

program. Thus, this plan has stripped not only the Federal government of its ability to protect beneficiaries, but has also stripped the beneficiaries any means of protecting themselves. Once again, the questions about accountability must be asked and answered.

Under the Republican plan, Texas will lose over \$11 billion during the next seven years and I have been told by public healthcare providers in my district that these cuts will cause great harm to the people they serve. These providers are concerned about having to close neighborhood clinics which administer preventive and primary care. They are concerned that the fiscal burden of caring for the poorer people of my district will increasingly fall upon the shoulders of the area taxpayers. They are worried that they will have to turn away the children they have sworn to help. And it is for these reasons that I am worried.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF
NORMAN MINETA

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 1995

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend and distinguished colleague, Congressman NORMAN MINETA of California's 15th Congressional District. I will remember his service to this body as thoughtful, prolific, and endearing.

After operating an insurance business with his father in the 1960's, he became increasingly active in the Japanese-American community of San Jose, and the Japanese-American Citizens League in particular. His passion for public service took off from there. He served as a member of San Jose's Human Relations Commission, then moved on to the city's housing organization. After some time with the city council, he was elected mayor of San Jose in 1971 at a time when the city's population was exploding. It was during these years that MINETA's command of substance and service to the common good made his destiny at the national level certain.

Representative MINETA has served in Congress since 1974 and devoted himself to a sound economy through Government and the defense of the disadvantaged. There are several elements of his career as a legislator that I would like to highlight today, some of which are particularly timely in this Congress.

In the 102d Congress, in the face of a hostile president, Congressman MINETA led the fight for the successful passage of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Infrastructure Act of 1991, the single most important piece of transportation legislation passed by Congress in decades. This 6-year bill authorized \$151

billion for the construction of highways, for highway safety programs and for revitalizing mass-transit throughout America. Committed to both an active Government and a responsible private sector, MINETA responded to proposed cuts in Government departments by declaring: "What sense does it make to reduce transportation investments that build our economy?"

Congressman MINETA's interests and concerns were truly broad. In 1993, he authored a bill that designated May 1993 and May 1994 as "National Trauma Awareness Month." Two other bills he wrote expanded the Air and Space Museum and the Natural History Museum of the Smithsonian. All of these became law. He also applied his energy and intellect to minority health issues. As Chair of the Congressional Asian-Pacific-American Caucus, he spoke for the Disadvantaged Minority Health Improvement Act Reauthorization last year. During that debate, he noted "the problem of discrimination in our Nation's health care system is a major one," and outlined how the bill would remedy this crisis, especially for geographically isolated minorities.

On matters related to the Judiciary Committee, we stood side-by-side often, supporting the assault weapons ban, and protecting access to abortion clinics last year. This spring, following his introduction with myself and Congressman MOORHEAD of a resolution urging China to enforce its intellectual property laws, NORMAN traveled through Asia with myself and others on a Judiciary Committee trip investigating such concerns. His wife Danealia's charm and style proved an asset too on that excursion.

Some might list his ascension to the chairmanship of the Public Works Committee in the 103d Congress as the crowing achievement of his career; in fact, he was the first Asian-American to chair a major committee. But I would list a different accomplishment that I have a great admiration for, and that I think he has a sound sense of pride: his legislation providing reparations for Japanese-Americans held in prisons during World War Two.

Rooted in his own traumatic experience as a child in an "internment camp" in Wyoming during the war, MINETA authored legislation that the 100th Congress passed that provided \$20,000 each to the 60,000 surviving victims of those concentration camps, and even more importantly, a formal apology from the U.S. Government.

I share his belief that institutional or governmental memory consisting of documents, archives, and transcripts cannot be the sole guardian of the past. I believe that history is too important to leave to this kind of memory because institutions can choose what they want to forget, like the internment camps of slavery of African-Americans. Institutions also have weak mechanisms for providing an ele-

ment of moral reflection to history. Many people do not know that the American Government has never officially acknowledged slavery. Together, we sponsored a bill for reparations for African-Americans, H.R. 891, to have the Government do just that. In a way, this bill forces a moral judgment into an official history of something that has been forgotten and denied for centuries. Because of his work for reparations for Japanese-Americans, he was always enthusiastic about exploring the meaning and broad implications of reparations.

I will miss his insight on reparations, intellectual property, health care and many other issues. I wish him the best of success in his private endeavors, and I feel honored to have served with him.

SUPPORTING A DISPUTE
RESOLUTION IN CYPRUS

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 42, a resolution calling for the demilitarization of Cyprus.

On July 20, 1974, Turkish troops invaded Cyprus and began a military occupation. Today, 35,000 Turkish troops still remain on Cyprus. They occupy one-third of the island. In a chilling reminder of the Berlin Wall, a barbed wire fence known as the Green Line cuts across Cyprus, separating thousands of Greek Cypriots from the towns and communities in which their families have lived for generations.

As a result of the invasion 21 years ago, thousands of people were killed, more than 200,000 people were expelled from their homes, and today, more than 1,600 remain missing—including 5 Americans.

Instead of helping us to locate the missing and enter negotiations aimed toward unity and freedom for Cypriots, Turkey today continues to keep troops on the island.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution calls for the troops to be withdrawn from Cyprus and urges compliance with United Nations resolutions on the issue, which Turkey has thus far refused to do. I am proud to join many of my colleagues as a cosponsor of the resolution and applaud its passage.

Over the past few years, we have witnessed tremendous changes around the world—the fall of the Berlin Wall, the beginning of reconciliation in the Middle East, and the end of apartheid. It is my sincere hope that soon we will be able to add Cyprus to that list of places where peace and freedom have triumphed.