EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE GRAND CANYON ILLUSION

HON. JIM LIGHTFOOT
OF IOWA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. LIGHTFOOT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer the following article on one of our Nation's natural wonders: the Grand Canyon. I hope it will provide food for thought for all Members.

ENVIRONMENTAL FOCUS: THE GRAND CANYON ILLUSION

(By Joel Rausch)

Could it be possible that the controversies concerning the Grand Canyon have for years been viewed in reverse imagery? Has black been white and white been black in the glass through which we've assessed the merits of the issues?

If you are familiar with the issues and have taken a position, perhaps you might yet see another perspective.

If you are unfamiliar or vaguely so, this writing illustrates yet another example of the power wielded by special interest lobbies * * * the "power of persuasion" that compromises the process intended to benefit the common interest.

America's tourism industry has historically played a supportive role in the nations economy. It is a well worn, reliable path for foreign currency to enter our marketplace. It, like all other endeavors, is simply the timeless practice of man putting his environment to use in order to survive. It is sustenance.

With this in mind, it is time to put the Grand Canyon's environmental issues into perspective by examining the various uses and users, how they are managed by custodial or regulatory agencies, and what, if any, impact they actually have on the Grand Canyon.

For more than the past decade, the Grand Canyon air tour industry has offered but faint resistance to criticism, accusations, and attacks that have proliferated from one of Americas newest industries: "environmental activism."

In an overall ailing economy, this nations aviation industry has suffered continual setbacks, and has precious few bright spots in the predictable future. Not coincidentally, one of these bright spots is tourism in Arizona, at the Grand Canyon.

Recently, "environmental" extremists have renewed their campaign to cripple this industry. Although their numbers are minuscule in the scheme of Canyon visitation and regional population, they are enough in number and possess the proper degree of extremism to be cultivated by organized special interest groups. Groups with powerful Washington lobbies.

Who are the "foot soldiers" in this eco-army? They are a minority of the "area" residents, who comprise less than 1/10 of the 1% of Canyon visitors. They are the individuals, who, on more than a regular basis, hike the back country and raft the river. They are the Grand Canyon "users."

Postured as guardians of the Canyon, their main issues are the elimination of aircraft sound (restoration of natural quiet) within the Canyon, and halting the erosion of the Colorado River beaches. They selfishly regard the Canyon as their personal and exclusive recreational area. Ironically, they are the people whose presence in the Canyon most defiles it.

Like the burro and mule, they are exotic intruders. They physically impact and modify the Canyon's ecological balance. For years they have hypocritically vilified the Air tour industry as a destructive force.

Let's for a turn, examine their use of the canyon. The Colorado River's beaches are being lost to erosion. The Glen Canyon Dam is partly responsible for this. Shouldering the remainder of the blame is the river running industry, whose 165,000 user days result in approximately 20,000 beach withering landings a year. Conservative calculations show 40,000 lbs of sand kicked and shoved into the river each year as relentless side hikes assault flora, fauna, and sensitive archaeological sites. It is estimated that 30–40% of the river trips human bodily waste (which are required to be carried out) is deposited in the delicate side canyons as a result of these hikes.

We should also examine the "back country" hikers. These individuals are compelled to "get away from it all" by descending the canyons remotest trails, drainages, and rivulets. The NPS instructs these users to bury their feces at least 6" deep, which they do, 30,000 times a year. As a result, the Canyon's ground water systems are steeped with fecal coliform bacteria and the wildlife is disrupted by the lingering repugnancy of the intruder's scent.

The river and trail guide industry is almost non regulated. Guides are not required to hold Federal (USCG/DOT) licenses, and thus are largely immune to meaningful government sanctions against misconduct. They are not required to undergo substance abuse screening and the criteria for alcohol consumption is loosely defined. These users require extensive monitoring and policing by the NPS and in turn are charged a "user fee."

Opposite the "users" in this controversy are the "NON users": America's aviation industry, i.e. the Grand Canyon's air tour industry.

The term "user" implies impact (in this case) on the Canyon, it's ecosystem, the Park, and it's infrastructure. The air tour industry is above all this. They are a "NON user", and as such, answer to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The canyon air tour industry thrives under the most intense, comprehensive regulatory system in place today. Certification for the air tour companies and their personnel is a very strict, exacting, and lengthy process. Pilots and mechanics invest heavily to obtain their federal licenses. They are screened for drug use before and during their employment, randomly, periodically, and for cause. Misconduct or regulatory infractions can result in heavy fines, license revocations, or both. Newly hired pilots with thousands of hours and decades of experience are nonetheless still required to undergo 40–50 hours of ground school and flight training. Thereafter, they are recertified annually with more training and testing. The industry is responsible, accountable, and professional.

It is no coincidence that aircraft are the environmentally preferred means of providing logistical support over, in, and around fragile ecosystems *and* that an exhaustive study by the U.S. Forest Service has conclusively proven that aircraft overflights do not impact wildlife. The concept of "look but don't touch" continues to prove itself in today's environmentally conscious society. The clean, fuel efficient movement of large numbers of people makes a positive contribution to the Park and the overall environment. In spite of this fact, our government bureaucracy listens to unfounded, disproved accusations made against this industry.

Why does the controversy between the users and non-users still exist? There are two reasons: First, there are those who will not compromise, under any circumstances, their call for a total ban on canyon overflights. These are the "user" extremists: the minority of the minority. The people, who in previous public forums on the issue, have appeared dressed as owls, bears, or bobcats, and who have showered attendees with shrapnel as they bludgeoned toy aircraft with hammers. The eccentrics who have taken their position at the podium with live snakes draped around their necks, ultimately having to be escorted from the proceedings as their rancor approached the threat of physical violence. They are devoted disciples of militant environmental author Edward Abbey who condone eco-terrorism and environmental sabotage. These people must be taken at face value.

Secondly, although Special Federal Aviation Regulation 50–2 has reduced aircraft noise in the Canyon by establishing "Flight Free" zones, the regulation might be reexamined.

The inner canyon "users," the air tour industry and most importantly, the Canyon itself, might benefit from a reevaluation of the structure, size and location of "Flight Free" and "Flight Permitted" zones.

Under the present systems, "Flight Free" and "Flight Permitted" zones are adjacent, separated only by a boundary line. The net result is that aircraft operated close to the boundary generate noise well into the "Flight Free" zone. In addition, the "Flight Free" zones are broken up into smaller, less effective units by "Flight Corridors" running through our adjacent to them.

Are there any solutions? One possibility is Simplification. The Canyon is 217 miles long. Divide it into four sections alternating the "Flight Free" and "Flight Permitted" zones. Separate them by non occupancy "buffer" zones instead of imaginary lines.

How can we benefit the canyon in this process? By simply giving the Canyon an opportunity to speak for itself.

Close the back country and limit the use of the rivers beaches in the areas designated for aircraft use. Protect at least a portion of the Canyon from the ravages of human intrusion. In time the canyon will thank us with

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pristine groundwater, undisturbed wildlife and vegetation, and most importantly, the standard by which to measure it's overall health.

The Park Service over accommodates the inner canyon user, but leaves the rim visitor short. The primary responsibility of the Grand Canyon National Park Service is to provide "stewardship" for the Grand Canyon. The task has devoured them. Park visitation has steadily increased, doubling in the past decade, yet little in the Park has changed concerning the inadequate visitors facilities and services. Ten years of planning finds them farther behind than when they started. Tens of millions of dollars, master plans, and studies have left the Park visitors locked in traffic unable to park their cars, find a restroom, determine where they are, or how to get where they want to go.

The current annual visitation of 4.3 million translates to over 12,000 visitors per day on average. Some days less, other days more, perhaps three times this number. Regrettably, the latest touted NPS solution to facilitate visitation is to have obsolete steam locomotives make a 55 minute, 17 mile crawl from Tusayan to the Parks train depot, eight times per day. They now want to direct the FAA in managing aviation policy.

The Canyon's role of provider must continue for all concerned. The river, trail, and aviation services have all rightfully come to depend on it. The river running/trail guiding industry is a 35 million dollar a year business with a 10 million dollar payroll. Within this industry, there are dedicated, professional, hard working people. Their continuing prosperity is testimony to the fact, they provide a much in demand quality service. The impact of their activities on the Canyon's ecosystem is tolerable when weighed against the social and economic benefits produced. The Canyon air tour industry produces a 70 million dollar gross income, 52 million of which contributes to offset America's negative foreign trade balance. It provides 1200 regional employees with the spending power of twenty one million dollars. So viable is this industry, that 5 million tax dollars have been spent reworking the Grand Canyon Airport infrastructure as an investment in the continued generation of tax revenues.

The air tour industry is not an environmental problem, but rather part of the environmental solution.

The "mandate" of the NPS describes succinctly the modus operandi: the very essence of the air tour industry. It states that the purpose of each park: "is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

The entire air tour controversy is rooted between two methods of park visitation: looking and touching. Those who look, quite simply, annoy those who touch.

As Americans and as stewards of the planet, we must waste no time establishing our environmental priorities. There are too many "corporations" in the "environmental activism" industry whose narrow focus detracts from concerted efforts at broader environmental issues. We must keep watch on an industry, whose misguided purpose is to pamper the furnishings of a house that is on the verge of structural collapse, and whose most significant impact is that of dissolving jobs and employment for thousands of Americans in the process.

Let's act to strengthen the American economy instead of debilitating it. A healthy economy will provide us with the resources to deal with the incipient perils that threaten our planet's air, water, and rainforests.

A TRIBUTE TO DOROTHY F. ANDERSON

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Dorothy F. Anderson, the newly elected president of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Pennsylvania.

Dorothy's association with the American Legion began with her deceased husband, Bernard W. Gorski, Sr., who served in the Army Medical Corps during World War II. It continued with her two sons serving their country in the Vietnam conflict, one of whom unfortunately did not return home.

Dorothy has been a life member of her American Legion unit since 1973. She has held every office in her unit, including president, council president, and many of the chairmanships in council. In 1971, she received the prestigious Chaplain of Four Chaplains Award.

Mrs. Anderson has also generously donated her time and energies to the Philadelphia community. She was the president of the Philadelphia Chapter of Gold Star Mothers, and past master artisan of Philadelphia Assembly No. 1. She has served her church, St. Mary's on the parish council and the finance committee. For the past 3 years she has even served as the assistant grand marshal in the Pulaski Day Parade in Philadelphia.

Mrs. Anderson is a true example of a patriot and model citizen that all Philadelphians can admire. For this reason, I join with the members of the American Legion Auxiliary in saluting Mrs. Dorothy R. Anderson for her dedicated service to the auxiliary and the people of Philadelphia.

TRIBUTE TO HELEN LIBRETTI

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Mrs. Libretti, a member of my womens caucus who will be honored as one of the individuals who exemplify this year's annual breakfast theme of "Women Who Dare To Be Different."

A lifelong resident of the East New York section of Brooklyn, Mrs. Helen Libretti has dedicated the better part of her life toward improving her community.

Despite her roles as wife, mother, and business owner, Mrs. Libretti has always taken an active role in her community when there was a need to help others. Over the past 20 years, Mrs. Libretti has taken on roles that would best enable her to serve the needy in her community. She has been a volunteer for the past 10 years at the St. John Newman School where she served as a librarian's aide and as president of the Home School Association. She has dedicated tireless hours contributing to the campaigns of Assemblyman Darryl Towns and Councilman Martin Dilan, in addition to serving as an elections inspector for many years. As a community activist, Mrs. Libretti has fought a variety of safety and environmental issues.

Currently, Mrs. Libretti is a member of several civic and religious organizations which are community oriented. Mrs. Libretti holds the position of marshall in the Democratic Club of Brooklyn. She is cocaptain of the St. Michael's Church usher board in which she holds the distinction of being its first female member. In addition, during the past 16 years she has been a concerned member of the Reindeer's Organization, which has helped to assist in a variety of social services and housing needs for the elderly in East New York.

Today, Mrs. Libretti takes pride in helping to raise her grandson, Manual, as well as continuing to provide vital services in our community.

THE MEDIA AND THE PRESIDENCY: A VIEW FROM JERRY MORIARITY

HON. ROBERT H. MICHEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. MICHEL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of Members an article that first appeared in the Arizona Republic on February 5, 1993, regarding Jerry Moriarity, a longtime friend of mine, and an expert on relations between the executive branch and the media.

MEDIA OFTEN HOUND PRESIDENTS, RETIRED NEWS EXEC SAYS

(By Bruce Ellison)

SUN CITY.—Arrogant second-guessing by the press has made the work of the nation's last several presidents extremely tough, according to a longtime newspaper executive.

Jerry Moriarity, who made news himself in the mid-1970s when he wrote a widely reprinted editorial defending Richard Nixon in the midst of the Watergate scandal, covered 10 presidents during his career, and interviewed and photographed nine of them, he said Monday.

"Sometimes I think the laws give the press more power than the president," Moriarity told about 60 people at the Lifetime Learning Center of Arizona State University.

"Presidents in 'good wars' fare much better with the public and the press," Moriarity said. "A lot is swept under the rug" in those administrations, he said.

But president in peace time, or during unpopular wars, are subject to much more scrutiny, and have a much tougher time governing as a result, he said.

"The things that are said or done (by such a president), or left unsaid or undone, are subject to arrogant second-guessing" by the media, Moriarity said.

"I'm not sure how any president survives that scrutiny and keeps from going off the deep end."

As examples, he cited Lyndon Johnson, a Democrat whose power grabs went unchallenged, while almost every move of the Nixon administration was scrutinized.

It was Johnson who got the United States mired in Vietnam, Moriarity said, and Nixon who got the nation out—yet Nixon caught all the flak.

For a more recent example, said the retired publisher, who worked at medium-size daily papers in Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota and Iowa, "consider how the media have treated Lloyd Bentsen, the new treasury secretary.

"When Bentsen ran for vice president along with (Michael) Dukakis four years ago, he gave up all his memberships in country clubs that didn't accept racial minorities," Moriarity said.

"But what hasn't been reported is that after he lost and went back to being a senator, he quietly rejoined several of those clubs, and when he was nominated for treasury secretary, nobody even mentioned it."

Moriarity suggested that nobody mentioned it because Bentsen is a Democrat, and most media reporters and front-line editors lean favorably toward Democrats, even though editorial writers tend to favor Republicans.

In fact, Bentsen was approved for the post by a Senate committee vote taken before he even appeared and testified, according to news reports.

Drawing on his four decades of experience with presidents, Moriarity drew brief portraits of them for his audience.

The ideal president, he said, should be feisty, popular, charismatic and powerful, yet retain a proper sense of decency, astuteness, ethics and vision.

He should also have good intuition, Moriarity said, although sincerity isn't really necessary.

"As for Bill Clinton, it's a little early to judge," the retired news official said. "He must coalesce the disparate elements in his party and he's already in trouble with that.

"He's developed an enemies list, he's ignored Senator (Patrick) Moynihan (a New York Democrat and head of the Finance Committee) and he's been downgrading his vice president, Al Gore."

MORIARITY'S VIEW OF 9 PRESIDENTS HE'S MET

(By Bruce Ellison)

To Jerry Moriarity, a retired newspaper executive who has interviewed the nine presidents before Clinton, each had different strong points.

Here's how Moriarity sized them up at a lecture in Sun City:

Harry S. Truman: "Feisty decisiveness and directness, plus colorful language in his speeches made him one of the more remarkable presidents."

Dwight D. Eisenhower: A man of great dignity, highly popular, and, despite press criticism that he accomplished little, a man of activism. "It was he who sent the troops to Little Rock, and he who developed the interstate highway system."

John F. Kennedy: "His commanding presence brought humor and grace to the White House. He had charm and youth and vigor, and was inspirational and charismatic, though somewhat ineffectual," as the Bay of Pigs invasion showed.

Lyndon B. Johnson: "One word describes this man—power." He had power and knew how to use it, "but he was such a crude individual . . . a coarse and crass arm-twister."

Richard M. Nixon: "Highly astute in foreign affairs. He hurt himself more than he hurt the nation when he got involved in Watergate." History may judge him differently in a few decades.

Gerald Ford: "Decent. In a no-win situation, he did the best he could."

Jimmy Carter: "Highly ethical and well-intentioned, he was intelligent but insecure and he soon became a victim of his own anti-Washington platform."

Ronald Reagan: "Highly intuitive, capable of making judgments based on his gut instincts and being right. A finely honed communicator, and friendly; few could dislike him personally."

George Bush: "His dream was a kinder and gentler America, and they called him a wimp. But this 'wimp' rallied the nation and the world in the gulf war and in Somalia, used the U.N. well, and forged strong new alliances."

TRIBUTE TO NORMAN PELL

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in saluting Norman Pell, who will be honored on March 24 by the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs and the Men's Club of Sinai Temple of Los Angeles.

Norman Pell, a graduate of the college of the city of New York and a veteran of the Air Force, is being honored for his years of service as a member of the board of directors of Sinai Temple and its executive committee. He is also being recognized for his stalwart support of the temple's daily prayer services in which he frequently participates as the Baal Koreh, chanter of the prescribed Scriptural reading.

Mr. Pell and his wife, Marilyn, will soon celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. They are the proud parents of Sandra and Barbara and the proud grandparents of three grandchildren.

Norman Pell has always found time for synagogue and community activities. He has enjoyed a long and successful business career, primarily as an executive with Litton Industries. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Pell for his dedication and commitment, and in wishing him good health and happiness in the years to come.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION ACT

HON. G.V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing H.R. 1032 the Department of Veterans Affairs Employment Discrimination Act, legislation which will reform and significantly improve the procedures used by the Department of Veterans Affairs to resolve complaints of unlawful employment discrimination, including informal and formal complaints of sexual harassment in the VA workplace.

As a result of an important hearing conducted last September by our Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, which examined sexual harassment in the VA workplace, the Veterans' Affairs Committee learned that real and potential conflicts-of-interest exist at every level of the process used today by VA to resolve complaints of unlawful employment discrimination.

The reforms provided in the legislation which I and 28 of my colleagues are introducing today are intended to eliminate these conflicts-of-interest and provide fairness, objectivity and impartiality in the procedures used by the Department of Veterans Affairs to resolve employment discrimination complaints.

Since the procedures used by other Federal agencies are not within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, the legislation we are introducing addresses only the procedures used by VA to resolve employment discrimination complaints. The committee has not attempted to determine if the problems which undermine the EEO process in VA today, which include lack of employee confidence in the process and real and perceived conflicts of interest, also exist in other agencies.

Under current procedures, a VA employee or an applicant for VA employment who believes she or he has been subject to unlawful employment discrimination is required to seek out and consult with a VA equal employment opportunity counselor within prescribed time limits prior to filing a formal complaint of discrimination. After being contacted, the VA equal employment opportunity counselor is expected to inquire into the facts of the matter and attempt to foster an informal resolution of the perceived discrimination. In theory, through this process, acts of alleged employment discrimination may be brought for the first time to the attention of local facility managers who can aid in the informal resolution of alleged incidents of employment discrimination, including sexual harassment.

In VA, equal employment opportunity counselors are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the local facility director, who also serves as the principal equal employment opportunity officer of the facility. In VA the responsibilities associated with being an equal employment opportunity counselor are collateral duties; they are in addition to the primary job responsibilities of the employee/counselor who is ordinarily a full-time VA employee.

Unfortunately, according to the testimony presented to the committee by VA employees who were victims of sexual harassment in the VA workplace and information subsequently provided by the VA Office of Inspector General, at some facilities VA equal employment opportunity counselors—who are the initial point of contact for the persons who have experienced unlawful employment discrimination—have not been available to provide necessary counseling to discrimination victims, have not attempted to informally resolve alleged acts of discrimination, have discouraged employees from making a formal complaint of employment discrimination, and have not received adequate training in equal employment opportunity counseling.

By virtue of being appointed by and serving at the pleasure of local management, counselors are perceived by some employees as lacking objectivity, impartiality and needed independence. As a result of this perception and employee fear of subtle or pronounced retaliation or reprisal by management if an informal or formal complaint of discrimination is made, the committee believes employees who

may have experienced employment discrimination, including sexual harassment, have failed to contact an EEO counselor and report the alleged discrimination. Unfortunately, because employees have been scared silent in some cases and have taken no action to stop or prevent the unlawful employment discrimination which they experienced, other VA employees have subsequently been sexually harassed by the same offender.

While VA officials note that relatively few formal complaints of sexual harassment are made annually by employees, testimony given before the Veterans' Affairs Committee strongly suggests a serious problem which may be substantially underreported and underrecorded. In fact, VA today does not systematically maintain information on informal complaints of sexual harassment and recordkeeping on informal complaints is haphazard at best.

When a complaint of unlawful employment discrimination cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of the complainant, a formal complaint may be made to the Department. Again, in theory, formal complaints are expected to be rigorously and fairly investigated and the facts of the matter determined. But like VA EEO counselors, VA equal employment opportunity investigators, according to information presented to the committee, have not received adequate training in the conduct of equal employment opportunity investigations, may not have acted with independence, objectivity, and impartiality, and may have discouraged complainants from continuing to pursue resolution of alleged employment discrimination.

Sexual harassment can be extremely costly to both the employee victim and the employer. Sexual harassment creates a hostile work environment and results in increased absenteeism, lower productivity, and higher employee turnover. As a direct result of sexual harassment, conscientious, highly skilled, committed, and capable employees can become fearful of the workplace and unable to perform their customary duties, and in some cases, may become unable to work at all.

In the strongest possible terms, I want to encourage the new leadership of the Department of Veterans Affairs to undertake a comprehensive program of employee education and awareness so that all VA employees are fully informed of the Department's standards of conduct, the unacceptability of behavior which constitutes sexual harassment and the consequences of this type of discrimination.

In addition, all VA employees must be made aware of the opportunity to report and seek resolution of perceived unlawful employment discrimination. Only when employees are made fully aware of the opportunity for recourse and have confidence that fair, objective, and impartial resolution is available to them, will they make full use of these procedures.

Sexual harassment must not be tolerated in the VA or any other department or agency of the Federal Government. With 260,000 employees, 57 percent of whom are women, VA is the Federal Government's second largest employer. It should be a model for other agencies and departments to emulate.

The goal of this legislation is to restore employee confidence in the integrity of the process used in VA to resolve complaints of unlawful employment discrimination. In my opinion, this is the needed medicine to effectively treat what appears to be a serious illness in the American workplace.

A summary of the bill is attached:

SUMMARY

The bill would:

Establish an independent office in the Department of Veterans Affairs to handle all complaints of discrimination, including complaints of sexual harassment.

Assign a permanent staff of trained EEO counselors to the new Office of Employment Discrimination Complaints Resolution (OEDCR) to assist in impartial and speedy resolution of informal complaints.

Assign a permanent staff of trained investigators to OEDCR to investigate and prepare reports in cases where formal discrimination complaints are brought against the VA.

Assign independent and unbiased administrative law judges to determine whether a complaint should be investigated, review the adequacy of investigations, conduct hearings, and make final decisions on complaints.

Allow a review of the administrative law judge's final decision by the EEOC's Office of Federal Operations or, in the case of a decision adverse to an employee, by an appropriate federal district court.

Effect of changes made by the bill:

Allows the key person in the informal complaints resolution procedure, the EEO counselor, to be an "honest broker" between aggrieved employees and managers.

Gives the EEO counselor independence from local managers.

Requires that the EEO counselor be trained prior to assignment.

Better supervision of counselors would help to remedy some of the shortcomings in record-keeping identified in a recent Inspector General review of EEO counselor performance.

Assignments of EEO counselors would be based on needs of employees at a particular facility.

Provides that investigators will investigate formal complaints to which they are assigned as their sole function.

Current practice is to train employees to investigate complaints on an intermittent or "as needed" basis. These are employees assigned to regular duties in the VA who must take administrative leave from their current jobs to conduct investigations.

A cadre of full-time employees who are trained professionals should make the process fairer and more efficient.

Assigns the Secretary's responsibility for agency decisionmaking to impartial administrative law judges.

Administrative law judges (ALJs) are widely used throughout the Federal government as impartial factfinders.

They would be required to have the same substantive expertise in employment discrimination law as agency attorneys who now prepare the Secretary's final decision.

ALJs are protected from pressure from agency officials by statutory provisions administered by OPM concerning their hiring, salary, and tenure.

With one exception, works with existing laws and regulations governing the handling of complaints of discrimination by government employees.

The exception is a change to the current procedure whereby an employee who files a formal discrimination complaint has a right to request a hearing by an administrative law judge assigned by the EEOC. The bill requires the mandatory use of agency ALJs throughout the decision-making process, including all hearings. This is intended to assure agency impartiality and also to increase agency responsibility for the entire discrimination complaint resolution process, which is often delayed to the detriment of complainants and management officials.

TRIBUTE TO REV. DR. CORNELIUS F. RANGE III

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise on this occasion to pay tribute to Rev. Dr. Cornelius F. Range III, a newly elected vice chief justice of the First Judiciary Board of the Church of God in Christ. The Reverend Dr. Range is a minister, a husband, a father, and a leader. He has served his church for 60 years as a humble servant of God, and a devoted pastor of 3 churches in Boston, MA, Newark, NJ, and most recently, in Chester, PA, at the Range Temple.

Reverend Range is the son of the late Bishop Cornelius Range II, former overseer of the jurisdiction of the New England States for the Church of God in Christ. His mother, the late Lovie E. Range, was the Eastern States supervisor of women. Reverend Range is married to Sandra Lee Rupert Range. They are the proud parents of two children, and four grandchildren.

The Reverend Dr. Range began preaching at the age of 4, and was ordained to the eldership of the Church of God in Christ on May 21, 1946. Dr. Range is a church historian, theologian, and scholar. He is the writer and editor-in-chief of the Church of God in Christ Official Manual, containing the churches official doctrine and discipline.

The Reverend Dr. Range has touched the lives of many through his faithful service of God. His dedication to helping those who are poor, sick, without hope, or addicted to drugs and alcohol has earned him the respect and admiration of his church and his community. I join many in saluting Dr. Range as he moves forward to further serve God.

TRIBUTE TO PHYLIUS A. BURKS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Phylius A. Burks, a member of my women's caucus who will be honored as one of the individuals who exemplify this year's annual breakfast theme of "Women Who Dare To Be Different."

Ms. Burks is a native Virginian who has resided in the Bedford-Stuyvesant community for 32 years. Ms. Burks is a graduate of Brooklyn College with a master's degree in public administration. She is a precinct administrative

supervisor for the New York City Police Department, and has been employed by that agency for 18 years. A member of Berean Missionary Baptist Church, Ms. Burks' other affiliations include membership in the Coalition for Community Empowerment, 100 Women for Congressman MAJOR OWENS, the Guardian Association, and the Simmons Collection African Arts Museum.

Ms. Burks was elected from my congressional district as an alternate delegate for Jesse Jackson at the 1984 Democratic National Convention. For the next 4 years Ms. Burks was president of V.I.D.A. She presided over a visionary membership which created a junior, organization with the purpose of educating and mentoring young people so that they may be fully prepared to participate in government.

SALUTE TO ELIZABETH P. WRIGHT

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer a fond farewell to ElizaBeth P. Wright my administrative assistant of 4 years who is leaving my office at the end of February to bring a new child into this world.

There is no way to overstate the contribution she has made to my office and to my life both personally and professionally. I have had the pleasure to know Beth since she was a child attending the First Baptist Church in Carterville, IL, where her father Joe Bob Pierce was my pastor. She comes from one of the finest families I have ever had the privilege of knowing. Their love for Beth and the support they have given her have helped her earn great distinction as a public servant for the people of Illinois and this country, in the Illinois State Legislature, U.S. Senate, and U.S. House of Representatives.

When I came to Congress in 1989, quite frankly, I needed help. I needed someone with an understanding of the way Congress works, but someone who also shared my love for the people, customs, and landscape of southern Illinois. I needed someone who could organize a new office and get a project in an appropriations bill, but also someone who knows what a Saluki is and how to really pronounce Vienna. I needed someone who could put in the 14-hour days and leave at the end of the day with not just a smile on her face but a real sense of satisfaction about having accomplished something on behalf of the people we are privileged to serve. Beth was the only person who could take on that responsibility.

In the course of her time in my office, we have faced a lot of challenges, and Beth has helped me face each and every one with trusted advice and wisdom. Whether developing the project list for the 1991 Highway bill or surviving the tumultuous redistricting process, Beth has always maintained her poise and performed with grace under pressure.

She and her husband Kevin, whom I have also come to know and care for very much, will soon share the joy of the arrival of their first child. It is probably the only circumstance under which I would allow Beth to leave, but knowing what wonderful parents she and Kevin will be, our office has no choice but to look past our loss and thrill in the expectation of what is yet to come.

Beth, take with you our thanks and gratitude for a job well done, our best wishes for a full and happy life, and the security that you can always call upon us friends and consider this office your own.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RICHARD KUMPF

HON. ROBERT H. MICHEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. MICHEL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of our colleagues the wonderful work of one of my constituents, Richard Kumpf.

In 1987, Mr. Kumpf completed 25 well regarded years with the Internal Revenue Service. Additionally, his service to the community, both before and after his retirement, is exemplary, and deserves to be commended.

At this time, I would like to insert into the RECORD an article by Pat Pearson of the Peoria Journal Star entitled "He was a tax man who was not abrasive," which describes the outstanding work of Richard Kumpf.

PEKIN.—Agents for the Internal Revenue Service are subject to negative public opinion. In his 25 years with the agency, Richard O. Kumpf avoided most of that.

"Some agents are very abrasive, but I never thought that was the way to go," said the philosophic former tax man. "I never got any threats."

He did get two complaints that he recalls. A doctor addressed one against him to President John F. Kennedy. It was returned.

An aggravated lady wrote to her senator. Kumpf's assessment of her expected tax bill led her to withdraw savings to cover it. She blamed Kumpf because she then spent that money before the actual bill arrived.

Service was his role for 17 of his IRS years. He was the only agent between Chicago and St. Louis to monitor tax-exempt (nonprofit) organizations including farm co-ops and pension plans.

Activities of those organizations may not compete with a private business. For instance, selling a cookbook as a onetime fundraiser is allowed. He had to help one group see that selling cookbooks year-round in a bookstore requires filling out a 990-T (tax) form instead of their usual 990 informational form.

Every year since his retirement in 1987, Kumpf has been employed during late winter and early spring. He does tax and accounting work in the office of Faye A. Childress, Certified Public Accountant, 403 S. Eighth St., Pekin.

Kumpf prepared for his role with numbers by majoring in accounting at the University of Illinois. He was the first man to receive a master's degree in business administration from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Pekin has been Kump's home except for college years and some time spent working in San Francisco. He was stationed in Texas and Oklahoma for three of his years in the Air Force. He enlisted in 1953 during the Korean war.

His first year in service was on the five-mile-long and three-mile-wide island of Iwo Jima. Getting there required his first plane trip. Everyone on board exited safely down emergency chutes just before the plane caught on fire. He still looked forward to traveling.

Retirement from the IRS at age 56 has given Kumpf leisure time to visit Europe four times and make trips all over the U.S.

"I do love traveling because of the people you meet. It's part of my philosophy that no matter the color of skin or the language you speak, we're all the same. Until you meet them, you don't realize it. You'd be surprised how many people from other countries you meet visiting the U.S.," said Kumpf.

"You should always be learning as long as you live" is another part of Kumpf's philosophy of life. His next travel plan is an elder hostel program in Arizona. Such programs are for people over age 60 to gain more knowledge and exposure to the world by attending short seminars and classes on college campuses. Reasonable fees include room and food.

Kumpf will himself be a leader for a discussion group relating to American classic musicals. Illinois Central College is to be a site for that and other special interest topics developed by the U.S. Council on Aging. The starting date has not been announced.

One of his regrets is that he has so many interests that he could never live long enough to follow through on all of them. He enjoys time with his mother and two married sisters who live in Pekin.

Music of all kinds, except hard rock, is a listening pleasure for him. Country is a favorite that leads him to Branson, Mo. frequently. But he maintains a subscription to Rolling Stone magazine.

Reading is his special interest. His usual pattern is to alternate fiction such as mysteries with non-fiction such as history and politics. Instead of building his personal library, he donates most to Pekin Public Library.

Pekin YWCA Student/Tutor Adult Reading was a natural outreach for a man interested in people, learning and reading. He has had four years as a volunteer tutor and is now helping train new tutors.

"I have been tremendously gratified by the response of the people I have tutored over these four years. They appreciate what we do. This program has brought home how important being able to read is. (Reading) is one of the basic tools in our society," said Kumpf.

STAR was not Kumpf's first teaching effort. Since 1968, he has taught Sunday school classes for children as young as age 3 and numerous ones for fifth grade through junior high. Now the lifelong bachelor teaches one for ladies of middle age and up.

St. Paul United Church of Christ has also had Kumpf's services as Sunday school superintendent and treasurer of various groups. He is treasurer for Sunday school and the daycare program, St. Paul Wonderland.

"I am a religious man, and I do a lot for my church," said Kumpf, who lives out his spiritual convictions. "You cannot get through this life without an anchor. Reason alone will not solve all your problems."

He is president of the Central Illinois Chapter of the American Lupus Society. People he knows face the daily challenges of the illness.

Lupus is a disease of the immune system that can mimic symptoms of various diseases, making diagnosis and treatment difficult. Cause and cure are not yet known. The annual tag day fundraiser is over, but

donations can be mailed to the local chapter at P.O. Box 791, Pekin.

Richard O. Kumpf says, "I am a happy person, a lifelong devotee of Mr. Norman Vincent Peale's 'Power of Positive Thinking' and how it can give you a happy outlook on life, an inner contentment. It's not that I don't realize the problems in the world, but I do have a positive outlook.'

TRIBUTE TO SIDNEY BURKE OF CALIFORNIA

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in saluting Sidney Burke, who will be honored on March 24 by the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs and the Men's Club of Sinai Temple of Los Angeles.

Sidney Burke, a native of New York, enjoyed both a classical Judaic education and a secular education. A member of Sinai Temple since 1977, he has long served the community as a member of the temple board of directors and as a gabbi, liturgical coordinator.

Sidney Burke and his wife, Ruth, are the proud parents of Larry, a teacher, and Nan, a law student, and the proud grandparents of two grandchildren. The Burkes are all active in various philanthropies of the Jewish community and the larger society.

Sidney Burke exemplifies the values of American democracy and the emphasis on community involvement stressed in Jewish tradition. I want to express my gratitude to him for his devotion to our community and to wish him good health and happiness in the future.

TRIBUTE TO MARIE E. PURNELL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to salute Marie E. Purnell, a member of my women's caucus who will be honored this year as exemplifying our theme, Women Who Dare To Be Different.

Ms. Purnell has demonstrated that with vision and determination you can achieve your personnel ambitions. She has worked in the banking industry. While employed by Chase Manhattan Bank of New York, Marie successfully completed several courses at the American Institute of Banking which aided her in achieving positions of ever-increasing responsibility at the bank. At the time of her retirement, in 1968, she was assistant treasurer. This progress up through the ranks serves as testimony to her dedication to hard work and perseverance. She was in charge of the special events department of the bank, a position that required her to schedule conferences for the bank's clients from all over the world.

Ms. Purnell's greatest community achievements began in 1976 when she accepted the position of building representative with the Starrett City Tenants Association. Currently, Ms. Purnell is the president of the tenants association at Starrett at Spring Creek, representing over 5,000 families; second vice president of the Starrett City, Spring Creek Lions Club; executive member of Basic Black, an organization which was established to encourage and support African-American cultural awareness; a member of the Pool Club Advisory Board at Starrett; and a member of Community Planning Board—District 5, Brooklyn.

It is with great pride that I salute this tireless worker for the betterment of humanity: Marie E. Purnell.

TRIBUTE TO THE FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH IN SHARON HILL, PA

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise on this occasion to pay to pay tribute to the First African Baptist Church as it celebrates its 90th year of service to the community. The First African Baptist Church was founded in 1902 with eight members, and has grown to become one of the largest black Baptist churches in the area.

The church is to be commended for becoming a bastion of Christian values and a model of outreach activities such as the sponsorship of Camp Hope and the Boy Scout programs. The church has additionally served its community by establishing the first and only Federal Credit Union in the area.

The First African Baptist Church has taken on a leadership role in education as well by establishing the very successful B.W. Watkins Scholarship fund. Seeing deficiencies in some programs of the southeast Delaware County school district, the church, through the leadership of the Pastor Richard A. Dent and other officers and members, began the process of establishing a continuing tutorial program to keep its students on the path to educational excellence. In further efforts to emphasize its commitment to the education and well being of youth, the church also instituted a Headstart Program.

I join many people in paying tribute to the First African Baptist Church as a vital and inspiring presence in the community, and offer best wishes for the perpetuation of its service to God and humanity in the years to come.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS EXTEND CHALLENGE TO ALL SPECIAL INTERESTS: STEP UP TO THE TASK AT HAND

HON. G.V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, I have been granted a wonderful privilege to serve a select group of our citizens, those who have done the most to make our Nation strong and free. Today, I was eloquently reminded why my job is such an honor, and I have never been prouder of the special constituency I serve.

Members of the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committees gathered in the Cannon Caucus Room this morning to receive the legislative priorities of the Disabled American Veterans for the 1st session of the 103d Congress. I have never heard a more moving or persuasive statement presented to the joint committees.

The presentation was made by the National Commander of the Disabled American Veterans, Joseph C. Zengerle of Bethesda, MD. Joe is a disabled Vietnam veteran. Following his graduation from West Point, he was commissioned in the infantry where he qualified as an airborne ranger. In Vietnam, he served as special assistant to the United States commander, General Westmoreland, and as a unit commander in I Corps, during which he received the Bronze Star. Joe served as assistant secretary of the Air Force from 1979 to 1981. For the past several years, he has been a very successful attorney with a distinguished international law firm here in Washington.

While stressing that our veterans' programs are not at the root of the deficit, Commander Zengerle expressed veterans' willingness to assume their fair share of the deficit reduction burden. After all our veterans have done on and off the battlefield, after all the sacrifices they have made and the wounds and disabilities they have suffered, they are willing to do more to help their country.

I urge each of my colleagues to read and contemplate Commander Zengerle's statement. His words exemplify why we owe so much to those who have answered the call to arms, and especially to those who have sustained disabilities in service to America. Quite simply, Mr. Speaker, if every special interest group in the country were to take the unselfish position that DAV and other veterans' organizations have assumed, America's economic problems would soon be resolved.

STATEMENT OF JOSEPH C. ZENGERLE, NATIONAL COMMANDER, DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

Mr. Chairman and members of the Veterans Affairs Committees: On behalf of the over 1.4 million members of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and its Women's Auxiliary, I am honored and privileged to appear before you today to discuss issues concerning the best interests of our nation's wartime-disabled veterans and their families.

To those of you who are returning to service on the Veterans Affairs Committees, and to those who are embarking on such service, we in the DAV greet you at the eventful outset of this, the 103rd Congress of the United States. In the words of Maya Angelou: "On the pulse of this new day we say, very simply, with hope: Good morning."

Mr. Chairman, I am acutely aware of the heavy responsibility to act as a spokesman for veterans at such a time in our nation's history, and informed tribunals should know the bias of their witness. In that respect, I am grateful to have had an opportunity to have known and admired Chairman Montgomery for many years, and to have had several recent occasions which have made me "look up" to Chairman Rockefeller, too.

Our family—and I am glad that my wife Lynda and our younger son Tucker are with

me today—are ordinary people who have enjoyed the unique benefits of American citizenship. My father was a sergeant in the Army during World War II; I went to West Point. Lynda's father, who was born in Russia, remembers Cossacks chasing him on horseback; Lynda wanted to be a lawyer. After I returned from Vietnam, we went to law school together, and graduated with the help of the VA's vocational rehabilitation program.

Today, Lynda is an immigration lawyer, and is touched daily by persons who seek to enjoy the freedoms of our great country. For my part, over 15 years ago, on the way to becoming a Washington lawyer, I found identity as a veteran. I was outraged by the treatment accorded the young men and women who served in Vietnam in altruistic defense of those freedoms for others. My advocacy for veterans, in volunteer work and as a lawyer, has, if anything, grown over the years. I have been deeply enriched by the opportunity to try to convey the concerns and aspirations of my fellow veterans to officials whose decisions will affect their lives.

Our nation stands in the midst of dramatic change and challenge, both at home and abroad. We must be led in a direction that carries the potential for progress and hope for us, and for our children.

Abroad, we have seen the demise of a communist philosophy that has been the antithesis of the institutions and ideals cherished by Americans. But, while this threat to our country's security has been largely removed, it has left in its wake an emerging array of long-suppressed ethnic hatreds, regional divisions and economic chaos * * * a series of challenges that, in some respects like nuclear proliferation, may even rival those of the Cold War era.

Nevertheless, and particularly for those of us before you today, the unifying principle of a generation—our steadfast opposition to our major adversary in a bipolar world—is gone. Now, in a multipolar world in which our foreign orientation is less clear, we seek a new direction, one which has become increasingly clear.

At home, we face a crisis that can no longer be ignored. As we struggle to emerge from a devastating recession, we must put our fiscal house in order. In plain language that every head of household in this country can understand, we as a nation, can no longer continue to spend beyond our income.

Priorities have to be set and painful, unpopular decisions have to be made. All of us who occupy positions of leadership for various constituencies—in my case, veterans disabled in military service—must face the inescapable conclusion that parochial concerns, though vigorously pursued and advocated, cannot be controlling as we address the related questions of our economic health and the federal deficit.

Indeed, if there was one resounding message sent to decision-makers here in Washington last November, it was: no more gridlock. All leaders are being asked to act with candor, courage and fairness.

Mr. Chairman, I hope my remarks reflect that message this morning.

I speak on behalf of a segment of our population—disabled veterans—to whom our country owes an unquestioned obligation. I shall call for fair treatment and I will demonstrate that while our system of veterans' benefits and services certainly depends upon the support of the American taxpayer, it should not be regarded as a rising expenditure that has fueled the budget crisis we face. And I will do so in a context that clearly indicates disabled veterans continue to be willing to sacrifice for their country, just as they did when they served under our flag in uniform.

Initially, I would elaborate on the principle of fair treatment, of equitably sharing the responsibility to brighten our future.

Mr. Chairman, last spring the Washington Post published a revealing chart, compiled by the Congressional Research Service (CRS). Entitled "Social Welfare Programs," it displayed federal outlays in constant 1991 dollars for six major categories of domestic spending over the past 26 years. I have attached a copy of that chart to my statement, as I did in my statements before the Democratic and Republican Platform Committees last year.

To us, the conclusion revealed by the chart is dramatic.

During a time when expenditures for other federal programs were increasing at an extraordinary pace, the cost of veterans' benefits was held to a virtual straight line.

For over a quarter of a century, while meeting the needs of aging veterans from World War I, World War II and Korea, and new veterans coming out of Vietnam—our country's longest and most costly war—the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and all of its programs were continually required to do more with less. Certainly by comparison, federal expenditures for veterans cannot be viewed as anything but a model of fiscal restraint.

Other data drive this reality home. For example:

In 1975, at the end of the Vietnam War, the cost of VA benefits represented 5 cents of each tax dollar. Today that figure stands at 2.4 cents.

Of the estimated $939 billion that will be spent on health care in this country in 1993, the VA will spend $14 billion * * * less than 1.5 percent of the total.

