

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT FOR CONCESSION REFORM LEGISLA- TION—H.R. 2028

### HON. JAMES V. HANSEN

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 1995*

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, last Thursday I introduced comprehensive legislation to reform the concession policies on Federal lands. This is a topic which has been extensively debated in recent years, with particular emphasis on National Park Service concession policies.

Currently, there are over 8,000 concession operations on lands managed by the Forest Service, National Park Service, Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, and Fish and Wildlife Service. Each agency has its own independent set of rules and regulations designed to implement at least 11 different and sometimes conflicting laws. Concessioners have to wade through a mountain of differing requirements from agency to agency and are even required to collect and file different information with each agency on a single trip.

In report after report, the General Accounting Office and others have suggested that Federal concession management needs reform. My legislation is based on three primary principles as follows:

First, provide for a uniform and consistent concession policy among the Federal land management agencies to the extent feasible.

Second, recognition of the importance of the public-private partnership in providing a high quality recreation experience on Federal lands, and

Third, utilization of the competitive process to ensure quality service to the public at reasonable prices and a fair return to the Government.

This legislation includes many features which have not been included in previous legislative proposals. For example, this bill provides a consistent concession policy among all land management agencies, allows rates to the public to be set by the market place to the maximum extent possible, provides a truly competitive selection process which recognizes the value of concessioners with a proven record of performance, ensures a higher rate of return for the Government and permits concession fees collected to remain with the agencies, provides incentives to encourage the private sector to develop and maintain private recreation facilities on Federal lands, provides an independent appeals process to resolve disputes and permits the privatization of certain concession activities on Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service lands.

I believe that the policies outlined in this bill are sound. I encourage my colleagues to join with me in the further refinement of this legislation to ensure a high quality, concession-provided recreation experience awaits the American public on all their Federal lands.

## REMEMBERING LIVEO "OLLIE" OLIVOTTI

### HON. BILL BAKER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 1995*

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, later this summer, America will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the end of the war in the Pacific. One of the heroes of that war, Ollie Olivotti, recently passed away and will soon be interred at Arlington National Cemetery. Ollie was a long-time resident of the city of Livermore in my district, and I wanted to take this opportunity to honor him for his sterling service to his country and his community and for his devotion to his family.

Ollie was a young serviceman in the Army Air Corps stationed at Clark Field in the Philippines when the war began. He fought on the Bataan Peninsula until the surrender to the Japanese in April, 1942. He survived not only the brutal Bataan Death March but also 3½ years in captivity, finally being liberated by Russian troops in 1945.

He retired as CWO from the U.S. Air Force in 1960 after winning the Bronze Star, the Prisoner of War Medal, and a host of other military honors. He then began working at Sandia National Laboratory, where he retired as a section supervisor after 21 years of service.

Active in community affairs, Ollie was married for 48 years to his beloved wife Harriet. He leaves her, their three daughters and their husbands, and nine grandchildren. And he also leaves a legacy of commitment to the values of family and freedom that have helped make America great.

It is an honor for me to recognize Ollie Olivotti today in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Our country has lost a hero, his family a loving husband and friend, and his community a loyal supporter.

## CONGRATULATING THE BIR- MINGHAM SOUTHERN COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

### HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 1995*

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Birmingham Southern College and it's men's basketball team for winning the NAIA championship in Tulsa, OK.

Birmingham-Southern College is ranked "among the best and most noteworthy in North America" by "The Insiders Guide to the Colleges 1994" edition, compiled and edited by the staff of the Yale Daily News. Birmingham-Southern College has again been ranked as one of the top "National Liberal Arts Colleges" by U.S. News and World Report in the magazine's recent "Best Colleges" issue.

Southern is recognized in the magazine's October 1994, issue as one of the best values in higher education. Birmingham-Southern is ranked No. 8 among the 160 National Liberal Arts Colleges in the category of Most Efficient Schools.

Enrollment has reached a high in recent years. From an enrollment of only 727 in 1976, Birmingham-Southern enrolled some 1,800 students this Fall.

The recognition and enrollment are the result of the college's outstanding academic reputation and the leadership its president, Dr. Neal R. Berte, who is an acknowledged national leader in higher education across the country, and the leadership and hard work of the trustees and the faculty.

