

TRIBUTE TO JAMIE ROCHELLE

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2001

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a woman of extraordinary ability, Jamie Rochelle, who this month ends an illustrious career at San Antonio's municipally-owned utility, City Public Service (CPS), and concludes her year-long service as chairman of the board for the Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce. She has proven herself not only a capable leader and chief executive, but also an important member of our community. Her efforts have made San Antonio a better place to work and live.

Jamie Rochelle is a true success story. What began as a computer programming job at CPS started her on a 31-year path that led her to become in 1998 the first female general manager and chief executive officer at CPS, now the second largest municipally-owned utility in the United States with more than \$6 billion in assets. What's best, her leadership has helped keep CPS rates among the very lowest in the country. During her time at CPS, she handled a large debt refinancing yielding \$20 million in interest savings, streamlined company management, managed supply crises well, and struck beneficial deals that helped the company save money and improve service. These experiences made her a successful manager and an astute chief executive.

CPS enjoys a diverse array of energy sources, protecting customers from market fluctuations and supply interruptions. Ms. Rochelle saw to it that CPS expanded its generating capacity while working to protect the environment. Last year, she took pride in bringing on-line a new state of the art gas-fired power plant. Under her leadership, the company was quick to respond last year to surging gas prices in an effort to soften the impact on the many vulnerable families it serves. Even in the absence of crisis, CPS a Project WARM fund to provide financial assistance to help needy families pay their utility bills.

CPS also takes pride in the success of its small and disadvantaged business outreach program. This past year CPS received the coveted Dwight D. Eisenhower Award for Excellence from the United States Small Business Administration. Competing against 2,500 utilities nationwide, CPS won this honor for its proven record of reaching out to and including small business in its contracting operation. Similarly, CPS has proven to be a good corporate neighbor. Whether through its Share the Warmth program to provide warm clothes in the winter, or its Weatherization Program to better insulate older, inner city homes in the summer, CPS and its employees reach out with a helping hand.

Jamie Rochelle has helped make CPS a pro-active leader in renewable energy research and development. In April 2000, CPS began to offer wind-generated electricity to its customers. With a financial investment, CPS supports solar energy projects in San Antonio. One project, in cooperation with Solar San Antonio, will assist local government in reducing energy consumption and researching the feasibility of renewable energy sources. One of

its new service centers will become a working showcase in the possibilities of solar energy.

Jamie Rochelle has worked closely with me and my staff on projects important to our community and the Nation. Among other things, she has supported our efforts to transform Brooks AFB into a more efficient entity, known as a city-base, by partnering with the Air Force and academia on innovative energy projects. CPS partners with the Southwest Research Institute, Brooks AFB, St. Philips College and DCH Technology, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on a year-long fuel cell research project at Brooks AFB, to find ways to make fuel cell technology feasible for residential uses. CPS has supported the Brooks Energy and Sustainability Laboratory, an effort coordinated by the Texas Engineering Experimental Station of Texas A&M University to make energy consumption in buildings operate at peak efficiency, cutting waste and conserving valuable resources. Most recently, Ms. Rochelle signed off on a partnership with the Department of Energy to develop at Brooks AFB a building cooling and heating plant as a model for efficient energy generation and use.

Jamie Rochelle is more than just a series of accomplishments, though she has had many and will likely have many more in the future. Quiet, confident and sure, she exemplifies good leadership. Knowing of the challenges facing not only CPS but San Antonio, she has provided a positive and inclusive vision for the company. She reaches out to others and has participated in numerous civic organizations, culminating in her past year as the head of the Greater Chamber. It has been my honor to work with her on behalf of the people of San Antonio.

PERMITTING LEGAL IMMIGRANTS WHO HAVE FILED FOR NATURALIZATION PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, TO KEEP THEIR JOBS AT OUR NATION'S AIRPORTS

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2001

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 3416 to amend PL107-71, the recently passed Aviation Security Act.

PL107-71 prohibits the hiring of non-citizens in airport security programs no matter how well qualified. This prohibition is an egregious, unfair provision.

It forgets that 34,200 legal residents are active in the U.S. Armed Forces and that 12,600 serve in our Reserves and are willing to give their lives in defense of our freedom.

If legal residents can fight for us in war, they should be able to protect us in airports.

If legal residents are otherwise qualified to serve as our airport security officers, they ought not to be denied employment just because they are not citizens.

My bill, H.R. 3416, does not totally fix the basic problem. But it protects employment rights to legal residents who have filed for naturalization prior to September 11, 2001.

If a legal resident is otherwise cleared for employment and qualified for hire, lack of citizenship should not be a bar to hire if the legal resident has filed for naturalization prior to September 11, 2001.

This bill is fair. It opens the doors to continued employment in security jobs operated by the federal government under PL107-71. Under H.R. 3416, intent to become a U.S. citizen clears the way to being hired. Filing for naturalization should be recognized as giving the employee the bona fides needed to qualify.

There are many places where it still takes 18 months to 2 years to become a citizen after filing for naturalization.

