CONGRATULATIONS TO MACIE HANRAHAN

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 1998

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and commend a young lady from my district who has brought pride and honor to her family, friends and school. Macie Hanrahan, a student at Raney Intermediate School in Corona, California, won first place in the junior division individual performance category at National History Day.

National History Day is an annual competition in which students research and learn about events in history. Competitions are held at the district, state and national levels and are judged by historians and educators. Students present their historical findings in papers, exhibits, performances and media presentations. The theme of this year's event was ''Migrations in History: People, Ideas, Cultures.''

As an American of Irish descent, Macie chose Irish Migration of the 1840's as her topic, with a performance entitled ''Deori! Forced From Erin's Soil.'' In her performance, she used the voices of three girls from Ireland, England and America to show differing perspectives of the Irish potato famine, the forced migration that followed, and the experiences that people of different cultures went through during this time in history. To win this event, Macie conducted exhaustive research, including using the National Archives, the Library of Congress, U.S. and Irish Census Records, and original diaries, letters and newspapers of the time.

On behalf of the residents of the 43rd congressional district of California, I congratulate Macie for her hard work and a job well done and wish her continued success in all of her future endeavors.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL D. CRAPO

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 22, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4060) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes:

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. Chairman, I rise to express my strong opposition to the Foley-Miller-Markey-Kucinich-Sanders amendment to eliminate funding for the Depart of Energy's (DOE) Nuclear Energy Research Initiative (NERI).

As you know, NERI is the only new nuclear research and development program funded in the FY 1999 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill. This new program, which is supported by the President's Committee of Advisors on Science and Technology, will support long-term research in advanced nuclear technologies, such as proliferation-resistant reactor and fuel technologies and high efficiency reactor concepts. This competitive, peer-reviewed grants program will support the best ideas from the United States nuclear industry, universities, and national laboratories. In addition, NERI will help maintain the United States' leadership and expertise in advanced energy technologies.

NERI enjoys strong support from the nuclear industry, universities, and DOE national laboratories. My home state of Idaho is privileged to have some of the most talented nuclear scientists and researchers in the world at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory and at Argonne National Laboratory-West. NERI will permit these world-class scientists and engineers the opportunity to advance nuclear science and engineering well into the next century. If the United States expects to be considered a world leader in nuclear science and technology, it must fund programs like NERI that advance our knowledge in nuclear science and technology.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote against the amendment.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE JOHN W.H. BASSETT

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 1998

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute today to the late John Bassett, a great Canadian and a great friend of the United States.

John Bassett was one of those unique individuals who not only witnessed the great events of our century but who truly helped shape them.

He served with gallantry in World War II, was a broadcast media pioneer, supported the creation of Israel, ushered in the modern sports era, and was a friend to Presidents and Prime Ministers, columnists and news anchors, quarterbacks and hockey centers.

When John died last month, Canada lost an honored citizen and the United States a distinguished ally. And the Kennedy family lost a great friend.

When I was a young boy, Toronto Maple Leaf pucks were always rolling around our house at Hickory Hill and then in the Oval Office when we visited my uncle Jack there. John Bassett made every Kennedy a fan of his Maple Leafs—and under his ownership in those years, the Toronto team won three consecutive Stanley Cups in the National Hockey League.

He built the Canadian Football League as well by signing a young Joe Theisman out of Notre Dame to quarterback his Toronto Argonauts Football Team. His sports empire grew to include the Birmingham Bulls of the World Hockey League and the Tampa Bay Bandits of the United States Football League, which fielded gridiron greats Steve Spurrier, Larry Csonka, Jim Kiick, and Paul Warfield.

But John Bassett didn't just have an eye for sports talent—he had a genius for marketing it. He bought newspapers and television stations, and used them to turn athletes into celebrities.

His string of newspapers included the Sherbrooke Daily Record, a small paper being published in the Eastern Provinces of Quebec; and the Toronto Telegram, one of Canada's leading dailies up until its demise in 1971. He made sure the Telegram lived on by turning over its newspaper boxes and news library to the Toronto Sun, getting that paper on the newsstands just two days after the Telegram ceased publishing.

In 1960, at the dawn of the modern media age, John founded the television station CFTO–TV in Toronto under the umbrella of Baton Broadcasting. Under his direction, and now that of his son and my good friend Doug Bassett, Baton has become the largest private television broadcasting company in Canada—the owners of 20 TV stations, three national cable channels, and Canada's only private national television network, CTV.

As you might expect, John Bassett the media mogul and sports czar always felt right at home with anyone. I remember my mother describing John sitting at ease aboard Lord Beaverbrook's yacht—five crew member serving each guest, the sleek hull so long it made Rupert Murdoch's boat look like a bathtub.

But she also recalls his great laugh and good spirit sailing in a one-master off the coast of Maine with Robert and Ethel or John and his young bridge Jackie—with nothing more than a picnic lunch and a cooler swung over the gunwales.

Like all great men, John had a great heart, and gave generously of his time to great causes. He was personal friends with the founders of modern Israel—David Ben Gurion, Golda Meir, Moshe Dayan and Menachem Begin. He worked tirelessly to support the young state, and became the first non-Jew honored by the Jewish National Fund of Canada for his selfless work.

And after my father's death, John and his family showed great kindness to my family by establishing the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial in Canada, which continues to thrive under the generous leadership of the Bassett family.

While lucky in sports, John wasn't so lucky in politics, twice running for Parliament without success. But typical of John Bassett, he found other ways to serve. In 1989, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney appointed him Chairman of the Security Intelligence Review Committee, the watchdog group for the national security service. he also served as a Privy Councillor of Canada.

In recognition of his career in business, media, sports, and civil and political affairs, John Bassett has received both his country's highest honor, the Companion of the Order of Canada, and the highest honor of his home province, the Order of Ontario.

John Bassett will be missed by many, but especially by his family. My heart goes out to Isabel and Doug and all the Bassett children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren—indeed to every member of the extended Bassett family who felt the great sweep of his extraordinary life.

John Bassett's life was epic in scope but intensely human in the kindness he showed to everyone along the way. Canada has lost a great citizen, and we've all lost a great friend.