POSTHUMOUS TRIBUTE TO MR. STEVEN J. CRANMAN

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 1998

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to one of Miami-Dade's indefatigable leaders, Mr. Steven J. Cranman. His untimely demise last Wednesday, June 3, 1998 leaves a deep void in our community.

Mr. Cranman was attending the Annual Conference of the American Economic Development Council in Nashville, Tennessee when he was felled by a massive stroke. He was barely 42 years old.

A rare South Florida native, Steven was born in Miami Beach. He virtually consecrated his life to public service, and represented the best and the noblest of our community's leadership. He was one selfless hero who dedicated everything he got to the residents of South Dade, who were rendered homeless and almost hopeless by the 1992 devastation of Hurricane Andrew, the deadliest disaster ever to wreck havoc on any community in the United States. Known as a man of limitless passion for the well-being of his fellowmen, he was the leader par excellence who went out of his way to create a convergence of community leaders and common folks alike to focus in on the socio-economic recovery of countless families through the infusion of employment opportunities.

The Perrine-Cutler Ridge community deeply feels the loss of a truly decent and caring man who made it his personal business to reach out to the needs of his neighbors. His relentless efforts in helping South Dade rise from Hurricane Andrew's ashes through economic development and job creation garnered him a prestigious award from the International Association of Personnel in Employment Security. He was also recognized as the 1997 Florida Economic Development Council's District 9 Professional of the Year for his dogged determination in recruiting companies, which subsequently led to the creation of new employment opportunities for the people of South Dade.

The numerous accolades with which various organizations and agencies have honored him through the years symbolize the unequivocal testimony of the utmost respect and admiration he enjoyed from a grateful community. He truly epitomized the resilience and compassion of a community leader whose life served as an example of how much difference each of us can make in behalf of our community's well-being.

This is the legacy Steven Cranman bequeathed to us. I am greatly privileged indeed to have known him as my good friend.

IN HONOR OF MARSHALL W. ''MAJOR'' TAYLOR

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 1998

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Marshall W. ''Major'' Taylor, a championed cyclist during the late 1800s and early 1900s, for his unyielding perseverance and strength in the face of discrimination.

In recognition of his excellence in the sport of racing and his personal struggle for justice and equality, the Seven Hills Wheelman bicycle club of Worcester renamed its annual 100-mile ride the Major Taylor Century. I stand before you today to pay tribute to an outstanding athlete and admirable citizen.

In spite of widespread racism, the ''Worcester Whirlwind,'' as he was nicknamed by his fans, valiantly pursued his passion for cycling. Taylor endured threats and physical assaults, yet rose to excellence in defiance of Jim Crow segregation laws that permeated the country as well as the sport of cycling.

In 1900, Taylor won the American sprint championship race, ultimately proving that hard work and perseverance can have glorious rewards.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to take a moment to join me in honoring Major Taylor for his athletic ability and his sportsmanship in the face of intolerance.

IN HONOR OF ARTHUR BROWN

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 1998

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Arthur B. Brown who celebrates his 90th birthday this week.

Mr. Brown was born on the Upper East Side of Manhattan in 1908 to Hungarian immigrants. After the death of his father when he was only 17 years old, Mr. Brown was forced to quit high school and work to support his family. At 20, he became the youngest person to become a licensed plumber in the city of New York.

Mr. Brown's successful business and his genuine understanding of the plumbing profession lead to his invention of the Holby Tempering Valve, an instrument which is now used around the world.

The success of Mr. Brown's business has enabled him to acquire considerable real estate on the Upper East Side, as well as an off-Broadway theater called Theater East which he has owned since 1954.

Beyond his professional life, his commitment to his community is remarkable. Mr. Brown is one of the longest members of Community Board #8 in Manhattan, a board he has been a part of since 1967; he is also a member of the East Manhattan Chamber of Commerce; the 19th Precinct Community Council; the 17th Precinct Community Council; the Central Park Community Council.

Mr. Brown has long been an advocate for the elderly in New York City, most notably as vice president of the New York Foundation of Senior Citizens. In light of these impressive credentials, it is only fitting that the senior citizen housing located at 225 East 93rd Street was named the Arthur and William Brown Gardens after himself and his brother.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to Mr. Arthur Brown. He has faithfully served his family and his community for decades and his work for Manhattan is without question worth recognizing. I am proud to have Arthur Brown as a constituent.

