.

He'll make about \$15,600 while the Boston Marathon is being run. While the common person is spending about \$20 for a meal in his trendy Chicago restaurant Michael Jordan will pull in \$5,600.

Next year he'll make more than twice as much as all of our Presidents will for all their terms combined.

Amazing, isn't it.

But: Jordan will have to save 100% of his income for 270 years to have a net worth equivalent to the net worth of Bill Gates, owner of Microsoft.

HONORING MARY A. BUNCH

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I want to speak in praise of a special woman whose life is an inspiration to others and who is a cornerstone of the African-American community in Yonkers. Because of this and for many other reasons, Mary A. Bunch has been named Grand Matriarch of the 1997 African-American Heritage Celebration.

Mrs. Bunch was born in Florida in 1925 and knew at an early age that she wanted to serve people. While still young she was influenced by Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune and Dr. Howard Thurman, two eminent educators who became her mentors. They encouraged her to pursue her education and after she graduated from the Brylin-Haven Christian School for Girls in Florida, she moved to the Bronx. There she married Thomas Bunch, now deceased, and they had four children.

She was active in her children's education and worked in many areas with young girls, including the Girl Scouts, and also in the Salvation Army. In 1965, the Messiah Baptist Church was one of the first to host the Head Start Program and Mrs. Bunch was one of the first to work in it. She quickly rose to head teacher and was the first individual in Yonkers certified as a child development associate, someone qualified to teach with young children.

She taught until her retirement 3 years ago. Even now she continues her good works at Rosary Hill with the incurably ill, with seniors at the Nepperhan Community Center, and at the Messiah Baptist Church School.

For many achievements, her basic decency and her inspiration to the young she richly deserves this honor.

TRIBUTE TO JESSE BROWN

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man of great integrity and virtue, Mr. Jesse Brown, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

On January 22, 1993, our Government gained the dedication and hard work of a great leader when Jesse Brown began his position as Secretary of Veterans Affairs. Secretary Brown directed the Government's second largest Federal department, responsible for the distribution of benefits to those who took up arms in defense of our country.

He received his educational degrees from Chicago City College where he was an honors graduate, Roosevelt University, and Catholic

University. In 1965 while serving as a member of the Marine Corps, he was wounded on a patrol mission in Vietnam. Shortly after he returned, he was elected the executive director of the Disabled American Veterans Association. Today, Secretary Brown is a member of several organizations including the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Jewish War Veterans, and many others, all which seek to fulfill the same purpose, providing for those that risked their lives to uphold democracy.

Under Secretary Brown's leadership, the benefits for veterans whom were prisoners of war has expanded. Secretary Brown also initiated the research on the causes of the mysterious Persian Gulf war illness. Adding to his accomplishments he hosted the first national summit for homeless veterans and established grants for those whom volunteer to house homeless veterans. In addition, under the leadership of Mr. Brown, the military healthcare system has expanded to fully cover the needs of our veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all of my colleagues salute Mr. Jesse Brown for his dedication over the last 5 years to the enrichment of the Veterans' Affairs Department and his service to all veterans in the United States.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN AVERY

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute today to the late John E. Avery, who was a valued and respected member of the Honey Grove, TX, community until his death on July 2 at the age of 87. Mr. Avery spent virtually his entire lifetime in Honey Grove and nearby Dial, where he was born and attended school and church.

The only time he left the Honey Grove area was to serve his country during World War II. He served as a sergeant in the 865th Squadron of the 494th Bomb Group of the U.S. Air Force. Following the war, he returned to Honey Grove, married Pauline Wishard and devoted the remainder of his life to his community.

Mr. Avery served as Fannin County commissioner of Precinct 3 for 20 years, from 1948 to 1952 and from 1961 to 1976. In recognition of his outstanding service, he received the Road Hand Award from the Texas Department of Highways and Public Transportation. In 1969 he was named Outstanding Citizen of Honey Grove.

Mr. Avery was a member of the Texas Historical Commission for 20 years. He was a member of the North Texas Tuberculosis Association, the Honey Grove Chamber of Commerce, American Heart Association for Fannin County, Friends of the Sam Rayburn Library, and Friends of Bertha Voyer Library. He was vice president of the Oakwood Cemetery Association and the Northeast Texas Resources Conservation and Development Association.

In addition, Mr. Avery was a member of the Disabled American Veterans, American Legion, and Veterans of Foreign Wars. He was also an elder at the Dial Presbyterian Church.

He is survived by his wife, Pauline; daughter and son-in-law, Mary Alice and Steve Glover of Paris; two granddaughters, Allison and

Amanda Glover; one sister, Lena Smith of Paris; and other relatives. I visited with Pauline just last week, and I will miss the many visits and telephone calls that John and I enjoyed.

John Avery will be missed by his family and many friends in Honey Grove and Dial, but he leaves behind a legacy of devotion and service that will be remembered for many years to come. Mr. Speaker, it was a privilege to know this outstanding citizen of the fourth district of Texas, and it is a privilege for me to pay my last respect to him today.

TRIBUTE TO RONALD A. SMITH, ROCHESTER, IN, ON COMPLETION OF HIS TERM AS PRESIDENT OF THE INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENTS OF AMERICA

HON. STEPHEN E. BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a fellow Hoosier, Ronald A. Smith of Rochester, IN, who is nearing the completion of his 1-year term as president of the Nation's largest insurance association—the Independent Insurance Agents of America [IIAA]. Ron is president of Smith, Sawyer & Smith, Inc., an independent insurance agency located in Rochester.

At the State level, Ron served as chairman of numerous committees and held several elective offices in the Independent Insurance Agents of Indiana, culminated by a term as president. In recognition of his invaluable contributions, his peers named Ron the 1992 Indiana Agent of the Year.

Ron began his service to the national organization by serving as Indiana's representative to IIAA's National Board of State Directors from 1987 to 1993. At the same time, he served the national association as chairman of its Membership Committee.

Ron was elected to IIAA's Executive Committee in 1993. In the time since, he has exhibited a spirit of dedication and concern for his 300,000 independent agent colleagues around the country.

Outside the IIAA, Ron has served the insurance industry as a member of the Board of Trustees of the American Institute for CPCU and the Insurance Institute of America and a member of the Board of Directors for the Insurance Education Foundation, Inc.

Ron's selfless attitude also extends to his involvement in Rochester-area community activities. He currently serves on the Boards of Directors for the Rochester Telephone Co. and Airvac, Inc., and is a member of the Rochester Community School Building Corp.

In the past, he served as chairman of the Fulton County United Way, president of the Rochester Chamber of Commerce, and chairman of the Board of Trustees of Grace United Methodist Church.

I congratulate my fellow Hoosier and activist citizen for a job extremely well done. Although he is stepping down as IIAA president, I am confident his selfless service to IIAA, his colleagues, and his fellow citizens of Rochester will continue into the future.

STRONG MESSAGE TO CRIMINALS

HON. STEVEN SCHIFF

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill, along with the following Members of Congress: Mr. MCCOLLUM, Ms. DUNN, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. BEREUTER, and Mr. REDMOND.

In 1994, Three Strikes and You're Out became law. 18 U.S.C. 3559(c) provides for mandatory life imprisonment for individuals who commit more than two serious violent felonies or serious drug offenses. I supported this law and continue to believe that it can be a very important tool for law enforcement. There is, however, a loophole in the Three Strikes law: It applies only to individuals sentenced as adults. The Three Strikes law allows juveniles who commit serious violent felonies and serious drug offenses to rack up as many of these offenses as possible, then ignores those offenses once they become adults.

This bill would require that a juvenile adjudication for an offense that would be considered a serious violent felony or serious drug offense if committed by an adult, count as one and only one strike for purposes of 18 U.S.C. 3559(c). This bill would hold accountable juveniles who commit serious violent criminal offenses, if they continue their criminal activity as adults. By making individuals accountable for the serious violent crimes they commit as juveniles, I believe we send a strong message that we are tough on criminals—of all ages.

TRIBUTE TO ALBERT L. PICCETTI

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, about a year ago, at the invitation of Rosemary Mucklow, I had the opportunity to go to San Francisco and speak to the National Meat Association. While there, Rosemary invited us to a reception at the home of Agnes and Al Piccetti. It was a wonderful house perched high on the slope of one of San Francisco's many hillsides. The view was spectacular, the food tremendous, and the host family as delightful and graceful as a California spring day.

The Piccetti, Gatto, and DeMartini family members made us all feel at ease. Their home was ours. Their generosity was ours to enjoy. Their obvious and apparent success was ours to celebrate.

How did one get to live such a life? How was it that the family of first generation of Americans could experience such a generous slice of prosperity and affluence? Was it luck? Desire? Hard work? Or belief in a greater ideal and that of the American dream?

I left believing it was the latter. Mr. and Mrs. Piccetti had put in their time, taken risk, worked long hours, persevered and succeeded, but throughout their highs and lows, victories and defeats, they believe in America. What it stands for and what an individual can accomplish in our great system of enterprise and government.

Their story is worth telling. Ms. Mucklow was kind enough to write a brief biography, and I am honored to enter it into the RECORD.

ALBERT L. PICCETTI

Albert Piccetti was born to John and Viola Piccetti in 1918 at their home in the North Beach Community of San Francisco, California. He grew up on Telegraph Hill, a working class neighborhood that was home to new immigrants from Italy and Spain. Eight-year-old Albert learned the value of hard work as soon as he was old enough to accompany his father on his garbage pick-up route through the streets of San Francisco. As one of his earliest work memories, Al remembers his father persuading a reluctant team of Clydesdale horses to back up on a wooden ramp to empty the wagon's haul for the day.

Surrounded by the strong work ethic of new Americans, young Al's first business venture was as a shoe shine entrepreneur. After painstakingly building his shoe box, Al was ready for his first customers in Washington Park. It wasn't long before he received a lesson in "sales territories" from the established shoe shine boys. It was to be Al's shortest business endeavor!

At the age of 16, Albert became the sole support of his parents and younger sister when his father suffered a debilitating stroke. Although not physically tall in stature, he survived the rigorous initiation of a partner-worker into the Golden Gate Scavenger Company working alongside men the age of his father as the primary breadwinner for the family.

He met his life's partner, Agnes Gatto, at the local Italian social club. She was chaperoned under the very watchful eyes of her brothers. When they return from their honeymoon, a draft notice from Uncle Sam was waiting. During the war years, Al was most proud of her certification as an instrument flight trainer and used his natural drawing talents to instruct new pilots.

Following the war, Al joined his wife's family in operating a local bar and grill in the produce and printing district of San Francisco. Al took this opportunity to sharpen his culinary skills, which are still widely appreciated today by friends and family!

In 1957, Al Piccetti, along with his brother-in-law, Felix Gatto, and his boyhood friend, Ernie DeMartini, purchased a family-run Italian sausage factory, and kept the name: San Francisco Sausage Company. They learned every aspect of their new business making traditional Italian salame. The company was, and is today, best known for its Columbus brand salame. Considered more an art than a science at the time, their growing success soon demanded a larger manufacturing plant. Moving a cured dry sausage operation entailed unknown risks due to the fastidious requirements of the white, Penicillin-type molds that grow on the surface of the salame as it matures. Those early years were a challenge to their fortitude in unraveling the mysteries of mycology. Albert was on the forefront of implementing new scientific methods to ensure the safety and tradition of the product that his forefathers introduced to the United States. After almost 30 years in the business, Albert retired from the San Francisco Sausage Company as President and CEO in 1985. He and his partners left the business in the hands of the next generation of Piccettis, Gattos, and DeMartinis.

Upon retiring and with his four children grown, Al, characteristically, moved on to pursue a new dream. Al and Agnes Piccetti purchased hillside acreage in the Dry Creek Valley of Sonoma County, north of San Francisco. Local realtors scratched their heads in puzzlement at his choice of undeveloped scrub brush property; but, Al already envisioned the slopes lush with grapevines. The newly retired couple spent their nights

in a small trailer, with Al busy designing and planting their first vineyard. In time, they built their home. Al's designs are evident in every facet of the AA Ranch: precise layout and trellising of the grapes; the functional beauty of the iron work in the ceiling beams; and, the careful placement of stone water causeways.

Al Piccetti's warmth, generosity and friendship have touched thousands of people in his communities, church, family, and business. Al's accomplishments are the story of the American Dream of hard work, love, dedication and respect. We're pleased to place this acknowledgement of his continuing life in the RECORD.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MRS.
PHYLLIS THIELE HILL**HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding teacher and friend, Phyllis Thiele Hill.

Phyllis passed away March 15, 1997 leaving behind her loving husband of 50 years, Robert Hill, and three beautiful children, Linda, Nancy, and Rusty. She began her career at Montgomery College in 1959, where she worked for 34 years. In 1961, Phyllis became secretary to the registrar. In 1965, she was promoted to data processing operator II, and 4 years later, advanced to data processing operator supervisor. She switched to Standards and Documentation Technician for Computing Services in 1983, where she utilized her phenomenal artistic and writing skills. She created much of the documentation, newsletters, and handbooks used by the college community.

Most people look forward to retirement, but not Phyllis. She enjoyed her work and passed on that enjoyment to everyone whose life she touched at Montgomery College in the 34 years she spent there. In fact, during my tenure as professor at the college, I had the pleasure of working with her. Phyllis' hard work and dedication merited numerous awards, including three for outstanding service, a peer award, and a sustained service award.

In June of 1995, Phyllis was diagnosed with lymphoma, which she fought courageously before succumbing to the sickness. Though this marked the end of her physical life, Phyllis' contributions are still felt in the hearts of the many people she has touched. Her memory continues to live with us all.

IN HONOR OF THE CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland during the yearlong celebration of serving northeast Ohio for 150 years.

The diocese was established in 1847 and originally served 10,000 Catholics. Today, nearly one million people in northeast Ohio

are associated with the diocese which provides innumerable benefits ranging from spiritual guidance and charity to education and health services for everyone in the community.

The diocese is comprised of a myriad of ethnic communities. Catholic German and Irish immigrants settled in northeast Ohio in the early 1800's. Later, immigrants from eastern and southern Europe made their home there. In the early 1900's, many immigrants from Mexico and, following World War II, immigrants from Puerto Rico moved to the area to work in the steel mills. The diverse ethnic groups of the diocese are united as a family in their common religious beliefs and goodwill toward each other and the rest of the community in spite of social, economic, or racial differences. This diversity cherished and celebrated as an asset to the diocese.

Upholding a longstanding tradition of goodwill, the people of the diocese work together to serve over 600,000 people annually in Catholic hospitals, charities, and agencies. Over \$80 million worth of health and human services is provided each year through these organizations. Furthermore, 70,000 students from all socio-economic levels are educated in Catholic-affiliated schools including the 146 elementary schools, 23 high schools, 2 seminaries, and several colleges and universities in the northeast Ohio area.

Events catering to different constituencies of the diocese are planned throughout the year to celebrate this landmark anniversary. A "Celebration on the Mall" in Cleveland, scheduled for August 17, 1997, will feature the multicultural aspects of the community. Dancing, arts, games, food, and a major liturgical event will fill the day culminating in a fireworks display in the evening.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in praising the Catholic diocese of Cleveland, a diverse, charitable, and faithful family dedicated to the improvement of and inextricably united to the northeast Ohio community.

A SESQUICENTENNIAL TRIBUTE TO THE SIN SINAWA DOMINICAN CONGREGATION OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it is with pride today that I pay tribute to an assembly of women, indomitable women, on the occasion of their sesquicentennial anniversary. As the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters celebrate 150 years of mission and ministry, I would like to take a moment to reflect on and to honor their tradition and their vision.

Founded on August 4, 1847, by the Reverend Samuel Charles Mazzuchelli, O.P., in Sinsinawa, WI, the order identified education as its primary mission. Acknowledging the power of knowledge, the sisters committed themselves to taking education to immigrant and minority populations throughout Wisconsin, into northern Illinois, and Minnesota.

By the 1870's, the Sinsinawa Dominicans brought their talents to Milwaukee County, eventually teaching in 11 city and suburban schools, including St. Rose Grade School and Dominican High School where their education mission continues today.

In the ensuing years, the Sinsinawa Dominicans continued to make education a priority. While living among the people whom they served, they saw discrimination, they saw poverty, they saw abuse. In typical Dominican fashion, they committed themselves to "an intentional focus on justice as essential to Dominican mission. We will work for justice and peace through our ministries, with an emphasis on issues concerning race, women and children, the Church and ecology." (Chapter Directions, 1994).

In 1997, 150 years after Father Mazzuchelli accepted the first 4 Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters into the order, these extraordinary women, who now serve in 83 dioceses throughout the United and abroad, continue to bring the power of learning to young and old, to native and immigrant. But now rededicated to community justice, the sisters also work among us as healers, as advocates for women and children, as lawyers, as literacy proponents, as writers of and makers of our common history.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Dominican women in Milwaukee, in Wisconsin, and throughout the world as they celebrate their remarkable history. May they look to their future with confidence, and with the gratitude of communities everywhere.

U.S. ASSISTANCE TO THE PALESTINIANS

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I applaud the House, especially my good friend JIM SEXTON, who has been a leader in Middle East issues, in adopting the Forbes-Saxton amendment that temporarily suspends U.S. assistance to the Palestinian Authority and PLO until the President can report and certify that they are complying with various elements of the Oslo accords and other human rights. It's the right amendment at the right time. As a member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, I am in a unique position to follow the progress of the Middle East peace process in great detail and have done so since coming to Congress 3 years ago. My friends, it is with great disappointment that I report to you—there hasn't been any progress. Since the signing of the Oslo accords in 1993, have we had peace? Have the Palestinian Authority and the PLO lived up to their commitments in the Oslo accords? No we have not and no they have not.

Year after year, the violations and gross misconduct of the Palestinian Authority and PLO continue to grow. History is sometimes a cruel, but honest teacher. We can never allow politics of the moment to obscure the essential facts: The Palestinian Authority and the PLO openly violate the Oslo accords and continue to disregard the human rights of Israelis and Americans in Israel.

Yesterday we witnessed the brutal bomb explosion in Israel killing at least 13 and wounding more than 150. Hamas later claimed responsibility. Living with this kind of senseless violence is unbearable for all in the region and my deepest condolences go out to those who

lost a loved one in the explosion. This latest example of terrorism leads me to ask the question—why isn't there peace between the Israelis and Palestinians? Since the Oslo accords in 1993, the world has witnessed rioting and bombs exploding in the streets of Israel, buses exploding, and Prime Ministers assassinated. With the stroke of a pen or an impassioned speech, one man could help restore peace to the region—Yassir Arafat. Instead, his silence and inaction has allowed the spigot of violence to flow. With the passage of the Forbes-Saxton amendment, the House is rejecting the policies of Arafat, an international terrorist.

For the benefit of all who are following this debate, allow me to summarize some of the more egregious violations and examples of blatant misconduct by the Palestinian Authority and the PLO. There's no question about it—Arafat has blood on his hands. I ask you why should we squander taxpayer money on a regime that has since September 1993, the signing of the Oslo accords:

First, Arafat announced that he was setting aside seats in his cabinet for representatives of four terrorist groups: Hamas, Islamic Jihad, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. In January 1997, Arafat appointed Imad Halouji, a Hamas activist from Gaza, as a Minister Without Portfolio; and Arafat named Sheikh Talal Sidr, a Hamas activist from Hebron, as Minister of Youth and Sports. He was one of the Hamas terror leaders deported to Lebanon in 1992 by Prime Minister Rabin.

Second, Arafat's cabinet announced, on May 3, 1997, that it would impose the death penalty for any Arab who sells land to Jews. During the weeks following the announcement, 3 Arab landsellers were found murdered.

Third, there has never been an overall disarmament of the terrorists or seizure of the tens of thousands of illegal weapons in the hands of private Arab citizens in PLO-controlled areas. Arafat has estimated that there are 26,000 such weapons in Gaza alone, according to other estimates, there are 40,000.

Fourth, the PLO has not honored any of Israel's requests for extradition.

Fifth, Palestinian Arab newspapers that fail to toe the Arafat line are shut down. During the past 2 years, 6 newspapers have all suffered this fate. The U.S. group, Human Rights Watch found that the PLO regime "has often acted in an arbitrary and repressive fashion, carrying out large numbers of political arrests, censoring the press, and failing to conduct credible investigations into suspected abuses."

Sixth, the PLO's Palestine National Council [PNC] has not revised or annulled the articles in the PLO National Covenant that conflict with the Israel-PLO accords.

Seventh, the Palestinian Authority has failed to adhere to security provisions of the January 17, 1997 Hebron accord. According to the agreement, the Palestinians may have a total of up to 400 policemen, equipped with 20 vehicles and armed with 200 pistols, and 100 rifles for the protection of the police stations. The PA has deployed approximately 1,500 policemen in Hebron, nearly four times the number permitted under the agreement.

If you choose to dismiss the violations I've mentioned, and keep in mind these are only a few, one thing is certain—the practice of murdering Palestinians for selling land to Jews is

a violation of international norms and practices and the spirit of the Oslo agreements, casting strong doubt whether the Palestinians are in compliance with any of their commitments to Israel. Any kind of U.S. encouragement or tolerance for this practice by the most senior leadership of the Palestinians Authority is unacceptable. Sending taxpayer money to help sustain a killer like Arafat should not be the policy of the U.S. Government.

Personally, I would like to eliminate all assistance for the Palestinians, however, I offered this amendment because it is the right amendment at the right time. The State Department has failed the peace process by allowing Arafat's reign of terror to continue and by not demanding better compliance. I don't want to see the Israelis and Palestinians retreat from the principle of peace so an immediate prohibition of assistance may not be in order just yet. However, there are too many violations and instances of misconduct on the part of the Palestinians for us as a nation to ignore. We need to step back and reexamine what we're getting for our money. Are we getting an honest peace partner who respects its commitments to the Oslo accords? Is the U.S. assistance furthering the peaceful coexistence of Israelis and Palestinians? Currently, this is not the case.

That's why it is necessary to suspend aid to the Palestinian Authority and PLO for 3 months until the President can report and certify to Congress that yes, indeed, the Palestinians are complying with the letter and the spirit of the Oslo accords. Nothing more nothing less. We're not imposing new requirements on the Palestinians, merely asking them to play by the rules they agreed to in 1993 when they signed the Oslo accords.

It is important that my colleagues in the House are aware of the objective of this amendment. It is intended to suspend aid benefiting the Palestinian Authority and the PLO. Currently, the United States does not provide direct assistance to the Palestinian Authority or PLO, however, there are instances where U.S. assistance has been provided to them through a third party. Earlier this year, USAID was prepared to award a \$1.2 million contract for the purpose of providing technical assistance to the Palestinian Authority's Ministry of Finance. Recent reports of vast corruption within the Palestinian Authority worries me. Up to \$340 million, half the Palestinian Authority's budget, is estimated to have been misspent or embezzled. Does the Palestinian Ministry of Finance really deserves \$1.2 million in technical assistance? Talk about throwing good money after bad.

This amendment is intended to suspend the type of assistance where the Palestinian Authority or the PLO are benefiting from the assistance. The amendment is not intended to cut off all humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people. To accommodate any reservations members may have about this amendment cutting off humanitarian assistance, it is our intention that the executive branch consult with Congress in determining what constitutes assistance benefiting the PLO or the Palestinian Authority. This is a reasonable, good government approach. Until we can be guaranteed compliance by the Palestinians, aid should be suspended. U.S. aid to the Palestinian Authority equals U.S. tolerance to terrorist acts in the Middle East.

I congratulate my colleagues for supporting this amendment. It will help get the peace

process back on track and will allow the President to verify that no U.S. assistance is making its way into the Palestinian Authority or the PLO or any of its affiliated entities.

REMEMBERING DR. DOLORES DYER

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember and reflect upon the life of a friend and a great lady from Dallas. Dr. Dolores Dyer. Her faithful service to the citizens of Dallas affected and benefited the lives of those whom she came in contact with.

Despite dropping out of high school, Dolores accomplished many of her goals and received many accolades. Against all the odds, at the age of 30, she enrolled in the University of North Texas. Through her hard work and perseverance she graduated with highest honors while being named the recipient of the Outstanding Student Award. After being awarded a merit scholarship, she continued to pursue her graduate degree in psychology at Southern Methodist University. Because of her diligence, she was awarded a fellowship by the National Institute of Mental Health to attend the University of Texas at Austin to pursue a degree in clinical psychology. In 1973, she was awarded her doctorate by the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

Dr. Dyer began her service for the community immediately after receiving her doctorate. She interned for 30 months at local Dallas mental health centers around the city. Not seeking public praise or approval, Dolores was drawn to a calling of servitude. She wanted to work with people that needed her help the most. As a result of her desire to serve, mental health issues became the area that was closest to her heart. She gave her time, voluntarily, to fight for those whom were unable to fight for themselves.

For 20 years she worked with the Mental Health Association while leading committees on adults with mental illnesses and the Child and Family Guidance Clinic. For her years of dedicated service she was awarded the Prism Award/Pam Bluementhal Memorial Mental Health Award given to an outstanding professional. One of her most meaningful projects, was her tireless work on the mental health aspects of the future Dallas health plan. This plan will not only benefit this generation, but will ensure that health issues for the future will still protect those whose voice can not be heard.

Mr. Speaker I ask all of my colleagues to rise with me in this tribute. The greatest leaders are the greatest servants, let us take a moment to remember a great leader, woman, and friend, Dr. Dolores Dyer, a woman who embodies the spirit of service.

TRIBUTE TO A FRIEND

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, this text was written as a letter to Anna Kate and future grandchildren so that they could know a little about their grandfather's work. Later when I was asked to eulogize Mal it became my text.

MARCH 10, 1997.

Mal died yesterday. He had worked with us since the beginning. I got to know him in the '92 campaign. He was on the list of Wayne County Republicans that called in February 1992 about my campaign. I did such calling in all 22 1st district counties. Most led to no where but a rare few led to real recruitments, loyal GOP soldiers who raise money, put up signs, stuff envelopes, host parties, display bumper stickers, introduce me to VIPs, organize the county and do whatever needed to be done. Finding such a recruitment took about 20 calls and 5 false workers. Mal proved to be true. He asked me a barrage of traditional conservative litmus test questions on school prayer, abortion, education, gun control and so forth. Once satisfied that I had his philosophical interest he volunteered- 100% and became my foremost Wayne county contact. He did all of the above and was as happy as I was when we won the seat.

Months later while organizing the office another friend and supporter Brit Gaston was counseling me on hiring. When he called Mal for the interview he missed Mal but got his telephone recording: "Thank you for calling the Wayne County Headquarters of Jack Kingston for Congress. We're not in right now . . ." Brit's comment was that there were few such loyal folks. Mal became our Waycross manager.

He served there until Waycross was reapportioned back to the 8th district. Then he ran the Brunswick office.

He was a great detail man, often doing dry runs on various routes to determine exact time for scheduling. He never let a crumb fall to the floor. In our various rounds constituents constantly came up with social security, veteran, legal, IRS request and so on. Mal would whip out his tiny book get names, telephone numbers, addresses and the nature of the inquiries. Most of these people were unconnected common men not giving to titles, business cards and attorneys, but they were in good hands with Mal. In a time when Republicans were painted by Democrats and the press for being elitist and lofty it was extremely important for folks to know we were approachable and available to help serve them. With Mal I never heard a complaint, but wage earner, unemployed and itinerant would come up to me praising his work. In truth he did it not for politics or compensation but for God.

His eyes for detail served us well. One of my goals is to personally know lots of people. Unfortunately its beyond my feeble memory to do so. Seeing people briefly once or twice a year is insufficient to imprint their face indelibly on my brain. Mal however covered this. He'd write me notes—"Please call Joan Smith (sister to Perry Smith you saw him at the Patterson Lyons Club BQ last year. He was wearing the funny green hat and talked to you about his tobacco barn) about her mothers Social Security claim." or else, "When you write Bob Jones to thank him for the turnip greens please remember to congratulate him on winning the Pierce County Young Farmer of the Year." He knew what to say.

Mal also handled our Military Academy Appointments. Each year we get about 50 inquiries that result in 25 interviews for Annapolis, West Point, the Air Force Academy and Kings Point. Only three or four get appointments. Others get to compete for a nomination directly with other second place nominees. The first tier needn't worry, but for those on the 2nd tier only get a chance if a 1st place nominee drops out. To these Mal gave his heart. If a kid had just missed a 1st place but had his dream in an appointment Mal went to bat for him.

One such kid, Matt Brady of Savannah missed it the first year. He was determined sincere and certainly won the goodwill of the board, but that same year the top West Point candidate made higher SAT scores. Matt was beat. He went to Fort Valley Military. He worked hard and was the favored candidate the next year, but despite his best efforts his SAT's were still low and other candidates had 1570 and 1330. Thus to our collective heart break Matt was bumped again. But thru Mal's efforts knowing and working the system he found a way to get all 3 an appointment one year later, out of the entire West Point freshmen class, Matt Brady was selected Cadet of the Year.

There are other examples like the 3 kids from Twin City, a little town of 1500 in Emanuel County. All had come from the same Boy Scout Camp. Mal loved institutions like the Boy Scouts, any group dedicated to kids, God, and country. He beamed with pride about the ability of one den mother to produce so many outstanding kids.

These boys and girls don't even know Mal but you can be assured that if not for Mal their lives and military careers would be decidedly different.

Mal liked people but he also liked policy. More than any other employee he'd ask about votes. He liked to know the inside scoop—who was for it, who against it, who said what and why. He studied it. He read about it. He liked the legislative process, but it wasn't gossip or politics that caught his fancy it was policy. Are we building a better America? Did his hard work pay off? Will tomorrow's America be stronger? Will there be a better America for his children and grandchildren? How will it affect Anna Kate?

Here laid his real love. The country and the family. Mal wasn't doing this for a job, but for a better government. That would be the results of his efforts. He saw his mission as an extension to his fatherhood. Naturally a Dad—a loving Dad—is going to do what he can for America. Because in serving America, he was looking out for his kids.

His loved his daughters, son-in-law and grand daughter. He loved Tharen. He was comfortable in that love. He wasn't struggling with his family relationship, it was solid. It was like Mal—steady, loyal, kind yet strong. Very strong.

There's an old story of a child having a nightmare. He runs to his Dad saying that the world was going out of orbit. The wise father takes him out on the porch puts the young boy in his lap and says "See that moon? Keep your eye on it and when it moves we're in trouble." After some 30 minutes the boy was back asleep safe in his father's arm and of course the moon hadn't budged.

Just as the moon's steady glow and permanently had comforted the boy, Mal had a similar focus. His comfort was the Son. Steadfast and certain his Savior was Jesus Christ. If Mal was with us today he would tell us not to be troubled by his absence but to be joyful in the Son's presence. Mal now watches his family from above, but surely his Christian family will also see him when the time comes.

JACK KINGSTON.

P.S. A few days after the funeral Peggy Lee gave me the attached memo. It's the last one I ever received from Mal. It's typical and a fitting tribute to a kind and thoughtful man. Written ten days before his stroke, Mal's last memo was concerning someone else's stroke and condition.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

MEMORANDUM
TO: JACK/KARLEEN.
FR: Mal.

DT: February 5, 1997.

RE: Update on Way Carter of Waycross.

I think Jack is already aware that Way Carter of Waycross, one of the top Ten FOJK in Ware County, suffered a stroke last Sep 2d. It affected his respiratory functions and he is undergoing therapy to restore some speech and feeding functions. He has had no food by mouth since the stroke and breathes with difficulty. However, he is alert and lucid.

Jack, I believe, has talked to his wife, Mary, since the stroke.
Way Carter,
Waycross, GA.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS FROM THE FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

HON. STEVEN SCHIFF

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, the following graduating high school students from the First Congressional District of New Mexico have been awarded the Congressional Certificate of Merit. These students have excelled during their academic careers and proven themselves to be exceptional students and leaders with their scholastic achievements, community service, and participation in school and civic activities. It is my pleasure to be able to recognize these outstanding students for their accomplishments. Their parents, their teachers, their classmates, the people of New Mexico and I are proud of them.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARD WINNERS 1997

Albuquerque Evening High School, Jonathan Baird, Albuquerque, NM.

Albuquerque High School, Albert Leija, Albuquerque, NM.

Bernalillo High School, Melissa Anne Martinez, Bernalillo, NM.

Bernalillo High School, Jennifer M. Rivera, Algodones, NM.

Gibola High School, Rebecca Wong, Rio Rancho, NM.

Del Norte High School, Jay M. English, Albuquerque, NM.

Estancia High School, William D. Neish, Estancia, NM.

Freedom High School, Marcio Lujan, Albuquerque, NM.

Hope Christian School, Geoffrey Luke McKinnon, Albuquerque, NM.

Los Lunas High School, Sarah Archer, Los Lunas, NM.

Menaul High School, Jedidiah Garcia Glazener, Albuquerque, NM.

Mountainair High School, Jessica Dawn Barber, Mountainair, NM.

Rio Grande High School, Anthony Baca, Albuquerque, NM.

Sandia Preparatory School, Leslie Siegal, Albuquerque, NM.

Eldorado High School, Matt Byers, Albuquerque, NM.

Evangel Christian Academy, Amanda Brown, Albuquerque, NM.

Highland High School, Matthew Sullivan, Albuquerque, NM.

La Cueva High School, John B. Wenz, Albuquerque, NM.

Menaul High School, Anna Chrzanowski, Albuquerque, NM.

Menaul High School, Haven Annette Scogin, Albuquerque, NM.

New Futures High School, Angelita Garcia, Albuquerque, NM.

St. Pius X High School, Shabbon P. Walsh, Albuquerque, NM.

HONORING SMITH COUNTY LAW DAY WINNERS

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize three outstanding individuals from Tyler, TX, who were recently honored during Law Day ceremonies in Smith County. Law Day is sponsored annually by the Smith County Lawyers Auxiliary in cooperation with the Smith County Bar Association.

Long-time Tyler attorney and my good friend, Murph Wilson, received the Justinian Award. Mr. Wilson has served the Tyler community in various capacities through the years. He served as mayor and as a member of the Tyler City Council, member of the Tyler School Board, president of the Smith County Bar Association, president of Southside Bank, member of Marvin United Methodist Church, and charter member of the Sharon Temple.

Preston McGee received the Outstanding Young Lawyer Award. Mr. McGee is a member of the Potter, Minton, Roberts, Davis & Jones law firm. He has been active with United Way, the American Heart Association, and Green Acres Baptist Church.

The Liberty Bell Award was given posthumously to Sally Ellis Dobbs for her efforts to educate the public about legal issues and the role of law in our society. Mrs. Dobbs was instrumental in developing the "Now You Are 18" Program and brochure and a similar program for eighth-graders. These programs are now used in educational efforts statewide. She is survived by her husband, J. Robert Dobbs Jr. and son, Smith County Assistant District Attorney David Dobbs, who accepted the award on her behalf.

These individuals have earned the respect of their peers in their community and of all those who seek to preserve and promote the ideals of law and justice upon which our great Nation was founded. Their integrity, hard work, and commitment to high standards of professionalism are exemplary.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to these outstanding citizens of Tyler, TX, and to the efforts of the Smith County Bar Association and Smith County Lawyers Auxiliary.

QUEENSBURY CENTRAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, anyone who visits my office can't help but notice the display of fire helmets that dominates my reception area. The main reason for this is the fact that I learned firsthand the true value of fire companies. One fire company in particular, the Queensbury Central Fire Co. is especially close to my heart. While serving as Queensbury town supervisor, and a New York State Legislator, I had the privilege of being an active member of the Queensbury Central Volunteer Fire Co. It was this experience that gave me a tremendous respect for those who provide fire protection in our rural areas.

In a rural area like the 22nd District of New York, fire protection is often solely in the hands of these volunteer companies. In New York State, as elsewhere, they save countless lives and billions of dollars worth of property. That is why the efforts of people like those fire fighters in the Queensbury Central Volunteer Fire Co. is so very critical.

Mr. Speaker, I have always been partial to the charm and character of small towns and small town people. The town of Queensbury in Warren County is certainly no exception. The traits which make me most fond of such communities is the undeniable camaraderie which exists among neighbors, and their strong civic pride. Looking out for one another and the needs of the community make places like Queensbury great places to live. This concept of community service and pride is exemplified by the devoted service of the members of their volunteer fire department. For 50 years now, this organization has provided critical services for their neighbors on a volunteer basis.

Mr. Speaker, it has become all too seldom that you see fellow citizens put themselves in harms way for the sake of another. For the members of the Queensbury Central Volunteer Fire Company, however, this is a day to day occurrence. Our young people would do themselves right by emulating the selfless service of these noble individuals. On Saturday, September 13, 1997 the fire company will be holding a ceremony to commemorate this milestone. This will provide the ideal opportunity for the residents in and around Queensbury to extend their gratitude to this organization and its members, both past and present.

Mr. Speaker, I have always been one to judge people by how much they give back to their community. On that scale, the members of the Queensbury Central Volunteer Fire Co. are great Americans. I am truly proud of this organization because it typifies the spirit of voluntarism which has been such a central part of American life. To that end, it is with a sense of pride, Mr. Speaker, that I ask all members of the House to join me in paying tribute to the Queensbury Central Volunteer Fire Co. on the occasion of their 50th anniversary.

HONORING THOMAS WORRELL

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the growth of our communities is accomplished through the good works of those people who give of themselves so earnestly and so well, whose contributions cover so many areas that they permeate the whole community. One of these rare people is Thomas Worrell who has been named the 1997 Heritage Celebration Grand Marshal by the Yonkers African-American Heritage Celebration. The reasons for his selection are obvious. Mr. Worrell is Great, Grand Exalted Ruler of the Terrace City Lodge of the Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World which has a long tradition of serving lunches for senior citizens and teaching responsibility to youngsters. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, being discharged in 1949. He married Gloria Dias and together they have six children.

Mr. Worrell, who worked for a local trucking company, was a member of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, serving for 15 of his 47 years in the union as a shop steward. He also joined the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to fight segregation. In his years with the Terrace City Lodge, Mr. Worrell helped it to grow from a storefront to the eminent institution it is today.

He has passed his passion for helping to his two sons. Robert serves the Elks as Chief Antler of Council 57. Thomas III serves as president of the Samuel H. Dow Fire and Drum Corps.

There are few as worthy as Mr. Worrell to be named Heritage Grand Marshal.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD LESHER

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, U.S. Chamber of Commerce President Richard Leshar has been a singular voice for America's economic interests for more than 20 years. He is stepping down at the end of the summer. The Nation's political debate has been significantly changed—for the better—through his singular input and perseverance.

Dick Leshar was one of the earliest and strongest supporters of Ronald Reagan's 1980 supply-side program, which cut taxes across the board and initiated the largest peacetime economic expansion in history. This was a bold gesture and a perfect example of the kind of vision and leadership that we have come to expect from him.

And it is fitting that Dick now leaves the chamber as Congress produces and the President is about to sign the first broad-based tax cuts in 16 years—since, in fact, Ronald Reagan's first term.

Dick Leshar has been instrumental in developing and implementing the Chamber's grassroots action information [GAIN], a service that has led to more effective legislative action through greater participation by the membership. In addition, he guided the chamber's

launching of BizNet, the American Business Network, which features two award-winning television programs—"First Business" and "It's Your Business." Dr. Leshar's newspaper column, The Voice of Business, is distributed weekly to more than 600 newspapers across the Nation.

After more than 20 years of Dick Leshar's leadership, the chamber's membership has grown to 215,000 members, 3,000 State and local chambers of commerce and 1,200 trade and professional associations. Membership also includes 72 American chambers of commerce abroad in 65 countries. Programmatic achievements in this remarkable tenure include the Center for Workforce preparation and the Quality Learning Services, which delivers quality management seminars throughout the country.

Other significant highlights include:

The creation of one of the most advanced and effective communications networks of any business organization with television facilities producing daily and weekly syndicated business programming, satellite training seminars and televised town-hall meetings;

The creation of an extensive political program including How They Voted—the principal ranking of the pro-business votes of Members of Congress, a comprehensive endorsement process based on the rankings;

The chartering of the National Chamber Litigation Center, a public policy legal arm, that widely represents business interests in the Federal courts with great success.

Dr. Richard Leshar's reputation as a legitimate groundbreaker actually began with his tenure at NASA where as an assistant administrator he contributed to the first Moon landing.

On a personal note, over the last two decades—and particularly the last couple of years as a member of the majority—it's been a true honor to have had the opportunity to work with Dick Leshar and gain from his insight and experience. He has been a good ally, a good friend and a great American. I know I speak for many Members in sincerely wishing him well in his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES—DORIS MCCRAY-CRANK

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow evening in my district a reception hosted by the Newark Tenants Council [NTC] will be held honoring Doris McCray-Crank. Mrs. Crank is being recognized for her election as chairperson of the Board of Commissioners of the Newark Housing Authority [NHA].

Mrs. Crank has been an advocate for the less fortunate for most of her life and for all of her adult life. She has been active in the public housing arena as a tenant, a tenant leader with the NTC, and a member of the NHA board of commissioners. She has used available opportunities and resources to help make life better for those often shut out.

