

The bill's definition of "salvage" timber would include all "associated trees," "insect-infected trees" and "trees imminently susceptible to fire or insect attack"—in other words, anything that can be cut.

A recent BLM memo correctly characterized it as "more or less a license for unregulated timber harvest."

Second, the House Interior Appropriations bill would virtually zero-out funding for National Park Service management of the new Mojave National Preserve, created last fall as part of the California Desert Protection Act.

Not satisfied with having won a battle to permit continued hunting and grazing in the preserve, Representative Jerry Lewis, R-Redlands, along with ranching and mining interests, are pressing ultimately for a reversal of the Desert Protection Act, which took eight years to negotiate.

It seems not to matter a whit to Lewis that many of his own constituents, including the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, which originally opposed the preserve, is now enthusiastic about winning full funding for it, having noted that tourist visits in the area have increased dramatically since the preserve was established.

Finally, the same legislation would open up all federal waters on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts to leasing by oil and gas extractors, reversing a 14-year moratorium on offshore drilling that has enjoyed bipartisan support, including that of Governor Wilson.

Laughingly, congressional Republicans argued that the United States is too dependent upon foreign oil and that it would be irresponsible not to explore all domestic sources. But a Department of Energy study shows that there are approximately 726 million barrels of proven reserves off the California coast.

This means that, in exchange for allowing oil derricks to threaten spills along the entire length of our coast, the nation would get all of 41 days worth of energy from proven oil reserves—a bargain that only members of Congress in thrall to oil companies could appreciate.

President Clinton, get out the veto pen.

THE JAYCEE ALLIANCE MOBILIZES YOUNG AMERICANS TO GET INVOLVED

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 1995

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I take great pride today in saluting the commencement of an organization created so that young Americans in their twenties, thirties, and forties can have a collective voice on pertinent Federal issues of the day. The Jaycee Alliance is a new national, grassroots organization, boasting 150,000 members, that will allow concerned and involved young leaders to contribute their thoughts and experiences on issues before the U.S. Congress and State legislatures, and will form a compact between each generation of Americans to the next.

I applaud the success of the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce—Jaycees—organization and I proudly point to my membership as a Jaycee at an early age as essential in my professional development. I firmly believe that the new Jaycee Alliance is an intelligent and much needed organization that will edify and mobilize thousands of new leaders into the

21st century. We are facing some very serious challenges in terms of this and future generations' responsibility to prioritize Government spending in a fiscally prudent fashion. I am pleased that the Jaycee Alliance has already pledged its support for the balanced budget amendment, which I too have supported throughout my years in public office.

Many young business people and home-makers are striving to achieve the American dream and make their communities better places to live. These are bright, energetic people who are interested in securing and creating high-wage jobs, keeping their streets safe, and promoting the highest quality of education in their children's schools. The challenges we, as Americans, face are certainly daunting, but they pale in comparison to the energy this young, invigorated group has to offer. Now is the time that people in the early and middle stages of their careers should mark as the day on which they were invited to get involved. In the finest tradition of the Jaycees, I am confident that the alliance will succeed in becoming the voice of young Americans.

ALASKA NATIVE SUBSISTENCE WHALING EXPENSE CHARITABLE TAX DEDUCTION

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 1995

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a measure that would provide critically needed tax relief to a few Alaskan Native whaling captains who otherwise may not be able to continue their centuries-old tradition of subsistence whaling. In brief, this bill would provide a modest charitable deduction to those Native captains who organize and support traditional whaling hunt activities for their communities.

The Inupiat and Siberian Yupik Eskimos living in the coastal villages of northern and western Alaska have been hunting the bowhead whale for thousands of years. The International Whaling Commission [IWC] has acknowledged that "whaling, more than any other activity, fundamentally underlies the total lifeway of these communities."

Today, under the regulatory eye of the IWC and the U.S. Department of Commerce, these Natives continue a sharply restricted bowhead subsistence hunt out of 10 coastal villages. Local regulation of the hunt is vested in the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission [AEWC] under a cooperative agreement with the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The entire Native whaling community participates in these hunting activities. However, Native tradition requires that the whaling captains are financially and otherwise responsible for the actual conduct of the hunt; meaning they must provide the boat, fuel, gear, weapons, ammunition, food, and special clothing for their crews. Furthermore, they must store the whale meat until it is used.

Each of the approximately 35 bowhead whales landed each year provides thousands of pounds of meat and muktuk—blubber and skin—for these Native communities. Native culture dictates that a whaling captain whose crew lands a whale is responsible for feeding

the community in which the captain lives. Customarily, the whale is divided and shared by all of the people in the community free of charge.

