

able to speak for themselves and will be responsible for their own actions.

Many of us in this Congress have concerns about local law enforcement and protection of fundamental human rights in the Northern Marianas and there is no intention to lessen the commitment in these areas. At the same time, we can also see that the society and economy of the islands have flourished as part of the United States. We should have a Delegate, elected by the people of the Northern Marianas, here in Congress, to whom other Members can go to answer our concerns. We should have a Delegate here who can legitimately advise Congress of what Federal actions are appropriate and necessary in the Northern Marianas.

In introducing this bill today, I want to remind Members of the special circumstances under which the Northern Marianas became a part of the United States after World War II. The Marianas were one of four Micronesian archipelagoes in the United Nations Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands administered by the United States. The other three areas voted in self-determination referenda to become separate sovereigns in free association, with separate nationality and citizenship. However, unlike the other areas, the people of the Northern Marianas chose to be part of the American political family. In 1975, they did so by an overwhelming vote of 79 percent approving a Covenant of political union negotiated by their representatives and representatives of Presidents Nixon and Ford. In 1976, Congress approved that Covenant with Public Law 94-241.

Despite this birth by democratic self-determination and having gained U.S. citizenship on November 3, 1986, the people of the Northern Marianas have never had representation here in the House of Representatives. In 1985, a Commission appointed by President Reagan and including Congressman Robert J. Lagomarsino, long an expert on insular affairs in this House, recommended a Northern Mariana Delegate. His predecessor on the Commission, former Congressman Phillip Burton, was another advocate of the U.S.-Marianas relationship, and supported eventual representation for the islands.

The Northern Marianas Legislature has three times in the last 6 years petitioned Congress for a Delegate. The speaker of the NMI Legislature, Diego T. Benavente, recently appeared before a congressional hearing I conducted which addressed this issue, and affirmed that the NMI is prepared to enact the necessary implementing legislation for the election of a Delegate. The elected official who represents the islands here, Resident Representative Juan N. Babauta, has untiringly sought the voice in Congress his people want.

Today, I am responding to the Commission's recommendation, the clear desire of the people of the Northern Marianas, and to my own sense of what is right. I hope that the House of Representatives and the Senate will act on this legislation in this session, so that the new Americans of the Northern Mariana Islands can cast their votes for the election of a Delegate to Congress on their 10th anniversary of U.S. citizenship. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor the Northern Mariana Islands Delegate Act. Following is the text of the legislation.

H.R. —

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the "Northern Mariana Islands Delegate Act".

**SEC. 2. DELEGATE TO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.**

The Joint Resolution entitled "Joint Resolution to approve the 'Covenant To Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America', and for other purposes" approved March 24, 1976 (48 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.), is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

**"SEC. 6. DELEGATE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**

**"(a) IN GENERAL.**—The Northern Mariana Islands shall be represented in the United States Congress by a nonvoting Delegate to the House of Representatives. The Resident Representative of the Northern Mariana Islands, as authorized by section 901 of the foregoing Covenant and upon election pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, after the date of the enactment of this section, shall be the Delegate.

**"(b) COMPENSATION, PRIVILEGES, AND IMMUNITIES.**—Until the Rules of the House of Representatives are amended to provide otherwise, the Delegate from the Northern Mariana Islands shall receive the same compensation, allowances, and benefits as a Member of the House of Representatives and shall be entitled to whatever privileges and immunities are, or hereafter may be, granted to the Delegate from Guam to the House of Representatives.

**"(c) ELECTION OF DELEGATE.**—The Delegate from the Northern Mariana Islands shall be elected, but not appointed, as authorized by section 901 of the foregoing Covenant and the Constitution and laws of the Northern Mariana Islands so long as such authorization complies with the Federal election criteria for, and provides for elections in sequence with, the election of other Delegates to the House of Representatives.

**"(d) VACANCY.**—In case of a permanent vacancy in the office of Delegate, by reason of death, resignation, or permanent disability, the office of Delegate shall remain vacant until a successor is elected and qualified.

**"(e) LACK OF EFFECT ON COVENANT.**—This section shall not be construed to alter, amend, or abrogate any provision, other than section 901, of the foregoing Covenant."

**RECOGNIZING MEMBERS OF THE NEWS MEDIA**

**HON. JAY KIM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 23, 1996*

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments and achievements of several members of the news media in my district. I have the distinct advantage of representing a district of California that is served by reporters who not only respect a difference of opinion, but who feel an obligation to make their readers aware of both sides of an issue.