In 1972 while attending the U.N.-sponsored World Health Conference in Paris, France, Mrs. Crank learned of the children starving in Biafra because of the country's civil war. Completely dismayed, Mrs. Crank interrupted a

session and took the opportunity to speak with conference delegates about providing financial support to save the children from death and starvation. As a result of her passionate plea, the delegates raised \$8 million to feed the children.

While our situation at home is not nearly as devastating as that of Biafra's starving children, Mrs. Crank steps up to bat just as compassionately for our public housing residents. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues some of her goals as chair of the NHA Board of Commission. Mrs. Crank would like to see public housing residents own their homes, if they have the means; have more persons who are gainfully employed reside as tenants; businesses developed in the public housing communities that would strengthen economic development and benefit the residents; and public housing made drug free. Mr. Speaker, I am sure my colleagues will want to join me as I extend my best wishes to Mrs. Crank and the members of the Newark Housing Authority's Board of Commissioners—Gloria Cartwright, Ida Clark, Terry Pringle, Lynell Robinson, Zinnerford Smith, and Rolando Velazquez—and the Authority's executive director, Harold Lucas, as they continue to work to provide safe, decent, and affordable housing for Newark's residents and to set the standards and provide the benchmarks for other public housing entities.

RAILS TO TRAILS

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 1997

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce legislation regarding Rails to Trails. This legislation makes what I believe are common-sense changes to the current Rails to Trails Program.

Under this bill, local communities could actively participate in deciding whether or not to convert an abandoned rail line into a trail. This legislation simply states that local government officials must approve a rails to trails decision before a line is designated for a trail use. Under the current program, only the Surface Transportation Board decides whether to approve a rail to trail conversion.

Like many Federal laws and programs, Rails to Trails is top-heavy and the decision-making is done in Washington, DC. Unfortunately, people who live in Washington, DC, do not always understand what the communities in Kansas desire. We need more local control and decision-making to insure that the needs of local communities and property owners are considered.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my fellow Members of Congress to support this legislation and allow local communities to participate in the Rails to Trails process.

TRIBUTE TO MARIE HAFF

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my heartfelt congratulations to my

constituent Marie Haff on her birthday. This past June 29, 1997, Marie Haff turned 80 years young.

Marie Haff, a resident of Pleasanton, CA, is a strong believer in family, hard work, and education. She is the proud mother of three daughters, grandmother of nine children, and great-grandmother of three. Although Marie officially retired in 1982 from her job, manager of the Northern California Credit Bureaus, she certainly has not stopped working. Currently, she is a trustee emeritus of Western Management Institute of Washington, DC, and serves as executive secretary of Associated Credit Bureaus of California. In addition to this already busy schedule, Marie attends classes at the local college, and last year at the age of 79, set out to conquer the information age by obtaining her first computer.

For many years Marie has served as a volunteer for local charities. She is active in promoting women's rights, and chaired the national committee which wrote the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, giving women the right to have their own credit records. For her efforts she has received many awards, including the Soroptimist Woman of the Year Award, International Credit Association Outstanding Leadership Award, and the Distinguished Service Award, California Department of Consumer affairs.

I am proud to know Marie Haff. I offer her my warmest congratulations, and best wishes for the years ahead.

TRAVERSE CITY'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent the "Cherry Capital of the World" in the First Congressional District of Michigan. Celebrated for its sheltering harbors, its temperate climate, its beautiful countryside, and, of course, its cherries, Traverse City, MI, is celebrating its 150th birthday.

As in many other Great Lakes cities, logging and sawmill operations were the first industries of Traverse City, and, like other Midwest lumber towns, a major fire was part of the city's history.

Rebounding from every adversity, the city has grown to become the heart of one of the best resort and retirement areas on the Great Lakes.

Traverse City as a settled community traces its origin to the arrival of Horace Boardman and other settlers from Chicago on board the schooner *Lady of the Lake* in 1847. Mr. Boardman built a sawmill, which was purchased by Hannah, Lay and Co. in 1851. Hannah and Lay would go on to open the community's first big general store in 1883, and Perry Hannah would serve as the first village manager of Traverse City.

Some milestones in the city's history were outlined recently in its daily newspaper, the *Traverse City Record-Eagle*. This list is like a series of snapshots of a growing community in a growing nation, from the arrival of the first railroad in 1872 to the opening of the first airport in 1929, from the first log schoolhouse in

1853 to the opening of Northwestern Michigan College in 1951.

What these milestones cannot convey is the warmth of the people and the amenable climate of the area, moderated by the waters of Lake Michigan. Winters, which are here less bitter than in much of the northern United States, have allowed cherry trees and apple trees to thrive. Around 1920 Traverse City was named cherry capital of the world, and the community's first cherry festival was held. The event continues to this day.

A close look at Traverse City on its 150th anniversary reveals that its engine of economic growth is now fueled by tourism and the regular return of many summer vacationers, who are drawn to the beauty and temperate climate of the area. We see the growth of medical services, light manufacturing, and general commerce, cementing the community's role as the center of activity for northwestern lower Michigan.

We see a community which has evolved from humble beginnings to become one of the best places in the country to live and work.

Mr. Speaker, we salute Traverse City on its sesquicentennial anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. CASTYNE ADAMS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and reflect upon the career of one of Dallas most dedicated servants. Her faithful service to Parkland Hospital was a testimony of her will to improving the lives of the patients that needed her help.

Castyne began her career of service to the Dallas area as a linen shaker for Parkland Hospital. She was drawn to Parkland because she "went to where people needed help. . . I love people and I believe that helping people is my job on earth." Mrs. Adams continued to serve to serve at Parkland for 37 years. During her tenure, she was the first African-American to become a department head, while also being the first African-American woman to serve on many Parkland committees. While at Parkland, Mrs. Adams revolutionized the linen service department to become one of the best programs in the nation handling over 27,000 pounds a day.

Mrs. Adams not only looked after the needs of her patients, but also the well being of her coworkers. She encouraged her employees to continue their education by going back to get their high school and college degrees, if they hadn't previously received them. Mrs. Adams who left school after the ninth grade received her college degree while taking night classes after work.

I thank Mrs. Adams for her years of loyal service to the citizens of Dallas and to the patients of Parkland. Thanks to the dedicated work of Mrs. Adams, her legacy and servitude will benefit generations to come.

TRIBUTE TO SALVATORE MILONE

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, Long Island lost one of its most distinguished citizens recently with the passing of Salvatore Milone. Mr. Milone, who I knew personally and with whom I had the privilege of working, was a leading contractor in the Islandwide community. His company, which his father, an Italian immigrant, founded in 1899, was responsible for the construction of the St. Agnes Cathedral, the seat of Catholicism on Long Island. In addition, Dominick Milone Inc. built many of his buildings at Mercy Hospital and at Molloy College, both located in Sal Milone's native Rockville Centre.

As the head of the family business, Salvatore Milone was a pioneering figure but to the community at large he was much more. Mr. Milone was a long time member of the fire department and the Knights of Columbus. Until recently he was a prominent figure in Republican politics, serving as his village's Republican leader as well as vice chairman and treasurer of the Nassau County Republican Committee.

As a leading Long Island businessman, Mr. Milone was asked to serve as a board member of the Chemical Bank and the Nassau Savings and Loan Association. In addition he was a former chairman of the board of Molloy College.

Because of his service to his church, Salvatore Milone was installed as a member of the Knights of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, one of the highest honors accorded a Catholic layman. Bishop John McGann, spiritual leader of the Rockville Centre Catholic Diocese, said the Mass of Christian burial for Mr. Milone and John Cardinal O'Connor participated in the service as well. Fittingly, the Mass took place in St. Agnes Cathedral for it was in this beautiful edifice that Mr. Milone married his first wife in the first marriage ceremony upon completion of the cathedral. Margaret Milone died in 1966 and Mr. Milone remarried 3 years later.

Sal Milone, who was just days shy of his 90th birthday, leaves his wife, Maria; a son, Dr. Richard Milone; a daughter, Elissa Metz; three sisters, Caroline, Vera, and Grace; two brothers, Louis and John, and five grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, nothing is more impressive than a life well lived and Sal Milone's certainly meets that test. His charitable impulses, his civic leadership, his business acumen and—most important of all—his dedication to family make him one of the most noteworthy citizens of our Long Island. It is fitting that the rest of America know him as well.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2015,
BALANCED BUDGET ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 1997

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, as a longtime proponent and sponsor of

colorectal cancer screening legislation, I am particularly pleased that the House and Senate conferees have reached an agreement to authorize Medicare coverage of colorectal cancer screening as part of the preventative benefits package in the reconciliation bill before the Congress today.

Passage of this legislation is not, however, the final step in establishing comprehensive colorectal cancer screening for Medicare recipients. The legislation requires the Department of Health and Human Services to determine, within 90 days, whether the barium determination is an appropriate alternative to procedures covered by the bill. Once this determination is made, the initial Medicare Program for colorectal cancer screening will be fully established.

I hope and expect that in making the determination with regard to coverage of the barium examination, the Secretary of HHS will consider the particular screening needs of African-Americans. Although colorectal cancer screening is an important preventative care procedure for all Medicare recipients, it is a particularly important screening procedure for African-Americans who suffer a disparate impact from this disease.

One statistic that has often been cited in the debate on colorectal cancer bears repeating: African-Americans who get colorectal cancer are 50 percent more likely to die of the disease than other Americans. There are a number of reasons for this statistic, but it is, at least, in part because African-Americans tend to get colon cancer in the portion of the colon beyond the reach of the sigmoidoscope. This means that the most common screening procedure for colorectal cancer, sigmoidoscopy, is inadequate for these elderly Americans, and a full colon screening procedure is required.

Mr. Speaker, I once again commend the conferees for developing this colorectal cancer screening provision. This provision has the potential to save thousands of lives that would otherwise be lost to colorectal cancer, and to improve the quality of life for those whose colorectal cancer is detected early in a routine screening. I am proud to have been involved in developing this legislation, and for being part of the Congress that saw its enactment.

IN HONOR OF MARY EMERSON ON
HER 100TH BIRTHDAY**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mary Emerson on her birthday, September 3, 1997. At 100 years young, Mary continues to live a fulfilling and happy life. She has prospered in her professional career as well as in her personal life.

Mary is a joy to be around. She is loved by her family and many friends in the community. My fellow colleagues, please join me in wishing a great lady a very happy birthday and many more delightful years to come.

TRIBUTE TO DR. RICHARD
LESHER, U.S. CHAMBER OF COM-
MERCE**HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take some time today to pay tribute to a man of great integrity and fortitude. For over 22 years, Dr. Richard Leshner has been at the helm of the largest business advocacy group in the Nation, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Since the chamber was founded in 1912 at the request of William Taft, its motto has been "The Spirit of Enterprise." No person deserves more credit in promoting that ideal than Dr. Leshner.

Dick Leshner has not only continued the chamber's longstanding tradition of being a distinguished advocacy group but has also made the chamber a distinguished media group. During his tenure, he established the chamber's grassroots network which helps American business be more aware of and involved in the issues we debate here in Congress. Dr. Leshner supervised the creation of BizNet, the chamber's telecommunications network, which syndicates television shows like "It's Your Business" and "First Business" to one million homes each week. He also oversaw the rapid growth of the chamber's flagship publication, Nation's Business magazine which now has a readership of more than two and half million readers a month.

From Capitol Hill to main street America, Dick has been a constant source of inspiration and advice. His knowledge of issues and his keen ability to navigate Washington has earned him the respect of Members from both sides of the aisle. We appreciate Dick's hard work, commitment, and contribution to America's political process.

It is an honor to count Dick and Agnes Leshner among my constituents and my friends. We wish them all the best for the future.

TRIBUTE TO DR. RICHARD LESHER

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, next month the American business community will lose a potent and proactive leader as Dr. Richard Leshner, steps down as president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Since 1975 Dr. Leshner has presided over the day-to-day activities of the world's largest broad-based business organization, and its dramatic growth into a powerful voice for American businesses and organizations in Washington and around the world.

After more than 20 years with Dr. Leshner at the helm, the chamber's membership has grown to 215,000 business members, 3000 State and local chambers of commerce and 1,200 trade and professional associations. Membership also includes 72 American Chambers of Commerce abroad in 65 countries. Since Dr. Leshner became president, the chamber's annual budget has risen from \$40 million to over \$70 million.

Dick Leshner's energy and vision has transformed the direction and thinking of the chamber leading to the creation of the most advanced and effective communications network of any business organization. With television facilities producing daily and weekly syndicated business programming, satellite training seminars and televised town-hall meetings. Her chartered the National Chamber Litigation Center, a public policy legal arm, that widely represents business interest in the Federal courts with great success. And, he created an extensive pro-business, proactive and powerful grassroots legislative-action network throughout the country to track, rank and hold Members of Congress accountable for their voting record on business issues. Dr. Leshner's accomplishments were honored in March 1994 when Association Trends presented him with their Executive of the Year Award for "the dynamic leadership that he has brought in sharpening the focus of the chamber and broadening its activities."

Dr. Leshner has been a great leader and a forceful spokesman for business and I urge my colleagues to join with me in congratulating Dr. Leshner for his years of service and wishing him a long, happy, and healthy retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. RUTH LYNCH

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to a great woman. I call her great because she has always known the value of giving back to the community by using her artistic ability for the betterment of others. The woman of whom I am speaking is Mrs. Cornelius (Ruth) Lynch, a resident of South Glens Falls, NY. Mrs. Lynch will be honored by the Historical Society of Moreau and South Glens Falls for her 80 years as an artist on August 17, 1997.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Lynch was born in Indiana, but spent her early years in Florida. While in Florida, Mrs. Lynch received her artistic training at the Miami Art School. She later studied at the Hyde Museum under Joseph Dodge and Frank Murone where she further developed her artistic abilities. Mrs. Lynch distinguished herself as an animator for the Fleischer Studios completing work on such full length films as, "Gulliver's Travels" and "Mr. Bugs Goes to Town," not to mention work on famous cartoons like Popeye and Betty Boop. But Mr. Speaker, although any other artist would have been satisfied with these accomplishments, Mrs. Lynch has continually sought to use her artistic inclination to help others while avoiding the spotlight herself.

Mr. Speaker, it is this side of Mrs. Lynch that makes her so special to the South Glens Falls community. Her benevolent record began during World War II, where she helped to produce training films for the Army Signal Corps Photographic Center on Long Island. Mrs. Lynch was only too happy to do her part in this noble effort. After her marriage to Cornelius Lynch, Ruth moved to New York and continued her good work. Her work for the community extended to numerous areas, whether it be designing Christmas cards for

UNICEF, or teaching schoolchildren the art of cartooning through the ATTIC [Art Techniques To Inspire Children] program, Mrs. Lynch has always given her time, talents, and energies in a selfless manner.

Actions like these are what makes Mrs. Ruth Lynch a pillar of the South Glens Falls community. Mrs. Lynch, who remains an active member of the Historical Society of Moreau and South Glens Falls, is indeed a model we would all do well to emulate. An example of one who helped others, and whose artwork brought enjoyment to many, I wish to personally offer my congratulations to this great American. On that note, Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and all Members of this House rise and join me in this tribute to Mrs. Lynch.

HONORING THE BRONX

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise not to praise a person, but rather the spirit of a group of people—the residents of the Bronx.

My borough, where I was born, live and which I am proud now to represent in the House of Representatives, became a regular stop in Presidential politics as a symbol of inner city decay and was nationally televised during a World Series game as burning. The borough became an example of desolation for Hollywood. When people said Bronx Zoo they meant it as a term of derision, not the world famous facility it is.

But throughout it all the people of the Bronx knew how to work with sparse resources, how to work together, and how to go the distance.

Community groups joined to make the most of what was available. Through their perseverance they showed what could be accomplished by keeping their eye on the prize and not on the distractions.

The hard work of our people showed they cared deeply about their home county. They worked on the problems that plague all American cities: crime, poverty, inadequate education, and homelessness among others.

They worked for 20 years and their work has now been recognized by the National Civic League and the Allstate Foundation which named the Bronx one of 10 All American Cities.

Now the world knows what we Bronxites have known for a while—the Bronx is back and better than ever. Being named an All American City is a cheer for the Bronx from the rest of the country which is richly deserved.

HONORING SHERIFF YOUNG

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it has been 6 months since Hunt County Sheriff Bobby Young retired, and I hope that he is finally able to enjoy some peace and quiet after serving 20 years as the chief law enforcement officer of Hunt County. He was and is a close

friend of mine, and I have always enjoyed every contact I had with Bobby.

Sheriff Young occupied that office longer than any other Hunt County sheriff, having first been elected in 1976. During his tenure the old jail in the Hunt County Courthouse was replaced by the Hunt County Criminal Justice Center, and his department grew over the years in an effort to provide more protection for the 840-square-mile area of jurisdiction for which he was responsible. Despite these accomplishments, Sheriff Young notes that there is still much more that needs to be done. His successor, Don Anderson, will have that opportunity.

Sheriff Young spent much of his life maintaining law and order in Hunt County and protecting its citizens—and they rewarded him from his efforts by continuing to re-elect him for 20 years. Mr. Speaker, law enforcement officials like Sheriff Young not only uphold the peace—they uphold the principles of justice and liberty that define our way of life. They are often the unsung heroes of our communities, so I am honored today to salute this legendary law enforcement officer of Hunt County and to wish him well in his retirement. As we adjourn Congress this day, let us do so in honor of and with great personal thanks to Sheriff Bobby Young.

THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL— GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE VACANCY

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, before leaving for the August recess, I want to address the House briefly on the matter of the vacancy in the Office of the Comptroller General. The General Accounting Office is a vital organization to the Congress, and the person selected to head the GAO must have the confidence of both the majority and minority. When a vacancy occurs, a commission is established by statute to consider and recommend candidates to the White House. The members of this commission are: the Speaker of the House, the President pro tempore of the Senate, the majority and minority leaders in the House and Senate, and the chairman and ranking member of the House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight and the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee.

Members should be advised that the commission has been organized on a bipartisan, bicameral basis, and we are moving forward. Based on the precedent of alternating between Houses, I will serve as vice chair of the commission and the majority leader of the Senate will serve as chair. There are a number of candidates who have already expressed their interest in the Comptroller General position, but I wanted to put all Members on notice that we are open to additional candidates and recommendations. If any Member knows of someone interested in being considered for the position, please advise one or more of the members of the commission as soon as possible to ensure that the commission has an opportunity to consider all qualified candidates.

TRIBUTE TO LT. GOV. BOB
BULLOCK

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON
OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of Texas's truly dedicated political leaders, the retiring Lieutenant Governor of Texas, Mr. Bob Bullock. He has devoted his life to service to the citizens first, and secondly to his State. His integrity and political contributions to the State are a testament to his career in politics.

On Thursday, June 5th, 1997, Texas' most admired and cherished political leader announced he would not run for re-election as Lieutenant Governor. After 40 years of service to the great State of Texas, Bob Bullock decided to set aside public office and spend more time with his family and friends.

Mr. Bullock attended the University of Texas Tech and received his law degree from Baylor University. While still attending law school, Bob Bullock was elected the Texas State House of Representatives in 1956. This was the beginning of his long career as a public servant. After serving 3 years as a State representative, he left office to practice law in a private firm.

He is often referred to as "outspoken and fearless," and over his career in politics has run in six statewide elections of which he has never lost. After serving in the Air Force, he was elected to the Texas House of Representatives. After leaving his seat he worked in private law practice serving as legal counsel to the Governor. He used his law background to serve as Texas' attorney general.

In his tenure as a political leader in Texas, Bullock has accomplished many things. They include advocating voting rights of 18-year-olds, being first elected comptroller to implement an equal employment opportunity program, revamping the State education fund, and creating the State's first water conservation-management plan.

Bullock has earned the reputation as bringing a "Superman" power to the position of Lieutenant Governor.

Bob Bullock is a tradition in Texas. He is the epitome of management and leadership. He has brought dignity and success to Texas' governing body. Many have described him as, "... a man of enormous willpower and strength. When you want somebody in the trenches with you, you want Bob Bullock."

Mr. Speaker I ask all of my colleagues to rise with me in tribute and take a moment to recognize the dedication and contribution of a great political leader, Mr. Bob Bullock.

A TRIBUTE TO MARIANNE AND
SHELDON LUBAR

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize two outstanding citizens from my district, Marianne and Sheldon Lubar. Marianne and Sheldon are the 1997 honorees of the American Friends of the

Hebrew University and the recipients of the prestigious National Scopus Award.

Both Marianne and Sheldon have earned such wonderful accolades through their devotion to the community and support of many humanitarian causes. Marianne Lubar has devoted countless hours to our community for a broad range of causes to help improve the quality of life in Milwaukee. Her efforts are very much appreciated by the groups she works with and the beneficiaries of her hard work.

Sheldon Lubar has had a distinguished career in both the public and private sector. He served Presidents Carter, Ford, and Nixon. In addition, he has enjoyed much success in the financial field. Throughout his career, though, he has always taken the time to lend a hand to better the education system in Wisconsin and to aid many worthwhile community organizations.

On the occasion of the 1997 National Scopus Award Dinner, I commend and congratulate Marianne and Sheldon Lubar for receiving the award and for helping to make Wisconsin a better place for all of us.

IN HONOR OF THE COALITION OF
INDIAN ORGANIZATIONS OF NEW
JERSEY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate India on its 50th year of Independence and to salute the Coalition of Indian Organizations of New Jersey as it marks the occasion with a celebration at the Brookdale Park Stadium in Essex County on August 23, 1997.

The Indian-American community has been an exemplary community in New Jersey. I have been working with them since my years as mayor of my hometown, Union City. The Indian-Americans boasts the highest median income and highest proportion of college graduates of any immigrant group in the United States. They have contributed much to our cultural, economic, and social life in America. In New Jersey I have seen the contributions Indian-Americans make as businessmen, doctors, engineers, lawyers, surgeons, and scientists. They brought with them a hard work ethic and family values that benefit our society.

I have the honor of being one of the founding members of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian-Americans. As an executive committee member of the caucus, I have been vigilant on issues of concern to the Indian-American community. I fought to change the provisions of the welfare law which targeted the legal immigrant community, and I am pleased we were able to make immigrants who were in our Nation as of August 22, 1996 eligible for Supplemental Security Income no matter when they become disabled.

India won its independence from England at midnight on August 15, 1947. This was the culmination of years of effort led by Mohandas K. Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Maulana Azad, and countless others. They fought peacefully against British colonial rule. The Indian-American com-

munity in America has taken the best of this tradition.

America's relationship with India has grown due to the efforts of the Indian-American community. I understand the importance of cultivating economic, political, and strategic ties with India. As links between our Nation and India expand, Indian-Americans will need to continue to promote the relationship.

It is an honor to have such a productive and vibrant community residing in my home State of New Jersey. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the 50th anniversary of India's Independence and the Coalition of Indian Organizations of New Jersey.

CONGRATULATING DEMOTTE
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ON ITS 50TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. STEPHEN E. BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize DeMotte Christian School, in DeMotte, IN, on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

In 1947, a small but determined group of parents and individuals decided to start a school which would offer an education rooted in the Christian faith. Their desire was to provide an academic framework which would emphasize to its students a commitment to a life lived for the Glory of God. Their steadfast commitment to this endeavor planted the seeds which has allowed DeMotte Christian School to grow from its beginning classes which convened at the First Christian Reformed Church, to its current location with an enrollment of 306 students and a full curriculum for ages ranging from pre-school through the 8th grade.

DeMotte Christian School stands as a testament to the rewards of a determined vision, perseverance, and devotion to the cause which its founders cherished: Christian education. The efforts of a myriad of individuals including parents, teachers, students, and alumni have resulted in a thriving school which is both an asset and witness to its community, and a shining example of academic instruction which remains faithful to the vision of its founders. I extend congratulations and best wishes to the students, administrators, teachers and entire family of DeMotte Christian School on celebrating its 50th anniversary.

IMPROVING VALLEJO'S WATER
SUPPLY

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, water supplies for California cities are extremely limited. Whenever possible, cities attempt to use their water storage and conveyance systems in the most efficient ways they can.

The city of Vallejo has tried to use its water supply facilities more efficiently, but has been frustrated by a limitation in Federal law that

prohibits the city from sharing space in an existing Federal water delivery canal.

The city of Vallejo simply desires to wheel some of its drinking water through part of the canal serving California's Solano Project, a water project built by the Bureau of Reclamation in the 1950's. Vallejo is prepared to pay any appropriate charges for the use of this facility.

Allowing Vallejo to use the Solano Project should be a simple matter, but it is not. Legislation is required to allow the city to use the Federal water project for carriage of municipal and industrial water.

Congress in recent years has expanded the scope of the Warren Act to apply to other communities in California and Utah where there existed a need for more water management flexibility. The legislation I am introducing today will simply extend similar flexibility to the Solano Project and to the city of Vallejo.

CLEAN AIR STANDARDS WILL ADVERSELY AFFECT OHIO

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, Vice President GORE recently announced the final adoption of U.S. EPA's clean air standards for ozone and particulate matter. I, like many other members of the Ohio delegation, am particularly concerned with the more stringent regulations' implications on Ohio's economy. Eric Peters' recent editorial published by the Akron Beacon Journal, entitled "Clean-Air Rules: Taking a Bite Out of All Paychecks?" cuts to the heart of this issue.

I encourage my colleagues to take time to read Mr. Peters' comments and to evaluate the impact of these regulations on their congressional districts. Because of the standard's effect on my district, I have cosponsored H.R. 1984, legislation introduced by Representative RON KLINK. The bill would enact a 4-year moratorium on the promulgation of the standards and require EPA to conduct a more complete scientific review of ozone and fine particles.

I urge all my colleagues to consider supporting H.R. 1984. Let's give the current Clean Air Act regulations a chance to continue to clean our Nation's air without further expense and job dislocation to our precious economic base.

[From the Akron Beacon Journal, June 23, 1997]

CLEAN-AIR RULES: TAKING A BITE OUT OF ALL PAYCHECKS?

(By Eric Peters)

If you were disposed to being facetious, you could say the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposed new clean-air standards for ozone and particulate matter—English translation: smog and soot—contain both pluses and minuses.

On the one hand, the standards require significantly higher utility bills for American ratepayers and significantly higher price tags on a wide range of manufactured goods for American consumers.

On the other hand, they almost certainly will result in fewer jobs, lower wages and less economic growth.

Don't take my word for it.

Take the word of President Clinton's own Council of Economic Advisers, which pre-

dicts the national costs of reaching full attainment with the EPA standards will total upwards of \$60 billion—far exceeding the \$1 billion value of the benefits it projects. Even in Washington, D.C., a 60:1 ratio of cost to effectiveness is totally out-of-whack.

Indeed, if science and sound economic policy served to guide EPA policy recommendations, the agency's current clean air agenda would never have seen the light of day.

While virtually every state would lose under the Draconian EPA proposals, some states would clearly lose more than others.

The economies of such disparate states as Ohio, Virginia, Illinois, Kentucky, Minnesota, Indiana, West Virginia and Missouri all would receive sledgehammer blows from tighter standards that studies show would produce no overall measurable improvement in the nation's air quality.

Ohio is a particularly good case in point.

Although the Federal EPA estimates that the national compliance costs of its tougher ozone restrictions would be only \$600 million a year, Ohio's Environmental Protection Agency projects that the annual capital expenditures for Ohio utilities alone would exceed \$730 million a year.

The added expenditures would boost utility rates for Ohio ratepayers and consumers by as much as 17 percent in some areas, and would force an average increase of 7 percent throughout the Buckeye State.

Ohio manufacturers also are in a bind.

G&S Titanium, a company in northeast Ohio, desperately needs to expand to satisfy the demands of its current customers. Right now, the company uses the most modern technology available and complies with all Federal and local environmental standards.

It won't be able to comply with the new EPA rules for one simple reason: The technology for complying with the standards isn't available. As Ohio Gov. George V. Voinovich pointed out to a House Commerce Committee hearing last month:

These proposals are creating a catch-22.

"If they (businesses) do not expand," the Republican governor said, "They risk losing customers and market share. If they expand and the new standards are implemented, they risk being out of compliance."

Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich., who long has fretted about the erosion of America's manufacturing base, has urged President Clinton to recall the EPA's new clean-air standards and correct their major defects.

Failure to do so, Dingell observes, will permanently alienate working men and women—and doom the Democratic Party's chances of retaking the U.S. House and Senate.

Officials at the U.S. Departments of Commerce, Transportation and Agriculture, as well as at the Small Business Administration, have echoed Dingell's warnings in private meetings with White House officials.

Nevertheless, EPA Administrator Carol Browner adamantly defends the proposed new rules—particularly her agency's attempt to regulate particulate matter (soot) as tiny as 2.5 microns (about one-fortieth the width of a human hair).

This despite the fact that the Federal Government's own figures show that some 83 percent of all such emission are generated by "fugitive dust," which comes from such benign sources as farmers plowing fields, animals with dandruff and pollen released from flowers, weeds and other fauna.

Most of the remaining 17 percent of particulate matter comes from burning wood, stoked-up barbecues and idling internal-combustion engines that already have reduced emissions by more than 98 percent.

Since the Nation's ambient air quality has improved exponentially over the past two decades, one can only wonder about the

EPA's motives in pursuing standards that are virtually impossible to meet.

Rather than voluntarily cut back its staff and budget and earn grateful applause from American taxpayers, the agency apparently has decided to try its hand at regulating areas and items that literally defy regulation.

POLLUTING A NATIONAL RESOURCE

HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, on a recent trip to foster environmental partnerships, Vice President AL GORE visited China. This is a nation that burns more than a billion tons of coal a year—one-third more than it did just a decade ago.

As coal burns, it sends millions of tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, where the chemical traps heat and warms the earth. We Americans, though, are in a poor position to cast blame. For every year, the average U.S. resident breathes a portion of the 1,442 million metric tons of carbon the United States emits. Because there are no boundaries in the atmosphere, we breathe the same air into which we casually spill carbon, sulfur dioxide, and other gases. Carbon dioxide invades the air like a filthy pall that blankets the Nation's urban pockets and others throughout the world.

But there is a technology that makes clean air entirely effortless—one that Americans take for granted because its merits too often go unnoted. It is nuclear generation of electricity.

Nuclear energy already supplies 20 percent of the Nation's electricity. And in at least seven States, unplugging that power would darken the majority of the States' homes, industries, and office buildings without a readily available backup supply.

We live in a world where one-third of the world's inhabitants cook, clean, and work without electricity. Within the next two decades, they will seek to change their cycle of energy poverty. A 1996 report by the International Nuclear Societies Council projects that increased energy demand in developing nations will be three times the 1990 level in 2020 and about six times greater than that level by 2050.

It is no surprise that the need will be greatest in the developing world. The cheapest power option is fossil fuel. And who will convince leaders in developing countries that the byproducts of fossil fuels could cause more harm to the environment than good derived from an energy supply that would fuel economic growth?

Each year, U.S. nuclear power plants prevent the discharge of 146 million metric tons of carbon. The power generated by one nuclear plant keeps 1.4 million metric tons of carbon out of our air. Imagine how clean our air would be if nuclear power provided more electricity.

Nuclear power alone isn't the answer. But it is part of an essential mix of energy sources in countries that must assume the responsibility for others that will not or cannot protect our air.

My purpose today is simple, Mr. Speaker. I want to urge action on H.R. 1270, the Nuclear

Waste Policy Act of 1997. This legislation, through its used nuclear fuel management program, would ensure that we can continue to produce energy cleanly at nuclear power plants—many of which are running out of storage capacity for used reactor fuel. This legislation would make us guardians of a cleaner planet. Supporting H.R. 1270 is the right thing to do.

**GILMAN SPONSORS LEGISLATION
URGING WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL
AGAINST SADDAM HUSSEIN,
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLU-
TION 137**

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to inform my colleagues that today, on behalf of myself and the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. PORTER], I am introducing legislation that calls for the formation of an international criminal tribunal against Saddam Hussein and other members of his despotic and cruel Iraqi regime.

The dictatorship of Saddam Hussein has created an environment of fear and terror within Iraq and throughout the region, with its gross violations of international law and human rights. The people of Iraq are subject to summary and arbitrary execution, torture, and repression of the freedom of speech.

Saddam Hussein is reported to have used chemical weapons to annihilate entire Kurdish villages. Over 182,000 Kurdish civilians disappeared, and over 400 villages have been destroyed in these attacks, known as the Anfal campaigns. The Iraqi use of chemical weapons is the most severe use of such inhumane devices since the First World War. The United States cannot allow such atrocities to go unpunished if we want to prevent the proliferation of these weapons of mass destruction.

Under Saddam Hussein, the Iraqi Government has been particularly active in its persecution of indigenous minority groups. Members of Shiite Muslim groups along with members of the Turkomen minority have been massacred and arrested. Assyro-Chaldean churches have also been destroyed.

A war crimes tribunal will go a long way to eliminate such flouting of international law and treaties. The tribunal would bring Saddam Hussein to justice as well as his henchmen, by prosecuting them for their crimes against humanity. Because the Republic of Iraq is a signatory to both the Geneva Convention and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, it should be compelled to comply with these obligations.

Moreover, over 600 Kuwaitis who were taken prisoner by Iraqi soldiers during the Persian Gulf war remain unaccounted for. It has been 6 years since the war, and the families of these MIA's deserve answers and the return of their loved ones. Iraq must be made to account for these individuals under the terms of the Geneva Convention.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, it is clear that a war crimes tribunal is necessary. I urge my colleagues to join Congressman PORTER and me by cosponsoring this measure, House Concurrent Resolution 137.

IN HONOR OF CONGREGATION
BETH JACOB

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a respectful tribute to Congregation Beth Jacob of Astoria on the 70th anniversary of its founding. The congregation's history is one of perseverance and growth, supported by a foundation of worship, education, and dedication.

Beth Jacob was founded in 1927 by a small group of Hungarian Jews who were determined to have their own congregation. These founders had very little money and could only afford to erect a fragile, one story structure which leaked badly after the first rain. However, the congregants were determined to have a home.

Their weak structure never fell. In fact, it grew, as did the number of people who prayed there. And in 1938, in the midst of the destruction of synagogues throughout Germany, the growing congregation rebuilt their temple.

In 1951, upon the completion of a second story, Beth Jacob truly began to flourish. At this time, it housed a Hebrew school with 126 students and three teachers. The Yeshiva of West Queens also began at Beth Jacob and had to move when its students overfilled the available classrooms. Worshipers filled the synagogue beyond capacity on holidays.

Since the 1960's, the size of the Jewish community in Astoria has decreased. However, Congregation Beth Jacob has maintained its lively atmosphere, providing a center for Jewish life for residents from Astoria and nearby communities.

Consistent with its tradition of growth, Congregation Beth Jacob now has a young new rabbi, Rabbi Zev Itzkowitz, and is always expanding its educational offerings, including adult classes and special programming.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to Congregation Beth Jacob as it celebrates 70 years of a most vibrant history. I am honored to have such a thriving synagogue in my district, serving as a center for Jewish life and a home for Jewish education and worship.

INDIA'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
INDEPENDENCE

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, August 15, 1997 will mark the 50th anniversary of India's independence, and I, as a United States Congressman, am excited about it.

Why am I excited about another nation's independence? For the same reasons that all Americans should be excited. As the largest democracy in Asia, India is celebrating the very same liberties and values which America cherishes. Over 500 million people turned out for India's free elections. 500 million. That is twice the population of the United States. India is not just a democracy—it is a democratic powerhouse.

I am also excited about India's development as an economic market. As one of the top 10 emerging open markets, India has crossed the threshold of global commercial competition. Large U.S. enterprises such as Coca-Cola, GM, Enron, and Sun Microsystems, among others, are expanding to the Indian Subcontinent, creating employment opportunities for Americans and Indians alike.

Mr. Speaker, America has maintained a strong relationship with India that began long before its independence in 1947. Woodrow Wilson and Franklin D. Roosevelt both championed a free India. We must continue to uphold this friendship and help celebrate this momentous occasion. I urge all Members of Congress and the people of America to join in the festivities sponsored nationwide by Indian-Americans to commemorate India's 50th anniversary of independence. Through this participation, we will strengthen the democratic bonds between our countries and realize the value and potential of India.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2015,
BALANCED BUDGET ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 1997

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the balanced budget agreement recently negotiated between the President and congressional leaders. And, while this agreement is not perfect in the eyes of many, it is an example of the democratic process and the consensus building and compromise that it embodies. It is an agreement which incorporates all of the principles which I believe are essential in a budget agreement. In this legislation, we will achieve a balanced budget for the first time in a generation, invest in our people for the future, and provide substantial middle-class tax relief.

Four and a half years ago, we set out on a course toward economic recovery, striving to get our fiscal house in order. And, as we revel in our accomplishments on this day, to finish the job of balancing the budget, we must not overlook the magnitude and importance of the 1993 budget plan. For it was that historic and courageous vote that cut the deficit from \$290 billion in 1992 to a projected \$41 billion this year. That comprehensive budget strategy made difficult spending cuts and raised needed revenues by asking our Nation's wealthiest to contribute to our economic recovery. The leadership of the President and the Democratic Congress in adopting that budget plan has contributed to record economic growth, low inflation, the creation of over 12½ million new jobs in our Nation, and a deficit that has shrunk by more than 80 percent. The bipartisan budget plan that we enact today would not be possible had we not made the tough choices, politically and substantively, that we did in 1993.

Mr. Speaker, there are some today who advocate finishing the job of balancing the budget before we enact tax cuts of any kind. Others in the Congress believe that enacting tax cuts will help spur the economy and contribute to the economic stability we all seek. I believe that this is a sound agreement and a good

compromise that melds the priorities of Democrats and Republicans in a way that will allow all Americans to prosper.

At the heart of this balanced budget is a historic investment in education—the most significant increase in education funding in 30 years. It includes \$40 billion in tax relief to help make a college education a reality for millions of Americans. It includes the largest increase in Pell grant scholarships in three decades and will give communities substantial tax cuts to help build and modernize our schools.

Second, this budget agreement extends health insurance coverage to 5 million children by investing \$24 billion in quality medical care. One of our greatest challenges, in this era of budget cutting, is to ensure that we continue to invest in our children and their future and this is a major step toward that goal. At the same time, this agreement honors our commitment to our parents by preserving the Medicare trust fund for a decade and implementing new market-oriented reforms.

This agreement bolsters environmental enforcement by doubling the pace of Superfund cleanups and delivers tax cuts to clean up and revitalize urban areas. It protects the community oriented policing services [COPS] initiative, which will put 100,000 more police officers on the street by 2000. And, it improves upon the welfare reform legislation that enacted last year by protecting our most vulnerable people. While providing \$3 million to move willing and motivated Americans from welfare to private sector jobs, the agreement treats 350,000 legal immigrants fairly by restoring their disability and health benefits.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, for the first time in a generation, this agreement provides mainstream, middle-class tax relief while spelling out specific, sufficient spending and entitlement reductions to pay for it and balance the budget at the same time. The final budget deal provides the \$500 child tax credit to the Americans most in need: 27 million middle- and low-income, hard-working families; 13 million children from families with incomes below \$30,000 will receive the child tax credit, nearly 7.5 million more than the Republican plan would have covered.

Democrats have succeeded in providing tax relief which invests in our children by helping middle-class parents trying to pay for their children's college tuition. The budget plan includes the President's \$1,500 HOPE scholarship to make the first 2 years of college universally available. And, it provides for a 20-percent tuition tax credit for college juniors, seniors, and graduate students, and for working Americans trying to upgrade their skills.

I am also pleased to see that the estate tax provisions resemble the President's proposal and legislation which I introduced earlier this year which seeks to provide relief, immediately, to those most in need: small businesses and family farms.

Mr. Speaker, this agreement continues the job started in 1993. It balances the budget by 2002 and puts the budget in surplus at least through 2007. The job is not done, Mr. Speaker. We must never allow ourselves to revert back to the irresponsible policies of Regonomics which today still confront our generation and generations to come in the form of a \$5½ trillion national debt. We must ensure that we follow through with the spending cuts outlined in this agreement while not allowing ourselves to succumb to future pres-

ures to borrow from future generations to pay for what we buy today. And, we must vigorously ensure that the budget deficit goals included in this agreement are enforced and reached.

Mr. Speaker, as we applaud the bipartisan budget plan which we will enact today, let us not forget the 1980's and the fiscal instability which strangled our Nation when President Clinton inherited exploding budget deficits in 1993. A decade of large deficits had weakened the foundation of our economy and challenged our Nation's power and prosperity abroad. In the President's first term he set out to cut the deficit in half. Working with the President, Democrats in Congress enacted the 1993 budget plan which has far exceeded our expectations. The President, who had the courage and vision to reverse this trend, deserves our thanks and praise.

When the President was reelected last year, he was determined to fulfill his goal of balancing the budget, but was unrelenting in his commitment to invest in our Nation's core values of education, health care, and the environment. This bipartisan budget agreement protects our priorities, solidifies the Nation's economic foundation, and bolsters America's position as the greatest economy in the world.