Four prestigious guides, "The National Review College Guide," "The Fiske Guide to Colleges 1994," the "Princeton Review 1994 edition of The Student Access Guide to The Best 286 Colleges," and U.S. News & World Report magazine have ranked Birmingham-Southern College as among 58 of "America's Top Liberal Arts Schools," according to National Review; as among "315 of the best and most interesting colleges in America," according to Fiske; among the highest ranked in academics, quality of life and financial aid, according to the Princeton Review, and among the 140 top national liberal arts colleges, according to U.S. News in its October 4, 1993 issue.

Birmingham-Southern graduates' records indicate the quality of the educational experience at Birmingham-Southern. They are admitted to graduate schools, law schools, and medical schools at rates two to three times higher than most colleges across America.

These recognitions and impressive enrollment standards at Birmingham-Southern are the result of the outstanding academic reputation and hard work of the trustees and faculty along with the superior leadership of BSC's president, Dr. Neal R. Berte. Accomplishments such as the ones mentioned above would make any school proud, but Birmingham-Southern College's successes go far beyond the classroom.

The Birmingham-Southern College Men's basketball team was unranked in the pre-season poll and selected to finish fourth in the Southern States Conference. Despite these predictions, the Panthers were the first team to go 14-0 in Southern States competition and made their fourth trip to the tournament in only 6 years, and their second championship in that time. They completed the season with an incredible 32-consecutive-game winning streak, the longest in college basketball. Their record for the year was 35 wins, with only 2 losses, setting a record for the most wins in school history.

The record setting performance of the Birmingham-Southern College men's basketball team can be attributed to the relationships that are developed between coach and player. The Panthers winning attitude and success is a direct correlation with the accomplishments of Head Coach Duane Reboul and his assistant coaches Dwight Evans and Paul Arthur. Winning 83 percent of his games, coach Reboul

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

has the best winning percentage in the NAIA. As one of Birmingham-Southern College's most successful basketball coaches, the biggest achievement for Reboul is not the records he attains, but the respect he receives from former players. Each year, the goals remain the same—winning a championship and striving to make each player the best possible person he can be. Consequently, the student-athletes take these ideals and this winning attitude into the classroom and win them for the rest of their lives.

Finally, the winning attitude that has been instilled in the minds of the players should not go unnoticed. At this time, I would like to congratulate the student athletes who have worked so hard, and dedicated their time and efforts to achieving these accomplishments. Chris Armstrong, Obra Carter, James Cason, Nigel Coates, Bo Coln, Tommy Dalley, Dwayne Elliot, Paul Fleming, Todd Largen, Jay Mitchell, Mike Schwallie, Eddie Walter, Damon Wilcox, and Will Worrell are each to be applauded for their accomplishments both on and off of the court. I wish them all success in their academic as well as athletic pursuits.

Congratulations to Coach Reboul and his team for an outstanding year. We look forward to your continued success and achievement of excellence.

TRIBUTE TO LT. COL. MICHAEL J. LEPPER

**HON. GREG LAUGHLIN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 1995*

Mr. LAUGHLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lt. Col. Michael J. Lepper for his distinguished and exemplary service to the U.S. Air Force and this great Nation as Deputy Chief of the House Liaison Office from March 29, 1993, to July 5, 1995. In this capacity, Mike has excelled in providing the House of Representatives with outstanding service and unselfish commitment above and beyond the call of duty. He quickly established a solid reputation with both Members and staff, displaying his extensive knowledge of Air Force programs and issues, as well as national defense strategy. As a highly trained and experienced fighter pilot, I can think of no one who has provided better guidance, advice, and real-world expertise on a wide array of aerospace and other national security issues than Mike Lepper. His intelligence, charm, keen wit, and can-do attitude have made an indelible impact on us. He has aided us immeasurably in our day-to-day operations, and his effectiveness on Capitol Hill is legendary. No one has a better feel for the congressional pulse. In the challenging arena of international travel, Mike has always been the military escort of choice. He was brilliant in planning, organizing, and executing numerous congressional delegation trips to virtually every corner of the Earth. Having personally traveled with Mike, he has a way of making the difficult look effortless, and the impossible a reality. Because of Mike's credibility and goodwill, the Air Force and the Department of Defense will long reap the benefits of his tenure on the Hill. My colleagues and I bid a fond farewell to Lt. Col. Mike Lepper and his wife, Joanne, and wish

them continued success in their next assignment at National War College.