In 1992, federal spending for entitlements totalled $717 billion. The $16.5 billion spent for VA disability compensation and pensions for needy veterans represents 2.3 percent of that figure. And, according to the CRS, spending for these same benefits will still be $16.5 billion in 1996 due to attrition by death.

Mr. Chairman, in underscoring the fact that veterans' programs have not fueled our deficit problems, my purpose is not to introduce a basis for claiming "sacred-cow" status, even though advocates for other federal beneficiaries have done so with, in our opinion, far less justification. But I do wish to emphasize our view that VA expenditures do not deserve to be included among these entitlements at the root of the deficit. The veterans of this country have every right to expect that their benefit programs shall be required to assume a fair share of deficit reduction that is in direct proportion to the contribution to deficit causation—but no more.

Proceeding from that fundamental premise let me first state that moving forward on one of the premier issues facing the VA today—reform of its health-care system—is not only essential to the interest of veterans, but also inexorably linked to our national effort to control health-care costs while providing coverage to all Americans.

The health-care imperatives for the VA—the delivery of accessible, high-quality care at affordable costs—mirror our national objectives. Furthermore, we in the veterans' community are now in a position to move forward on health-care reform and create a bow wave that is entirely compatible with the national goal.

Much of the groundwork has already been laid.

The VA's Commission on the Future Structure of VA Health Care, after a two-year effort, produced a series of recommendations aimed at simplifying and improving access to care, encouraging sound practices, and, most importantly, authorizing new VA-Department of Defense (DOD) sharing and reimbursement mechanisms.

New leadership in the VA, under White House guidance, has made veterans' health-care reform a priority. At this point, let me not fail to acknowledge the new Secretary for Veterans Affairs, Jesse Brown. We in the DAV have great confidence in the new Secretary given his previous career of more than twenty years as one of DAV's executives. That is not to say that we expect always to agree with Jesse, or that he will agree with us, but we know we will always share a dedication to veterans service.

At least the same preparation for decisions can be said to exist here in the Congress. Your Committees are ahead of the curve on this issue given your years of study and oversight, and your commitment and leadership are unquestioned.

Finally, for the first time a consensus has been achieved among the major veterans' service organizations. The American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and our own organization, in an unprecedented, cooperative effort, have reached agreement on critical elements that we believe are essential to health-care reform and consistent not only with the needs of the VA and veterans, but also with those of all Americans.

In general, these critical elements are:

Access to care, envisioning a core-entitled group consisting of all service-connected disabled and low-income veterans, and a general eligibility group consisting of all other veterans;

Scope of care, envisioning the provision of services provided to each group with a heavy emphasis on a full continuum and new modalities of care; and

Funding of care, envisioning Congressional appropriations for the core group and other federal and nonfederal reimbursements such as Medicare, CHAMPUS, private insurance and VA buy-in benefits for those outside the core group.

These elements are both innovative and controversial. But innovation is required if we are to fashion a system that is at once stable but flexible, to meet ongoing as well as changing needs. And controversy, while certainly not required, seems unavoidable. There will be those, for example, who resist the idea of greater sharing between the VA and DOD health-care systems. The same is true of reimbursement for the VA treatment of Medicare-eligible veterans.

As to controversy, the potential for economies of scale in VA-DOD sharing, and for less expensive federal expenditures in reimbursements, in our view, far outweigh the objections. Adherence to familiar procedures and prerogatives cannot stand as obstacles when, in fact, resistance to change has been a major factor underlying legislative gridlock.

Mr. Chairman, I call upon your Committees to lead the way for veterans' health-care reform. We have the opportunity to propel the VA system forward in a cost-effective fashion that will ensure its continued independence and help lead the way to the development of a sound national health-care policy for all Americans. We stand ready to assist you, as we may be able.

In addition to health care, the other major concern of our veteran population in today's

atmosphere of fiscal constraint and deficit reduction is the fate of their entitlement programs. As I have indicated, VA entitlements pale in comparison to the total outlays for all such programs.

Further demonstration that VA entitlements do not contribute to the deficit's rate of growth is embodied in our offer that America's disabled veterans would gladly accept a uniform freeze of all entitlement-program spending at fiscal year 1993 levels. Since the attrition rate affecting the disability compensation rolls far exceeds the number of new recipients, the compensation program was able to absorb the most recent three-percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) authorized without a rise in overall program expenditures. If all other programs could make this same claim, our deficit dilemma would be significantly less. Despite this fact, and notwithstanding the special claim of service-connected entitlements, the veterans of this country do not expect, much less demand, that they be exempted from deficit-reduction efforts. What they do expect, and what they have every right to demand, is simply this:

If—and this is a big if—exceptions are to be made, then programs for service-connected disabled veterans have every right to be among them. However, if every category of entitlement spending—including Social Security benefits—is to share a portion of the burden, then our nation's veterans are willing to assume their fair share.

Mr. Chairman, the economic package revealed to the nation last Wednesday by President Clinton would require a $3.6 billion reduction in certain VA discretionary and entitlement spending over the next four years. We have yet to receive detailed information on some of these proposed reductions and their impact on veterans, and therefore, must reserve final judgement on them.

However, I can state to your committees that, in principle, the DAV does not object to VA's inclusion in the President's deficit-reduction effort. Nor do we find the total dollar amount—$3.6 billion over a four-year period—to be unachievable.

For the benefit of those members new to your committees and/or the Congress, let me also state, as DAV has for the last decade, that we are prepared to accept a delay, reduction or denial of a COLA, so long as it is uniformly applied to all federal entitlement programs. This, of course, is in addition to our stated willingness to accept a freeze at this year's level of spending. Speaking candidly, such a willingness would still permit authorization of a COLA.

Mr. Chairman, disabled veterans know the meaning of the word sacrifice. We understood it when we volunteered or answered our country's call for service. We are once again prepared to answer that call.

In summation, Mr. Chairman, my purpose this morning has been threefold:

First, to set forth for the record that as our government moves forward to address our economic problems, the extent of VA benefits and services as part of those problems must be accurately assessed. President Clinton has said that those who most enjoyed the economic benefits of the eighties must now be prepared to bear a heavy responsibility for deficit reduction. We are certainly willing to subscribe to that standard.

Second, I have attempted to explain how addressing the foremost challenge facing veterans today, reform of their health-care system, is entirely compatible with our national objectives in this regard. The VA system must be a full partner in structuring these reforms and has the potential to be on their leading edge.

Finally, I hope I have demonstrated that America's veterans, rather than acting as "defenders of decline" in our country's economic revitalization, stand ready to be actively and unselfishly involved as "architects of the future." We in the veterans' community extend a challenge to all other special interests and concerns to make a similar commitment.

We disabled veterans in this room, and our millions of comrades all across the United States, are the classic examples of ordinary people who followed the rules—and paid a price for doing so. We understand that a new patriotism is being sought, and we are glad to step up to the task at hand. But we also know that the new direction is one designed to be built on old values. For us, the old patriotism is a good starting point. As we put aside our differences for the common good, let us also remember the honored heritage of that ancient rule called patriotic service, and the national obligation that attends those who followed it.

Mr. Chairman, this completes my testimony. I trust you will accept it as the offering of one who cares deeply for the future well-being of his fellow veterans and our nation. On behalf of the DAV and Auxiliary memberships, I deeply appreciate your extending me the opportunity to address you here this morning. May power beyond our individual support guide your important efforts in the days ahead. Thank you.

[From the Washington Post, May 6, 1992]

SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAMS—FEDERAL OUTLAYS IN BILLIONS OF CONSTANT 1991 DOLLARS

(By Spencer Rich)

The programs created in the broadly defined Great Society era, spanning the presidency of Lyndon B. Johnson and the early White House years of Richard M. Nixon, represented the greatest expansion of welfare and social services since the 1935 Social Security Act.

One of the first major Great Society bills was the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, the cornerstone of Johnson's so-called War on Poverty. The act had 10 major components. Among them, it authorized creation of the Job Corps to help train young people for work in both rural and urban training centers; work-study programs for students from low-income families; VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America, a sort of domestic Peace Corps); additional work training programs; and the community action program, which funded community organizations and nonprofit groups' local development programs.

Total spending on these initial War on Poverty programs was not very great—about $1 billion was authorized the first year. Funding for these programs was then dwarfed by funding for housing, medical and Social Security programs that usually are considered part of the Great Society legacy.

Ironically, the program often most sharply criticized as harming the poor by discouraging them from working—welfare for low-income families with children (Aid to Families with Dependent Children)—was created in the 1935 Social Security Act. Its expansion was not radically broadened by federal legislation.

The Johnson era also saw the expansion of the pilot food stamp program (1964) into a general benefit program. It was enlarged substantially during the Nixon presidency. Other Johnson initiatives included a 1965 housing program that provided rent supplements for the poor and two 1965 education programs: aid to elementary and secondary schools targeted at improving instruction for disadvantaged children, now called Chapter 1; and the Higher Education Act, which provided federal scholarships for needy children and authorized low-interest guaranteed loans for middle-income college students.

Fiscally, the most significant social welfare expansion involved Social Security and the creation of Medicare and Medicaid in 1965. There were seven Social Security raises between 1965 and 1975, plus the addition of an automatic cost-of-living feature in 1972. Of the $689 billion in total social welfare spending shown below for 1991, Medicare for the elderly accounts for $104.4 billion, federal Medicaid outlays for the poor (most of which are matched by the states) total $52.5 billion and Social Security as a whole is $269 billion.

In a broad sense, some of the social welfare expansions now attributed to the Great Society occurred during the Nixon administration starting in 1969. These include the 1972 authorizations of automatic cost-of-living increases in Social Security and the Supplemental Security Income program for the needy aged, blind and disabled, a major expansion of food stamps, and passage of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act in 1973.

MONTGOMERY GI BILL—EARNED OPPORTUNITIES

HON. TIMOTHY J. PENNY

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. PENNY. Mr. Speaker, one of the primary purposes of the Montgomery GI bill, which Congress established in 1984, is to extend the benefits of a higher education to qualifying men and women who might not otherwise be able to afford such an education. The following letter from Mr. Charles R. Porth II to Chairman MONTGOMERY clearly demonstrates that the GI bill is accomplishing that purpose. I would like to share Mr. Porth's letter with my colleagues. For those who were here in 1984 when we approved the legislation creating the newest GI bill, you can be proud of the work you did on this measure. For our new Members, this will serve to introduce you to one of the Nation's most successful programs.

MORGAN CITY, LA,
December 20, 1992.

Congressman MONTGOMERY,
U.S. Congress,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN MONTGOMERY: I am writing to thank you for your wisdom in creating the G.I. Bill. Back in 1985 I enlisted into the U.S. Army because the money that my mother had saved for me to go to college just wasn't going to be enough to make it through the next year. What I got out of my service to my country was a lot more than the ability to continue my education. I gained knowledge about different cultures other than just America. I gained discipline and a sense of duty. I gained self-confidence and self-esteem. I wish to take this time to commend you for your innovation in creating the G.I. Bill. I am enclosing a copy of my degree to show you and any of your colleagues that the money invested into this program is well spent. Not only does the

ability of our armed forces greatly increase because of the higher caliber of its recruits, but our economy will benefit because of a well educated working force and one with a sense of duty, honor, and dedication to our country. You must be a wise man to create such a Bill. I would one day like to thank you in person. Thank you Mr. Montgomery for doing your job.

Sincerely,

CHARLES RICHARD PORTH II.

WE MUST ENFORCE OUR IMMIGRATION LAWS

HON. ANTHONY C. BEILENSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a series of measures aimed at addressing one of the fastest growing problems facing the Nation, and one of the issues most ignored by the Federal Government: illegal immigration.

The United States has by far the most generous legal immigration system in the world: we allow more people—nearly 1 million a year—to immigrate here than do all other countries combined, and more newcomers are settling here legally every day than at any other time in our history. The vast majority of Americans, including myself, take tremendous pride in this tradition of welcoming and openness. It is uniquely American. It is a major part of what makes us special.

That said, I believe we all also know that our capacity to accept immigrants is not unlimited, and that our inability, or unwillingness, to control illegal immigration effectively will surely threaten our ability to continue to welcome legal immigrants in the not-too-distant future. Illegal immigration is already having a major effect on public services and labor markets in certain areas of the country. It will soon have an enormous effect.

While the Federal Government has sole responsibility for controlling our borders, the burden of illegal immigration—providing education, health services, welfare, housing, and jobs for hundreds of thousands of these newcomers and their families each year—falls almost entirely on local governments. Yet the Federal Government, while barring illegal aliens from participating in virtually any federally supported public assistance programs—thereby increasing this burden on local communities—has failed miserably in its effort to stem the influx of illegals over the border. The Border Patrol, which is woefully undermanned, estimates that for every one individual apprehended at the border, at least three cross undetected. The employer sanctions law, established under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 [IRCA], is widely misunderstood and inadequately enforced and, worse, has resulted in discrimination against legal residents and citizens who may appear to be foreign to prospective employers.

We must ask ourselves: Do we believe that immigration to the United States should be unlimited? Or do we believe that we should continue our current policy of admitting large numbers of legal immigrants, but of not admitting everyone in the world who can physically reach our shores? If controlling immigration is necessary, and I believe it is, we should get serious about enforcing our immigration laws.

We will have to deal with this problem eventually. The sooner we do, the better off we will be, and the more likely it will be that we will find solutions which are not only decent and humane, but which fit our traditional national values about openness and ethnic diversity. As it stands now, we are not being fair to anyone—our citizens, legal immigrants, or illegal immigrants. I urge my colleagues to work with me and begin now to address this serious problem.

Following is a summary of the measures I am introducing today:

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION TO ADDRESS ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

An independent, stronger Border Patrol: The Immigration and Naturalization Service's (INS) dual missions of providing necessary services to legal immigrants and policing the border are inherently contradictory. As the law enforcement agency charged with closing the border to drug traffickers and smugglers as well as illegal aliens, the Border Patrol requires a substantial increase in manpower, as well as independence from the INS, in order to adequately meet its responsibilities without having to compete with other immigration services for the resources to do so. I am introducing two bills to help address this problem:

The first would authorize an increase in the number of Border Patrol agents from approximately 4,000 to 6,600. The second would establish the Border Patrol as an independent agency within the Department of Justice.

A tamper-proof social security card for every American to prove work eligibility: Under the employer sanctions law established under IRCA, 29 different documents may be presented by job applicants to prove work eligibility. This system has not only given rise to a vast multi-million dollar underground industry in forged documents, but has also created considerable confusion among employers and, as documented by the General Accounting Office, has resulted in widespread discrimination against American citizens and legal residents who may appear foreign. Until we simplify the law and establish a single acceptable tamper-proof work authorization document, employer sanctions will remain unenforceable and discrimination will continue. I am introducing legislation which would direct the Social Security Administration to begin developing a counterfeit-proof social security card to be used by all eligible workers to prove that they are eligible to work in the U.S.

Restrict automatic citizenship to U.S.-born children of legal residents and citizens: The Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution, in order to confer citizenship on newly freed slaves after the Civil War, guaranteed citizenship to all people born in the United States. Since the U.S. did not limit immigration in 1868 (the year the Amendment was approved), and the question of citizenship for children of illegal immigrants was therefore never addressed, the language has had the inadvertent effect of conferring citizenship on U.S.-born children of illegal immigrants. This policy is blatantly unfair to the thousands of individuals who have petitioned for legal entry into the U.S.; it is illogical; and it provides an added incentive for entering the country illegally. Moreover, it creates an illogical situation in which the parents of a child who is an American citizen by virtue of birth cannot legally provide for that child because they are prohibited from holding a job here; it is no surprise, therefore, that such children are disproportionately dependent on government welfare programs, such as AFDC and Medicaid. I am introducing an amendment to the Constitution which would clarify that automatic citizenship is reserved for children of legal residents and citizens of the United States.

Address the growing problem of criminal aliens in state and local systems: While states and local governments have no jurisdiction over immigration law, and have no authority to deport aliens who are convicted of crimes, they are forced to incarcerate these criminals without any reimbursement from the federal government. Worse, although the majority of these criminal aliens are eligible for immediate deportation upon release from prison, the Immigration and Naturalization Service rarely takes action against them, and many eventually re-enter the criminal justice system as repeat offenders—thereby increasing the drain on state resources to pay for construction and upkeep of prisons and jails, clerks, district attorneys' offices, public defenders, and parole officers.

This growing problem has caused several states to take desperate steps to force the federal government to assume greater responsibility for the criminal alien population: New York State filed suit against the federal government last April, demanding that it take custody of thousands of illegal aliens housed in its prisons; California's Governor Pete Wilson has asked for $250 million from the federal government to pay for illegal immigrants who are confined in California prisons. The Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 directed the Attorney General to reimburse states for costs incurred for the imprisonment of illegal aliens, yet such reimbursement has never been allocated.

I am introducing a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress resolution regarding the federal government's failure to enforce our immigration laws, and urging greater attention to the burden that the criminal alien population places on state and local government criminal justice systems.

GAYS HAVE A RIGHT TO SERVE THEIR COUNTRY

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, recently much attention has been focused on President Clinton's plan to issue an Executive order overturning the ban on homosexuals in the Armed Forces. As debate on this issue intensifies, I want to share with my colleagues a very insightful commentary by Congressman BILL CLAY. The commentary appeared in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, February 14, 1993.

[From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Feb. 14, 1993]

GAYS HAVE A RIGHT TO SERVE THEIR COUNTRY

(By William L. Clay)

Those who argue that there is no similarity between the visceral opposition to lifting the ban against gays in the military and the

struggle to integrate the armed services either are unfamiliar with history or deliberately attempt to ignore it.

The same tirades, diatribes and hysterical incantations uttered about President Bill Clinton's intention to ban discrimination against gays in the military today are reminiscent of those shouted by the "defense establishment" and its civilian supporters when President Harry S. Truman ordered racial integration of the troops in 1948.

On July 27, 1948, Truman issued an executive order banning racial discrimination in the military. Amazingly, Truman's approach to the issue parallels that of Clinton. Truman had pledged as early as February to desegregate the armed forces, but had taken no further action because of opposition by some of the Democrats in Congress and by leaders of the military. Delaying the issuance of the executive order brought criticism from some of the liberal members of the Democratic Party.

Clinton has set July 15 as the deadline for drafting an order allowing gays to serve in the military. This interim period allows time for Congress, the military and senior defense officials to set up plans that would carry out the new policy.

Cries from the top military brass were as ludicrous in 1948 as they are today. Without Truman's executive order, in all probability our armed services still would be segregated.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur, of four-star rank and commanding general of our Pacific forces, said then that he "didn't find the Negroes qualified" and when he found them qualified they would be integrated.

Lt. Gen. Willard Paul, director of personnel, said that the army might find it necessary to furlough a "number" of new draftees (black) as soon as they are inducted because housing and training facilities would not be available. This sounded very much like military officials and politicians decrying the fact that gays will be trained and housed alongside heterosexuals.

Gen. Omar Bradley, then-army chief of staff, held a news conference one day after Truman issued the order and said in effect that the Army was not out to make any social reforms and that the Army would put men of different races in different companies. He further indicated that the policy of racial integration would change when the nation as a whole changed it.

According to Clark Clifford, counsel to Truman, Bradley recognized the error of his ways and immediately dispatched a note to Truman stating that he had "no intention of embarrassing" him. However, Bradley never retracted the statement.

In September 1991, Christopher John, assistant secretary of Defense for force management and personnel, defended the policy of banning homosexuals in the armed services more forcefully than his boss, Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney.

He said, "The fundamental thing I think everybody needs to understand is that the military is a conservative organization * * * and what people are asking now is that the military become some sort of social science laboratory, and very frankly, our first and foremost job is not to advance social causes, however meritorious they may be."

It is one thing for civilians and elected officials to disagree publicly with the president and even to question his motives, but for military personnel to question openly or defy the commander in chief is a matter of another stripe even if it has been done before.

Our government is structured on the time-honored principle that civilians will decide the questions of war and peace and will determine the policy involving national defense. This principle clearly distinguishes our country from an assortment of banana republics.

Those military officials not disposed to follow orders from the commander in chief should, as Gen. Colin Powell indicated in a recent address to midshipmen at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, "resign their commission."

To this observer, gays in the military is not the issue, as gays have served and are serving in the armed forces with distinction. Sexual orientation or status is not the issue as every citizen has a right to serve the country to the best of his or her ability without being subjected to discriminating practices.

Behavior is the issue as it encompasses an element of fairness and is the criterion upon which performances may be objectively evaluated.

The exaggerated fear some express regarding the prospect of taking showers or sleeping in close quarters with gays is homophobia at its worst. Family members, sports teams, physical education classes and college students in dormitories, to mention a few, do this all the time. So what else is new?

If statistics regarding the percentage of the population that is gay or bisexual are to be believed, then the Super Bowl champions, the Dallas Cowboys, likely have some gay or bisexual members on their team. This obviously did not prevent them from working together to achieve their objective.

Race-baiting and gay-bashing have no place in America, and Clinton is to be applauded for efforts to rid our country of this disease.

Maya Angelou, in her Inaugural poem on Jan. 20, aptly put this matter in perspective when she said, "History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be unlived and if faced with courage, need not be lived again."

TRIBUTE TO DOROTHY M. ALLEN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Ms. Dorothy M. Allen, a member of my women's caucus who will be honored as one of the individuals who exemplify this year's annual breakfast theme of "Women Who Dare To Be Different."

Her tireless efforts and commitment to the stabilization and improvement of her community has led her to become actively involved in her community. As a member of Community Board No. 5 and the East New York Neighborhood Family Care Center's advisory board, she continues to strive to improve the health and social service needs of our community. She is involved with the Share Program, a nonprofit organization which supplies nutritional food to the needy at a low cost. As president of the Vermont Street Playstreet Program, she provides both educational and recreational programs to community youths. She is also a member of DC37 Women's Committee.