Policymaking is a series of tradeoffs and tough decisions. This bill unfairly targets Federal employees by asking them to pay additional retirement contributions without any increase in benefits. Nevertheless, on balance, this is a good budget and will have a positive effect on the lives of millions of Americans as we head into the next century. It reflects the values and priorities of our Nation and with the enactment of this agreement, our Nation will have taken a historic step toward a vibrant and prosperous 21st century.

AMERICA'S CULTURE

HON. HELEN CHENOWETH

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, part of America's culture and heritage is due to the wise-use of its rivers and waterways. In the arid West, America has literally turned deserts into gardens. We barge our agricultural and manufactured products in an economically and environmentally benign manner for trade. We live, work and recreate in our rivers. Indeed, our rivers are the lifeblood of much America.

I would like to bring to the attention of the Members an editorial by Bill Hall which appeared in the July 27, 1997 edition of the Lewiston Tribune. Mr. Hall articulates the concerns many of my constituents have about the plan of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, National Marine and Fisheries Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service to breach the dams along the Snake and Columbia Rivers. These dams provide for the transportation, electricity generation, irrigation and recreation that many in the Pacific Northwest rely upon. Before these agencies take such drastic action, I ask the Members to consider Bill Hall's article.

B.H.—LEWISTON SHOULD SHARE THE MOTEL JOBS WITH BOISE
(By Bill Hall)

The Idaho Statesman of Boise has a point when it suggests that breaching the dams

that created the ports at Lewiston and Clarkston could be offset by the return of a fish run so robust it could really kick the economy into gear through boosts in the tourist, fishing and boating industries.

Indeed, the same is true of dams throughout Idaho and of the effect their rupture or removal could have on the economy of nearby communities.

Lucky Peak Dam above Boise, for instance. That plugs what was once a wild and natural stream and could become the same again. Imagine what that could do for the Boise Valley economy once recreation-starved Californians discovered that you could fly into Boise Airport and, in less than an hour, be enjoying some of the finest bait fishing in America.

And among the richest salmon spawning streams in Idaho were the Boise, the Payette, the Weiser and the Owyhee rivers. The state, by removing dams, could have that resource back and reap the profits of what plentiful fish would do for the tourist industry of western Idaho.

For that matter, what would it do to the economy of both northern and southwestern Idaho if the three Idaho Power dams in Hells Canyon could be removed altogether creating one stupendous canyon instead of these dam-locked segments we now have, these pitiful canyonettes?

The Statesman may be on to something of general use when it outlines the concept as it applies to Lewiston specifically: "A more natural river would give Lewiston the higher quality of life it needs to attract new clean industry."

If that is true of Lewiston, it is also true of American Falls Dam near Pocatello. That dam now produces power to sustain polluting Pocatello factories. If you get rid of the factories, you won't need the dam. That would give Pocatello a chance at a new, clean more vigorous tourist industry.

And what would Idaho need of industrial jobs if the demand became heavy enough for motel maids and bait shop clerks?

Indeed, the great Idaho desert with its purple sage, its golden grasses, its delicate desert flowers and its natural populations of coyote and rabbit and grasshopper is an easy sell to a nation hungry for the original, natural places. It may have seemed at the time to be a wise idea to let Micron Technology encroach on the nearby edge of the noble desert just for a few jobs in a dangerously volatile computer chip industry. But on reflection, imagine how much kinder it would be toward the environment to close that drab factory and its few thousand jobs and reach instead for the greater wealth of helping tourists revel in the desert sights, reaping the rewards of a new clean industry.

If the state would only have the foresight and the courage to eliminate all these alleged improvements and revert to a confident investment in its natural wonders, we could lavish on all of Idaho the economic improvements that the Statesman now so generously recommends for Lewiston alone.

HONORING HOSPICE OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, it gives my colleagues, Mr. WOLF and Mr. MORAN, and me great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to Hospice of Northern Virginia. Nineteen ninety-seven marks the 20th anniversary of this

compassionate organization, which has provided exceptional care for terminally ill patients and their families.

Inspired by the work of Dr. Cecily Saunders, founder of the first modern-day hospice program in London, a group of local residents established the Hospice of Northern Virginia after recognizing the need for appropriate care for the terminally ill. Among the Northern Virginia founders are Dr. Josefina Magno, a physician practicing oncology at Georgetown University Hospital; Dorothy N. Garrett, a local nonprofit organization administrator; and Pat Pastore, R.N., a local nurse. The nonprofit hospice they founded immediately drew widespread community support and attention; in 1980, the Hospice was one of 26 hospices across the country that became part of a 3-year Medicare and Medicaid demonstration. This demonstration induced the enactment of the new Hospice Medicare Benefit in 1984.

Hospice of Northern Virginia distinguishes itself as an extraordinary achievement because of its compassion and cost-effectiveness. A year after the Hospice's incorporation, its leaders decided to pursue the use of a surplus public school building in Arlington for conversion into a treatment and care facility. The Arlington County Board generously agreed to a 50-year lease and contributed public funds to start the renovation of the Woodlawn Elementary School. The renovation was instigated in June 1978, when Hospice of Northern Virginia received a Certificate of Need for the Commonwealth of Virginia. The resourcefulness of the founding members paved the way for the largest hospice program in the Commonwealth of Virginia and Washington metropolitan areas. The founders' ingenuity and courage is commendable and directly correlates to their continued success.

Hospice care is delivered by an interdisciplinary team consisting of a physician, registered nurse, social worker, chaplain, dietitian, certified nursing assistants, and trained volunteers. As Hospice president and CEO David English pointed out, this team of professionals focuses on eliminating the physical pain and symptoms associated with terminal illness while providing necessary psychological, spiritual, and emotional support that enables patients and families to concentrate on the quality of remaining life. Ninety percent of the care provided is in the home setting, saving patients thousands of dollars, though hospice care can also be delivered in nursing homes, contracted hospitals, and the Hospice Center's acute care unit. Hospice of Northern Virginia nurses are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The Hospice's contributions to the local community are prominent. Over the past two decades, the organization has served more than 17,000 patients and families through its Greater Arlington, Fairfax, Loudon, and Prince William regional offices and the Hospice Center. Hospice of Northern Virginia prides itself in the fact that it accepts patients who seek care, regardless of their financial situations. In 1996, it provided over \$2 million in care beyond reimbursed costs.

Mr. Speaker, we know our colleagues will join us in saluting Hospice of Northern Virginia as it celebrates 20 years of outstanding medical care to the community.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF WARREN

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the city of Warren, MI whose citizens are celebrating its 40th anniversary.

Evolving from wilderness territory 180 years ago the largest city in the 12th Congressional District and third largest in the State of Michigan, the city of Warren is now known as the City of Progress. While sparsely populated early this century, Warren's growth began in the 1940's with the onset of World War II. Utilizing the nearby steel mills and automotive base in the city of Detroit, Warren became the home of the Detroit Arsenal Tank Plant. Employing thousands of people, the "Arsenal of Democracy" produced Sherman tanks for the war effort and provided an economic base to encourage tremendous growth after the war, continuing through the 1950's and 1960's.

In 1952, General Motors Corporation began construction on the General Motors Tech Center, occupying over 1,000 acres in the city. It is the nucleus of GM's technical, creative, and innovative operations. GM continues to serve as the largest employer in Warren with over 23,000 employees. Prompted by the presence of a world class facility in their midst, the township of Warren incorporated as a city on October 27, 1956, and began operating as such on January 1, 1957.

The citizens of Warren enjoy a rich ethnic heritage which continues to be celebrated today. Joining German immigrants already established, Polish families moved in large numbers from the east side of Detroit and Hamtramck to the city of Warren. They were followed by Italian, Ukrainian and Irish, and more recently, Albanian, Lebanese, and Chaldean families.

Warren's history, steeped in technology, innovation, and industry, has generated support for six public school districts and three colleges. Macomb Community College, Detroit College of Business, and an extension of Central Michigan University serve over 25,000 students seeking advanced degrees.

Mr. Speaker, ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Warren's 40th anniversary. On this occasion, I extend my sincere wishes for continued progress, growth and prosperity to the citizens and leadership of the city of Warren.

FEDERAL JUDGE NORMAN W.
BLACK

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise before the House today to duly recognize the lifelong service and contribution of a great American, the Honorable Norman W. Black. Judge Black will be remembered as one of the few magistrates that ever graced the Federal bench to be as revered for his humanistic concern for his fellow man as he was for his legal acumen. It is this kind of exem-

plary strength of character that reminds us of how amazing we human beings can truly be at our very best. For all of you who did not ever have the pleasure of sharing his company, studying his work, or admiring his brilliance, I want to assure you that Norman Black was one of our very best.

More than just a judge, Norman Black was a caring husband, an attentive and doting father, the best friend of his loving granddaughter, and the model of the noble adjudicator, who treated all persons to stand before his court with unfailing civility and unconditional respect. It is this ability, to separate the case and its facts from the humanity of the people entangled within it that to me is most remarkable. In life, it is often difficult to not allow circumstances to predetermine our disposition on a myriad of issues, but Judge Black always allowed justice to have the final say. One of Judge Black's associate judges on the Southern District of Texas' bench said that he was "one of the most well-liked jurists on the Federal bench, always even-tempered and courteous to all attorneys."

This ability to maintain a consistent posture of fairness, publicly recognized by both his peers and Presidents alike, seems to be the clear reason why President Carter appointed Judge Black to the Federal bench in the Southern District of Texas in 1979. Judge Black was regularly given the highest ratings in local bar association evaluations, was amazingly as popular as he was effective. Judge Black, who served as chief judge of the southern district until his recent mandatory retirement, remained to the very day of his passing an active judicial advocate for the rights of the citizens to enter the doors of his court, and Americans everywhere.

So on behalf of the entire 18th Congressional District, the city of Houston, and our Nation, I want to give our deepest condolences to Judge Black's loving wife, Berne, his two daughters, Elizabeth and Diane, and his very special granddaughter. I am deeply saddened by this loss, and know that we will surely not be privileged enough to see his like again.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON
H.R. 1119, NATIONAL DEFENSE
AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL
YEAR 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 1997

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the motion to instruct the conferees on the limitation on payments for the cost of NATO expansion. Our country has for too long assumed the lion share of the cost of defending our allies. I support a strong national defense and I have voted to fund many of our weapons programs so we can be assured of our own military preparedness. However, our allies must begin to show their commitment to military preparedness.

As we move to expand NATO, we must be ever-mindful of the potential cost of that expansion. Our cost estimates for that expansion range from \$1 billion to \$125 billion over 10 years. With such a wide range of estimates, it

is important that the Congress take action to limit those costs. By taking this action, we not only prevent unanticipated increases in future budgets, we also strengthen the hand of the President in negotiations with our allies.

Burden sharing proposals of recent years have proven to be an effective way of encouraging wealthy foreign countries to begin to pay their fair share for their own defense. Legislation in 1989 called upon Japan to increase its share of the cost of stationing U.S. troops there. This legislation has led to billions of dollars in savings for the U.S. taxpayer and Japan now contributes 78 percent of the non-personnel cost of stationing U.S. troops there.

The budget agreement will adopt demands that we severely curtail both domestic and military spending over the next 5 years. We must take care of the folks at home first. We should first use American taxpayer dollars to benefit people at home who earned them, not people overseas who didn't. At a time when some in government are seriously considering cutting Medicare benefits to our seniors in order to balance the budget, how can we turn back the clock on the progress we have made in getting our allies to pay for their defense? Our parents worked a lifetime for those benefits. These are some of the most vulnerable in our society and their health care needs must come first. We ought to make good on our commitment to them and our commitment to the education and well-being of our children, instead of sending billions to nations that can defend themselves.

We have only recently begun to increase the amount some of our allies pay for their defense. They still do not pay their fair share. At a time when we are struggling to keep open bases like the Red River Army Depot in my district, balance our Federal budget, protect Medicare, and increase education funding, we cannot run the risk of turning back the clock and increasing the percentage we pay for allies' defense.

SECRETARY ALBRIGHT'S ADDRESS IN PRAGUE ON THE ADMISSION TO NATO OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues know, I have consistently and strongly supported the addition of new members to the North Atlantic Alliance. I welcome enthusiastically the decision of NATO to invite Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic to join the alliance. In this regard, I want to pay particular tribute to our Secretary of State Madeleine Albright for her intense efforts and effective leadership in bringing about this very positive result.

Mr. Speaker, the visit of Secretary Albright to Prague was significant and emotional. It was her first since she became our Secretary of State at the beginning of the year. As my colleagues know, Secretary Albright was born in Czechoslovakia, and her father, Joseph Korbel, was a distinguished member of that country's diplomatic service. In 1948 he and his family, including Madeleine, were forced to flee their homeland when the Communist

Party assumed complete control of the country. To the great benefit of our country, they chose to come to the United States, and at that time our Nation was farsighted enough to welcome such political refugees.

Secretary Albright has been appropriately recognized by the Government of the Czech Republic for her effective and farsighted leadership as our Secretary of State. When she was in Prague 2 weeks ago following the NATO summit at Madrid, the President of the Czech Republic, Vaclav Havel, awarded her the Order of the White Lion, the highest honor that the Republic can bestow upon a non-Czech citizen. This was a most fitting and appropriate award, and one that I am sure was especially meaningful to Secretary Albright because of her background.

During her visit to Prague, Secretary Albright addressed a meeting of the leaders of the Czech Government convened by President Havel. The speech was held in the Obecní Dum, the historic hall where the Republic of Czechoslovakia was proclaimed in 1918, with the support and assistance of American President Woodrow Wilson and the United States. Secretary Albright in her speech struck a most fitting historic tone that was appropriate to the place and the significance of the historic decision to invite the Czech Republic to become a member of NATO. She made most appropriate references to the abandonment of Czechoslovakia to Nazi Germany by Britain and France in 1938 at the Munich Conference, the Communist takeover of the country in 1948, and the Velvet Revolution in November 1989.

Secretary Albright's speech on this occasion was an outstanding statement of the historic and strategic significance of the admission of the Czech Republic to NATO. Not only did she focus upon the importance of this step for the Czech Republic, but she also discussed its significance for other nations in the future. In particular, she challenged the Czechs to play a positive leadership role in the future expansion of NATO to still other countries in Central and Eastern Europe.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Secretary Albright's address be placed in the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to read and give it thoughtful attention:

A MOMENT OF CELEBRATION AND OF DEDICATION: ADDRESS BY SECRETARY OF STATE MADELEINE K. ALBRIGHT TO THE PEOPLE OF PRAGUE

July 14, 1997

President Havel, Prime Minister Klaus, Senators and Parliamentarians, Excellencies, distinguished guests, thank you so much for your warm and unforgettable welcome. Let me begin by expressing my sadness at the devastation that has been caused by the flooding over the last week. Our thoughts and prayers today are with those who have lost their loved ones and their homes. I know that there are many mayors here from regions affected by the flood. The solidarity and dedication that you and the Czech people have shown in this tragedy is inspiring.

This week, as I traveled from Madrid to central Europe, I could not help but think about the three journeys that have framed my life, and my life's work:

I have been thinking about the memories and the meaning of my own family's journey through the war and the turbulence of post-war Europe to the freedom and security of the United States.

I have been thinking as well about Europe's journey from total war to absolute division to the promise of enduring unity and peace.

And of course, I have been thinking about the journey of the Czech nation from the day in 1918 when its independence was proclaimed on this very spot, to the day in 1948 when its liberty was extinguished, to this day, when you take your rightful place in the family of European democracies—fully, finally and forever.

T.S. Eliot wrote:

We shall not cease from exploration
And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time.

Today, you know me in a new way, in my new role. And I see you in a new way as well—not only as the friend of the United States, but also as our next ally. Truth does conquer, after all. President Havel: Truth and love do conquer after all.

I have been here many times since the Velvet Revolution. And I am filled with pride every time I hear the playing of my country's national anthem, "The Star Spangled Banner," and yours, "Where is my Home." But nothing compares to the feeling of coming to my original home, Prague, as the Secretary of State of the United States, for the purpose of saying to you: Welcome home.

For with the news from Madrid this week, you are coming home in fact to the community of freedom that you never left in spirit.

From Munich to Madrid, from tragedy to triumph, it has been a long and painful journey. But you have arrived at your destination.

You have arrived at a moment of injustice undone, of promises kept, of a unified Europe begun. Now, a new journey begins; and at last, we can travel it together.

We stand at one of those great turning points in history. For the third time in this century, the politics of Europe are changing fundamentally. And this time, we pray, for good.

Almost 80 years ago, our parents and grandparents were full of the hope that Woodrow Wilson's dream of universal democracy inspired across the lands of central and eastern Europe. That dream was shattered by the illusion that the people of Paris and London and New York could simply go on with their lives while the people of Vilnius and Krakow and Prague were robbed of their independence, sent away in box cars, and machine-gunned in forests.

After World War II, it was Stalin's armies that shattered our dream. And for the next 50 years, one half of Europe was consigned to subjugation, the other half to fear. We were separated by concrete and barbed wire, by radio jammers and minefields, by lies that might seem ridiculous today had they not ruined so many lives.

The amazing thing is that all those years of propaganda, terror, and isolation utterly failed to flatten Europe's moral landscape. The communist authorities kept from you the truth, and still you spoke the truth. They fed you a vacuous culture and still you gave us works of art that fill our lives with intelligence, humor and warmth. They tried to smother your allegiances, your faith and your initiative, and still you taught the world the meaning of solidarity and civil society. They banished your finest leaders, and still you gave us Vaclav Havel.

This is what we must remember as the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland join NATO. As President Clinton has said, we are not just new allies. In the ways that truly matter, we are old allies. We are and always have been and always will be part of the same community.

NATO membership will bring many benefits to the Czech Republic and to others who

join today and in the future—as will our broader strategy of integration. Above all, it means you will always be able to rely on us and we will always be able to rely on you. If there is a threat to the peace and security of this country, we will be bound by a solemn commitment to defeat it together. For this reason, we can be confident such a threat is far less likely to arise.

It means security in Europe will not stop at its Cold War dividing lines. It means Europe's new democracies will not be consigned to a buffer zone of excluded states. It means you will be the authors of your history, the masters of your destiny, the vassals and victims of no one.

But, my friends, this is more than a moment of celebration. For NATO's old and new allies alike, it is also a moment of challenge.

Our most immediate challenge is to ensure together that the people and parliaments of NATO's 16 member nations embrace the enlargement of our alliance. In America, the debate will be vigorous. Because we take our commitments seriously, we do not extend them lightly.

I believe that our Senate will approve this initiative, but the burden of proof will still rest with those of us who believe that NATO enlargement serves American interests. The Senators will ask us many appropriate questions about risks and costs. They will remind you, as do I, that with a first class ticket to NATO comes the obligation to make a first class contribution.

Regrettably, you will also hear echoes of Munich in this debate. Already, people have trotted out the tired myth that in times of crisis we will make no sacrifice to defend a distant city with an unpronounceable name; that we will protect the freedom of Barcelona but not Brno, Stuttgart but not Szczecin.

I challenge those critics; come meet your future allies. Speak with their people. Their names may sound unfamiliar, but they speak the same language of freedom. Visit the veterans in this region who fought for the allied cause in World War II. Talk to the veterans of the dissident movements. They have spent a lifetime sacrificing for the ideals we have in common. Look them in the eye. Ask them why we should be allied with Europe's old democracies forever, but its new democracies never.

You might listen to President Havel, as well. "If we appeal to the West not to close itself off to us," he has said, "this is not only because we are concerned about our own security and stability. We are concerned about the destiny of the values and principles that communism denied, and in whose name we resisted communism and ultimately brought it down."

Defending values, righting history's wrongs—these are idealistic arguments. Oddly, some are troubled by that. They want NATO to remain its military muscle, but they are suspicious of enlargement because it also appeals to our hearts. Others, who champion freedom in central Europe and Russia, are suspicious of enlargement precisely because NATO is an organization with tanks and bombers. But there is no contradiction here between realism and idealism, between pragmatism and principle, between security and justice.

Those of us who knew Prague before the Cold War know that freedom without security is a frail reed. And those in America who most ardently prosecuted the Cold War should be the first to admit that it was not merely a military enterprise, but an idealistic one as well.

You know that NATO enlargement fulfills a moral and strategic challenge. By turning a Europe of shared values into a Europe of shared responsibilities, you know we can do both.

Because we are old friends, let me speak plainly. NATO is welcoming new members because we know you are ready to make an even deeper commitment to the common endeavors of our alliance of democracies—from the pursuit of peace in troubled regions, to the flight against terror and crime, to our support for those who still struggle for the freedom you enjoy.

For example, the SFOR mission in Bosnia will come to an end in one year. But the United States has made a long-term commitment to support peace in that country and given what you have already done in Bosnia, I trust you will, too. I trust you will also be leaders in the effort to keep deadly weapons from dangerous rogue states, even if it means losing a sale from time to time. And I trust you will pay the costs and do what is necessary to assure the full integration of the Czech armed forces into NATO.

It is your willingness to assume great responsibilities that has brought you to this point. You are about to join NATO. You are already a member of the OECD. No doubt, you will join the EU as well. Our memory of the last 50 years makes it hard to believe, but as you enter these institutions, you will stand among the most prosperous and powerful nations in the world.

You are no longer on the outside looking in; you are on the inside looking forward.

For 50 years, you looked to the free world for support, understanding, and recognition. Now you are the free world; other nations will look to you for support.

Part of our new responsibility to others is to ensure that the door to NATO remains open to all European democracies that are willing and able to meet the obligations of membership.

That is the policy NATO adopted in Madrid. We count on you to support that policy in word and in deed. It is also a personal commitment President Clinton has made to all the nations that lie between the Baltic and Black Seas. And it is our message today to the people of Slovakia. For it is our sincere hope that their nation will rejoin the path of true democratic reform and make itself a strong candidate for the second round of NATO enlargement.

To all the nations that still aspire to join NATO, I say: consider why we have invited the Czech Republic. It is not because the Czechs are somehow more "European" than the Orthodox and Muslim peoples to the south and east; we have no patience for that kind of thinking. It is not because Prague is west of Vienna. It is not just because of your pre-war democratic tradition.

Rather, the Czech Republic's invitation to NATO was inscribed by its deeds over the last seven years. Others will soon be ready to follow your lead, and you must join us in helping them.

You know that the effort to join NATO is not a race to escape a bad neighborhood. It is an effort to improve the neighborhood for the benefit of all.

This is why I appreciate the Czech Republic's support for the NATO-Russia Founding Act and your recognition that a democratic Russia must be part of a Europe whole and free. As President Havel has said, "in this era, we—as nations—cannot divide ourselves according to who were the victors and who the vanquished in the past."

After my trip to Europe this week, I am more confident than ever that together, we can meet his challenge and more. In Madrid, I saw NATO's strength as its leaders made a decision that was difficult but right. With President Clinton in Warsaw, I saw that our new allies are not just ready but eager to add their energy to ours. In Bucharest, I watched the President address 100,000 people at University Square—and even though their coun-

try will not be among the first group of new allies, they showed us that they support NATO's enlargement and that they will do what it takes to be part of a new Europe. I heard the same message in Ljubljana and in Vilnius. And in St. Petersburg, I saw a Russia that is moving ahead with reform and moving closer to the rest of Europe.

Today, I can foresee a Europe where every nation is free and every free nation is our partner. Not long ago, that was a future we might have imagined, but in the darkest moments perhaps thought would never come. And that brings me back to the earlier part of my remarks—and of my life.

Fifty years ago, Jan Masaryk was told by Stalin in Moscow that Czechoslovakia must not participate in the Marshall Plan despite its national interest in doing so. Upon his return to Prague, Masaryk told my father, his chef de cabinet, and it was then he understood that he was employed by a government no longer sovereign in its own land.

Soon after, the communists took over in Prague. That coup drove my parents and me from this country for the second time. And more than any other single event, that coup awakened America and western Europe to the need for an Atlantic Alliance. Thus, the event that cast my family out of Prague, and you into darkness, also helped to create the Alliance that has brought me back again, and put you in the center of a new Europe.

Today, there is no Stalin to give orders to you or to anyone. The opportunity to be part of the international system is open to all. The goal of integration is not bound by strategic realities or confined by cultural arrogance to western Europe, to central Europe or even to Europe.

Today, the west has no fixed eastern frontiers. Every democratic nation that seeks to participate in the global system we are constructing and that is willing to do all it can to help itself will have America's help in finding the right path. Now they will have your help and your example as well.

People of Prague, people of the Czech Republic: Half a century ago, our journeys diverged. But this week's events have brought our paths together again. Now we are reunited in a common cause. Soon we will be joined in a common alliance. And we will never be parted again.

You were the passion of my parents. You are the land of my birth. And now you and I, my nation and yours, will build and defend a new Europe together. God bless you.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY ACT

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today I and 52 of my colleagues are introducing the Endangered Species Recovery Act of 1997, legislation which we believe will make this law work—both for species and for landowners.

Why this bill and why now? The efforts of the last 3 years to either gut or reform the ESA, depending on your perspective, have proven three things: that the law in its current form is allowing many species to fall through the cracks; that something must be done to provide some relief to landowners; and that, in spite of its problems, the ESA still has tremendous support among the American people.

Last year, we reported a bill out of the Resources Committee that was so bad that

GINGRICH refused to bring it to the floor. This year, the same group who supported that legislation tried again with a rider to the flood supplemental that would have effectively waived all ESA requirements for any water project anytime, anywhere. And again, they failed. The Senate's been trying to come up with a deal for a year and a half—and yesterday they announced that they still hadn't been able to do so.

What we've tried to do with this bill is get out of the black box and think in new ways, and I believe we've put some really interesting, workable new solutions on the table. We've provided serious incentives, other concessions for landowners while actually strengthening some of the basic protection provisions. Is this bill going to be enacted, word for word? Of course not. But it's a great place from which to begin seriously talking about ESA reauthorization in this Congress.

Endangered species have been used as a whipping post for the left and the right, to no one's advantage. My hope is that we have learned our lessons, that we recognize that landowners and businesses have legitimate concerns that must be addressed, and that the ESA is a law that is invaluable to our country and its future.

That said, what does this bill do to improve our species protection efforts? The single most important change this bill would make to existing law is to ensure that all our actions under the ESA—Federal actions or the actions of private landowners—do not undermine the recovery of a species. Recovery and delisting should be the standard we use for permitting incidental takes, approving habitat conservation plans, and allowing Federal actions to go forward.

Everyone on both sides of the ESA debate complains that we don't do enough to get species off the list. They're right—we hold both species and landowners in limbo. The bill passed by the Resources Committee last year would have attempted to resolve that problem by changing the most basic tenet of the act, and allowing the Secretary to choose not to recover species, to simply allow them to retain their endangered or threatened status indefinitely. Who benefits from that approach? All that means is that landowners have to live with ESA regulations on many species forever. There's no planning certainty, all development comes to a halt—that's insanity.

Let me give you an example of how important it is to hold our actions up to a standard that means permitted actions can't undermine recovery. When the Alabama beach mouse was listed as endangered in 1985, fewer than 900 individuals occupied less than 350 acres of habitat. Today, scientists estimate a population low of 45 animals. This species plays an important role in the beach dune ecosystem of the Gulf of Mexico by dispersing the seeds of the sea oat—its principal food source—which, in turn, forms the basis for the formation of dunes and protects them from erosion. The dunes protect inland housing from coastal flooding and hurricanes.

The recovery plan for the beach mouse calls for maintenance and improvement of all remaining beach mouse habitat. Four habitat conservation plans [HCPs] have been issued since then, authorizing permanent destruction of about 10 percent of the remaining habitat.

Two new permits for large condominium complexes in the fragile dune ecosystem are now being challenged by local citizens. These developments would destroy permanently another 44.5 acres of beach mouse habitat. Neither the construction nor the mitigation is consistent with the recovery strategy to improve all existing habitat—yet these permits were issued by the same agency that approved the beach mouse recovery plan.

This bill would address the problems of the Alabama beach mouse by making it clear that permits for incidental takes of listed species cannot undermine the recovery of that species, and thus delay efforts to delist the species. Any activity—clearcutting, damming, housing development—must be judged by whether it moves species closer to recovery. Current law requires that actions be judged by whether they move species closer to extinction, a measure that fails to move species off of the national list.

At the same time, establishing a clear recovery standard, backed up by agency recovery plans with biological goals, provides certainty for landowners in terms of permit requirements and mitigation actions.

What would we do for the landowners who feel so besieged by this law? The current law fails to give businesses and landowners the certainty they need in the economic development process, so that the first problem we tackled. We've streamlined the permitting process, clarified the requirements of the law, and provided tax incentives and liability limits to the private sector.

Developers and other business interests, as well as counties and local governments, need certainty more than anything else so they can move ahead with their planning efforts. We've combined that need with a recommendation by scientists that regional, multiple land owner, ecosystem-wide conservation plans do the most to save species to allow a one stop shop for incidental take permits when landowners and regional governments come together to develop a regional habitat conservation plan. This provision is built after the San Diego NCCP model. If the county gets the permit from the Fish and Wildlife service, local landowners can go to the county for their own permits as long as they're in compliance with the county's plan. That eliminates the need for each landowner to make sure he's OK with the county plan, then go back to the Feds for an ESA permit.

We would also streamline interagency consultations, some of which can hold landowners actions up for months, by allowing Federal agencies to consolidate their consultations. For a number of similar or related agency actions within a particular geographical range or ecosystem, the Federal agency may request one consolidated consultation. In the case of the levee repairs that caused so much concern in the California floods of this year, the Army Corps of Engineers could request that all levee repairs in the same area be consolidated under one consultation, decreasing delay and expense. This also may benefit endangered species by allowing the agency to consider cumulative impacts. In addition, by conducting these consolidated consultations well before and emergency strikes, the Corps of Engineers or a local water district can formulate an emergency plan of action.

What about some financial assurances? This bill would guarantee that permit holders—whether a county or an individual, business or small landowner, will not incur unforeseen mitigation costs if they file a performance bond to cover the cost of reasonably foreseeable mitigation measures necessary to protect species. This provision not only protects landowners by capping their liability but it also protects taxpayers from having to pay for negligence by other parties.

As part of the specific requirements of an HCP, landowners, working with FWS, will determine the reasonably anticipated costs of the mitigation measures they are required to undertake as a condition of receiving an incidental take. Those reasonably anticipated costs will be used to determine the amount of the performance bond.

The landowner's economic liability is effectively capped by this provision. Landowners will know the cost of the mitigation up front, and will be able to proceed with their project. More importantly, in return for the performance bond requirement, landowners receive an assurance that the financial burden of any additional mitigation required by unforeseen circumstances will be borne by the Federal Government.

For smaller landowners who may have difficulty obtaining a performance bond, we allow the use of certificates of deposit, letters of credit, or other financial securities to fulfill this provision. In addition, for large habitat conservation plans that may have formidable mitigation costs, we allow the use of phased bonds. Using these, a landowner can obtain a bond for the portion of a project currently underway. The legislation also authorizes the use of adjusted bonds, by which a landowner can request to have a portion of the bond released after that portion of the project is completed.

To encourage the development of regional, multiple landowner plans, the bill authorizes a county or other local government authority to obtain the incidental take permit and the bond. Landowners under that regional plan would not then be required to get individual bonds. Landowners wishing to work together without a government authority can pool their bonds.

Finally, there's tax relief. If landowners are willing to enter into endangered species conservation agreements that go beyond what's already required by law, they can qualify for a deferral on estate taxes, a Federal deduction equal to 25 percent of the deduction allowed for State and local property taxes, and a credit for the costs of complying with the agreement.

In addition, land donated to a habitat conservation land—by which you would be giving up all use of the land—would qualify as a charitable deduction.

In the coming months, I intend to pursue additional ways in which we can offer tax relief to businesses and landowners who want to conserve species on their lands. I believe that most landowners want to preserve species, and that with a little creative effort we can find a number of ways to provide economic relief without undermining our efforts to recover and delist species.

THE COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION
CONFERENCE AND TRAINING ON
GANGS, VIOLENCE, AND DRUGS

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Annual Community Mobilization Conference and Training on Gangs, Violence and Drugs which was recently convened in my hometown of San Diego, CA.

This was the eighth annual conference convened by Nu-Way Youth and Social Services, a local community-based organization. The conference was a national, collaborative event that brought parents, educators, law enforcement officers, probation officers, prosecutors, health and social service providers, together with civic, political and spiritual leaders to discuss the latest technologies and strategies for combatting juvenile crime in our communities.

I would also like to give recognition to the National Crime Prevention Council [NCPC] and the Bureau of Justice Assistance [BJA] of the U.S. Department of Justice for their support and cosponsorship of NuWay's Eighth Annual National Conference. The NCPC and the BJA added programmatic support and technical assistance. By doing so they provided Nu-Way access to greater numbers of nationally recognized trainers, and broader participation. Conference participants came from throughout the United States and Canada.

This support further strengthened the Educating, Motivating, Organizing and Mobilizing [EMOM] process and demonstrated the effectiveness of the partnership between community and government.

This conference was a true collaborative project. And by its very nature, it reinforced the notion that "it takes a village to raise a child"—and it challenged all of our citizens to accept the responsibility and join in our struggle to keep our youth free from the influence of gangs and drugs.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that Nu-Way, a valuable resource in the fight against gangs, drug abuse and violence, is based in my Congressional district, and I applaud the efforts of Nu-Way and the Community Mobilization Conference for their important role in our fight against juvenile crime.

H.R. 2316

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing bipartisan legislation that would change the terminology used in U.S. trade statutes from most favored nation [MFN] to normal trade relations [NTR] in order to more accurately reflect the nature of the trade relationship in question. This legislation would correct a misnomer under U.S. law. The term "most favored nation" has been quite misleading because it has implied that we were extending benefits greater than the normal benefits we extend to our trading partners under the World Trade Organization. However, in extending

MFN treatment, we have been doing no more than extending the same benefits we extend to other trading partners.

Specifically, in the context of U.S. tariff legislation, MFN treatment means that the products of a country given such treatment are subject to lower rates of duty—found in column 1 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule [HTS] of the United States. Products from countries not eligible for MFN treatment under U.S. law are subject to higher rates of duty—found in column 2 of the HTS. Under current United States law, only six countries are subject to column 2 treatment: Afghanistan, Cuba, Laos, North Korea, Serbia and Montenegro, and Vietnam. Every other country in the world is subject to either conditional or unconditional MFN treatment, or to even more preferential rates than MFN under free-trade agreements. Accordingly, we should make clear to the American people what this treatment really is: merely normal.

TRIBUTE TO PETER EDWARD
BRODIE

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Peter Edward Brodie for his exceptional service to the defense of our Nation, to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and to our community. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Pete for his contributions.

Pete began his military service career at the age of 17. After basic training at the Naval Training Center in Great Lakes, IL, he was sent to sea and shortly thereafter to serve in the coastal waters of the Republic of South Vietnam. After 3 years of exemplary duty, Pete was released from active duty and joined the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. As a dedicated soldier, he remained in both the Naval and Marine Reserves. Today we honor Pete for his years of dedication to our forces and upon his retirement as master gunnery sergeant, acting sergeant major of Marine Wing Support Squadron 473.

It is not only for Pete's long term dedication to the Armed Forces and sheriff's department that we honor him, but also for his extraordinary service to the community and dedication to his wife, Nancy, and two children Richard and Angela.

My description here today of Pete's local involvement will only scratch the surface of what he has done for the citizens our community. At the local level, he has coached Pop Warner Football and headed the local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post and American Legion Post. Pete has also served the Women's Peace Officers Association of California, the U.S. Naval Institute and the Marine Corps Association.

Pete has best served our community through his leadership, especially as president of the Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs [ALADS], the certified bargaining unit for more than 7,000 deputy sheriff's and district investigators. He has represented ALADS members in collective bargaining, ensuring the stability and smooth functioning of one of the Nation's largest sheriff's departments. Few men are capable of such tremendous work.

Ulysses S. Grant once said, "No personal consideration should stand in the way of public duty." Nothing more accurately describes the importance of civic life to Pete Brodie. He has gone beyond the call of duty in providing for the safety of our community through his service and leadership with the sheriff's department and as member of the Armed Services. Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join the family, friends of Peter Brodie and citizens of Los Angeles County in honoring him today for his successes.

TRIBUTE TO CALTON "CAL"
KRUEGER

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to pay tribute to a man of rare commitment and resolute conviction. Calton "Cal" Krueger of Toledo, OH passed away on May 24, 1997. We shall miss him and his leadership as an unwavering voice for the powerless and exploited. He loved all of God's children and sought to protect them.

Cal was a minister in the United Church of Christ for 38 years before retiring in 1990 from First United Church of Christ, whose congregation he led for 25 years. A deeply moral, strong, and compassionate pastor, and a veteran, Cal was most known for his social activism. He was deeply involved in world affairs, particularly in Central America, and belonged to Pastors for Peace, Veterans for Peace, the Toledo Metropolitan Mission, the Interracial Religious Coalition, the Interfaith Justice and Peace Center of Northwest Ohio, and the Toledo Area Committee on Central America.

Promoting desegregation and racial harmony in our communities' neighborhoods, peace for all nations, refugee resettlement, nuclear disarmament, and many other social and global causes, Cal was part of an elite corps of clergy who truly lived out the words and deeds of Christ and His teachings. Cal was a man emulated by many but equaled by few. Our community extends its sincere sympathy and deepest admiration for the Krueger family. To his wife Gena, his children Geoffrey, Jill, Stephen, Jonathan, and Amy and his grandchildren, thank you for sharing this gifted man of faith with us. His depth of understanding about international politics and his own commitment to make a difference were precious and inspiring. We are honored he dwelt among us.

INSTALLATION OF DAVID F.
"BUD" WILSON AS PRESIDENT
OF THE INDEPENDENT INSURANCE
AGENTS OF AMERICA

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a fellow Californian, David F. "Bud" Wilson of Chula Vista, CA, who will be installed as president of the Nation's largest insurance association—the Independent Insurance Agents of America [IIAA]—next month in

Hawaii. Bud is chairman of the board of Wilson Insurance Agency, Inc., an independent insurance agency located in Chula Vista.

Bud's career as an independent insurance agent has been marked with outstanding dedication to his clients, his community, IIAA, the State association—the Insurance Brokers and Agents of the West [IBA West]—his colleagues and his profession.

On the State level, Bud served IBA West on various committees and as president in 1981. From 1983–1986 he served as the IABC representative on IIAA's board of State national directors. In 1987, Bud received the P.S.W. Ramsden Memorial Award, the highest honor bestowed by the California State association.

Bud's love of politics and legislative affairs served him well during four highly successful years as chairman of IIAA's government affairs committee. In recognition of his outstanding work on behalf of all independent agents as government affairs committee chairman, Bud was bestowed IIAA's Sydney O. Smith Legislative Award in 1994.

Bud was elected to IIAA's executive committee in 1994. In the time since, he has exhibited a spirit of dedication and concern for his 300,000 independent agent colleagues around the country.

Bud's selfless attitude also extends to his involvement in Chula Vista-area community activities. He is past-president of the Chula Vista Rotary, the Chula Vista Jaycees, the Chula Vista Community Hospital Board of Trustees and the Chula Vista Salvation Army. He also has been involved in numerous other Chula Vista community projects.

I have complete confidence that Bud will serve with distinction and provide strong leadership as president of the Independent Insurance Agents of America over the next year. I wish him and his lovely wife, Sandra, all the best as IIAA president and first lady.

IN SUPPORT OF THE BALANCED BUDGET ACT (H.R. 1015)

SPEECH OF
HON. BOB RILEY
OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 30, 1997

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Balanced Budget Act. Before I begin, I want to commend Speaker GINGRICH, Chairman KASICH, and even President Clinton for their hard work on this historic legislation.

For too many years Congress has made broken promises and half-hearted attempts to balance the Federal budget. With a national debt in excess of \$5 trillion, we cannot wait another day.

I am committed to enacting a balanced budget for the sake of our children and their future.

This Balanced Budget Act is a giant step forward. It begins to scale back the size and scope of Government, ensuring our children the ability to invest in their future rather than paying our bills. By balancing the budget in a real and credible way, we have ensured that the real winners in this agreement are not politicians in Washington but working Americans across the country.

When I decided to run for Congress, my message was simple, the Federal Government

must learn to exercise the same fiscal restraints that families and businesses operate under each and every day.

The Balanced Budget Act will once and for all put an end to the reckless spending of the past. By reigning in excessive and irresponsible Government spending we can pass along the savings to the American people.

The economic rewards of a balanced budget include, lower interest rates, a healthier and promising economy full of opportunities for our children and grandchildren, a sound Medicare system, and more money left in working Americans' pockets.

By holding Government programs accountable and forcing Government to live within its means—as Alabama families and businesses do—we are able to deliver a smaller and smarter Government that works for the people, instead of forcing Americans to work for Washington.

Mr. Speaker, a balanced budget is not about numbers, its about people and families. Most important, its about our moral obligation to stop robbing future generations of the opportunities and prosperity they deserve.

