

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

QUALITY TEACHER RECRUITMENT ACT OF 2000

HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, last week Representative GEORGE MILLER, Representative DALE KILDEE and I introduced the Quality Teacher Recruitment Act of 2000. This bipartisan bill will help recruit high-quality teachers for the low income school districts that need them most.

The Quality Teacher Recruitment Act of 2000 will allow new teachers to have their federal education loans forgiven up to \$17,750 after teaching in an eligible school for five consecutive years. This bill is a win for everyone: school districts will have an easier time recruiting high-quality teachers and new teachers will have their commitment to high-need schools rewarded by allowing them to significantly reduce their student loan debt. Most importantly, students will benefit from having highly qualified teachers in their classrooms.

In 1998, Congress passed and the President signed into law the Higher Education Amendments. This bill provided up to \$5,000 in student loan forgiveness for teachers that taught for five years in a Title I school with 30 percent or higher poverty. In addition, this provision required that eligible secondary teachers have a relevant major to the area in which they were teaching and that eligible elementary school teachers were certified in reading, writing, math and other areas of curriculum as determined by the local school officials.

The \$5,000 in loan forgiveness now offered is helpful, however, education majors graduate with an average of \$17,750 in federal student loans. The Quality Teacher Recruitment Act of 2000 will improve on the existing loan forgiveness in the Higher Education Amendments by allowing qualifying teachers to have their loans forgiven up to this higher amount.

The Quality Teacher Recruitment Act of 2000 will benefit teachers, students, and school districts across the country. Whether it is a low income school in rural America, or a high poverty urban district, schools who have had historically difficult times recruiting teachers will profit from the Quality Teacher Recruitment Act of 2000.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE NICHOLAS H. POLITAN

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of an important member of my district, Nicholas Politan of West Orange, New Jersey. Nicholas is being honored tonight with the 58th Annual Humanitarian Award from the Columbian Foundation,

because of his years of service to the community. It is only fitting that he is honored, for he epitomizes caring and generosity of spirit.

Judge Politan, a life-long resident of Essex County, is a graduate of Arts High School and Rutgers University, Newark, New Jersey. He furthered his education at Rutgers Law School, where he served as Managing Editor of its Law Review.

Nicholas has always been a community leader. In 1960, he served as a Law Clerk to the Honorable Gerald McLaughlin, a Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. Following this trend in civic awareness Nicholas decided to open a law practice with his friend and partner James Cecchi in 1961. The time spent working in his practice instilled in him the attributes necessary for him to become the stellar force in the community he has now become. It was the small steps in the beginning of his career that taught him the fundamentals that would make him a role model to the people that he now serves.

Known for a questioning mind and an ability to get things done, Nicholas Politan worked in Lyndhurst, and practiced in many areas of the law. Along with his partner, he has served as both Director and Principal of the County Trust Company from 1980 through 1987. Politan's rise to higher office came with a personal call from President Ronald Reagan, who nominated him to the United States District Court.

On December 14, 1987 Judge Politan was sworn as United States District Court Judge. He has since presided over many significant and controversial cases. He has always served the people well, and remained fair and impartial. Described as affable and disarming by his colleagues, Judge Politan has proven that he has the intellectual integrity and fortitude to make difficult decisions.

Receiving the Columbian Foundation's Annual Humanitarian Award is a prestigious honor. The organization was founded in 1941 by business and professional men of Italian descent from Newark and the surrounding communities. The group's Annual Awards Dinner honors individual achievements. The Humanitarian Award is bestowed upon a man or woman that displays outstanding accomplishments, while supporting the works of the Foundation. These works include college scholarships for needy students, contributions to children's welfare and charitable organizations, donations to Columbus Hospital, the establishment of the Italian Institute of Seton Hall University and the support of similar programs at other colleges, universities and hospitals.

Nicholas, a native of Newark, was born on the city's West Side. A current resident of West Orange, he lives with his wife for forty years, Marian. The couple has two sons, Nick and Vincent and five grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Nicholas' family and friends, the members of the Columbian Foundation, and the State of New Jersey in recognizing Nicholas H. Politan as a Columbian Foundation 1999 Honoree.

TRIBUTE TO LOIS KOENIG

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lois Koenig, a dedicated citizen and employee of San Mateo County, CA, who is retiring after more than 20 years of service to her community as Manager in the Human Services Agency.

Lois Koenig's distinguished career in public service is exceptional. During her tenure at the Human Services Agency, Lois designed many special projects including Intake Process, GAIN, and the GIS automation system. As Assistant to the Director, Lois was instrumental in bringing together the implementation of SUCCESS, San Mateo County's version of the California welfare reform program, CalWORK's. She also played a key role in developing the Human Services Strategic Plan which identified three outcomes which were used to measure the success of SUCCESS.

Lois Koenig has also served as a leader and mentor to other volunteers and has inspired many in her community to volunteer. Her leadership and exemplary work in volunteer services earned her outstanding and deserving recognition from the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors. In 1998, she was chosen for the Outstanding Community Service by Women Award in Management and also voted Volunteer of the Year by the Mid-Peninsula YMCA.

Lois Koenig's contributions and accomplishments include working with ten major non-profit organizations in the County of San Mateo, Assisting them in raising funds, training their staff in budgeting and financial strategy skills, and helping to raise more than a quarter of a million dollars a year for the citizens of San Mateo County. Lois cochaired the Crystal Springs Trail Day Fundraising Events in 1997 and 1998 and raised funds for the upkeep of trails and the expansion of Sawyer Camp Trail in San Mateo County. She was also a member of the 1994 Tenth Annual San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to an exceptional person who has given much for the betterment of her community and our country.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA RECEIVERSHIP ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2000

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the District of Columbia Receivership Accountability Act of 2000. This legislation became necessary because of information

• 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.

I have gathered that indicates that receiverships in the District of Columbia have been run largely unfettered by systematic supervision; guidelines for performance; monitoring to assure that promised actions are taken, and improvements achieved; cost and efficiency accountability; and other measures to assure that the agency is returned to the District promptly and in good condition.

The only District of Columbia agency to go promptly through receivership and emerge in good condition has been the D.C. Housing Authority. Its receiver, David Gilmore, demonstrated rare management and human relations talent. A Superior Court decision appointing a receiver for special education services for the District's juvenile detention center has been overturned by the D.C. Court of Appeals. Information concerning the other agencies in receivership have raised such serious questions that D.C. Subcommittee Chairman TOM DAVIS and I have requested GAO reports on all of the outstanding receiverships: Child and Family Services, the Commission on Mental Health Services, and the Corrections Medical Receiver for the D.C. Jail. However, information that we now have has led Chairman DAVIS and I to conclude that immediate legislation to assure adequate supervision of the agencies involved cannot await the completion of the GAO reports on these three agencies. Additional legislation may be necessary after completion of the GAO reports, but the bill we propose today is clearly necessary now to assure the safety and well-being of D.C. residents and cost effective reform of the receiver-ship agencies.

Most of the outstanding receiverships appear to have similar problems, but the Child and Family Services receivership, appointed in 1995 by the U.S. District Court, caused special concern by D.C. officials and congressional members after the death of the infant, Brianna Blackmond. Brianna who was returned to her mother, after a judgment found that she neglected Brianna and her seven siblings, with apparent signoff from the court, lawyers, the child's advocate, and the social workers involved. Since the baby's death, no fair assessment of what went wrong, or fact-finding hearing by a court, and no effective remedial action to correct the problem, or assurance that more deaths of children might not occur, has been forthcoming. Instead, there have been reports of chaos and further deterioration in the agency. Chairman DAVIS has set a hearing on the Child and Family Services Agency receivership for April 14, 2000.

The Commission on Mental Health, charged with providing community-based and institutional mental health care to indigent residents of the District, was placed in receivership in 1997. The receiver has resigned and not only have the services not improved, but the plaintiffs agreed in a negotiated settlement to terminate the receivership because the agency appears to be in worse condition than when it was placed in receivership. Consequently, the court and all of the parties have agreed to a transition plan, and an interim receiver has been appointed by the court to return control of the agency to the city by April 1, 2001.

Medical services in the D.C. Jail were placed in receivership by the U.S. District Court in 1995 for a period of five years. Recently, the receiver let a contract at a cost three times the national average without comparing program and cost estimates regionally

or nationally, and over the objections of the Corrections Trustee appointed pursuant to the 1997 Revitalization Act. The contract was given to an entity consisting of employees of the present receiver who have never had a contract before and whose only contract and only revenue would come from this D.C.-financed contract. In response to concerns I expressed, the court-appointed monitor detailed services provided without indicating if other jurisdictions provide similar services and asserted that medical conditions in the District were worse than other jurisdictions. However, she made no mention of the nearest comparable jurisdiction, the Baltimore Jail medical services, which also are operated by a private contractor pursuant to District Court supervision. The court monitor cited diseases at the D.C. Jail, which undoubtedly are found in big city jail populations throughout the country, and did not indicate why the District should have the same elevated costs and staffing levels now with presumably revitalized systems as it had under emergency conditions in the first years of receivership. The court monitor did not indicate why comparative costs assessments were never undertaken or what standards should guide a cost effective system and what completion of the receivership and return of control to the District should entail. No comprehensive outside professional audit was undertaken before the receiver approved large, ongoing costs for jail medical services.

Thus, three out of four of the existing receiverships present such substantial problems that Chairman TOM DAVIS and I have agreed that action to ensure higher standards and cost accountability cannot wait. The District of Columbia Receivership Accountability Act places affirmative duties on all receivers who are appointed by either Federal or D.C. courts to administer any department, agency, or office of the government of the District of the District of Columbia. These duties are:

First, best practices: The bill places an affirmative duty on each receiver to conduct all operations consistent with the best practices and financial stability and management efficiency of the District of Columbia.

Second, annual audit by the District's Inspector General: Each receiver must submit to an annual financial and program audit conducted by the Inspector General of the District of Columbia.

Third, controlling costs: Each receiver must ensure that costs are consistent with applicable regional and national standards (including personnel costs), except that this requirement may be waived during any initial two-year emergency period of the receivership.

Fourth, consultation with city officials on the budget: In preparing the annual budget for the entity in receivership, the receiver must consult with the Mayor and Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia. After this consultation, the receiver must prepare and submit her budget to the Mayor for inclusion in the city's annual budget. The Council may comment and make recommendations on the receiver's budget estimates.

Fifth, procurement practices: When entering into contracts, each receiver must fully comply with the procurement procedures of the District of Columbia and work through the District's procurement officials.