She retired from the city of New York police headquarters after 20 years of service. She is actively involved in her church, St. Michaels. Ms. Allen is the proud mother of one child, Beatrice, and equally proud of her grandson, Adrein. She is extremely blessed to have a mother who at 89 years old continues to be her inspiration.

LIFE AND WORK OF PHILIP BELZ SALUTED

HON. DON SUNDQUIST

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. SUNDQUIST. Mr. Speaker, in a few days I will have the pleasure of joining friends from the Baron Hirsch Congregation in Memphis to celebrate the 90th birthday of a remarkable man, Philip Belz.

Philip Belz has been a force for good in the Memphis community. He is a generous man, a keen businessman, a man of deep and abiding faith who has been a leader in the Memphis Jewish community.

Dr. Selma Lewis has captured the essence of this remarkable man and chronicled his life and contributions in an article titled: "Philip Belz * * * Businessman, Leader, Musician, Philanthropist—Changing the Face of Memphis." I ask that it be reprinted in its entirety in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and that my colleagues join me in offering congratulations and warm greetings to a most deserving man and wonderful friend to so many.

PHILIP BELZ: BUSINESSMAN, LEADER, MUSICIAN, PHILANTHROPIST; CHANGING THE FACE OF MEMPHIS

(By Dr. Selma Lewis)

Every day, except Shabbos, Philip Belz has a music lesson either on the flute or the piano. A lifelong musician and singer, at the age of 90, he finally has the leisure time to indulge in one of his greatest talents and interests. In a small way, the study of music helps fill the great gap left by the recent death of his beloved wife, Sarah.

Belz is endowed with a combination of talents. In addition to considerable musical gifts, he is devoted to the practice of Orthodox Judaism, he is a brilliant businessman and is possessed with personal charm and benevolence. He is kind and unassuming, retaining an appealing modesty in spite of his notable achievements. He has never met a stranger.

The circumstances of Belz's early life were typical of the lives of many Eastern European immigrants. In 1904, when Philip was 10 months old, his father left the little town of Lancut in Galacia, a province of Austria-Hungary to avoid serving in an army, which would require him to violate principles of Judaism, such as the prayer requirements and dietary laws. His father immigrated to Memphis to join his brother and the two lived together over The Grand Leader, a store on Beale Street.

Philip's father peddled for five years until 1910 when he earned enough money to send for his wife and six-and-a-half year old Philip. In the beginning, the family lived in a four-bedroom apartment building located near Mosby at 310 Hill Street, an area where other Jewish immigrants had settled. The Belz family rented the living room to a peddler named Glassberg who played the flute. In exchange for a reduction in rent,

Glassberg taught young Philip to play the flute. The instrument was purchased by Philip's father in 1910 for $50 and paid for at the rate of one dollar per week. Philip still has the flute today. At the age of 12, Belz played in the Tennessee Regimental Band. Later, at 14, he played second or third flute with the Memphis Symphony Orchestra.

In 1912, Philip's father took the money he had saved and borrowed a little more to build some shelves in a small store on the corner of Utah and Pioneer Streets. He was the owner of his first grocery store, which he managed for three years before he was able to buy a store on Trigg and Louisiana Streets in 1914. At the end of World War I, a severe influenze epidemic affected both of Philip's parents. He was in the tenth grade at Central High School, but had to quit school to run the business. He never went back to school.

When he first arrived in Memphis Philip attended Cheder (Hebrew School) where Cantor Benjamin Feibish of the Baron Hirsch Synagogue heard him sing. Philip became soloist of Baron Hirsch's choir in 1912 and continues to sing solos with the choir to this day. After skipping his famous solo, U-Na-Sana Tokef during the High Holy Days of 1991, Philip, in 1992, at age 89, thrilled Baron Hirsch congregants with his heart rendering solo. Each year his beautiful voice in the synagogue brings memories of the past along with tears to the eyes of many at Baron Hirsch who look forward to this special moment in their holiday prayers.

He later studied voice with Cantor Feibish's daughter, Madame Valentina Tumanskaya, former diva of the Moscow Imperial Opera. During the Russian Revolution, she escaped to China and later came to Memphis and opened a studio above Johnson's Flower Shop on Madison Avenue. After much hard work with Tumanskaya, Belz won a scholarship in 1932, affording him the opportunity to study with Emelio Roxas, the coach of opera singers Giovanni Martinelli and Jan Peerce. Knowing that he couldn't be away from his business for the full year, Belz confined his studies to an intense period of two months, two hours a day, five days a week, completing the full year's program.

In 1933, Belz's cousin Sam Belz returned to Memphis from Chicago. Together, Philip and Sam opened a furniture factory on the corner of Main and Auction. Having had some experience in building, Philip also decided to buy a block of real estate across from his grocery store on Thomas Street in 1935. His father-in-law, an apartment builder, assisted him in building apartments at Thomas and Firestone and a group of stores on the corner. At the same time this venture was materializing, the federal government was looking for inexpensive housing for the poor. Thus, Belz and the government joined forces and built "Thomas and Belz Courts." Each apartment had three rooms including kitchen, bedroom and bathroom. The apartments rented for $15 a month. With this venture, what has become one of the South's largest multifaceted real estate and development companies was founded.

Other projects followed in rapid succession, including building a group of stores carved out of the North Memphis Driving Park, a surrey driving park on Thomas Street, then constructing a factory.

In 1937, a serious flood caused damage to the latter venture but Philip was still able to complete it. Five years later, his tenant, the Marty Frye Roofing Company, supplier of all the roofing for Sears Roebuck Company, bought the factory. Belz said, at this point, "he was on his way." He later bought the Union Realty Company in 1943.

Included in the property Belz bought as part of the driving company's property, was a fine residential area on Bel Air Drive. Belz decided to build his home there and to pay the mortgage on his new home, he bought 15 houses in North Memphis for $300 each, later selling them for $500 to $600.

By this time, Belz owned a liquor store on Main and Madison, a furniture factory on Carolina Street and a grocery store on Thomas Street, and he sang five or six times a week on the radio. He sang arias and lyrical classical songs in English, Italian, Hebrew and Yiddish and was a "Radio Star" in Memphis. Overwhelmed by the many demands of all his occupations, he sold the store on Thomas Street to his brother-in-law.

One of Belz's primary concerns has always been the practice of his religion. He has been active in the advancement, support, organization and development of the Baron Hirsch Congregation for many years, serving on its Board of Directors as Vice President and as President over a period of eight years. He has made significant donations to the Synagogue building on Vollentine as well as to the new location on Winter Oak, in the eastern part of the city. Belz also donated the money needed to build the Belz Synagogue in the B'nai B'rth Home for the Aged. He has participated in many other Jewish organizations in the city, contributing time and financial support to them and to the state of Israel. Belz was awarded the title "Man of the Decade" by the State of Israel in 1958, recognizing him for his contributions.

On December 11, 1983, Mr. Belz received an honorary doctorate degree from Yeshiva University in New York. In honor of Philip and his late wife, Sarah, the Music and Cantorial school was renamed The Philip and Sarah Belz School of Music. Thus, his great love of music, especially cantorial music, will be continued into the future.

After Belz's son Jack was graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1948, Belz Enterprises began to grow at an even faster pace. (Belz's two other sons, Leslie and Paul, who were also in the family business, were tragically killed in a small plane crash while on a business trip). The company has continued to remain a family-owned business, with the third generation firmly in place.

Belz Enterprises has changed the face of Memphis and altered aspects of other cities as a result of its developments. Philip Belz believes in owning land and in "having the land at the right place where somebody wants it." He says, "you have to have innovative ideas, along with a little Mazel (luck) too, to go with it." A "little mazel" hardly seems sufficient to explain the phenamenal personal and business success of a remarkable man, Philip Belz.

ASKING THE ELDERLY FOR MORE SACRIFICE

HON. JOHN T. MYERS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. MYERS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, Benjamin R. Cole, retired head of the Washington bureau of the Indianapolis Star, captured the concerns of a large number of my constituents in this recent column which I share with you today.

ASKING THE ELDERLY FOR MORE SACRIFICE

(By Benjamin R. Cole)

WASHINGTON.—The new Clinton administration is talking seriously about "shared sacrifice"—especially about imposing a full share on the elderly.

The elderly know all about sacrifice.

Their youth was filled with it. The upbringing of their children was continuous sacrifice. It was the normal way of life in their day, and they never complained. In those days there was no Aid to Families With Dependent Children. There was only private charity that was viewed by most as disgraceful to accept—or public orphans' asylums or poor farms.

The elderly are men and women whose childhood ended with the Great Depression. They saw their parents' jobs, homes and savings swept away. They shared sacrifice with their jobless fathers. Most families of the Depression were loath to accept public help, in those days limited almost entirely to township poor relief. They toughed it out.

President Clinton, whose life has involved minimal sacrifice, tosses the word sacrifice around with unbecoming adroitness. He was successful in avoiding bearing arms for his country. He attended the best schools and enjoyed an elite Rhodes scholarship.

SACRIFICE OF THEIR PARENTS

Today's elderly include nearly a whole generation of Americans who marched off to make the world safe for liberals in World War II. They include Americans whose lives and careers were interrupted while they fought in Korea. For a large part of their young adulthood they lived under prospective call by the Selective Service System.

Today's elderly are the men and women whose educations were paid for not by government grants but by the sacrifice of their parents. Often, they were called upon to suspend their education because parents had too little money or their children had too many obligations to permit them to go on. These elderly are men and women who built careers despite their educational disadvantages. They built their own lives even as they helped to improve their nation.

They became the mothers and fathers who, in their turn, proudly and gladly made sacrifices to educate their own children with their own resources. They are the parents who struggled to pay medical bills even before private group insurance was invented. They are the mothers and fathers who, even while they are rearing their own families, shared their income with aging parents whose security disappeared in the Depression.

Today's "old people" were the young couples who struggled into Depression era marriages living in one-room apartments with orange crate furniture. Today they are the Moms and Pops who routinely put up the down payment on homes for newly wed children. They are the fountainhead of the family values that are now threatened by incessant attacks on the religious faith that sustained them.

The elderly are the Americans who uncomplainingly paid high taxes to create the social programs that today's liberals take for granted.

They bore the tax burden, they paid out billions in foreign aid to rebuild Europe through the Marshall Plan. The money withheld from their paychecks financed foreign assistance on every continent. Above all, they taxed themselves mercilessly to maintain a great and powerful defense establishment that eventually brought the downfall

of the Evil Empire. Their sacrifices have brought freedom for other people all around the globe.

Despite the worst that befell them, they bore their own burdens. They never lost faith in America. They dreamed, they believed, they worked.

AN EXERCISE FOR LIBERALS

Calling on elderly Americans for sacrifice is becoming a trendy little exercise for passionate liberals. They made their sacrifices well in advance. Most likely they will now have to sacrifice anew to finance the political aspirations of the new occupants of the White House.

The political struggle to deal with the federal deficit that liberals built with unceasing diligence bids to impose higher taxes and reduced services for all Americans. Almost certainly, elderly Americans will be called on to pay more and get less.

DOUBLE DIPPERS DIPPING DEEPER

HON. ANDREW JACOBS, JR.

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, Sid Taylor has a knack for stating the obvious which everyone would like to deny.

DOUBLE DIPPERS DIPPING DEEPER

The above one-liner for 1993 should be erected in a large sign over the main doors to our depleted ($4 trillion of red ink) U.S. Treasury in Washington.

With an estimated federal budget deficit for FY 93 at $327 billion, it is mind-boggling to realize that we still have about 200,000 (unretired-retired) double-dippers on the federal payroll collecting "dual compensation" (federal pay plus federal pension).

The final straw and fiscal irony—of this new and growing affluent "retired bureaucracy" is that both their pay scales and pension rates are "indexed." In addition to "double dipping", they are also "double-indexed". Many will walk off into the federal sunset of life as "pension millionaires." Guess who is footing the bill? Yes, you the average American taxpayer.

Worse still, is a side-effect of this actuarial windfall on the joblessness problem. Many Americans today cannot find one job or even one pension. This gravy train goes back to the Dual Compensation Act of 1964 (PL 88-448) as a special Treasury Raid by the military-industrial complex that President Eisenhower warned us about. This act only permits 20-year service military veterans to "double-dip". Other military veterans with less than 20 years service or Civil Service retirees (with veterans status) cannot collect dual compensation. In the interests of national solvency alone, it's now time for correction. Dual compensation on the federal payroll should be abolished beginning in FY94.

On top of all this, we find, that much of this dual compensation or double-dipping money (taxpayer's) can be stashed away in tax-deferred IRA or 401(k) savings accounts while the unretired-retired depositors are reemployed on the federal payroll. I wonder if ancient Rome had a pay/pension system like USA today? I also wonder if they had an annual budget deficit in the $300 billion range?

I hope our new President Bill Clinton gets an early briefing on this issue. It's a hot one because many of our Members of Congress (Senate and House) have legislated themselves into becoming "pension millionaires."

DUTY RATE ON TRU-PRO 224

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to restore the 0.2 cents per pound duty rate on Tru-Pro 224. This rate was in the Tariff Schedules of the United States [TSUS] before the Harmonized Tariff Schedule [HTS] came into force.

This legislation is identical to S. 406 that was introduced in the Senate by Senator WOFFORD.

Tru-Pro 224 is a specialized product made in Australia that is used by the baking industry for making breads, cakes, and pies. It is a dry mixture that includes sodium caseinate, butterfat, whey solids, and dried whole milk.

From 1985 to 1988, all imports of Tru-Pro 224 were consistently and properly classified by the U.S. Customs Service as a mixture in chief value of casein under item 493.17 of the TSUS. When the United States began planning to replace the TSUS with HTS, it was internationally agreed that an article that was classified under a given provision of the TSUS would be classified under the equivalent provision of the HTS. This was designed to ensure, in particular, that the rate applicable to the product would not change. In the case of Tru-Pro 224, the equivalent provision was HTS subheading 3501.90.50, which covers casein derivative, at a rate of 0.44 cents per kilogram.

In spite of the international agreement, Customs reclasssified Tru-Pro 224 under HTS subheading 1901.90.40, which covers various food preparations with dairy ingredients, at a rate of 16 percent. That translates into a duty of about 14 cents per pound, since the dutiable value of Tru-Pro 224 is today about 88.5 cents per pound. In other words, the 16-percent rate is about 70 times the 0.2 cents per pound rate.

The Australian Government protested the reclassification of Tru-Pro 224 as inconsistent with the international agreement to keep rates unchanged. In a June 28, 1990, letter to the Australian Government, which I have included with these remarks, the United States Trade Representative acknowledged the obligation of the U.S. Government to seek congressional approval of the restoration of the TSUS rate of 0.2 cents per pound.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is clear that the United States is obligated to restore the 0.2 cent per pound rate for Tru-Pro 224, retroactive to January 1, 1989, when the HTS came into force. The application of the 16-percent rate has been unjustified since that date.

UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE,
Washington, DC, June 28, 1990.

Hon. NEAL BLEWETT,
Minister for Trade Negotiations, Parliament House, Canberra.

DEAR DR. BLEWETT: I have the honor to refer to the discussions which have taken place between officials of our two countries to resolve certain concerns Australia has with the introduction of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). Pursuant to those discussions, this letter sets forth the understandings of our two governments of certain actions the United States will take with respect to its schedule, and of Australia's undertaking that it will lift its reservation on the United States GATT schedule XX as converted to the Harmonized System.

Australia's reservations concern three products:

a. Mixtures of non-fat dry milk and anhydrous butterfat containing over 5.5 percent but not over 45 percent by weight of butterfat, which prior to January 1, 1989 were classified to TSUS item 182.92 but which are now classified to HTSUS subheading 1901.90.30;

b. Dried mixtures containing less than 31 percent by weight of butterfat and consisting of not less than 17.5 percent by weight each of sodium caseinate, butterfat, whey solids containing over 5.5 percent by weight of butterfat, and dried whole milk, but not containing dried milk, dried whey, or dried buttermilk any of which contains 5.5 percent or less by weight of butterfat. Prior to January 1, 1989 these mixtures were classified to TSUS item 493.17 but are now classified to HTSUS subheading 1901.90.40;

c. Woven tapestry and woven upholstery fabrics of wool valued over $2 per pound, which prior to January 1, 1989 were classified to TSUS item 357.15 but which are now classified to HTSUS subheadings 5112.20.00 or 5112.30.00

Under the Tariff Schedules of the United States (TSUS), the products described in paragraph (a) above, imported from Australia, were subject to a section 22 quota of 1,016,046 kilograms and a tariff rate of 16 percent ad valorem. Under the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) these products have been classified as articles of milk or cream, subject to a section 22 quota of 2,721 kilograms and a tariff rate of 17.5 percent ad valorem.

Under the TSUS, the products described in paragraph (b) above, imported from Australia, were free of any quota and subject to a tariff rate of 0.44 cents per kilogram. Under the HTSUS these products have been classified as edible preparations containing over 5.5 percent butterfat, subject to a section 22 quota of 1,016,046 kilograms and a tariff rate of 16 percent ad valorem.

Under the TSUS, the products described in paragraph (c) above, imported from Australia, were subject to a tariff rate of 7 percent ad valorem. Under the HTSUS these products have been classified as woven fabrics of combed wool containing less than 85 percent by weight of wool mixed mainly or solely with man-made filaments or man-made staple fibers, subject to a tariff rate of 48.5 cents per kilogram plus 38 percent ad valorem.

Section 1211 (c) of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 provides authority to modify the coverage of the section 22 quotas to restore the previous treatment in effect under the TSUS. This authority expires on June 30, 1990.

There is no executive authority to reduce tariffs on these products by more than certain specified proportions and amounts. Any tariff reductions greater than those specified proportions and amounts would require approval by the Congress of the United States.

It is understood that the Government of the United States will use the section 1211 (c) authority to restore the pre-existing treatment with regard to quotas for products de-

scribed in (a) and (b) above and will not oppose legislation to restore the pre-existing duty treatment of products described in (a), (b) and (c) above. Further, the Executive Branch of the U.S. Government will enter into an agreement, in the context of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, to restore tariff rates on products described in (a) and (b) to the levels applying immediately prior to 1 January 1989, and thereafter will seek Congressional approval of such restoration.

In these circumstances, Australia will not take any retaliatory measures, request any compensation, or take any measures in pursuit of any right it might have under Article XXVIII of the GATT, including recourse to Article XXIII, with respect to the products described in (a) or (b), on the understanding that action will be taken by the United States to restore pre-existing tariff and quota treatment to products described in (a) and (b) above by the time the United States formally notifies the GATT of its acceptance of the agreements associated with the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations. However, Australia will retain its GATT rights in relation to these products until such restoration has occurred.

It is further understood that:

(A) Australia will immediately withdraw its reservation on the United States GATT Schedule XX as converted to the Harmonized System in all respects except with regard to products (a) and (b) above and initially negotiated rights not fully shown in the Schedule,

(B) Australia will notify the GATT to that effect,

(C) Australia will lift its reservation with respect to each of the products (a) and (b) above when the respective duty rates and the quota treatment on each is restored to the level applicable under the TSUS, and once all agreed initially negotiated rights accorded to Australia are shown in the United States GATT Schedule XX as converted to the Harmonized System, and

(D) The United States will immediately withdraw its reservation on Australia's GATT Schedule I as converted to the Harmonized System.

I have the honor to propose that, if the foregoing is acceptable to the Government of Australia, this letter and your confirmatory reply constitute the understandings of our two governments as of the date of your reply.

Sincerely,

CARLA A. HILLS

TRIBUTE TO MARIE E. PURNELL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to salute Ms. Marie E. Purnell, a member of my women's caucus who will be honored this year as exemplifying our theme, "Women Who Dare To Be Different."

Ms. Purnell has demonstrated that with vision and determination you can achieve your personal ambitions. She has worked in the banking industry. While employed by Chase Manhattan Bank of New York, Marie successfully completed several courses at the American Institute of Banking which aided her in achieving positions of ever-increasing responsibility at the bank. At the time of her retirement, in 1968, she was assistant treasurer. This progress up through the ranks serves as testimony to her dedication to hard work and perseverance. She was in charge of the special events department of the bank, a position that required her to schedule conferences for the bank's clients from all over the world.

Ms. Purnell's greatest community achievements began in 1976 when she accepted the position of building representative with the Starrett City Tenants Association. Currently, Ms. Purnell is the president of the tenants association at Starrett at Spring Creek, representing over 5,000 families; second vice president of the Starretts City, Spring Creek Lions Club; executive member of Basic Black, an organization which was established to encourage and support African-American cultural awareness; a member of the Pool Club Advisory Board at Starrett; and a member of Community Planning Board, District 5, Brooklyn.

It is with great pride that I salute this tireless worker for the betterment of humanity: Marie E. Purnell.

HELP THE HOMELESS WEEK

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, not long ago, homelessness was perceived as a phenomenon of the city. It was something that did not really affect suburban communities. Now, that perception is changing. The reality is that the homeless need our help in suburban Maryland just as much as they do in Washington or Baltimore. Unfortunately, the need for help too often outstrips the ability to churches and nonprofit groups to render it. But thanks to the generous time and efforts of hundreds of Marylanders who volunteered in the recent Help the Homeless Week, many of the organization reaching out to the homeless in our community will receive some extra help in their missions.

That help comes from the employees of more than 50 local corporations and community groups who recently raised $400,000 during a week-long drive to help the homeless in Maryland, the District, and Northern Virginia.

