orable Dante Fascell. For over 40 years, Dante Fascell represented the people of south Florida in both the State legislature and the U.S. Congress.

Very few Americans can claim to have had as distinguished a record of service to their country as Dante Fascell. Born in New York in 1917, his family relocated to Florida when he was 8 years old. He earned his law degree from the University of Miami in 1938, and then served his country with honor in WWII from 1941–46. After leaving the Army, he returned to the private practice of law until he was elected to the Florida State Legislature in 1951. Three years later, he was elected to the U.S. Congress in 1954, where he served with honor until his retirement in 1992.

Dante Fascell came to Congress when virtually all of south Florida was one congressional district. Perhaps no other man has had a greater impact on the face of today's south Florida. He authored the bill that made the Florida Keys a national marine sanctuary, as well as barring offshore drilling there. In 1990, Mr. Fascell enacted legislation that created the prestigious North-South Center at the University of Miami, to foster understanding and better relations within our hemisphere.

As chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, he was a tireless advocate for Radio Marti and the National Endowment for Democracy, both of which promoted the ideas of democracy around the world. He also coauthored the War Powers Resolution of 1973 which required the President to consult with Congress before initiating any military action against a foreign power. Dante Fascell continues to be active in these issues today, currently serving on the board of trustees of the North-South Center and with a number of other activities and organizations in the Miami area.

HAPPY 32D ANNIVERSARY

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 22, 1995

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, under the new spirit of a family friendly Congress, I would like to wish my wife, Lu, a happy 32d anniversary this day, February 22, 1995.

EDI REFORM ACT OF 1995

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 22, 1995

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, in 1994 the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development [HUD] awarded over $319 million to depressed communities under the Economic the community. Should the applicants be otherwise qualified, they will be selected as funding levels permit. Should, before passage of this legislation, the EDI program be consolidated into a program that awards grant money based on a formula, as has been proposed by the administration, extent of unemployment must be taken into consideration.

In either case, Mr. Speaker, severe unemployment—the root of hopelessness yet heretofore all but ignored—figures prominently in the process.

The EDI is a wonderful program. Enacted in early 1994 as a way to enhance and strengthen section 108 loan guarantees, it has served to not only stimulate the $2 billion section 108 program, but to help secure repayment as well. A public entity, for example, may couple an EDI grant with a section 108 loan to create a large loan pool for businesses to tap into. Such an entity may also use the EDI grant to buy down its own interest rates—thus attracting businesses previously avoiding or fleeing depressed communities.

Last year, cities as diverse as Indianapolis, Atlantic City and Selma have received anywhere between $300,000 and $450,000 to further their efforts to rejuvenate their proud communities and revitalize needy sections of town. Businesses are attracted to places like these, Mr. Speaker. More importantly, businesses choose to stay—thus creating jobs and restoring hope.

The EDI Reform Act of 1995, therefore, will ensure that these jobs are created where they are most needed—in high unemployment areas. Now, cities such as Youngstown, OH, or Yuma, AZ, which suffer from unemployment rates double and triple that of the national average, will have a better chance at improving their communities.

Despite the merits of the EDI Program, it now glosses over the extent of unemployment and, in pending proposals, all but ignores the problem. My bill will make this good program better.

I urge my colleagues to support the EDI Reform Act of 1995.

THE LINE-ITEM VETO

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 22, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, February 22, 1995 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

THE LINE-ITEM VETO

Hoosiers often express their frustration with unnecessary federal spending—especially for the ''pork-barrel'' projects that seem to be funded year after year. I share this frustration, and have worked for years to curtail the practice of omnibus spending bills that include thousands of individual

VARIOUS VERSIONS

Under current law, the President has authority to submit a request to Congress to defer or rescind specific, line-item appropriations. These requests are known as ''rescissions''. Yet the law is not very tough. Congress needs to approve the rescissions for them to take effect, but there is no requirement that Congress ever consider the President's request.

In recent years, many have argued for a system that requires Congress to take an immediate vote on the President's line-item rescissions package. No longer able to ignore the President's requests, Members would be forced to take a stand on individual spending items. This enhanced rescission proposal is one form of a line-item veto. With my support, the House has passed such legislation several times. However, the measure has never come to a vote in the Senate.

The House has considered many different versions of the line-item veto over the years. I have supported some and opposed others. The key points for me are that they be tough on exposing unnecessary spending and preserve the constitutional balance of powers.

HOUSE BILL

In early February, the House passed a version of a line-item veto. It would give the President 10 days after signing a spending or revenue bill to submit a package of spending cuts or targeted tax benefits to be eliminated. These recommendations would go into effect unless Congress rejected the package by a two-thirds vote in both the House and the Senate.

This version went too far in some ways and not far enough in others. I continue to support a line-item veto. But the final version that passed the House shifts far too much power to the President, threatens the constitutional separation of powers, and is not tough enough on tax loopholes and deficit spending. There is a better alternative.

The version I favored would allow the President to use the line-item veto at any time—not just within 10 days—and would permit the President to force Congress to use the savings for deficit reduction instead of for other programs. It would require Congress to take an immediate vote on the President's package, which could be enacted with majority approval. Under this system, the President could turn the national spotlight on an item of unnecessary spending and force Congress to cast an explicit and immediate vote on it. The President would win most of these votes. The approach achieves the purpose of a line-item veto without a dangerous shift of power to the President. The House did not approve this version, but passed another version.

My key concern with the version that passed the House is that it would shift enormous power to the President. It would allow him and 146 Members of the House or 34 Senators—representing as little as 7% of the population—to control the fiscal policy of the entire federal government. In addition, this version would allow the President to cut all or part of any program—a power few governors have. It would permit a President basically to rewrite an entire spending bill. Congress should not surrender the budget-