It is irresponsible for us to keep passing our burdens onto our children. The time has come for Congress to represent the will of the people and take responsibility for balancing our Federal budget.

The Balanced Budget Act achieves fiscal responsibility the right way. By protecting seniors, providing health care for children, and ensuring veterans benefits. We have proven that we can balance the Federal budget without harming the most vulnerable in society.

This historic legislation will enable us to provide needed tax relief to working families, save Medicare from bankruptcy, and restore power, money, and influence back to the people.

I urge my colleagues to support the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

IN MEMORY OF GENE SHOEMAKER

HON. DANA ROHRABACHER
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, the scientific community lost one of its brightest stars this month when astronomer Gene Shoemaker was killed in an auto accident. His wife Carolyn was also injured and hospitalized. We should all say a prayer for her speedy recovery.

Dr. Shoemaker dedicated his life to advancing the frontiers of human knowledge and experience. He was slated to be one of the first scientists to visit the moon during the Apollo program until a minor physical impairment cost Gene his flight status. But that didn't stop his commitment to science or his passion for understanding our universe. Dr. Shoemaker pressed onward and upwards as a leader of the Lunar Ranger and Surveyor Programs over three decades ago. When the Apollo program came to an end, Gene focused on asteroids and meteors.

But Gene didn't give up his passion for Earth's natural satellite. Over two decades after leading America's first lunar science missions, he joined the science team for the Clementine mission, which discovered evi-

dence of ice on the Moon, making global headlines. Gene's years of studying asteroids and meteors convinced him that the evolution of the planets in our solar system has been changed by large asteroid and meteor impacts. Like many of the science community's best minds, Gene initially had to struggle against scientific orthodoxy for his theories to be considered. He persisted and his passion for the truth, for science, and for discovery won out. In 1994, we witnessed the most dramatic proof validating Gene's work. That year, the Shoemaker-Levy comet, which Gene, Carolyn, and their colleague David Levy discovered, crashed into Jupiter in the astronomical equivalent of the Fourth of July. Who could not be impressed or awed with reality's demonstration of Gene's vision? No matter what he was working on, Dr. Shoemaker always managed to make some of the most exciting discoveries in space science while exciting young minds about the possibilities for the future. I have little doubt that Gene and Carolyn shared the excitement of countless millions following the progress of the Pathfinder mission and its little rover Sojourner across the Martian soil.

As successful and important as Dr. Shoemaker's professional life was, his personal life stands as a monument to the better angels of our nature. With a twinkle in his eye, a gentleness in his voice, and calmness in his expressions, Gene Shoemaker proved every day that nice guys finish first. As a scientist, an outdoorsman, an individualist, and a teacher, Dr. Shoemaker's life made the world a better place. We will, of course, miss him and cannot help feeling the loss that his passing brings. Still, after reflecting on his professional accomplishments and the manner in which Gene lived his life, we cannot help but catch the infectious job with which he pursued new discoveries. That spirit lives on in the lives of those who crossed his path. It will carry us into a future that begins to realize the possibilities of Gene's vision.

BUDGET RECONCILIATION

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to explain my vote yesterday against the conference report on H.R. 1015, the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, and to express my opposition to adoption today of the conference report on H.R. 1014, the Revenue Reconciliation Act. Reconciliation has always meant one bill on revenues and spending, and these two bills must be viewed as a single package.

As many speakers before me have said, there are good things in both bills—restored SSI and Medicaid for legal immigrants; tax credits for children and for education; funds for health insurance for uninsured children; empowerment zones and brownfields; Medicare coverage of preventive services; funds to soften some of the worst provisions of last year's welfare reform.

Both bills are certainly far, far better than the versions that passed the House and the Senate—gone are the hits on Medicare beneficiaries; the consignment of workfare participants to a second class status; denial of child

tax credits to lower income working families; indexing of capital gains rates; expansion of the definition of "independent contractor"—and Democrats, including the gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL], the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. SPRATT], and the President and his team, deserve credit for that.

But they still aren't good enough. Beyond the pluses and minuses, and the tables showing who gains and who loses, there are fundamental problems with this budget package.

First, it widens the gap between rich and poor in this Nation, when we should be working to increase fairness and narrow the income gap.

Republicans seem to think money made from money is superior to money made from work. Under these bills, working people's salaries will continue to be taxed at existing rates, but rates will be cut on profits from securities or property.

People who earn just enough to get by will get a small break—if they have children—but people who have spare money to put into the new back-loaded IRA's will get all their future interest tax-free. And people leaving large estates will be able to pass on much more without tax.

A Citizens for Tax Justice analysis of the tax bill shows that, among income groups, the lowest 20 percent will actually pay more taxes, while the top 20 percent will get more than 75 percent of the benefits. The top 1 percent alone will get more than 30 percent of the benefits.

In dollar terms, this means that those in the lowest 20 percent will pay \$39 a year more in taxes, while those in the highest 1 percent will get a \$16,000 break. Doesn't sound like tax fairness to me.

My second problem is that the reconciliation package rewards the rich with immediate tax cuts and puts off the tough decisions on spending cuts and entitlement reforms.

The justification for separating this year's reconciliation legislation into two bills seems to be to avoid accusations that Medicare cuts are to pay for tax cuts for the wealthy—to try to fool the American people by not including both in one bill.

But it is a fact that in the current climate of deficit reduction we cannot afford to give anyone tax cuts unless we also cut spending. Yesterday's spending reduction bill is not needed to reform Medicare—it won't—or to make tough specific cuts in spending—it doesn't—but to make room for tax cuts.

The future cuts in appropriations required to reach the goal of a balanced budget by 2002 are not specified, but examples given by our colleagues yesterday and today make it clear how deep they would have to be and how unlikely a future Congress would be to inflict such pain.

Medicare savings are business as usual—cuts in provider payments—and reform is left to a commission.

Medicaid cuts are almost entirely taken from the hospitals that serve large numbers of poor and uninsured people, hospitals that are already reeling from prior cuts and from the changes going on in the health care industry.

But the tax cuts begin kicking in now—the capital gains rate cuts are even retroactive.

My third problem is that these bills threaten to starve our future. Even if all the rosy assumptions are correct, and the economy continues to flourish, and tax losses don't ex-

plode, many necessary investments in our physical and social infrastructure will be unaffordable. I don't believe in term limits, and I hope to be here in 5 years, even in 10 years, but I certainly don't look forward to dealing with the budget situation we will face then because of these bills.

Mr. Speaker, there are highly visible problems with these bills, but I am also worried about the invisible. In the Republicans' unseemly rush to pass something—anything—and go on vacation, few Members have had the time to thoroughly study and understand both bills. Already, there are reports of "rifle shot" tax breaks and other goodies tucked in, in obscure language. Who knows what's in there. By itself, that should be reason enough to delay the conference report until September.

Mr. Speaker, I can count. I know this tax bill will pass as easily as yesterday's spending bill did, and the President will sign both, but you should be aware that Democrats will make every effort in the months and years to come to correct the excesses and restore fairness to our government's taxing and spending policies.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me and vote against this regressive bill.

A CENTURY OF DEVOTION

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, a church is more than bricks and mortar. A church serves as the foundation of a community and its construction is a labor of love and caring. For the past 100 years, the congregation of Juniata Baptist Church has been the base of their community. This year on August 10, the Juniata Baptist Church will celebrate 100 years of community growth. For the past century, they not only have grown but have expanded to provide Christian education for their children through the creation of the Juniata Christian School.

In August 1973, Pastor Rick Flanders was called to lead the church. For the past 20 years, under his capable leadership, the church has continued its wonderful heritage of accomplishment. The church's congregation has sizably increased. In the 1990's, under Pastor Flander's guidance, the attendance has averaged over 400 people on Sunday mornings.

The Juniata Baptist Church began with a small group of Christian believers meeting in a log cabin in the early 1890's. In 1897, they completed their first regular church building with timber hewn by men of the congregation. The little assembly was then officially known as the Free Will Baptist Union Church. Early pastors were meagerly supported, but generously given lodging by members of the congregation in their homes. In 1944, the church was finally able to purchase a parsonage.

The Juniata Baptist Church has undergone several remodeling and expansion projects in its century-long existence. In 1951, William Vroman was named their pastor. Under his leadership, the little church building was extensively improved and remodeled. In 1966, after Brother Vroman moved on, the church

called Brother William Goodwin, one of the first graduates of Midwestern Baptist Seminary, as its pastor. Extensive building was done during his pastorate. The parsonage was moved from the north side of Saginaw Road to just south of the church building. A new auditorium was built in 1961, and the educational building, which houses the gymnasium and classrooms, was built in 1986. After Pastor Goodwin moved, the church called Richard Arnold to serve as pastor. He served from 1969 to 1973, during which time attendance grew and the auditorium was expanded. The parsonage was then moved across Washburn Road to make room for the auditorium expansion.

The Juniata Christian School has served members of its congregation and the community by passing along strong Christian values to future generations by maintaining a K through 12 program. In 1972, the day-school ministry began with 25 students in grades K through 3 and today they have increased to serve about 200 students in grades K through 12. The school is dedicated to teaching the Christian principles to students at an early age, so that they will have their faith to guide them through life's many challenges.

Mr. Speaker, the mission of the Juniata Baptist Church has remained consistent throughout all of the structural changes. The Juniata Baptist Church continues to provide an invaluable service to the community, teaching through example. The focus of its ministry has been constant over the years of its history: winning people to Christ and teaching them the Bible. Mr. Speaker, I ask you and the rest of our colleagues to join me in congratulating Pastor Rick Flanders and the dedicated congregation of the Juniata Baptist Church on 100 years of leadership and wish them many more to come.

PAN AM FLIGHT 103: WE WILL NEVER FORGET THE VICTIMS

HON. JON D. FOX

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. FOX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on one of the most important and dangerous challenges America faces as we approach the 21st century: terrorism. Throughout many parts of the world Americans continue to be at risk of a terrorist attack. Sadly, the 1990's brought reality to bear hard down upon us with attacks on our own soil. The bombing of the Federal building in Oklahoma City in 1995 and the World Trade Center in New York City in 1993 are but two terrorists attacks that come to mind.

Last year, the 104th Congress took great strides to combat international terrorism, most notably with our passage of the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 and the enactment of additional sanctions against terrorist states such as Libya and Iran. But it is not enough. The war still continues and American citizens remain at risk. While we must continue to address ways in which to adopt preventative measures, we must not forget or abandon the victims themselves or the surviving families of those who have already suffered and who may still continue to suffer.

Almost 9 years ago Pan Am Flight 103 was destroyed over the quiet countryside of

Lockerbie, Scotland, killing 270 innocent people, including 189 Americans, some of whom were from my own State of Pennsylvania. This was not a tragic accident, but a deliberate act of cold-hearted murder. Two suspected Libyan intelligence agents were charged in 1991 by the United States and United Kingdom as having perpetrated this cowardly deed. Yet for more than 5 years they have remained safely protected by the Libyan Government. Despite the imposition of both U.S. and U.N. sanctions, this impasse has no end in sight.

That is one reason why the victims of the Pan Am 103 bombing are seeking accountability and compensation from the Government of Libya through civil actions here in United States courts. Unbelievably, before we passed legislation in April 1996, the immediate families of the victims were unable to sue in the United States because of Libya's sovereign immunity. Fortunately, we saw fit to change that cruel anomaly. However, Congress did not go far enough to recognize that there are other victims of terrorism besides those who tragically suffered personal injuries or death. In the case of Pan Am 103, thousands of innocent Americans lost their entire livelihood, pensions, benefits, and futures due to the subsequent bankruptcy of Pan American World Airways, an event directly related to the bombing. Yet these victims are not permitted their day in court by laws that only serve to protect the terrorist states.

There is no conceivable reason why a state that descends to the level of committing inhumane acts, such as the bombing of a civilian aircraft, should not be held totally and fully accountable for these intentional atrocities. No one can place a price on the loss of a loved one. But a family's loss of a loved one does not extinguish or diminish the loss another family might have suffered or suffers because of a loss of their livelihood.

That is why I am planning to introduce a bill that will allow any American financially harmed by an act of terrorism sponsored by one of the rogue states on the State Department's terrorism watch list to have their day in court and the opportunity to prove their losses. An American harmed by an intentional act as egregious as terrorism should be provided the opportunity to seek justice and compensation. This bill will send a message to those states who believe they can simply walk away from harming Americans. There is no legitimate reason that excuses our failure to act on this amendment and provide whatever possible legal protection we can. It is not only our political obligation as representatives of the U.S. Government, but it is our moral obligation to the American people we represent.

This proposed measure already has significant bipartisan support. Earlier today we sent to all Members of this House our request to join in this fight against terrorists. I hope that many more of my colleagues will see fit to join in our fight. No American victim of terrorism should ever be left alone to suffer as they do now. We can not, should not and will not stand for that.

H.R. 2015—THE BALANCED BUDGET ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 1997

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2015, the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

I am pleased that many of the worst provisions in the House version of this bill have been eliminated or moderated. The changes make it possible for me to support the conference report on this bill. As a result of the unceasing efforts of President Clinton and the Democrats in Congress to make this a better bill, this legislation contains a number of provisions that will benefit millions of Americans.

This legislation will ensure the solvency of the Medicare part A trust fund for the next 10 years, and it creates a commission that will recommend measures to preserve this important program for decades more. H.R. 2015 preserves the Medicare Program primarily by lowering future reimbursement rates for health care providers. The bill also provides several important new prevention benefits to Medicare recipients—including expanded mammography coverage, coverage of prostate and colorectal cancer screenings, and screenings for osteoporosis, and self-management programs for diabetes.

The bill also includes \$24 billion for President Clinton's initiative to provide health insurance coverage for children who currently have no health insurance. This is a major step forward. I believe that this country needs comprehensive health care reform, but in the absence of such reform this measure represents a solid incremental improvement. Some estimates have suggested that up to half of the 10 million children who currently lack health insurance could receive coverage through this initiative.

This bill also takes several important steps to reverse many of the draconian provisions that were included in the so-called welfare reform bill that was enacted in the 104th Congress. Due to the leadership of President Clinton, and at the insistence of the House and Senate Democrats, H.R. 2015 restores SSI and Medicaid benefits for legal immigrants who were receiving them before the welfare reform bill was enacted last year, and it provides SSI benefits for legal immigrants who were in the country at that time and who subsequently became disabled. In addition, the bill eliminated the provision in the House version of this bill that would have excluded welfare recipients in workfare programs from Federal minimum wage and workplace protection laws.

Finally, I would like to point out that the balanced budget package that we will adopt this week has only been made possible by the deficit reduction packages of 1990 and 1993—bills that together reduced deficits by over a trillion dollars. Those were the real budget balancing votes. Those bills raised taxes and cut spending. It was not easy, but it was absolutely necessary to produce a healthy economy and economic growth. The upbeat economic conditions that we are enjoying today are due in no small part to those bills, and the tax breaks provided in this balanced budget

package are the fruits of the seeds that were sown in 1990 and 1993 by Democratic Congresses.

Mr. Speaker, in a letter that the American Association of Retired Persons sent to me earlier today, Mr. Horace B. Deets concluded that "legislation of this scope can never fully satisfy every interested party. But, on balance * * * this conference report * * * will accomplish the objectives of balancing the budget while also protecting access, affordability, quality, and choice in the Medicare Program." I agree with his assessment. Consequently, I intend to vote in support of this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to do so as well.

SUPPORT AWARENESS OF SUICIDE AND EFFORTS TO PREVENT SUICIDE

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing a resolution today that recognizes that suicide is a national problem and encourages suicide prevention efforts. I am pleased that more than 20 of my colleagues are joining me in this effort by becoming original cosponsors of this bill.

It is my hope that congressional recognition will encourage people to talk about feelings of despair and suicide. An estimated 750,000 people attempt suicide each year. These attempts are traumatic not only for the individual but also for family and friends who surround him or her.

Suicide claims more than 31,000 lives annually, more than homicide. It is the ninth leading cause of all deaths in the United States and the third for young people aged 15 to 24. It is on the rise for young people in general and for African-American young men in particular.

We must talk about mental illness, and we must encourage treatment. We must tell our friends and our loved ones that it is OK to talk about feelings of despair, hopelessness, and suicide. For those who have the courage to get help, to seek treatment—we must support them. And we must talk about suicide so that we can try to understand it and prevent it.

Too much shame surrounds feelings of depression and suicide. We can change that—and we must—by reaching out to others in our community. This resolution recognizes suicide as a national problem and declares suicide prevention to be a national priority. It also encourages initiatives to prevent suicide and support people who have lost someone to suicide.

The Senate has already passed a similar resolution. It is my hope that the House of Representatives will soon consider this important issue.

HONORING TAIWAN'S
AMBASSADOR

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, we have seen significant changes in the Far East in the last

few weeks. Most of the attention has focused on the departure of Britain from Hong Kong, and the Beijing Government's assumption of control over those territories. Many of us are deeply concerned about what that will mean for the rights of the residents of Hong Kong, and for the future of civil liberties there.

But it would be unfortunate if those developments overshadowed what has happened in the Republic of China on Taiwan. On July 18, work was completed on a number of constitutional changes. Among the structural changes was the freezing of provincial government operations, a step which should make Taiwan more of a participatory and representative democracy. The changes will guarantee Taiwan's original residents full political participation. At the same time, other changes will also provide the kinds of social protections and guarantees that many of us consider an essential feature of a modern democracy. For instance, the changes will guarantee medical care to disabled citizens.

Let us hope that the progress Taiwan has made in the past and the further progress it has made with these changes shall serve as an example for other Asian nations.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Ambassador Jason Hu, the Representative of the Republic of China on Taiwan, on completing his first year of service here on Washington. Many of us in the House have come to know him and respect him for his work here and for sharing his perspective on Asian affairs with us. He is an able successor to his predecessor, Ambassador Liu.

MORRO BAY HARBOR FESTIVAL

HON. WALTER H. CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the opening of the Morro Bay Harbor Festival, in Morro Bay, CA. On October 4 and 5 the people of Morro Bay will begin their annual celebration of the many fishermen and women of this growing villa who have played an integral role in the community, in the economy of the central coast, and indeed the entire country. As an avid seafood consumer, I can honestly say that some of the finest halibut I ever tasted has come from under the shadow of glorious Morro Rock.

It is my hope that Morro Bay, and its vitally important fishing industry, will continue to grow. In fact, it seems rather inconceivable that it will not. More and more Americans are looking to seafood as a healthy and delicious form of nutrition. In recent years, the popularity of seafood has grown to unprecedented levels, and the people of Morro Bay can be proud of this great accomplishment.

The Morro Bay Harbor Festival celebrates the people, natural beauty, and fishing industry that makes the central coast the unique place it is. As a resident of this area for over 30 years, I have personally experienced the marvelous beauty of Morro Bay. As a Member of Congress I am fighting to ensure the Federal funds needed to ensure the future economic vitality of the harbor, especially the critical Army Corps of Engineers' dredging project. With some help from the Federal Government, the strong spirit and determination of the peo-

ple of Morro Bay will ensure that this festival will be celebrated as long as fish swim in the Pacific Ocean.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the unique and vital community of Morro Bay.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RIGHTEOUS AMONG NATIONS

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the many individuals who were noncombatants during the Holocaust of World War II, who risked their lives and those of their families to save countless people who faced death because of their religious beliefs. Two such people were Stacia Brazauskiene and Albinas Zilevicius. Both have been honored as Righteous Among the Nations by Yad Vashem Institute in Jerusalem and will be visiting with two of my constituents, Nathan and Sima Katz whose lives they saved during the war. They will be in New York City to join with the Katz family in celebrating the Bat Mitzvah of the Katz's granddaughter, Rebecca Levy.

In 1941, Nathan Katz and his family were living in Shavel, Lithuania, when the Nazi forces evacuated all Jews into the Shavel Ghetto. With the help of a Lithuanian Gentile named Antonites, Nathan and Sima Katz escaped with eight other family members. After being forced to flee from several hiding places, they were taken to the farm of the Zilevicius family.

Although Antonites has since disappeared into history, we know the heroic story of the Zileviciuses. With great care and much courage, the Zilevicius family built a hiding place behind a false wall in their barn for the Katzes, who remained on this farm protected by the Zilevicius until the end of the war. The Zilevicius family was constantly aware that they could be executed for their attempts at hiding the members of the Katz family. On several occasions, searches by the Nazis almost undid the heroic efforts of these protectors. Despite the horrendous atmosphere of terror in which both families lived, they survived.

Most significant is the fact that the members of the Zilevicius family had no prior relationship with Nathan and Sima Katz nor any other member of the Katz family. In addition, the Zilevicius family received no remuneration from those families whose lives they were protecting.

A war often produces great heroes who have distinguished themselves in military action. What is more compelling, however, is that ordinary citizens with no prior training risk their lives not for any national allegiance or desire for reward, but do so because it is the right and compassionate thing to do.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me today in recognizing and honoring the remaining members of the Zilevicius family, Stacia Brazauskiene and Albinas Zilevicius, as they join with Nathan and Sima Katz whose lives that have both saved and enriched.

JAMAICA'S 35 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, as friends of Jamaica everywhere celebrate its 35th anniversary of independence, we pause to recognize and commend our democratic neighbor to the south and extend our heartiest congratulations to the Government and people of Jamaica and to Jamaican-Americans throughout the United States.

I place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, for the benefit of my colleagues, the 35th anniversary messages issued by the Prime Minister of Jamaica, the Right Honorable P.J. Patterson and the Jamaican Ambassador to the United States, His Excellency Dr. Richard L. Bernal.

35TH ANNIVERSARY INDEPENDENCE
MESSAGE BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF
JAMAICA, THE RT. HON. P.J. PATTERSON, P.C., Q.C., M.P.

This year, as we celebrate the 35th Anniversary of Jamaica's Independence, we also return to the tradition of Emancipation Day as one which deserves our special commemoration.

Under the theme: "Full Free Emancipation to Independence", our national celebrations will climax during the period from Friday August 1—Emancipation Day to Monday August 4—Independence Day.

The resumption of Emancipation Day as a public holiday commemorates not only the abolition of slavery, but the birth of free Jamaica. It is the advent of that Free Jamaica which now permits us to enjoy political independence, democracy, constitutional rule and to be equal members of a civil society.

Emancipation and Independence celebrations this year will provide the opportunity for Jamaicans at home and abroad to reflect on our ancestral roots.

The twin occasion also provides a timely opportunity for all Jamaicans everywhere to commit ourselves to healing the nation, unifying our people and removing whatever barriers have tended to divide us in the past.

Jamaicans all over the world are a proud people. Our nation, despite its limited size and economic resources, stands tall in the international arena. There have been outstanding achievements in the fields of sports, music, and tourism to name a few.

Many of you, who now live overseas, have distinguished yourselves in several fields of endeavour, and continue to make us proud.

I invite all Jamaicans residing overseas to join together to celebrate our rich heritage on Emancipation Day. Let us renew our commitment to build an independent Jamaica, Land We Love.

On behalf of the Government and Jamaicans at home, I send heartiest greetings to all Jamaicans abroad, their extended families and friends of our island, no matter what their nationality.

Happy Emancipation and Independence anniversaries.

May God continue to bless you all.

P.J. PATTERSON,
Prime Minister of Jamaica.

MESSAGE FROM JAMAICA'S AMBASSADOR TO
THE UNITED STATES HIS EXCELLENCY DR.
RICHARD L. BERNAL ON THE OCCASION OF
JAMAICA'S THIRTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF
INDEPENDENCE

This year, as we come together to celebrate the thirty-fifth year of independence,

we will also for the first time since 1962 observe Emancipation Day as a public holiday. The celebration commemorates the abolition of slavery in Jamaica 159 years ago. Its reinstatement is intended to recognize the significance of the struggle for and the achievement of emancipation by our ancestors and to preserve this in the collective memory of the Jamaican people.

Emancipation Day was one of the most significant transformative moments in the history of Jamaica, a central historical point of departure which forms part of the foundation upon which we build our nation. Our progression as a country from emancipation to independence and beyond demonstrates that indomitable Jamaican spirit engendered in the struggle for emancipation.

Jamaica continues to make progress towards economic development although confronted by internal and international problems. Despite the obstacles, the economy has been stabilized with encouraging growth in tourism, bauxite and agriculture. A stable exchange rate and careful monetary and fiscal management has dramatically reduced inflation and alleviated the pressures of the cost of living.

For the fourth consecutive year, Jamaica was voted the top Caribbean destination at the prestigious World Travel Awards. The introduction of the Air Jamaica hub in Montego Bay will help to promote significant economic activity in western Jamaica and broaden air transport options in the Caribbean. Our national airline is also expanding its North American routes to better serve overseas Jamaicans and to promote the tourist industry.

Jamaica continues to play a leadership role in international affairs. Prime Minister P.J. Patterson chaired the historic meeting between the CARICOM Heads of Government and President Bill Clinton in Barbados in May. This meeting was a positive step towards strengthening US-Caribbean relations by establishing the framework for continued intergovernmental dialogue and cooperation in matters of mutual interest. We reinforced our campaign against drug trafficking by concluding an Agreement to Suppress Illicit Maritime Drug Trafficking ("shiprider") with the United States in a manner which did not infringe on Jamaica's sovereignty.

In collaboration with our Caribbean neighbors, we continue to dialogue with the United States on NAFTA parity and seek a resolution to the banana dispute. In this co-operative spirit, I urge Jamaicans to join forces with other Caribbean peoples to address the implications of the new immigration legislation in the United States.

We have learnt from our historical experiences that we are stronger through collective action. In this regard Jamaicans in the United States continue to play a significant role in nation building. Your investments, remittances and contributions to social institutions have made a tangible impact on the lives of all Jamaicans at home. It is this kind of patriotism and initiative which creates the oneness which is Jamaica, a nation without borders. On this independence anniversary let us move forward with confidence, fortified by past achievements, and infused with hope. Together we can realize the enormous potential of our small but exceptional nation.

DR. RICHARD L. BERNAL,
Ambassador.

THE RETIREMENT OF MR. DENNIS LAMBERT AFTER 20 YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE IN THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and bid farewell to a valued member of my staff, Mr. Dennis Lambert, who after 20 years of distinguished service in the legislative branch of our Federal Government, has decided to retire. Dennis has served as my chief of staff since January 1995 when I first took office and has proven to be an outstanding administrator, a trusted friend, and faithful ally.

Dennis grew up in Kansas City, MO, and attended school in the Hickman Mills School District. He holds an A.B. in history from William Jewell College, a masters in public administration from New York University and a masters in liberal arts from Georgetown University. He served as a captain in the U.S. Air Force in Germany and the United States, specializing in communications. Dennis also taught school in Center School District in Kansas City, MO. He served in key staff positions for former Member of Congress, Tom Coleman [R-MO] from 1976 to 1992, initially as chief of staff and later as minority staff director on the House Agriculture Committee. He is a member of the First Baptist Church of the city of Washington, DC, and has worked closely with the Truman Foundation. Dennis is an experienced leader and team player; a fantastic negotiator and strategist; he is a master at innovative consensus building and I always marvel at his ability to remain so calm in the midst of any storm.

In my 3 years in Congress, I have come to rely heavily on Dennis' counsel and infinite wisdom. He has been a very loyal friend to me and to the rest of our staff, and we will miss him.

TRIBUTE TO STERLING DOWLING

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding young person from the Sixth Congressional District of South Carolina.

Sterling Dowling, an Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School rising senior, has just been elected president of Boys' Nation, a week-long government and leadership training program that combines lectures and forums with visits to Federal agencies, institutions, memorials, and historical spots, held at Marymount University in Arlington, VA. At Orangeburg-Wilkinson, Sterling serves as corps commander of the Air Force Junior ROTC, is on the executive board of his student council, and serves on the student advisory board. He participates on the debate team, serves as an HIV/AIDS peer educator and is a member of Palmetto Project Operation HOPE for better race relations.

Sterling Dowling's success is not a recent occurrence. Before being elected as president

of Boys' Nation, Sterling served as governor of Palmetto [South Carolina] Boys' State. Sterling will return to Palmetto Boys' State next summer to serve as a youth counselor. Boys' State and Boys' Nation are both sponsored by the American Legion.

After graduating from high school, Sterling plans to attend Morehouse College in Atlanta or South Carolina State University in his hometown to major in English education. He intends to seek a degree at the North Carolina Central School of Law. In his last year in high school, Dowling said he plans to go forth armed with confidence.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in congratulating Sterling Dowling for his outstanding accomplishments and wishing him well in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE LATE SENATOR BOB WILSON

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to praise one of the finest men ever to serve in the State senate of the State of Alabama, Senator Robert Terry Wilson, Sr. Senator Wilson was born in a mining camp in Dora, AL, on April 23, 1922. He was the third of seven children. Senator Wilson was raised in Jasper and then attended the public schools, as well as the University of Alabama, where he also graduated from law school.

During World War II, Senator Wilson was a brave man who served as a tail gunner in a B-26 bomber. He flew 65 missions over Italy and France during the hardest years of the war. For his heroism, he was decorated with many medals, including the coveted French, Croix De Guerre.

Although he fought many battles during the war, he also fought many more in the political arena, some great and some small. In the Alabama senate, he represented the poor, the downtrodden, and the forgotten of society. He always was an effective voice for the under-represented of our land, and did so with principle.

One of the few battles Senator Bob Wilson ever lost occurred last week when many years of cancer finally overcame him. I send my heartfelt wishes to his widow Ruth, and his children, Bob, Sue, Sally, and Alice. We will all miss Senator Wilson, and the arena of politics will be just a little bit less bright without him.

I am glad that I had the privilege and pleasure to serve with him in the Alabama Legislature.

JERUSALEM BOMBING ABHORRENT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am in shock over the terrorist suicide bombings that abruptly shattered the lives of over 150 innocent people and murdered 13 unsuspecting shoppers in a Jerusalem market

yesterday. The militant Islamic organization Hamas that has brazenly taken responsibility for this sinister act and demands that Israel free Palestinian prisoners must be dealt with appropriately as any other terrorist organization would be.

The agony and carnage that is now becoming an almost familiar scene on our television screens is a frightening reminder of the fragile peace that remains following the Oslo accord. The scenes of hell with bodies, blood, and horror strewn about in the old Mahane Yehud market in western Jerusalem surely wears on the souls of the Israeli people. The pictures of sobbing mothers and grief stricken children are once again trying to be used to shatter the forces of peace in the Middle East. Many Israelis in their anguish may even want to link the bombings with the peace process.

True tragedy like this strikes at the heart of the politics of peace that we have tried to forge since former President Jimmy Carter brought the parties to the table at Camp David. We Americans are separated from the terror and horror that has become a way of life in Israel. It is difficult to comprehend what Houstonians would feel like had this happened there.

But, somehow the shreds of peace need to be put back together. The peace process cannot evaporate in the blood of terrorist attacks. We cannot let these forces of evil gain the upper hand. We must keep the faith that the forces of good and the forces for peace can be revived. While the attention of the moment is focused on evil and death, peace and security needs to fill the void created by this nightmare.

I agree with President Clinton that, "There is no excuse and there must be no tolerance for this kind of inhumanity. The slaughter was aimed directly at innocent Israelis. And make no mistake, it was aimed at the majority of Israelis, Palestinians, and Arabs who want a lasting and just peace." The Clinton administration has certainly done a very credible job of trying to break the gridlock of the peace process.

In order to find security which is the underpinning of peace in the area, there has to be sustained cooperation by the Palestinians. There can be no revolving door policy when it comes to the capture and detainment of terrorists. Trust must be regained on both sides. To prevent the peace talks from collapsing we must begin to help to rebuild the trust that was exploded in the outdoor marketplace yesterday.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH IN PORTAGE, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take this opportunity before the House to pay tribute to an historic church community in the 12th Congressional District of Pennsylvania.

There were only 15 houses in the village of Portage, PA, when the Reverend Mr. Samuel Croft of Wilmore, MD, arrived to begin his missionary work in 1872. On August 21 of that year, 125 years ago next month, Luther's

Monumental Lutheran Church was chartered with 10 members. Two months later, on October 20, a small frame building, 28'-45', was dedicated. It now stands as the oldest church in Portage, PA.

In 1892, under the direction of the Reverend Mr. B.B. Collins, the congregation sought and was granted admission into the Allegheny Evangelical Lutheran Synod. One of the conditions for admittance to the synod was the forming of a parish relationship with another church nearby, St. Luke Lutheran Church in Lilly, PA. These two churches today are known as the Lilly Portage Lutheran Parish.

In 1916, the Reverend Mr. B.R. Sheeder and the congregation had the frame building moved to its present site where a narthex and larger sanctuary was built and the entire building was bricked. Stained glass windows were installed. The original building now contains the nursery-primary Sunday school rooms. The original roof beams can be seen in the loft.

Luther's Monumental Lutheran Church became the First Evangelical Lutheran Church and is now known as the First Lutheran Church of Portage, PA. The longest pastorate, of 23 years, was served by the Reverend Mr. George I. Uhler (1925-48).

Serving as the church's pianist, choir director, and organist for over 50 years, Ms. Viola Hess is fondly remembered for her lifelong dedication. She passed away in the church while doing the work she loved.

Notably, the Reverend Ms. Karen Stiles was the first female pastor to serve the church, from 1987-89, followed by the Reverend Ms. Rochelle Melander.

Currently, under the Reverend Mr. Steven Claycomb, the church registry lists over 300 members and is continuing to grow. The membership is active in both the religious and the civic secular activities of the area. An array of church artifacts is displayed at the Portage Station Museum and will later be returned for display at the church.

Portage is located less than 20 miles from Johnstown, legendary for its tragic floods. The First Lutheran Church of Portage has endured through the horrible flood of 1889 in which over 2,000 lives were lost; since then it has helped to see its community through many types of hardship—from the hardscrabble days of the Industrial Revolution, when the area's miners and steelworkers endured long work hours, low pay, and abysmal working conditions, to the Great Depression. It has held its community together through the Nation's wars and seen it through more modern hardship—the decline of the steel industry that brought lasting economic hard times and crippling unemployment. It also saw another devastating flood, in 1977. Through it all, the First Lutheran Church has been a source of support and sustenance, spiritually and otherwise, to generations.

On Sunday, August 31, 1997, a dinner and mass of celebration commemorating the church's 125th anniversary will be held.

I'd like to congratulate the First Lutheran Church of Portage, its pastor and his congregation as they celebrate a 125 year tradition of serving God and their community. May the church grow and prosper for another 125 years.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill, H.R. 2160:

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Chairman, today I rise in support of the Wynn amendment to increase funding for equal opportunity complaint resolution in the Department of Agriculture. With over 1,400 discrimination cases pending, the USDA's Office of Civil Rights is underfunded, understaffed, and unable to fulfill its purpose. This amendment would transfer \$1,500,000 in revenue to the program for administrative and staffing assistance, and would enable the Department to fulfill its goal of eliminating racism within.

For years, the USDA has been discriminating against minority farmers. While the Secretary of Agriculture has acknowledged the problem and created the Civil Rights Program, it seems like little has been done. There are continued delays in investigations of discrimination complaints, inadequate minority representation in the Office of General Counsel, and an ongoing tension between the Office of General Counsel and the Office of Civil Rights. The number of discrimination complaints has more than tripled since 1991. It is time to put a halt to this disturbing statistic.

The Wynn amendment would provide money for additional staff to help combat the backlog of discrimination cases. The amendment simply caps the Market Assistance Program funding level and transfers its additional allocation for fiscal year 1998 to the Civil Rights Program. It is a small price to pay for such an important oversight.

In addition, we must continue to keep pressure on the Secretary of Agriculture to ensure that this funding is put to good use and that the problem is attacked immediately. He must put his money where his mouth is.

I urge my colleagues to support the Wynn amendment.

TRIBUTE TO ERIC K. FEDERING

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, today marks the last day of House service for Eric Federing as the Democratic director of communications for the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Eric began his service to the House 10 years ago this week. In 1987, his first position was as press secretary and speechwriter to our former colleague, Norm Mineta. When Norm became chairman of the Public Works and Transportation Committee in 1993, he moved Eric to the committee to open and modernize its information services to better serve all of our colleagues and the news

media. In addition, in Norm Mineta's last year in Congress, Eric also served as his congressional liaison to the Smithsonian Institution's Board of Regents. Starting tomorrow, however, after more than 4½ years of service to our committee, Eric will move to the other body and take up the post of press secretary to Senator JOSEPH I. LIEBERMAN of Connecticut.

Eric has provided great service to our members and staff. Daily he provided a news summary of more than two dozen newspapers, trade periodicals, and major wire services—all arriving on our members' desks before the start of every hearing or markup. He also organized news events in concert with the personal staffs of our members and with the Democratic leadership, and responded professionally and quickly to numerous press inquiries. In the last Congress, he led our way along the information superhighway by instituting our site on the World Wide Web. In addition to his communications expertise, his political counsel and information strategy have been very much appreciated.

On his own time, Eric also worked for the best interests of our Democratic Party and for our national interests abroad. He distinguished himself with senior positions at the last two Democratic National Conventions—serving as manager of press information center operations in Chicago last year.

Overseas, Eric embarked in a unique association with the United States Information Service whereby he undertook four month-long trips to Australia in as many years to lecture on American Government, the Congress, our elections, our news media, and civil rights. As a voluntary visitor working with USIS, he has visited just about every university on that continent and spoken with numerous journalists, business leaders, government officials, and students.

Amidst all this, Eric has also found time to dabble in the arts. Last year, he signed a contract with the Farber Literary Agency of New York, which is representing him on a novel he has written about Hollywood and politics. Through much of the 1980's, Eric founded and led an independent effort to restore the 1963 motion picture "It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World." That effort gained Eric a touch of national fame and a greater appreciation for America's cinema heritage. He has been active in the effort to preserve some of our Nation's remaining motion picture palaces of the 1920's and 1930's.

Mr. Speaker, many people come to work in this institution for as many reasons as there are staff positions. As a teenager, Eric was greatly influenced by watching the Watergate hearings. While at George Washington University, where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa while working half-time at the State Department, Eric knew then that he wanted to work in Congress to help communicate the Nation's business to the world. As I said, he began to do that 10 years ago, and has done so with consummate skill and impeccable integrity.

For all his hard work, dedication, and counsel, I ask that all of our colleagues join with me in thanking Eric for his great service to this House, particularly to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and to our Nation. We wish him well now and in the future.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2014, TAXPAYER RELIEF ACT OF 1997

HON. DAVID E. SKAGGS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, I am voting for this conference report. Its provisions for education and tax relief for families with children, in particular, will make a difference in the lives of millions of hard-working Americans.

Many of the worst aspects of the House-passed bill, which I opposed, have been removed or improved, and the bill includes many other provisions that will benefit our country. So, on balance, I have decided that it deserves to be supported. That said, it is not without faults. It includes some things that I don't like, and there are other things that I would have liked to have seen included.

To begin with, the bill deserves support because it will help make education more affordable for millions of our people. It includes tax credits for the tuition costs of college students as well as graduate students and workers who are continuing to pursue lifelong learning. It will allow people who have gone into debt to finance their educations to deduct some of the interest charges on their student loans.

In addition, the bill extends until June 20, 2000, the tax exclusion for employer-provided educational assistance. I would have preferred making this permanent, but this is a great improvement over the House bill, which extended the exclusion only for the rest of this year.

Further, this bill dropped the pernicious section of the House-passed bill that would have taxed tuition discounts earned by graduate students who serve as teaching assistants and the tuition discounts provided to families of school employees. That very shortsighted and unwise provision was one of the worst features of the House bill, and I am very glad that the conferees did not include it in the conference report.

The conference report also will help our schools and colleges in several important ways. It will encourage corporations to donate up-to-date computer technology and equipment; will give a tax credit for purchases of bonds issued by local governments where the business community is also assisting the schools; and it will repeal the limit on qualified 501(c)(3) bonds used by colleges, universities, and other charitable institutions.

The environment also will benefit from the conference report. Unlike the House-passed bill, the conference report includes tax incentives to help accelerate the cleanup of contaminated areas in economically distressed areas. This so-called brownfields provision has great promise for improving both the environment and the economy in these areas.

Science and health will benefit as well, because the conference report extends expiring research tax credits and makes permanent the tax credit for research and development of so-called orphan drugs that are desperately needed, but for which the potential market is relatively small.

And the conference report's provisions related to Amtrak provide a foundation upon which it may be possible to build an improved and financially sound national rail passenger system.

Also, of course, there are some provisions that will benefit families in more general, less-targeted ways. For me, the most positive is the \$500 child credit, which will provide a significant financial boost to the country's most hard-pressed working families. Its benefits will be distributed reasonably fairly—especially as compared with the original House-passed bill, which would have excluded many of the low-income working families to whom this credit will be most helpful.

The conference report's changes in estate taxes are also better than those in the House-passed bill, because they focus more directly on family-owned farms and businesses, as well as phasing in what's essentially an inflation adjustment to the basic tax-exemption amount.

The capital gains provisions are improved but still troublesome. They of course are inherently much more beneficial to those with the resources to make large-scale investments than to those of more limited means.