Initiated 5 years ago by Fannie Mae, the Federal National Mortgage Association, the week-long drive is called the Help the Homeless Week and involves a fund raising and education campaign organized by employees to benefit nonprofit groups that provide a range of services for homeless families and individuals in Maryland, Washington, and Northern Virginia. Since 1988, the Help the Homeless campaign has raised more than $1 million and has grown into a collaborative effort of local community and religious organizations, schools, and businesses. Employees from each of the sponsoring organizations raise money during the week-long campaign through activities such as bake sales, silent auctions, raffles, and basketball and volleyball challenges.

Among the beneficiaries for the 1992 Help the Homeless campaign is a volunteer group in Prince Georges County, an area that I have the distinction of representing in Congress. This particular shelter had made a significant effort to go beyond providing a meal and a bed. It is a remarkable organization providing a necessary service to homeless individuals and families so that ultimately, they will once again contribute to our community.

The name of this remarkable organization is the Law Foundation of Prince Georges County. The Law Foundation was formed by judges and attorneys to ensure that quality civil legal services are available to low-income residents and the homeless of Prince Georges County. Pro bono services provided by attorneys include counseling, document drafting, negotiation, advocacy, litigation, representation, and alternative dispute resolution such as mediation.

Congratulations to the Law Foundation of Prince Georges County and the people who volunteer there for their work in earning this recognition. They are making an important contribution to our community—the rehabilitation of people's lives. Thank you also to the hundreds of generous Marylanders who participated in the Help the Homeless Week.

FEDERAL BUDGET STRUCTURE ACT OF 1993 AND THE IMPROVED BUDGET PRESENTATION ACT

HON. WILLIAM F. CLINGER, JR.

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Speaker, today I take the floor of the House of Representatives to introduce two pieces of legislation to improve the Federal budget process by instituting a capital budget. This is an important step in Federal budget reform which has been endorsed by the General Accounting Office and supported, in principle, by President Bill Clinton.

The budget reform in my first proposal, the Federal Budget Structure Act of 1993, would simply require the display of capital investments separately in a resectioned unified budget. It does not attempt to reduce the Federal budget deficit through more smoke and mirrors or by taking capital expenditures off-budget.

I believe that the time has come for the Federal Government to devise a budget document which provides a comprehensive picture of capital investment programs across agency and program lines. This will allow policymakers to see how these investments fit into a national strategy for maintaining and improving the Nation's public facilities.

Despite the billions of dollars we already spend each year on investment in capital facilities, the Federal Government has neither an overall policymaker process nor a governmental analysis of information to support capital investment policymaking. Both the President and Congress have tended to set priorities for physical capital investment program-by-program. There is no consistent basis for setting priorities among projects and programs, and there is no framework in which to identify those having similar objectives and those at cross-purposes. This program and

project orientation makes planning for public facilities vulnerable to short-term strategies, thus impairing the stability and predictability needed for a capital investment program that best serves our country's long-term needs.

Adopting a separate capital budget section within the unified budget will focus attention on capital investment needs and stimulate the development of information needed for policy decisions. A capital budget section within the unified budget would establish a useful planning process because it would focus on long-term projects, costs, and benefits. While some data are available now within the unified budget, it is not in sufficient detail or appropriate format for planning and making policy decisions on overall investment levels, financing methods, and level of government responsibility. Capital budget reporting would provide more information on the Federal Government's involvement in acquiring assets directly and in providing grants-in-aid for capital investment.

The benefits of a capital budget are endless. A capital budget: First, focuses attention to a greater degree on the physical infrastructure of the Nation and allows us to make more rational investment decisions; second, provides more equitable budget treatment of capital activities by avoiding the current front-end loading of the full costs in the first year; third, helps focus attention on government ownership and financing of assets that produce long-term benefits; fourth, shows that borrowing to finance capital investments is accompanied by an increase in the Nation's assets, and fifth, changes the public perception of debt financing by distinguished between debt incurred to acquire assets from that incurred to finance current operations.

Also, a budget that uses debt financing of capital assets would increase equity between those who pay for the assets and those who use the assets. If the debt's repayment length approximates the acquired asset's life, each generation would pay for the portion of the asset it used.

A capital budget that remains part of the unified budget may also help us better define, "What is a balanced budget?" If we finally move in the direction of a balanced budget, we need to more fully explore whether it makes sense for the Federal Government to balance its annual budget under current bookkeeping practices. Efforts to improve Federal financial management and better identify capital activities will bear directly on the quality and clarity of the financial information that we use to make budget decisions.

The Federal Budget Structure Act seeks to identify, define, and present separate operating and capital components of the Federal budget, and to distinguish between Federal funds and trust funds, while maintaining a unified budget. It seeks to provide what the existing budget does not. That is, adequate information on the revenues, expenditures, surplus/deficit amounts, and financing requirements for capital activities of the Federal Government. It also attempts to provide a distinction between Federal funds and trust funds, and between capital and operating activities in a manner which does not hinder identifying the resources needed to meet the Government's capital infrastructure needs.

I believe that a resectioned unified budget, as provided in this proposal, would provide information on capital investments during the formulation of the President's budget proposals and the Congress' debate and creation of the budget. This resectional budget would identify Federal capital investment outlays and clearly distinguish them from current expenditures, without jeopardizing the functional and aggregate spending focus of the budget.

I am also introducing legislation today designed to create a commission to study and recommend to the President and Congress the most effective method of implementing a budget that distinguishes between capital and operating expenses. From long personal experience, I am aware that there is considerable difference of opinion between Congress and its committees, and the White House, about the desirability—and implementation of—capital budgeting. The commission should have resolved these disputes.

The call for a capital budget is not new. I have introduced this very proposal several times before. But, with the President's renewed hopes to use infrastructure spending as a means to create jobs, now more than ever, we should craft a budget which helps us grasp just where and how the Nation's tax dollars are being spent.

SERVICE ACADEMIES ARE AN INVESTMENT IN NATIONAL SECURITY

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, all too often throughout our history, Americans have chosen to ignore George Santayana's warning that those who forget history's lessons are forced to repeat them.

This national failure to confront historical reality is starkly evident in our continued compulsion to demobilize and gut our military strength following successful war efforts. In this century alone, we deluded ourselves that World War I really was the war to end all wars and reduced the armed forces to a literal skeleton force after the war. The resulting lack of preparedness led inexorably to World War II. Following World War II, the President ordered a demobilization which enabled the Soviets to consolidate their stranglehold on Eastern Europe and led ultimately to the Korean conflict.

The past several years have seen American victories of unparalleled dimension. The Soviet Empire has fallen and the world's fourth largest army was defeated in the 4-day ground war of Desert Storm. These victories occurred because of our sense of national purpose and the strength, might, and dedication of the American armed forces.

Now that these victories have been attained, however, the voices of demobilization and disarmament are again being heard. Drastic military cutbacks are being proposed and, more ominously, are being listened to by the politically correct media and their allies in the Congress and the Clinton administration. Failing to learn history's lessons, these advocates of a weakened military ignore the reality that this is still a very dangerous world—as evidenced by Somalia, the Balkans, and the Middle East.

I will address the issues of cutbacks in troop deployment and weapons systems development on another day. Today, however, I want to express my firm opposition to any significant cutbacks in our service academies and to any attempt whatsoever, to merge the academies.

Recently, I had the opportunity to visit the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. On a personal level, it was a very rewarding experience to meet with such outstanding cadets. In this time of materialism and drifting values, it is encouraging to know that such dedicated young men and women are willing to enter their Nation's service. Graduates of West Point contributed immensely to America's victory in the cold war. To preserve the peace which we won, it is important that West Point's standards be maintained.

The issue most often raised against our service academies is that the cost of educating a military graduate is more than $200,000. The first response, of course, is that a country should not put a price tag on its national security. Having said that, however, it must be pointed out that the average cost of college education at the top universities including tuition, tax subsidies, Federal grants, and philanthropic gifts is $234,000. To put West Point's cost in perspective, the Federal Government spends more for food stamps in the State of Maryland than it does for West Point. As a sign of our drifting values, Americans spend more money betting on jai alai than they spend on West Point.

The officers graduating from West Point are an integral part of the Army's officer corps, which also consists of ROTC and OCS graduates and direct commissioned officers. They have served our Nation well and honorably throughout our history. As a Member of Congress, I will do all in my power to continue the funding necessary to maintain West Point's level of excellence. The Long Gray Line must be maintained.

I would like to encourage my colleagues to study a speech recently delivered by Lt. Gen. Howard D. Graves, Superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy. I hereby offer these eloquent remarks for the RECORD:

WHY AMERICA NEEDS WEST POINT

(By LTG Howard D. Graves, Superintendent, USMA)

Several times in our nation's history—after each war—we have found it natural to re-think the need for the service academies. We are again in such a time, and as our nation adjusts to the end of the Cold War, some proposals are being made regarding the academies which are potentially destructive of the best interests of the nation. Because some of these proposals are being made without a full understanding of what the military Academy is and does, I believe it is important for our citizens to appreciate why West Point is essential to the health of the nation; thus, my topic is simply. "Why America needs West Point."

I begin with the premise that America continues to need an effective Army. It has been said that those who ignore history are destined to repeat it. Our national history is one dotted with *unanticipated* military conflicts. Think back quickly across the years of our nation's history: the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Civil War, the Indian Wars, the 1898 Spanish-American War, WWI, WWII,

Korea, and the Cold War, punctuated by conflicts in the Dominican Republic, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, the Persian Gulf. Our nation has used its military forces so frequently that there has never been a single West Point class in which the graduates, if they stayed in the Army for a career, were not exposed to the possibility of combat. Why should we believe that the end of the Cold War has brought an end to future unanticipated needs to deploy our Armed Forces on behalf of the nation? It would be very shortsighted to think so. We live everyday with dangerous instabilities, uncertainties, and potential trouble spots in the international community. I am not predicting war in a specific sense; but, I am suggesting a likelihood of combat, because I do not believe that the community of nations has eliminated the causes of international conflict.

My second premise follows directly from the first. If the nation continues to need an effective Army, then the Army needs effective leaders. If we believe that the nation will again be forced by unanticipated circumstances to commit portions of the Army to combat, then the Army must be prepared, and that preparedness requires that the Army be led at every level by effective leaders.

The Army meets its need for effective officers by drawing from several sources, all of which should continue to be used. These are Direct Appointment, Officer Candidate Schools, the Reserve Officer Training Corps, and West Point.

Direct Appointment is the primary means by which the Army commissions officers in the professional specialty branches (doctors, dentists, lawyers, and chaplains).

Officer Candidate School provides enlisted soldiers a route to commissioning and provides the Army a means of rapidly acquiring officers in response to mobilization requirements.

Reserve Officer Training Corps provides a large number of candidates in a program of military training as an adjunct to their college education. It provides the services flexibility to adjust the number of graduates who are commissioned into either the Active or Reserve components each year to meet changing manpower objectives. It also fills specialized educational requirements.

USMA provides to a select group of candidates a total four-year immersion in professional military culture and values, as well as providing an undergraduate education and military training experience tailored for the military officer.

These programs are complementary. Some observers make the mistake of trying to pit the four officer sources against one another—as if they were four quarterbacks competing for the starting position on a football team. To do so is to seriously misunderstand why we have four different sources. Each of these programs meets separate national needs, and they each make their own uniquely valuable contributions. Like the members of the backfield on a football team, they have complementary roles in the Army's total officer accession structure.

Convinced of the need for multiple sources of Army officers, I believe unequivocally that West Point should provide a significant number of those officers, because West Point supplies an essential core of officers who cannot be obtained in any other way. As you know, West Point attracts into the nation's military service the highest quality young men and women of America. The reputation of West Point is extremely strong among American youth, and that reputation attracts to the Academy students who could have attended any college in the nation. At the Academy, the entering classes have routinely averaged combined Scholastic Aptitude Test scores in excess of 1200, placing them on a par with the most selective colleges in America. In the latest entering class at West Point, 85% were in the top fifth of their high school class; 13.5% were class valedictorian or salutatorian; 20% were elected class leaders; 58% were varsity team captains, and 90% had lettered in a sport in high school.

As a result, the Academy begins with a small, highly select group of officer candidates drawn from across the entire nation. It should be recognized that the students who enter West Point are not "elite" in the sense of socio-economic affluence or aristocratic influence. Rather, our studies indicate that the students at West Point are more likely to be from working class families than are the students at the highly-selective private colleges which would be regarded as "elite." Each entering class at West Point also includes substantial representation of disadvantaged groups and racial minorities. The Academy admissions program actively seeks disadvantaged candidates who show potential to be leaders of character.

Given a high-quality student body, West Point imbues those talented youth with moral, professional, and patriotic values which provide them a solid foundation for leadership. Perhaps the quintessential value they learn is submission of military power to the authority of the civilian government. We should remember that governments in all times and places face the risk that Army leaders will turn their weapons against the citizenry or the government. And, the values our nation finds vital for its officer corps, other nations recognize as well; recently, President Nazarbaev of the new state of Kazakhstan visited West Point to discuss methods his country might follow to develop loyal officers. Over past years, West Point has entertained numerous visitors from other nations for the same purpose. They recognized their need and that West Point has successfully met the same need in the United States for nearly 200 years.

West Point succeeds in meeting that need because cadets at West Point are immersed for four years in a values-enriched professional military culture. They live 24 hours a day within a military organization, subject to the Honor Code and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Throughout the four years, they are educated by predominantly-military faculty role models who exemplify essential values. These include: submission of the military to civilian authority; selfless service to nation; self-discipline, and a high sense of honor.

In addition, the academic curriculum supports value formation. The military history courses demonstrate a past of military officers submitting to civilian control. The Constitutional law course points out the authority of the Constitution above all. Political science courses reinforce civilian control and the appropriate role of the military in our governmental system. The philosophy course explores fundamentals of ethics and their applications to the profession of arms. Military Science courses emphasize the responsibilities of the professional to serve society in a selfless and self-disciplined manner. Even extracurricular activities reinforce values. Honor education classes are taught by cadets and military faculty members; strong and highly-active voluntary religious programs reinforce spiritual values.

Historically, the nation has counted upon West Point to provide officers whose character, leadership, and attitudes of public service would provide core values to the Army. Debates over the need for West Point have occurred regularly since 1830, particularly after each major war, and invariably decision-makers have concluded that the nation's need for character in military leaders justifies West Point.

The essential role of West Point has been thoroughly evaluated against alternative formulations of pre-commissioning education. The most deliberate consideration of such alternatives was undertaken prior to the founding of the United States Air Force Academy. At the direction of Secretary of Defense Forrestal, a board chaired by Dr. Robert L. Stearns, then-president of the University of Colorado, reviewed "the manner in which officer candidates should receive their basic education," and considered alternatives for joint education of officers. In its conclusions, the Board affirmed, above all other considerations, the nation's need "for a highly-trained, intensely loyal corps of professional officers." Given this singular priority, the Board recommended continuation of the current model of academy education, to include the founding of a third academy modeled after West Point. The Academy model has been affirmed repeatedly because of "the extent to which the existing academies are achieving the objectives of their mission in the field of character and leadership development." In a sense, West Point serves as a wellspring through which the nation's highest values are transmitted into the Army. It symbolizes the nation in a special way.

What I have said so far clearly demonstrates West Point's essentially to the nation; but, there is still more which should be said in its behalf. In addition to its development of character in its cadets, the Military Academy also provides an unparalleled educational experience for future military professionals. West Point's broad undergraduate curriculum in the sciences and humanities is first-rate and uniquely-tailored for the military professional. The academic curriculum includes military topics (such as military history, leadership, military ethics) and military applications (such as weapons design), and the Academy is a major supplier to the Army of officers educated in the physical and applied sciences. Each cadet's summers are filled with training in military knowledge and skills and with practical leadership experiences. Each cadet is systematically evaluated against rigorous standards over four years by highly-qualified professionals. It is important also to know that the Academy is the only source of pre-commissioning undergraduate education which is wholly-controlled by and answerable to the Army. During the Vietnam years, anti-military sentiment closed many ROTC detachments.

West Point has shown through its graduates its essential role in the nation's history. Former Secretary of War, Newton D. Baker, testified to the value of West Point when he said, "West Point does many things for its men, but the highest quality it gives them is character; and in the emergency of the World War, our success rested upon the character of our leaders. It, therefore, finally rested on West Point." One of our recruiting posters says, "At West Point, the history we teach was made by those whom we taught." That is an apt expression of the historic importance of West Point graduates in the nation's history. Remember: Grant and Lee

leading both sides of the Civil War; Pershing heading the Allied Expeditionary Force in World War I; Eisenhower, Bradley, and Patton in World War II; MacArthur and Ridgway in Korea; Westmoreland and Abrams in Vietnam, and Schwarzkopf and Franks in the Gulf War.

But West Pointers serve the nation in years of peace as well as war. For example, the benefits of peace are often won through the deterrence of war. West Point graduates are knowledgeable not only of military affairs but also of national and international affairs, and they play vital roles in the formulation of national, foreign, and defense policies. General Jack Galvin's leadership in shaping NATO policy after the collapse of the Warsaw Pact is a current example. West Pointers have met many civil needs as well.

The largest civil engineering project ever attempted was completed by a West Point officer after two noted civilian engineers quit in frustration. President Roosevelt selected Major George Washington Goethals, USMA class of 1880, to head the Panama Canal project, because, as Roosevelt said, he needed someone "who will stay on the job until I get tired of having them there or until I say they may abandon it." Today, that civil role continues—disaster relief after hurricanes, the "war on drugs," nation-building in South America, construction projects by the Corps of Engineers.

West Point's success in attracting the highest quality youth in America, providing them a rigorous undergraduate education, and imbuing them with high qualities of character, leadership, and dedication produces officers who as a group serve longer and with higher rates of promotion than those of any other commissioning source. Consider a typical Army officer year group such as 1972. At twenty years of service, 35% of the USMA graduates in the YG are still on active duty. 21% of the officers commissioned from other sources are still on active duty. This statistic is doubly significant because of the high quality of the group of students with which West Point began. The high-quality, high-achievers coming out of West Point are also the men and women who have the most lucrative employment alternatives outsides of public service. Corporate America ambitiously recruits young West Pointers. That they stay in public service longer than their peers from other sources is, therefore, doubly impressive as an indicator that West Point has effectively developed in them a high value of service to Nation.

Another indicator is the fact that USMA graduates continually exceed the Army average rates for promotion. During 1988–1991, the selection rate to major for USMA officers was 80%, all others-64%; selection to lieutenant-colonel: 76% versus 59%; colonel: 46% versus 38%. And, remember that the officer boards making these selections were predominantly non-USMA graduates.

I come now to my last major point. What I have discussed so far are the benefits to the nation derived from West Point. But, citizens should also know that while the Military Academy's benefits are great, its costs are still reasonable. Those who do not understand West Point's benefits, I fear, are doubly confused about its costs. Perhaps it would be useful first to place West Point's cost in perspective by comparing its cost to the costs of other things.

Public schools resemble West Point in that they provide an essential service to our communities, and most people have a rough feel for the size and cost of their local public schools. The cost of West Point is less than the cost of the public school system in a city the size of Rochester, New York; or Anchorage, Alaska; or Nashville, Tennessee.

For another comparison, research and development funded at Johns Hopkins University by the Federal government exceeds the cost of West Point.

The federal government also spends more for food stamps in the state of Maryland and for Louisiana's Highway Trust fund than it does for West Point. I am not questioning the worth of these expenditures, only pointing out that the cost of West Point is not large in comparison.

On the other hand, I could also point to less productive expenditures. For example, people in our nation spend more money betting on jai alai than they do on West Point, and jai alai is "small potatoes" compared to what they bet on dogs, horses, sports, or lotteries. (For the curious, these figures come from the Statistical Abstract of the United States, published by the Department of Commerce.)

From these comparisons, I hope you realize that as we discuss the cost of West Point within the larger context of government expenditures, we are not talking about a large sum of money.

Citizens should also know that West Point has engaged in extensive cost reductions and efficiency measures both in past years as well as during the current Defense downsizing. Innovations within Academy programs have been funded internally by elimination of lower priorities or through generated savings. Support functions have been contracted out. Literally dozens of staff and faculty positions have been eliminated. Others have been downgraded or civilianized. Millions of dollars have been chopped from our budget. The size of the Corps of Cadets have been reduced by 10%. And, the Academy is preparing to make further cuts in keeping with Defense Department reductions and Congressional mandate.

With these points in mind, I still want to discuss West Point's costs, because benefits cannot really be evaluated independently of their costs. I sympathize with those people who want to argue that we as a nation cannot put a price tag on the value of acquiring a core of military officers who have been intensively prepared for loyal and able service. They say that our national survival may again be, as it has been in the past, in the hands of a few leaders of character from West Point, and that our national survival is priceless. "How can we not afford West Point?" they ask. I understand their point, and it would seem to serve my purpose here to agree with it entirely. Intuitively, I can; but, rationally, I cannot. Rather, I am persuaded that we citizens acting collectively as stewards of the Nation can afford the benefits West Point provides. That is, we all share a responsibility to decide whether there are alternatives to West Point which offer benefits approaching those of the Military Academy but at substantially lower costs.

The first half of such a benefit-cost analysis asks, "Can other alternative sources of officers provide benefits approaching those of West Point?" In fact, the Nation could provide a college education approaching that of West Point to future officers through an expanded ROTC-type program on college campuses, though it would lack the tailoring to the specific needs of the military profession which West Point provides. This approach to officer education in the United States was suggested as early as 1830 by Alden Partridge. And, yes, it is also true that we could give future officers military training approaching that of West Point through a shortened OCS-type training program. This is the British method at Sandhurst. Some urge it upon West Point. But, NO. There is no other college in the world which provides to its students the four-year immersion in moral, professional, and patriotic values that West Point does. This is a critical need of a democratic nation which no other undergraduate institution provides as well as West Point. The Military Academy provides the Nation an essential benefit which cannot be achieved in any other way.