In recent years, Native whaling captains have been treating their whaling expenses as a deduction against their personal Federal income tax, because they donate the whale meat to their community and because their expenses have skyrocketed due to the increased costs in complying with Federal requirements necessary to outfit a whaling crew. The IRS has refused to allow these deductions, placing an extreme financial burden on those who use personal funds to support their Native communities' traditional activities. Currently five whaling captains have appeals of these disallowances pending before the Tax Court of the IRS.

The bill I am introducing today would amend section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code to provide that the investments made by this relatively small and fixed number of subsistence Native whaling captains are fully deductible as charitable contributions against their personal Federal income tax. Such an amendment should also retroactively resolve the disallowance and assessment cases now pending within the statute of limitations.

The expenses incurred by these whaling captains are for the benefit of the entire Native community. These expenses are vital contributions whose only purposes are to provide food to the community and to perpetuate the aboriginal traditions of the Native subsistence whaling culture.

Each Alaskan Native subsistence whaling captain spends an average of \$2,500 to \$5,000 in whaling equipment and expenses in a given year. A charitable deduction for these expenses would translate into a maximum revenue impact of approximately \$230,000 a year.

Such a charitable deduction is justified on a number of grounds. The donations of material and provisions for the purpose of carrying out subsistence whaling, in effect, are charitable contributions to the Inupiat and Siberian Yupik communities for the purpose of supporting an activity that is of considerable cultural, religious, and subsistence importance to those Native people. In expanding the amounts claimed, a captain is donating those amounts to the community to carry out these functions.

Similarly, the expenditures can be viewed as donations to the Inupiat Community of the North Slope [ICAS], to the AEW, and to the communities' participating churches. The ICAS is a federally recognized Indian tribe under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 (48 Stat. 984). Under the Indian Tax Status Act, donations to such an Indian tribe are tax deductible (28 U.S.C. 7871(a)(1)(A)). The AEW is a 501(c)(3) organization. Both the ICAS and the AEW are charged with the preservation of Native Alaskan whaling rights.

Also, it is important to note the North Slope Borough of Alaska, on its own and through the AEW, spends approximately \$500,000 to \$700,000 annually on bowhead whale research and other Arctic marine research programs in support of the U.S. efforts at the International Whaling Commission. This is money that otherwise would come from the Federal budget to support the U.S. representation at the IWC.

Given these facts and the internationally and federally protected status of the Native

Alaskan subsistence whale hunt, I believe expenditures for the hunt should be treated as charitable donations under section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code. I ask my fellow Members to join with me in clarifying the Federal Tax Code to make this a reality for these Native whaling captains.

RECOGNITION OF ORLANDO
YARBOROUGH AND GROUP

HON. ROBERT L. EHRLICH, JR.

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 1995

Mr. EHRLICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to publicly recognize an outstanding group of people in my district. Because of the great number of outstanding citizens in the Second District of Maryland, I am hesitant to single out one particular example. This group, however, has been selected for a great honor on behalf of the United States, and should be so recognized.

Mr. Orlando Yarborough works with at-risk youngsters in the Essex-Middle River area of Baltimore County. This area is a very strong, working class area that has been slow to recover from the most recent recession. Therefore, opportunities for young people to get involved in programs that give them self-esteem and a sense of accomplishment are critical.

Mr. Yarborough developed an after school personal power package for kids. Participants sign a contract to improve their bodies as well as their minds in activities done at the Body Mechanics Family Fitness Center. The program encompasses academic and physical exercises, community service, and a discussion of personal improvement. The contract also specifies that participants will not smoke, fight, use profane language, nor use drugs or alcohol.

The program has the enthusiastic support and financial backing of many local business and community groups, as well as prominent members of the community at large.

Mr. Speaker, recently Mr. Yarborough's group was selected to attend ceremonies commemorating the 1,500th anniversary of the founding of the Shaolin Temple in mainland China. The selection was based on the program's emphasis on discipline, perseverance, and character development. They are the only U.S. citizens to be invited to this very historic event. While in China, the team will be training, performing demonstrations, speaking at local schools, and generally acting as good will ambassadors of the United States. They will be introducing American ideas and culture to their hosts as well as bringing some of China's rich culture and heritage back to share with their friends and families.

This, Mr. Speaker, is what I want America to stand for: kids who take the responsibility to constructively improve themselves and their communities without turning to the evils of substance abuse or crime. Similarly, we should honor adults like Mr. Yarborough who care enough about their communities and their kids to put forth the effort in making programs like this work.

Mr. Speaker, I could not be more proud of Mr. Yarborough and his kids. They are our future. And I want to recognize Mr. Yarborough and everyone else connected with this noble

endeavor. The sacrifices made by the community on behalf of each child will pay many dividends in the form of productive, well-rounded citizens.