The bill applies to all receivers appointed beginning with 1995. Existing receivers must

comply with the requirements of this bill beginning with fiscal year 2001. I urge my colleagues to support this important measure.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INC., 17TH ANNUAL FOUNDER'S DAY LUNCHEON—
"LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND: MOVING STRATEGICALLY INTO THE MILLENNIUM"

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, March 18, 2000, the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. (NCNW), North Shore Area Section (NSAS) is sponsoring its 17th Annual Founder's Celebration Luncheon at Fort Monmouth, NJ.

On that occasion, the annual Mahala Field Atchison Award will be presented to Dorothy McNish, an NSAS member. Since 1989, this award has been presented annually to a member of the North Shore Area Section, in memory of Mrs. Atchinson, an exemplary educator and humanitarian. Her lifelong devotion to enriching the lives of children and making our community a better place has been recognized in many ways. In 1973, the Primary School on Sycamore Avenue in Tinton Falls, NJ, was renamed Mahala F. Atchinson School. It is indeed a significant honor for Ms. McNish to receive this award, and I am proud to pay tribute to her on this occasion.

The keynote speaker at Saturday's event will be Major General Robert Nabors, the Commander of the U.S. Army's CECOM (Communications Electronics Command) at Fort Monmouth. Major General Nabors has been the Commander at CECOM since September 1, 1998. He has served our country in numerous posts, both internationally in Vietnam, Korea, Germany, and Italy, and domestically, most recently at the command of the 5th Signal Command, prior to assuming the command at CECOM. During his distinguished career, he has won numerous awards and decorations. Major General Nabors and his wife Valerie have three adult children.

The National Council of Negro Women, Inc., North Shore Area Section, is a non-profit community-based organization striving to ensure the educational, social, economic and cultural enrichment of African American women, their families and their communities. The NCNW, which was founded in 1935 by the noted educator and human rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune, fulfills its mission through research, advocacy, national and community based services and programs in the U.S. and in African countries. Born of NCNW, NSAS has been a part of the Monmouth County community for 18 years.

I would like to pay tribute to all of those who have worked so hard to make Saturday's event a success, particularly NSAS current president Laura Lewis and luncheon chairperson Girdie B. Washington.

TRIBUTE TO BOY SCOUTS OF
AMERICA TROOP 3

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of an important group from my district, Boy Scouts of America Troop 3 of Clifton, New Jersey. Troop 3 is celebrating both its 75th anniversary and its years of community service on this date. It is only fitting that we gather here for this honor, for this group epitomizes caring and generosity of spirit.

This Troop was formed not long after the founding of Boy Scouts of America. The national organization was incorporated on February 8, 1910, and chartered by Congress on June 15, 1916. Troop 3 was organized in 1923, and received its Charter from the Boy Scouts of America in January 1924 for the purpose of "Character Building, Americanization and Citizenship Training."

Since its inception, Troop 3 has always been involved in serving the community. The first Scoutmaster of this community organization was William Topp. The time spent under Scoutmaster Topp's leadership instilled in the Troop the attributes necessary for it to become the stellar force in the community it has now become. It was the small steps in the beginning of its development that gave it the fundamentals that would make its members role models to the people that they now serve.

Known for a questioning mind and an ability to get things done, William Topp, the Troop's first Scoutmaster, also organized its first committee. The members of this initial Committee were Adrien Wentink, Frank G. McIntosh and A.W. Moore. These visionary leaders fostered and aided the group during its nascent years, and helped it to become what it is today. Boy Scout Troop 3 is forever indebted to these men.

The early days of Troop 3 saw the Scouts participating in much of the same activities as today. These include basic Scouting activities such as hiking and camping. This Troop has shaped the lives of many generations of Americans, and this is a valuable and noble contribution to society.

This active and involved group from Clifton has many records of its 75-year history. The Troop's archives contain a picture dated July 25, 1926, which shows the Scouts preparing for a weekend trip. The Scouts were the guests of Clifton's then Mayor Thornburn. In addition, minutes of early meetings show that not much has changed in the order of Scout business. Then, as now, the meeting began with the recitation of the Scout Oath and Laws, followed by games and skill building.

Boy Scouts of America Troop 3 continually touches the lives of the people of Clifton. The troop is known throughout the community for its tradition of service. Whether the Scouts are aiding seniors or their fellow students, they have made an important and lasting impact on the citizens of Clifton over the last 75 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Boy Scouts of America, the residents of Clifton, and the family and friends of past and present members of this organization in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to the community of Boy Scouts of America Scout Troop 3.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL KOENIG

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Paul Koenig, an outstanding employee of San Mateo County, CA, who is retiring after 22 years of exceptional service to his community, his county and his country. He has served as Director of Environmental Services, Planning Director, Chief Building Official and Executive Director of the San Mateo Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo).

Paul Koenig's long and devoted career in public service began in September, 1965, when he joined Broward County, FL, as a Planner in the Research Division. In September 1966, he moved to California to work for the San Diego County Planning Department, where he became the Chief of Planning in 1976. In April 1978, Mr. Koenig relocated to the Bay Area and was hired by San Mateo County as Planning Director. He was soon appointed to other demanding leadership positions, all of which he carried out with equal diligence, commitment and expertise.

Paul Koenig's accomplishments in San Mateo County are numerous. His most outstanding accomplishments include the adoption of the first county Local Coastal Program (LCP) that was adopted and certified pursuant to the California Coastal Act of 1976; The Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for San Bruno Mountain, which was the first of its kind in the country to succeed in balancing the interests of private property owners with the need to preserve habitat for endangered species; the Coastside farm labor housing project in Half Moon Bay; the Devil's Slide tunnel project; the establishment of Edgewood County Park and Sawyer Camp Trail; and the establishment of a Joint Powers Authority to operate the County library system.

Paul Koenig's distinguished and successful career can be attributed to his professional skills, his work ethic and his personal characteristics. His flexibility and negotiating skills, along with his helpful nature and sense of humor earned him the respect of all those who worked with him. In addition, Mr. Koenig never neglected the day-to-day problems while keeping his focus on achieving larger goals.

We are all very grateful to Paul for his long commitment to public service. His vision, knowledge and commitment have helped immeasurably to improve the quality of life for our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to a wonderful and distinguished man, my friend, and wish him all the best in his retirement.

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
ANN M. KILEY CENTER

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, on the north end of my district lies a haven of hope called the Ann M. Kiley Center, where people with development disabilities can turn for training, guidance and a place to call home.

On April 4, 2000, the center will celebrate its 25th anniversary. Built in 1975 on 37 acres in Waukegan, IL, the facility consists of 48 single-story, four-bedroom homes. Residents range in age from 20 to 85, with an average age of 39.

Most individuals living at the Kiley Center function below the moderate level of retardation. The primary purpose of Kiley Center is to provide residential services, training and health services. Services focus on addressing basic needs, which enable an individual to function more independently in activities of daily living and in more advanced behaviors and skills needed to succeed in social, work, and leisure pursuits.

The mission of Kiley Center is to enable individuals to develop and achieve their personal goals. Its ultimate goal, whenever feasible, is to prepare for and return individuals to live in the community.

Mr. Speaker, how fortunate my district is to have a place where people with developmental disabilities can live in dignity as they strive to develop to their fullest potential. I congratulate the Ann M. Kiley Center for all the victories it has achieved in the past quarter century and invite my colleagues to join me as I wish this institution great success in providing many more years of quality service to the community.

TRAFFICKING BABIES' BODIES
AND ORGANS

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, the selling of aborted baby body parts for monetary consideration of any kind is evil. Unfortunately, this kind of commerce is one to which the Federal Government is enabler, facilitator, and partner. Although the current law hints against profiteering in the horrific destruction and dissection of babies for their tissue and organs, the weakly worded prohibition allows unscrupulous merchants to proceed without pause.

Equally egregious and unconscionable is the Federal Government's involvement in the exploitation of mothers and destruction of babies in the name of research. Bill Clinton, AL GORE, and their researchers at the NIH are major buyers and users in this fundamentally immoral trade in aborted baby body parts.

President George Bush banned Federal involvement in such merchandising in 1988. Currently, 10 States outlaw embryo harvesting. Clinton can attempt to mitigate the moral, ethical, and constitutional damage he and his administration have wrought upon the fiber and foundation of our great country by reinstating the Federal ban, eliminating Federal support for experimentation with aborted baby body parts, and closing the for-profit loophole.

Mr. Speaker, I hereby submit for the RECORD the following letter I posted to Bill Clinton urging him to respect the fundamental right of all human beings, namely, the Right to Life, and completely stop the destruction of any human being for "research."

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 6, 2000.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON,
President of the United States, The White House, Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.

DEAR PRESIDENT CLINTON: In the waning days of your last term in office, you can still correct your unfortunate decision to allow the grossly immoral business of selling baby body parts for so-called "fetal tissue" research. Congress will soon hold hearings, and I ask you to join me in this effort to end the ongoing destruction of babies for the purpose of harvesting their tissue and organs.

As you know, President George Bush demonstrated great moral courage by banning federal funding of "fetal tissue" research. Unfortunately, in 1993 you signed the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Revitalization Act (P.L. 103-43) into law, effectively lifting the previous ban and allowing the egregious and inhumane trafficking of baby body parts in the name of "research."

Distressingly, a number of private companies have sought to meet the demand of public and private research facilities for baby body parts. As outrageous as that practice is, many companies have exploited the vague language within the NIH Revitalization Act to sell these gruesome remnants of abortifacient procedures for profit.

Although the NIH Revitalization Act made it a federal felony for any person to knowingly purchase or sell baby body parts for "valuable consideration," it did not define the term to include "reasonable payments associated with the transportation, implantation, processing, preservation, quality control, or storage" of baby body parts. (P.L. 103-43, Sec. 112) Clearly, such loose language has given private merchants the incentive and means to evade federal law and felony charges while prospering through the harvesting and selling of tissue and organs from aborted babies.

Modern America has apparently not learned the lessons of World War II. Then, the possessions of massacred Jewish people, including the gold fillings in their teeth, were sold, often for profit, by unscrupulous and evil perpetrators. Barbaric experiments were performed on innocent, living human beings by their Nazi captors.

As a Representative to the United States Congress for Colorado's Fourth Congressional District, I am doing everything I can to end this malignant practice, whether it is for profit or for any "reasonable payments." That is why I have repeatedly spoken against this horrendous commerce and called on Congress to hold hearings to investigate the full scope of the situation.

The question remains, are you willing to end this unconscionable research and commerce by closing the loophole and stopping all activity involving the use of baby body parts or tissue for research? To kill the innocent and defenseless in the name of science contradicts and corrupts the very essence and foundation of our great country.

Please join me in calling for a complete ban on the destruction of any baby's body for research.

