

table. After 4 months of silence and no apparent plan of his own to balance the budget, he has issued a completely irresponsible veto threat. Should he win the veto battle, any chance at a early start on deficit reduction this year will be eliminated.

What is more unconscionable than his lack of action on the issue, is his timing. He is attempting desperately to reassert the relevancy of his presidency by playing politics with the rescissions bill. This politicizing threatens to jeopardize the expeditious funding of emergency disaster aid to the victims in California and Oklahoma. The \$7.2 billion in emergency appropriations are paid for by cutting wasteful spending elsewhere in the budget. And we did not add more to the taxpayers tab, something virtually unheard of in Washington.

The reasoning for his veto threat is pork in the bill, yet this bill slashes \$16.4 billion in spending by eliminating unauthorized programs, consolidating duplicative programs, cutting unspent funds piling up from one year to the next and eliminating funding for wasteful, ineffective programs. Where's the pork? This bill eliminates funding from legislation signed by the President himself. The pork he says we failed to target is the pork he sanctioned.

The President seems to have forgotten the will of the American people. Last November, the citizens of this country voted for change. His lack of attention to the budget and spending cuts continues the status quo and dims the future of our children.

MANDATORY ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER EXPANSION ACT OF 1995

HON. JIM LIGHTFOOT

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 1995

Mr. LIGHTFOOT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce legislation which will save taxpayer money, reduce theft and fraud of Federal payments and make the Government run more efficiently. I am proud to join Representatives STENY HOYER, BILL CLINGER, PETER VISCLOSKEY, and STEPHEN HORN in introducing the Mandatory Electronic Funds Transfer Expansion Act of 1995.

Under this legislation, recurring Federal payments such as Federal salaries and pensions would be issued by electronic funds transfer [EFT] instead of paper checks. The Department of the Treasury's Financial Management Service, the Federal Government's primary disbursing agency, has testified that it costs the Federal Government 43 cents to issue a paper check. But an electronic funds transfer costs just 1.5 cents, saving the Government over 41 cents for nearly every salary or retirement check it issues.

The Government is already realizing savings from the use of EFT. Of the 841 million payments issued by FMS, 49 percent were disbursed electronically. But we can realize additional savings, while making salaries and benefits more convenient for recipients. The savings add up quickly, into the millions of dollars. The extensive use of EFT will reduce Federal spending and diminish the opportunity for theft and fraud.

THE HOMELESS AND COMMUNITY COOPERATION ACT OF 1995

HON. LINDA SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 1995

Mrs. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the "Community and Homeless Cooperation Act of 1995" which will amend the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act.

The Act was originally designed to make under-utilized or unutilized Federal buildings available for sheltering our Nation's homeless. In Olympia, one of the largest cities in my district, there were plans to make a vacant and dilapidated Federal building into a large shelter for the homeless yet over 30 percent of the beds for the homeless in Olympia's existing shelters went unused. Common sense would dictate that we didn't need another shelter, we needed additional resources for outreach and services for existing shelters.

Recently, Thurston County commissioners in my home State of Washington pointed out to me in a recent letter, "With the current 'use it or lose it rule', a social service agency has a difficult time saying "no" to a free building—even one requiring extensive and expensive upgrades." My legislation will allow these buildings to be sold and a portion of the money used to help existing shelters meet their daily funding needs while the remainder will be returned to the Federal treasury exclusively to reduce the deficit. And, for the first time in the 7-year life of this legislation, the homeless and the community will have a voice in the selection of buildings to be used. As the Olympian, newspaper stated, " * * * location of these services is key."

The Community and Homeless Cooperation Act of 1995 gives a city and its homeless a sense of community and cooperation in determining what is in their best interest. Through community forums to determine building placement or through making proceeds from sales of these buildings available to increase homeless assistance services on Main Street, we empower the people on Main Street, homeless and homeowner alike.

TRIBUTE TO AMBROSE JOSEPH (JOE) MANLEY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 1995

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, It gives me great pleasure to rise today and pay tribute to an outstanding citizen of Indiana's First Congressional District, Mr. Ambrose Joseph (Joe) Manley. On Friday, June 2, 1995, Joe, along with his friends and family, will celebrate his retirement from the Northwest Indiana District Council of Carpenters, Merrillville Union Local No. 1005. This testimonial dinner will take place at the Radisson Hotel celebrity ballroom in Merrillville, IN.

Joe has dedicated a substantial portion of his life to the betterment of union members and the community of northwest Indiana, as well as the entire State.

Joe's distinguished career in the labor movement has made his community and Na-

tion a better place in which to live. For the past 20 years, Joe has aspired as an important figure in Local No. 1005. Joe has held several positions throughout his tenure, but none as important as business manager, a position from which he retired on Dec. 31, 1994.