STATEMENT ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DENTAL RESEARCH

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 1998

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the National Institute of Dental Research. The National Institute of Dental Research (NIDR) was established on June 24, 1948 by the National Dental Research Act. I am pleased to have this opportunity to recognize all NIDR researchers and scientists for 50 years of hard work and dedication.

The NIDR has had a leadership role in improving and promoting dental health. As a former dentist myself, I know first-hand how important this research is for every American. The NIDR supports biomedical and behavioral research in its own laboratories and in public, private, and academic research centers across the nation. It also promotes oral health worldwide through its sponsorship of international meetings and information changes.

The NIDR has dedicated 50 years to researching tooth loss and other related diseases and disorders, including AIDS, osteoporosis, oral cancer, arthritis, and diabetes. Through its research on preventive and diagnostic strategies, the NIDR has contributed to a dramatic improvement in the oral health of the American people. This research saves Americans over four billion dollars in dental expenses every year!

Mr. Speaker, the National Institute of Dental Research has been instrumental in the nationwide decline of oral and dental disease. I wholeheartedly support the NIDR and appreciate its many contributions to dental health over the past 50 years.

IN HONOR OF GRAND CHANCELLOR SIR WILLIAM D. RUBIN

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 1998

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today as we commend our dear friend and leader, one of the pillars of our community, Grand Chancellor William Rubin.

Born and raised in Brooklyn, Grand Chancellor Rubin was educated in the New York Public School System, graduating from New Utrecht High School, and completing Hunter College. Upon his graduation he began what would become an eighteen year career at a prestigious major building and real estate organization, moving up to the position of supervisor construction.

Sir William, a self-motivated individual, was also employed for many years as President of Sabil Management and Bilken Construction Corporation, companies specializing in many different areas, such as real estate investment and general contracting. His expertise in these fields led him to become President of various corporations, including Seabreeze Associations. In 1958, Bill married Zelda Schwartz, also a loyal Pythian, and they now have three beautiful children, all of whom have completed

prestigious universities and are flourishing professionals.

Through the years, Mr. Rubin has also been an active participant in community affairs. He has served in many leadership positions for various organizations such as the United Democratic Organization, the NYS Senate Staff, and the Hadassah and Deborah Hospitals. He has also been an extremely active member of the Genesis Lodge. These time and effort consuming activities were all in addition to his involvement in the Pythian Organization as Grand Chancellor and member of the Grand Lodge Committees.

Grand Chancellor Rubin's determined and altruistic personality makes him a natural leader in community affairs. His various involvements have not gone unnoticed; he has been rewarded with various distinguished awards and honors, including the Man of the Year Award, the Distinguished Service Award, Humanitarian Award, Life Membership Memorial Award, and the most coveted of all honors. The Degree of the Golden Spur.

We are proud and honored to welcome home the Grand Chancellor of the Pythian Knights, William Rubin. His leadership abilities and qualities, as well as his concern for the community make him a true role model and friend.

DEMOCRACY TRANSITION PACKAGE

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 1998

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the third bill in my Democracy Transition Package, a resolution that would return the District's limited right to vote on the House floor in the Committee of the Whole to the rules package for the 106th Congress. I ask Congress to return the delegate vote that I won in the 103rd Congress out of respect for the more than half million taxpaying residents whom I represent. This vote was withdrawn from all five delegates in the 104th Congress, but, as I will indicate, I do not believe the withdrawal was an act focused on the District and its unique circumstances as the home of the only taxpaying residents without full congressional representation. The repeal was wrapped in a package of rules, and the District was never considered individually. On behalf of my constituents, to whom the vote is deeply meaningful, I ask my colleagues to support this important measure.

Without disparaging the rights of the other delegates to seek the return of their votes, I base my request on the unique responsibilities and equities particular to the District of Columbia. I supported the rationale of the decision that gave all the delegates the vote in the Committee of the Whole, namely that, historically, delegates have been accorded the same treatment. At the same time, there are important differences between the District and the territories, most notably, that the District is subject to federal income taxes.

The unique circumstances and equities that argue for a vote for the District can be embodied in four principles.

