

control. Just last fall, their hard work took a major step forward with the signing of the Long Island Sound Clean-up Plan by the States of New York and Connecticut and EPA Administrator Carol Browner.

Despite these achievements for Long Island Sound, much remains to be done to take our Nation's estuaries off the endangered list. Nationally, we face an appalling backlog of water quality infrastructure upgrade needs that threatens to choke our economy just as it is robbing our waters of life-giving oxygen. Quite simply, we need leadership at the Federal level to match the energy and ingenuity of our communities that are working toward a better environmental and economic future. Without strong Federal leadership and substantial funds to back it up, we run the risk of squandering over 20 years of progress in cleaning up and protecting our waters.

Therefore, our legislation will re-ignite Federal, State, and local cooperation in water pollution control by significantly increasing annual authorization levels for the State Revolving Fund [SRF] Program to \$4 billion and then \$5 billion beginning in 1998. In the context of our continuing budgetary problems, these authorizations may appear high. But without a renewed Federal commitment to clean water, the estimated \$200-billion shortfall over the next decade in sewage treatment upgrades leaves our States with two unacceptable alternatives: swamp their residents with higher taxes, or allow vital waterways to die and their economies to stagnate. It is encouraging that the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment has recently approved an increase in the SRF to \$3 billion. This is an important step in the right direction, but I hope this Congress can do better before the bill becomes law.

In addition to expanding and modernizing the Nation's water pollution control infrastructure, we must support efforts to spend clean water dollars as intelligently as possible. To that end, our legislation departs from past practice by earmarking a portion of the SRF funds for the implementation of comprehensive estuary management plans. These comprehensive conservation and management plans are designed to utilize the most cost-effective mix of policies to reduce water pollution in sensitive coastal regions. And, rather than heavy-handed mandates from Washington, these plans are founded on voluntary partnerships among people with a shared vision for reinvigorating our economy and revitalizing our bays, rivers, and beaches. At present, communities in and around 21 of our Nation's estuaries are at work developing plans; another half dozen will be added to the National Estuary Program [NEP] later this year.

Moreover, our legislation would strengthen section 320 of the Clean Water Act, which authorizes the National Estuary Program. First established under the Water Quality Act of 1987, the NEP provides a mechanism for bringing together Federal, State, and local authorities—and interested citizens—to develop comprehensive, watershed-based plans for cleaning up and protecting nationally significant estuaries. In Long Island Sound, Puget Sound, Massachusetts Bay, and a number of other estuaries, the NEP has helped bring about unprecedented cooperation aimed at saving these threatened waters and the economies that rely on them.

Our bill would build on the success of the NEP by clarifying the funding and staffing re-

sponsibilities of Federal agencies concerned with the program, including the Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration [NOAA]. Specifically, the bill states that implementation of estuary management plans is a non-discretionary duty of the EPA. The measure seeks to improve Federal leadership in the NEP by directing the EPA to promulgate guidelines for development, approval, and implementation of comprehensive management plans. Other important proposed changes include measures to improve coordination of clean-up efforts with other Federal activities in estuaries. In short, this bill is designed to make certain that those plans do not end up on shelves in bureaucrats' offices, but instead truly clean up these critical bodies of water.

In the 103d Congress, the DeLauro-Lowey Water Pollution Control and Estuary Restoration Financing Act received strong bipartisan support and backing from a unique nationwide coalition of business, labor, and environmental groups who recognize the ties that bind the condition of our waters and the state of our economy. Provisions similar to our bill were included in the clean water reauthorization bill reported last year by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

As we reintroduce our legislation today, however, we do so at a time when the Clean Water Act is under attack. The act's reauthorization that is being developed in committee threatens to undermine much of the progress that has been achieved in approving our Nation's water quality. For example, by decreasing protection for our Nation's remaining wetlands and repealing provisions in the Coastal Zone Management Program that require coastal States to develop enforceable polluted runoff control programs, this legislation would turn back the clock on environmental protection and pose new threats to our Nation's vital waterways. We must not allow this to happen.

Mr. Speaker, our legislation is a call to action that says through sensible investments in water pollution control we can help ensure our economic and environmental future. Without Federal assistance, our estuaries will die while the long-term growth of our economies suffers.

In conclusion, I want to thank all 36 of my colleagues who have joined Ms. DELAURO and myself in introducing this legislation. We all are keenly aware that by failing to help our municipalities meet their infrastructure needs, we are forcing them to tie up scarce local dollars that otherwise could be used to improve schools, fight drugs and crime, provide housing and health care, or meet the needs of the elderly and disabled. In the end, every one stands to lose. We also understand that clean water is a national priority. Just as rivers and coastal waters affect and are affected by the policies of various States, an interstate commitment is essential to success.

The time has come to act, Mr. Speaker.

SALUTE TO MR. ROBERT A.  
BRADY

**HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 6, 1995*

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Mr. Robert Brady of Philadelphia whose 50th birthday will be celebrated on April

7, 1995. Throughout his lifetime, Mr. Brady has contributed greatly to the people of the City of Philadelphia.

A graduate of Saint Thomas Moore High School and the Martin Technical School, Mr. Brady began a distinguished career in public service in 1975. Mr. Brady served as the Assistant Sergeant at Arms for the Philadelphia City Council and the Labor Liaison to the Mayor's Office from 1975 to 1986. A working man first, last and always, Bob Brady has served as Legislative Representative of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners.

Since 1965, Mr. Brady has been a leader in the Democratic Party of Philadelphia, culminating in his election as Chairman of the Democratic County Executive Committee of Philadelphia. In addition, to his work with the Democratic Party, Mr. Brady has been appointed as a member of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission and the Delaware River Port Authority. In those two positions, he has made important contributions in creating jobs and protecting the rights of workers.

In his 50 years, Mr. Brady has already given more to the City of Philadelphia than many people give in a lifetime. I hope that he will continue to have a long and successful career for at least 50 more years, and I look forward to continuing to work with him. I hope all of my colleagues will join me in wishing Mr. Robert Brady a very happy 50th birthday.

VOICE OF REASON IN BOSNIA

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 6, 1995*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, people from the Balkans are often characterized according to their ethnic background, and the assumption is made that each person—from the villager to the leader in society—looks out for the interests of only their own people. In Bosnia, that can be a very mistaken assumption.

Three years of aggression in Bosnia have admittedly sharpened the priority given to ethnic identity by all sides, Bosnian, Muslim, Croat and Serb, which is shaped largely by religious background. However, there remains a large number of individuals more committed than ever to the concept of a multiethnic Bosnian society in a unified state, where all are equal before the law, where all tolerate each other and respect their cultural differences.

Few, if any, symbolize this true Bosnian spirit, with which Americans find so much affinity, more than the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Sarajevo, Vinko Cardinal Puljic, who recently visited Washington. During his visit, he expressed a sense of optimism about the ability of the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina to