

case. The experts are often paid only if their sides wins. Our legislation lists factors for a judge to consider in weighing the admissibility of a scientific opinion.

The attorney accountability rules, mandate previously optional guidelines set for trial lawyers. There rules require that Federal courts punish attorneys who engage in litigation tactics that harass, make frivolous legal arguments, or unwarranted factual assertions. The punishment is not only to deter this conduct, but to compensate injured parties. The court may order the attorney at fault to pay the opposing party for reasonable expenses as a direct result of the violation.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support H.R. 988, the Attorney Accountability Act. This is the first of three bills that make up the Common Sense Legal Reform Act—a major element of the Contract With America.

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TRIBUTE TO RUBY WESTON

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 7, 1995*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to highlight the life of Ruby Weston of Brooklyn, NY. Mrs. Weston is an administrator for the Marcus Garvey Nursing Home in Brooklyn. She toils unselfishly to provide for the needs of the patients at the nursing home. Mrs. Weston's generous and caring nature are reflective in her management style. Prior to serving as a nursing home administrator, Ruby Weston was a realty specialist for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Mrs. Weston received her bachelor's of professional studies from Pace University, and her master's in public administration from Long Island University. She holds licenses in nursing home administration, real estate, and insurance.

Mrs. Weston is married to Dr. Peter Weston, and they are parents to five children. She and her husband reside in Brooklyn. I would like to commend her to my colleagues for her work with the Brooklyn elderly.

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THE VOICE OF AMERICA: 53 YEARS AT THE MICROPHONES

**HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 7, 1995*

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, as the Voice of America [VOA] steps up to its 53d year at the

microphone, it is talking to nearly 100 million people each week in 46 languages plus English—and its listeners are talking back.

With the end of the cold war and the advent of interactive technology, VOA has engaged in a dialog with its listeners, many of whom are living under very different circumstances than just a few years ago. To that end, the Voice of America is experiencing a renewal, or perhaps, more appropriately, a change in its tone of voice to accommodate the many new missions it has to perform, to fulfill the changing needs and interests of its worldwide audience and to take advantage of new technology to allow for better reception and an increasingly vast global reach. Yet despite these changes, VOA remains evergreen, ever retaining its freshness, relevance and diversity—and its importance as America's voice to the world.

As changes continue to occur in many parts of the world with lightning speed paving the way for the information superhighway, VOA has adapted its programming and how it delivers its message to meet the challenges of the competitive global marketplace with innovation and fervor. VOA has initiated a series of exciting broadcast ventures inviting its listeners to be active participants in the new generation of international broadcasting.

With the placement on the Internet of a text version of VOA's English language programs and VOA audio in 15 languages, listeners can connect with VOA instantaneously, 24 hours a day, to offer feedback on its programming. VOA listeners not only want credible and reliable news of happenings in their country, the United States, and the world, but also practical information on how to build and maintain new democracies and free market economies. They look to the United States, the most powerful and successful example of a working democracy, to learn about its institutions, policies, and way of life. They want to know how to set up a city council, how to start a newspaper, how the stock market works, how to organize a school system, how to get a bank loan, and how to write a constitution. And VOA's programs are there—in their living rooms and grass huts, in their castles and caravans—to provide these new societies with the guidance and support to secure their newfound freedom and independence.

VOA now gives its listeners the opportunity to participate regularly in its programming through a new live international call-in show, "Talk to America," which receives calls in English daily from listeners spanning the globe. VOA listeners want to take part in an open forum to voice their views on the foremost issues affecting the world today—AIDS, drugs, human rights, population, and the environment to name a few—and VOA invites their

discussion and debate. VOA has also rolled out a series of bold new programs to East Asia in eight languages through a \$5 million enhancement from the Congress. In addition, VOA has launched five new thematic programs exploring regional and global economic trends: political and social issues of concern in the United States; the impact of international developments; major news stories from a reporter's perspective; and religion, spirituality, ethics and values.

Mr. Speaker, the Voice of America marked its 53d year milestone on February 24, I hope you will join me in paying tribute to its past success and its bright future as one of the largest and most respected newsgathering organizations in the world. Although we wish that governments that censor the news and miscommunicate the truth would disappear, history has shown us that there will always be a need for a service like the Voice of America—evergreen, ever present, and ever truthful. Through crisis and calm, discovery and disaster, victory and celebration, VOA has continued to uphold its mission established by the intrepid broadcast pioneers who founded America's voice 53 years ago: "The news may be good. The news may be bad. We shall tell you the truth." And VOA, we shall salute you.

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TRIBUTE TO EDNA RUSSELL

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 7, 1995*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, in my district I am fortunate to have individuals dedicated to helping others in the community. Edna Russell has this unyielding dedication. Edna came to New York from Costa Rica, Central America, where she graduated from the Salvation Army School and worked as a nurse in Tony Facio Hospital in Port Limon in Costa Rica.

After Edna arrived in New York, she was employed as a nursing assistant at Jack Low Foundation which is now the New York Community Hospital of Brooklyn. Edna devoted her caring skills in the nursing department for 27 years before transferring to the x-ray department where she is now an x-ray transporter and is also their No. 1199 union representative.

Always giving honor to God, in all that she does, Edna is the first person to give a helping hand whenever a crisis occurs. She is a member of the Sacred Heart Church and is affiliated with the Sacred Heart Shrine. I am proud to recognize Edna Russell for her relentless dedication to the Brooklyn community.