Also, in combination with other provisions like those involving IRA's, they have the potential for making this balanced budget tax bill the cause of renewed and greatly increased deficits in a few years. For me, this is a serious prospect. I recall Senator Howard Baker's description of Reaganomics as a "riverboat gamble", and I recall that the payoff of that tax-cutting spree was trillions of new national debt.

I am not eager for another spin of that roulette wheel, and if I was convinced that the risk this time was as great as it was then, I would not support this bill. But this is a more modest bet, and a more carefully-drawn bill. I do think that we have learned from that experience, and I think President Clinton and his administration were able, in the negotiations that produced this conference report, to notably reduce the odds on repeating it. In short, while there's still a serious risk of renewed deficits, they've been lessened—and can be avoided if we will recognize them and are ready to take corrective actions in the future in the way Democrats did in 1993.

Mr. Speaker, I did not come early or quickly to a conclusion about this bill. But I have decided that its strengths outweigh its weaknesses, and its promises outweigh its risks—and my vote is for its passage.

WELFARE TO WORK

HON. STEVE LARGENT

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. LARGENT. Mr. Speaker, last year Congress passed historic welfare reform legislation, establishing a program which combines social responsibility with economic opportunity. By setting work requirements and offering incentives to employers hiring workers from the welfare rolls, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996, provides the help needed to lift individuals out of poverty and off the welfare rolls.

While the average stay on welfare is only 2 years, the typical recipient at any one time has been receiving benefits for 8 years. The Welfare Reform Act, by setting a 5-year maximum time limit for receiving welfare payments, will end long-term abuse of the welfare system,

transforming aid to families with dependent children [AFDC] into a truly transitional welfare to work program. The act enables welfare recipients to gain the job skills and experience necessary to compete in the work force.

By passing the welfare program as a block grant, Congress has given Oklahoma the flexibility to tailor our programs to the needs of Oklahomans. States must meet strict work requirements, ensuring that an increasing percentage of beneficiaries leave the welfare rolls each year, or face a reduction in Federal funding. At the same time, a safety net is provided for States during periods of economic hardship, allowing exemptions for bulging case-loads and a 20-percent hardship exemption for extreme cases.

I am sad to see that the current budget bill reverses many of the reforms made in the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act. I hope to work with my colleagues in the future to restore the original intent of the welfare reforms passed last year.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 2292—THE
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
RESTRUCTURING AND REFORM
ACT OF 1997

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was pleased to introduce with my colleague, the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. CARDIN], H.R. 2292—the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1997. This bipartisan legislation is an outgrowth of the work of the National Commission on Restructuring the Internal Revenue Service, which was charged with taking the first comprehensive look at the IRS since 1952. The commission created a blueprint for transforming the IRS into a world-class service organization that serves all Americans. Now, we are taking the first step toward fulfilling the promise of providing better service to the American taxpayer.

Congress created the National Commission on Restructuring the Internal Revenue Service in response to mounting public concerns about the performance of the IRS. The commission was a bipartisan, bicameral effort—I co-chaired the commission with Senator BOB KERREY, a Democrat from Nebraska. Senator CHARLES GRASSLEY, a Republican from Iowa, and Congressman BILL COYNE, a Democrat from Pennsylvania, also served on the commission. The commission also had considerable expertise—members included a former IRS commissioner and Treasury Department official; a former head of the Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation; the former head of the New York state tax system; the chairman of the California State Board of Equalization; and a representative of: small businesses; technology firms; taxpayer advocacy groups (Americans for Tax Reform and the National Taxpayers Union); the IRS employees union; and the Clinton administration, including the Treasury Department.

During its year-long existence, the commission conducted 12 days of public hearings, held three town hall meetings around the country, and spent over 100 hours in private sessions with public and private sector ex-

perts, academics and citizens groups. The commission staff met privately with over 500 individuals, including the majority of senior-level IRS managers, and interviewed almost 300 front-line IRS employees. We received continuous input from various stakeholder groups and the general public. And, the commission had unprecedented access to IRS reports and documents.

Early in the course of the commission's work, we developed a simple goal: Taxpayer satisfaction must become paramount at all levels of the IRS. More than twice as many people pay taxes as vote, and the IRS is the only Federal agency that many citizens interact with directly. We must ensure that the IRS meets the public's expectations for professionalism, accountability, and efficiency. And, we must ensure that the IRS works for the taxpayer—not the other way around. In a very real sense, the commission's work was a yearlong audit of the IRS.

This legislation is based on the commission's report. It is designed to change the IRS as we know it—to transform the IRS into a responsive service organization for the 21st century. It focuses on solving the problems in our tax system, which fall into three major, cross-cutting areas: First, the complexity of the Tax Code; second, IRS customer service; and third, IRS management, governance, and oversight.

COMPLEXITY OF THE TAX CODE

The commission identified a clear and undeniable link between the complexity of the Tax Code and the difficulty of tax administration.

The commission found that the laws written by Congress and the President can lead to inadvertent noncompliance, increase the compliance costs of individuals and businesses, and add to the difficulty of revenue collection. The commission also found that the law is overly complex and that this complexity is a large source of taxpayer frustration with the IRS.

The commission found that the real culprit is not the IRS—but the Tax Code itself. Since 1956, the number of sections in the tax code has risen from 103 to 698. And, just since the 1986 simplification of the Tax Code, there have been 4,000 amendments to the Tax Code—a rate of more than one change per day. Despite claims of the Treasury Department to the contrary, front-line IRS employees consider the complexity of the Internal Revenue Code to be a major obstacle. The commission conducted a survey of almost 300 front-line IRS employees, and they overwhelmingly felt that the complexity of the Tax Code impedes their work. Money magazine annually asks 50 tax preparers and the IRS to prepare a 1040 for a sample family. Because of the complexity of the Code, no two preparers ever arrive at the same result, and results vary by thousands of dollars.

The commission report and this legislation make specific recommendations for solving this problem. First, we recommend that Congress and the administration simplify the code. The commission was not charged with reforming the tax code. But the commission's final report strongly recommends that Congress and the President work toward simplifying the Tax Code wherever possible.

Until Congress and the administration reach a consensus on a fundamental tax reform proposal, we propose a number of steps to encourage simplification:

No. 1, Procedural changes in Congress to provide disincentives for adding complexity to

the Code through a scoring mechanism for Tax Code complexity. Every tax proposal would have to be measured by a uniform set of criteria to determine its complexity and possible compliance costs on taxpayers and the IRS. And, Members would be able to raise a point of order on the House floor on any piece of tax legislation that causes additional complexity or compliance burdens—similar to the unfunded mandates legislation we enacted in 1995.

No. 2, Recommendation for providing the IRS with a more independent voice to comment on proposed tax legislation. Right now, the IRS is not present at the table when tax legislation is being considered and is forced to defer to the Treasury Department's tax policy goals. The commission proposes to give the IRS a voice in the legislative process. In a very real sense, the IRS will serve as an advocate for Tax Code simplicity.

No. 3, Although not included in this legislation, the commission report provides Congress with a list of 60 specific provisions of the Tax Code that the tax writing committees could simplify or eliminate to reduce compliance nightmares for taxpayers and administrative headaches for the IRS.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Traditionally, the IRS has seen itself primarily as an enforcement bureaucracy. Yet 83 percent of the revenue owed to the Federal Government is paid voluntarily each year without proactive IRS involvement. Only an additional 3.5 percent is paid after the IRS becomes involved. But, over the years, the enforcement function within the IRS has come to dominate the agency.

Meanwhile, taxpayers have become accustomed to increasingly high performance standards from their banks, credit card companies, airlines and other service organizations. While the private sector has rewritten customer service standards over the last 25 years, IRS taxpayer service has remained essentially static. For example, many taxpayer problems that could be resolved in a single phone call don't get through to a properly trained IRS service representative.

The result is a considerable service gap between the IRS and the private sector: In a survey of 200 leading private and public sector organizations by the American Society for Quality Control, the IRS ranked dead last in customer service—and its rating actually dropped in 1996. Last year, only one in five calls to the IRS customer service hotline got through. The IRS reports considerable improvement in the number of taxpayers getting through this year, estimating that half the calls were answered. This is still unacceptable. An IRS employee may have to access as many as 6 different computer systems to resolve a taxpayer's problem, and answers to simple questions often take weeks. It takes the IRS, on average, about 18 months to match an individual's tax return with a 1099 form. Can you imagine a private sector firm taking 18 months to send someone a bill—with interest attached?

We recommend, through this legislation, a fundamental change in direction. We propose to transform the IRS by making taxpayer service the agency's top priority. It's time to put the word service into the Internal Revenue Service.

How do we do that? First, we level the playing field with significant enhancements to taxpayer rights—including a significant expansion

of the taxpayer's right to seek redress against the IRS for wrongful actions. We will put disincentives within the IRS to ensure that disputes with taxpayers are resolved before they occur. And we will ask, for the first time, that taxpayers complete a survey after having an experience with the IRS to ensure that they were treated courteously, professionally and efficiently.

We also propose vast improvements to IRS technology. IRS must have the technology to provide high quality customer service. That means a phone system that works, trained taxpayer service representatives and a computer database that will allow customer service representatives to access accounts and resolve problems on the first phone call.

Electronic filing is an important component of this effort. It's a win-win situation for IRS and the taxpayer.

IRS still hand processes the vast majority of returns and still relies on paper—14 billion pieces of paper annually—an incredibly inefficient system. Electronic filing saves the IRS money—it costs the IRS about \$7 to process a paper return, and less than \$1 to process an electronic return.

There is currently close to a 22 percent error rate on paper 1040 forms. Half of that error rate comes from the taxpayer. But the other half comes from the IRS—when employees inadvertently misinput numbers. When forms are electronically filed with the IRS, there is less than a 1 percent error rate.

The legislation requires the IRS to develop and implement a strategic marketing plan to make paperless filing the preferred and most convenient and cost-efficient form of filing for 80 percent of taxpayers within the next 10 years. Our legislation provides tangible incentives—not mandates—to make electronic filing so easy that taxpayers will not want to file paper forms.

One of the most important incentives is extended filing deadlines for electronic filers to reduce the massive deluge of paper that overwhelms the IRS every April 15—increasing errors and delaying returns. We recommend a May 15 deadline for individuals who choose to file electronically.

MANAGEMENT, GOVERNANCE AND OVERSIGHT

All of these reforms are important. But none of them can take place in the current IRS management and oversight structure.

The commission found a serious lack of expertise, continuity and accountability in the management structure of the IRS. Over the years, IRS has developed an insular culture that is often resistant to input and ideas from outside the agency—preventing leaders at the top of the organization from effecting real changes. When things go wrong, such as the \$4 billion computer modernization failure, no one is clearly responsible.

Billions of taxpayer dollars were wasted on the tax systems modernization program “due to pervasive management and technical weaknesses” according to GAO. In 1995, the GAO described the same efforts as “chaotic” and “ad hoc.”

The IRS has failed a number of recent audits by the General Accounting Office and is unable to balance its own books. At the same time, we're spending more on the IRS than ever—the IRS budget has almost tripled since the Carter administration and now stands at \$7.3 billion.

And, the Department of Treasury has not demonstrated a historic pattern of effective

oversight of the IRS—often ignoring problems until they have reached crisis proportions. There are no clear lines of accountability and responsibility in the current IRS-Treasury relationship. And, Treasury often advocates tax policy goals that create administrative nightmares for the IRS.

Although I believe the current Treasury Secretary has been more attentive to the IRS than his predecessors (perhaps in part due to the commission's work), the Treasury Secretary and Deputy Secretary can only be expected to devote a small portion of their time to their responsibility of running the IRS. No Cabinet department is more important than the Treasury Department. Treasury also oversees U.S. domestic and international financial, economic and tax policy, including the specific responsibility for managing at least 10 other major agencies and bureaus, such as the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, the Customs Service, the Office of Thrift Supervision, and the Secret Service.

This lack of focus on IRS is a natural result of these distractions and the disconnect between the important policy functions of the Treasury Department and the operational challenges of the IRS. It is important to note that this lack of effective oversight is not new; it has been a problem in Republican and Democratic administrations alike. There is an inherent flaw in the system.

Treasury oversight is also poorly coordinated—the IRS Commissioner is forced to deal with various assistant secretaries on budget, operations, computers, tax policy, and other issues. But IRS is often treated as an afterthought, and these Treasury Department officials rarely take responsibility for IRS operations.

The current structure is also weak because the expertise the IRS desperately needs just does not naturally reside at Treasury. While the officials at the Treasury Department have considerable expertise in tax policy and law enforcement, they are often lacking expertise in providing customer service, implementing major technology upgrades and managing a 100,000 person organization.

And, the frequent turnover of Treasury leadership exacerbates IRS' inability to complete long-term projects. Continuity is a serious problem: The most recent IRS Commissioner served under two Treasury Secretaries and three Deputy Secretaries. The average tenure of an IRS Commissioner over the last 20 years has been 2½ years, and the average tenure of a Deputy Treasury Secretary is even shorter.

Constant turnover with the Commissioner and at Treasury is in contrast to the insular nature of the IRS. Only 6 of the top 83 people at the IRS have been with the agency for less than 15 years. And, other than the Commissioner, only 2 non-IRS employees have been brought in from the outside world to fill senior positions at the IRS.

Meanwhile, the oversight in Congress has clearly contributed to the problem. Oversight responsibility for the IRS is shared by seven congressional committees. These committees do not meet formally to set long-term goals and objectives for the IRS and tend to focus on individual micro-issues, sometimes giving contradictory direction to the agency.

In response to these problems, the commission developed ideas for an entirely new man-

agement structure. The criteria we used to judge any new structure were: First, does it provide clear accountability; second, will it provide expertise in running a modern customer-service organization; and third, will it provide the continuity to get the job done through changing administrations and personnel? After a year-long process, the commission developed the following recommendations that serve as a basis for the governance component of this legislation.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE OVERSIGHT BOARD

Overall responsibility for IRS governance should be placed with an independent oversight board—appointed by the President, confirmed by the Senate and accountable to Congress and the American people—to provide the expertise, continuity and accountability lacking now and clearly needed in order to implement major changes at the IRS. This oversight board will have the authority to hire and fire the commissioner, recommend a budget for the IRS and to oversee the operations of the IRS.

While representatives of the administration will serve on the oversight board, the majority of the board members will be private citizens who bring expertise in running large and complex organizations, expertise in customer service and expertise in technology. The needs and concerns of individual taxpayers will also be represented, as will IRS employees. Oversight board members will be appointed and will be removable by the President, confirmed by the Senate, and will serve for staggered 5-year terms.

Our legislation leaves full control of tax policy to the Treasury Department. The oversight board will oversee tax administration. Oversight board members will be subject to full disclosure rules and will not be permitted to examine individual tax returns or have the power to affect enforcement decisions. I believe the legitimate concerns Treasury raised about the oversight board throughout the commission's yearlong work have been clearly addressed in this legislation.

CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT

We also propose to streamline and coordinate congressional oversight of the IRS under the auspices of the Joint Tax Committee, to ensure that Members of Congress and staff have sufficient information to make informed decisions about both tax legislation and tax administration. This entity would bring together the leadership of the seven congressional committees with IRS oversight responsibility to focus on long-term priorities and goal setting for the agency.

IRS PERSONNEL AND BUDGETING

The commissioner should be apolitical and should serve for a 5-year term. We strengthen the ability of the commissioner to make real changes at the IRS by providing the hiring flexibility to recruit high-quality executives. We also propose to provide the commissioner with the stable budgeting needed to permit long-term planning and to allow essential projects to be funded with certainty.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

But, to ensure that taxpayer dollars are being put to good use, the IRS must demonstrate that it can balance its own books. We recommend a number of steps to improve IRS financial accountability.

Taken as a whole, our recommendations provide a blueprint that will fundamentally

transform the IRS into a modern service organization. I believe they will vastly enhance service and accountability to the taxpayer.

I look forward to working with my colleague from Maryland, Mr. CARDIN, Members of the House and Senate, and the administration to improve and refine this bill during the legislative process so that, together, we can transform the Internal Revenue Service into a modern, efficient organization that truly serves the American taxpayer.

NEW FEDERAL FIREARMS LICENSE CATEGORY FOR GUNSMITHS

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I call the attention of the House to a problem affecting gunsmiths as a result of the 1994 Crime Act.

The 1994 law contained a provision requiring applicants for a new Federal firearms license, or renewal of an existing one, to prove that they are in compliance with any State or local zoning ordinances. Many States and localities have zoning laws that prevent individuals from obtaining dealers' licenses. For licensing purposes, the term "dealer" includes any person who makes or repairs firearms, which includes gunsmiths. Therefore, many gunsmiths are now being denied their Federal firearms license.

One of my constituents, who is a gunsmith, informed me about his difficulties in complying with the Crime Act. As a result, I have introduced legislation to create a new Federal firearms license category for gunsmiths. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, which administers the Federal license categories, supports creating this new category.

My legislation will not allow gunsmiths to sell or transfer firearms, but it will permit them to continue to work in their profession. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

UNITED STATES INVESTORS IN LLOYD'S OF LONDON DESERVE THEIR DAY IN UNITED STATES COURT

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, I am interested in matters concerning Federal court jurisdiction. For many years, citizens of Illinois and other States were solicited in their States to invest in Lloyd's of London insurance syndicates. In many instances, these investors have been denied access to the Federal courts where they attempted to assert their rights and remedies under the Federal securities statutes. Investors asserting securities claims against Lloyd's have seen their cases thrown out of court based on clauses in Lloyd's investment contracts which provide for the application of English law and the forum of the English courts. (Choice Clauses). I am heartened, however, by the recent appeals court ruling in

Richards v. Lloyd's of London and strong pronouncements by the Securities and Exchange Commission in that appeal, which recognize the statutory bar against agreements which waive compliance with the Federal securities laws. The *Richards* decision, unless set aside by the full ninth circuit court of appeals or the Supreme Court, clears the way for the investors to have the chance to prove their case where it belongs—in U.S. district court.

The plaintiffs in *Richards*—known as "Names"—allege that Lloyd's defrauded them by concealing that the insurance syndicates to which they furnished capital were saddled with massive asbestos and toxic waste liabilities. They assert that, for two decades, Lloyd's undertook a major recruitment program in the United States by offering investment contracts by which residents of the United States could become "External Names" at Lloyd's—passive investors who were prohibited from being involved with the operations and management of Lloyd's syndicates or business operations. Plaintiffs in *Richards* claim that Lloyd's alleged fraud cost them many million of dollars. They also seek rescission of their agreements with Lloyd's on the grounds that Lloyd's allegedly sold them unregistered, nonexempt securities and made material representatives or omitted material facts.

Mr. Speaker, for over 60 years there has been a statutory bar against contracts with investors that waive compliance with the Federal securities laws. Section 14 of the Securities Act of 1933 provides:

Any condition, stipulation, or provision binding any person acquiring any security to waive compliance with any provision of this title or of the rules and regulations of the Commission [the SEC] shall be void.

15 U.S.C. § 77 n. The bar of Section 29(a) of the 1934 Act is substantially the same. 15 U.S.C. § 78cc(a).

In *Richards*, a panel of the Ninth Circuit ruled, 2–1, that because of the Choice Clauses would strip plaintiffs of all their rights under the Federal securities laws, they violate the anti-waiver statutes and are thus void. The court remanded the case to the federal district court where the plaintiffs will have the opportunity to present a case that Lloyd's fraudulently sold them unregistered securities and that the court should order rescission of their investment contracts with Lloyd's and other relief.

I would like to cite several portions of the *Richards* opinion which show the eminent logic of this result:

The district court made an error of law in supposing that the Choice Clauses were unenforceable only if unreasonable. Congress had already determined that such clauses were void. It was not for a court to weigh their reasonableness, not for a court to say whether they offended any policy of the United States. The policy decision had been made by the legislature.

Is there a significant difference between a *policy* objection to enforcement of the anti-waiver bars and a *statutory* obstacle to such enforcement? We believe there is. Where a statute exists, a policy has been given form and focus and precise force. A statute represents a decision by the elected representatives of the people as to what particular policy should prevail, and how.

There is no question that the Choice Clauses operate in tandem as a prospective

waiver of the plaintiffs' remedies under the 1933 and 1934 Acts. If the Supreme Court would condemn such clauses where they work against a public policy embodied in statutes even though the statutes themselves do not void the clauses, a fortiori the Supreme Court would condemn similar clauses when the run in the teeth of two precise statutory provisions making them void.

Congress was no ignorant of the potential international character of securities transactions. Congress specifically modified the 1933 Act to cover transactions in foreign commerce. S. Rep. No. 47, 73d Cong., 1st Sess. (1933) (accompanying S. 875.) A court should not apply the reasonableness test or say whether the clauses offended any policy of the United States when Congress has expressly made that determination. We do not believe that we should turn the clock back to 1929 or introduce caveat emptor as a rule governing the solicitation in the United States of investments in securities by residents of the United States.

In addition, the SEC filed two briefs, *amicus curiae* in *Richards* and participated in oral argument in favor of reversing the district court's enforcement of the Choice Clauses. The SEC's position is correct in my view, and I would like to share some of the SEC's compelling statements:

The issue addressed is an important one to the enforcement of the federal securities laws. The district court's decision, if upheld, would allow foreign promoters of securities undertaking large scale selling efforts in the United States to avoid private liability under the securities laws simply by requiring the American investors to agree to resolve disputes in a foreign jurisdiction under foreign law, even if the remedies available under the foreign law were far less effective than those available under United States law. Such a holding would seriously impair the ability of defrauded investors to obtain compensation for their losses, and would hamper the deterrent function of the federal securities laws by discouraging private actions. The Commission strongly urges this court to reverse the district court's erroneous dismissal of this action.

The fact that the investors agreed to these provision is irrelevant, since the very objective of the antiwaiver provisions is to invalidate such agreements. As the Supreme Court held in *Shearson/American Express Inc. v. McMahon*, 482 U.S. 220, 230 (1987), "[t]he voluntariness of the agreement is irrelevant to this inquiry: if a stipulation waives compliance with a statutory duty, it is void under [the antiwaiver provisions], whether voluntary or not.

In this case, in contrast, the requirement that investors litigate in England, coupled with the requirement that they do so under English law, not only "weakens" the investors' ability to recover, but in fact precludes any possibility of recovery under the federal securities laws. These clauses are directly contrary to express statutory prohibitions in the antiwaiver provisions and should be held void.

The antiwaiver provisions, however, are not simply an expression of public policy that favors United States securities laws unless other comparable laws are available. Rather, they are an express and unequivocal directive that the rights and obligations under the securities laws cannot be waived.

This determination has been made by Congress, and the courts are not free to substitute their own public policy determinations.

The *Richards* court is not alone in its interpretation of this statutory bar to waiver. In *Leslie v. Lloyd's of London*, a Federal district court, after hearing evidence, struck down the Choice Clauses, stating that they were procured by fraud and violated public policy. The case is currently on appeal to the Fifth Circuit, where the SEC has participated in oral argument, arguing that the Choice Clauses are void.

Mr. Speaker, what is involved here is a very basic proposition. When foreign promoters come into Illinois and other States to raise capital, they cannot effectuate waivers of substantive rights under the securities laws that belong to those from whom they solicit capital. Congress has said no and that should be the end of the story.

INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, much of the controversy surrounding H.R. 408 concerns the redefinition of the "dolphin safe" label—an issue of particular significance to me and to the residents of the 10th Congressional District of Massachusetts, home of the Center for Coastal Studies in Provincetown, a world-class marine mammal research facility.

One of the reasons I opposed this bill when it was first brought to the House floor was that there is no scientific justification for a change in the dolphin-safe label. Common sense suggests that the repeated harassment and chasing of dolphins jeopardizes their well-being. Along with a number of my colleagues, I wanted to see evidence that chasing and netting dolphins in the course of tuna fishing was safe for dolphins before agreeing to change the definition of the "dolphin safe" label.

The bill before us is a compromise between proponents of an immediate label change and those of us who contend instead that policy should reflect scientific method. The bill mandates a 3-year study on the effect of the intentional chase and encirclement on dolphins and dolphin stocks taken in the course of tuna fishing.

Based on the initial results of this study, the Secretary of Commerce is required to make a finding between March 1 and March 30, 1999, as to whether the intentional chasing and netting is having a significant adverse impact on any depleted dolphin stocks. If the Secretary does not make a finding of significant adverse impact, then the label will be redefined to allow its use on tuna harvested with the encirclement method. At the conclusion of the 3-year study, section (5) requires the Secretary to make a similar finding and if significant adverse impact is found, then the definition would revert back to its current meaning as defined in the Dolphin Protection Consumer Information Act.

Mr. Speaker, the bill does not include a definition of the term "significant adverse impact,"

but it is my understanding that it would include any impact that retards or impedes the recovery of the depleted dolphin stocks. For example, in the recovery of the grey whale, scientists observed population growth rates of between 4 and 6 percent. Similar growth rates are expected in the depleted dolphin stocks. Therefore, if the study shows that the depleted stocks of dolphins are not growing at the expected rates of 4 to 6 percent, I presume the Secretary will be required to make a finding that chase and encirclement is having a significant adverse impact on the dolphins and the label will not change.

The bill is an imperfect attempt to help make certain, above all, that dolphins are not put at unnecessary risk—and that marine mammal policy derives from sound science.

KEEPING AMERICA COMPETITIVE

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that America not be placed at a competitive disadvantage during the climate change negotiations in Kyoto, Japan in December, 1997.

The Clinton-Gore-Browner administration is notorious for pushing forward far-reaching environmental initiatives without adequately consulting the legislative branch or the scientific community. As you may remember, on September 19, 1996, President Clinton declared 1.7 million acres of Utah wilderness as a national monument without the endorsement of a single elected official from Utah, let alone any legislative action by the U.S. Congress. More recently, the Clinton administration announced radically expensive air quality standards for ozone and the fine particulate matter without any causal proof of their risk to health.

Now it appears that the Clinton administration once again is trying to pull a political end-run. This December, it will represent the United States at an international meeting in Kyoto to discuss revisions to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The essence of the meeting is to discuss new compliance mandates to limit and/or reduce the global emission of greenhouse gases.

While the greenhouse effect as a concept has been generally accepted as scientific fact, there are widely varying estimates of humankind's impact on the temperature of the Earth's atmosphere. Therefore, it is impossible to judge what impact, if any, efforts to curb greenhouse gas emissions will have on global warming.

In keeping with this uncertainty, the United States signed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 1992, which called on all industrialized nations to adopt policies and programs to limit greenhouse gas emissions on a voluntary basis by the year 2000. In April 1995, the industrialized nations agreed to the Berlin Mandate, which set December 1997 as a target date to establish legally binding commitments from industrialized nations on the emission of greenhouse gas while exempting 129 developing nations, including China, Mexico, India, Brazil, and South Korea, from its provisions.

If taken to its logical conclusion, the Berlin Mandate would create a two-tiered environmental obligation, forcing the entire burden to reduce greenhouse emissions on industrialized nations while turning the developing world into a pollution enterprise zone. This would truly create a "giant sucking sound" of jobs leaving America to the Third World.

It's not too late for the Clinton administration to alter its potentially disastrous policy course. My resolution would express the sense of the House that:

1. The administration will not sign any protocol or agreement to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions unless the protocol or agreement also mandates developing countries to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions within the same period.

2. The United States will not sign any protocol or agreement regarding global climate change that would result in serious harm to the economy of the United States.

3. Any protocol or agreement which must be sent to the Senate for advice and consent for ratification should:

(a) Be accompanied by a detailed explanation of any legislation or regulatory actions that would be required to implement the protocol or agreement; and

(b) Be accompanied by an analysis of the detailed financial costs and other impacts on the economy of the United States that would be incurred by implementation of the protocol or agreement.

Last week, the other body passed a nearly identical resolution on a vote of 95 to 0. The House should express its will as well, since we would have to consider and pass legislation to remain in compliance with any such treaty.

As the Kyoto Conference draws near, thousands of American jobs are on the chopping block. Any over-reaching and/or inequitable effort to limit the level of CO₂ emissions would be tantamount to pink slips to the American worker. We cannot allow this to happen.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this resolution.

IN HONOR OF U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE CLARKSON S. FISHER, JR.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late U.S. District Judge Clarkson S. Fisher, Jr. Judge Fisher passed away on Sunday, July 27, at the age of 76, after battling cancer for the past several months.

Mr. Speaker, the death of Judge Fisher is for me the cause of great personal sadness. I was an intern for Judge Fisher in law school, and he had a major impact on my career. Judge Fisher instilled in me a deep appreciation for how the law can and should be a means for attempting to resolve the real difficulties and conflicts that touch people's lives, and for achieving justice in the very best sense of that word. He was a great inspiration.

Judge Fisher was a native of my hometown of Long Branch, NJ. He was active in local government in the neighboring community of West Long Branch, served in the New Jersey

State Assembly and was a trustee of Monmouth College, now university. A graduate of the University of Notre Dame, and its law school, Judge Fisher was awarded the Justice William J. Brennan Award in 1989 from the Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey.

Judge Fisher was a Monmouth County court judge from 1964 to 1966, and a superior court judge from 1966 until October 1970, when President Nixon named him to the Federal bench. Judge Fisher gave up the title of chief judge of the Federal courts in New Jersey in September 1987 after 8½ years of service, the longest tenure of any chief judge in the district. The next day, he returned on a voluntary senior status, handling a caseload comparable to an active judge until several weeks before his death. Among many other accomplishments, he was the moving force behind the construction of New Jersey's three Federal courthouses, including the Federal courthouse in Trenton named for him in 1995.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to pay tribute to the life of Judge Clarkson S. Fisher. For his wife, Mae Hoffman Fisher, four sons, other family members, and his many, many friends, I hope the numerous expressions of praise and remembrance will be some consolation in their time of loss.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY JAKOV
URSICH!

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join the family and friends of Jakov Ursich in wishing him a happy 100th birthday.

Jakov is reportedly the oldest living Croatian in San Pedro. But clearly his age does not slow him down. Even today, he is often seen at the Dalmatian-American Club dancing the polka.

Born in Selca, Brac, Croatia, Jakov came to the United States in 1921 looking for a better life. He left behind a wife, Marica, and child, Anka, and settled initially in Tacoma. In 1924, he moved to San Pedro, where he worked in the local shipyards until he became a commercial fisherman. Soon thereafter, Jakov became a United States citizen and then sent for his family. Within a few more years, Jakov's family grew with the birth of a son and another daughter. Now he enjoys the company of five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Jakov Ursich is a member of a very vibrant Croatian community in San Pedro. In the 73 years he has lived here, he has contributed greatly to its spirit and wealth. Indeed, he still lives in the house he built for his family more than 40 years ago.

On August 9th, his 100th birthday, Jakov will be surrounded by many friends and family members. I am pleased to lend my voice to the chorus of "Happy Birthday" that I know will be sung.

And, Jakov, many happy returns.

FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 1998 AND 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1757) to consolidate international affairs agencies, to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and related agencies for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, and for other purposes:

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the Smith amendment and support of the Campbell-Smith amendment. To deny funding to multi-lateral and foreign nongovernmental organizations that engage in abortion-related activities with their own private funds is wrong. To suddenly terminate all U.S. funding for family planning worldwide under the United Nations Population Fund based on UNPFA activities in China, which do not exist, is punitive and without logic. And to prohibit foreign organizations from using their own funds to engage in legislative discussions and advocate for abortion-related issues is a gag rule in the worst form.

All of these provisions contradict our Nation's attempts to create healthy and prosperous communities across the world. Unfortunately, we are living in an era where family planning is not an option, but rather, a necessity. Providing education on conditions which may harm a woman's pregnancy, on ways to avoid ever even needing an abortion, on prenatal care, and on how to care for babies once they are born are all necessary components of family planning. This kind of education and the delivery of basic health care are needs that transcend politics.

I thank Mr. CAMPBELL and Mr. GREENWOOD for standing up for responsible foreign policy and making sure that this essential need for quality family planning is not stripped from the women and families who need it most. I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting the Campbell-Greenwood amendment.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
KARYNE JONES CONLEY

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, six of my colleagues from the Texas delegation—Mr. BRADY, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. GREEN, Ms. E.B. JOHNSON, Mr. SAM JOHNSON, and Mr. TURNER—and I all had the privilege of serving in the Texas Legislature prior to being elected to the U.S. Congress. During our respective tenures in the State Legislature, all seven of us were honored to know a wonderful lady—and native of San Antonio—by the name of Karyne Jones Conley, who served as a member of the Texas House of Representatives, District No. 120 of eastern Bexar County, from January 10, 1989, to July 10, 1996. From July 1996 to present, Ms. Conley—now relocated to the Washington, DC metropolitan area—has

served as director of Federal relations for S.B.C. Telecommunications, Inc., a post which has brought her great pleasure and personal satisfaction.

At the initiative of her former Capitol office administrative assistant, Mr. Gregory D. Watson of Austin, TX, who now serves in that same capacity for State Representative Leo Alvarado, Jr., also of Bexar County, the recently-concluded regular session of the 75th Legislature honored Ms. Conley with the adoption of House Concurrent Resolution No. 320, which was presented in the Texas House by Representative Alvarado, and in the Texas Senate by State Senator Frank L. Madila, Jr. The resolution was then signed by Texas Governor George W. Bush on June 18, 1997.

Mr. Speaker, having known and having worked with Ms. Conley for many years in San Antonio, then in Austin, and now in Washington, DC, I, too, would like to pay tribute to this outstanding public servant. I respectfully ask that the full text of House Concurrent Resolution No. 320 be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as follows:

THE STATE OF TEXAS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 320

Whereas, The Texas Legislature is proud to congratulate former State Representative Karyne Jones Conley on her latest career achievements with SBC Telecommunications, Inc., in Washington, D.C.; and

Whereas, A native San Antonian, Ms. Conley earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Clark Atlanta University in Georgia and a master's degree in public affairs from Northern Illinois University; in 1995, she completed her second master's degree at Harvard University, focusing on the study of economic and political development; and

Whereas, Ms. Conley began her distinguished public service career in our nation's capital as a congressional aide to former U.S. Representative Andrew Young of Georgia, and when he was appointed by then-President Jimmy Carter to the post of Ambassador to the United Nations, the youthful Miss Jones served as Young's Public Affairs Officer at the United States Mission to the United Nations in New York City; and

Whereas, After returning to her hometown of San Antonio, Ms. Conley drew upon her deep interest in both education and the arts as Director of the Carver Cultural Center and as a grant writer for The University of Texas Institute of Texan Cultures; she also served as Program Developer for Continuing Education at San Antonio College, and in 1985, she was elected to her first public office, the East Central Independent School District Board of Trustees; and

Whereas, Highly regarded throughout the community for her professionalism, integrity, and dedication, this esteemed lady was elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1988, representing eastern San Antonio and Bexar County and was re-elected without opposition in 1990, 1992, and 1994; during her four terms of office, Representative Conley demonstrated intelligence and leadership as a member of the Appropriations, House Administration, Corrections, and Judiciary committees, and she was tapped to serve as vice-chair of the House's Urban Affairs Committee; and

Whereas, Since July 1996, Ms. Conley has served with distinction as Director of Federal Relations with SBC Telecommunications, Inc., in Washington, D.C., and although this position has temporarily drawn

her away from her beloved San Antonio, her neighbors and many friends in the Lone Star State are hopeful that she will eventually return home; and

Whereas, In this, as in all of her endeavors, Ms. Conley has enjoyed the love and support of her family, which includes her husband, attorney Jim Conley, and four children: James, Jason, John, and Karyne Jalon; and

Whereas, Both in her personal life and in her professional service, the Honorable Karyne Jones Conley has exhibited an abiding concern for the well-being of her fellow Americans, and she is indeed deserving of recognition as she pursues this new chapter of her life; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the 75th Legislature of the State of Texas, Regular Session, 1997, hereby congratulate former State Representative Karyne Jones Conley on her new position with SBC Telecommunications, Inc., and extend to her warmest best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

Resolved, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Ms. Conley as an expression of highest regard by the Texas House of Representatives and Senate.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2015, BALANCED BUDGET ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID E. SKAGGS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 1997

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, I am voting for this bill because I believe it addresses many of the priorities and concerns of the American people. It sets us on a course toward a balanced budget while meeting the important needs of children, working families, and legal immigrants.

The bill provides \$24 billion to make sure that the most vulnerable among us, poor and uninsured children, have access to health care. This is perhaps its best feature. Using revenue from an additional tobacco tax, the bill enables States to provide Medicaid benefits for up to 5 million children who are currently uninsured.

The House-Senate conference report also undoes some of the harmful and unnecessarily harsh provisions contained in the welfare reform law. It restores disability and Medicaid for legal immigrants and extends food stamp eligibility for people making the transition from welfare to work. This bill also provides minimum benefits for refugees and asylees.

These provisions help mend holes in the safety net through which children, legal immigrants, and working poor were likely to slip.

This bill charts a path toward a balanced budget. Make no mistake, though—it assumes great spending discipline on the part of future Congresses in order to meet this goal. That discipline will be difficult—perhaps impossible—to sustain, and it would have made more sense to set a course that relies less on back-loaded cuts in later years.

If this conference report is more responsible, both fiscally and socially, than the original House bill, it also contains serious flaws. Most important, Medicare provisions fail to address the structural problems that threaten this program in the long term.

Cutting payments to hospital and providers is palliative, not curative. Very likely, many of

these cuts will be paid for through increased premiums on private insurance and other steps to pass costs on to other health-care consumers.

Two provisions, the Medicare savings accounts and the private fee-for-service plans, will likely skim healthier and the wealthier beneficiaries from the Medicare-risk pool. They will leave the program with higher costs but fewer dollars at the very time demand is ready to explode.

In addition to problematic cuts in Medicare, cuts in Medicaid unfairly single out those hospitals now serving the indigent. This will have a serious impact on Colorado hospitals in particular.

In short, if the conference report has much to recommend, it also leaves much undone and much that needs to be improved. And yet, on balance, Mr. Speaker, I believe the merits of this bill outweigh its failures and flaws.

I voted against this bill when it was first considered by the House; I am voting for the conference report. The conference report substantially improves the earlier bill and remedies most of the defects in last year's welfare reform law. It sets a course toward a balanced budget without putting the well being of citizens at risk. It deserves support.

TRIBUTE TO THE BRONX PUERTO RICAN DAY PARADE

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with joy that I rise to pay tribute to the Bronx Puerto Rican Day Parade, on its ninth year of celebrating the culture and contributions of the Puerto Rican community to our Nation.

The Bronx Puerto Rican Day Parade will be held on Sunday in my South Bronx Congressional District. The event is the culmination of a series of activities surrounding Puerto Rican Week in the Bronx.

Under the leadership of its founder, Mr. Angel L. Rosario, and its president, Mr. Francisco Gonzalez, the parade has grown into one of the most colorful and important festivals of Puerto Rican culture in all five boroughs of New York City and beyond.

The parade brings together people from all ethnic backgrounds, including Puerto Ricans from the island and all across the Nation.

It is an honor for me to join once again the thousands of people who with pride will march along the Grand Concourse in celebration of our Puerto Rican heritage. The Puerto Rican flag and other ornaments in the flag's red, white, and blue will gracefully decorate the festival.

The parade ends at Joyce Kilmer Park, where live music, Puerto Rican food, crafts, and other entertainments await partakers. It is expected that this year's parade will surpass last year's half-million visitors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Bronx Puerto Rican Day Parade on its ninth year of strengthening ties and bringing joy to the South Bronx community.

REAUTHORIZING ISTE

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, to bring to the attention of the House the importance of reauthorizing ISTE in a fashion that recognizes and maintains the important role of public transportation.

Even in my rural home State of New Hampshire, transit is a vital lifeline for many residents. In fact, a recent report entitled "Dollars and Sense: The Economic Case for Public Transportation in America", cites Advance Transit of Lebanon, NH, for its contribution to the economic vitality of Grafton County and neighboring Windsor County, VT. I would commend my colleagues' attention to the entirety of this report, which provides an impressive summary of mass transit's benefits.

In closing, I would like to again remind my colleagues that the benefits offered by public transit, and indeed all improvements to our Nation's transportation network, will be threatened without the necessary funding to reauthorize ISTE. As we all know, committing the revenues generated from transportation taxes to improvements to our Nation's public infrastructure, including transit, will allow our great nation to move forward with economic growth and prosperity.

85TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GIRL SCOUTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate and celebrate the 85th anniversary of an organization that has been providing young women with skills and opportunities that enable them to reach their full potential, the Girl Scouts of the United States of America.

For nearly a century, the Girl Scouts have been empowering young women to make decisions that will enhance their life, to develop self-esteem, and make a contribution to their communities. The Girl Scouts are the largest voluntary organization for girls in the entire world, with more than 8,500,000 girls in more than 130 countries.

In particular, I want to recognize a special group of Girl Scouts from my district and the surrounding area, the Tierra del Oro Girl Scout Council. The Tierra del Oro Girl Scout Council serves more than 19,500 girls in fourteen counties: Amador, Calaveras, Colusa, El Dorado, Glenn, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Sierra, Solano, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba. I know that many of my constituents have benefited from belonging to such an outstanding organization.