AMERICAN CHILDREN DESERVE
EDUCATIONAL CHOICE

HON. THOMAS J. BLILEY, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 1995

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend to the attention of Members the following article by Walter Williams which appeared in the June 23, 1995, Richmond Times Dispatch. I believe Mr. Williams' remarks paint an honest portrait of the debate surrounding the critical need for school choice.

[From the Richmond Times Dispatch, June 23, 1995]

BLACK VICTIMS OF LIBERALS WANT CHOICE IN
EDUCATION

(By Walter Williams)

The nation's capital provides one of the best examples of the destructiveness of liberal ideas. Washington used to be a thriving city where free persons of color and freed slaves established flourishing family businesses. As early as 1899, the black students of Washington's Paul Lawrence Dunbar High School scored higher than any of the white schools in the District of Columbia. From 1870 to 1955, most Dunbar graduates went to colleges like Oberlin, Harvard, Amherst, Williams, and Wesleyan. Washington was home to a broad, upwardly mobile black middle class.

All that has changed. According to Philip Murphy's article in Policy Review, Washington has "the highest per-capita murder and violent-crime rates, the highest percentage of residents on public assistance, the highest-paid school board, the lowest SAT scores, the most single-parent families, and the most lawyers per capita."

People are fleeing Washington in droves. During the second half of the 1980s alone, over 157,000—one-fifth of Washington's population—moved. This exodus disproportionately consisted of black households earning between \$30,000 and \$50,000 a year. Today, Washington's population is 578,000, down from a peak of 800,000.

To blame racism for Washington's emergence into a bankrupted Third-World-type city requires a lot of imagination. Washington is a city where the mayor is black, the chief of police is black, the school superintendent is black, and most of the city council is black. Can we blame poor revenue sources? According to Murphy, the city takes in an astonishing \$8,950 in revenue for every man, woman, and child in its jurisdiction. That's to be compared to \$4,000 and \$3,700 in nearby Maryland and Virginia, respectively. Nonetheless, the city is in receivership. Its bonds have achieved junk status because it manages to spend \$1,000 more per person than it receives in revenue.

Washington's story can be told in varying degrees in other predominantly black cities. The story is a monument to the failure of the liberal ideas of Democrats, black politicians, and civil-rights organizations. Liberals have convinced blacks that we deal with crime not by arresting and locking up criminals but by searching for crime's original causes. This theory gives criminals carte blanche to prey on law-abiding citizens. Liberals have convinced blacks that we deal with education fraud by spending more

money to create programs that fall just short of lunacy. Liberals don't expose their children to this nonsense—they enroll their children in private schools.

Victims of the liberals are mostly poor, black people who have few options—such as Sheila Stamps, a widowed mother of five living in a housing project. She complains, "You can't let the children out by themselves, and the playground is littered with intravenous needles." Like most black parents, Ms. Stamps wants school choice, saying: "Any child in this city should be able to go to the best schools. If they meet the criteria, let them go." But her liberal "benefactors" say no.

When black Americans finally come to the full realization of what liberals have done to them, it's going to make last November's political revolution look like a Girl Scout outing.

JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS HAVE
LUNCH WITH THEIR REPRESENTATIVE

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 1995

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, those who believe that youth are not interested in public affairs have not met the eighth grade class at Churchville Junior High in Elmhurst, IL. In a contest, sponsored by the school's social studies department, the students were asked to write an essay entitled, "Why I would like to have lunch with Representative Hyde." The students used the opportunity to voice opinions on a wide range of issues. Many also expressed interest in running for public office and making positive contributions to government in the future. I would like to share with my colleagues the six winning essays, I and am happy to report that we had lunch and discussed some of the students' concerns and questions about political office.

HENRY HYDE

(By Gwen Infusino)

I wish to have lunch with the prominent politician, Henry Hyde. I would very much enjoy expressing my political opinions. I would enjoy meeting him because I want to know about the life of a politician. Also, I am interested in the way government works.

I would very much enjoy expressing my political opinions. I'm concerned about society, environment, and many other issues. I'm happy to imagine that I just might make a difference. I'm sure Mr. Hyde is open to all kinds of opinions and suggestions.

I would enjoy meeting him because I want to know about the life of a politician. At this point in time, many people my age are making career decisions. These will affect us for the rest of our lives. If I find a politician's life appealing, I might choose to get into that field.

I am interested in the way government works. America is where I live, and so will all of our children. I want to learn a bit about our system so I know how it works and how safe it makes it for us all. I feel knowing about our political and judicial system is a must for us all.

In conclusion, I would like to meet Henry Hyde for three prominent reasons. I want to know about the life of a politician. I am interested in expressing my political opinions. I want to ask him about our government and the way it works.