Turning to the second half of the benefit-cost analysis, we ask, "Can other alternative sources of officers be provided at substantially lower cost?" Here the critics believe they have found West Point's Achilles' heel. They frequently point to the GAO report that West Point costs more than $200,000 per graduate, and they compare it to four years tuition cost at other colleges ($20,000 to $85,000). A college education can be obtained much more cheaply elsewhere, they contend. Or, they compare West Point's cost per graduate to the ROTC's cost per graduate. An Army officer can be obtained more cheaply elsewhere, they contend. Why does it appear that West Point costs more than other colleges?

Simply put, in determining the Academy cost-per-graduate, all of the costs properly attributable to running West Point are counted; but that total is erroneously compared to a fraction of the costs for running other colleges. What one hears most often about other colleges' costs is their tuition rate—the figure of most interest to parents who pay the bills. But, tuition actually covers only a fraction of the costs of colleges. The bulk of college costs are paid from earnings on endowments, from tax subsidies from State and local government, federal grants, and philanthropic gifts. The National Task Force on Higher Education and the Public Interest observed, "Few [people] understand the distinction between price (what students are charged as tuition or fees) and cost (the actual expenses to an institution for research, public service, and instruction)."

If one compares all of the costs of West Point to all of the cost of other colleges—not just the tuition portion—the costs of academy education are not significantly different from that of any other selective, comprehensive institution. For example, estimates can be calculated from cost figures for other colleges (such as those appearing in U.S. News & World Report, Sept 30, 1991, p. 93) which indicate that the average cost of a 4-year education at the nation's top-ten-ranked universities is $234,400—that is, higher than the cost of a West Point education. This conclusion passes the "common sense" test. The costs of teachers, classrooms, laboratories, and computers must be generally the same whether in Berkley, Boston, or West Point.

It is vital that we recognize that the operation of West Point is highly "cost-effective" in the most important sense of the term. That is to say, when the Academy's total costs are compared to other colleges' total costs, West Point is as economical to operate as comparable alternatives. There is a similar explanation for the appearance that West Point costs more than ROTC. This confusion arises from the fact that only part of the costs of ROTC are being compared with total costs of West Point. The Army pays only part of the total costs of the education and military training of an ROTC graduate. But someone pays for it; and the total costs of an ROTC officer's education

and military training are approximately equal to the total costs at West Point. Again, the common sense test works. Some say that we should consider only costs to the Defense Department. They contend that we should ignore as unimportant those other public funds (taxes, grants, loans, tax-exempt philanthropic funds, etc.) which are spent to sustain colleges and universities. But, those represent real costs to the nation which must be considered.

To summarize this point, let there be no mistake in anyone's mind about the cost of West Point. It costs the nation no more in real resources—actual bricks and mortar—to get well-educated and trained Army officers from West Point than from any other source. And what the nation gets back from that reasonable investment is priceless when needed, because the nation gets officers who can make the difference in survival of the nation. As Creighton Abrams put it, "Ultimately the Army makes the difference between survival and disappearance of the country, between anarchy and civil authority, between victory and defeat. In war, it is extraordinary how it all comes down to the character of one man."

I will sum up by saying that West Point earns its place as part of the Army's system for the education of officers for the following reasons: The strength of the Academy's reputation attracts to it the highest quality youth in America, and then it educates them and imbues them with traditions of character, leadership, and loyal service to the nation. So inspired, they, as a group, serve in the Army longer and more successfully than those from any other source. While their gain in commitment to essential moral, professional, and patriotic beliefs is of inestimable value to a democratic nation, it is achieved at a cost to the nation no higher than comparable colleges or commissioning sources. These facts led the 1989 USMA Board of Visitors, representing both Congress and the President, to conclude that Military Academy graduates are "a bargain for the Nation." And, these facts need to be more widely appreciated if the nation is to decide wisely the future course of its Military Academy.

THE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS AND RECORDS COMMISSION AMENDMENTS OF 1993

HON. PHILIP R. SHARP

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. SHARP. Mr. Speaker, by law, the House of Representatives appoints a Member to represent it on the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. I have the honor to be that Member. In that capacity, I introduce today the National Historical Publications and Records Commission Amendments of 1993.

The NHPRC is one of the smallest agencies of the Federal Government. But in the long run, it plays one of the largest roles. Its job is to promote the documentation of America's history.

The NHPRC gives grants to help preserve and publish records—records that document American history at the national, State, and local levels. The National Archives protects Federal historical records. The NHPRC helps to protect other historical records of value and to publish the most important of both.

For example, NHPRC grants currently help historians publish the papers of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and other Founding Fathers. NHPRC grants also support projects to publish the papers of later figures in our history, such as Jane Addams, Thomas Edison, and Martin Luther King. NHPRC grants additionally support projects to publish documentary histories of major historical developments—the ratification of the Constitution, the Spanish settlement of the Southwest, the emancipation of the slaves, and the work of the first Federal Congress.

The NHPRC also has provided more than 600 grants for records preservation. These have gone to State and local governments, to historical societies, and to archives across the country. The NHPRC works with a national network of State historical records advisory boards to help localities preserve records in all of our States.

History scholarship and education depend on such work. Many records that document American history are deteriorating for want of adequate care. Others go unsurveyed and disappear. Some of the most important records are minimally accessible. The writings of many historically prominent Americans remain unpublished. Without accessible records, scholars cannot write history and teachers cannot teach it. NHPRC grants help meet these needs.

The needs are nationwide. Starting in the 1980's, the NHPRC has been making grants to help the States assess records conditions. A summary of State records assessment reports concludes that "State records agencies are in an impoverished condition," that "few local governments have adequate records programs," and that "the condition of their records is worsening." Small wonder that already just in the 1990's grant applications to the NHPRC have increased by 21 percent.

Appropriations, however, have not kept pace. We have never appropriated more than $5.4 million for NHPRC grants, nor authorized more than the current $10 million. NHPRC appropriations have risen only $1.4 million over the past 15 years, which means the Commission has fewer real dollars now, adjusted for inflation, than it did in the late 1970's. Grant funds for fiscal year 1993 were reduced to $5 million, a substantial cut for this small agency.

The current NHPRC authorization runs out in fiscal year 1993. In preparation for reauthorization, the NHPRC has done what few government agencies do. It has reassessed its activities, reexamined needs in the field, and developed a detailed plan with priorities for future accomplishments. The plan sets forth 5 broad goals and 17 specific objectives.

The plan calls for acceleration of the Commission's Documents for Democracy Program. This program supports projects to publish papers that document the foundations of American democracy—papers of the Founding Fathers and papers on the adoption of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the beginnings of our government. These publications are of educational value not only to Americans but potentially to people in former Iron Curtain countries abroad who are trying to develop democracies.

The Commission's plan calls for strengthened assistance to our States. NHPRC planning grants will help State archivists meet records problems identified in the recent statewide records assessments. NHPRC matching grants will help States encourage hard-pressed local governments to preserve historical records and make them accessible.

The Commission's plan calls for research on electronic records problems. NHPRC grants will help archivists learn to cope with the special problems of preserving computer-generated records, which are mushrooming. Such needs are identified in a recent report entitled, "Taking a Byte Out of History," by the House Government Operations Committee. The Commission is responding to it.

The Commission's plan lays out additional priorities for records preservation and publication through the 1990's. And it shows how we can make substantial documentary progress with only modest increases in program levels. The bill I am introducing for the Commission would authorize $12 million in 1994 and 1995; $15 million in 1996 and 1997, and $18 million in 1998 and 1999.

We already invest much more in other kinds of historic preservation. Current appropriations for the Historic Preservation Fund's grants to preserve historic sites are five times greater than appropriations for the NHPRC's grants to preserve historic documents. It is important to balance the needs of preserving our historic buildings and sites with the equally important task of preserving the documents that contain the historical memory of the Nation.

Obviously, Mr. Speaker, this is not a partisan issue. Democrats and Republicans alike have always united to support the work of the NHPRC to document our country's history. I urge all of my colleagues on both sides to support reauthorization of the NHPRC at the requested levels. That will make carrying out the NHPRC's plan possible—and assure the American people that valuable records of our history will be safe and accessible.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

HON. RON de LUGO

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. DE LUGO. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing a bill today recommended by the Bush administration that would phase out the current commitment for special development assistance to the Northern Mariana Islands.

This bill would implement an agreement reached between a representative of President Bush and representatives of the Governor of the Commonwealth that was endorsed in our new President's economic plan last week.

The agreement would commit the United States to provide the islands with $120 million in special funding from fiscal year 1994 through fiscal year 2000. These funds are intended to match local funding of infrastructure projects.

In recommending the agreement, both the current and past administrations have noted that it would reduce spending from current

law. This is because the law commits some $27.7 million a year to develop the Commonwealth.

Thus, if you assume that the current commitment would not be changed without the agreement, it would save about $64 million during the next 7 years and even more afterward. This is a big assumption, though, because the current commitment was not intended to be a long-term funding mechanism but simply a stopgap until a decision was made on post-fiscal-year 1992 funding.

The current commitment was enacted in 1986. It was made in place of an agreement that representatives of a previous Governor of the Northern Mariana Islands said a representative of President Reagan had insisted upon.

Both the current commitment and the new agreement grew out of a provision of the agreement which united the Northern Mariana Islands and the United States.

That agreement, which was approved by law in 1976, committed the U.S. to provide special assistance to raise the standard of living in the islands and develop their economy so that they could meet the costs of local government.

It also required that representatives of the President and of the Governor of the islands make recommendations on assistance for periods after the initial commitment, which ended in fiscal year 1985.

There has been substantial progress toward achieving the original agreement's goals since 1976. But there are also questions about how these goals are being met that Members are likely to raise as further assistance is considered.

The standard of living in the islands is much higher than it was then for the indigenous residents. But this standard is not enjoyed by most of the alien workers that now make up half the islands' population.

The Commonwealth's income tax rates are less progressive than Federal rates. They also appear to raise substantially less revenue than Federal rates would; perhaps $43 million less in 1990.

These matters raise complex questions. I hope that they are examined fairly, with a full awareness of the circumstances and needs of the Commonwealth as well as a consciousness of what is responsible and right.

Simpler questions will also be raised in connection with this proposal. They relate to the Commonwealth's commitment to spend $120 million of its resources on infrastructure and the projects to be financed.

All of these questions can be raised during the hearing on the bill which I am scheduling for the Insular and International Affairs Subcommittee to conduct on March 18.

H.R. —

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act of March 24, 1976 (Public Law 94-241; 90 Stat. 263), as amended, is amended by adding the following new section at the end thereof:

"Sec. 6. Pursuant to section 701 of the foregoing Covenant, enactment of this section shall constitute a commitment and pledge of the full faith and credit of the United States for the payment of $120 million of guaranteed amounts of direct grant assistance to the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands for capital infrastructure construction for the seven fiscal years 1994 through 2000, which assistance shall be provided according to the Agreement of the Special Representatives on Future Federal Financial Assistance of the Northern Mariana Islands, executed on December 17, 1992 between the special representative of the President of the United States and the special representatives of the Governor of the Northern Mariana Islands."

TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA SINGLETON-LILLY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Mrs. Patricia Singleton-Lilly, a member of my women's caucus who exemplifies our theme, "Women Who Dare To Be Different".

Mrs. Singleton-Lilly, was born and reared in Charleston, SC. However, for the past 45 years she has been a resident of the 10th Congressional District of New York—Brooklyn—and has worked in the insurance industry as a senior claims examiner for a large New York insurance company. She began her career in the industry after completing a 2 year course at the College of Insurance of New York some 45 years ago. As a result of her outstanding and hard work in the insurance business, Mrs. Singleton-Lilly was later appointed to the board of the New York Insurance Arbitration Forums Inc.

Mrs. Singleton-Lilly has demonstrated her vision and determination to achieve. She has worked in the community for the past 45 years with the northeast chapter of the Burke Alumni Association. The association's goals are to help the young people of there community to aspire to higher education, and to help them achieve it by providing scholarships. She is also a member of the East Flatbush Community Board 17, youth advisory committee; Saint Therese of Listieux Roman Catholic Church, Brooklyn, NY; the secretary of C.B.S. East 48 Street Block Association; chairwoman of the northeast chapter of the Northeast Burke Alumni Association; and den leader for the Boy Scout Pack No. 275.

Mrs. Patricia Singleton-Lilly, believes if you are concerned about your community you must get involved guiding the young people of that community.

REGULATORY AGENCIES

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, every year, regulatory agencies make hundreds of decisions which impact the financial wellbeing of employees and employers throughout the United States. Today, I would like to share with my colleagues in the House some thoughts on a rulemaking proceeding pending before the Federal Communications Commission which clearly illustrates the economic significance of regulatory decisions. I offer these statements to my colleagues to emphasize the necessity of congressional awareness and oversight into regulatory actions which impact the financial, technical, and competitive resources of America's private sector.

Currently pending before the FCC, in ET Docket 92-9, is a rulemaking proceeding which holds the potential for restricting competition and even favoring foreign manufacturers over domestic companies. The issue which the Commission will decide in the next several weeks involves how best to reaccommodate FCC licensees now operating extensive microwave systems in the 2 Gigahertz [GHz] area of the radio spectrum. Some time ago the Commission decided to reallocate this spectrum space for new emerging technologies, and in the process has begun to deal with the issue of accommodating displaced users of the 2 GHz frequency. Movement of the current occupants of this frequency will require both the users and manufacturers of equipment to adopt entirely new and different hardware. While this particular frequency reallocation action must ultimately be decided on seemingly very narrow technical grounds, it is certain that the outcome will have sizeable financial implications for a number of U.S. firms. Consequently, the Commission must be cognizant of the importance of maintaining a healthy, competitive domestic supply base of equipment manufacturers by adopting a final rule which neither advantages nor disadvantages any one company.

Under the Commission's preliminary proposed rules for relicensing displaced 2 GHz microwave systems and others in those higher frequency bands, esoteric technical matters such as channelization schemes, digital efficiency standards, and interference criteria have been adopted largely on the recommendations of a foreign owned manufacturer. Upon close examination it has become clear to U.S. microwave equipment manufacturers that the Commission's proposed technical rules may accommodate microwave equipment manufactured only by the foreign company. To state this another way, final adoption of the Commission's current position in this matter will have the effect of giving one company—foreign owned—a very one-sided competitive advantage. Until U.S. companies can redevelop, redesign, and manufacture equipment meeting the proposed new FCC standards, they will in effect be frozen out of this marketplace. Practically speaking, Mr. Speaker, it will take U.S. firms approximately 24 months to accomplish this redesign task, a huge amount of time in the fast-changing marketplace of microwave transmission equipment.

A group of U.S. microwave manufacturers and the industry's trade association, the Telecommunications Industry Association [TIA], have advised the Commission through the reply-comment process of their concerns with the current FCC position. In addition to noting the inefficiencies and inequities of the Commission's proposed current position, the manufacturers and TIA have offered a solution which, if adopted, will: First, meet the needs of the marketplace, both those of the manufacturers and their equipment customers; second,

maintain a healthy base of equipment suppliers serving this important product area which will, in turn, continue to guarantee that customers will have the benefit of competitive products at competitive prices during the transition from the 2 GHz frequency to another; and third, eliminate the unintended, but nonetheless real, possibility that a regulation adopted by a rulemaking agency of the U.S. Government will impair the competitive position of U.S. companies serving the U.S. marketplace.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear to me that the correct position for the FCC to adopt is found within the proposal submitted by the U.S. companies and the Telecommunications Industry Association, a summary of which I am submitting for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD along with this statement. I might also note Mr. Speaker that other Members of Congress with interest and concern in this matter will be contacting the Commission to express their interest in the final outcome. I believe that the FCC, having been properly alerted by both industry and Congress, will give due consideration to the important policy issues arising from this matter and the equally important economic, technological, and competitive implications which will surely follow their decision.

SUMMARY

TIA applauds the Commission's initiative to redevelop expeditiously spectrum for emerging technologies and commends the Commission's effort to create a technical and regulatory environment that will facilitate the transition of current users of the 2 GHz band to the 4, 6, 10, and 11 GHz bands. While TIA supports the Commission's proposal with respect to (1) dropping voice channel loading requirements and analog performance standards and substituting minimum digital system loading requirements, (2) minimum path lengths, (3) antenna characteristics, (4) emission and bandwidth limitations, (5) frequency diversity, and (6) automatic power control, TIA strongly believes that certain modifications to the proposed rules must be adopted to further the public interest goals of maximizing spectrum effiency and utilization, facilitating the orderly migration of displaced 2 GHz users, minimizing the adverse impact to new and existing licensees and maintaining industry competitiveness. In TIA's view, these public interest goals must be met in order to protect existing microwave users in the relocation process and facilitate the rapid and efficient introduction of emerging technologies.

Specifically, TIA recommends that the Commission (1) modify the channel plan to incorporate 1.25 MHz channelization (rather than 1.6 MHz channels) and eliminate the proposed 400 and 800 kHz channels, (2) modify the narrowband and wideband channels in the lower 6 GHz band, (3) make high capacity allocations available in the 4 GHz band by increasing maximum bandwidths to 40 MHz, (4) make available a range of wideband and narrowband channels in the 11 GHz band, (5) require substantial justification for the assignment of 15 GHz and below wideband channels (*i.e.*, 10 MHz and greater channel bandwidths), (6) phase-in efficiency standards for digital microwave equipment, (7) establish identical interference protection criteria and coordination procedures for both private and common carrier systems, and (8) accelerate negotiations toward final arrangements with NTIA to establish terms for non-government licensee access to the 1.7–1.85 and 3.6–3.7 GHz bands.

TIA's modification proposals are designed to facilitate, not forestall the Commission's efforts to clear the 2 GHz band for emerging technologies as quickly as possible. TIA firmly believes that adoption of its proposed modifications in addition to the other technical rules proposed by the Commission will create the appropriate technical and regulatory environment to facilitate the orderly relocation of current users of the 2 GHz band to higher frequency bands. Indeed, TIA urges the Commission to expeditiously resolve these issues so that its members may undertake the necessary steps to begin manufacturing new equipment quickly for the displaced 2 GHz users.

THE RISING DEMAND FOR NEW YORK CITY SEWAGE SLUDGE

HON. THOMAS J. MANTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. MANTON. Mr. Speaker, last June, the city of New York halted the offshore dumping of sewage sludge to comply with provisions of the Ocean Dumping Ban Act of 1988. Sewage sludge is the semisolid residue that remains following the natural biological treatment process that takes place in our sewage treatment plants. While the term "sludge" connotes a vile, troublesome waste product of little practical value, this is far from true. In fact, sewage sludge, now more recently referred to as "biosolids," has proven to be a rich fertilizer and soil conditioner that has gained popularity around the Nation.

At present, 42 percent of all U.S.-produced wastewater solids are being applied to land to benefit agriculture and forestry. Land application of sludge is an inexpensive alternative to conventional landfill disposal or incineration. Moreover, this alternative has led to a new green partnership between local governments and private enterprise. Private contractors now vie for the opportunity to haul processed sludge to rural areas for land application under strict State and Federal controls and monitoring requirements.

Further economic benefits are passed on to farmers who are not charged for sludge application to their fields. Since sludge is rich in nitrogen and other soil nutrients, farmers save money, up to $100 per acre, normally spent on commercial fertilizer. Finally the organic matter in sludge improves soil structure and the ability to retain water which means that crops are more productive and less vulnerable to drought events. Improved water retention in soil also means that soil is less apt to be lost through erosion, thus protecting water quality of rural streams and rivers.

Mr. Speaker, the beneficial reuse of sewage sludge is clearly the best policy for our Nation to follow. However, we must ensure that the health and well-being of our citizens is adequately protected in the process. While the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has recently issued final rules for the land application of sludge to protect human health and the environment, no such regulations exist for the processing of sludge into a refined product, such as compost. Nor has the EPA established any rules or conducted recent indepth studies on the environmental, economical, and sociological hardships the siting of such processing facilities may pose for the communities where they are intended to be located.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the RECORD two recent New York Times articles that outline continuing efforts in the recycling of New York's sewage sludge. Although some skepticism remains, refinement of technologies and tighter controls on New York's wastewater stream have resulted in the production of a higher quality processed sludge. As Rock Cramer, an Arizona cotton farmer said in one of the articles: "As far as I'm concerned, if everyone's sewage was like New York's this world would be a better place."

ULTIMATE ALCHEMY: SLUDGE TO GOLD

(By Michael Specter)

Whether the cargo wanders the world endlessly on a barge, or is hauled by rail to the midwest where armed guards refuse to accept it, and whether it travels as solid waste or in giant mounds of processed sludge, nobody wants any part of New York's monumental collection of garbage.

Nobody, that is, except the savvy farmers of Colorado, Texas, Oklahoma and Arizona.

Out there, where people have a well-developed understanding of what human waste can do for winter wheat, New York City sludge is greeted like sweet rain in a drought. Farmers in the arid desert will do almost anything to carpet their ground with the precious product of New York's enormous sewage system.

"At first people wanted to flee the land when they found out New York's sewage was on the way," said Douglas Tallman, a farmer in Lamar, Colo., whose enthusiasm for the product and part-time job as a local magistrate have earned him the nickname Sludge Judge. "But if there was ever a true sister city for New York it's Lamar," he said. "Your waste comes out here and fertilizes our wheat fields. That helps make some of the bread that finds its way back to your tables."

Ah yes, the great chain of life. But fertilizer is fertilizer, and despite frequently expressed fears that it would be laden with everything from nuclear waste to the virus that causes AIDS, and that it is spilled on the highway it would burn through asphalt like acid, New York City sludge turns out to be pretty solid stuff. And boy, is there a lot of it.

GO WEST, YOUNG SLUDGE

New Yorkers turn out about 1.7 billion gallons of treated sewage a day, and since last year when Federal laws forced the city to stop dumping it all in the ocean, officials have struggled to find useful and affordable ways to recycle it.