Very truly yours,

BOB SCHAFFER,
Member of Congress.

SECRETARY ALBRIGHT'S ADDRESS ON U.S. RELATIONS WITH SOUTH ASIA IN PREPARATION FOR THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, at a meeting of the Asia Society yesterday, our outstanding Secretary of State, Madeleine K. Albright, delivered a thoughtful speech in anticipation of the Presidential visit to India and Bangladesh, with a brief stop in Pakistan. This visit is the first to India by an American president in 22 years and it is the longest presidential visit ever. This will also be the first visit by a U.S. President to Bangladesh.

Secretary Albright's speech was a brilliant background analysis of United States relations and strategic interests in South Asia. With regard to India, she emphasized the good relations our nation has with India, and she said that our relations can and should be strengthened. At the same time, however, Secretary Albright stressed that nuclear proliferation is a critical issue for the United States, and in order for our relationship to achieve its rich possibilities India must take steps to curb the proliferation of nuclear weapons and missile delivery systems.

With regard to the brief visit to Pakistan, Secretary Albright emphasized: "I want to leave no room for doubt. In no way is this decision [to stop in Pakistan] to embrace the military coup or government led by General Musharraf. And no one should interpret it as such." She said that the United States has important interests with Pakistan, particularly in controlling the spread of nuclear and missile technology and in dealing with international terrorism.

In only one area do I find reason to disagree with our distinguished Secretary of State, Mr. Speaker. In discussing Kashmir, she noted that her father served as a member of a United Nations mission dealing with that troubled territory. She said: "He [my father] is now dead, and I am old, and yet still this tragic story goes on." Our Secretary of State is not old, Mr. Speaker, she has pursued with great vigor and energy her critical role as our nation's chief diplomat. We are fortunate to have as our Secretary of State a woman of such distinction and such vibrancy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Secretary Albright's address to the Asia Society be placed in the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to give it the thoughtful and careful study that it deserves.

REMARKS TO THE ASIA SOCIETY—
WASHINGTON, D.C., MARCH 14, 2000

Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright

SECRETARY ALBRIGHT: I am indeed delighted to be here. Thank you very, very much, Ambassador Wisner, and to you as well to Marshall Bouton and the entire Asia Society. It's a great pleasure to be here. Ambassador Lodhi and Ambassador Gautam, it is a pleasure to have you here and other excellencies of the diplomatic corps; colleagues and friends from the worlds of scholarship and public policy, Capitol Hill and the press.

I have to warn you: This is a long speech. It's a "wonky" speech, and it basically—this, I think, is a perfect audience for it, because

I think that you all have spent a great deal of time on the subject. I also, as I look around the audience, I see today people who signed an open letter to the President on the trip, and I think that you will find that many of your very thoughtful comments are reflected in the framework that I'm going to put forward here. At least, I hope you do.

I appreciate the chance to discuss the President's upcoming visit to South Asia. Our trip provides a rich opportunity to promote American interests in an area where a fifth of the world's people live, security risks are high, economic opportunities abound, and there is a potential for wide-ranging cooperation on global issues.

As befits the diversity of the region, our goals are many. In Bangladesh, we will both affirm and advance our friendship with a young democracy that was born in strife, and is surmounting huge obstacles.

During an extended visit to India, the President will seek to begin a new chapter in our relations with one of the world's leading countries and oldest civilizations. India is projected to pass China in size in the early decades of this century, and I can think of few greater gifts to the future than a strong and cooperative strategic relationship between India and the United States.

Finally, in Pakistan, the President will make clear our support for an early return to democratic rule, as well as our ongoing friendship for the Pakistani people.

In these areas and others, we are fortunate to have the support of America's South Asian communities. They are an amazing success story—and a remarkable resource. For the fruits of their hard work, generosity and genius are manifest here and on the subcontinent. And every day they help bind America and the region closer together.

As the new century begins, our foreign policy priorities include building a healthy and growing world economy, halting the spread of weapons of mass destruction, supporting democracy, and working with other nations to combat international terror, pollution, drug trafficking and disease.

We cannot succeed in meeting these priorities without South Asia. The President's trip offers us the opportunity to make progress towards each, and to forge ties that will benefit America for many years to come.

The first official stop on our schedule will be the first visit ever by an American president to Bangladesh. Although Bangladesh has a short history as an independent nation, it has already taken long strides to emerge from poverty and build an inclusive democracy. In the Muslim world and beyond, Bangladeshi democracy deserves recognition as a source of hope for its people and of inspiration to others.

We also want to support the constructive role Bangladesh plays in the international community. For example, it is a top contributor of troops to United Nations peacekeeping missions, and it has embarked with energy and distinction on a two-year term on the UN Security Council.

Bangladesh is also a valued partner on global issues. Last week it became the first South Asian country to ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. And it is working to stamp out child labor in its garment export industry; preserve its tropical forests, and lift the lives of women and disadvantaged with a remarkable micro-lending program that has been emulated around the world.

There is also a very practical economic dimension to this visit. As Bangladesh has moved to join the global economy, American investment there has risen thirty-fold in three years. And with the right policies in place, Bangladesh could make a quantum

leap forward by exploiting its vast energy resources, particularly in natural gas.

Regional corruption in this area—I'm sorry. Regional cooperation in this area—Not good. We'll get to corruption. Regional cooperation in this area would benefit Bangladesh and all of South Asia. American companies can be the perfect partners to help seize such opportunities.

America can be a strong partner for India, as well. And the President's visit to India will be the centerpiece of his trip. In fact, Bill Clinton's five-day visit to five cities will be the most extensive trip to that country ever by an American president.

At the time of the last such visit, I was about to join the National Security Council in the Carter Administration. And let me state one truth at the outset. Twenty-two years is far too long an interval between presidential trips to India.

For decades, the enormous potential of Indo-US relations went largely untapped. The main reason was an all-encompassing Cold War. As the world became bipolar, India chose its own path of non-alignment.

The result, in the words of a former Indian Ambassador to Washington, was that Indo-US ties exhibited "a pattern of misunderstanding, miscalculations, and missed opportunities."

That legacy left a burden of history on both our nations that is only now lifting. Even after the Cold War's end, the United States and India were slow to explore in depth the many areas where our interests increasingly converge. We also failed to lay a fresh foundation for managing our differences.

The hesitation was on both sides. In some quarters in India, there was a lingering suspicion of US intentions in world affairs. And on the American side, some could not or would not understand India's compulsions and aspirations.

Today, however, this mindset of mutual distrust is beginning to change. And, in fact, I believe that both the United States and India are coming to realize that there was always something unnatural and regrettable about the estrangement of our two democracies. Nor is the democratic bond between us merely an "intangible." To the contrary, the values and heritage we share are the bedrock for all our steps forward.

And we have been a rich source of ideas and inspiration for one another. Mahatma Gandhi studied Thoreau and the New England Transcendentalists—who in turn were deeply indebted to ancient Indian philosophy. Martin Luther King, Jr. then looked to Gandhi's towering example of nonviolence. And the framers of India's Constitution looked to our own in developing their framework for a free society.

We both understand that true democracy is never achieved; it is always a pursuit. Human rights concerns in India are still being addressed—particularly in the areas of trafficking in women and children, communal violence, and child labor. But for all our imperfections, the United States and India are the world's most visible messengers of the truth that secular, pluralist democracy not only can work, it does work.

By almost any measure of diversity, India is a world unto itself: seventeen officially recognized languages and 22,000 dialects; every major world religion—including one of the largest Muslim populations on earth; an incredible collection of communities, creeds and cultures; and 600 million eligible voters in some 600,000 polling places—exercising the miracle of self-government.

Considering the vast problems it inherited at independence, Indians have good reason to take pride in their country's survival as a democracy. And India has done more than survive—it has made remarkable progress.

In half a century, the average life span in India has roughly doubled. In place of famine, a "Green Revolution" has brought surplus grain to export. And a social revolution is finally unlocking doors of economic and political opportunity for women and lower castes.

Huge challenges remain, however. Illiteracy is high. HIV/AIDS must be attacked with the same energy that has brought India to the verge of eradicating polio. And millions still cannot obtain clean water, make a telephone call, or afford even a bicycle for transportation.

But for all that, it is clear that—particularly in recent years—India has been on a rising road toward a better life for its people. It is in this context that next week, the leaders of the world's largest and oldest democracies will meet. And we have a great deal of long-awaited business to discuss.

One such area of business is business. The Indian economy was one of the great underreported success stories of the 1990s. By decade's end, the turn toward the free market that began in 1991 was yielding sustained growth rates of 6.5 percent per year.

And the greatest growth has come in areas that bode well for India's future. In recent years, software exports have jumped 50 percent annually—with no end in sight. American companies from Apple and Texas Instruments to Oracle and Microsoft have come to India for its high "tech" and high skills.

And while other countries beat a path to India's door, it continues to enrich the globe with talent. Indians make up 30 percent of software workers worldwide.

This should come as no surprise, in light of the subcontinent's history and culture. The Indian civilization gave the world several key building blocks of modern mathematics. And today, India's pool of trained scientists and engineers is second in size only to our own. In terms of purchasing power parity, India already has the world's fourth largest economy. By any yardstick, its middle class is one of the largest on the planet. And its massive economic takeoff is widely projected to continue.

In January, Treasury Secretary Summers told an Indian audience that a 10 percent annual growth rate is "well within your grasp." At that rate, India's standard of living would quintuple in just 20 years—even accounting for population growth.

Toward that end, Indian governments have undertaken new economic reforms. Late last year, India took steps to open up its insurance sector to foreign investors. We hope it will follow suit in telecommunications and other new sectors.

India's economic reforms are a work in progress. The remaining hurdles include growth-choking deficiencies in transportation and infrastructure; remnants of the old license Raj; too much public borrowing; and poorly targeted subsidies. Changing all this will not be easy. But the overall trends are plainly in the right direction.

This, of course, is good news for India. And as India's largest trade and investment partner, it is also good news for us.

Our two-way trade and investment in India is projected to grow vastly over the next decade. Whatever its exact magnitude, the economic potential of enhanced Indo-American ties is clearly enormous. And we are determined to realize much more of this potential.

Strengthening democracy is another goal we share with India. So I am delighted that Minister of External Affairs Jaswant Singh will join me and five other foreign ministers as co-sponsors of the Community of Democracies initiative in Warsaw this June. This is a splendid example of the kind of ambitious and yet practical cooperation that India and

the United States are in a unique position to pursue.

We also look forward to working, at both government and NGO levels, with a very active Indian presence at the 56th Session of the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva.