Moreover, Joe fought for union rights in several other capacities. Joe has been active as past president of the Indiana State Council of Carpenters and past vice-president of the State of Indiana AFL-CIO. These positions have allowed him to fully exercise his fight for labor rights.

As a result of Joe's caring and nurturing nature, he has been spreading his goodwill throughout northwest Indiana by serving on several boards over the past years. Joe is well known in the Indiana State Democratic Party where he was once the vice chairman. During his reign as vice chairman, he was chosen to be a delegate for the State of Indiana to the 1992 National Democratic Convention. Furthermore, Joe served as a past Admiral of the Pirates for Tradewinds Rehabilitation Center. Currently, Joe is a board member for the Arthritis Foundation, Hoosier Boys Town, and the Northwest Indiana Forum, Inc. Joe also is a member of the Hammond Times editorial board.

On this special day, I offer my heartfelt congratulations. Joe's large circle of family and friends can be proud of the contributions this prominent individual has made. His work in the labor movement has made America Work. Those in the movement will miss Joe's dedication and sincerity. Fortunately, the community as a whole will continue to profit from his unselfish involvement to make northwest Indiana a better place in which to live and work. I sincerely wish Joe a long, happy, and productive retirement.

OUR NATION'S FLAG

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I testified before the House Judiciary Committee on an amendment I am proposing to protect our Nation's flag. This matter is very dear to my heart and to the hearts of many Americans. The American flag always brings our nation together, rich or poor, in good times or bad. This symbol is recognized the world over for the good that we have done and will do as long as we have this flag. Do we, as Americans, really believe that the passage of this amendment to protect our national symbol will, in any way, harm or detract from, the Bill of Rights and the U.S. Constitution? I say no, this amendment does not remove rights, it restores them.

I can recall scenes I have seen from Civil War battles where Union soldiers would drop their weapon and pick the Stars and Stripes off the ground from a fallen comrade who had been killed holding up these colors for America. Mr. Speaker, now is our time to pick up the American flag and treat it with the greatest amount of reverence.

I would like to draw your attention to the remarks of one American who has picked up the flag and who is carrying and protecting our flag for many Americans. Ron James, an ex-

Marine and patriot, has been an example and a role model to many Americans who have the deepest respect for America's symbol and should be commended.

I am a member of the Citizens Flag Alliance, a Marine Veteran and a United States Citizen.

While on the show, I was read a telegram alleged to have been written by Senator Bob Kerry, or one of his aides, on his thoughts of not defending my right to have the U.S. Senate pass Resolution 31.

He speaks before the Members of the United States Senate as a United States Senator. He does not speak as a private citizen or as a voter and he does not speak as a Veteran. He speaks as a Representative of the people of these United States. The majority of the People of the United States want this Amendment passed. As do the people in his own home state.

In that telegram, he mentioned that he was a Navy Seal in Vietnam. At the time he was in his mid-twenties. I am positive that his opinion at that age would be to defend the Flag of this Nation and it would be the same feeling of all his Comrades.

Then how, since for about 100 years until 1989 there have been laws to protect the Flag of the United States and this had nothing to do with changes in our Nation, can he say that, in essence, our Flag does not need this Protection Amendment.

On that television show, there was another guest speaker, who would allow the burning, who kept insisting that we should not "amend our Bill of Rights". What she apparently forgot was that those original Bill of Rights were the first ten Amendments to the original Constitution of 7 Articles and were declared in force on Dec. 15, 1791.

Also, she would have done well, as should anyone against this Amendment, to read the preamble to that Bill of Rights.

No Veteran was ever told that he would protect the Right of someone to urinate upon, burn or otherwise desecrate the Flag he had sworn to protect and defend and honor.

Senator Kerry feels that there is no need to pass this Resolution because of the few incidents that may occur. My reply to that is that incidents will always occur and can increase in tremendous numbers. But that does not make flag desecration acceptable without accountability for those actions.

All any of those opposed to this Resolution need to do is to actually read the content and purpose of all those previous Amendments.

So . . . all of you who speak against this Amendment . . . who are you really speaking for???

Certainly not the Navy Seals, not the U.S. Marines, not the Army, not the Navy, not the Air Force, not the police and, most importantly, not the nearly 260 million American people and their representatives in both the State assemblies and State Senates. All these Americans want the flag protection resolution passed at the Federal level!!!!

You, at the Federal level, who are opposed to this Resolution . . . why don't you ask your own Constituents in your home States to vote on this??? You already know what they want!!!

So, just who do you represent by your opposition to your own people's will????? Not most of America!

The American Flag always brings our Nation together, rich or poor, in good times or bad. This Symbol is recognized the world over for the good that we have done and will do now and forever for as long as we have this Flag and the Honor and Respect for it that it so richly deserves. Do we, as Americans, really believe that the passage of this

Amendment will, in any way, harm or detract from, the Bill of Rights and the Constitution?? I say no!!!!