New York sends most of its sludge out West, although some still goes to a landfill in Virginia. So far, the city gives it away, although it does have to pay transportation costs. Still, it is a deal for taxpayers who would otherwise have to pay millions more to bury it all. But environmental officials dream of a day when sludge would be in such demand that the city could turn it all into pellets, call it fertilizer and sell it for a profit. Even increasing free exports would probably allow New York to build fewer than the six processing plants now planned. That could shave tens to hundreds of millions of dollars from its budget over the next decade.

"We've got a hell of a commodity here," said the city's environmental commissioner, Albert F. Appleton, who has pledged to help

New York use some of its sludge locally, in parks and nurseries. "One hundred years of Victorian propriety have turned us against manure. But it's time to reach back to our roots."

POISONS LEAVE WITH INDUSTRY

And if anything can lay genuine claim to those roots, it is sludge, which is simply the product of sewage treatment. It can still be toxic, filled with poisonous metals, dangerous and noisome. But over the last three decades, as heavy industry deserted the region for cheaper places to do business, the metal content of city sludge has dipped and the nitrogen and phosphorous needed to make plants grow has risen in proportion. And unlike chemical fertilizers, sludge releases its nutrients slowly, making the soil stable and spongy so it can absorb and hold more water.

In the world of recycling, the great goal is to turn garbage into a commodity. So it seemed obvious to New York environmental officials that the city's burden might be some other's bounty. They have contracted with two companies—Enviro-Gro Technologies, based in Baltimore, and Merco Joint Venture, a partnership of four companies—to go West with city sludge, and much to everyone's astonishment, farmers are lining up to get their share.

"As farmers and businessmen for Southeastern Colorado, we are writing to inquire how we can get more sludge from New York City," began one recent letter to Mayor David N. Dinkins. "Unfortunately over the last few months we have noticed the volumes dropping off."

The glories of New York sludge—the fertilizer industry refers to it as biosolids, in a desperate and largely unsuccessful attempt to move the product upscale—have not always been easy to grasp, particularly in the heartland. Alabama residents shut off all attempts to export New York sludge to their pastures, and in Oklahoma, where farmers have begged for their share, opposition by many residents and public officials has been so intense that a plan to ship 1,150 tons a day was defeated after more than a year of suits, bitter letters and direct action.

OPPONENTS TURN VICIOUS

"One woman wrote to me to say that she had argued long and in public for the plan," said Nina Sankovitch, a senior project lawyer at the Natural Resources Defense Council. She said she gave up when someone came by one night and killed her dog.

Opponents in Oklahoma, and in Texas, where Merco has been spreading it at a rate of three dry tons per acre a year (about a salt shaker's worth per square foot) reacted bitterly to the idea that New York's dung could end up on their farms. Civil suits have been filed and 'letters to the editor' pages are filled with reminders that damage done to water and image are often irreparable.

"Doesn't anyone remember 'The Grapes of Wrath?'" one astounded opponent wrote to The Tulsa Tribune last year, before the paper went out of business in September.

Tim Cagg, chairman of Concerned Citizens for a Clean Environment in Thomas, Okla., wrote The Tribune: "No part of Oklahoma will be sacred. These profit seekers will not be around when we must clean up the damage in years to come."

'THE MOST SCARY THING'

Sludge-spreading proponents understand the concerns, but say they are misplaced. "It's a scary thing at first to take New York's waste and spread it on the land that supports you," said Kelly Sarber, a spokeswoman for Enviro-Gro. "In fact to some people it's the most scary thing they can think of. But after a little education most people eventually come around."

But not all people. Imagine and reality often clash—particularly when New York is involved. Sludge from the city is less toxic than similar products from Detroit or Cleveland, say farmers who use it. And for those who cannot quite overcome their visceral fear of human waste from the nation's biggest, baddest city, there are many safeguards along the way.

The sludge is checked for pollutants in New York at the sewage processing plants when it is finished. Federal officials of the Environmental Protection Agency, which issues rigorous sludge quality standards, check it before it leaves town sealed in freight or truck containers. It is checked again by local health officials when it reaches it destination, and then constantly monitored once it is applied to the ground.

"I don't know how anybody can be unhappy about this," said Rock Cramer, who farms cotton on 1,000 acres in Vicksburg, Ariz. about 50 miles from the California border. "It's got everything we lack. A little zinc, some copper and an incredible load of organic material. I wish I could put 25 tons of this product per acre on my land. I would use 100 tons an acre if I could. As far as I'm concerned if everyone's sewage was like New York's this world would be a better place."

TEXAS TOWN AND FERTILIZER FROM THAT CITY

(By Roberto Suro)

SIERRA BLANCA, TEX.—A tiny yellow engine and 18 bright red railroad cars stand out sharply as they trundle past dark creosote bushes and the occasional sotol plant, bringing another load of treated sewage from New York City to the high desert of West Texas.

Even such a brightly colored little train seems a mere detail in a landscape vast enough that one can stand in the sun and watch a rainstorm miles away. But, depending on who is doing the talking, the sludge now arriving almost daily is either going to make the desert bloom or render it a dead zone.

Since July, trains have been arriving at a ranch here, some 85 miles east of El Paso, bringing an average of 225 tons a day of treated human waste that New York used to dump at sea until that was prohibited last July 1. From the start the project pitted neighbor against neighbor with smalltown ferocity. Coloring all the arguments was a sense that the wastes were arriving from a metropolis so alien and far away that it might as well be from another planet.

Sierra Blanca is the county seat of Hudspeth County, which, while almost the size of Connecticut, has a population of just 2,900, a crowd that would not even fill the Metropolitan Opera House at Lincoln Center. Nearly 39 percent of the people here live in poverty, and two-thirds are of Hispanic origin, according to the census.

MORE THAN DESERT AND DUST

Sitting on a tattered stool in his general store, Bill Addington, leader of the opposition, said, "The Northeast views this whole region as nothing but desert and dust and a few sleepy Mexicans who don't care."

At a gasoline station a few hundred feet away, at what is almost the other end of town, the proprietor, H.A. (Speedy) Virdell Jr., the most vocal supporter of the sludge's importation, said: "If it had been coming from Dallas or Houston, no problem, it would have come in here with flying colors. But New York, with all that industry and all the different people who live in that community from all around the world, that's something else."

The source of the sludge was just one provocation. For more than a decade the Texas government has been searching for a place to put a federally mandated low-level radioactive waste depository. It settled on a spot just outside Sierra Blanca last February. That, plus the way the sludge project was handled—no formal hearings were held—and its size—up to 94,369 acres, more than six times the size of Manhattan—provoked fears like Mr. Addington's: "We've become a designated dumping ground for all the stuff no one else wants because we don't have enough people or money to fight back."

MERCHANT MARINERS FAIRNESS ACT

HON. HERBERT H. BATEMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. BATEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to submit for the RECORD today an excellent article written by Mr. Michael O'Shea which appeared nationwide in the February 14 edition of Parade magazine.

This article makes a compelling case why the Congress should enact H.R. 44, the Merchant Mariners Fairness Act, a bill introduced by the distinguished ranking Republican member of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, the Honorable JACK FIELDS.

This bill, which I am pleased to have cosponsored, would provide veteran status to about 2,500 Americans who served honorably in our merchant marine during World War II.

I am hopeful that my colleagues will carefully review this important article and that they will join with me in urging expedited consideration of H.R. 44.

The text of the Parade magazine article follows:

[From Parade magazine, Feb. 14, 1993]

A FINAL VICTORY?

(By Michael O'Shea)

If you were a merchant seaman manning a cargo vessel in the first year of World War II, five decades ago, your chances of being killed were higher than if you served in any of the U.S. armed forces. The heavy casualties and destruction of ships under the Merchant Marine went unpublicized throughout the war for reasons of morale and security. But some knew the truth.

"I hold no branch in higher esteem than the Merchant Marine services," declared Gen. Douglas MacArthur. Yet it took 43 years of lobbying and legal battles to get veteran status in 1988. Since then, the Merchant Marine veteran-eligibility cutoff date has been Aug. 15, 1945—the end of World War II. The Merchant Mariners Fairness Act, H.R. 44, first introduced in Congress in 1989, would make the eligibility cutoff date the same as that for all other military services—Dec. 31, 1946.

Rep. Jack Fields (R., Tex.), a sponsor of the bill, which was reintroduced five weeks ago, said: "The war did not end on Aug. 15, 1945, for the Merchant Marine. Defense shipping actually increased after that date. In addition, we learned that at least 12 U.S.

merchant ships were damaged or sunk after Aug. 15, 1945. This bill will provide veteran status to 2500 merchant mariners who have become the forgotten patriots of World War II."

Stephen Mahr, 72, a veteran of World War II, said: "The Merchant Marine had the enormous task of transporting all of the materiel necessary to supply the Allied war efforts. This often meant that merchant seamen made long, unprotected voyages in antiquated, slow, World War I-era ships. These older vessels—even some wooden sailing ships pressed into cargo service—were no match for the enemy submarines, surface vessels and mines that they encountered." Between January and July 1942, German submarines sank nearly 400 ships in our coastal waters±.

Fred Larsen, 77, was also a merchant seaman during the war. His vessel was bombed, torpedoed, rammed and sunk. He was decorated for bravery during the resupply of Malta in August 1942, when he manned aircraft guns for three days on a disabled, burning ship filled with diesel fuel. "Over the course of the war," Larsen said, "733 merchant ships were sunk, with 6507 merchant seamen killed in action and 4780 missing and presumed dead. More than 600 merchant seamen and one stewardess were captured by the enemy, and 37 of them died in captivity. On Wake Island, two merchant seamen were beheaded."

Many historians feel the main reason for the defeat of Nazi Germany in World War II was that it had to fight on two fronts, while the Russians were able to survive because of Lend-Lease and other support provided by the Allies—but delivered by the Merchant Marine.

"The Merchant Marine Academy was the only service that sent cadets into combat prior to graduation," said Capt. Charles Renick, 66, a World War II veteran. They had to serve three months of duty ashore as part of their training, and then they went to war. Some cadets were sunk two or three times, 650 were sunk at least once, and one spent 34 days in an open boat. In all, 142 cadets from the Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, N.Y., were killed in World War II.

Vessels managed by merchant seamen were involved in every major invasion in World War II, including Iwo Jima, Okinawa and D-day. By the end of the war, the Merchant Marine had provided crews for more than 5000 ships, with an average delivery rate of 8500 tons of war materials per hour, 24 hours a day.

If the Merchant Mariners Fairness Act of 1993 passes, men who served between the current cutoff date and the new one will become eligible for the same benefits as other World War II veterans: military burial, medical care at VA hospitals and VA home-loan guarantees. Representative Fields estimated that this would cost American taxpayers little money, because, "while the 2500 Americans affected by H.R. 44 would be eligible for a variety of veterans' benefits, the only benefits they are likely to obtain are recognition and the right to have a flag on their coffin." He added, "After all, education benefits have long since expired, people in their mid-60s do not usually buy new homes, and all of their individuals are already eligible for Medicare benefits."

For more information about the bill, write to the Hon. Sonny Montgomery (D., Miss.), Chairman, House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Dept. P, 335 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.

(If you are one of the estimated 250,000 Merchant Marine veterans who already may be eligible for benefits, contact Commandant (G-MVP: 1/12), United States Coast Guard, Dept. P, 2100 Second St., S.W., Washington, D.C. 10593-00.)

TRIBUTE TO KATHRYN M. SMITH

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Ms. Kathryn M. Smith, a member of my women's caucus who will be honored as one of the individuals who exemplify this year's annual breakfast theme of Women Who Dare To Be Different.

Ms. Smith has demonstrated that with vision and determination you can achieve your personal ambitions. She has worked in the public school system of New York, and received undergraduate, master's, and legal degrees. She worked in the public schools for 17 years before embarking upon her lifelong ambition to become a lawyer. After achieving her goal, she distinguished herself in her profession. Her first legal assignment was with the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. She subsequently went to work as an assistant attorney general in the office of the New York State attorney general.

Kathryn Smith's accomplishments are remarkable when one considers that she is the mother of two daughters, Jemea, who is currently working on a master's degree in urban policy at the New School for Social Research, and Aishah, who is in law school at the University of California, Berkely. She embarked upon her personal ambitions while her two daughters were 5 and 6 years old respectively. There is no doubt that she has accepted the challenge and met the task. It is my pleasure and honor to recognize her achievements as a diligent community worker, mother, and professional.

HONORING LOU RETTINO

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce today that Mr. Lou Rettino, a Westfield resident, has been selected by the Westfield chapter of UNICO National as this year's "Person of the Year."

Lou is an honor graduate of St. Peter's Prep in Jersey City and attended Villanova University on a football scholarship. A varsity starter for 3 years, this All-East performer culminated his college career by leading his team to the only two bowl games in the school's history. Lou graduated with honors, majoring in psychology and minoring in political science. As a result of his accomplishments, Villanova inducted him into their hall of fame. He was drafted by the AFL and NFL and signed with the Green Bay Packers in 1963. After 1 year, his playing career ended because of knee surgery and thereafter his coaching career began.

This is his 25th anniversary as a head coach. During his years of coaching, Lou has garnered almost 200 wins. His record since taking over at Union High School in 1977 has been unparalleled in State history. Lou's Union record stands at 146 wins, 19 losses, 3 ties. This includes nine State sectional championships, six Star Ledger trophies for the No. 1 team in New Jersey and five finishes in the USA Today "Top 5 in the Country." Lou has been honored as the "Coach of the Year" at the county, State, and national levels. Lou is a popular speaker at clinics all over the country—California, Nebraska, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and New Jersey have asked him to headline their programs. He continues to serve in his dual role as director of physical education, health, safety, and athletics and as head football coach at Union High School. Lou has served on the executive committee of the New Jersey high school all-star football game since its inception and this year he is the executive director of that game. Lou is a past president of the Union County Interscholastic Athletic Conference and is currently president of the Watchung Conference.

Mr. Speaker, UNICO's Westfield chapter is extremely proud of Lou Rettino. His dedication to his profession exemplifies the motto of UNICO, "Service Above Self."

SUPPORT EQUAL TREATMENT FOR FEDERAL RETIREES

HON. TOM LEWIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. LEWIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Social Security has been excluded from the Federal budget since 1986. This separate budgetary status makes any cuts in Social Security benefits more visible and therefore more difficult to make. Unfortunately, the pensions of Federal retirees do not have such protection. Equal treatment for these retirees is long overdue.

Therefore, today I am introducing legislation to exclude the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund from the Federal budget. Because of the current on-budget status, Federal retirees have been subject to cost-of-living adjustment [COLA] reductions to improve the budgetary picture. At the same time, Social Security recipients received full COLA's, in part because of Social Security's off-budget status.

I call on my colleagues to join me in this effort to grant the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund equal budgetary treatment by cosponsoring my bill.

ANTARCTIC ENVIRONMENTAL PROTOCOL ACT OF 1993

HON. GERRY E. STUDDS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. STUDDS. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced a bill to implement the Protocol on

Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty. The United States signed the Protocol on Environmental Protection in Madrid in 1991 and for this reason it is called the Madrid protocol. The Senate gave its advice and consent to the United States ratifying the Madrid protocol in 1992, but, until the necessary implementing legislation is enacted, the President is not able to deposit the instruments of ratification for this non-self-executing treaty.

My bill, the Antarctic Environmental Protocol Act of 1993, with minor modifications, is the same text as the bill reported in the 102d Congress by the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, H.R. 5459, House Report 102–932, part 1. I have reintroduced the bill at this time so we can initiate the discussions within the Congress and with the Clinton administration over the best approach to take to implement the Madrid protocol.

The Madrid protocol provides, for the first time, comprehensive environmental protection for the Antarctic Continent. While preserving the continent for peaceful purposes and scientific research, the Madrid protocol also designates Antarctica as a natural reserve. Of note, the Madrid protocol includes a 50-year mining ban in the Antarctic Continent. This ban is consistent with the mining ban that was imposed initially on U.S. citizens in the Antarctic Protection Act of 1990, 16 U.S.C. 2461 et seq., a law sponsored by our late colleague and friend, Silvio Conte.

The Madrid protocol also contains a series of environmental principles which are binding on nations and apply to all activities in Antarctica; a requirement for parties to prepare environmental impact assessments before conducting any activity in Antarctica that has more than a minor or transitory impact on the Antarctic environment; and a system of binding dispute resolution for disagreements over the application of standards detailed in five annexes. The five annexes, integral to the Madrid protocol, cover environmental impact assessments; conservation of Antarctic fauna and flora; waste disposal and waste management; prevention of marine pollution; and special area protection and management. Finally, the protocol establishes a new Committee on Environmental Protection as an expert body to provide advice and formulate recommendations to Antarctic Treaty meetings on environmental issues.

My bill contains comprehensive, stand-alone legislation to implement the Madrid protocol and its five annexes domestically. While I am not wed to any particular form and would not elevate form over the substance of this legislation, I do not agree with the approach that says all we need to do is make fine-tuning amendments to the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, 16 U.S.C. 2401 et seq., a law that only implements one aspect of the Protocol, the conservation of fauna and flora—and be done with it.

Nor do I agree with the direction of leaving the present operator of the U.S. Antarctic Program, the National Science Foundation [NSF], completely in charge of the Madrid protocol and permitting its own compliance with the protocol. We had the same debate in the 102d Congress whether Federal agencies should monitor their own compliance with key environmental laws and passed the Federal Facilities Compliance Act of 1992 to ensure that this would not happen. In 15 years, the NSF has failed to promulgate final regulations required by the 1978 Antarctic Conservation Act to control pollution in Antarctica. The NSF is a fine agency, with a fine record for conducting and supporting basic and important scientific research, but it may not be the right agency to enforce the requirements of the Madrid protocol. For this reason, and to begin a dialog on this question, my bill would leave the NSF in charge of the scientific research program for Antarctica, but would transfer to the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere—also the administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration [NOAA] responsibility for resource protection, permitting, tourist regulation, and special area management. This is consistent with NOAA's current responsibility for living marine resource conservation and the implementation of the mining ban in the Antarctic Protection Act and also recognizes NOAA's expertise for resource protection and management.

At the same time, my bill recognizes that other agencies have a role to play in carrying out the Madrid protocol. Agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency will be consulted on water and air pollution issues. The Department of the Interior will have a say, as it does not, for permits affecting endangered species under its jurisdiction. The Coast Guard will enforce the marine pollution annex through amendments to the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships, [33 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.), the act which implements the MARPOL Convention for the United States. The involvement of other agencies with expertise in environmental regulation, permitting and enforcement will help the United States fulfill its obligations to the Madrid protocol and the Antarctic Treaty System.

Another significant difference between the two bills is the fact my bill would have the United States implement the EIA provisions of the Madrid protocol through the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, NEPA, 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq. NEPA is the premier environmental law of this country and one under which environmental impact assessments for major Federal actions with significant impacts are now routinely done. The question of NEPA's application to NSF's programs in Antarctica was the subject of recent litigation and a decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, EDF versus Massey, decided January 29, 1993. In that decision, Chief Judge Mikva, for a unanimous judicial panel, ruled that NEPA does indeed apply to NSF's activities in Antarctica. The judge concluded that he could not comprehend the difficulty presented by NSF's having to comply both with the standard for preparing an environmental impact assessment under NEPA—where the impacts are to be significant—and that under the Madrid protocol—where the impacts for assessment have to be more than minor or transitory. Although NSF might have to prepare fewer studies under NEPA than under the protocol, a single document could indicate how the environmental impact of the proposed action is more than minor and also more than significant. I agree wholeheartedly with the court's interpretation and have made clear in my bill that, where the impacts are more than minor, a single document, an environmental impact statement will be required under NEPA.

Finally, I wish to point out that my bill refers, in some places, to the Council on Environmental Quality and its role in developing environmental impact assessment procedures. President Clinton has proposed abolishing CEQ and transferring some of its functions to the new White House Office of Environmental Policy and some to a cabinet-level EPA. When these changes occur, we will modify the bill accordingly to refer to the correct agency.

I urge my colleagues' support of the Antarctic Environmental Protocol Act of 1993. I look forward to working with them and with the Clinton administration to develop strong legislation enabling the United States to ratify the Madrid protocol this year.

INTRODUCTION OF ERISA WORKER PROTECTION LEGISLATION

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, with my colleagues WILLIAM FORD, PAT WILLIAMS, STEVE GUNDERSON, GEORGE MILLER, and CHRISTOPHER SHAYS, I am today introducing legislation to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act to provide that ERISA does not preempt three types of State worker protection laws.

We must restore to the States the right to prescribe a number of critical worker protections which have been held in a series of court decisions to be preempted by ERISA.

Thirty-one States have enacted State prevailing wage laws, setting the terms on which they will do business with contractors. Yet on ERISA preemption grounds, the prevailing wage laws of two of our largest States, California and New York, have been struck down.

All 50 States have enacted laws setting standards for the certification or training of apprentices. The States have a clear interest in developing a skilled work force, and in regulating the establishment and maintenance of apprenticeship programs. Yet these laws as well have been struck down.

Finally, all 50 States have historically had mechanics lien laws through which workers can secure payment for labor they perform on a building or other property. These mechanics lien and other similar remedies are an essential means for collecting delinquent contributions to multiemployer plans, but these laws, too, have been held to be preempted by ERISA, posing a serious threat to the very fiscal integrity of the plans.

Preemption of State laws that conflict with ERISA and its goal of a uniform national approach to employee benefit regulation is valuable and necessary. But preempting State laws in areas which Congress has never had any intention of addressing makes no sense at all.

That is why similar legislation enjoyed bipartisan support in the 102d Congress, and passed the House last summer on a voice vote.

The bill I introduce today establishes clearly that ERISA does not preempt State law in the three areas I have described.

I should note, however, that State prevailing wage laws that fail to meet the test outlined in this bill will be preempted. Under my bill, the State must give employers a choice of providing the benefits or paying cash wages equal to the cost of the benefits. Montana's law, which was struck down by the courts, failed to do that. The State also cannot require that the benefits be provided in a certain way or as a part of a certain type of plan. The Montana law required benefits to be provided only through a union plan, a second respect in which it violates the test established by my bill.

This legislation is supported by the National Association of State Apprenticeship Directors, the National Association of Governmental Labor Officials, the National Electrical Contractors Association, and the AFL–CIO.

I urge my colleagues to join me in restoring to our States the ability to extend these vitally important protections to American workers.

TRIBUTE TO ROCHELLE TENNER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Mrs. Rochelle Tenner, a member of my women's caucus who will be honored as one of the individuals who exemplify this year's annual breakfast theme of "Women Who Dare To Be Different".

Mrs. Tenner, employed since 1977, as the district manager of C.B. 17, East Flatbush. Mrs. Tenner previously worked in local government, for Mayor Lindsay's Urban Action Task Force, in the Flatlands/Canarsie area. Her volunteer efforts included past presidency of the Glenwood Tenants Association and vice presidency at P.S. 251 and I.S. 78. Mrs. Tenner was a member of the district conference of PTA Presidents-School District 22. She currently serves on the advisory board of South Shore H.S. Adult Education Center, and is the secretary of the Association of Brooklyn District Managers.

As a member and former president of the Alan Foss Leukemia Memorial Foundation, Mrs. Tenner serves as current research vice president of this 28-year-old organization, which raises funds for research and patient care programs in the area of leukemia and other cancers, and helps individuals in need. From her own experiences as a cancer survivor, she has developed a hope that the world we have created for children is one filled with equality.

TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the great men and women who gave their lives during the Japanese attack on Darwin, Australia, in 1942. It was 51 years ago last Friday, on February 19, when Japanese dive bombers surprise attacked the U.S.S. *Peary* while at anchor in the Darwin harbor. Of the hundreds of sailors and innocent civilians who were killed, 91 were *Peary* crew members.

Following the war, the city of Darwin dedicated a parcel of land to commemorate those Australians and Americans who gave their lives that day. The townspeople planted 91 trees within the boundary of this park in memorial of the American sailors who fought to protect the northern territory from Axis aggression.

Every year, the city holds a ceremony to honor those who fell. During last year's event, the Australian Navy dedicated a permanent monument to the park, a refinished 4-inch forward gun, raised from the submerged hull of the U.S.S. *Peary*. Further, CPO Dallis Widdick, who survived the attack, donated a bronze plaque that lists the names of the 91 courageous crew members.

The valor and gallantry of American service men and women is heralded and respected around the world. The crew of the U.S.S. *Peary* lent further proof to this adage and will forever be remembered by those who cherish freedom and democracy.

THE SOLID WASTE REGULATORY AUTHORITY ACT

HON. PAT DANNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Ms. DANNER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the States Solid Waste Regulatory Authority Act of 1993. This legislation gives the States the power to regulate the treatment and disposal of solid waste imported from other States.

Currently, Mr. Speaker, States and especially small communities like the ones I represent in Missouri, have no authority over the regulation of solid waste coming in from other States—States that cannot dispose of their own trash. The bill I have introduced proposes to change that.

Present law gives the Federal Government exclusive jurisdiction over the interstate transfer of solid waste, leaving States unprotected against the dumping of out-of-State waste within their borders. Small, primarily rural communities are often the targets of the importation of solid waste. These communities have little or no say upon the process of regulating such waste. Their meager political leverage, coupled with the lack of statutory authority to resist the importation of solid waste, leaves them no recourse to end or even mitigate this practice.

My legislation aims to change the regulatory process by providing States with enhanced oversight authority, and correspondingly gives communities de facto authority over the treatment of imported solid waste. I believe these communities should have the ability to control the regulation of out-of-State waste. By empowering the States, we empower the communities to control the movement of solid waste.

Representatives from those States that are net exporters of solid waste, and Missouri is in fact a net exporter of solid waste, should understand that this legislation does not prevent States, counties, or cities from transferring their waste across State lines. It simply creates a level playing field whereby the receiving States can now control, to the same degree as the exporting States, whether and how much solid waste ends up in their backyards. It injects an element of fairness into the equation and tells residents of those smaller, targeted communities that they again can have a voice in determining the quality of life in their communities.

ALBANY ADDS DRINK BOXES AND MILK CARTONS TO ITS RECYCLING PROGRAM

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge a notable initiative on the environmental front taking place in Albany, NY. On January 28, 1993, Albany became the first municipality in the State of New York to add drink boxes and milk cartons to its recycling program. This program aims to reduce Albany's solid waste by 148 tons annually, as drink boxes and milk cartons are collected from Albany's 33,000 households and 18 city schools.

Following collection, these wastes are transported to the New Options on Waste Material Recovery Center near the Port of Albany, where they are sorted, baled, and then transported to Encore Paper, a recycling mill in South Glens Falls. At Encore Paper the drink boxes and milk cartons are processed to separate the plastic and foil from the high-quality paper pulp. These paper fibers are then used to make consumer products such as writing paper, towels, and napkins.

This noteworthy event is the result of a successful pilot program launched last year in four Albany city schools by the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the Aseptic Packaging Council. This program was designed to both reduce Albany's solid waste stream and to heighten awareness among students as to the importance of recycling. The success of this program has caused the city to expand its program to include the entire city of Albany.

I would like to recognize Albany's small yet significant step in maximizing the efficient use of our Nation's natural resources. It is through programs like Albany's that we can build a cleaner, greener planet.

CONGRATULATIONS TO GEORGE A. FASCIANO

HON. ROBERT G. TORRICELLI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I address

my colleagues in the House today, for I rise to extend my heartiest congratulations and warmest best wishes to my colleague and friend, George A. Fasciano, on the occasion of his retirement as superintendent of the Palisades Park public schools system.

George received a B.A. from St. Peter's College, his M.A. from Seton Hall University and his Ed.D. from New York University. Over the past 34 years Mr. Fasciano has served the Palisades Park School District in the capacity of elementary and high school teacher, coach, principal, and the final 18 years as superintendent.

George is a member of the New Jersey Association of School Administrators, the Bergen County Education Association, the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association, the Middle States Association Committee, and the New Jersey Council of Education. He currently serves as the chairman for the region VI New Jersey Council of Education.

George was honored in June 1991 as a "Distinguished Educator" by the Bergen County Superintendent of Schools. He was also invited to review the President's report on "Excellence in Education" at an education convocation in Philadelphia. He was also selected as a candidate to serve as a diplomat in educational administration for the New Jersey Association of School Administrators.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join in paying tribute to George A. Fasciano as he concludes his career as a public servant. The service he provided was invaluable to his community and truly made a difference in society. I extend my best wishes to him on this most special occasion and hope that he will enjoy retirement and remain active in the Palisades Park School District to which he has dedicated his life.

CRS ANALYSIS OF DIRECT LOAN PROPOSAL

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, last year, when Congress reauthorized the Higher Education Act, a major issue of debate was the replacement of the Guaranteed Student Loan Program with direct loans. Advocates for the direct loan approach tried to convince us that direct loans would be cheaper for the Federal Government. A majority of Republicans disagreed with this assumption on the basis that the Federal Government cannot make and administer direct loans for less cost than the private sector can.

We fought hard in the higher education reauthorization against the direct loan proposal. In the end, a pilot project was adopted to test whether or not savings really could be achieved. Now that the Congress is approaching difficult decisions with regard to reducing the budget deficit, the rhetoric of direct loans is back. Part of President Clinton's economic plan is built on questionable savings claimed by moving to a full direct loan program.

Fortunately, an analysis just completed by the Congressional Research Service [CRS], Federal Family Education Loans: Reduced Costs, Direct Lending and National Income, unveils the budget gimmicks used to make direct loans look less expensive. According to CRS:

Conversion to direct loans cannot be justified on the basis of either budget savings or increases in overall economic welfare.

Problems in the current Guaranteed Student Loan Program cannot be fixed by conversion to a direct loan program, however inviting such a proposal might appear.

The reduction of Federal interest outlays that would accompany adoption of a direct lending program would neither reduce nor increase national income.

With direct lending, budget outlays for administrative costs are likely to increase beyond what is currently being incurred by the private sector.

I urge my colleagues to review this CRS report carefully. If we want to really make a difference in reducing the budget deficit, we cannot start off by accepting the type of phony savings purported for direct lending.

HONORING ROBERT J. GOMEZ, JR. ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS SENIOR DEPUTY COUNTY COUNSEL, LOS ANGELES COUNTY

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my good friend, Robert J. Gomez, Jr. Bob is retiring from the County of Los Angeles after nearly 33 years of dedicated service and will be honored at a special ceremony on Thursday, February 25, 1993.

Bob received his bachelor of arts degree in 1960 from Los Angeles State College and master of science degree in public administration from California State University, Los Angeles. In 1974, he completed his juris doctorate at Loyola University School of Law, and became a member of the California Bar Association in 1978.

Bob has dedicated his 33-year career to the field of public service. In 1960, he began his career with the county of Los Angeles, and has served in a variety of capacities which include, head of master plan & design for the Regional Planning Commission; head of community planning and analysis; chief of the Los Angeles County Department of Urban Affairs; and deputy director of the Department of Community Development.

In 1980, Bob was appointed by President Jimmy Carter to serve in Washington, DC, as Deputy Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. In this capacity, he advised the Secretary and Assistant Secretary for Neighborhoods, Voluntary Associations and Consumer Affairs regarding all housing and community development issues relevant to neighborhood organizations, voluntary associations, consumer advocates, housing counselors, and congregate housing services operators.

Bob returned to Los Angeles in 1981, and served as the assistant chief of capital projects for the Los Angeles County Chief Administrative Office. Since 1985, he has held the position of senior deputy counsel for the Los Angeles County Office of County Counsel, serving as one of the attorneys to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, its 36 departments, 317 special districts and over 100 school districts.

His volunteer activities are numerous and include service as chairman of the board of directors of Casa La Merced housing project; member of the Board, Los Angeles Neighborhood Development Corporation; chair of the East Los Angeles College Alumni Association; and vice-chair, board of trustees, Bilingual Foundation of the Arts.

Additionally, in 1965, he was appointed by the Governor of California to be a member of the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument Commission; and from 1971–74 he was appointed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to serve as a member of the board of directors of the Economic and Youth Opportunities Agency and its successor, the Greater Los Angeles Community Action Agency, the city and county antipoverty agency.

Bob and his lovely wife, Margie, reside in Alhambra. They have three children, Michael, Denise, and Lisa.

Mr. Speaker, on February 25, 1993, civic leaders, colleagues, and friends will gather to honor Robert J. Gomez, Jr. for his tremendous contributions to the community of Los Angeles. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting this exceptional individual for his outstanding record of public service to the residents of my district and the State of California.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO ASSIST DEPOSITORS

HON. JACK REED

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced legislation to assist a small number of depositors still suffering from the Rhode Island credit union crisis.

The problem I seek to address sounds simple on its face, but the results have been devastating for those unlucky enough to be trapped. Imagine if you sold your home and put the money in your bank or credit union while you looked for a new home. Suddenly and without warning your bank closes, freezing your money, and keeping you from being able to buy a new home within the 2-year period before being taxed at a rate of 28 percent on the amount deposited from the sale of the home. That is exactly what happened to some of my constituents, and it is just not fair.

On January 1, 1991, the Governor of Rhode Island closed 45 banks and credit unions due to the collapse of RISDIC, the State insurance fund. This action froze over 300,000 accounts and $1.7 billion in deposits and affected over 25 percent of the State's population.

These depositors put their money into local institutions with full confidence that their deposits would be fully insured and that they would have immediate access to their deposits. They had no knowledge that would have

led them to believe that their savings were at risk.

As a result, several depositors sold their home and deposited the proceeds of that sale into their privately insured instutition—which was then closed by the State, freezing the proceeds from the sale of their home. Under present law, a taxpayer may defer recognition of gain on the sale of a principle residence as long as the gain is rolled over into a new residence within a 2-year period. Some of these people had no access to their deposits for 15 months, and they have been unable to use the proceeds to purchase a new home or obtain credit toward the purchase of a new home within the time specified in section 1034 of the IRS Code of 1986.

My bill would suspend the 2-year rollover period during any time that a taxpayer had substantial frozen deposits. A taxpayer would be treated as having substantial frozen deposits if an amount exceeding 50 percent of the amount realized from the sale of a principle residence were deposited and then frozen in a financial institution. The deposits would be deemed frozen if the funds may not be withdrawn because of the bankruptcy or insolvency of the financial institution, or any requirement imposed by the State in which the institution is located because of the bankruptcy or insolvency. The legislation would apply to any residence sold or exchanged after December 31, 1990, and any residence sold or exchanged prior to that date if the 2-year rollover period had not expired by January 1, 1991.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation passed the House by unanimous consent under suspension of the rules last August. A similar provision was also included in the urban aid bill which was vetoed by President Bush. The legislation also received the support of IRS Commissioner Goldberg during a hearing in the Ways and Means Committee last July.

As I have stated before, the depositors who have been crippled by this crisis are not the wealthy of Rhode Island, they are average Americans who put their faith in their local credit union.

These are the people who work hard and play by the rules. In this case, the rules are not fair and must be changed.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is simply fair. We are not giving these people special treatment. We are simply recognizing that during the time when their accounts were frozen, these people could not possibly roll over their funds because they could not get their money out of the bank. I have heard no one disagree with this proposal on its merits.

Last year I came before my colleagues many times and asked for your help in approving a loan guarantee for the State. Thanks in large measure to the tremendous support we received from Banking Committee chairman Henry B. Gonzalez and other members of that committee, Congress overwhelmingly supported this request. Today I ask for your support which will allow a small number of Rhode Island taxpayers to finally get on with their lives.

THE NATION'S OLDEST MULTIPURPOSE RECLAMATION PROJECT: THE SALT RIVER PROJECT

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the 90th anniversary of the Nation's oldest multipurpose reclamation project, the Salt River project.

For the past nine decades, the Salt River project has provided low-cost, high-value water and power services to the communities of the Phoenix area. Indeed, these services have been provided so reliably for so long that many in my home State, particularly those of more recent residency, may not be aware what it was like in the harsh deserts of central Arizona before the existence of SRP. Droughts, parching heat, and gunplay over water rights ruled those days. A reliable water supply was desperately needed to ease the struggles of central Arizona's early settlers. With vision and political perseverance, the area's farmers and business leaders banded together to form the Salt River project and obtain the Federal financing necessary to build Theodore Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River east of Phoenix. Other dams subsequently were built under SRP auspices. An extensive system of canals and laterals were constructed to deliver water to the Phoenix area. And, with the early addition of hydroelectric capacity at its dams, SRP was on the road to becoming the region's major power supplier. The company is now the Nation's third largest public power utility, serving almost 600,000 customer accounts in central Arizona.

In the course of it all, SRP and its employees have come to play vital roles in the success of communities throughout the State. The success of Arizona's farming industry, mines, aerospace, and computer giants, and the Phoenix area's phenomenal growth can be attributed, in part, to the efforts, vision, and leadership of SRP.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Salt River project, its dedicated employees, and its 90-year tradition of working boldly and hard for the communities where it does business.

THE SALT RIVER PROJECT'S 90 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. SAM COPPERSMITH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. COPPERSMITH. Mr. Speaker, I salute the Salt River project, one of the Nation's foremost public power and water utilities, on its 90th year of service to the people of the Phoenix metropolitan area.

Ninety years ago, a group of local landowners and citizens formed the Salt River project to provide a dependable source of water to the farm communities of Phoenix, Mesa, Tempe, and surrounding areas. These communities obtained a secure water supply in 1911 after the completion of the Theodore Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River east of Phoenix by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. This project was one of the first great Federal reclamation efforts and marked the beginning of central Arizona's spectacular growth and development, and the Federal Government's role in fostering that growth.

Today, Salt River project, administering the water rights to a 240,000-acre area, is Arizona's largest water supplier. With its system of six dams, thousands of miles of canals and laterals, interties with the central Arizona project, and computerized water delivery system, SRP delivers vital water supplies to a desert metropolitan area of nearly 2 million people.

Yet, SRP's responsibilities do not stop with water. The project has evolved from its early use of hydroelectric generators into one of Arizona's largest electric utilities and a major participant in the Western regional power grid. Today, SRP serves more than 550,000 customer accounts in 18 municipalities and 3 Arizona counties. It participates in powerplants, coal mines, and transmission facilities in five States, and has become a major provider of wholesale power to the whole Western region.

Ninety years ago, SRP helped the future of the Phoenix area and paved the way for Arizona's admission as the 48th State. Today, SRP's mission extends to the recruitment of new businesses from outside Arizona, assistance for the expansion of local companies, and promotion of new business startups. Through its work with regional development groups like the Greater Phoenix Economic Council, SRP has proved instrumental in building an economy that has survived depressions, recessions, spectacular change, and now stands ready to face the challenges of the balance of this decade and the 21st century.

Mr. Speaker, with great pleasure, I acknowledge the Salt River project's 90th anniversary and salute its efforts on behalf of its customers and the communities and economy of Arizona.

TRIBUTE TO THE SALT RIVER PROJECT

HON. JON KYL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. KYL. Mr. Speaker, throughout our Nation's history, there have been remarkable individuals and institutions whose foresight and hard work have paved the way to new enterprises, commerce, and the creation of great cities.

One such institution is the Salt River project [SRP], a public power and water utility that this month celebrates its 90th year as one of the formative forces in the history and development of central Arizona.

In 1903, the settlers of the Phoenix area formed the Salt River Valley Water Users' Association, a part of today's SRP, to obtain a Federal loan for the construction of a massive water storage and delivery system. Under terms of the National Reclamation Act, a loan was granted and work began on Theodore

Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River upstream of Phoenix. When the dam was completed in 1911, it stood as the world's largest masonry dam, capturing crucial water supplies for the growth of central Arizona's crops, businesses, and communities.

From this beginning, the economy of the Salt River Valley grew. Under the auspices of the Salt River Valley Water Users' Association, five other dams were also built. Hydroelectric generating capacity was developed to serve Arizona's copper mines. Local towns boomed, and, in 1937, the Salt River Agricultural Improvement and Power District was formed to meet growing local energy needs. Joined together, the district and the Salt River Valley Water Users' Association became the basis of the Salt River project, a corporation that today stands as Arizona's largest water supplier and the third largest public utility in the Nation.

As the country's oldest multipurpose reclamation project, SRP has responsibility for administering water rights of a 240,000-acre area spanning the bulk of the Phoenix metropolitan area. Its water supplies derive from a 13,000-square mile area that encompasses some of Arizona's richest, most scenic terrain. It participates in seven power plant operations throughout the Southwest and has transmission links connecting from California to Colorado. Not least of all, it has remained committed to the spirit upon which it was founded, engaging in leading energy conservation programs, research and development projects, and efforts to protect the quality of life of those it serves.

Mr. Speaker, Arizonans are proud of the remarkable history and development of our State. Among the things that make us proud is the Salt River project, a company that promises to remain remarkable as it also helps shape Arizona's future.

THE VEHICLE DAMAGE DISCLOSURE ACT

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of the Vehicle Damage Disclosure Act of 1993, a bill to address the problem of salvage car fraud, a practice which helps to generate the huge profits that pay the thieves who steal vehicles for their parts.

Carjackings and bump-and-rob crimes are an every day occurrence. It's big business to steal cars because it's big profit. Put another way, we face the modern-day equivalent of cattle rustling. Car parts are like cow parts—much easier to transport on the hoof!

The practice of selling rebuilt cars with stolen parts as undamaged used cars costs consumers as much as $4 billion annually according to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Moreover, consumers are unwittingly purchasing death traps since there is little uniformity in the State inspection process, or reporting and recordkeeping for severely damaged vehicles.

Anybody who saw the "60 Minutes" segment about title fraud last Sunday night should be outraged that laws in the 50 States are not uniform or adequate in the case of titling motor vehicles.

Current loopholes in the law are so large you could drive a wreck right through them. The absence of uniformity and sophistication in State laws regulating vehicle titling and registration of used vehicles allow enterprising criminals to find the weakest link to wash the stolen or junk character off the vehicle.

The absence of a uniform law also underwrites the huge profits of bump-and-rob car thieves who take the stolen vehicles to chop shops for their parts.

Mr. Speaker, I sent to each congressional office a copy of two titles to illustrate how title-washing occurs. The first certificate issued by the State of Mississippi in September, 1991 plainly indicates that the vehicle was salvaged. You also have a copy of a certificate issued in November—just a few weeks later—by the State of Texas. The VIN number on each certificate is identical. It's the same car. But the Texas title is perfectly clean. This vehicle can now be sold without any indication to the potential buyer that it was ever in a wreck.

In this example, the title was branded salvage in the State of Mississippi. The car was then transported to the State of New Mexico where they issued a new title without the brand. Then another new title was subsequently reissued in the State of Texas which, of course was clean as a whistle. Under current law, there is no way for Texas officials to know that the original title from the State of Mississippi bore a salvage designation.

The Vehicle Damage Disclosure Act of 1993 would require States to disclose on the new title whether the vehicle was previously issued a title which bore a designation of either salvage, junk, reconstructed, or rebuilt; or that has been damaged by flood. In addition, the legislation requires the U.S. Department of Transportation, in consultation with a Federal task force established by the Anti-Car Theft Act of 1992 to study and report on salvage car fraud, to issue a rule which provides nationally uniform title procedures so that a salvage or rebuilt brand means essentially the same thing from one State to another.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.