And during the upcoming visit, we will launch an Asian Center for Democratic Governance in Delhi. This independent forum will be jointly sponsored by the US National Endowment for Democracy and the Confederation of Indian Industries.

We are also working with India to expand our cooperation in a broad range of other important areas, including science and technology, social development, and exchanges such as the Fulbright program.

Clean energy is an area in which we are striving to strengthen our partnership and benefit our shared environment. Unless we act, India will suffer greatly from global climate change, and by acting together, we and India can also contribute greatly to solving this problem. And President Clinton's trip will underscore that in this high-tech era, India can both prosper in the global economy and protect the global environment.

That brings me, at last, to security issues.

The United States continues to seek universal adherence to the NPT. We believe the South Asian nuclear tests of May 1998 were a historic mistake. And UN Security Council Resolution 1172 makes it plain that the international community agrees with us.

We recognize fully: Only the Indian government has the sovereign right to make decisions about what is necessary for the defense of India and its interests. The United States does not regard India's missiles or nuclear weapons as a direct threat to us. But we do regard proliferation—anywhere—as our Number One security concern.

And for this reason, we must accept that significant progress in this area is necessary, before India and the United States can realize fully the vast potential of our relationship.

Deputy Secretary Talbott and Minister Singh have gone to unprecedented lengths to put our dialogue on these topics on a more productive footing. And the Cold War's end opened up new opportunities to work toward a world in which the risks and roles of nuclear weapons can be reduced, and ultimately eliminated. We and India agree that it would be tragic if actions now being taken led the world not toward seizing these opportunities, but instead toward new risks of nuclear war.

We have not yet found a way to create sufficient common ground on these issues. But I am convinced that our relationship today has the strength and breadth to keep working through our differences and find a way forward.

So we will continue to discuss how to pursue security requirements without contributing to a costly and destabilizing nuclear and missile arms race. Our goal is to ensure that people everywhere will be freed of such devastating dangers and economic burdens.

We believe that the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty would advance India's security interests—as, by the way, it would advance our own. And that is why, yesterday, I appeared yesterday with General Shalikashvili to highlight the important role in the Administration's continuing efforts with the US Senate on the CTBT that General Shalikashvili will play.

We likewise believe that steps to strengthen India's already-effective system of export controls would be in our common interests. So would a global treaty to ban the production of fissile material for weapons—and pending that, a multilateral moratorium.

India has emphasized that its decisions are not taken with a narrow regional focus, and

we accept that point. But India's decisions also have consequences beyond South Asia. Here, prudence and clarity in India's plans and doctrines could yield great benefits. For a pattern of steeply rising defense budgets in Asia would serve neither the continent's security interests nor its development needs. Such principles of restraint are consistent with statements India's own leaders have made.

How India addresses all these issues will, of course, influence the decisions we make. But our goal is a qualitatively different and better relationship with India—not a simple return to the status quo before the tests.

Our ability to attain this goal will depend largely on what India does. And the limits on our ability to cooperate with India are a matter of US law, as well as our international obligations. And our approach to nonproliferation is global. We cannot abandon it simply because we desire an improved relationship. Any other stance would break faith with all the nations—from South Africa to South America to the former Soviet republics—who decisions to strengthen their own security and the cause of nonproliferation by joining the NPT. And it would give cover to states which, unlike India, might threaten us directly.

We will persist in our efforts to reconcile, to the greatest extent possible, our nonproliferation concerns with India's appreciation of its security requirements. Our dialogue on these subjects will be continued during the President's trip, and beyond.

One topic we will discuss in both India and Pakistan is the relationship between these two countries. Let me say a word about the President's decision to stop in Pakistan at the end of our trip. And on one key issue, I want to leave no room for doubt. In no way is this a decision to endorse the military coup or government led by General Musharraf. And no one should interpret it as such.

We are going to Pakistan because the United States has interests there which are important—and urgent. Our interests include avoiding the threat of conflict in South Asia; fostering democracy in Pakistan; fighting terrorism; preventing proliferation; and doing what we can to help create an environment of regional peace and security; and reaching out to a people whose history is one of friendship with the United States.

The President is not going to Pakistan to mediate the Kashmir dispute. We have made it clear he will not do that unless both sides ask.

Last 4th of July, the President's ability to engage directly with the Pakistani Government played a key role in defusing a tense conflict in Kargil. For the President to maintain such lines of communication may be very important in any future crisis.

Some of you know that, when I was a young girl, my father worked as a diplomat at the UN on the problem of Kashmir. He wrote a book whose first chapter contains the simple but eloquent statement, "The history of Kashmir is a sad story." He is now dead, and I am old, and yet still this tragic story goes on.

But today, the conflict over Kashmir has been fundamentally transformed. For nations must not attempt to change borders or zones of occupation through armed force. And now that they have exploded nuclear devices, India and Pakistan have all the more reason to avoid an armed conflict, and all the more reason to restart a discussion on ways to build confidence and prevent escalation.

India and Pakistan today must find some way to move forward. The process is not one that the international community can prescribe for them. We only know that it will

take courage—but not the courage of soldiers.

And we can be sure of one more practical reality: Tangible steps must be taken to respect the Line of Control. For so long as this simple principle is violated, the people of Kashmir have no real hope of peace.

Another vital US interest in Pakistan is countering terrorism. The terrorist camps next door in Afghanistan directly threaten American lives. Because of Pakistan's influence with its neighbor, this matter will be high on the President's agenda.

General Musharraf has offered to go to Afghanistan himself to discuss concerns about terrorism. We hope to hear more from him about this. And we want to see steps to address the effects of terror on Pakistan's neighbors, notably India.

Nothing would do more to bolster the entire world's confidence in Pakistan's government than to learn that its people will regain their ability to choose their leaders sooner rather than later. And few things did more to undermine the confidence than the recent order that judges take an oath of loyalty to the military, rather than to the constitution.

In all these areas and others, we see opportunities not for mere gestures, but for real steps forward. For example, Pakistan's foreign minister has recently argued the advantages, from Pakistan's own standpoint, of early signature of the CTBT. Now, that would be the kind of coup for Pakistan—and I guarantee, the international community would rally around it.

President Clinton will go to India, and also to Bangladesh and Pakistan, to strengthen America's bonds with a region that is growing in importance with each passing year. And in so doing, he will affirm on an official level what many in this room can testify to in their own lives.

For the connections between America and South Asia are manifest. They may come in the form of a physician from Mumbai who spends part of her time each year in Los Angeles; or a businessman in Boston who is developing a new technology with a firm in Dhaka; or a teacher from Tennessee who is working with young people in Islamabad.

In today's world, geography is no longer destiny. America and South Asia are distant, but we are linked in the opportunities we have, the threats we face, and the changes to which we must respond.

President Clinton's historic visit offers the prospect of a welcome new chapter in our relations with India and her neighbors. But although that chapter may begin with a visit from the White House, it will be written by the people of all our countries.

For the President's visit, I ask your support next week. For the larger task, I urge your active participation in the months and years to come.

Thank you all very much for your attention.

TRIBUTE TO DORIS COLEY KENNER-JACKSON

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of a distinguished singer, Doris Coley Kenner-Jackson of Passaic, New Jersey, whose memorial today celebrates her remarkable talents and legacy. She epitomizes a strong spirit and never forgot from where she came.

Doris Coley Kenner-Jackson was born August 2, 1941 in Wayne County, North Carolina to the late Zeno and Ruth Best Coley. She was the oldest of five children born to this family. One brother, Leodie, preceded her in death. The world lost a truly remarkable woman on February 4, 2000 when Doris passed away at the Kaiser P. Memorial Hospital of Sacramento, California.

Her educational growth began in the two Goldsboro City Schools, Greenleaf and East End, and continued in Passaic where her family moved during the late Nineteen Fifties. Once in New Jersey she continued her education, and attended Passaic High School. During high school, Doris' main pursuit was music. It was at this time that she proved herself to be a remarkable singer.

Always an active and involved vocalist, Doris learned much of her skill in the church. Music was her passion and her gift to the world. Her love for music was deeply rooted in gospel. The early years spent singing in the church choir instilled in Doris the attributes necessary for her to become a stellar force in the music industry. It was the small steps in the beginning of her life that taught her the fundamentals that would make her a role model to scores upon scores of people worldwide.

Doris has had a remarkable career, which has taken her to the top of the charts. While she was a student at Passaic High School, she and three classmates, Shirley Alston Reeves, Beverly Lee and Addie Mickie Harris formed a pop ensemble that became the Shirelles.

The singing group eventually revolutionized the "girl group" sound of the Fifties and Sixties. This success was punctuated by ten hit singles including, "Tonight's the Night," "Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow?," "Soldier Boy," "Mama Said" and "Dedicated to the one I Love." The latter, an American classic, featured Doris as the lead vocalist. It is interesting to note that this sound is experiencing a current renaissance heralded by Britain's Spice Girls who debuted in the United States in 1996.

This native of North Carolina, who later moved to New Jersey, found fame and fortune around the world. As a member of the Shirelles, she received numerous awards in many countries. One highlight of her life and career came on January 17, 1996 in New York City, New York when the Shirelles were inducted into the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame of Cleveland, Ohio. To mark this achievement, the auditorium of Passaic High School was named in honor of the group. In addition, Doris was inducted into the Rhythm & Blues Foundation.

Doris was united in marriage to Alfonza Kenner, until his death. Together they had two sons, Antonio and Gary. Later, she married Wallace Jackson with whom she had twins, Tracy Jackson and Staci Jackson Richardson.

All who knew Doris felt her magic and unique ability to form a distinctive bond with each and every person she met. The magic transcended all boundaries and is a true testament to the loving kindness of her spirit. Despite being ill, she was performing concerts until the end. This includes a series of shows from January 8 through January 15, 2000 aboard a cruise ship.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the City of Passaic, Doris' family,

friends and me, in recognizing the outstanding accomplishments in life and in music of Doris Coley Kenner-Jackson.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, on March 8, 2000, I missed five votes because I was delayed in California because of a canceled flight.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 29, "aye" on rollcall No. 31, "aye" on rollcall No. 32, "aye" on rollcall No. 33 and "aye" on rollcall No. 34.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO BETTY WILSON

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, my district lost a veteran community leader on Monday with the passing of Betty Wilson, the first woman to serve as mayor in Los Angeles County.

Born in Danville, Illinois on June 13, 1915, Betty Wilson and her husband Sterling Wilson moved to Santa Fe Springs in 1949. Working as a field deputy for Los Angeles City Council members for 25 years, Betty developed a keen understanding of public service. She was actively involved in efforts to make Santa Fe Springs a city, and when voters approved incorporation in 1957, they also elected her to the city council. The council then chose Betty to be the first mayor of Santa Fe Springs. As one of the founders of Santa Fe Springs, Betty played a key role in shaping the city's mission to be a business community. She served on the city council for four decades, retiring in 1997, and also served as mayor a total of 11 times.