Recently, several of these journalists, and the newspaper for which they write, were recognized for their uncompromised integrity and journalistic ability, something that far too frequently goes unrecognized in today's tabloid,

sensational news environment. Gannett newspapers has chosen to recognize the best of its organization and I would like to second their selection of Mr. Arnold Garson and the San Bernardino County Sun as being the Best of Gannett in 1995.

The Sun took a gold medal for outstanding achievement and news performance, while Mr. Garson was honored as one of the Editors of the Year. In addition, reporters Michael Diamond, M.S. Enkoji, Cassie MacDuff, Mark Muckenfuss, John Whitehair, and Mark Zaleski were all recognized for excellence in news reporting. As a public figure, and I'm sure many of my colleagues in Congress would agree, I do not readily give praise to members of the press, but having read the Sun for these many years, I can say that the Sun has maintained the type of professionalism and commitment to accurate news reporting that make it deserving of these awards.

**DEPARTURE OF LINCOLN UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT WENDELL RAYBURN**

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 23, 1996*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute Wendell Rayburn, president of Lincoln University, who will be leaving after 8½ years of service. A leader in education in our State, President Rayburn has also been active in the community of Jefferson City. His most important achievement has been his commitment to greater stress on scholarship and academics. President Rayburn successfully led Lincoln University from its budget deficit and put it on a solid fiscal basis.

Further, his leadership led to new construction and higher level of maintenance. Dormitories were renovated and a new library was completed. Also he introduced new technology into the classroom. Wendell Rayburn's leadership and commitment to excellence will be missed.

**WASHINGTON WONDERLAND**

**HON. ANDREW JACOBS, JR.**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 23, 1996*

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, the eloquence and penetrating logic of the Taxpayers Unions' Sid Taylor graces the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD once again.

MONEY, SYSTEMS AND YOUR HEALTH

(By Sid Taylor)

About 2,000 years ago, Jesus Christ chased the money changers out of the Temple. Today, they're back.

This time, and in our Space Age temple of finance and fiscal systems, the money changers have computers, satellite communications networks and instant money transfer. With a national debt now around \$5.5 trillion—I have the feeling that our American temple of democracy is about to experience Fiscal Shock.

Our American capitalistic system is now running on "funny money". A government can do this for so long and then the law of

"supply and demand" begins to move in. When you print about 5 trillion paper dollars, the excess supply of these bills begins to degrade the value of this kind of unfunded currency.

The future problem of American citizens today is not that the stock market might collapse. It probably won't. There's too much "funny money" now in circulation that's holding it up. The real problem is not an unexpected decline in the value of American stocks, but rather a decline in the value of the American "dollar" itself. The dollar is the Common Stock in USA Incorporated a national business that now has about 255 million citizen/taxpayer shareholders. I'm one of them.

As a student of history, I feel that the shekel of ancient days and our Space Age American dollar may have much in common. With federal budget deficits in the \$164 billion a year range, and interest alone on the national debt now heading for around \$344 billion a year, this is what I mean by Fiscal Shock. We're being strangled by red tape and drowning in red ink.

Shakespeare wrote "All the world's a stage, and all the men and women are merely players." Right? No, wrong. He lived in the Elizabethan era, not today's high-tech Space Age. All the world's a system, and all the men and women are merely subsystems, activators, linkages or controls.

The current battle in Congress over reform of our \$1 trillion dollar national health care "system" illustrates the point.

This system is so big and complicated I feel that if we taxpayers, the White House and Congress aren't careful we may unwittingly legislate ourselves a medical "Tower of Babel". The keyword is complexity. In computer software, for example, W. Wayt Gibbs, staff writer for the Scientific American has pointed out: "When a system becomes so complex that no one manager can comprehend the entirety, traditional development processes break down." He also adds "The challenge of complexity is not only large but also growing."

Can you imagine the complexity problem that we American taxpayers are about to face in reforming our trillion dollar national health care system? We're going to need wits and wisdom. This is why I keep preaching that what this country needs is not a good 5-cent cigar, but rather a large dose of System Simplification (SYSIM) in the planning, design and operation of many of our billion (or trillion) dollar federal programs or networks.

Your life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness will be affected by the final design of the national health care SYSTEM. At the least, it's going to affect your health and your taxes. And on the subject of abortion, it's even going to involve a religious issue. This is what I mean by complexity. The Devil hides in red tape, red lights and red ink. Or to put it another way, delays, defects and deficits can create "hell" in any big system or network.

The message? Simplify, simp, sim, s.

P.S. COLA-Indexation of federal pay scales, pension rates, Social Security and other government entitlements is, in my opinion, a form of fiscal cancer that eventually consumes the entire economic body. It started around 1972. It's now time to UNCOLA our federal fiscal system.

