

damaged or outdated canned and packaged foods from supermarkets, and performing all trucking, warehousing, and administrative work essential for the collection and distribution of food. In 1995 alone, nearly 500,000 volunteer hours were provided and over 17 million pounds of food were donated to those in need.

In addition to food, Senior Gleaners volunteers also provide lap robes, shawls, slippers, and other items to convalescent homes and veterans' hospitals, and baby clothes and blankets to needy children.

Senior Gleaners of North Highlands is an outstanding example of what volunteerism can achieve in our country. Their record of accomplishment in clothing and feeding the neediest children, adults, and families in northern California over the last 20 years has made a tremendous difference in the community, region, and State. I salute the efforts of Senior Gleaners, Inc., and wish them continued success in the future.

RECOGNIZING THE STUDENTS OF ALERT

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 1996

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as we remember the tragic bombing of the Edward P. Murrah Federal Building, in Oklahoma City, OK, on April 19, 1995. I would like to take time to recognize a group of young men who, long after the media's focus on the tragedy had faded, but with much work left to be done, volunteered time, energy, and good will to minister to the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of the survivors while moving the residents of a destroyed apartment building to safer locations. These men were a demonstration of sensitivity, availability, and compassion, as well as initiative, in that they recognized and did what needed to be done in the lives of the people of Oklahoma City, with no thought for themselves, but only how they could help their neighbor. Their selflessness and sincerity are an embodiment of those virtues that made America great and will be an asset to them in their home communities and with all those they come in contact.

Adam Bell, Texas; Jerry Campbell, Florida; David Carne, Oregon; Steve Dankers, Wisconsin; Chad Gallinger, Maryland; Gary Gilchrist, Florida; Michael Goheen, Washington; Peter Guy, California; Chris Hulson, Oklahoma; Owen Manor, California; Seth Prescott, Mississippi; and Joshua Tanner, Texas.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES R. VAN HORN

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 1996

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Charles R. Van Horn, a great American who died on April 30, 1996.

Charles Van Horn, a graduate of the Shenandoah Valley Military Academy, Washington and Lee University, and the University of Ala-

bama; devoted his life to public service and private philanthropy. For almost 50 years, Charlie's career focused on the advancement of both the Baltimore and Ohio and Chesapeake and Ohio Railroads. Charlie's hard work and intelligence resulted in his appointment as vice president, and later the Washington executive representative in governmental relations, for the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad.

As an active member of many well-known organizations, Charles Van Horn served as president of the P.T. Barnum Tent Circus, the Saints and Sinners, and the New York Skoal Club. In addition, he served the community as a board member of the Travelers Aid Society of Washington, the Honor America Executive Committee, and the Chatter Box Club.

Charles died on April 30, 1996, in Scranton, PA. He is survived by his wife Winifred, his 7 step-sons, and 13 step-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I join Charlie's family, friends, and former colleagues from the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad in paying tribute to Charles R. Van Horn. With his distinguished legacy of public service and private philanthropy, Charles R. Van Horn will be remembered as one of the best representatives the railroad has had, as well as a great American.

HONORING THE CHRISTIANA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Christiana Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in fire-fighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

REGULATORY RELIEF FOR UTIL- ITY VEHICLE OPERATORS AND DRIVERS

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 1996

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation today that will offer regulatory relief for utility vehicle operators and drivers. This bill will help reduce the cost and increase the safety of utilities throughout America, and particularly in rural America.

In the past few years, natural disasters have devastated virtually all parts of our country. And, while efforts to rebuild and restore basic utility services to the victims have been gallant, these very efforts have been severely hampered by ridiculous, costly and burdensome regulations that hinder utility service drivers from performing emergency repairs and maintenance on utility lines in rural areas thereby affecting vital services.

Last fall, the National Highway System Designation Act included relief from Federal motor carrier regulations that were designed mainly for long-haul, cross-country drivers. While these laws did provide relief for certain agricultural drivers, water well drillers, snowplow operators, and medium-sized commercial motor vehicles from burdensome hours of service regulations, they, unfortunately, did not provide the same kind of relief for drivers of vehicles for utility companies—for example, electric, water, telephone, sewer, natural gas, etc.).

Under current Department of Transportation rules and regulations, utility vehicle drivers are limited in the number of hours that they can drive and be on duty. The practical effect of these regulations is to limit the size of the area that utility drivers can effectively service. This limitation not only increases the utility costs that consumers must pay; but it also creates health and safety risks for the public, because utility service may be interrupted due to the inability of utility drivers to reach the problem area and make the appropriate repairs within their hours of service.

The onerous effect of these regulations is particularly acute in those parts of rural America in which the service area of utility companies generally covers vast distances. Drivers often spend more time driving to the problem area than actually making repairs. The bureaucrats, however, do not distinguish driving time from repair time, choosing, instead, to count both in the overall calculation of allowable hours of service.

This bill will help ensure the public's safe access to utility service and save between \$300 and \$400 million in compliance costs that would otherwise be passed on to consumers. I urge passage of this important bill.

THE BIOMATERIALS ACCESS ASSURANCE ACT OF 1996

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 1996

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Biomaterials Access Assurance Act