

lunches, Head Start, and research and development programs. Our roads and bridges are falling apart, water lines need repair, and our sewers are ruptured. While the American people are being neglected by our Government, I want to make sure that our Government will not send a dime to countries that are soft on the drug trade.

RISK ASSESSMENT AND COST-BENEFIT ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1022) to provide regulatory reform and to focus national economic resources on the greatest risks to human health, safety, and the environment through scientifically objective and unbiased risk assessments and through the consideration of costs and benefits in major rules, and for other purposes:

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the motion to recommit. During the final minutes of consideration of H.R. 1022, Mr. WALKER amended the bill to apply all of the cost-benefit and other decisionmaking criteria to cleanups of our Nation's hazardous and radioactive waste site. Previously the bill applied only to major rulemakings above \$25 million and did not impact cleanups.

The Walker amendment which was offered without time for debate, will have profound adverse consequences for Superfund cleanups, for transferring property back to communities at closing military bases, and for the Department of Energy's program to dispose of high-level nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain and the WIPP facility in New Mexico.

This amendment was adopted with no hearings by the committees of jurisdiction. It will slow down cleanups by years while the new factors are grafted onto the existing program. For Members with closing military bases or property in urban cities awaiting redevelopment—you can forget reutilizing the property for economic redevelopment if the amendment is retained in the bill.

State laws which are now integrated into a process for deciding the appropriate level of cleanup will be preempted. Cleanups under the Walker amendment will be based strictly on a Federal cost/benefit analysis.

Litigation opportunities will abound. How do the new criteria work with the existing law? Do cleanups still have to be protective of human health and the environment? How do factors like cost-effectiveness, cost-benefit, and flexibility apply in the context of cleanup? All are rich opportunities for lawyers and litigation while no cleanup occurs.

Support this motion, allow cleanups to go forward, and let the committee's of jurisdiction reform the Superfund Program in a comprehensive manner.

CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 3, 1995

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in 1912 Mrs. William Howard Taft accepted 3,000 cherry trees as a gift from Japan for the Nation's capital.

Since 1948 the National Conference of State Societies has sponsored the Annual Cherry Blossom Festival. Congress chartered the National Conference of State Societies in 1952 with Public Law 82-293. NCSS includes all of Washington's State and territorial societies. NCSS submits a financial report each year to the House Judiciary Committee. GAO has approved every audit for 42 years. President Abraham Lincoln was a member of the Illinois State Society, founded in 1854. Dozens of Members of Congress have served as presidents of State societies, including former Representative Bob Michel and Vice President AL GORE. Members and congressional wives currently chair the Michigan, Texas, Illinois, and Puerto Rico societies.

As a member of Georgia State Society, I am pleased to announce the NCSS will once again sponsor this year's festival events from April 2 through 9 in cooperation with National Park Service, the Downtown Jaycees, WRC-TV, and the Embassy of Japan. The festival celebrates our Nation's youth, represented by State and territorial cherry blossoms princesses, and celebrates our friendship with Japan.

On behalf of many colleagues, I would like to recognize the generous support NCSS receives from corporate sponsors such as American Family Life Assurance Company, headquartered in Columbus, GA. AFLAC and NCSS will be partners in a special cherry blossom donation for relief of earthquake victims in Kobe, Japan. Forty-three years after Congress chartered NCSS we can be proud this group still serves its original purpose with energy and distinction.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAREN McCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 3, 1995

Ms. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, February 24 and for part of Thursday, February 23, I missed several rollcall votes during consideration of H.R. 450, the regulatory moratorium bill.

I was unavoidably absent due to an event in my district at the Cradles and Crayons Child Care Center. With pending consideration of legislation that would drastically alter school nutrition and child-care programs, I brought together children's advocates, parents, school administrators, child nutritionists, and nearly 100 people from my district directly involved with children to discuss the impact the legislation would have on the children on the fifth district.

However, had I been present, I would have voted "no" on Roll No. 174.