## NO TO BILINGUAL BALLOTS

HON. TOBY ROTH

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 23, 1996*

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, today this body scored an important victory in the battle to keep America one Nation, one people. This afternoon, the House Judiciary Committee passed legislation that repeals the Federal mandate for bilingual voting ballots.

In the spirit of so-called "multiculturalism", the Federal Government has mandated since 1965 that voting ballots and materials be printed in dozens of languages other than English.

Today, some 375 voting districts across the country are required to print ballots in foreign languages. In a classic example of an unfunded Federal mandate, politicians in Washington force States and localities to provide multilingual ballots without providing any money to pay for them.

The legislation that created this mandate is the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Under this law, counties must provide multilingual voting information and ballots in the language of any minority group with more than 10,000 eligible voters in the county.

In theory, these services should not be needed at all. Voting rights are extended to citizens of this country, and one needs to demonstrate some fluency in English to become a U.S. citizen. In practice, this requirement for citizenship is often unenforced, but that doesn't change the facts: by law, English is a requirement for citizenship in this country. We should not be providing Government services in direct contradiction with the spirit, if not the letter, of this requirement.

Moreover, these services are expensive and unnecessary. It might surprise supporters of multilingual ballots to know that very few people actually request such special treatment. By and large, multilingual ballots are rarely requested and even less often used, even when they are provided. That is what makes their costs to the local taxpayers all the more shocking.

Election officials in Alameda County, CA told me recently that they spent almost \$100,000 to produce ballots in Spanish and Chinese for the entire county, yet only 900 were ultimately requested. We can all do the math: The taxpayers of Alameda county spent over \$100 for every multilingual ballot that was actually used in their June 1994 election.

This appears to be a trend. The last election in Los Angeles saw ballots printed in 6 languages other than English, among them Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, Tagalog, and Korean. It cost the city government over \$125,000 to prepare the materials, and yet only 927 ballots were used. Los Angeles spent over \$135 for each voter the city helped.

Even small communities are not immune. Long Beach spent a relatively modest \$6,200 preparing multilingual materials for its eligible voters. When only 22 requests came in, the township had spent over \$280 per multilingual voter. As a frustrated election official told me recently, "this is a lot of money to help a few people." That official could not be more right.

These ballots have other, more serious costs associated with them. Providing these special services creates the fiction that newcomers to this country can enjoy the full bene-

fits of citizenship without learning the language of the land—English. We know this is not true. How can a citizen cast an informed ballot in a foreign language when most candidate platforms, stump speeches, and media coverage are in English? Exercising one's rights of citizenship involves more than just casting a vote; it means making a thoughtful decision regarding an issue or a candidate. Multilingual voting ballots give individuals the right to vote without granting the power to cast an informed vote.

The logical extent of the argument behind multilingual ballots is to provide these services in all of the languages spoken in this country. After all, why should we privilege one linguistic minority over another? And shouldn't we provide news reports and election coverage in all these languages, so that these citizens have access to all of the information they need to vote?

The simple and obvious answer is that we can't, my friends. There are 327 languages spoken in the United States today, and we can't provide these services in all of these languages. What's more, we should not. It should not be the Government's responsibility to perform these tasks. Government is too big, and it costs too much. Government should not provide services that individuals or private groups can perform just as well.

It's time that citizens look more to themselves and to their communities and less to Government for the answers to these problems. Spouses, families, friends, and community groups should bridge the gap if voting materials need to be translated. It can be done informally, as when a grandson translates an election flyer for a grandmother who speaks little English. Or it can be done more formally, through privately-funded groups that perform these services for an entire ethnic community. But the lesson to be drawn is that Government is not always the answer. In this case, Government is the problem.

Mr. Speaker, multilingual ballots and voting materials are unnecessary and inexpensive. Moreover, they fall outside the realm of Government's traditional responsibilities. Multilingual ballots are another vestige of the 1960's obsession with the Great Society and the caretaker state. This vision of Government is bankrupt, and we must dismantle the legislative relics of that era. I commend Chairman HYDE and the Judiciary Committee for their wisdom in the taking the first important step in that direction. I urge my colleagues to support this bill when it comes to the House floor.

## A TRIBUTE TO DR. C. KUMAR N. PATEL

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 23, 1996*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the fine work and outstanding achievements of Dr. C. Kumar N. Patel, the vice chancellor of research and a professor of physics, chemistry, and electrical engineering at UCLA. Dr. Patel has been awarded the 1996 National Medal of Science, America's highest scientific honor, by President Clinton.

The National Medal of Science recognizes Dr. Patel's leadership and innovative contributions to science for the betterment of society.