

which I am proud to be a co-sponsor of, would remove some of the barriers concerning the placement of AED's in public places by extending the Good Samaritan protection to AED users. Their lobbying efforts included developing a slogan and logo, researching H.R. 2495 in order to write a research paper, personally lobbying all 435 House of Representative members and staff, staging a rally on the steps of the United States Capitol, holding a press conference, and designating and operating an internet home page.

As all members of Congress surely know by now, once Robinson DECA rallies in support of a cause, they will not rest until the job is done. This was evident with their successful work towards the signing of the Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund Act and in their efforts to promote organ and tissue donation among our young people in America. Their current campaign for H.R. 2495 is traveling down that same road to success. Their dedicated, hard work has led to a substantial increase in co-sponsors and wide-spread support for the bill in the House of Representatives. Furthermore, their public educational campaign has enlightened the public about AED's and implementing them to save someone in cardiac arrest.

Mr. Speaker, everyday 1,000 Americans suffer from sudden cardiac arrest, usually outside of a hospital setting. Unfortunately, more than 95 percent of the victims die because life-saving equipment is not readily available or arrives too late. Therefore, the work of Robinson's DECA chapter is vitally needed, and I applauded their enthusiasm and dedication in helping others understand the great need for AED's.

IN HONOR OF THE HOBOKEN LITTLE LEAGUE ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 13, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the Hoboken Little League for the 50 years it has provided young people with access to one of America's greatest athletic traditions. Baseball teaches responsibility, teamwork, sportsmanship, and nurtures self-esteem.

Fifty years ago, on April 15, 1950, the Little League began its commitment to the young people of Hoboken with four teams. This commitment has grown to 12 teams, with 144 boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 12 currently participating in what has become one of the finest youth organizations in the country.

Of historical importance: In 1972, Maria Pepe, the first female to play Little League Baseball, joined the Hoboken Little League. Maria became the force behind the Supreme Court's 1974 ruling that gave women the right to participate in any and all sports.

This great youth organization would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work of those who understand the positive impact sports have on the lives of our young people. I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the growth and continuation of the Hoboken Little League, espe-

cially the following dedicated individuals: Tim Calligy, James Farina, Charles Casalinos, Anthony Cardino, Dominick Miele, and Mike Turner.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Hoboken Little League on its 50th anniversary.

COMPUTER DEPRECIATION REFORM ACT

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 13, 2000

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, today, I join my colleagues, TOM DAVIS of Virginia, BILLY TAUZIN of Louisiana and JENNIFER DUNN of Washington, in introducing the Computer Depreciation Reform Act of 2000 to allow businesses to expense their computer equipment. Currently, businesses must depreciate their computer equipment over a 5-year period. I believe that this 5-year depreciation lifetime for tax purposes is clearly outdated. Many companies today must update their computers as quickly as every 14 months in order to stay current technologically.

I believe it is time to update an outdated Tax Code to reflect the realities of today's technology-based workplace. A 5-year depreciation schedule for business computers is no longer realistic.

The Computer Depreciation Reform Act allows every company, from the neighborhood real estate office, to the local hospital, to the local bank to fully depreciate, or expense, their computer equipment during the tax year in which the equipment is purchased. As a result, these companies will no longer be forced to keep their equipment "on the books" for tax purposes long after its useful life has become obsolete.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, the leadership, and Chairman ARCHER to update the Tax Code to reflect the realities of today's technological workplace.

IN HONOR OF ROBERT J. GILLIHAN

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 13, 2000

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Robert J. Gillihan, president of Teamsters Joint Council No. 56. Bob Gillihan is a valued member of the Missouri-Kansas community and a leading force in the fight for workers' rights.

Since an early age Bob Gillihan has demonstrated his untiring service to his country, his community, and his union. Joining the Marines in 1949, Bob honorably served our nation in Korea. While in the service, Bob displayed not just the courage of his convictions, but the persistence and determination necessary to lead. His personal and professional aspirations found ample expression in boxing's "sweet science." Between the ropes, Bob distinguished himself and his service, becoming All Service Middleweight Champion.

Following his career in the military, Bob returned to the Kansas City area and started

working in the construction industry. Joining Teamsters Local 541, Bob began work on the Kansas Turnpike. His outstanding work ethic and determined nature earned Bob the respect of another dedicated union man, vice president of the Local, Red Ruark, who guided Bob into the concrete industry, and in 1968 seized upon his leadership and elevated him into the Local 541 office. Based on Red's endorsement and his own outstanding work, President Curly Rogers hired Bob as a Business Agent.

In his new role in the Union Leadership, Bob became intimately involved in negotiations to improve the working conditions for his fellow men and women of the Local. Bob's tireless efforts on behalf of his colleagues led to significant improvements in wages, health, welfare, and pension benefits, and annual vacation time. In the course of his duties, Bob has improved the quality of life, refined the meaning of living, and cultivated a culture of values under which we all live. Bob Gillihan has spent his entire life on the front lines, fighting for the interests of families that need it most, and most deserve it.

In 1980, Bob followed his old friend, Red Ruark, as vice president of Local 541, and was elected president in 1990, a position he holds today. Bob is also president of the Greater Kansas City Building and Construction Trades Council. A year later, Bob was elected secretary-treasurer of Teamsters Joint Council No. 56, a position he held until his appointment and subsequent election as the president of Joint Council 56 in 1999.

In addition to his union duties, Bob has worked throughout his career on issues of importance to the community at large. Bob served for 9 years on the Board of Directors of Park Lane Hospital, currently serves as a Commissioner for the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority, and served as Trustee for the Mo-Kan Teamsters Pension Health and Welfare Trust Fund. A dedicated family man, Bob and his lovely wife, Marlene have raised eight children and are the proud grandparents of many future leaders.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the constituents of the 5th District of Missouri—on behalf of working families across America—I rise today to salute Bob Gillihan. Thank you, Bob, for all you have done, and all you continue to add to our lives.

HONORING THE CROATIAN SONS LODGE NUMBER 170 OF THE CROATIAN FRATERNAL UNION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 13, 2000

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to congratulate the Croatian Sons Lodge Number 170 of the Croatian Fraternal Union on the festive occasion of its 93rd Anniversary and Golden Member banquet on Sunday, April 30, 2000.

This year, the Croatian Fraternal Union will hold their gala event at the Croatian Center in Merrillville, Indiana. Traditionally, the anniversary celebration entails a formal recognition of the Union's Golden Members, those who have achieved fifty years of membership. This year's honorees who have attained fifty years