Betty's dedication to public service is evident by the number of organizations she has been involved with and the awards she has won. Betty was Chapter President of the Santa Fe Springs Business and Professional Women's Club; a member of the Santa Fe Springs Women's Club; Honorary Member of the Soroptimist International of Santa Fe Springs; and the Los Angeles County Children's Services Task Force. She was President of the Los Angeles County Division of the League of California Cities, chaired the League's Human Resources Committee and served on the League's Revenue and Taxation Committee, Action Plan for Local Government Task Force, and Transportation Task Force. In addition to being the first woman mayor in Los Angeles County, Betty was the first woman to chair the National League of Cities.

Long active in the Sister City Program, Betty served three terms as President; became President Emeritus of the Town Affiliation As-

sociation of the U.S., Inc. (Sister Cities International); and was the Council Liaison to the Santa Fe Springs Sister City Committee, Community Program Committee and Beautification Committee.

Betty chaired the International Municipal Cooperation Committee; served as an Executive Committee member of the Southern California Joint Powers Insurance Authority; was co-Chair and Council Liaison for the Santa Fe Springs Emergency Preparedness Conference for Business and Industry; and sat on the Advisory Council for the Salvation Army Transitional Living Center in Whittier.

Betty Wilson's long list of community commitment has been recognized by her listing in "Who's Who in American Women" and in "Outstanding Civic Leaders of America." She was awarded the "Peace Dollar" for her work in the Sister City Program, and the Dwight D. Eisenhower Award for distinguished service in furtherance of the goals of international understanding through participation in the U.S. Sister Cities Program. Betty also received the United States Air Force Award for the advancement of peace through air power; the California Business and Professional Women's Club Civic Award; the National Civic Committee's People-to-People award; and the annual Good Scout Award by the Boy Scouts of America. Betty and her husband Sterling, who passed away in 1990, were named the 1985 "Residential Citizens of the Year" by the Santa Fe Springs Chamber of Commerce.

Betty is survived by her son Robert, daughter Jacqueline, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Her family and friends will miss her greatly and to them I extend my sincerest heartfelt sympathy and pray that they will receive God's comforting graces in abundance.

WACHUSETT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to recognize Wachusett Regional High School for being designated a GRAMMY Signature School by the GRAMMY Foundation. The GRAMMY Foundation is a non for profit arm of the recording Academy, dedicated to advancing the role of music and art based education across the country and ensuring access to America's rich cultural legacy.

Wachusett was one of only 100 schools to be selected out of over 18,000 schools. I believe that this national recognition is a credit to all the students, parents, and teachers that make the Wachusett's music program so special. After submitting their application to an independent data compiling firm for processing last September, Wachusett was asked to submit additional information including recordings of school concerts, sample concert programs, and music curriculum, which was reviewed by an independent screening committee. The committee then designated Wachusett Regional High School as a GRAMMY Signature School.

Congratulations to Dr. Pandiscio, students, families, and all my friends at Wachusett Regional High School on this wonderful recognition. I join the entire community in celebrating this marvelous achievement.

TRIBUTE TO RABBI AND MRS. SUGARMAN

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rabbi Marvin and Rebbetzin Avis Sugarman who will be honored at the Shaarey Zedek Congregation's 46th Annual Banquet on March 19, 2000. The occasion will mark Rabbi Sugarman's retirement and will celebrate the thirty-two years of dedicated service that both Rabbi and Mrs. Sugarman have given the Shaarey Zedek community since 1967.

I have known Rabbi Sugarman for 26 of those years and for all that time, I have watched with great admiration the tireless and energetic work that he and his wife have given to Shaarey Zedek. Their efforts have made it the largest Orthodox congregation in the San Fernando Valley and the second largest in Los Angeles. The depth of their concern for their congregants and their love for humanity made the temple community into a warm and welcoming family. No matter how busy he was, Rabbi Sugarman's first priority was to provide help and spiritual guidance to the members of his synagogue. He is a much respected and much beloved figure in Los Angeles.

Throughout Rabbi Sugarman's distinguished 44-year rabbinical career, he has been a dedicated student of Judaism. He has delivered thousands of learned sermons on a plethora of topics and issues, but his discourses on morality, responsibility, and duty have been especially enlightening and instructive. His focus has been not only upon his synagogue or even his religion, but against the moral decline and decay in our society. He has spoken out forcefully and effectively on this important subject.

Rebbetzin Sugarman will be honored for her understanding, devotion, intellectual integrity, and spiritual sensitivity. Her unwavering support has added immeasurably to the strength of this remarkable couple. By her active involvement in the synagogue Sisterhood and the Shaarey Zedek community at large, she provided both inspiration and example to its members. In addition, she has distinguished herself in her chosen career as a clinical dietitian in the health-care field and as the Administrative Dietitian in the Kosher Kitchen of Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.

Among the greatest achievements of Rabbi and Rebbetzin Sugarman are the five outstanding children they raised in their 44 years of marriage and among the great pleasures they look forward to in retirement is time to spend with the many grandchildren who bring them enormous pride.

It is distinct pleasure to ask my colleagues to join with me in saluting Rabbi and Rebbetzin Sugarman for their dedicated service to the Jewish community of Southern California.

TRIBUTE TO JOSE AND MAGALY
ROHAIDY

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of two distinguished members of the Hispanic community and the community-at-large, Jose and Magaly Rohaidy of West New York, New Jersey, who are being feted today because of their many years of service and leadership. It is only fitting that we gathered here in their honor, for they epitomize care, generosity and professionalism.

Both of these eminent community leaders are dedicated journalists, Jose has served his profession since he was a young man in Havana, Cuba. He was the director for "Radio Nacional" of Cuba. The time spent working with this organization instilled in Jose the attributes necessary for him to become a stellar force in the journalism community. Jose has been a reporter for El Diario-La Prensa for more than 30 years. In addition he has worked with Radio WADO for more than two decades.

Known for a questioning mind and an ability to get things done, Magaly Rohaidy has also had a distinguished career. She began in the textile industry in Cuba. In 1970 she founded Mini-Mundo Magazine and served as Director. She has also been a reporter for El Diario for more than 15 years.

Jose and Magaly Rohaidy both were born in Cuba, and have been blissfully married for more than 42 years. They have four children, Lourdes, Maria Magdalena, Gabriel and Jose Gabriel. They are blessed with six grandchildren.

This pair continually touches the lives of the people around them. Jose helped to organize the Puerto Rican Parades of Paterson and Trenton, the Hispanic American Parade of New Jersey, the Dominican Parade of New Jersey and the Peruvian Parade of New Jersey. In addition, he and his wife created the "Toys Gift" program for children at Saint Joseph's Hospital in Paterson, Barnert Hospital in Paterson, and the General Hospital of Passaic. As a public servant in New Jersey, Mr. Speaker, I can say that I can think of no people who work harder or care more about others than these two remarkable people. Perhaps the greatest tribute to Jose and Magaly are the numerous awards and accolades they have received.

Jose was the first Hispanic reporter to be given an honorary degree from Essex County College in Newark, New Jersey. The Martian Women Association of Union City proclaimed Magaly Rohaidy the Mother of the Year. This organization is named for Jose Marti, the National Hero of Cuba. Congress also honored her as "the Woman of the Americas," and the New Jersey State Assembly named her as one of the 13 most notable women in the Garden State. Furthermore, Magaly was the Grand Marshal representing the Hispanic Community at the inaugural Hispanic-Italian-American Parade of New Jersey in Paterson. Mrs. Rohaidy is also the recipient of the Key to the City of Paterson.

On a personal note, Mr. Speaker, as a Mayor, Assemblyman, and now as Congressman, I have been privileged to work with nu-

merous outstanding individuals. Jose and Magaly Rohaidy fall into this category, as exhibited by the many achievements and awards detailed on this page. The best thing I can say about Jose and Magaly Rohaidy, however, is that I am proud to call them my good friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Jose and Magaly's family, friends, the State of New Jersey and me in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to the community of Jose and Magaly Rohaidy.

HONORING DNA CHAPTER 13 DURING
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION WEEK

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the members of the Nashville Chapter of Delta Nu Alpha Transportation Fraternity during National Transportation Week, May 14–20, 2000.

Congress and President John F. Kennedy first proclaimed National Transportation Week in 1962. Since then, National Transportation Week has been observed every year during the week in which the third Friday falls in May. It is important to recognize the men and women who deliver the goods from our farms and factories to suppliers and buyers all across this great nation, not only during a given week in the year, but throughout the year as well.

While transportation affords us the opportunity for leisure travel, it has become an increasingly important issue for those of us who commute to and from work. While I have been supportive of efforts to widen and expand our interstates to minimize traffic congestion, I also believe we need to consider alternatives like bus service and commuter rail.

In keeping with the objectives of its international organization, Volunteer Chapter 135 has done an excellent job in creating awareness of transportation issues, promoting safety in the industry and enabling young people to continue their education through numerous scholarship programs. During National Transportation Week, the Volunteer Chapter includes public schools in their awareness program with poster and essay contests and equipment demonstrations.

I ask the House to join me in recognizing the transportation industry and its workers. To Nashville Chapter 135, I say, "Roll on!"

TRIBUTE TO JOHN D. MURPHY

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a kind and decent man who lived his life helping others, and lost his life helping others.

John D. Murphy coached youth basketball and volunteered in his community. He attended the Million Man March, as well as the protest in Tallahassee against Gov. Jeb

Bush's One Florida Plan to dismantle our state's affirmative action program. He was always thinking of others.

On the way home from the One Florida march, he came upon a chain-reaction auto accident that killed two people and injured 24. Despite the pleadings of his sisters, John Murphy left his van and went to help the injured. He was killed when a tractor-trailer filled with lumber overturned and buried him on the highway.

Mr. Speaker, John Murphy's sudden and tragic death is a source of great grief in his family and throughout our community. I join with his loved ones and those whose lives he touched in extending my deepest sympathy for their loss.

I would like to submit an article about John Murphy that appeared in the Miami Herald:

[From the Miami Herald, Mar. 10, 2000]

LOVED ONES FEEL LOSS OF 1-10 PILEUP VICTIM

(By Adam Ramirez)

His sisters begged him not to leave the van and venture into the smoke-filled highway, but John D. Murphy insisted on trying to help motorists injured in Wednesday's horrific 23-vehicle crash on Interstate 10 near Wellborn, Fla.