Principle No. 1—I represent the only Americans who pay federal income taxes but have no vote on the House floor; my constituents pay $1.7 billion annually in federal income taxes, making them third per capita among the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The District is the only territory under the jurisdiction of the United States whose citizens are subject to every obligation of citizenship, notably federal taxation, but remain barred from sending a voting representative to the House and Senate. Unlike the delegate from the District, the delegates from American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands do not represent citizens who pay federal income taxes. Yet, fortunately, they enjoy full self-government and the District does not, and they are afforded the same representation in Congress as the District.

Principle No. 2—I represent the only Americans whose budget governing the expenditure of their own locally raised tax dollars must be enacted by the Congress. The passage of the President's Revitalization package ensures that nearly all of the District's local budget will now be D.C. taxpayer-raised revenues. As the first measure in my Democracy Transition package and with the support of the President, I introduced a bill that would eliminate the D.C. Appropriations subcommittees in the Congress to reflect this important change.

Principle No. 3—I represent the only Americans who do not enjoy full democratic self-government. The four territories, like the states and localities, are self governing under accepted principles of democracy without interference from the Congress. Under the Home Rule Act of 1973, the Congress reserves and exercises the right to revoke and change the laws and budget of the District consisting of locally raised revenues. As the second measure in my Democracy Transition package, I introduced a bill that would allow the District to enact its own laws free of Congressional approval.

Principle No. 4—I represent more than a half million residents, a population more than some Congressional districts.

The District Court of the District of Columbia and the Court of Appeals for this circuit have ruled that there is no constitutional impediment to extending voting rights to delegates in the House to the Committee of the Whole. Article I, Section 5, Clause 2 which states that, ''Each House may determine the Rules of its Proceedings'' is the constitutional basis for this ruling. Had the case gone against the House, an extraordinary precedent for intrusion by the courts into the Rules and proceedings of this body that no one in the House desires would have resulted.

The House granted a limited right to delegates to vote in the Committee of the Whole on the basis of a legal memorandum that I prepared that was factually grounded in the District's taxpaying status. The other territories were granted the vote at the same time to avoid differential treatment, although, of course, taxpaying status legitimately sets the District apart from the residents of the territories, who do not pay federal income taxes to the federal treasury. Subsequently, the courts approved delegate voting as granted by the Rules of the House, removing any legal or constitutional question.

My vote in the Committee of the Whole still left taxpaying District citizens without a vote in the formal House and without any vote in the Senate. To avoid any constitutional question, a re-vote requirement provided that a delegate's vote would never decide an issue before the Committee of the Whole if the delegate's vote provided the deciding margin.

the work of the Committee of the Whole is no more final than that of standing committees, such as Transportation and Infrastructure and Judiciary, where Delegates have long had the vote. Therefore, nothing done in the Committee of the Whole is final until the full House acts. My constituents do no assert that they yet meet the constitutional requirements for full voting membership in the House, inasmuch as the District is not a state. What my constituents do meet each and every day is each and every obligation of citizenship, including paying every federal tax paid by other American citizens, serving in the armed forces, and being subject to all obligations required by the nation's laws. District residents have fought and died in every war since the American Revolution and sent more citizens to fight the nation's most recent war, Operation Desert Storm, than did 47 states.

Most Americans today would almost surely agree that citizens who are third per capita in federal income taxes should have the right to vote in the Committee of the Whole if that is constitutionally permissible. Denying me my vote in the Committee of the Whole punishes hard working taxpaying Americans. The House gains by adherence to its often expressed democratic principles while losing nothing if my vote is returned. It would mean a great deal to the people I represent at this critical time in the life of the nation's capital. Disempowering me cannot help in my work to help dispel the District's current problems.

A vote in the Committee of the Whole would give District residents a vote on most matters—several steps up from being a representative confined to debating while other Members vote on her local laws and her local taxpayer raised budget and revenues. In a body that justifiably gives great deference to taxpaying Americans, allowing a vote to a jurisdiction that ranks higher in federal income taxes than almost all others is a matter of simple justice.

The unique taxpaying status of my constituents, the unique privilege this body assumes of appropriating locally raised taxpayer revenue, the unique requirement to bring each and every action taken to the local city council to a body in which residents have no voting representation, and the significant population of the District makes the District's case unique. The vote in the Committee of the Whole should be granted to the District, considering the principle that produced the nation itself: no taxation without representation. Under these circumstances, the House should do all that is constitutionally permissible. I ask my colleagues to restore my limited voting rights in the House and afford the respect that the residents of the nation's capital are due.