This year, the Girl Scouts of the United States of America [GSUSA] celebrate their 85th anniversary. The Girl Scouts were founded in 1912 by Juliette Gordon Low in Savannah, GA. Ms. Low's vision was hopeful and far-reaching: to provide opportunities and partnerships between young girls and adults, to

accumulate knowledge and skills, that will carry them forward to a productive life, and to allow them to widen their horizons and explore their world. Ms. Low's vision is just as relevant today as it was in 1912. The Girl Scouts are all about learning, experience, service, and above all—opportunity.

Throughout the 1910's and 1920's, membership in the Girl Scouts continued to grow. From 5,000 in 1915, the Scouts grew to more than 88,000 in 1921. In 1927, following the death of Ms. Low, the Girl Scouts established a fund in her name to support projects and events dedicated to promoting international understanding, global awareness, and an appreciation of pluralism.

During the years of the Great Depression in the 1930's, the Girl Scouts used their resourcefulness to battle the adversity of that era. They worked hard in the Depression relief effort and refused to turn away any girl because of her inability to pay dues or buy equipment. Out of the need for extra funds during this time period, an idea was born, an idea which has become an American institution: the sale of Girl Scout cookies.

As the Girl Scouts became accessible to more and more girls during the 1940's, membership grew to more than 1 million and began to include girls with mental disabilities. The year 1950 saw the organization reincorporated under a charter from Congress. As the Girl Scouts entered the 1960's, the diverse organization responded to the civil rights movement by further broadening their commitment to reach out to young women of color. The GSUSA allocated special funds to broaden membership in urban areas in particular. A similar outreach to Latinos resulted in the publication of the Girl Scout Handbook in Spanish. Another edition of the handbook was produced in braille for the visually impaired.

Around the same time, the organization extended their outreach toward older age groups. The Girl Scouts began to cosponsor a project funded by the U.S. Department of Labor to teach older women the necessary skills to secure office jobs. Also, the Campus Girl Scouts, composed of college women, was registered for the first time in 1968.

As the organization moved into the 1970's, a time when women's advocacy groups began to take on a larger social and political role, the Girl Scouts confirmed their already strong commitment to the positive development of young women by establishing programs like Careers to Explore. Also, the Scouts turned their effort toward environmental action, establishing Eco-Action, a nationwide environmental education and improvement program. Also during the 1970's, the Girl Scouts expanded their outreach effort to Mexican-Americans, Native Americans, and migrant worker families.

In the 1980's and 1990's, with volunteer efforts increasing in record numbers, the Girl Scout of the U.S.A. began to expand into the younger age groups, establishing the Daisy Girl Scouts. Daisy Scout membership reached 61,000 in its very first year.

Recent years have also found the GSUSA introducing a series of programs to address contemporary issues like substance abuse, teen pregnancy, youth suicide, child abuse, and family crises. The Scouts have also taken steps to encourage girls to pursue interests in math and science.

The achievement of the Girls Scouts of the U.S.A. throughout this century have been

nothing short of outstanding. A 1991 study showed that of the 473 women in Who's Who in American Women, 64 percent had been Girl Scouts. These women today are involved in diverse fields such as law, medicine, journalism, education, politics, finance, and science.

It is impossible to gauge the positive effect that the Girl Scouts have had on America—because that positive effect is so widespread. The Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. and the Tierra del Oro Girl Scout Council have been helping girls grow up to be caring, competent, confident women since 1912. The Girl Scouts are an American institution. The purpose of Girl Scouting is to inspire girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism, and service that they may become happy and resourceful citizens. The Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. have succeeded gloriously in this goal, and we wish them all the best as they approach the 21st century with purposeful optimism and an enduring belief in the power of the individual.

CENTENNIAL OF FLIGHT COMMEMORATION ACT

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to announce the introduction of the Centennial of Flight Commemoration Act. This bipartisan legislation establishes the Centennial of Flight Commission, a national organization to direct the celebration of the 100th anniversary of manned flight.

The year was 1903, and at 10:35 a.m., on the cold, windy morning of December 17, the era of modern aviation was born. At that exact moment, Orville Wright lifted off the dunes in Kitty Hawk, NC, and became the first man to successfully complete a free, controlled, and sustained flight in a power-driven, heavier-than-air machine. Those 12 seconds changed the course of world history forever.

On December 17, 2003, the world and this great Nation will come together to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Wright Brothers' first flight. I have introduced this important legislation, along with my colleague TONY HALL of Ohio, to establish a national commission to plan and develop programs and activities related to this anniversary, in addition to other duties.

The Commission will be made up of 21 members. Twelve of these members will be U.S. citizens, who are not Government employees and will be appointed by the President. Of these, two will be chosen from among persons recommended by the majority leader of the Senate, two will be chosen from among persons recommended by Speaker of the House of Representatives in consultation with the Representatives whose districts encompass either the Wright Brothers National Memorial or the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, and eight will be chosen based on qualifications or experience in the field of history, aerospace science, or industry. In addition, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Transportation, the Director of the National Air and Space Museum, and the Administrator of NASA will be members of the commission. Fi-

nally, the following local officials will be included: the chairman of the First Flight Centennial Commission of North Carolina, the president of the First Flight Centennial Foundation of North Carolina, the Governor of Ohio, and the chairman of the 2003 Committee of Ohio. These members will receive no compensation. An executive director and appropriate staff will be hired.

The commission will be charged with many responsibilities and duties. It will represent the United States and promote U.S. participation in international activities related to aviation history and the Centennial of Flight. It will encourage participation in national and international commemoration activities by U.S. aviation-related organizations and individuals with aviation interests. It will maintain and publish a calendar of events, provide national coordination for celebration dates, as well as provide a central clearinghouse for information on national and international activities. The commission will assist educational, civic, and commemorative activities that highlight achievements of Wilbur and Orville Wright in North Carolina and Ohio.

Finally, the commission will raise funds in coordination with fund raising efforts at the state level. It may devise and license a logo, with excess royalties distributed equally between the state organizations. The commission will expire in 2004.

Most would agree, there are few technological accomplishments that are more important than what was achieved for the first time by those two brothers, on that cold December morning in Kitty Hawk. The Wright Brothers' actions have touched every American in some way and have changed forever our international economy, the way we fight our wars and the way we live our lives. Perhaps most importantly, the invention of the airplane is a truly American accomplishment. It symbolizes a triumph of American ingenuity, determination, and hard work. Certainly this great tradition deserves the full support of our people and our Government.

The Centennial of Flight Commemoration Act will serve to honor this great American institution as it should be. I urge all of my colleagues to support this bipartisan measure.

DELIVERING FOR AMERICA

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. McHUGH. Mr. Speaker, in literally every congressional district this past May 10, letter carriers did more than deliver the mail. They also collected food donations along their routes to help needy families in their own communities.

In only its fifth year, the National Association of Letter Carriers' national food drive delivered more than 72.3 million pounds of donations to local food banks and pantries, and just at a time when supplies were getting low.

I want to congratulate those letter carriers who helped in the drive as well as NALC's partners in the effort—the U.S. Postal Service, the AFL-CIO, and local United Ways—and also the Campbell Soup Co., which not only donated 20 million pounds of canned goods, but also printed 92 million postcard flyers to help get citizen participation.

These letter carriers truly fit the motto, "Delivering for America."

COL. PATRICK COLLINS, BATTLE
TACTICS EXPERT, 64

HON. PAUL McHALE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. McHALE. Mr. Speaker, Col. Patrick Gerald Collins, who as a retired marine officer advised the service and other organizations about the tactics, training needs, and battlefield doctrine of tomorrow, died last Thursday in Fairfax, VA, at the home of one of his daughters. He was 64 and lived in Hampton, NH, near Portsmouth.

The cause was a heart attack his family said.

Colonel Collins fought in two wars—in Korea, as a forward artillery observer, and, after being commissioned, in Vietnam. His decorations included the Silver Star, five Bronze Stars, and three Purple Hearts.

He retired from active duty in 1969 and at his death was a training and operations consultant at the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory in Quantico, VA. He also advised organizations including the Institute for Defense Analysis, the Center for Strategic and International Studies, and the U.S. Justice Department.

The marines valued Colonel Collins for his advice on the service's probable battlefield role in future conflicts. When he died last week, he was praised by Gen. Charles C. Krulak, Commandant of the Marine Corps, the service's highest-ranking officer, as "perhaps our finest small-unit tactics instructor."

Colonel Collins was born in Grosse Pointe, MI, and enlisted in the Marines at 18. He was commissioned in 1958, after his combat service in Korea, and served three tours of duty in Vietnam, first leading reconnaissance and infantry platoons and companies, then serving as a battalion executive officer and a battalion commander.

He also served in Europe, headed a special training group at Camp Lejeune, NC, and was on the general staff at Marine Corps headquarters. He graduated from Army Ranger School and Navy Diving School before distinguishing himself instructing combat units. He served as a special assistant to three Marine Corps commandants and was credited with helping to shape the service's special operations objectives in the 1980's.

While in the service, Colonel Collins also became a regular college student. He graduated in business administration from Bowling Green State University in Ohio and received master's degrees in Irish studies from Catholic University in Washington and in administration from Chapman College in Orange, CA.

He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Mary Fallon Collins; their son, Michael S., of Hampton; three daughters, Kara Collins of Fairfax, and Rose Sullivan and Maira Collins, both of Hampton, and four grandchildren.

THE WORDS OF LT. GEN. WM. M. "BULL" KEYS, USMC (RET); IN FAREWELL TO HIS FELLOW WARRIOR, COLONEL PATRICK G. "PADDY" COLLINS, U.S. MARINE ON JULY 22, 1997

Mary (Collins) asked that I say a few words about Pat. I know there are many people

here today who could stand up here and tell wonderful and funny stories of their memories of Colonel Pat Collins.

Many would be much more eloquent speakers than I . . . But few could feel any more loss and deep sorrow than I, for losing my pal, Pat.

Hardly a week went by when I did not talk to Pat, often several times a week. You know, Pat seemed to me to be immortal. I never envisioned life without him.

When I first met him, over 35 years ago, he was a strong, big-hearted, courageous Marine who stood out as a man who would always be there when you needed him . . . no matter what the circumstances. He was a Man, a real Man . . . who went out of his way to help his fellow Marines. Always ready for a frolic or a fray, it did not matter which.

Until a few days ago . . . nothing ever happened to change my view of his immortality.

Pat loved three things in this world . . . and his whole life revolved around them in some way, or another.

FIRST—HIS FAMILY—for he was a real family man. His love for Mary and the children was always at the top of his priorities. He talked about them all the time.

MARY—you were his rock and inner strength . . . you always were. His accomplishments are your accomplishments, and they always will be.

MIKE and Rosie and Kara and Moira . . . You are his pride and joy . . . the best of Pat lives in you and your children. All of you were special to him . . . in your own way and he always wanted nothing but the best for you.

MIKE—he was so proud of you when you graduated from Airborne school . . . he made the Graduation Jump with you!!!

Not too bad for somebody who had not jumped for many years . . . and was over 50!

His SECOND great love was HIS Marine Corps. This American Patriot served Corps and Country for over 40 years. He traveled paths few have ever seen. He was a true trail-blazer, a real pioneer in the Marine Corps, one who always led from the front! His Corps and country grew in great strides during that period, and he was a large part of that. From the frozen tundra of Korea to the sweltering jungles of Vietnam to bombed out Beirut, . . . he was there!!! I almost got him to go to Kuwait with me . . . You know. . . "JUST IN CASE!"

Most of those years he served his country, he did it at great personal risk. . . he was no stranger to risk. . . and that's one more reason he means so much to the Marine Corps . . . but, that was Pat!

No man ever loved the Marine Corps more nor served it better than Pat did. He truly gave his everything to making the Corps better for the Men and Woman who dedicate their lives to it's service. He had a special desire to help young Officers and enlisted NCO's. He knew they and their training are what makes the Marine Corps the envy of every Military organization in the world.

Pat embodied the real meaning of LEADERSHIP, both in and out of Combat. He did this in a quiet and subtle manner, in a very unique way . . . that would leave an impression on you forever.

There are many here today who learned some basic truths from Pat, that have motivated them in their lives, both in and out of Combat. For those of us who knew him well, he will always be a part of us.

His THIRD great love, of course, was anything Irish and his friends. He was proud of his Irish heritage and made it a big part of his being. The Marine Corps had it's very own Irish flavor because of Pat.

Pat loved a good time, a good joke and a funny story. He laughed a lot and life was meant to be enjoyed . . . And enjoy it, he did.

We will all miss him terribly, but perhaps we should all be as fortunate in as many ways as Pat! Remember . . . He knew the love of a beautiful woman, the love of his children and he had the sure knowledge that he served his Corps and Country well. He survived the worst that combat could ever throw at him.

Colonel Pat Collins knew the sincere respect of strong men, the fear of weak ones and the admiration and total dedication of all those who served with him. His is a legacy of Our Corps that is envied by many.

Pat gave each of us something special . . . and for that, we won't forget him. It wasn't the rows upon rows of medals he wrote over his proud heart . . . it was what was behind those medals that made him so special. All of us gathered here today, remember this great MAN, this great MARINE and what he stood for . . . His family, his country, his Corps and his friends. Pat's loyalty to all these, is a shining and true testimony to all who are gathered here in Arlington at this hour.

To close, I would like to use the words of the poet, G.K. Chesterton: which I think Pat would have liked.

"Here's to the Great GAELS of Ireland . . . the men that God made Mad . . . For all their wars are merry . . . and all their songs are sad!"

All the Best! SEMPER FIDELIS, PAT!

CONDEMNING THE BOMBING IN JERUSALEM MARKET

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to express my deep sorrow over the tragic events that occurred in Jerusalem. Yesterday morning, a marketplace crowded with women, children, and elderly men was rocked by two explosions set off by Arab extremists. When the smoke cleared, 13 people lay dead and another 150 were wounded. Two others have since died in the hospital.

This suicide bombing was the worst terrorist attack since Prime Minister Netanyahu came to office 1 year ago. Not only has this explosion taken a deadly toll on human life, it has also brought an abrupt halt to the already fragile peace process. This time, mere condolences and expressions of regret by PLO Chairman Arafat will not be enough to get the peace process back on track. There is no excuse for this barbarous act and there must be no tolerance of this kind of inhumanity. It is time for the Palestinians to take concrete steps to fight terrorism and work toward peace. That is why I support the resolution adopted by the House condemning the terrorist attack in Jerusalem, expressing the solidarity of the Congress and the American people with the grieving families and people of Israel and calling on Arafat to begin in earnest a war against the assassins of people and peace in Israel.

I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to the families of the dead and injured and offer my prayers and support for peace in Israel.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL LUTHER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2266) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. LUTHER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment to freeze military spending at the fiscal year 1997 level.

Mr. Chairman, simply put, we must not allow our rapidly growing economy and the recent budget deal to justify avoidance of the tough decisions needed to secure the long-term financial health of our country.

The current budget deal is just the first step in restoring fiscal health to our Federal Government. Congress must continue to look for opportunities to cut spending and we cannot justify spending any more on the military budget than our own military experts believe is necessary. Unfortunately this bill includes over \$500 million for continued production of the B-2 bomber—money that the Pentagon did not request. It also contains millions of dollars for building new nuclear weapons such as the Trident D-5 submarine launched ballistic missile and the Seawolf submarine.

We have been elected to have the judgment, common sense, and courage to make the hard choices necessary to achieve a balanced Federal budget. Freezing military spending would demonstrate our collective commitment to getting our Nation's fiscal house in order.

Equally important, it will set the stage for asking the American people to make sacrifices in other important budget areas. It is much easier to discuss the idea of shared sacrifice with the American people when we can assure them that all Federal programs and agencies are facing the same budget constraints. The American people know it's wrong to ask them to share the pain of balancing the budget when one part of the budget—the military budget—continues to increase year after year.

So the bottom line is simple and we should know it by now—if we are serious about balancing the budget, it is essential that every Federal program and Federal agency share in the sacrifice—including the Department of Defense.

We need to maintain a strong military and an absolutely credible nuclear deterrent force but we must maintain that defense while keeping in mind the realistic threats facing our country. As a cosponsor of this amendment, I am asking my colleagues to change the way they think about military spending in the aftermath of the cold war. Times have changed and I am hopeful that this amendment will help us move into the future.

Let's show the American people that we really are committed to fiscal responsibility and apply the same belt-tightening to the military budget that we have applied to the rest of the Federal budget. I urge my fellow House Members to vote for this bipartisan amendment and freeze military spending at fiscal year 1997 levels.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF PAKISTAN'S INDEPENDENCE**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of Pakistan on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of their nation's independence.

Pakistan gained its independence on August 14, 1947, from the British, after 90 years of struggle to establish a homeland. In the 1930's, Dr. Allam Muhammad Iqbal and Quaid-e-Azam helped provide the vision for the people of Pakistan's goal of independence.

Today, Pakistan and the United States share many common interests. We both seek to promote and preserve democracy. We both seek to ensure that south Asia becomes a stable and peaceful region of the world. We are allies in peacekeeping efforts, and in programs to combat illegal drugs and terrorism. And our ties, strengthened by trade and investment, continue to grow.

These ties have also been strengthened by the friendship and understanding brought to us by Pakistani-Americans. Pakistani-Americans have contributed greatly to the advancement of knowledge and the enrichment of cultural life in the United States.

With this anniversary, we should strive to renew our commitment to cooperation on issues of mutual interest. Let us use the occasion to broaden and deepen the friendship of the United States and Pakistan for the benefit of the people in our two nations.

The people of Pakistan have made great advancements towards democracy, stability, and peace over the past 50 years. It is a solid foundation on which to build a lasting commitment to these ideals in the future.

TRIBUTE TO POINSATTE MOTORS
AND FORT WAYNE, IN, FOR
THEIR EFFORTS IN THE FIGHT
AGAINST BREAST CANCER**HON. MARK E. SOUDER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Poinsatte Motors of Fort Wayne, IN, and the city of Fort Wayne itself for their outstanding local effort in the fight against breast cancer.

On July 9, 1997, Poinsatte Motors served as the Fort Wayne host for the Drive for the Cure sponsored by BMW and the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, the Nation's largest private funder of research focused solely on breast cancer. The citizens of Fort Wayne and the surrounding area were invited to test drive any 1997 BMW. In return, for each mile driven, BMW donated \$1 to the Komen Foundation with the goal of raising \$1 million nationwide to advance breast cancer research, education, screening, and treatment.

The community's response was overwhelming. Local businesses donated \$15,000 in TV and radio advertising, rentals, food and bev-

erages, and other supplies. With 284 test drives totaling almost 4,000 miles, Poinsatte Motor's Fort Wayne event ranks as the largest single-day event for Drive for the Cure to date. In fact, more than 360 people registered for the event—more test drives than could be accommodated in one day. Since July 9, remaining registrants, who have until December 1 to complete their test drives, have driven over 200 miles that will count toward Drive for the Cure's \$1 million goal.

Mr. Speaker, it is estimated that over 180,000 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer, and more than 44,000 will die of the disease, this year. If this horrible disease were detected and treated in its earliest stage, the mortality rate would decrease by 30 percent. In addition to raising much-needed funds for breast cancer research, Poinsatte Motors has contributed immensely to increasing awareness of the disease and the benefits of early detection. The people of Fort Wayne are well known for their willingness to assist others in need and to lend their support to a worthy cause. I am honored to represent these fine citizens, and I applaud them for their extraordinary accomplishment.

THE STATE RECIPROCITY IN PRO-
FESSIONAL BOXING ACT OF 1997**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the State Reciprocity in Professional Boxing Act of 1997, a bill that ensures that professional boxers under suspension in any State will not be able to fight in a professional bout anywhere else in the United States. The bill is intended to close a loophole in the Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996, made compellingly visible by the disgraceful performance of Mike Tyson at the Las Vegas fight on June 28, 1997.

As we learned from our consideration of the Professional Boxing Safety Act of 1996, professional boxing is not only a brutal sport whose purpose is to cause serious physical harm to its participants; it has attracted corruption and organized crime influence for many years. Members who were responsible for shepherding last year's legislation, in particular Congressman MICHAEL OXLEY, Senator JOHN MCCAIN, and former Congressman Pat Williams, successfully addressed many of the most pressing problems of the sport. The country is particularly indebted to the path-breaking work by the Members of the House and the Senate who took the leadership in achieving the first comprehensive Federal legislation to protect the welfare of professional boxers and provide for appropriate oversight of the professional boxing industry.

I am introducing this legislation today because of the recent heavyweight match between Mike Tyson and Evander Holyfield in Las Vegas that stunned the world. Mr. Tyson viciously, deliberately, and inexplicably bit Mr. Holyfield's ear twice, during the third round of their heavyweight championship bout. On the second bite, Mr. Tyson bit off a part of the ear itself. Upon review of Mr. Tyson's actions, the Nevada State Athletic Commission unanimously disciplined him by revoking his boxing

license for a 1-year period and fining him the maximum amount, the sum of \$3 million on July 8.

Other States, however, are not required to honor Nevada's action. Under our legislation passed by the 104th Congress, States are required to recognize another State's decision to suspend a boxer only if the reasons for the suspension relate to a boxer's medical condition, poor boxing skills, failure of a drug test, or falsification of information. Thus, today, any other State may host a boxing match featuring Mr. Tyson prior to the expiration of his suspension if the State notifies and consults with Nevada Athletic Commission prior to granting approval. Mr. Tyson could conceivably fight in a boxing match somewhere else in the U.S. some time before his suspension in Nevada expires.

The legislation which I introduce today would unequivocally foreclose this possibility. I am proposing that in addition to the existing requirements of the Professional Boxing Safety Act, States must ensure that no boxer is permitted to box while under suspension by any other State due to the boxer's commission of a malicious foul or infraction. A malicious foul or infraction is defined to include intentionally biting any part of an opponent's body or extremities. It also encompasses some of the more common dirty tricks used by boxers, such as intentionally headbutting or hitting below the belt.

Most Americans would be appalled if they knew that Mike Tyson could conceivably fight somewhere outside Nevada within the next year. Many of us cannot imagine this possibility, but the fight game and its promoters are known for unacceptable and brazen actions. The legislation that I propose today ensures that no boxer will be allowed to fight in the ring after any State has imposed a disciplinary suspension on the boxer to punish the boxer's misconduct during a fight. It does so by building upon the comprehensive framework that Congress, with overwhelming bipartisan support, has already wisely enacted.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SONNY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. BONO. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, July 29th, I registered my vote on rollcall vote 338, final passage of the Defense Appropriations Act, H.R. 2266. Unfortunately, I did not check the final result of the electronic recodation of my vote, and it ultimately was registered improperly. It was my intent to vote "aye" in support of passage of H.R. 2226 and in appreciation of Chairman YOUNG and the Appropriation Subcommittee's hard work.

A SALUTE TO VINCE LOMBARDI

HON. JAY W. JOHNSON

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute a man who meant so much to the city of Green Bay, to the State of

Wisconsin, and to football fans across the Nation. I rise to honor Vince Lombardi, who coached the Green Bay Packers for nine glorious seasons. He is the Hall-of-Famer who put the "Title" in "Tittletown," by winning five NFL championships and the first two Super Bowls.

He defined success and dedication and pride because he put a premium on putting forth the effort to win. He once said, "If you'll not settle for anything less than your best, you will be amazed at what you can accomplish in your lives." That lesson still rings true today.

We are remembering Vince Lombardi today, because on August 5, our U.S. Postal Service will issue a new commemorative 32-cent stamp in his honor. I know we are certainly going to have a lot of newly interested stamp collectors in northeast Wisconsin next week.

I know I join all Packer fans in thanking the Postal Service for honoring Vince Lombardi.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO TEMPORARILY SUSPEND THE U.S. IMPORT DUTY ON FERROBORON

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer legislation that would temporarily suspend, through the year 2000, the rate of duty applicable to imports into the United States of ferroboron. Ferroboron is the key raw material in amorphous metal electrical power distribution transformer cores. Transformers using these cores reduce energy losses and greenhouse gas emissions associated with these losses by 60 to 80 percent when compared to the other transformer core technologies. This is positive both in terms of increasing energy conservation and decreasing environmental degradation in the developing nations that present the most promising market opportunities.

While such benefits are tangible and significant, they and the extensive research and development that has yielded them come at a cost. An amorphous metal transformer has an initial cost 20 to 30-percent higher than the energy-wasting and environmentally unfriendly transformers it seeks to replace. Fortunately, because of its many benefits, the total owning cost of an amorphous metal transformer—over its 20 to 30 year life—is far lower than the initially cheaper competition. Reducing the cost of the end product's most important and costly raw material, by suspending the import duty paid on it, would further help ensure the cost-competitiveness of the end product in the export markets so vital to the product and the American workers behind it.

Furthermore, because there is no substitute domestic product currently benefiting from the present 5 percent duty rate on ferroboron, no adverse impact on the domestic ferroalloy industry is anticipated. I therefore urge my colleagues to support expeditious passage of this bill.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2015, BALANCED BUDGET ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 1997

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, I am committed to ensuring that the VA health care system has adequate funds to meet the health care needs of our veterans. Adequate funding for VA has long been an issue. As chairman and earlier, as ranking member, I have long advocated legislation to give VA new mechanisms to supplement the funding provided through the appropriations process.

My goals in this regard have included legislation to allow VA to retain money collected from third-party payers and legislation to allow VA to be reimbursed by Medicare when it provides care to certain Medicare-covered veterans. We have achieved success on the former, but more work needs to be done to give VA the opportunity to demonstrate that it can save dollars for the Medicare Program.

Current law permits VA to retain only the cost of its medical care collections. The remainder, constituting several hundred million dollars annually, must be deposited in the Treasury, in accordance with existing law. That policy fails to compensate VA facilities for the cost of care, and necessarily provides little incentive for achieving full recoveries or efficient collection efforts.

Our budget reconciliation bill effects a historic change in law by permitting the VA to retain money it collects from third parties. This important new provision differs markedly from the collections-retention proposal sent to Congress by the administration earlier this year. First, it specifically establishes a policy that all moneys collected will stay at the network level. With this provision, we create a powerful incentive for individual facilities to collect as much as possible with the knowledge that the funds will be used locally.

Notwithstanding the incentive associated with this new authority, however, many have expressed well-founded concerns that, for reasons beyond VA's control, collections could fall short of target levels. Such a shortfall could materially diminish VA's ability to meet veterans' health care needs. Mr. Speaker, these concerns prompted our committee to develop a contingency funding mechanism, which would be in effect for fiscal year 1998. In essence, the measure establishes a mechanism that would trigger what would amount to an automatic supplemental appropriation if VA collections fall short of Congressional Budget Office projections by more than \$25 million. These and other changes to the original administration proposal provide greater assurance that the new policy will foster veterans' interests, rather than place them in jeopardy.

I continue to believe that VA's medical care cost recoveries should supplement, rather than substitute for, appropriated funds. All in all, however, I believe that the third-party retention language passed by the House will help the VA to more effectively care for our veterans, and am extremely pleased that this measure is well on its way to becoming law.

I wish the same could be said for the straightforward legislation our committee developed earlier this session to demonstrate

that VA could save money for the Medicare Program while expanding access to care for many of our veterans. A seemingly fair-minded and straightforward proposal to permit higher income, non-service-connected veterans to use their Medicare benefits at VA health care facilities, was dropped from this bill. This legislation was favorably reported by our committee, had the strong support of all major veterans organizations, had 110 cosponsors, and was adopted by the Senate in a slightly modified form.

I very strongly believe that this legislation—H.R. 1362—is at the very least cost neutral and would likely save Medicare money. I regret that the administration did not make more of an effort to signal its strong support for this legislation and failed to counter the misinformed view that VA is not prepared to mount such a demonstration project.

VA should be given the opportunity to establish a demonstration which can not only expand veterans' access to care but potentially save significant sums for Medicare. In that regard, it is ironic, and troubling, to learn from the recent testimony of the HHS Inspector General that the Medicare Program may pay out considerably more in improper payments than the entire VA medical care budget of \$17 billion.

What some refer to as "VA-Medicare subvention" is not simply a veterans' issue. It can prove beneficial to the Medicare Program as well. We veterans' advocates will, nevertheless, have to redouble our efforts to highlight that veterans who cannot now gain access to VA health care deserve to be able to use their Medicare benefits at VA facilities. I believe that, as more Members come to understand this issue and realize the positive effect it could have on tens of thousands of veterans nationwide, passage can be achieved.

Mr. Speaker, we've taken an important step in our efforts to provide new revenue streams to fund veterans' health care. New and innovative funding mechanisms should be encouraged, studied and implemented. I am confident that, with congressional support, the VA can thrive as it provides needed care to veterans well into the 21st century.

CONCERNING THE DEAL TO BALANCE THE BUDGET

SPEECH OF

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 1997

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I am voting "no". Here's why:

1. This deal increases the deficit. We should not un-balance the budget now for the sake of balancing it 5 years from now.

The purpose of passing this legislation was supposed to be to balance the budget. I support that goal. In fact, since 1993, when I supported the Clinton budget package against the vote of every Republican in the House, the deficit has been going down. But if we approve this latest budget deal, we will, according to its authors, make the deficit worse, not better, next year.

But that's not all. It has been apparent to me since March that revenue projections used by both the administration and the Congress

have grossly underestimated the amount of revenue flowing into the Treasury recently. The deficit for this fiscal year has been re-estimated twice already, reducing it dramatically from over \$100 billion to less than \$45 billion. We have not seen deficits this low for 20 years. At this rate, the budget will be balanced in 1998, not 2002. In order to ensure that the final budget agreement reflected a true snapshot of current reality, I asked OMB to provide its overdue mid-year estimates before we had to vote on the agreement. OMB refused. OMB finds the truth inconvenient, but the truth is that we have a better chance of balancing the budget without a deal than with one.

Let's not turn our backs on the goal of a balanced budget just as we are about to reach that promised land.

2. The tax cuts go to the wrong people for the wrong purpose.

Targeted tax credits for worthy purposes can be justified, even in the absence of a balanced budget, as long as they are going to people in need. But the vast majority of these tax cuts will go to people who are not needy. Like Pacman, the wealthiest 5 percent of all Americans gobble up half of the benefits. The wealthiest 20 percent gobble up over 70 percent of the benefits. In fact, the lowest-income Americans are expected to pay more, not less, under this bill. Is this fair? Is this moral? Is this wise?

The only justification for fattening the pock-etbooks of the very wealthy has been some notion of stimulating the economy by favoring the tax treatment of long-term investments. But we don't need a stimulus. In fact, any artificial stimulus to this very healthy economy is likely to trigger a move by the Federal Reserve Board to raise interest rates. Higher interest rates are a tax on all of us. We should not ask to be thrown into that briar patch.

3. We are cutting deep so the rich can keep.

The more we give back to the wealthiest individuals in this society the deeper we have to cut in spending programs that benefit everyone else. This is a time to ask those with high incomes to shoulder more of the burden of deficit reduction, not less. As many commentators have noted, we have some major decisions ahead regarding the solvency of Medicare and Social Security as our population ages and our employment pool shrinks. Prudence dictates that we devote resources to solving those intractable problems. Today, we compound them.

In short, there are many good things in this package that I support, and it is always difficult to vote against a package that has much good mixed in with the bad. But I cannot in good conscience engage in the pretense of balancing a budget that is already balanced as a vehicle for a tax cut that is so unfair to average Americans.

4. Telecommunications provisions of the budget.

The telecommunications proposals contained in the budget do not represent good telecommunications policy. In fact, they contain appalling precedents, highly-flawed assumptions, and radical departures from established, sound telecommunications policy—all in the name of raising cash for the U.S. Treasury. The blame for this lies with an overzealous desire to appear to balance the budget at any cost—including the use of highly speculative and likely fraudulent spectrum numbers

and the disruption of the universal service system. The blame for this lies with the ranks of "budgeteers" who have little knowledge of telecommunications issues and apparently no respect for telecommunications policy.

The telecommunications budget proposals accelerate the dumping of more spectrum on the market in the immediate aftermath of having already sold airwave frequencies for PCS, paging and other wireless services. It should be clear that much of the money that is expected from the auctions that we have already had may not ever show up in the Treasury because multitudes of winning bidders are already struggling to find the capital to build out their networks.

In a recent FCC auction forced by budget priorities, many wireless franchises covering entire States sold for a mere dollar. That auction raised only \$13 million out of the \$1.8 billion it was expected to raise. And today we have another budget-driven proposal that attempts to raise billions and billions more from the sale of the airwaves. It is pure fantasy.

Moreover, this policy will adversely affect our ability to democratize the holding of radio licenses. In the 1993 Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act [OBRA 93] we built in provisions to help minorities, women, and entrepreneurs to gain access to the airwaves. By placing the highest societal value on the highest amount of cold hard cash that can be raised at auction we are subverting other important telecommunications policy objectives.

On July 23, eight Democratic members of the House Telecommunications Subcommittee joined me in writing the FCC about this issue. We wrote that we are concerned about the increasing emphasis placed upon spectrum auction revenue to assist in balancing the Federal budget and that that placing budgetary priorities foremost in Commission licensing decisions ultimately shortchanges the American public because spectrum allocation and licensing decisions must encompass a broad interpretation of the public interest, of which taxpayer interests are but one part. In our view, a short-term, temporary injection of cash into the Federal treasury for the purpose of achieving revenue goals for an arbitrary 5-year budget target serves budgetary interests, but it does not necessarily serve the broader public interest.

In particular, we wrote that budget policy pressures may unwittingly work to thwart the ability of women and minority-owned firms to become spectrum licensees. Diversity in mass media licensing has been shown to play an important role in providing programming that reflects the community and its interests. In our letter we noted that this fundamental goal is not only supported by Congress, but also by President Clinton. As he recently said in his commencement remarks at the University of California-San Diego June 14: "We must continue to expand opportunity. Full participation in our strong and growing economy is the best antidote to envy, despair, and racism. We must press forward to move millions more from poverty and welfare to work; to being the spark of enterprise to inner cities . . . We should not stop trying to equalize economic opportunity."

Third, I want to mention the spectrum sale and its dubious budgetary numbers. The sale of frequencies from the returned analog broadcast TV channels is scheduled for the year 2001. The actual return of that spectrum to the

FCC will not occur until 6 years later—in 2007. The proposal then allows broadcasters to continue to operate on their analog channels if the FCC grants waivers. Think about that—that's the equivalent of asking business and entrepreneurs to pony up money today for airwave rights they won't see until 2003 and then in 2003 a determination may be made to extend that indefinitely. Who is going to bid anything for these frequencies?

At the subcommittee and committee markup on the legislation, I offered an amendment to try to achieve greater certainty to the broadcasters, the spectrum bidders, and to consumers. The amendment would have required that after 2001, when the so-called returned analog spectrum has been auctioned, that all TV's sold in the United States must be dual use capable. In other words, they have to be able to pick up and display both analog and digital signals. This will make the transition in the consumer market to digital technology more rapid. This in turn, would increase the likelihood that bidders in 2001 would get the airwaves they won at auction sometime during their lifetimes.

The legislation also contains policy changes that promote media concentration at the local level. As many of my colleagues know, during consideration of the Telecommunications Act, I battled the mass media concentration provisions of the bill and successfully amended the bill on the House floor to help protect localism and diversity. The budget provisions will allow local broadcasters to bid on the spectrum that is returned even if this returned spectrum were to be reallocated for broadcast use.

During consideration of the Telecommunications Act, Congress rejected repeal of the TV duopoly rule, which had been part of the House-passed legislation. The conference committee on the Telecommunications Act refused to accede to repeal of the duopoly rule because of concern from many members and the administration about the very real threat to localism and diversity posed by deregulating in this manner. This concern, incidentally, has been borne out by the experience in the radio market in the aftermath of the sweeping deregulation of radio ownership rules contained in the Telecommunications Act. The NTIA has noted that adverse effects on minority ownership, and diversity in general, that has resulted from the radio ownership provisions.

I strongly oppose the provisions in the budget agreement that would allow stations in the top markets to bid on returned spectrum reallocated for broadcasting. The budget agreement waives the duopoly rule to allow broadcasters to bid on spectrum and thereby own two TV stations in a local market. It is important to note however, as the FCC considers regulatory rules governing local TV ownership, the intent of Congress in this area. First, the conference committee on the Telecommunications Act duly considered and rejected repeal of the TV duopoly rule just over a year ago. Second, the budget's telecommunications provisions only permit a waiver of the TV duopoly prohibition at a point 4 or 5 years from now, and then, only in the largest TV markets. Moreover, this future waiver of the rule is quite limited in that it reflects Congress' intent to only allow such limited waivers in the largest markets when we are adding outlets to the market. Even so it represents, in my opinion, unfortunate telecommunications policymaking.

Finally, the budgetary legerdemain entailed by tampering with the universal service system

to cynically pretend to balance the budget is terrible policy and precedent. This will directly affect telephone ratepayers around the country adversely. The universal service system was created to ensure that affordable telephone service would be available to all Americans. It has successfully resulted in achieving a 93-percent phone penetration rate in the Nation—the highest in the world. I strongly oppose this unprecedented gimmick of utilizing the universal service system as a budgetary gap-filler.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DAVID F. "BUD" WILSON ON HIS INSTALLATION AS PRESIDENT OF THE INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENTS OF AMERICA

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a fellow California and good friend, David F. "Bud" Wilson of Chula Vista, CA, who will be installed as president of the Nation's largest insurance association, the Independent Insurance Agents of America [IIAA], next month in Hawaii. Bud is chairman of the board of Wilson Insurance Agency, Inc., an independent insurance agency located in Chula Vista.

Bud's career as an independent insurance agent has been marked with outstanding dedication to his clients, his community, IIAA, the State association, the Insurance Brokers and Agents of the West [IBA West], his colleagues, and his profession.

On the State level, Bud served IBA West on various committees and as president in 1981. From 1983 to 1986 he served as the IIABC representative on IIAA's Board of State National Directors. In 1987, Bud received the P.S.W. Ramsden Memorial Award, the highest honor bestowed by the California State association.

Bud's love of politics and legislative affairs served him well during four highly successful years as chairman of IIAA's Government Affairs Committee. In recognition of his outstanding work on behalf of all independent agents as Government Affairs Committee chairman, Bud was bestowed IIAA's Sydney O. Smith Legislative Award in 1994.

Bud was elected to IIAA's Executive Committee in 1994. In the time since, he has exhibited a spirit of dedication and concern for his 300,000 independent agent colleagues around the country.

Bud's selfless attitude also extends to his involvement in Chula Vista-area community activities. He is past-president of the Chula Vista Rotary, the Chula Vista Rotary, the Chula Vista Jaycees, the Chula Vista Community Hospital Board of Trustees, and the Chula Vista Salvation Army. He also has been involved in numerous other Chula Vista community projects.

I have complete confidence that Bud will serve with distinction and provide strong leadership as president of the Independent Insurance Agents of America over the next year. I wish him and his lovely wife, Sandra, all the best as IIAA president and first lady.

TRIBUTE TO HOLLY L. GARLITZ

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a courageous Pennsylvanian, Holly L. Garlitz, a 22-year-old resident of Pittsburgh.

On September 17, 1996, Ms. Garlitz, then a student at Penn State University, placed herself in extreme danger to protect fellow student, Nicholas K. Mensah, who had been seriously injured by a woman who had opened fire on Penn State campus while students were walking to and from their classes.

Mr. Mensah was seriously wounded when he was struck by a bullet fired by the sniper. After being struck, Mensah fell to the ground. Ms. Garlitz, who had been walking on the same path when the shots were fired, took cover behind a tree. However, seeing that Mr. Mensah remained vulnerable while laying on the ground, Ms. Garlitz left her cover and came to the aid of Mr. Mensah. Ms. Garlitz grabbed the young man by the arm and dragged him to safety while they were both in clear view of the sniper.

For her brave and heroic actions, Ms. Garlitz has been awarded the Carnegie Medal by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission. This bronze medal is awarded to citizens who risk their lives to save the lives of others.

I am greatly pleased to see such an act of bravery and humanity on the part of Ms. Holly L. Garlitz, who is one of my constituents. Her action to help a fellow human being is one that we all can be proud of and should commend.

A TRIBUTE TO WALTER D. WHITE

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, on July 25, 1997, Walter D. White retired after 20 years with the U.S. Capitol Police. Over the years, I had the privilege of knowing this fine man. He was an outstanding member of the Capitol police force and he worked hard to create a safe environment for Members, staff, and all visitors to the Hill. With a smile always on his face and in his voice, he would never hesitate to go out of his way to assist members of my staff or to give my constituents impromptu tours of the Capitol building. I can remember many occasions when he would make special arrangements to accommodate groups of handicapped schoolchildren from my district. It was important to him that their tour be as exciting and memorable as possible. He would do all of this and never ask for anything in return. Walter was one of those wonderful people who derived great pleasure simply from helping others. Seeing the smile on a young child's face was reward enough for his efforts.