Murphy, 36, who attended the Million Man March and coached youth sports for 12 years, was coming home from the protest of Gov. Jeb Bush's One Florida plan in Tallahassee. The Plantation man was killed when a tractor-trailer filled with lumber overturned and buried him on the highway.

"That's the kind of guy John was—he was always trying to help people, no matter who they were," longtime friend Calvin Joy said outside Murphy's Plantation home in Park Estates. "He devoted his life to helping people—and that's how he died."

Two other people were killed and at least 24 injured in the chain-reaction accident caused in part by heavy smoke on the highway about 90 miles east of Tallahassee in northern Florida, officials said. Also killed were truck driver Ben L. Helmuth III of Claxton, Ga., and Sheila Lindeck, 43, of Jacksonville, the Florida Highway Patrol said.

VERY SCARY SCENE

"It was a very scary scene when Mr. Murphy ran in there—smoke and flames everywhere," said Scott Pate, Suwannee County deputy emergency management director who arrived first on the scene. "He was a true Good Samaritan."

Twenty-three cars and trucks slammed into one another about 8 a.m. after some of them slowed and stopped when they suddenly came upon a cloud of smoke.

Seventeen miles of highway near Wellborn were closed after the accident but were reopened Thursday morning.

Murphy's sisters, Lydia and Jeryle Murphy, watched helplessly as he walked into the smoke and flames. A manager at BellSouth for six years, Murphy was driving a rental van with his sister and two of their children when they hit a thick patch of smoke and pulled over.

MISSING HALF HOUR

"John told them he saw people in the fire and smoke, and he had to go help them," Joy said. Murphy had been the best man in Joy's wedding. "About 30 minutes later, his sisters were asking police to find him." They didn't realize he was only a few feet away.

Erik Gebauer, of Melbourne, said he was driving a Mustang that slid under a tractor-trailer.

"I don't understand how I lived through that," Gebauer said Wednesday, his voice

shaking. "All I can remember was pushing that freaking door. I felt death right behind me. I can't believe I made it."

Murphy drove the family to the state capital Monday night to participate in Tuesday's march against One Florida and was driving home Wednesday morning.

A longtime volunteer, Murphy served as a basketball and football coach for children ages 8 to 12 at nearby YMCA and Police Athletic League teams. A graduate of Tampa Technical College, he prided himself on being notoriously frugal, Joy said.

"He would drive five miles out of his way if he found gas two pennies cheaper," Joy said with a chuckle. "John was very active, on the MLK committee and active on city boards in Plantation. But more than anything, he loved his little daughter with all his heart—nothing came before her."

INTRODUCTION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST AND INTEGRITY ACT OF 2000

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Law Enforcement Trust and Integrity Act of 2000, along with additional cosponsors. This legislation is supported by both police and civil rights organizations around the country and is aimed at curbing outrages like the Los Angeles Rampart Division perjury scandal and tragedies such as the Amadou Diallo shooting. Unlike past measures, the Law Enforcement Trust and Integrity Act of 2000 takes a comprehensive approach at addressing the issue of police accountability and building trust between police departments and their communities.

The purpose of the legislation is to build trust between law enforcement entities, officials and the people they serve. Specifically, the legislation provides incentives for local police organizations to voluntarily adopt performance-based standards to ensure that incidents of misconduct will be minimized through appropriate management, training and oversight protocols and that if such incidents occur, that they will be properly investigated. The bill also provides police officers—the vast majority of whom are decent people who are concerned about their communities—with the tools necessary to work with their communities and to enhance their professional growth and education.

Specifically, our bill makes 12 concrete steps toward improving law enforcement management and misconduct prosecution tools and has the support of a broad range of legal, community-based and law enforcement groups, including: the NAACP; Urban League; LULAC; NCLR; National Asian Pacific Legal Consortium; National Lawyer's Guild; ACLU; NOBLE; National Black Police Association; and the United Methodist Church.

1. Accreditation of Local Law Enforcement Agencies—Authorizes the Department of Justice to work cooperatively with independent accreditation, law enforcement and community-based organizations to further develop and refine accreditation standards that can serve as models for police departments around the country in trying to balance proper law enforcement with respect for liberties. This

section also authorizes the Attorney General to make grants to law enforcement agencies for the purpose of developing such standards and obtaining appropriate certification.

2. Law Enforcement Agency Development Programs—Authorizes the Attorney General to make grants to States and local governments to develop pilot programs such as civilian review boards, early warning and detection programs which have been proven effective in many jurisdictions.

3. Administrative Due Process Procedures—Requires the Attorney General to study the prevalence and impact of any law, rule or procedure which interferes with prompt and thorough investigations of abuse.

4. Enhanced Funding of Civil Rights Division—Authorizes appropriations for expenses for ongoing investigations of pattern-and-practice-of-abuse investigations pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 14141, and authorizes appropriations for expenses related to programs managed by the Community Relations Service.

5. Enhanced Authority in Pattern and Practice Investigations—Amends 42 U.S.C. 14141 to provide private cause of actions, but limits the provision only to declaratory and injunctive relief when there is a pattern and practice of discrimination.

6. Deprivation of Rights Under Color of Law—Amends section 242 of Title 18 of the United States Code to provide the needed statutory clarification requested by the Department of Justice to expressly define excessive use of force and non-consensual sexual conduct as deprivations of rights under color of law.

7. Study of Deaths in Custody—Amends section 20101(b) of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C.A. 13701) to require assurances that States will follow guidelines established by the Attorney General for reporting deaths in custody.

8. National Task Force on Law Enforcement Oversight—Requires the Department of Justice to establish a task force to coordinate the investigation, prosecution and enforcement efforts of federal, state and local governments in cases related to law enforcement misconduct.

9. Immigration Enforcement Review Commission—Creates a commission to investigate civil rights complaints against the INS and Customs Services, with authority to make policy and disciplinary recommendations.

10. Federal Data Collection on Racial Profiling—Requires the Justice, Treasury and Interior Departments to collect data concerning the personal characteristics (race, ethnicity and gender) of individuals targeted for investigation (e.g., detention, traffic stop or warrantless search) by federal law enforcement agencies and requires the Justice Department to prepare a "master report" analyzing the findings and recommending improved policies and procedures.

11. Whistleblower Protection—The bill establishes civil and criminal penalties for retaliation against law enforcement officers who in good faith disclose, initiate or advocate on behalf of a civilian complainant in actions alleging police misconduct and creates private cause of action for retaliation.

12. Sexual Abuse in Correctional Facilities—Amends chapter 109A of title 18 to increase penalties and expand jurisdiction for sexual abuse offenses in correctional facilities.

The catalogue of high-profile incidents of police misconduct grows with each passing

day. With the Rampart perjury scandal, Amadou Diallo shooting and Abner Louima assault, it should now be clear to all members, and the nation at-large, that police misconduct is an issue that we must address in a bipartisan manner. The energies of Congress should be focused on the adoption of legislative priorities that address the substance of law enforcement management and strengthen the current battery of tools available to sanction misconduct.

As a Congress we have been enthusiastic about supporting programs designed to get officers on the street. We must be just as willing to support programs designed to train and manage them after they get there. The current national climate requires decisive action to implement solutions. This legislation initiates the reforms necessary to restore public trust and accountability to law enforcement.

IMPORTANCE OF THE CENSUS TO RURAL AMERICA

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, as you know, this week, 112 Members of Congress, along with members of Leadership from both sides of the aisle, officially kicked off the start of the Congressional Rural Caucus. Over the last days, a series of events was held to promote this renewed bipartisan effort that will help raise awareness of the concerns and issues facing rural America.

There are, of course, a number of issues that affect those who live in rural areas, but in reality, one event in particular can and will have long-lasting implications for rural America.

I'm talking about April 1, 2000, better known as Census Day.

Unfortunately, a number of Americans, whether they live in urban or rural communities, are still unaware of the importance of the decennial census. This is evident in the number of people, around 30 to 40 percent, who do not respond to a Census questionnaire.

But, I'd like to remind everyone that the outcome of the decennial census has the potential to change the face of rural America, both politically and socially.

Before I outline the potential outcomes let me first define what is rural America:

Rural and small town America is home to approximately one-third of the total US population, or about 82 million residents. This is equal to the percentage of Americans who live in urban centers.

Of the nation's 39,000 local governments, 86 percent serve populations under 10,000, and half have fewer than 1,000 residents. These communities cover at least 80 percent of the nation's land.

While farming remains a driving force in many rural communities, it no longer completely dominates the rural economy. The service and manufacturing sectors account for 22 percent and 17 percent respectively of rural employment, compared to 8 percent for agriculture.

And, many will be surprised to know that overall, Pennsylvania, Texas, North Carolina,

Ohio and New York have the largest rural populations, with Michigan, Georgia, California, Indiana and Florida close behind.

Now, why is the census important to rural America?

First, the Constitution requires the federal government to conduct a census every ten years to help apportion the 435 seats of the House of Representatives among the states. So, states that have a large undercount are at risk of losing political representation in Congress.

Second, billions of dollars in federal aid to states and local governments are allocated using census data. In 2000, almost \$200 billion in federal aid will be distributed through 20 federal programs that range from agriculture to community development to education to health.

According to the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO), rural communities are at risk of losing \$2,500 each year in federal and state aid for each person that is undercounted. That adds up to a significant amount of lost revenue for rural communities over a ten year period, especially when you consider the numbers.

In 1990, the census missed 5.9 percent of rural renters, compared with 4.2 percent of urban renters. The Census Bureau also estimates it missed about 1.2 percent of all rural residents, which is about three-quarters of a million people.

Let me put this into perspective. There are six states, plus the District of Columbia, that have populations below 750,000. So, the rural undercount is equivalent to misplacing Alaska, Delaware, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, or Wyoming.

Third, accurate census data is essential for local decision makers, whether economic development planners, school board members or business leaders. The more data rural communities have at their disposal, the better prepared they will be to serve their citizens in terms of municipal services and programs. It is also an essential ingredient in developing strategic plans aimed at attracting new businesses and industries.

With so much at risk, it is vital that we all work together to ensure that rural Americans are counted. This is not a partisan issue, but a rural issue. Stand up and be counted Rural America!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 46 and 47, I was away on official business. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on each.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 9, I had to fly home for my wife's ultrasound and missed several votes.

On House vote 42 on H.R. 3846 (Minimum Wage/Question of Continued Consideration) I would have voted "yes."

On House vote 43 on H.R. 3846 (Minimum Wage/Two-Year Increase) I would have voted "yes."

On House vote 44 on H.R. 3846 (Minimum Wage/Recommit) I would have voted "yes."