TRIBUTE TO PEGI MORTON YOUNG

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 3, 1995

Mrs. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pegi Morton Young and her upcoming induction into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

After giving birth to a son with severe cerebral palsy in 1986, Pegi Morton Young cofounded the Bridge School, which is an innovative educational program for children with severe speech and physical impairments. She served as the unpaid director of the school for 6 years and remains active as president of the board of directors. Under Ms. Young's exceptional leadership, the Bridge School has been certified by the California State Department of Education as a non-public school and received community-wide praise for its outstanding program. Her commitment to the community is never-ending, and she is always the first to volunteer for a project.

Mr. Speaker, Pegi Morton Young is an outstanding citizen, and I commend her for her remarkable commitment and contributions to our community. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting her as she is being inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL J. O'REILLY, IRISH FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR, 1995

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 3, 1995

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Michael O'Reilly, Irish Firefighter of the Year, 1995, who will be honored at this year's St. Patrick's Day parade in Jersey City. Mr. O'Reilly is among the many Irish-American men and women who have helped make this country great.

The Irish have been immigrating to the United States since the early part of the 19th century. In that time, they have made many contributions to this country. They have distinguished themselves at every level of American society. As Irish-Americans have built their businesses, so have they contributed to the economic prosperity of this Nation. As they have grown politically, they have contributed to government on the local, State and national levels. Their devotion to family and friends demonstrates that much can be accomplished when people work together in harmony.

At home, Irish-Americans have worked hard to protect all of us from crime and fire. They have put their lives on the line to help ensure the safety of their fellow citizens. The long, proud tradition of Irish police officers and firemen scarcely needs to be mentioned. However, the Irish have not only been good neighbors at home, they have also put their lives on the line when they have fought to defend this Nation against our foes in every major conflict over the last 200 years.

Michael O'Reilly is part of this great Irish-American tradition. He has served the citizens of Jersey City as a firefighter since 1981. Through the years, he has bravely put his life

on the line to save the lives of others. In addition, he has dedicated his time as a baseball coach and organizes sporting and recreational events for members of his community.

Mr. O'Reilly is a lifelong resident of Jersey City. He attended school there and he and his wife have raised their children there. He is a fine constituent of whom I am very proud.

As we celebrate St. Patrick's Day, let us remember all of those Irish-American men and women who have made a difference in the United States. This is a day for us to acknowledge their achievements and feel proud to have them in the United States. This holiday is an excellent opportunity to pay tribute to Irish-Americans; past and present.

NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 3, 1995

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to commemorate the profession of engineering.

February 19–25 was National Engineers Week. As the Nation's second largest profession, engineering provides a challenging and rewarding career choice to roughly 1.8 million people in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, engineers often complain that many people do not know what it is that engineers do. Well, virtually everything that you and I do every day of the year has been invented, improved, or made safer because of engineers.

National Engineers Week is always celebrated at the time of George Washington's birthday. Washington had the educational background of an engineer and land surveyor and is considered the Nation's first engineer. As President, Washington led a growing society toward technical advancements, invention and education. He promoted the construction of roads, canals, the U.S. Capitol, docks and ports and development of manufacturing resources.

Engineers Week falls during Black History Month. African-Americans have engineered some of our most important and best-known inventions.

There are numerous examples of leaders in the engineering profession, Mr. Speaker, but one has especially touched my heart. It is the story of Archie Alexander, who although advised against a career in engineering because of racial prejudice, persisted and gained recognition. If it were not for Mr. Alexander's perseverance, the Tidal Basin Bridge and Seawall and the Whitehurst Freeway in Washington, DC would not have been built.

It is African-American role models like Alexander who have helped pave the way for others wishing to pursue careers in engineering, including women and members of other minority groups.

As we approach the 21st century, the profession of engineering will help us cope with our changing world, while creating numerous new jobs and career paths. Long live engineering.

TRIBUTE TO INVENTOR AUSTIN STANTON

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 3, 1995

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding American, Austin N. Stanton, who died November 27, 1994, at the age of 91 following a brief illness. Austin Stanton was the inventor of microcircuitry—the precursor to the computer age. He was a long-time resident of Garland, TX, and lived in Bonham, TX, in my Fourth Congressional District, during the past 8 years.