IN HONOR OF ALL THE VOLUNTEERS WHO MAKE PROJECT CHILDREN A REALITY FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF NORTHERN IRELAND

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 1995*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to all the people who make Project Children a great success. Project Children is an organization that brings together children from Northern Ireland and American host families. These volunteers give up their time to dedicate themselves to providing these children with a peaceful and fun-filled summer.

There are many heroes involved with Project Children. John and Joan Hughes coordinate the Project Children in New Jersey and I am grateful for their devotion. The Hughes' have dedicated much of their time to raising funds that make it possible for these children to travel. They are assisted by many others, including Carolyn Malizia, Maryanne McAdams, Patty Moreale, Kevin Ferrick, Joe Masterson. They have all dedicated their time and resources to provide a summer away from the troubles and pain of Northern Ireland. I have singled out some of the people responsible for Project Children, but there are many other volunteers, too numerous to mention here, who also deserve our thanks. Every year I hold a luncheon for these young children and their host families. For the past 2 years Mr. and Mrs. Liam Benson, owners of O'Donohues Pub in Hoboken, NJ, have been gracious enough to donate their services.

Project Children is an organization founded by Denis Mulcahy and his brother Pat Mulcahy. Through the years, the organization has grown and has provided thousands of children many wonderful summers in the United States. It is an opportunity for these children to experience a different type of life, a life away from the threat of violence with which they live daily. Project Children aims to touch each individual child and imprint in their heart and mind the memories of a lifetime.

This year there is new hope for Northern Ireland with the recent signing of a ceasefire agreement. Hopefully, this will mark the dawn of a new era. These children can, perhaps now, return to a Northern Ireland that is free of bloodshed. May they return to a country united by a common cultural heritage and accepting of its religious diversity.

Please join me in honoring all those responsible for this summer of peace. Let us hope that the cease-fire agreement will be the first stepping stone to a peaceful resolution. We hope that next year these children will enjoy a wonderful summer in a peaceful Northern Ireland.

A NATIONAL LATINA ORGANIZATION HONORS RITA DI MARTINO

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 17, 1995*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Rita Di Martino, a national Latina leader who will be honored on July 27, 1995 by MANA: A National Latina Organization. On that evening the organization will announce the establishment of the Rita Di Martino Scholarship in Communications.

MANA was founded over 20 years ago and through its programs has worked to achieve recognition for Latin American women throughout the United States. The Rita Di Martino Scholarship is the first of many scholarships that MANA will establish in the future to recognize the impressive accomplishments of Latin American women in this country. Latina leaders' achievements and service in the fields of business, education, politics, science, medicine, and the space industries will be honored in this way.

Rita Di Martino is the first Latin American woman to be recognized by MANA for her outstanding contribution to both the Hispanic community and to our Nation as a whole. She is an esteemed spokesperson for the Hispanic community and a nationally recognized expert on Hispanic affairs.

Ms. Di Martino is a member of the Council of Foreign Relations, the Ana Mendez University System, and Gems Television International. She serves on the Executive Committee of the National Council of La Raza, the National Hispanic Corporate Council, the Cuban American National Council, the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials, the U.S. Senate Republican Task Force, is the Vice-Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute, and is a Presidential appointee to the USO World Board of Governors.

In 1982, President Ronald Reagan appointed Ms. Di Martino as the U.S. Ambassador to the UNICEF Executive Board. Ms. Di Martino influenced policy regarding the relationship of the United States and UNICEF, achieved increases in UNICEF's financial support, and extended the scale of programs in the areas of child health, water quality and sanitation, nutrition, and education. Ms. Di Martino conducted oversight and program review visits in Central and South America, East and West Africa, Egypt, and Morocco.

Ms. Di Martino is currently the Director of Federal Government Affairs for AT&T where she coordinates the company's relations with the administration, Congress, and various State governments. She enhanced the political standing of AT&T by securing recognition of AT&T as a major corporate citizen by the current administration. As a leader in the Hispanic community, Ms. Di Martino provides information and guidance to the company's administration about this growing segment of the population and offers leadership and direction with respect to multicultural issues. She is frequently called upon to act as a spokesperson for AT&T in both Spanish and English publications, broadcasts, electronic media, and live events.

Ms. Di Martino has been recognized by Who's Who in America, 100 Hispanic