On House vote 45 (Minimum Wage/Passage) I would have voted "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN N. RIVERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Ms. RIVERS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote 41—H.R. 3081, I inadvertently voted "yes." It was my intention to vote "no" on rollcall vote 41—H.R. 3081.

HOPE FOR SYRIA

HON. BILL MCCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, since its establishment, Israel has been fighting and striving for genuine and lasting peace with its neighbors so that it can concentrate on making the desert bloom, and, more recently, on developing one of the world's leading centers of high-tech industries. Israel is the United States' closest ally in the region, and the bulwark of furthering U.S. interests in the region. Little wonder that virtually the entire political spectrum in Washington is committed to supporting Israel's quest for peace and security.

However, despite this American commitment, the Middle East is in the midst of a crisis emanating from the latest developments in the Peace Process advocated by the Clinton Administration. The flagrant absurdity of this latest turn of events is an accurate manifestation of the Administration's overall policy. For nearly twenty years, the Syrian-dominated Lebanese Government has been demanding an Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon. Now, when the Israeli Government committed to just such a unilateral withdrawal by next July, Beirut and Damascus threaten war. "An Israeli unilateral withdrawal [from south Lebanon] will not work. It will lead to another war," President Emile Lahoud warned, echoing Hafiz al-Assad's position. Why? The Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon will remove the primary Syrian point of pressure on Israel to accept the extremely disadvantageous "package deal" advocated by the Clinton Administration.

The Clinton Administration is pushing Israel and Syria to reach a peace agreement by next May. Both countries are under tremendous pressure to sign before the U.S. elections. The principles of the Israeli-Syrian agreement the Administration is pushing are: (1) a complete Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights and south Lebanon; (2) enduring and now legitimized Syrian occupation of Lebanon; (3) a U.S.-dominated international force in south Lebanon and the Golan Heights; and (4) a financial inducement package to both Israel and Syria that, by conservative estimates, will ex-

ceed \$100 billion to be dispensed over a few years.

In its zeal to bring about this package deal, the Clinton Administration seems unperturbed by the widespread opposition in Israel to any withdrawal from the strategically crucial Golan Heights—particularly the kind of a total and speedy withdrawal the U.S. is trying to bring about. Moreover, the Administration ignores recent polls indicating that about two-thirds of the American public are against U.S. support for Syria and any form of deployment of troops in the Golan or Lebanon. Nor does the Clinton Administration take into consideration the significance of the pre-conditions introduced by Syria—a demand for an advance Israeli commitment to a full withdrawal with U.S. guarantees. This demand is intentionally phrased so as to bring about stalling of the peace process because, as Damascus knows well, Jerusalem cannot comply with the letter of the demand (even if Jerusalem is ready to commit to such a withdrawal) because Israeli law requires a referendum for any withdrawal from the Golan.

Most puzzling, however, is the White House's haste. The question it raises has nothing to do with the essence of the Israeli-Syrian "package deal". The Administration's sense of urgency does not make sense in the context of the internal dynamics in Syria.

Syria is in a major crisis. Hafiz al-Assad's health is in a bad shape. He is desperate to ensure that his son Bashar succeeds him and for the U.S. to provide for both averting the collapse of the Syrian economy and the pay-offs to the Syrian elite Bashar must make in order not to be toppled. The U.S. is also expected to replace the virtually free oil Syria now gets from Iran. By careful analysis, these financial requirements amount to \$35–50 billion a year. Hafiz al-Assad is willing to "make peace" in order to ensure this U.S. financial support. He also expects the U.S. to legitimize the Syrian occupation of Lebanon which will also clear the Syrian drug and counterfeit trade as well as the income they provide for the Syrian ruling elite.

However, the Syrian ruling establishment, which is predominantly Allawite (a Shiite people that is a minority in predominantly Sunni Syria), is afraid of Bashar. He is young, inexperienced and weak. The Syrian elite knows that once Hafiz al-Assad dies, the Syrian Islamists and Iran may well rise up, overthrow and slaughter the Allawite elite, and establish a Sunni Islamist government in Damascus. If so, Iran and an Islamist Syria will then export Islamist subversion and instability to all other Arab countries, including such U.S. allies as Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Jordan. Islamist terrorism by such organizations as the HizbAllah, HAMAS and Islamic Jihad, all of whom are already sponsored by Syria and Iran, would also escalate. The only way to prevent the rise of an Iran-dominated Islamist regime in Damascus is by securing a strong Allawite-dominated regime—something that Bashar is incapable of achieving despite all of his father's desperate grooming. The ongoing purges in Syria and Lebanon, as well as the sudden change of the Syrian Government, only highlighted Bashar's weakness and insecurity, as well as his father's trepidations.

The Syrian elite is fully aware of the Islamist threat. Indeed, there is a major segment within the Syrian Allawite elite led by Dr. Rifat al-Assad (Hafiz al-Assad's estranged brother) that is very pragmatic in addressing the forthcoming crisis. They believe that the only

chance for the Allawite to remain in power (and thus survive slaughter by the Islamists) is by reversing the virtual collapse of the Syrian economy. Only an economic upsurge can avert the radicalization of the Sunni majority. And only improved relations with the U.S.-led West can save the Syrian economy from an impending collapse. Furthermore, Dr. Rifat al-Assad believes that a strong alliance between the peoples of the Eastern Mediterranean—the Allawites of Syria, the Christian Maronites of Lebanon, the Jews of Israel, and the Druze dwelling in all three countries—will transform the region into an economic power house as the bridge between East and West, as well as the bastion of regional stability as the source of prosperity and employment for all. Therefore, the Syrian elite led by Dr. Rifat al-Assad appears willing to reach agreement with the U.S. and Israel on all major issues in return for removing the sanctions and normalization of relations. Significantly, the Syrian Allawite elite believes that the alternative to such a deal is their slaughter—for them it is literally a life-saving deal.

Therefore, the U.S. should assist Dr. Rifat al-Assad and the responsible and pragmatic segments of the Syrian elite to come to power in a post-Hafiz al-Assad Damascus and begin the process of recovering and restoring the economy. Given Syria's crucial geo-strategic posture, it is imperative for the entire U.S.-led West to ensure that a pro-Western, Democratically oriented government—the kind of government Dr. Rifat al-Assad is striving for—is established in Damascus. Meanwhile, the U.S. and Israel should wait until the government of Dr. Rifat al-Assad redirects Syria's national policies and priorities, proves its commitment to policies of moderation and compromises, as well as economic reforms. Once stable, this Syrian government will be capable of making long-term commitments. Only then it would be possible for both Israel and Syria to reach enduring and genuine peace for the sake of peace. This kind of peace the U.S. should, and will, support.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF JUSTICE
ERNEST A. FINNEY, JR.

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Ernest A. Finney, Jr., who will retire on March 23, 2000, as Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court.

Ernest Finney moved to Orangeburg, SC, from Virginia as a teenager when his father became the Dean of Claflin College in Orangeburg. He received his undergraduate degree from Claflin, and later his law degree from South Carolina State College.

Although an attorney, Mr. Finney began his career as a teacher in Conway, SC, where he supplemented his teaching salary by waiting tables. He attended his first meeting of the South Carolina Bar as a waiter, because blacks were not allowed membership in the state bar association.

After practicing civil rights law in my hometown Sumter, of South Carolina for a number of years, Mr. Finney began his distinguished public service career in 1973 when he was

elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives, where he served until his election as Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit in 1976. On April 3, 1985, Mr. Finney was elected Associate Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court, becoming the first African American to hold that office since Reconstruction. On May 11, 1994, Justice Finney was elected Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court.

In addition to his duties on the court, Chief Justice Finney is devoted to his family and community. He is married to the former Frances Davenport and is the father of three fine children—Lynn C., a college professor, Ernest A. III, and Jerry Leo, both attorneys. He is the grandfather of two—Amanda and Felicia. Chief Justice Finney is a dedicated alumnus of Claflin College, where he serves on the Board of Trustees, and is a long time member of Emmanuel United Methodist Church. He has been a role model and mentor for legions of young attorneys.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Justice Ernest A. Finney, Jr. guided the Supreme Court of South Carolina and the state judiciary with a steady, balanced hand. I ask that you and my colleagues join me in saluting him on the occasion of his retirement for a job well done.

IN RECOGNITION OF VIVIANA
RISCA

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Viviana Risca in honor of her reception of the first-place prize in this year's prestigious Intel Science Talent Search, America's oldest and most highly regarded pre-college science contest.

Viviana is first in her senior class of 292 students at Paul D. Schreiber High School, in Port Washington, NY. Her award-winning computer science project was chosen from over 1,500 submitted entries, reviewed by a board of ten distinguished scientists who judged the entries for their research ability, scientific originality and creative thinking.

Using DNA as the medium, Viviana studied steganography, a data encryption technique that embeds secret computer messages within large amounts of seemingly innocent information. For her molecular computing project, Viviana encrypted the secret message "JUNE 6__INVASION: NORMANDY," and then inserted it in the gene sequence of a DNA strand.

Over the years, more than 115,000 students from American high schools in all 50 states and overseas have completed independent research projects and submitted entries. More than 100 of the world's most coveted science and math honors have been won by alumni of this program. Five finalists of this contest have gone on to win the Nobel Prize, and thirty have been elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

I had the pleasure of meeting Viviana while she was in Washington, D.C. for the final phase of this year's competition. Viviana is a talented young woman and she is a fine example of the amazing potential of our nation's youth.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me today in congratulating Viviana Risca upon receiving the first place-prize for her outstanding scientific capabilities and tremendous innovation.

TRIBUTE TO ROLLIE ROTH

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Rollie Roth, who will be honored this week by the Simi Valley Education Foundation at the Lew Roth Awards Dinner, to be held at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in my district.

Rollie Roth has been an active member of the Simi Valley, CA, community for about 35 years. She served for eight years as a commissioner on the city's Public Safety Committee, assisted the community's Incorporation Study Committee on research projects and volunteered for the March of Dimes and American Cancer Society.

But it is in the area of education that Rollie Roth has truly made her mark.

She served on the PTA of every school that her three children—Paul, Miriam and Barry—attended. At Vista Fundamental School, she was responsible for the newsletter for two years. She also served two years as PTA President at Sycamore School.

With Rollie's full support, her husband, the late Lew Roth, served for 25 years on the Simi Valley Unified School District Board of Education. It was his vision that led to the founding of the Simi Valley Education Foundation.

In 1993, Rollie was appointed to the Foundation board. An energetic board member, she has served as Board Secretary and provides leadership in staging the benefit dinner that bears her husband's name.