Austin Stanton dared to dream, and through hard work and determination made those dreams come true. Born on May 31, 1903, in Cromwell, IA, to Harriet L. Stanton, teacher, and the Rev. Jay B. Stanton, pastor and teacher, he left home at the age of 12 and worked at various odd jobs until he decided as a teenager that he should develop his own potential. He hopped a freight train to State University of Iowa and paid his way through school by working as a night serviceman for a power company. He received a B.E. degree in Electrical Engineering from the university in 1925, followed by an M.S. degree in physics in 1927. His thesis, "Phenomena in Resonance Radiation of Cesium," was the foundation for later scientific and technological achievements.

He was married in 1926 to Margaret L. Saveraid, and following college, they drove to Texas, where Mr. Stanton began working with a seismograph crew in oil exploration. From 1927 to 1945 he gained experience in geophysics and electronics, serving as president of Geophysical Exploration Co. and Texas Geophysical Co., both of Dallas, and as associate professor and acting head of the electrical engineering department and head of the preradar school, U.S. Army, at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

In 1945, he founded Varo Corp. in an old building on his farm in Garland, TX, with about \$800 in capital. The building was converted into a laboratory, and his young, small staff began work on the design for a revolutionary power conversion unit for military aircraft. They also developed tiny power supplies, microcircuitry, and precision timing devices for space vehicles. Varo conceived and developed the first light-amplifying, night-vision telescope, first electronic inverters, and the first microcircuits. Microcircuitry led to the development of integrated circuits, which brought about the computer age. Varo was the only producer and supplier of microcircuitry for more than 5 years. Their microcircuit transmitter was donated to the Smithsonian Institution, where it was placed on display. When Mr. Stanton retired as chairman of the board of Varo in 1967, he had parlayed his \$800 investment into a successful \$60 million per year international business. He also provided advice and assistance to Texas Instruments Co. in the microelectronics field.

Since 1967 Mr. Stanton has been actively involved in developing advanced technology. He was chairman of the board of the Keller Corp. and Methacoal Corp., both research and development companies and leaders in various phases of the alternative fuels, power and

energy, electric generation, and waste utilization fields. With Leonard J. Keller, an expert in engineering, he developed Ambient Energy Corp. and built the first Ambient Energy Home, a model of affordable, all-electric energy homes. In 1990 he coined the cleanest, most efficient, and least costly coal-based electric generating plant in the world. He earned approximately 40 patents during his lifetime and was actively involved in technology development until his recent illness.

Mr. Stanton was for many years a personal friend and associate of Wernher von Braun, the principal scientist of space-age technology. He provided valuable assistance to Von Braun and was the first to propose the commercialization of space. He made presentations on the subject at the first international conference on space utilization.

Austin Stanton also was a philanthropist. Before he moved to Bonham from Garland, he donated 25 acres of land near downtown Garland and pledged \$350,000 in Varo stock—which later sold for \$1 million—for construction of a hospital, which became the nucleus of Baylor Medical Center in Garland. He also contributed more than 100 acres of ranch land to the city's parks and recreation system.

Austin Stanton received many awards during his lifetime, including "Pioneer of the Space Age" award from the U.S. Army and the "Lloyd Berkner Space Utilization" award and the "Pioneer and Leader in Space and Microelectronics" award from the American Astronautical Society. He was a fellow of the American Astronautical Society and the British Interplanetary Society and a member of Tau Beta Pi and Sigma Xi.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Margaret L. Stanton, 2 daughters, a sister, 17 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren, and 3 great-great-grandchildren. He was a good friend of mine, and he will be missed and remembered by all those who knew him.

It is a rare privilege, Mr. Speaker, to have the opportunity to pay tribute to this singular individual, who shared his talents and the fruits of his labors with his country, his community, his peers, and his family. Austin Stanton's life touched our lives in many ways—through scientific and technological advances, in our defense and space programs, and in our environmental efforts. As we adjourn today, Mr. Speaker, I ask my Colleagues to join me in paying our last respects to a truly great American—Austin Stanton.

IN SUPPORT OF FEDERAL FUNDING FOR EDUCATION

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 3, 1995

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, much of the current budget debate centers on America's children—we all want to ensure our young people can achieve the American dream. Experience has shown that investing in education is one of the surest ways to achieve this important national goal. Increased levels of education translate into higher wages for individuals and a more productive workforce. In 1993, the median weekly wages of a high school graduate exceeded those of someone without a diploma