The Rights of all Americans guaranteed under the First Amendment (the argument that opponents are using to stop this Protection Amendment) have already been taking away by that Supreme Court decision in 1989.

This Amendment does not remove Rights . . . it restores them!

It does not remove the Rights of destructive scores . . . but it does restore the rights of constructive millions!

Please pass Senate Resolution 31 and House Resolution 79!!!!

If you do not heed the generous voices of millions of Americans then whose selfish voices do you heed????

Search your hearts for that age when you were in the service and not a Senator . . . when someone worried that you may not be coming home at all. You and your Comrades felt that Flag Desecration was wrong then and most feel that way now which is why those same Comrades want this Protection Amendment passed.

I want to be heard in the Congressional Chambers but I cannot because I am not a U.S. Senator or Congressman.

However, I do represent millions of Americans who want this desecration stopped.

Honor those Comrades-in-Arms and those Citizens who have a dedication to, and love for, this Nation.

I, personally have walked over 400 miles holding the American Flag and have heard the cheers and cries of Americans who also want their Flag Federally protected. I, personally, have heard and spoken with thousands of Americans as we walked through the land to Honor our Flag.

The oldest man to walk with me (now 65) was a Marine Veteran of the Korean War and survivor of the Chosin Reservoir battle as well as being 100% D.A.V. One of the statements made by him relative to Flag protection was: "I feel very strongly (about it) . . . it's something I believe in. I lived for it. I fought for it and I'd die for it". In all of the time of the two walks (covering 2 years) he spoke only once about that battle. It was in a Firehouse when we stopped for a rest on the walk to Washington and where he met another Marine who also had been there. They spoke of the overwhelming odds of fighting off about 120,000 communist troops against our nearly 15,000 in sometimes 60 below zero weather. From this and other battles he somehow lived long enough to walk for the Honor of the American Flag 44 years later. His son did years in the Marines and now is in the Army flying helicopter gunships.

If you can figure a way that we will not lose thousands of lives in wars . . . lives which will be honored with and by their American Flag . . . Fine!!! But it never can be. Honor thy Flag as "thy Mother and thy Father".

I, personally, have never sought harsh punishment.

As a Representative of those who gave you the key to the hearts of America by their vote for you and trust in you . . . PASS THIS BILL!!

Those who put you in office . . . the average persons . . . trust them!

Give them that which you already know they want . . . their American Flag to be protected.

Let it be said by all that, at least, this Nation protects, reveres and honors its Symbol with, dignity, respect and justice!

If someone makes a mistake, the system in our courts will not be harsh but they must be just.

I thank you for your time and I hope you will pass the Resolution in the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Please pass on this information by reading any part of all of it to our Senators and Congressmen on the floor of our Congress.

I thank you for our Nation.

Always for Flag and Country

RON JAMES

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROTARY CLUB

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Mount Clemens Rotary Club. Next Friday evening, June 2, 1995, the club is celebrating its 75th anniversary. Officially chartered on May 1, 1920, the initial 19 members of the Mt. Clemens Rotary were some of the first of what is now an international organization with over a million members.

Begun in Chicago in 1905, the Rotary was established by Paul Harris, an attorney who hoped to meet individuals from other professions and encourage civic responsibility. The Rotary motto of "Service Above Self" is exemplified by the members of the Mount Clemens Rotary Club. The club originated, organized, and to this day continues to support the Macomb County Crippled Children's Society of the Easter Seals, one of the first crippled children's societies organized in the State of Michigan. They have sponsored projects to aid the aged, our youth, the ill, the poor, the illiterate, and the homeless. Over 105 charitable and civic organizations have been supported with time, energy, and over one million dollars during the past 75 years.

Taking an active role in one's community is a responsibility we all share, and the members of the Mount Clemens Rotary have been fulfilling this role for 75 years. Of the 25,000 Rotary Clubs in 184 countries, none are any more devoted to improving their community or the world than the Mount Clemens Club. Their contributions are many and they deserve our gratitude for their compassion, hard work, and good will.

I applaud all the Rotary members who serve our communities around the world and encourage them to continue their good work. I urge my colleagues to please join me in saluting the Mount Clemens Rotary Club on the event of their diamond anniversary.

JOHN BURTON: SUI GENERIS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 1995

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, for those of my colleagues who served with John Burton in this House or have known him otherwise, there's no need for me to say that John is a one and only. The brother of the late Phil Burton, John is now an Assemblyman in the California legislature representing the city of San Francisco.

Sunday, April 9, 1995, the San Francisco Examiner Magazine published a feature that catches the essence of the John Burton I know and love. John tells it the way it is and he doesn't spare himself. His commitment to