Walter's kindness and dedication will not soon be forgotten. While he will certainly be missed, I am glad that he is now going to take time to relax and enjoy himself. He deserves nothing but the best and I wish him luck in all of his future pursuits. May God bless Walter D. White in the years to come.

THE TRANSPORTATION INFRA-
STRUCTURE CREDIT ACT OF 1997**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the Transportation Infrastructure Credit Act of 1997. This bill will create public-private partnerships to build more highway and mass transit projects, and create tens of thousands of new jobs. I am pleased to be joined by my colleagues, Representatives BONIOR, FROST, OLVER, GREEN, KENNEDY of Rhode Island, MCGOVERN, and Delegate CHRISTIAN-GREEN in offering this important proposal.

The House of Representatives recently voted to reject, by a vote of 214 to 216, a \$12-billion, 5-year increase in funding for highway and mass transit projects above the current \$125 billion budget proposal. Like many of my colleagues who supported this modest increase in transportation construction funds, I was disappointed by the House's failure to agree to these additional moneys.

Our Nation needs additional capital to meet the more than \$30 billion annual shortfall in funds to construct highway and mass transit projects. The Government must encourage private infrastructure investment to match overseas investments. In Asia, 10 to 15 percent of all infrastructure is privately owned. However, in the U.S., less than 1 percent of transportation infrastructure is privately owned. The Transportation Infrastructure Credit Act encourages private sector development, ownership, and financing of our Nation's infrastructure needs.

This bill is needed because there is no compatible financing mechanism available for large projects that exceed \$100 million. Unlike State Infrastructure Banks created by the ISTEA bill, this bill will give the U.S. Department of Transportation the capacity to make loans immediately to large State and interstate infrastructure projects.

The Transportation Infrastructure Credit Act offers an innovative approach to addressing this financing shortfall. It proposes spending \$500 million in Federal funds over 5 years to leverage \$10 billion in private capital investments in transportation infrastructure. The legislation authorizes \$100 million annually in credit incentives for 5 years. These funds would be administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation [DOT], which would offer four financing products that would attract private investments in highway and mass transit projects.

Public-private partnerships created through the Transportation Infrastructure Investment Act can leverage \$2 billion in actual construction for every \$100 million invested by the Federal Government. Each \$1 billion invested in infrastructure creates between 20,000 and 30,000 jobs. This means that the bill can create as many as 300,000 new jobs on top of those created by traditional ISTEA funding.

These four financing mechanisms are particularly attractive to project sponsors interested in financing projects with dedicated, user-fee based revenue streams, such as tolls (for highways) or user fees (for mass transit). For this reason, most projects financed through this bill would be commercially owned.

I would like to take a moment to explain each of the four financing mechanisms, or

"products," contained in this proposal that would be offered the Department of Transportation (DOT).

Direct loans, the first product, would be subordinated or junior loans that would typically be used to finance about one-third of the cost of a project. The remaining two-thirds of the cost of a project would be provided by private sources (such as loans and municipal bonds). The large private interest will ensure that projects are chosen carefully. The Department of Transportation used this type of loan for the Alameda Corridor project in California.

Under this bill, DOT would also offer stand-by lines of credit. DOT would provide two different forms of this type of credit: partial credit enhancement and a guarantee for the debt service on project debt. Stand-by lines of credit help investors by ensuring that debt is covered during the ramp-up period—the period during which the project is being constructed, but there is no revenue stream such as tolls to repay investors.

The third product can be referred to as insured loans. DOT would be able to provide highly restricted insured loans, which are also called guaranteed loans. These insured loans would cover 100 percent of the principal and interest on the federal portion of the project debt, and only that portion of the debt.

The final product DOT could offer is called development cost loans. This financial product, which is also called risk insurance or speculative loans, would absorb the preliminary costs of projects such as pre-construction costs, preliminary engineering, and environmental impact studies.

Because of limitations on the use of these financial products, the risk to the Department of Transportation is limited. At the same time, use of these mechanisms allows projects to move forward with private sector construction financing.

The total cost of this bill is \$500 million over a 5-year period. This \$100 million a year would support \$2 billion in loans and project insurance each year for 5 years for a total of \$10 billion. This proposal is consistent with the goals of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act [ISTEA] reauthorization, and would increase overall highway and mass transit spending.

The legislation also contains a mechanism to back the \$100-million-a-year cost of the loans. By using a fraction of the unobligated balances of the Highway Trust Fund—an amount that has reached approximately \$10 billion, we can support the budget authority created by this bill. States have been arguing that they should be able to put their unobligated transportation balances toward transportation projects, and this bill creates an exceptional opportunity to use these funds for building highway and mass transit projects.

In light of the limited funding budgeted for the ISTEA reauthorization, this bill makes sense. It is cost effective, it builds public-private partnerships, it creates jobs, and it ensures that highway and mass transit projects are built to serve the public good. I urge my colleagues to join in cosponsoring this important bill.

FRONT PANEL LABELING
LEGISLATION**HON. TERRY EVERETT**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation on behalf of myself and 34 bipartisan cosponsors, to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 which requires that imported commercial products—including frozen produce packages—be labeled with country-of-origin information.

The U.S. Customs Service has proposed to amend current regulations to ensure a uniform labeling standard by requiring a country-of-origin label to be marked on the front panel of frozen produce packages. However, Customs has failed to implement the regulation.

My legislation merely codifies Customs' proposal and clarifies the term "conspicuous" by requiring the label be moved to the front panel. This way, consumers have the necessary information they need to make informed purchasing decisions.

Furthermore, this bill provides an 18-month grace period to provide frozen food packagers with ample time to move the required information to the front of their packages without incurring significant costs.

This legislation is consistent with current law and NAFTA. Remarkably, the Canadian and Mexican Governments require strict labeling requirements to ensure their consumers have the appropriate information about the food they purchase. Surely American consumers deserve the same.

THE BALANCED BUDGET PLAN IS
A GOOD DEAL FOR AMERICA**HON. JIM TURNER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support the budget and tax bills that we are passing this week, fulfilling our commitment to the American people to balance the budget while maintaining our investments in the future. I came to Congress in January with a strong commitment to restoring fiscal responsibility to Washington. Since then, I have seen Democrats and Republicans alike recognizing the need to balance the budget. They have seen that we cannot continue running up debts for our children and grandchildren to pay. They have acknowledged that both parties must work toward solving the problem. This plan is the result of those bipartisan efforts.

At the same time, this bipartisan plan recognizes that the American people need tax relief. We are cutting taxes in ways that will give meaningful relief to working families, family farms, and small businesses.

The \$500 tax credit for children will give some help to families that are trying to make ends meet. The tuition tax credits will expand educational opportunities and allow young people to get the education and training they need to succeed in an increasingly competitive economy. The increased exemption from inheritance taxes will let families hand their

farms, ranches, and businesses from one generation to the next without paying outrageous inheritance taxes. The reduction in capital gains taxes will encourage the kind of long-term investment that our country needs to expand economic opportunity and create jobs. And we will do this in the context of a balanced budget. This bipartisan plan gives us a chance to give American taxpayers a break, without breaking the bank.

At the same time, we are making an important commitment to provide health insurance for children. In my home State of Texas, more than 1 million children—23 percent—lack health insurance. This lack of health coverage is risky for children, heartbreaking for parents, and devastating for our country in the long run. Children who do not receive immunizations and other basic preventive care will cost us millions more down the road. Children without adequate health insurance will not get off to the right start in life, and they will not live up to their potential as adults. The funding for children's health insurance is a sound investment in the future of our country.

This bipartisan budget plan proves that we can accomplish a great deal when we work together. We're balancing the budget for the first time in a generation. We're investing in education. We're preserving Medicare. We're extending health insurance to more children. And we're giving real tax relief to American families. This is a great day for this Congress, and for the American people.

TRIBUTE TO THE MOST REVEREND
MICHAEL F. McAULIFFE, S.T.D.,
THE BISHOP OF JEFFERSON
CITY

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I pay tribute to a dedicated Missouri religious leader, the Most Reverend Michael F. McAuliffe, S.T.D. the bishop of Jefferson City. Bishop McAuliffe is retiring on August 27, 1997 after serving as bishop for 28 years.

Bishop McAuliffe grew up in Kansas City, and studies at the St. Louis Preparatory Seminary and the Theological College of the Catholic University. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 31, 1945. He was the pastor at three parishes in the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, and also served in a number of diocesan positions, including diocesan superintendent of schools. He was also active in community affairs as a member of the Human Relations Commission of the city of Kansas City.

Bishop McAuliffe was ordained as bishop and appointed to lead the Diocese of Jefferson City in 1969. During his tenure, he has been an active religious and community leader. He served as executive chairman of the Missouri Catholic Conference, as chairperson of the Steering Committee of the Missouri Christian Leadership Forum, and as a member of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops of the United States, in addition to membership on other boards and committees.

Bishop McAuliffe's dedication to the people of the Diocese of Jefferson City, and his leadership, will be missed. I know the Members of

the House will join me and all Missourians in thanking him for his service, and in wishing him a happy and healthy retirement.

CELLULAR INDUSTRY ANSWERS NEWT'S CHALLENGE

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 1997

Mr. GINGRICH. I want to encourage my colleagues to read the following article by Brian Ekberg from the July edition of Atlanta Consumer Technology.

Two years ago I challenged the wireless telephone industry to become involved in improving the Nation's schools. They responded by creating ClassLink, a program that brings modern communications technology to schools. The first program put cellular telephones in a Washington, DC school. On Wednesday, May 28, the 100th ClassLink hook-up was dedicated at Lockheed Elementary School in Marietta, which is in my district. ClassLink 100, the culmination of the program, will bring together school, community, and industry officials for the dedication at Lockheed. As we approach the 21st century, it is imperative that we look for similar opportunities that increase efficiency and effectiveness in the classroom, the workplace, and the entire society.

[From The Atlanta Consumer Technology,
July 1997]

CELLULAR INDUSTRY ANSWERS NEWT'S CHALLENGE

(By Brian Ekberg)

Teachers at Lockheed Elementary School in Marietta won't have to head for the teacher's lounge to make their phone calls anymore. Thanks to a donation from Atlanta's own AirTouch Cellular, the educator's can catch up to the rest of the working world with cellular telephones. They recently celebrated the donations at the school, with representatives from AirTouch, Lockheed Elementary and the sixth district's own Newt Gingrich, "We're here today because of a challenge two years ago by Newt," said Tom Wheeler, president of the Cellular Telephone Industry Association (CTIA).

Wheeler was referring to a challenge Gingrich issued to the telecommunications industry in which he called for industry leaders to take the lead in proving teachers, children and schools with technology to improve the processes of education.

What initially began as a call to technological arms quickly evolved into the ClassLink program. The program found its roots in Washington, D.C. where they conducted the first ClassLink donation at an area elementary school. Twenty-four months later, at a rate of one cellular donation and installation per month, the program has found its 100th school donation right here in Gingrich's own legislative stomping grounds. Besides providing the physical units to the teachers and administrators, the ClassLink program officers other benefits, including:

Increased productivity in the classroom. According to Wheeler, use of the cellular telephone can save teachers as much as 60 minutes per day in administrative time.

Voicemail system that allows teachers to receive important messages in a timely manner.

The ability for teachers and students to find research material quickly. Several

teachers have already taken advantage of this function, leaving homework assignments available to children via voicemail (effectively ending the "I swear we don't have any homework!" excuse.)

"This really opens up the world," said Mary Jo Brubaker, principal of Lockheed Elementary School. Brubaker said it was only logical that they include teachers in the telecommunications boom because, after all, "The rest of the (business) world has phones." According to Brubaker, parents can call the teachers' classrooms directly and leave messages via voicemail. During non-instructional periods, teachers may leave the phones on to field calls from parents. During active instruction time, however, they directly route calls to voicemail.

Wheeler admitted being a bit surprised at the overwhelming response to this program. According to Wheeler, studies conducted by the CTIA have stated that some sort of telephony was at the top of the priority list for secondary education facilities, with laptop computers and Internet connection falling behind. "Too often we overlook the commonplace in search of the spectacular," Wheeler said. "Here we have the telephone put to proper use, that can have the biggest impact."

Time is money, as we all know, and Wheeler said the time saved by teachers across the 100 ClassLink programs has amounted to approximately \$14 million in educational savings. House Speaker Gingrich was equally pleased with the program's success, calling this and other technology programs "liberating." "They open up opportunities to focus resources on the kids. We think about the resources that are available today and we realize that we are on a scale of learning that none of us have ever seen before."

"The future of learning is tied into the Information Age," said Gingrich who went on to say that the first 100 schools affected by ClassLink are just the beginning of a nationwide effort to infuse technology into the classroom of the '90s and beyond.

What was Gingrich's next challenge to the high tech industry? In a word: WebTV. Offering schools a low cost gateway to the Internet was the major attractiveness to the product, Gingrich said. Just as cellular phones are beginning to creep into elementary classrooms across the nation, perhaps the next step in this journey is the path to the Web.

CSAT KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION GRANTS

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I insert the following letter for the RECORD:

U.S. CONGRESS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, July 25, 1997.

DAVID J. MACTAS,
Director, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment,
SAMHSA/CSAT, 5600 Fishers Lane,
Rockwall II Building, Suite 615, Rockville,
MD.

DEAR MR. MACTAS: We are writing to express our concerns about attempts that have been made to close down vital Pregnant Postpartum Women and Infants (PPWI) programs despite the fact that the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee has provided full funding to continue all of these programs. We are particularly concerned about the Tarzana treatment center, as it has helped numerous

women, children and families in all of our Southern California Districts.

Both categories of women and children programs provide intensive substance abuse treatment as well as strong support services and childcare for infants and children of women in treatment. Families depend on these programs to become healthy and self-sufficient. In addition, invaluable outcome data is collected and analyzed at the completion of the five year grants. This information is shared with other treatment programs to ensure that the best modalities of treatment are replicated in other regions of the country.

We are concerned that you will continue to direct certain women and children treatment programs to close down as you did last fall, despite the congressional intent to fully fund these programs in the Continuing Resolution for fiscal year 1997. To ensure that these programs will not be forced to shut down, we would like to receive your written confirmation indicating that when Congress appropriates these funds for all of the women and children programs, you will distribute this money to the thirteen Residential Women and Children and eleven Pregnant and Postpartum Women and Infants programs.

All of the CSAT Knowledge Development and Application grants are key to ending the vicious cycle of addiction. The PPWI programs, in particular, give women a second chance and their children the healthy start they need to break this cycle.

Thank you in advance for providing us with written assurance that CSAT will enforce the legislation passed by Congress and signed by President Clinton, and that none of these programs for women and children will be shut down in fiscal year 1998.

Sincerely,

JUANITA MILLENDER-
MCDONALD,
Member of Congress.

BRAD SHERMAN,
Member of Congress.

LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD,
Member of Congress.

HOWARD BERMAN,
Member of Congress.

CASA FAMILIAR: 25 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 1997

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, and colleagues, I rise today to pay tribute to an organization in my district which has made innumerable contributions toward improving the lives of everyday citizens in the community of San Ysidro. Today, I ask all my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 25th anniversary of Casa Familiar.

In 1972, Casa Familiar was formed by the San Diego Chapter of Trabajadores de la Raza, a group of local citizens, who were motivated by shared concerns for the residents in their community. Casa Familiar was founded to primarily serve Spanish-speaking residents, but today, it makes these services available for all the residents of south San Diego County.

Casa Familiar provides numerous services to enhance the quality of life for its residents. Through its education department, Casa Familiar not only provides classes for teens and the elderly, it also serves as an advocate for

quality education for both youth and adults. As part of its commitment to the community, Casa Familiar, provides counseling, case management, translation, and citizenship assistance to neighborhood residents.

Casa Familiar recently began to offer programs to promote affordable housing. Casa Familiar has developed innovative partnerships with owners of multifamily complexes to provide safe, decent, and affordable shelter. These partnerships have resulted in rental referral programs, which are vital in helping people search for housing. The transitional housing program has been successful in providing local residents an opportunity to achieve the American dream—a home.

Casa Familiar is located in San Ysidro, at the southern end of San Diego County—adjacent to the United States-Mexico border. The community consists of working families and new immigrants who contribute their share to the greatness of our Nation's economy. San Ysidro is California's gateway to international trade and commerce.

In our community Casa Familiar is known as a leader, a voice for our community. Since its inception, Casa Familiar has remained true to fulfilling its mission of building the community by advocating on behalf of community interests.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that my colleagues will join me in saluting Casa Familiar's 25 years of community service.

CHINA'S MFN STATUS

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 1997

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, China will indefinitely enjoy its most favored nation trade status with the United States. The designation means fewer barriers to trade between the two nations.

Despite weeks-long debate in Congress, MFN for China was never really in doubt. The only thing tested was the will of Congress to send a firm message to Chinese Communist leaders about human rights, terrorism, drug trafficking, weapons sales, military aggression, tampering with United States elections, et cetera.

The President ultimately decides whether to extend MFN, and President Clinton did just that with respect to China. Congress then has the option of challenging the President's designation by repealing it.

Congress did, in fact, consider a bill to revoke MFN for China, but rejected the idea. I voted for the repeal. Yet, had the bill to repeal actually prevailed through the House and Senate, the measure would have still required Clinton's signature. He assured a veto. Again, MFN for China was never really questionable.

I had hoped to achieve a few important objectives throughout the debate. First, I had urged a delay of the House vote—perhaps by only a few weeks.

Second, I had hoped the House would have considered, at the same time of the MFN vote, various sanctions against China targeting the specific problems we have with the nation, thereby allowing the trade issue to stand alone.

Third, I had suggested the House request certain commitments on these topics from the

Chinese Government in exchange for continuing MFN status.

Unfortunately, there was a rush to force a vote on MFN prior to a handful of key events that might have improved America's standing with China. Since that time, a number of reports have been published exposing serious questions about our relationship with China.

One of my colleagues from California, for example, cited the following four specific documents in a recent letter to each Member of Congress.

Religious Persecution: "Nearly one month after the vote on MFN for China, the State Department's report on religious persecution has been made public. It was on June 23 when U.S. News and World Report revealed the report would not be released before the vote on MFN as had been expected. In The New York Times, Steven Erlanger writes in "U.S. Assails China Over Suppression of Religious Life," that the report is highly critical of the Chinese regime for its wanton disregard of religious freedom and its persecution of those practicing non-sanctioned religions. This includes Catholics who believe in Papal authority. In his column, "On My Mind," New York Times Columnist A.M. Rosenthal expounds on the State Department report."

Proliferation: "The Chinese government continues to ignore international agreements and, in some cases, arms our enemies with weapons of mass destruction. These actions place American servicemen and women at risk. Tim Weiner of the New York Times reveals who is buying what in his July 3rd article: "China is Top Supplier to Nations Seeking Powerful, Banned Arms."

The China Trade Deficit: "The Commerce Department reported the U.S. trade deficit with China widened by 9.1 percent in May to \$3.76 billion from \$3.45 billion in April. The gap was the highest since October 1996. The trade deficit with China surpassed that of Japan, for the third time.

"Also in the New York Times, A.M. Rosenthal writes about Chinese abuses running the gamut from human rights to nuclear weapons in The Connecting Line."

John N. Stafford, the Reagan administration's chief Department of the Interior judge, recently wrote in his well-respected international investment newsletter about the tremendous extent to which China influences the U.S. bond market. Stafford recently wrote, "We are providing funding for our own self-destruction, especially when money is being used to facilitate efforts to build up China's military and provide weapons of mass destruction to known terrorist countries and sworn enemies of the U.S."

To be clear, I have no doubt that China's markets are attractive to our agricultural and manufacturing interests in Colorado. In fact, the president of the Colorado Farm Bureau testified in a recent debate that I sponsored in Fort Collins, that most of our expansion in foreign markets could occur in China over the next few years. Clearly, I do not want Colorado to miss out on that, and improving our relationship with China is something I believe we should definitely do.

But extending MFN the way the White House did, simply missed a golden opportunity to make meaningful progress in China.

The very purpose of MFN status should be to foster more open trade with partners who act fairly and demonstrate good-faith policies. According to United States Customs Department testimony, Communist China continually violates United States copyright and intellectual property laws by the mass pirating and sale of American-made software, films, books, music and other media and technologies. These unscrupulous acts

have cost American businesses, shareholders, workers, and families billions of dollars every year in stolen revenues.

Not only does China violate United States trade law, but they violate the conscience of the American people with human rights abuses. The practices of China fuel an economy of mass slave labor and the persecution, torture, and killing of political and religious objectors—replete with documentation.

Yet recent events indicate that the MFN question, if raised properly, as I had hoped, would yield demonstrable results in China. In 1990, the mere threat of revoking MFN led the Chinese Government to release 600 political prisoners from slave labor and prison camps.

There are still more items to consider. China will soon begin deploying an advanced intercontinental-range ballistic missile, called the Dong-Feng 31, giving China accurate nuclear capacity eastward, including the Western United States.

China is guilty of shipping Soviet-style AK-47's and other legal weapons to United States gangs, drug runners, and other criminal elements. These guns are manufactured by the Chinese firm Norinco, and Chinese agents have also marketed for sale in the United States, rocket-propelled grenade launchers, light armored vehicles, and shoulder-fired surface-to-air missiles.

Moreover, Beijing has routinely facilitated the spread of weapons of mass destruction to other rogue nations disposed to using them against U.S. personnel and our allies. The Chinese Government is clearly using proliferation as part of its campaign to intimidate the United States and undermine our influence in the Western Pacific.

V.I. Lenin once predicted that "capitalists will sell us the rope with which we will hang them." I hope he is wrong.

For those who claim MFN will "engage" China and encourage mutual resolution of these serious problems, I ask a simple question. Why hasn't MFN for China worked so far? China has enjoyed MFN status since February 1980. Chinese trade barriers, our trade deficit with China, China's casual approach to trade agreements, and blatant human rights abuses all have come about during that time.

The United States annual trade deficit with China now stands at more than \$35 billion, leaving China with approximately \$100 billion in foreign reserves according to United States Trade Representative reports, most of which goes toward its growing military program.

While China will continue to enjoy MFN status, Colorado should, in fact, push for broader trade markets there. Actually, trade markets would have continued to exist under tariff laws had MFN been revoked, just as they did before 1980. But the leverage MFN could have provided is lost and we must now look to the next set of issues relative to China.

Consequently, I am supporting a package of legislation designed to address specific Chinese issues. Initiated by the Republican Policy Committee, upon which I serve, these proposals will encourage responsible behavior by the Chinese with respect to United States interaction.

1. Sanctions for PLA Enterprises. The Communist Chinese People's Liberation Army directly or indirectly controls a large congeries of commercial enterprises. Such enterprises have been involved in proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, arms smuggling, economic espionage, use of forced labor, piracy of intellectual property, and misappropriation of militarily sensitive technology. As state-owned enterprises, all operate on more or less noncommercial terms, conducting their affairs for such non-

market reasons as military or prestige considerations or the advancement of Chinese foreign policy. And even when operating for commercial motives, their profits subsidize the Chinese military establishment.

H.R. 2188 denies MFN status to the 3-million-man People's Liberation Army and enterprises it controls. This targeted MFN revocation is thoroughly consistent with free trade principles, since the PLA does not trade with the United States for purely commercial reasons. Rather, the PLA's commercial activities serve also to provide it with off-budget financing, thus directly subsidizing the potential military threat to the United States. H.R. 2188 also includes a "truth in trade" provision requiring the annual publication by the Defense Intelligence Agency of a list of PLA-owned enterprises exporting products to or operating in the United States.

2. Tighter Prohibition on Laogai Slave Labor Product. Import of "convict made goods" is currently banned under United States law, but products made in Communist China's vast archipelago of Laogai, reform through labor, camps continue to flow to the United States. The Laogai system is a gruesomely sinister aspect of Chinese Communist totalitarianism. Some 6 to 8 million people are currently captive in the Laogai. According to the latest official statistics, the Laogai operates 140 export enterprises. Laogai products are sold to over 70 nations abroad. Forced labor is responsible for producing key commodities, including graphite, rubber, and asbestos. One-third of Chinese tea is grown by Laogai prisoners.

H.R. 2195 will more effectively implement the ban on slave-labor goods. It authorizes \$2 million in additional funds for State Department and Customs Service personnel to monitor Chinese slave-labor products. Presently, only two U.S. officials in the U.S. Embassy in Beijing are assigned to slave labor monitoring—and they also are charged with monitoring widespread piracy of intellectual property rights. In addition, to make this monitoring meaningful, the legislation expresses the sense of the Congress that the President should replace the current Memorandum of Understanding on Prison Labor between the U.S. and the PRC with one providing for stricter monitoring. Under the current MOU, Communist China largely determines what prison labor camps international monitors visit. The legislation will call upon the President to negotiate a tightening of the monitoring regime.

3. Improving Radio Free Asia. Radio Free Asia/Voice of America broadcasting to China is a desperately needed and cost effective way to promote basic Chinese freedoms and promote better United States-China relations. Currently, Radio Free Asia's Chinese broadcasts are only 5 hours a day in the Mandarin dialect and 2 hours a day in Tibetan, while VOA broadcasts 10 hours a day in Mandarin and 3½ hours in Tibetan.

Chairman SMITH offered an amendment to the Foreign Policy Reform Act authorizing \$20 million in increased funds for RFA and \$10 million for VOA, as well as \$10 million for the Broadcasting Board of Governors to complete construction of a transmitter on Tinian Island. The amendment passed on a voice vote. H.R. 2232 provides a more significant authorization in a stand-alone bill. The added resources will accommodate 24-hour-a-day broadcasts to China in the major Chinese dialects of Mandarin, Cantonese, and Tibetan, as well as other major dialects such as the dialects spoken in Xinjiang. It further requires the President to report, within 90 days of enactment, on a plan to achieve continuous broadcasting in Asia.

4. Annual Report on PRC Intelligence Activities and Active Measures in the U.S. In-

creasingly well-known Community Chinese attempts to manipulate the American political process, to direct political, military, and economic espionage against the United States, and to suppress or distort information provided to or about Communist China within the United States require a direct remedy that MFN denial cannot provide.

In 1985, then-Rep Gingrich introduced legislation requiring the State Department to produce classified and unclassified annual reports on Soviet active measures in the United States, legislation repealed at his request in 1993. Pursuant to this law, the State Department, in consultation with the CIA, NSA, DoD, DoJ, Treasury, and other appropriate agencies, provided annual classified and unclassified reports on Soviet active measures in the U.S.

To deal with the most egregious PRC covert operations in the United States, H.R. 2190 requires similar reports by the Director of Central Intelligence concerning Communist Chinese political, military, and economic espionage; intelligence activities designed to gain political influence; efforts to gain direct or indirect influence through commercial or non-commercial intermediaries; and PRC disinformation and press manipulation.

Cutoff of Loans from International Financial Institutions. China has had remarkable access to the world's private capital markets—including the United States capital markets. Despite its extraordinary success at attracting foreign investment, however, Communist China still benefits from soft loans from the World Bank's poverty fund, the International Development Association, on the premise that it is a developing nation. The PRC also receives subsidized capital through the IMF and the Asian Development Bank.

Chairman SOLOMON introduced legislation in the 104th Congress to address this inequitable situation. Because Congress cannot direct the votes of U.S. representatives in international organizations, the legislation urged, though it did not direct, the President to instruct U.S. representatives to vote against loans for the PRC in these international financial institutions.

Subsidies from U.S. taxpayers are unlike the extension of MFN—free trade, after all, abhors subsidies. Accordingly, H.R. 2196 cuts United States contributions to international financial institutions by the amount constituting the American share of the subsidies given to Communist China.

6. Theater Missile Defense Sales to Taiwan. In both 1995 and 1996, the PLA blockaded Taiwan's two largest ports by missile "tests," which also interfered with United States commercial shipping and aviation. The United States was forced to respond by sending two carrier battle groups to the Taiwan Strait during the crisis.

Sale of theater missile defense components to Taiwan is directly responsive to these threats. Because such systems are purely defensive, they pose no threat to any nation in the region, and by nature will only contribute to stability in the region. As defensive weapons, their sale is consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act. And, because such weapons would be purchased from the United States, no U.S. foreign aid is required for the transfer.

The bill to be introduced shortly requires the administration to develop plans for missile defense systems capable of defending the territory of Taiwan as soon as reasonably possible, and calls on the President to approve their sale to Taiwan.

7. Accession of Taiwan to the WTP Prior to Communist China. WTO working groups are currently negotiating with Taiwan and the PRC over their respective bids for accession to the WTO. Taiwan is applying for membership in the WTO as a special customs region,

a status that does not connote nationhood. Hong Kong, for example, will retain its separate WTO membership as a special customs region following the July 1, 1997 handover.

Taiwan, our eighth largest trading partner, is currently far closer than the PRC to concluding an accession agreement. The PRC still has a long way to go to meet the free market norms of the WTO. Some 100,000 state-owned enterprises are currently operating in the PRC, accounting for over a third of Communist China's total industrial production, and employing two-thirds of the urban work force.

Unlike the PRC, Taiwan does not seek accession as a developing country, a status that would permit it to delay revocation of a variety of unfair trading practices. Yet the PRC, and its proxies on the Taiwan-WTO working group, insist that Taiwan's accession be linked for political reasons to that of the PRC.

A provision of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act authored by Representative ROHRBACHER, and supported by the Clinton administration and Representative HAMILTON, states that the United States should support Taiwan's application for WTO membership. It passed the House on June 4, 1997. Representative GEPHARDT has introduced more aggressive language, constitutionally suspect, that attempts to require the United States to oppose the PRC's accession to the WTO in the absence of a variety of policy changes. Because the Constitution gives the President, not Congress, the authority to direct the votes and negotiating posture of U.S. representatives in international forums, this vehicle is flawed.

House Concurrent Resolution 190 strengthens the Foreign Relations Authorization Act provision concerning Taiwan's admission to the WTO, but avoids the constitutional problems of the Gephardt approach. It states Congress's support for Taiwan's WTO application and urges that Taiwan be admitted ahead of Communist China, which is not ready for WTO accession.

8. Fighting Missile Proliferation. The Gore-McCain Iran-Iraq Arms Non-Proliferation Act of 1992 requires the President to sanction nations that transfer "destabilizing numbers and types" of advanced conventional weapons to these outlaw nations. Yet when the China National Precision Machinery Import-Export Corporation transferred 60 C-802 cruise missiles to Iran, the administration declined to apply the act's sanctions—despite the fact that 15,000 U.S. troops are stationed within range of the C-802 missiles acquired by Iran, and the fact that the State Department itself has found that "[t]hese cruise missiles pose new, direct threats to deployed United States forces." Indeed, 37 American sailors were killed during Operation Desert Storm when the *U.S.S. Stark* was struck by a cruise missile in the Persian Gulf. And on June 17 it was further reported that Iran and China are jointly developing a new short-range ballistic missile with a 105-mile range.

H.R. 188 expressly finds that the delivery of the C-802 missiles violated the 1992 act, and urges the Administration to obey the law.

9. Free the Clergy Act. International Relations Committee Chairman GILMAN introduced H.R. 967 on March 6, 1997. The bill's findings outline the religious persecution perpetrated by the Communist Chinese against Tibetan Buddhists, Catholic, and other Christian clergy and worshippers. H.R. 967 states it as congressional policy that religious freedom should be a major facet of the President's policy toward China. H.R. 967 prohibits (1) issuance of visas and (2) the use of American funds appropriated for the Department of State, USIA, or AID to pay for the travel of Communist Chinese officials in-

volved in the Patriotic—government-approved churches—in the PRC, or in the formulation or implementation of policies to repress free worship.

10. Opposing Forced Abortion in China. The abhorrent pattern of forced abortion and sterilization countenanced under the state-imposed "one-child policy" is a grisly phenomenon with implications both for religious liberty and for basic human rights. The China policy bill recently introduced by Senator ABRAHAM provides that United States visas shall not be issued to Chinese officials implementing this form of "population control." The bill to be introduced contains this prohibition as a stand-alone piece of legislation.

11. Helping Chinese Political Prisoners in the Laogai. Dissidents—not only well-known individuals such as Wei Jingsheng and Wang Dan, but literally hundreds of thousands of others—are imprisoned without trial or even formal charges. Wei himself has recently been sentenced to a second 14 years, without any semblance of due process. That glaring injustice led two former U.S. Attorneys General to offer to defend him at his December 1995 show trial—an offer Beijing forbade.

The bill expresses America's contempt for this aspect of China's current autocratic rule. The bill authorizes increased funding to permit six diplomats to monitor human rights to be assigned to the Beijing Embassy, and at least one diplomat dedicated to monitoring human rights to be assigned to each U.S. Consulate in China. Currently, only one official in the U.S. Embassy in Beijing is assigned to human rights, and none in U.S. Consulates in the PRC.

12. Encouraging China to Engage in Good-Faith Trade Negotiations. The Chinese Government has thus far failed to propose the kinds of meaningful reductions in trade barriers necessary for it to enter the World Trade Organization. H.R. 1712, introduced by Representatives Bereuter and Ewing, combines a carrot and a stick to motivate China to make the necessary concessions to enter the WTO. The bill requires the President to impose "snapback"—pre-Uruguay Round—tariffs on selected Chinese goods if he determines that the PRC is not "according adequate trade benefits to the United States, including substantially equal competitive opportunities for the commerce of the United States," and "taking adequate steps or making significant proposals to become a WTO member." In addition, bill provides permanent MFN status for Chinese goods if China accedes to the WTO.

On July 31, 1997, I signed a letter to President Bill Clinton responding to reported plans for the White House to certify the 1985 Nuclear Cooperation Agreement between the U.S. and China. The action is anticipated for the fall of 1997.

According to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, the United States must have a bilateral agreement for nuclear cooperation with any country it seeks to provide with the technologies, materials and services required to build nuclear powerplants or other nuclear facilities. In 1985, such an agreement was negotiated with China.

But before it is implemented, the President must certify to Congress that China has become a reliable and responsible party to the international nonproliferation regime by halting all exports of nuclear technology to nations with unsafeguarded nuclear facilities. No President has thus far been able to certify this for China.

In fact, in February, 1996, it was reported that China had sold 5,000 ring magnets to Pakistan for use in Pakistan's uranium enrichment facility. In the 1980's China secretly constructed a nuclear reactor in Algeria capable of producing nuclear weapons.

China finally confessed to the project when confronted with aerial photographs in 1991.

I mention all of these examples of initiatives I am pursuing in Washington because I believe the people of China need a strong partnership with the United States. Without question the United States will profit greatly from such an association and our humanitarian objectives could also be achieved. The only thing standing in the way has been the Chinese Government.

Obviously, the MFN question is one upon which I devoted considerable time. In the end, after evaluating these and other factors I came to the conclusion that the vote to revoke MFN for China was, without question, in the best interest of Colorado's Fourth Congressional District, and the United States. I will continue to do all I can in my official capacity to see the relationship between China and the United States improved, and the prosperity of our citizens enhanced by it.

PATHWAYS TO FREEDOM BUS TRAGEDY

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 1997

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to comment on the recent tragedy in Emporia, VA, on July 29, 1997. A bus carrying students and chaperones with the Pathways to Freedom program crashed, leaving one person dead and two seriously injured.

Pathways to Freedom is a program started through the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self Development which helps young people learn the values of those who risked their lives for freedom during the Underground Railroad and civil rights movements. The students and chaperones came from all over the United States and the Bahamas to learn where we have been in order to know where we are going. In the words of Lila Cabbil, past president for Institute, those on the bus were not on a field trip, but on one leg of a lifelong journey.

Adisa Foluke, 25, was the sole life lost in this tragic accident. He was extremely dedicated to the Pathways to Freedom program. In the words of Adisa's mother, "He embodied the spirit of the movement. He connected with the children in an exceptional way, and was committed to carrying on Mrs. Parks' legacy."

On a personal note, Adisa regularly stopped by my office, during which time we had many conversations concerning the program and other civic projects in the Detroit area. It was an inspiration to me to see the next generation taking a leadership role in educating others on the importance of remembering the struggle for civil rights.

Pathways to Freedom has made a special effort to ensure that the program will continue its outstanding work of educating young people on American civil rights history. The children want to continue, as they have been inspired by Mrs. Parks, from whom they learn to live their lives differently because of struggle, instead of stopping their lives in the face of adversity.

NASA LEWIS RESEARCH CENTER:
PART 4

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make note for the RECORD of the future of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's [NASA's] Lewis Research Center [Lewis].

Throughout the 1990's, Lewis, along with many other NASA field centers suffered due to downsizing and budget cutbacks. However, the future appears to be full of promise.

In NASA's most recent strategic plan, published in February 1996, the overall agency mission provides for near-, mid-, and long-term goals. Within these time parameters there are various missions which will be carried out. Comparing Lewis' current roles and missions, they could feasibly be involved in all of the missions in each of the time periods. Contributing to such things as research on the international space station, developing technologies that will enable human missions beyond Earth orbit and advancing the implementation of routine, affordable space travel are just some of the programs in which Lewis has the relevant expertise.

As the Center of Excellence in Turbomachinery and NASA's No. 1 aeropropulsion research facility, Lewis is set to play an important role in all of NASA's future planned missions through the year 2025. This unique expertise would be difficult to find elsewhere and NASA would not be able to meet its goals without Lewis.

The backing of both Congress and the White House in NASA is evident from the fiscal year 1998 budget recommendation. In turn, NASA's faith in Lewis is seen from the fact that their 1998 funding level is likely to be increased by \$50 million. As long as the Nation continues to benefit from the important work that NASA conducts, they will receive the necessary funding, their near-, mid-, and long-term goals will be met and Lewis' position as an important and central component to this success will be secured.

I recommend the following report, which has been prepared by the Congressional Research Service, commenting on the promising future of Lewis Research Center.

NASA LEWIS RESEARCH CENTER—PART 4
THE FUTURE OF LEWIS

When the potential for closing NASA centers is discussed within the space community, some mention Lewis as a center likely to be closed. The reductions at Lewis over the past four years may have furthered the impression that the center is a candidate for closure. One way of gauging the potential for closing LeRC is by comparing NASA's future plans with the current roles and missions of Lewis. If future NASA plans require the resources and facilities of Lewis, that lessens the likelihood that LeRC will close. The following two sections look at how Lewis' roles and missions compare with NASA's current strategic plan. The first section looks at NASA's overall goals and whether Lewis would be involved with fulfilling those goals, and the second section compares Lewis' main role in aeropropulsion and turbomachinery with the strategic plan.

NASA'S STRATEGIC PLAN—OVERALL AGENCY
GOALS

NASA's future plans are portrayed in its strategic plan, the most recent of which was published in February 1996. The plan provides the overall agency mission and defines the near-, mid-, and long-term goals that NASA wants to achieve over the next 25 years and beyond. NASA has determined that it has 3 mission areas: To advance and communicate scientific knowledge and understanding of Earth, the solar system, and the universe and use the environment of space for research; to explore, use, and enable the development of space for human enterprise; and to research, develop, verify, and transfer advanced aeronautics, space, and related technologies.

Each of these mission areas has 3 main goals for the near-, the mid-, and the long-term periods for a total of 9 main goals per period. In comparing Lewis' current roles and missions, the center could contribute to at least one goal over each time period in each of the 3 missions. The following lists the goals in which Lewis could have a role.

Near-term Goals (1997-2002)

Explore nature's processes in space; assemble and conduct research on the International Space Station and enable a long-term U.S. presence in space; develop new technologies and processes to enhance research and make space programs more affordable; and develop affordable technologies for U.S. leadership in the aviation growth markets of the 21st century.

Mid-term Goals (2003-2009)

Expand long-duration research to understand nature's processes in space; live and work in space to develop and demonstrate critical capabilities and systems to prepare for expanded human exploration; lead the activities of industry, DOD, and others to develop advanced technologies that will enable human missions beyond Earth orbit; dramatically improve aeronautics and space system design cycles, technologies and applications to enhance research and foster new products and industries; and apply knowledge gained from space-based experimentation to ground-based research, development, and manufacturing.

Long-term Goals (2010-2025 and beyond)

Expand our understanding and use of nature's processes in space; achieve affordable, routine space travel to enable research and human enterprise; enable advances to aeronautics and space systems to support "highways in the sky," "smart aircraft," and revolutionary space endeavors; and support the maturation of established aerospace industries and the development of new high-tech industries such as space-based commerce.

At this level of analysis, it appears that Lewis could have a significant role in achieving the agency's goals over the next 25 years and beyond. As the Center of Excellence in turbomachinery, Lewis is attempting to position itself as a world-class center whose expertise and facilities are not matched by any other U.S. facilities. As such, the closure of Lewis would appear to inhibit the agency's ability to achieve the goals that have been set forth.

AEROPROPULSION AND TURBOMACHINERY AND
THE STRATEGIC PLAN

A more detailed analysis of Lewis' future can be achieved by examining how the center's main mission as the Lead Center for Aeropropulsion and the Center of Excellence for Turbomachinery coincides with the agency's strategic plan. This main mission of Lewis maintains a FTE level of approximately 970, representing almost half of the total Lewis FTE level. The future of Lewis is

more closely tied to this mission area than any other Lewis mission.

NASA has divided the work it undertakes in its strategic plan into 4 main areas which are known as "enterprises." Each center undertakes activities in one or more enterprises, but each is associated with one primary enterprise. Lewis is associated with the Aeronautics and Space Transportation Technology Enterprise.

This enterprise divides its strategic plan goals into three areas known as "pillars": Global Civil Aviation, Revolutionary Technology Leaps, and Access to Space. The future plans of these three areas are stated in 10 goals. Lewis could have significant involvement in 7 of these 10 goals. A listing of the 7 goals that could involve Lewis participation follows. With each goal, a brief description of how Lewis could be involved is included.

Reduce the emissions of future aircraft by a factor of three within ten years, and by a factor of five within 20 years. This is a goal related to aeropropulsion. It involves the pursuit of engine technologies that lead to cleaner-burning and higher-efficiency engines.

Reduce the perceived noise levels of future aircraft by a factor of two from today's subsonic aircraft within 10 years, and by a factor of four within 20 years. This goal includes the development of engine configurations that would reduce engine noise.

Reduce the cost of air travel by 25% within 10 years, and by 50% within 20 years. Research efforts to meet this goal will include the development of new design techniques and concepts to advance today's state-of-the-art for engines.

Reduce the travel time to the Far East and Europe by 50% within 20 years, and do so at today's subsonic ticket prices. This goal includes the development of technologies for supersonic engines that are cleaner and quieter than today's subsonic engines.

Invigorate the general aviation industry, with U.S. industry delivering 10,000 aircraft annually within 10 years, and 20,000 aircraft annually within 20 years. This goal includes the development of general aviation aircraft engines that are ultra-reliable, maintainable, and affordable, and allow for faster flight.

Provide next-generation design tools and experimental aircraft to increase design confidence, and cut the development cycle time for aircraft in half. This goal includes the testing of air-breathing engines and engine design concepts on experimental aircraft.

Reduce the payload cost to low-Earth orbit by an additional order of magnitude, from \$1000s to \$100s per pound, by 2020. This goal includes the development of air-breathing propulsion for use in space launch vehicles. Aeronautical air-breathing engine concepts will be applied to space launch vehicles.

One could argue that Lewis' expertise in aeropropulsion and turbomachinery and its unique facilities allow the center to have a significant role in fulfilling the strategic goals of the Aeronautics and Space Transportation Technology enterprise over at least the next 25 years. The expertise could be portable, but the unique facilities would be difficult to replicate elsewhere, making it difficult to achieve the strategic goals without, Lewis.

CONCLUSION

During the 1990s, NASA Lewis has undergone significant reductions in its budget and FTE levels, and its areas of work responsibility have been reduced. When compared to other NASA centers, Lewis has had the highest percentage reduction in budget of all NASA centers; has had the second highest FTE percentage reduction; and has a total

planned FTE percentage reduction through FY2000 that is surpassed by KSC and MSFC.

During discussion in the space community, Lewis often makes the list of potential NASA centers that could be closed in the future. The reductions at Lewis over the past four years may have furthered the impression that the center is a candidate for closure. Based on the current strategic plan, however, the near-term closure of Lewis appears unlikely. Recent statements of NASA Administrator Dan Goldin support that supposition. In an April 24, 1997 hearing before the Senate Subcommittee on Science, Technology and Space, Mr. Goldin was asked if the agency had any future plans for the closure of some of its centers. He responded that NASA's future requires all of its centers and that there were no plans for closing any centers. He did assert that his response was predicated on the assumption that NASA's out-year budget plans would be met.

That caveat is important to note. NASA's strategic plan assumes that the agency will have stable budgets over the next few years. If NASA were to undergo significant reductions in its budget, the possibility of center closures might become more likely. The future of Lewis would then be tied to what priority the nation gives to NASA's Aeronautics and Space Transportation Technology enterprise versus the other three NASA enterprises. If budget constraints precipitated the decision to reduce or eliminate NASA's aeronautics mission, the future of Lewis would be in doubt. However, such a scenario appears unlikely in the near-term.

IN HONOR OF DEPUTY SHERIFF
JIMMIE HENRY

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 1997

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Deputy Jimmie Henry of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. On August 4, 1997, the city of Avalon, CA, which is in my congressional district, will be holding a memorial ceremony honoring Deputy Henry who died in the line of duty. The California Peace Officer's Association will present a medal of valor to his wife, Sue, and their only son, David J. Henry.

In 1984, Deputy Jimmie Henry was assigned to police the unincorporated area of Santa Catalina Island when a U.S. Navy jet crashed in a remote part of the island. At the request of the Navy, Sheriff's Department personnel were immediately dispatched to the scene of the disaster to check for survivors and to secure the area until Navy investigators could respond and assume control of the investigation. Deputy Henry was assigned to check the wreckage for survivors at the bottom of a canyon, and sadly to say, there were none.

During Deputy Henry's investigation, he was exposed to toxic chemicals that were leaking from the aircraft. It was only when Navy personnel arrived the next day and approached the wreckage that there was any indication of the seriousness of his exposure to unknown substances.

Deputy Henry's state of health steadily declined following the accident, and on May 12, 1995, Deputy Henry died of his injuries heroically sustained in the line of duty.

I proudly join Mayor Pro Tem Tim Winslow, the city of Avalon, and Sheriff Sherman Block

in honoring the memory of this courageous fallen hero, and I offer my gratitude and support to his wife, Sue, and their son, David, on the occasion of this important memorial ceremony.

A TRIBUTE TO PAMELA SACKETT

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to a great woman and a selfless advocate of children's welfare, Pamela Sackett, who has served as the executive director of the Task Force for Child Protection since 1985. Pamela Sackett will be recognized for her many accomplishments at a retirement dinner on Tuesday, August 12, 1997, in Poughkeepsie, NY, of my congressional district.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Sackett received her education in New York State first at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, NY, and later at Fordham University located in the Bronx, NY. Soon after her graduation from Fordham University where she received her masters of social work, Pamela began working as the coordinator of community services for the Task Force for Child Protection. Holding this post from 1981 to 1984, Pamela developed her skills as a social worker and a community leader. Indeed, Pamela recognized the truth in the old cliché that our children are our future. Throughout her career Ms. Sackett has worked with the one noble goal of helping others. Prior to her tenure as executive director, Pamela continually took on ever more duties. She was simply glad to do her part for our Nation's youth. Among her varied responsibilities during these years she gave of her time as a crisis counselor, a board member, and a supervising social worker. While many would be satisfied with this list of accolades Ms. Sackett continued to give of herself.

Mr. Speaker, her unflagging efforts for the welfare of children is what makes Pamela Sackett so special to those she has helped over the years. While the task force was under her supervision many programs were developed with the one aim of children's welfare. In 1987 the task force began the KIDS program which supervised visits for families involved in family court. Among her other achievements, too numerous to list here, the task force opened the first child advocacy center in New York State. That's why I have always admired people like Pamela Sackett who offer their services to those in need, especially to those that society tends to forget. This type of service does not involve much wealth or acclaim. But it often helps those forgotten children.

Actions like these are what make Pamela an asset to the Salt Point community of upstate New York, where she now resides. We would do well to emulate her brand of caring service for children. On that note, Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and all Members of the House rise and join me in this tribute to Pamela Sackett.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JAMES H.
HARGETT

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 1997

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, and colleagues, I rise today to pay tribute to Rev. James H. Hargett, who is retiring after 42 years in the ministry, the last 10 years as Pastor of the Christian Fellowship Congregational United Church of Christ.

Dr. Hargett, as he is known by his parishioners, friends and colleagues alike, always makes it a point to blend African-American history with theology. In his sermons or during his numerous public speaking engagements, Dr. Hargett will always discuss the present conditions of African-Americans in the context of the history of almost 250 years of slavery. "A son of the South", Dr. Hargett was born in Greensboro, North Carolina 67 years ago. He grew up to march with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and participated in numerous civil rights demonstrations and causes. "It was at this time," noted Dr. Hargett, "that I got the chance to witness the system of separate but equal from a close up point of view."

He recognized that a system based on segregation and bigotry would weaken our society. From that moment on, Dr. Hargett dedicated his life to fighting prejudice and injustice wherever it exists.

Dr. Hargett married Louilyn Funderburke Hargett. Together, they have three adult children and five grandchildren. Since graduating from North Carolina A&T and the Yale Divinity School in the Mid-1950's, Dr. Hargett had ministries in Hawaii, North Carolina, Los Angeles, New York, and New Jersey before moving to San Diego a decade ago.

He was active in the effort against Proposition 209, the anti-affirmative action initiative that was approved by California voters in 1996. He still believes that through strong leadership and organization, equal opportunity will continue to be the cornerstone of this democracy.

Dr. Hargett has been a man of vision and dedication. He has been a minister and a teacher—a conscience for us all.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in paying tribute to Dr. James H. Hargett on this special occasion.

TRIBUTE TO ALBERT SCHERZ

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 1997

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to tell you about a good friend and fellow Republican who was recently taken from us and sent to the Lord. I speak of Albert David Scherz of Loveland, CO. David was born November 24, 1932, in Timpson, TX, and passed away on July 19, 1997. His son, David wrote a eulogy in commemoration of his father that best expresses the kind of person he was, and I would like to submit it for the RECORD.

My father and I used to joke about who video taping the service for our own funerals.

And when we meet again, I'll have to chastise him for his procrastination. However, I really don't believe Dad would have been very good at eulogizing himself, he even asked that there be no long eulogy. In his own words, "Tell 'em I was a man who loved God, His Word, His Son Jesus Christ, and his fellow man. Never wanted to hurt anyone in any way. Knew to be a better person than I was, but the body and soul man was weak. But the Spirit of Christ cannot sin and it was strong within me."

He was one of a few people I've known who was unafraid of death, and lived his knowing that the Father would provide. Dad taught me what it was to experience the presence of God, daily. He always seemed to be aware that Father was watching over him. I always thought that everyone had a father like my dad, but as I grow older I realize how very special he was. I also realize how difficult it will be to follow in his footsteps.

During the last seven years of Dad's life, he became a natural minister of God's love and salvation. He grew strong in the power or prayer and was both a worker and receiver of miracles. Dad watched diligently for the return of our Lord Jesus and never gave up hope that he "wouldn't have to go on the first load." The night of Dad's death, an officer asked the people present in the living room if Dad attended a local church. One of Dad's neighbors replied, "he was the church, he ministered to everyone here."

"Dad" will be remembered for his generosity, kindness, and the love he had for his Lord Jesus. His treasures were never "laid up" in the world's financial markets, but he was a major investor in people's lives. Dad's emphasis on "things eternal" will continue to reap dividends of love and compassion from both God and man.

Albert David Scherz of Loveland, Colorado, went to sleep in his favorite green recliner Saturday evening, July 19, and is now awaiting the return of Christ. He died on his terms; one eye on the sky and his glasses in his hand. We have inherited his legacy of hope and love.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to share the sentiments of David Scherz's son. David Scherz was a good man and contributed to this world in a spiritual manner that will be hard to replace. America is a better place because of men like David Scherz.

HAITI'S ELECTIONS

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 1997

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, just three days before the scheduled Sunday, June 15, Haitian run-off election, officials announced that the second round vote would be called off once again. Haiti's electorate was prepared to vote for seven of the twenty-seven Senate seats and one Deputy seat. The outcome of these elections would play an important role in determining the country's future political and economic direction and could have been detrimental to the U.S.-backed austerity program on which President Rene Preval and former Prime Minister Rosny Smarth have staked their reputations. The following research memorandum, authored by Karen L. Bucknell, Research Associate for the Council on Hemispheric Affairs, addresses the economic and political problems that persist in Haiti and

demonstrates the need for leaders to take the country off the proverbial Capital Hill back burner and place it on the forefront of foreign policy makers' agendas:

PERSISTING POLITICAL PROBLEMS

Aristide's incredible popularity among his countrymen makes any election inevitably one-sided in favor of his new political vehicle, the Fammi Lavalas movement. There were accusations by the opposition that the results of the April 6 elections had been manipulated by the alleged pro-Aristide Provisional Electoral Council (CEP). The elections were further tarnished by a turnout of only 5% of the eligible voters, a huge defeat for the island's democratization prospects.

The tension created by such insinuations of tampering delegitimized the approaching vote to the point that its cancellation was imminent. The White House and the international community have since warned that they would have difficulty acknowledging the results of any Haitian elections until Aristide's old mass base, the Lavalas Political Organization (OPL) which now backs President Preval, agrees not to boycott the election. Compounding political problems, on June 9 Rosny Smarth resigned from his post as prime minister. Now the president and parliamentary leaders in the upper and lower houses must agree on a candidate who can fill the vacant office. A new election date will not be set until the OPL agrees to enter the race and the government chooses its nominee.

Although Smarth abdicated all authority upon his resignation, he has agreed to remain at his post until a new prime minister is appointed. His presence at the June 18 meeting on social and economic issues, including Preval, departmental delegates and mayors of towns, was a positive sign of his commitment to play a constructive role. Some observers felt that by merely remaining as a holdover in his position, he is reducing the built-in tension created by the canceled vote.

PREVAL, STUCK BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD SPOT

Postponing the run-off was also a blow to Preval, who had little to gain and much to lose from this development, as well as from the resignation of Smarth. Preval's increasingly deep rivalry with his old mentor Aristide (concerning the modernization plans) was inevitable, given the latter's direct hold on the population. Preval lacks a personal following and, together with his willingness to adopt hugely unpopular neoliberal reforms at the behest of Washington and the lending agencies, could fatally jeopardize his ability to lead the country through the difficulties of modernization. By giving in to international business interests, Preval risks giving the appearance that things are beyond his control. The State Department issued a statement shortly after Smarth resigned which was meant to absolve Preval of some of the blame for the problems he has encountered while governing. It said, "We think President Preval ought to be given the opportunity and the political space to govern. It is very difficult to succeed someone as popular as Aristide."

There are groups in Haiti that have accused UN and U.S. personnel and organizations still in the country of fomenting the political rifts that have arisen. Jodel Chablain, a top leader for the Front for the Advancement and Progress for Haiti (FRAPH), a notorious organization once led by the ill-reputed Emmanuel Constant, explained to Radio Metropole, "Foreign management . . . is what is causing division in the country."

QUESTIONABLE PRACTICES IN CONTROVERSIAL APRIL 6 ELECTIONS

Haiti is experiencing a dramatic reversal of citizen involvement in its public life, in contrast to the overwhelming 1990 turnout at the polls when Aristide won two-thirds of the vote. A disenchanted electorate no longer believes that elections or candidates can meaningfully improve their lives. As has been noted, only 5 percent of eligible citizens cast their ballots on April 6. Former Senator Jean-Robert Martinez claimed that this low showing indicated that the people "blame their misery on the vote . . . and that's extremely dangerous for democracy."

With 70% unemployment, Haiti is the poorest country in the Western hemisphere, with upwards of 65% of its urban population and 80% of its rural population living in absolute poverty. If only for symbolic reasons, the vast majority of the country's population strongly opposes the Preval government's privatization plan, which is aggressively being pushed by Washington as a precondition for economic assistance. This has become the dividing issue between the president and Aristide which led the latter to launch his new anti-government faction, the Fammi Lavalas Party. "It is impossible to support a program that does not correspond with the people's needs," said Deputy Joseph Jasmine, alluding to the widely held belief that the industries scheduled to be privatized are part of the nation's patrimony. If put on the block, it is feared that these properties—looted over the years by a string of dictators ending with military junta leader General Raul Cedras—will be pounced upon by the nation's tiny and self-absorbed economic elite which already dominates the country's finances and commerce.

Preval's austerity program involves the partial privatization of nine major state sectors, the lowering of import tariffs and the shrinking of the public sector work force. It was implemented on the condition that the major multilateral agencies and foreign donors would continue to provide international development funds for Haiti. According to the World Bank, since the U.S. ouster of the military junta in 1994, the island state has been allocated more than \$2 billion in loans from such sources as the IDB, USAID and the EU. An update issued by the Washington Office on Haiti explained that Smarth recently indicated that the international community finances nearly 100 percent of Haiti's development budget.

THE ABORTED JUNE 15 RUN-OFF ELECTIONS

The cancellation of the June 15 run-offs came as a complete surprise to most international monitoring groups. The general integrity of the April balloting was upheld even though there were some infractions; however, these were neither systemic nor sufficient to invalidate the vote. There were even some guardedly optimistic predictions that the voter turnout on June 15 would increase significantly from the earlier shockingly low showing, if due to nothing else than Smarth's resignation and the belief that the government would now be more responsive to the people's sentiments. Given Aristide's overwhelming backing by the populace, the opposition has been using the threat of a boycott since 1995 as one of the few arrows in its quiver for extracting political concessions from the governing process. Yet all the political players are well aware that a boycott could do great damage to Haiti's image abroad, particularly among international donors who fund the island's recovery.

Given his grip over the masses, if Aristide's Fammi Lavalas Party gains control of the Senate, his prospects of winning the presidential election in 2000 are all but

certain. Hope continues to stir among impoverished Haitians for Aristide's return to office, despite the economic stagnation which characterized his previous term. Hesitant that Aristide's 1990 platform was too radical and unstable, the Clinton Administration insisted that he be little more than a figurehead president. His opposition to the Preval/Smarth-supported austerity programs gives the public optimism for the future. But a legislature controlled by Aristide's party will likely have a negative impact on foreign investment and donations. In a country like Haiti, which lacks the basic infrastructure and natural resources needed to build upon, a drop in investment could have a devastating effect on the future of its economy.

SELF-DETERMINATION OVER MODERNIZATION?

The postponed legislative elections are a crucial element in helping to determine the country's future. Right now Congress is split between supporters of Preval's modernization plan and those who rally behind Aristide and his anti-austerity campaign. The pro-Preval OPL currently controls the Senate. By a narrow vote it succeeded in obtaining that body's approval to begin privatizing many of the state-run industries. There are nine of these privatization programs underway, including the electric and telephone companies.

In the first round of elections, voters demonstrated their abiding trust in former President Aristide. Aside from being huge, it is impossible to know exactly what percentage of the population rallies behind him today, due to the minute voter showing at the polls and the accusations of fraud. With the seven seats in the Senate, Aristide's Fammi Lavalas, party almost certainly would have won most of the positions being contested, drowning the OPL. This scenario does not seem all that unlikely given the fact that Preval and other OPL leaders have had enormous difficulties gathering significant domestic support for their internationally-backed austerity plans. According to a speech Aristide gave shortly after Smarth's resignation, "It is a game of organizing their own business rules which are good for those that have more and bad for those who have less." Such sentiments are widely held by the Haitian population.

What makes for this extreme variation of opinion on the island? Once again it goes back to the haves and have-nots. The initial stages of the reforms inevitably will bring job cuts as private management seeks to achieve efficiency through heightened productivity. Most of these state-run industries are notorious for their inefficiency. But in a country experiencing astronomically high unemployment, such job cuts will eliminate the sole source of income for many families. It affords scarce solace to individuals who must live their lives worrying about their short-run needs (such as how they are going to get their next meal) to endure crushing hardships for the distant possibility of long-run benefits. They ask, what good are such prospects if people cannot survive the suffering that they are forced to presently endure?

If indeed Aristide does gain a majority in any future election he may contest—namely the presidential race of 2000—it is assumed that he will respond to mass public opinion by putting an end to or reform at least some of the privatization programs. However, the United States and other international donors have threatened to pull the plug on development funding if the austerity plan is abandoned, and without such funds Haiti is doomed to sink down to an even starker level of poverty.

U.S. ROLE IN HAITI

The majority of development funds received by Haiti come from the U.S. In practice, this should endow the U.S. government with a significant influence over Haitian

economic and political developments. The basic inconsistency of the Clinton Administration's policy towards Haiti lies in the fact that global democratization is a putative priority for the United States, yet leaders continue to press the island to structure its economy in accordance with Washington's neo-liberal prescriptions, thereby denying the Haitian public (when it comes to privatization) the right to self-determination, the most fundamental component of a fully functioning democracy.

Although Washington was the driving force behind Aristide's brief return to the presidency in 1994, his empowerment was not permitted. Due to U.S. involvement, what was happening in Port-au-Prince did little more than legitimize a process that would depoliticize the island, transforming it into a paragon of the market reforms Washington insists should guild that nation's economic development.

NASA LEWIS RESEARCH CENTER: PART 3

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to add further comment to the status and future of Lewis Research Center [LEWIS]. The following represents the third installment of a special report conducted by the Congressional Research Service and deals with changes at Lewis during the 1990's.

NASA Lewis faces an optimistic future. The center has weathered some challenging times recently, and has emerged even stronger. Faced with limited budget allocations, Lewis has managed to achieve more with less and through careful budgeting have prospered in many areas. They have been designated as the No. 1 center for aer propulsion and as center of excellence in turbomachinery. Lewis' other missions include aeronautics research, on-board space applications, and commercial communications.

In addition to this, Lewis is also a contributor to many NASA-wide programs. In the past they have conducted microgravity research for the U.S. space shuttle. Currently, they are developing further microgravity technology for the international space station. They have contributed to the Mission to Planet Earth Program whose focus includes such things as analyzing ozone depletion and detecting and understanding the consequences and causes of destructive natural phenomena. Lewis also had a hand in the Mars Pathfinder mission which landed on Mars on July 4, 1997, in order to conduct mobile geological studies.

Although Lewis has been affected by past NASA budget limitations, they are currently contributing to the most exciting and dynamic of NASA's missions. They have and are continuing to provide for the future, useful, accessible, and informative research material on a wide array of science-based activities. Their importance to NASA and to the Nation is evident from the fact that their funding for 1998 has been recommended as \$671 million, \$50 million higher than that received in 1997.

The third installment of a report by the Congressional Research Center outlines the challenges that NASA Lewis has met and conquered:

NASA LEWIS RESEARCH CENTER THE 1990S—CHANGES AT LEWIS

Budget constraints as NASA have led to an examination of the agency's management

structure, facilities, and center roles and missions. NASA Administrator Dan Goldin has attempted to meet budget reductions through an agency-wide restructuring that is based on consolidating work at centers, closing of facilities, streamlining of management, privatization and outsourcing of some operational activities, and reducing employee levels. The goal has been to meet reductions without cutting programs. The major effort in this area is known as the Zero Base Review, which was undertaken in 1995.

Lewis (and other NASA centers) has experienced significant changes in its roles and missions as well as its workforce. Several of those changes, such as workforce reductions, are ongoing. Lewis' funding peaked in FY1993 at \$1,002.6 million, and its employee level also peaked in FY1993 at 2,823 full-time equivalents (FTEs). For FY1998, the request for Lewis is \$671.5 million with an FTE level of 2,085. A discussion of the major changes follows, focusing on the space station redesign in 1993 and the Zero Base Review.

SPACE STATION REDESIGN

In 1993, due to continued cost growth and schedule delays, President Clinton ordered NASA to redesign the space station, which was then known as *Freedom*. As part of the *Freedom* program, Lewis was responsible for managing one of the four main work contract packages—the design, development, and fabrication of the space station power systems.

As part of the redesign, Johnson Space Center (JSC) was given lead center responsibility for the space station. That resulted in a loss to Lewis of 260 FTEs and 400 contractor employees. However, Lewis did maintain an active part in the program. Its support to the space station program includes technical and management support in the areas of power and on-board propulsion components and systems, engineering and analysis, and testing for components and systems. That includes use of LeRC facilities and testbeds and construction of flight hardware as required.

ZERO BASE REVIEW

In 1995, as part of NASA's FY1996 request, the Administration directed NASA to facilities, and management practices. The goal of the review was to meet the future reductions without cutting programs. This review is known as the Zero Base Review (ZBR) and has resulted in a significant restructuring of the agency's management and centers.

The primary recommendations of the ZBR for Lewis follow: Designate Lewis the Lead Center for Aer propulsion and a Center of Excellence for Turbomachinery; close the rocket engine test facility; retain the Plum Brook facility but only on a fully reimbursable basis; close facilities/structures with a saving of more than \$150 million by FY2000; plan to transfer/consolidate research aircraft at Dryden Flight Research Center (DFRC) as well as decommission aircraft whose research mission has ended; adopt performance-based contracting approaches to facilities maintenance reduce its outyear funding requirements by \$5 billion over five years. Administrator Goldin directed the agency to undertake an extensive review of all NASA center mission and roles, and operations and other institutional support and technical services contracts, yielding greater than \$100 million in savings by FY2000; obtain information resources system services from Ames research Center (ARC) and Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC), and reduce requirements; resulting in savings of \$50 million by

FY2000; transfer Atlas-class expendable launch vehicle (ELV) management to Kennedy Space Center (KSC); phase out large chemical propulsion technology development and transfer the responsibility to MSFC; explore creation of an institute(s) to conduct activities of microgravity research, onboard propulsion, and space power; and reduce FTE level to 2,027 by the end of FY2000.

Those recommendations are to be fully implemented by FY2000. Some have already been implemented and others are currently in progress. A brief description of the status of the above recommendations follows:

Lewis is NASA's Center of Excellence for Turbomachinery and the Lead Center for Aeropropulsion.

The rocket engine test facility has been closed and is currently being dismantled. The land that the facility occupied may be transferred to the City of Cleveland which has plans for expanding Hopkins International Airport. All rocket engine testing is being consolidated in Louisiana at Stennis Space Center (SSC) which has been designated the Center of Excellence and Lead Center for rocket propulsion testing.

All testing that is now done at Plum Brook facilities is undertaken on a fully reimbursable basis. All NASA programs, the Department of Defense (DOD), other government agencies, and companies that use Plum Brook reimburse Lewis fully for all testing. NASA plans to keep Plum Brook open unless there are no requirements for testing at its facilities, at which point the facility would be put in a "mothballed" status.

Lewis has closed several facilities/structures that were not required to undertake current or planned work. Current analysis shows that the closures will reach the goal of achieving at least \$150 million in savings through FY2000.

The consolidation of aircraft at DFRC is currently on hold. Consolidation of the aircraft became controversial in 1996. NASA's Inspector General's office questioned whether the consolidation would actually save the agency money and whether there would be a negative impact on researchers based at other centers who use the aircraft for their experiments. Congress took an interest in this issue and passed legislative language in the VA-HUD-IA FY1997 Appropriations Act that prohibited NASA from moving aircraft to Dryden if they were stationed east of the Mississippi River. Recently, NASA Headquarters directed Lewis not to renew the lease on its DC-9, which is used for microgravity research. Lewis microgravity researchers will have to use a KC-135 based at Johnson Space Center (JSC) for their airborne experiments.

Like all NASA centers, Lewis is adopting performance-based contracting approaches for its facility maintenance and operations, institutional support, and technical services contracts. Lewis still expects this effort to yield at least \$100 million in savings by FY2000.

Lewis is in the process of determining how it will obtain information system services from Ames and Marshall. This effort may not achieve the \$50 million in savings by FY2000 that was originally estimated.

Transferring Atlas-class expendable launch vehicle (ELV) management to KSC is planned, but will not occur until 1999. Under current NASA Policy, Lewis is still responsible for the overall management of launch services for intermediate and large ELV services for NASA. The agency decided that Lewis would maintain responsibility for management until all planned launches took place. Only two Lewis managed launches remain—the launch of the Cassini spacecraft aboard a Titan-IV/Centaur scheduled between October and November 1997 and the

Atlas launch of Earth Observing System's EOS AM-1 in 1998. At that point, management of Atlas-class launches is to be transferred to KSC. NASA has no future plans for the larger Titan-sized launches. Even if Lewis were to maintain responsibility for Atlas-class launches, there are no near-term plans for launches for such vehicles after EOS-AM-1. NASA is instead focusing on the development of "faster, cheaper, better" spacecraft that require launch vehicles smaller than the Atlas-class.

Major chemical propulsion technology development has been phased out at Lewis. MSFC is now the Center of Excellence for space propulsion. Lewis, however, will retain some expertise in chemical propulsion and undertake research and development in this area as directed by MSFC.

The original concept of institutes involved the conversion of some civil servants to employees of an institute. Because civil servant retirement portability and conflict of interest issues that required legislative changes, the original institute concept was dropped throughout the agency. However on March 13, 1997, NASA created the National Center for Microgravity Research on Fluids and Combustion, located at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. The institute is a partnership between NASA Lewis, Case Western Reserve, and the Universities Space Research Association (USRA). Lewis scientists involved with the center will remain civil servants and stay at LeRC sites. There are no current plans to create institutes on space power or onboard propulsion.

After undergoing a FY1997 NASA-wide employee buyout, Lewis has reduced its FTE level as of March 29, 1997, to 2,152. This puts Lewis within 125 FTEs of reaching its FY 2000 target level of 2,027. Lewis expects to average 50 losses each year through normal attrition over the next 3 years. With normal attrition and currently assigned FTE targets, no additional buyouts or a reduction-in-force (RIF) are anticipated. If LeRC does not experience normal attrition or if its FTE target is lowered, then limited buyouts in targeted areas might be necessary. [See below for further discussion of Lewis' FTE reductions].

COMPARISON OF CENTER FTE AND BUDGET CHANGES

As of March 29, 1997, Lewis has reduced its FTE level by 671 since FY1993 (its peak level). This is a reduction of 18.96%. In addition, since FY1993, Lewis' budget has been reduced by 33%. Except for a few of NASA's smaller centers (Stennis and Dryden), all of NASA's centers have experienced a reduction in budget and FTE levels. That reduction has not been divided equally among the centers. Many employees at Lewis assert that the center has had to share a greater burden of the reductions than the other NASA centers. The following statistics show that Lewis has shared a greater burden of the reductions than most but not all, of NASA's other centers.

Through FY1997, Lewis, at 18.96%, has had the highest percentage FTE reduction of all centers except KSC which has had a 19.04% reduction. Although it is not a field center, NASA Headquarters has had a 36.14% reduction. The agency average over the same period was 13.29%.

Through FY 1997, Lewis, at 33%, has had the highest percentage reduction in its budget of all the centers. The closest center at Lewis was KSC with a 17.59% reduction. NASA Headquarters has had a 52.64% reduction. The agency average over the same period was 5.77%.

Taking into account planned FTE levels, Lewis is to have a 24.48% reduction in its FTE level from FY1993 through FY2000. KSC

with a 42.93% reduction and MSFC with a 29.86% reduction will have higher percentage FTE reduction. NASA Headquarters expects a 49.70% reduction. The total agency reduction over the same period is planned at 23.96%.

The impression that Lewis has incurred the greatest share of NASA's reductions is incorrect with respect to FTEs. While Lewis has had the highest percentage reduction in budget of all NASA centers, KSC has had the highest FTE percentage reduction, and KSC and MSFC have the highest total planned FTE percentage reduction through FY2000.

THE CASE FOR NATO ENLARGEMENT: THE VIEWS OF GEN. WILLIAM ODOM

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, the debate over enlargement of NATO has now been engaged in earnest since NATO Summit in Madrid made the decision to extend invitations to Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic to become full-fledged members of the alliance.

The Congress now faces important decisions regarding NATO enlargement. Probably next year, the Senate will consider under the Constitution's provision on the ratification of treaties, the admission of these three countries, and the House and Senate will consider legislation that will be necessary to implement this expansion, including matters relating to the cost of enlargement.

In the wake of the Madrid Summit, the debate has been engaged on the merits and wisdom of expanding NATO. My position on this issue, Mr. Speaker, has been clear and unequivocal. As soon as the Communist regimes in Central Europe began to collapse in 1989, I urged the expansion of NATO in order to bring strategic stability, democratic reform and the cultivation of a civil society, development of free market-oriented economies, fostering of respect for human rights, and the institution of civilian control of the military forces in these emerging democracies. I continue to support strongly the enlargement of NATO. When the current expansion was being considered, I urged the inclusion of the three countries which were invited to join, as well as the inclusion of Romania and Slovenia. I continue to support expansion to include Romania and Slovenia as well as other countries which are prepared to contribute to NATO in the future.

As the debate on NATO enlargement has been engaged, one of the best expositions of the rationale for expansion was presented by my good friend, Bill Odom, who has had a distinguished military career. The Washington Post published his view in a recent Sunday "Outlook" section. Mr. Speaker, I call the attention of my colleagues to this excellent analysis, and I ask that it be placed in the RECORD.

[From the Washington Post, July 6, 1997]

A LOOK AT . . . EXPANDING NATO—HISTORY TELLS US THE ALLIANCE SHOULD GROW

(By William E. Odom)

Enlarging NATO is the last major strategic challenge confronting America in the 20th century. Previously in the century, this nation has failed to meet only one: keeping the

peace in Europe after World War I. Will it fail a second time? The two cases are disturbingly analogous: Many American political leaders are again obsessed with domestic issues, refusing to recognize their inextricable ties to security affairs and misunderstanding the new forces in Europe.

America withdrew from Europe after World War I, leaving a belt of new democracies, the so-called "successor states," extending from the Baltic to the Mediterranean. France, Britain, Germany and the Soviet Union soon entangled them in competing alliances. Although they all began as democracies, by the mid-1930s all but one were dictatorships. These developments ensured another war.

History does not repeat itself, but structural continuities often prompt similar political developments. That is why the period between the two world wars is so instructive today. The critics insist that NATO can survive without enlargement. In the short term, they are right, but the longer-term dynamics would inevitably fracture the alliance. Maintaining the status quo is a sure formula for bringing about U.S. withdrawal from Europe. Confronted by strong forces of change, NATO will either enlarge to moderate them or be broken by them. And the key to moderating them is Germany, not Russia.

Managing the emergence of German power peacefully has been the major problem in 20th-century Europe. Not only did German leaders fail in 1914, other European leaders share the blame. The resulting Great War produced the Soviet problem, the Nazis and a new war, the bloodiest in history.

After 1945, the United States rectified its earlier mistake, remaining engaged in Europe to resist Soviet expansion. As the rationale for NATO, however, the German problem loomed larger for most Europeans than the Soviet threat, especially for the French. NATO proved surprisingly effective in nurturing a new Germany as well as containing Soviet power, but today the Soviet threat is gone while the German problem is not entirely resolved. German leaders understand this reality well, and that is why they strongly support NATO enlargement. They seek to bind Germany within an integrated Europe as a way to avoid a return to their old predicament.

The European Union's (EU) goal of a "common foreign and defense policy," therefore, is conceived as a lasting solution to the German problem. Its realization, however, remains far from complete as the EU faces the changes caused by the end of the Cold War. In the absence of a multilateral mechanism incorporating Central Europe, competitive policies toward that region will be pursued unilaterally by Germany, France, Britain, Russia and others. (A reappearance of the interwar patterns of diplomacy was evident in the Europeans' reaction to the breakup of Yugoslavia. Finally, NATO forces were required to restore peace in Bosnia.) Thus, Central Europe will again become the scene of some, if not all, of the perverse dynamics of the interwar period unless NATO enlarges to preempt them.

Suppose the United States had followed the advice of the critics and rejected NATO enlargement. Could NATO survive the dynamics of the competition among its key members that would follow? Some argue that the EU could moderate them. But that is unpersuasive in light of the obstacles confronting the EU's adoption of a single currency, not to mention a common defense and foreign policy. Actually, Central Europe presents the EU with a paralyzing dilemma: to "widen" or to "deepen" its integration process? Widening into Central Europe would delay the deepening of existing political and military integration; deepening would leave Central Europe as a zone of diplomatic com-

petition, endangering the EU process itself. Why? Germany.

Britain and France, which were already uncomfortable with a federal Europe that included a strong but divided Germany, are more nervous about a unified Germany bound to be the federation's dominant component. Without a federal Europe, they will be tempted to engage Central Europe against Germany, a game that will invite the most mischievous diplomacy by Moscow. The only viable way out is through NATO enlargement—that is, engaging NATO in the same role in Central Europe that it has long played within Western Europe.

The opponents of enlargement wring their hands about Russia, financial costs and other problems while ignoring the crucially important German problem, no matter that German politicians from all parties warn against leaving Germany on its own to deal with the East.

To be sure, NATO enlargement will cause problems, but its opponents focus mainly on the manageable ones. They usually exaggerate the financial costs. So, too, Russia's probable reaction. The venerable Russia expert George Kennan warns that expansion will destroy Russian democracy. Why would Russia give up democracy to spite NATO? That would harm Russia, not NATO. Actually, Russia has very little "liberal" democracy to destroy. Civil and property rights do not yet enjoy effective protection in Russia. NATO enlargement will undercut those neoimperialist Russian politicians who oppose it and who also misrepresent Russian public attitudes toward it as reflected in polling data. Moreover, proponents of enlargement also urge a continuing and broad Western engagement with Russia, not its isolation.

Other problems, however, are serious, especially the reactions of those countries denied membership in the first round. Their plight demands effective attention—foremost, credible assurance that NATO enlargement is a continuing process, not a one-time affair. An active policy of continuing engagement with each is equally essential.

New members will also cause problems. Some may have embarrassing political scandals involving former Communists and KGB connections. Some may falter in their democratic transitions. NATO, of course, has already coped with such problems in some present member states.

Finally, some critics doubt the administration's competence to carry through NATO enlargement. The president has yet to make the case effectively to the public, and some European leaders believe they are being treated poorly (in French President Jacques Chirac's quaint language, "like crap") in the consultation process. This is worrisome, not just where it concerns Senate ratification but also realities in Europe. When the president told the public that American credibility was at stake if we did not commit troops to the NATO force in Bosnia, he also set an early date for their withdrawal, thereby undermining implementation of the Dayton accord. How can the United States, then, have sufficient credibility in Europe for carrying through on NATO enlargement if it walks away from Bosnia before peace is secure? Success in Bosnia is related to NATO enlargement. Fortunately, the administration evaded the one-year deadline, but the secretary of defense now calls for a pullout next year. Also, President Clinton's occasional remarks on reducing NATO's military essence—for example, after his recent meeting with President Boris Yeltsin of Russia—do not reflect clear thinking about what is required for Partnership for Peace activities. Bosnia and other potential military operations. This is hardly reassuring U.S. leadership.

No great strategic departure is without risks, and enlarging NATO has some, as its opponents abundantly point out. Likewise, there are risks in not going forward, for that, too, is a strategic departure—backward from Europe.

The reunification of Germany within NATO is the greatest strategic realignment in Europe's history without a major war, an achievement no pundit would have conceded beforehand to be possible. But that is only half of the task. Consolidating a community of liberal democracies in Central Europe and beyond is the more difficult half. Failure would eventually affect America's own economy and security adversely, not to mention the negative political and moral consequences. Is America worthy of its liberty and prosperity if it no longer dares to accept such challenges with energy and optimism?

TRIBUTE TO MR. FRED DARIS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE SOUTH BRONX COMMUNITY ACTION THEATER

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 1997

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Fred Daris. He has been a dear friend and lifelong teacher to me as well as to the youth in the South Bronx community.

On August 4, Mr. Daris turns 70 years old. A man who has given so much of his life to our community, he still holds ambitious dreams for our youth, most of which he has very well accomplished.

Mr. Daris is the founder and executive director of the South Bronx Community Action Theater, established nearly 40 years ago at I.S. 139, in my South Bronx congressional district.

The theater was born from Mr. Daris' desire to provide our youth with quality education and the opportunity to express themselves through the wonderful world of the arts. This performing and creative arts center evolved from the Burger Players, a student theater group which performed in area schools and at special community events.

From the South Bronx Community Action Theater have graduated thousands of students who later became professionals in various fields. Some have joined the center's extended family, such as Mr. Rick Scott, who became the theater's administrator. I was also a product of that dream, as one of the first students to participate in the Burger Players.

Guided by Mr. Daris' determination, knowledge, and wisdom, youngsters who are part of the theater complete their studies with a sense of accomplishment and of a bright future before them.

At the center, students learn dance, drama, singing, the plastic arts, costume design, how to play an instrument, and all other components of an artistic production. They learn to visualize their dreams and to reach out for them.

In addition to Mr. Daris' commitment to the center, the South Bronx Community Action Theater has been in existence in large part through funding provided by title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and with the collaboration of parents and other members of the community.

Mr. Daris has always looked after his community. Before he founded the South Bronx

Community Action Theater, he had already accumulated a wealth of experience as the director of St. Marks Playhouse and of the Royal Playhouse, both in New York; as dramatic arts instructor at Cambridge School of Radio and Television Broadcasting; as the founder of the Stamford Playhouse, in Connecticut; and as assistant director at the Mark Hellinger Theater and Carnegie Hall. He also created a theater group at every Greek church

that could offer plays in English and Greek in Greater New York.

He is the first American citizen to receive a royal scholarship awarded by King Paul and Queen Frederika of Greece, to study at the Royal Theater of Greece. He also completed studies at Irvine School for the Theater, Adelphi College, Long Island University, and Fordham University Theater, where he was a graduate scholarship student.

For the many years that I have known him, Mr. Daris has always shown his great esteem, patience, and dedication to our youth and to betterment of our community.

Mr. Speaker, for all of these reasons, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Fred Daris, on his 70th birthday and for his life of accomplishments and dedication to our youth. Thank you, Fred. We all love you.