These persons should not be prejudiced for the failure to process the papers in a more timely manner.

I urge my colleagues to support this fair and equitable compromise.

IN MEMORY OF TED GREGORY, A CINCINNATI LEGEND

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2001

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Ted Gregory, a friend and constituent who passed away on Sunday, December 2. Ted Gregory was a wonderful person who built a legacy based on his landmark restaurants, his generosity and community service.

Born in Windsor, Ontario, he grew up in Detroit. He moved to Montgomery, Ohio when it was still a rural area, bought the former McCabe's Inn and renamed it Montgomery Inn. Six years later, his wife Matula developed a secret barbecue sauce recipe that made the Inn a legend.

The restaurants, combined with Ted's warm personality and business acumen, made him a legend. Eventually, Ted's operation expanded, with the addition of three other dining venues in Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky. According to Restaurants and Institutions magazine, the industry's leading trade publication, Montgomery Inn is the leading rib restaurant chain in the U.S.—over 15 tons are sold each week. His employees were devoted to him—many were with him twenty years or more.

Although Ted was a good businessman, he was also a lot of fun. Wherever he went, he always brought a smile and his endless good humor with him. When Bob Hope visited Cincinnati to support the Bob Hope House, he and Ted became good friends. Many other former Presidents and celebrities visited Ted's restaurants to enjoy the famed ribs, including Presidents Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan, Vice President Dick Cheney, Tom Selleck, and Don Rickles.

His warmth extended to helping others. He generously supported the Cincinnati FreeStore/FoodBank, St. Rita's School for the Deaf, Sycamore High School, Bob Hope House, and Riding for the Handicapped.

All of us in Cincinnati will miss Ted Gregory's warmth, humor and love for life, and we extend our deepest sympathies to Matula and their children, Dean, Tom, Vickie and Terry.

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE
LATE JOHN T. O'CONNOR

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2001

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember John T. O'Connor, a community activist and environmental advocate who passed away on November 30, 2001. A longtime resident of Cambridge, Massachusetts, John O'Connor fought for many important causes, from ending poverty to protecting our environment.

He graduated from Clark University in 1978, beginning a career of public service and advocacy. After graduation, he joined the "Volunteers in Service to America", an organization focused on eliminating poverty. He went on to found the National Toxics Campaign in 1983 and fought tirelessly for passage of the Superfund law.

Mr. O'Connor never lost his commitment to preserving our environment and demonstrated this in a number of ways over the years. He served as Chairman of Gravestar, Inc—a development company that focused on environmentally sensitive real estate projects. In 1991, he founded Greenworks, a company that provides a wide range of services from office space, financial support and advice to environmental start-up companies.

Mr. O'Connor paid tribute to his Irish roots by serving on the Irish Famine Memorial Committee. The Committee successfully raised the funds to construct a memorial in Cambridge and dedicated it in the presence of Mary Robinson, then President of Ireland.

Many people have stories to tell about Mr. O'Connor's generosity and his spirit. He helped local young people by providing guidance, advice and even money for college tuition. By these actions, he no doubt changed the course of many young lives for the better.

Mr. O'Connor made the world a better place in so many ways. He was generous with his time and his considerable talents, helping to further so many different causes, both large and small. He dedicated a significant amount of time and money to charitable organizations, making a tangible difference in the lives of so many.

I came to know John O'Connor first as a local businessman, then as an opponent in the 1998 congressional race, and later as a friend. He touched many lives in his 46 years, including mine, and I am saddened by his passage. My thoughts and prayers are with John's wife, Carolyn Mugar, his family and his many friends during this difficult time.

HONORING THE IDAHO PEARL
HARBOR SURVIVOR'S ASSOCIATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2001

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a generation of American patriots. They were the men and women at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii that day of infamy, December 7, 1941. The men and women who served and died at Pearl Harbor paid a great price to our nation.

Today as we commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack, I would like to honor the men and women who make up the Idaho Pearl Harbor Survivor's Association. This group of 50 active members helps keep the memory of those who served so bravely alive. To be a member you must be a military survivor of the December 7th attack, have been within a three-mile radius of the Island of Oahu between 7:55 a.m. and 9:45 a.m.

The nation-wide group has approximately 10,000 members and started with just 11 people in 1958. The Magic Valley Chapter started on Feb. 17, 1979 with five members. Over the years, the members have given back to each Idaho community—buying flags, talking with youth groups, and performing countless hours of community service. They have sounded their motto, "Remember Pearl Harbor—Keep America Alert" in all their activities. How poignant this statement is considering the events of September 11, 2001.