Mr. Speaker, Rollie Roth has been a stabilizing influence for both the community and her family. She cared enough about her community, and of teaching her children the importance of community, to remain active after Lew's death while raising her children. Rollie Roth's dedication and determination has also influenced many others to become involved.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join the Simi Valley Education Foundation and me in paying special tribute to Rollie Roth's years of dedication to our community and its children.

HONORING KRISTINE THALMAN
FROM ANAHEIM, CA

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kristine Thalman, a loyal staff member at the city of Anaheim, CA. Kris will be retiring from the city after a long and distinguished career.

In her career, especially for the last 13 years, Kris has served as the Governmental Relations Director for the city. She has ensured very smooth relations between the city

of California and many of us in Congress that we represent.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring

Kristine Thalman. It is fitting that all of us join with the family, friends, and the community of Anaheim, CA, in recognizing her service and

dedication to the city and wish her well in her future endeavors.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 16, 2000 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 21

9:30 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings on regulating Internet pharmacies.

SD-430

Appropriations
Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine issues dealing with Alzheimers Disease.

SH-216

Small Business

Business meeting to consider certain legislation regarding the Small Business Administration and Small Business Innovation Research Program reauthorization.

SR-428A

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Federal Communications Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

S-146, Capitol

Environment and Public Works

Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee
To hold hearings on General Services Association's fiscal year 2001 Capital Investment and Leasing Program, including the courthouse construction program.

SD-406

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control
To hold hearings to review the annual certification process.

SD-215

Appropriations

Legislative Branch Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Secretary of the Senate, and the Sergeant at Arms.

SD-116

10:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on S.2102, to provide to the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe a perma-

nent land base within its aboriginal homeland.

SR-485

2 p.m.

Environment and Public Works

Superfund, Waste Control, and Risk Assessment Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the current status of cleanup activities under the Superfund program.

SD-406

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine non-proliferation threats and U.S. policy formulation.

SD-419

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings on the state of democratization and human rights in Turkmenistan.

334-CHOB

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Housing and Transportation Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings on HUD's Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS).

SD-628

MARCH 22

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Interior Subcommittee

To hold hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2001 for the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

SD-124

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings on the nomination of Susan Ness, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission.

SR-253

Indian Affairs

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business; to be followed by hearings on the nomination of Thomas N. Slonaker, of Arizona, to be Special Trustee, Office of Special Trustee for American Indians, Department of the Interior.

SR-485

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the Legislative recommendation of the Vietnam Veterans of America, the Retired Officers Association, American Ex-Prisoners of War, AMVETS, and the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs.

345 Cannon Building

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings on Department of Energy's management of health and safety issues surrounding the DOE's gaseous diffusion plants at Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and Piketon, Ohio.

SD-342

Governmental Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine Department of Energy's management of health and safety issues surrounding DOE's gaseous diffusion plants in Tennessee and Ohio.

SD-342

2 p.m.

Judiciary

Antitrust, Business Rights, and Competition Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on certain antitrust issues.

SD-226

Budget

Business meeting to discuss the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2001.

SD-608

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine recent program and management issues at NASA.

SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources

Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold hearings on H.R. 862, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to implement the provisions of the Agreement conveying title to a Distribution System from the United States to the Clear Creek Community Services District; H.R. 992, to convey the Sly Park Dam and Reservoir to the El Dorado Irrigation District; H.R. 1235, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into contracts with the Solano County Water Agency, California, to use Solano Project facilities for impounding, storage, and carriage of non-project water for domestic, municipal, industrial, and other beneficial purposes; H.R. 3077, to amend the Act that authorized construction of the San Luis Unit of the Central Valley Project, California, to facilitate water transfers in the Central Valley Project; S. 1659, to convey the Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project, the Savage Unit of the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program, and the Intake Irrigation Project to the appurtenant irrigation districts; and S. 1836, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of Alabama.

SD-366

MARCH 23

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-138

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings on the nomination of Thomas A. Fry, III, of Texas, to be Director of the Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

SD-366

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Public Health Subcommittee

To hold hearings on safety net providers.

SD-430

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the Department of Commerce, and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

S-146, Capitol

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on the Monetary Policy Report to Congress pursuant to the Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act of 1978.

SH-216

Environment and Public Works

Fisheries, Wildlife, and Drinking Water Subcommittee

To resume hearings to examine the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed rules regarding changes in the

total maximum daily load and NPDES permit programs pursuant to the Clean Water Act. SD-406	Environmental Laboratory and its potential impact on the adjacent Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. SD-366	promote technology development, and increase citizen awareness. SD-366
Judiciary Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-226	MARCH 29	Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services. SD-124
10:30 a.m. Governmental Affairs Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-342	9:30 a.m. Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-430	10 a.m. Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions To hold hearings on medical records privacy. SD-430
2 p.m. Judiciary Constitution, Federalism, and Property Rights Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine racial profiling within law enforcement agencies. SD-226	Energy and Natural Resources Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-366	2:30 p.m. Energy and Natural Resources Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee To hold oversight hearings on the President's October 1999 announcement to review approximately 40 million acres of national forest lands for increased protection. SD-366
2:30 p.m. Foreign Relations Business meeting to markup the proposed Technical Assistance, Trade Promotion and Anti-Corruption Act. SD-419	10 a.m. Governmental Affairs To hold hearings on how to structure government to meet the challenges of the millennium. SD-342	
Armed Services SeaPower Subcommittee To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Defense and the Future Years Defense Program, focusing on Navy and Marine Corps' seapower operational capability requirements. SR-222	Governmental Affairs To hold hearings on meeting the challenges of the millennium, focusing on proposals to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the Federal Government. SD-342	APRIL 4
Energy and Natural Resources National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee To hold oversight hearings to examine the status of monuments and memorials in and around Washinton, D.C. SD-366	Appropriations Defense Subcommittee To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Defense, focusing on Air Force programs. SD-192	9:30 a.m. Appropriations Interior Subcommittee To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Office of the Special Trustee, Department of the Interior. SD-138
MARCH 28	2:30 p.m. Indian Affairs Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business; to be followed by hearings on S. 1967, to make technical corrections to the status of certain land held in trust for the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, to take certain land into trust for that Band. SR-485	APRIL 5
9:30 a.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation Communications Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the current state of deployment of hi-speed Internet technologies, focusing on rural areas. SR-253	Energy and Natural Resources Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee To hold hearings on S. 1778, to provide for equal exchanges of land around the Cascade Reservoir, S. 1894, to provide for the conveyance of certain land to Park County, Wyoming, and S. 1969, to provide for improved management of, and increases accountability for, out-fitted activities by which the public gains access to and occupancy and use of Federal land. SD-366	9:30 a.m. Indian Affairs To hold hearings on S. 612, to provide for periodic Indian needs assessments, to require Federal Indian program evaluations. SR-485
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Children and Families Subcommittee To hold hearings on child safety on the Internet. SD-430		10 a.m. Appropriations Defense Subcommittee To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Defense, focusing on Army programs. SD-192
Small Business To hold hearings to examine the extent of office supply scams, including toner-phoner schemes. SD-562		APRIL 6
Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine issues dealing with mind body and alternative medicines. SD-192	MARCH 30	9:30 a.m. Appropriations VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Veterans Affairs. SD-138
10 a.m. Appropriations Transportation Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the implementation of the Driver's Privacy Protection Act, focusing on the positive notification requirement. SD-192	9:30 a.m. Appropriations VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development. SD-138	APRIL 8
2:30 p.m. Energy and Natural Resources National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee To hold oversight hearings on the incinerator component at the proposed Advanced Waste Treatment Facility at the Idaho National Engineering and	Energy and Natural Resources To hold hearings on S. 882, to strengthen provisions in the Energy Policy Act of 1992 and the Federal Nonnuclear Energy Research and Development Act of 1974 with respect to potential Climate Change; and S. 1776, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to revise the energy policies of the United States in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, advance global climate science,	10 a.m. Appropriations Defense Subcommittee To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Defense, focusing on medical programs. SD-192
		APRIL 11
		9:30 a.m. Appropriations Interior Subcommittee To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Energy. SD-138

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings on S. 282, to provide that no electric utility shall be required to enter into a new contract or obligation to purchase or to sell electricity or capacity under section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978; S. 516, to benefit consumers by promoting competition in the electric power industry; S. 1047, to provide for a more competitive electric power industry; S. 1284, to amend the Federal Power Act to ensure that no State may establish, maintain, or enforce on behalf of any electric utility an exclusive right to sell electric energy or otherwise unduly discriminate against any consumer who seeks to purchase electric energy in interstate commerce from any supplier; S. 1273, to amend the Federal Power Act, to facilitate the transition to more competitive and efficient electric power markets; S. 1369, to enhance the benefits of the national electric system by encouraging and supporting State programs for renewable energy sources, universal electric service, affordable electric service, and energy conservation and efficiency; S. 2071, to benefit electricity consumers by promoting the reliability of the bulk-power system; and S. 2098, to facilitate the transition to more competitive and efficient electric power markets, and to ensure electric reliability.

SH-216

APRIL 12

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business; to be followed by hearings on S. 611, to provide for administrative procedures to extend Federal recognition to certain Indian groups, and will be followed by a business meeting to consider pending committee business.

SR-485

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Corporation for National and Community Service, Community Development Financial Institutions, and Chemical Safety Board.

SD-138

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Defense, focusing on missile defense programs.

SD-192

APRIL 13

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

SD-138

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings on S. 282, to provide that no electric utility shall be required to enter into a new contract or obligation to purchase or to sell electricity or capacity under section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978; S. 516, to benefit consumers by promoting competition in the electric power industry; S. 1047, to provide for a more competitive electric power industry; S. 1284, to amend the Federal Power Act to ensure that no State may establish, maintain, or enforce on behalf of any electric utility an exclusive right to sell electric energy or otherwise unduly discriminate against any consumer who seeks to purchase electric energy in interstate commerce from any supplier; S. 1273, to amend the Federal Power Act, to facilitate the transition to more competitive and efficient electric power markets; S. 1369, to enhance the benefits of the national electric system by encouraging

and supporting State programs for renewable energy sources, universal electric service, affordable electric service, and energy conservation and efficiency; S. 2071, to benefit electricity consumers by promoting the reliability of the bulk-power system; and S. 2098, to facilitate the transition to more competitive and efficient electric power markets, and to ensure electric reliability.

SH-216

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 2034, to establish the Canyons of the Ancients National Conservation Area.

SD-366

APRIL 26

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Defense.

SD-192

SEPTEMBER 26

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the Legislative recommendation of the American Legion.

345 Cannon Building

POSTPONEMENTS

APRIL 19

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be followed by hearings on S. 611, to provide for administrative procedures to extend Federal recognition to certain Indian groups.

SR-485