Today, I would like to honor this group by naming each survivor who currently lives in Idaho. This list is according to the Idaho Pearl Harbor Association. The members are:

Harold F. Beebe, Pocatello, Kaneohe NAS; Ralph Eaton, Twin Falls, USS Henley; Richard Hansing, Twin Falls, USS Nevada; C.H. Haramé, Pocatello, USS Detroit; William Harten, Idaho Falls, USS West Virginia; Pershing Hill, Idaho Falls, USS Nevada; Leroy J. Kohntopp, Filer, USS Maryland; Gale D. Mohlenbrink, Buhl, USS Northampton; Patrick C. O'Connor, Pocatello, Receiving Station, Pearl Harbor; Robert R. Olsen, Chubbuck, Naval Hospital; Steve F. Phillips, Challis, Ford Island NAS; David R. Roessler, Gooding, 24 SIG.; Tony Sabala, Jerome, 21st INF.; Irvin A. Satterfield, American Falls, USS Argonne; Nicholaus Gaynos, Post Falls, 407th SIG; Miles R. Gillespie, Nampa, 27th INF.; Roy Hayter, Athol, USS Honolulu; Munith F. Higbee, Meridian, USS Phelps; Don A. Irby, Boise, USS Maryland; Wallace R. Jacobs, Lewiston, USS California; Dale E. Magnus, Pinehurst, USS Cummings; James R. Mallory, Boise, USS St. Louis; Ernest R. Mangrum, Boise, USS West Virginia; Eugene N. McDonough, Boise, 24th INF.; Dallas F. Pohlmann, Boise, Pack Train; Glenn R. Rosenberry, Caldwell, HQ 18th Bomb EG.; Carrol V. Rowell, Boise, 2d Marie Air WG; Robert W. Arent, Nampa, USS Maryland; Richard L. Artley, Lewiston, USS Oklahoma; Ray Aznavoorian, Post Falls, USS Ontario; Conway B. Benson, Boise, USS Tennessee; Thomas A. Brown, Boise, USS Phoenix; Frank A. Cannon, Orofino, USS Wasmuth; Robert A. Coates, Nampa, USS Nevada; James R. Critchett, Silverton, Kaneohe, NAS; Frank R. Dallas, Meridian, HQ 18th Bomb WG.

USS Ogalala; Harold M. Sr. Erland, Boise, HQ HAW.; Dan C. Fry, Banks, Kaneohe; Horace E. Dresser, Caldwell, USS San Francisco; Raymond W. Garland, Couer D'Alene; USS Tennessee; John R. Sandell, Kamiah, HQ 5th Bomb GP; James K. Thomas, Boise; Franklin Elliott, Eagle.

HQ Hawaiian AF; Kenneth F. Walters, Lewiston, USS Pennsylvania.

On behalf of all Idahoans and Americans everywhere, "thank you" for your sacrifice and service to your country. You've reminded Americans that we can never become complacent and must keep our defenses strong. We will remember Pearl Harbor and always be on alert.

TRIBUTE TO ROLLIN "RUFFY"
JOHNSON ON THE OCCASION OF
HIS RETIREMENT AS A VFW AS-
SISTANT DEPARTMENT SERVICE
OFFICER

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2001

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to a U.S. military veteran—a special veteran, one who after completing his own tour of duty has spent a career providing assistance to other veterans. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Rollin "Ruffy" Johnson on the occasion of his retirement as a Veterans of Foreign Wars assistant state service officer for the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

It is conventional wisdom that no person in any organization—and that includes you and I, Mr. Speaker—is truly irreplaceable, but Michigan veterans may look long and hard before they come up with an individual who has worked and battled so hard for the rights for our former military men and women as Ruffy Johnson has. I guess that, in Ruffy's case, his work on behalf of veterans blends innate Yooper cussedness with the personal style of a person who has claimed that his nickname "Ruffy" comes from his early days of enjoying a good fight. If you combine those characteristics with the important task of fighting for veterans' benefits, you know you have a mixture that can make people at the Department of Veterans Affairs sit up and listen.

After graduating in 1951 from Negaunee High School in Michigan's U.P., Ruffy enlisted in the U.S. Navy, serving the first two years on the destroyer U.S.S. Beale and two more years at a base in the Mediterranean. His four-year hitch completed, he returned to the U.P. and was one of the first dozen civilians hired at K.I. Sawyer, a Strategic Air Command Base near Marquette, which is now closed. Following his Sawyer job he worked for a number of years for the U.S. Post office, but he took the job that really concerns us here in 1988, when he accepted a position with the Department of Michigan Veterans of Foreign Wars as an assistant state service officer in Detroit.

At least one Detroit colleague remembers Ruffy arriving from the U.P. with his wife Doreen in their pickup truck, and that colleague recalls checking to see if there was a hunting rifle in the rear window. Doreen remembers there was no gun, but she believes the rack was probably there.

Mr. Speaker, I said that Rolling Johnson was a fighter for veterans. An example of his tenacity is what occurred after Ruffy learned that veterans were being pressed for the co-payments of their prescription drugs. He inquired about the appeal process and was told by the VA there was no appeal. Well, Mr. Speaker, the VA had tangled with the wrong guy, and through the tenacity of Ruffy Johnson a national appeal process was established.

Ruffy was transferred from Detroit back to the U.P. in 1992. His initial veterans' service area was the eastern U.P. but by the end of the decade he was assisting across the Upper Peninsula. I know what's involved in that effort, Mr. Speaker, because I have put more