

worlds, the Pope would not have to make his rounds in a bulletproof vehicle. In all of these cases, we have willingly made certain sacrifices in freedom because we recognize that there are larger interests at stake. In the case of the metal detectors, for example, the safety of our children, and our teachers, and the establishment of a stable climate for instruction to take place, is paramount.

If the flag amendment is about anything, it's about holding the line on respect, on the values that you and I risked our lives to preserve. We live in a society that respects little and honors still less. Most, if not all, of today's ills can be traced to a breakdown in respect—for laws, for traditions, for people, for the things held sacred by the great bulk of us.

Just as the godless are succeeding at removing God from everyday life, growing numbers of people have come to feel they're not answerable to anything larger than themselves. The message seems to be that nothing takes priority over the needs and desires and "rights" of the individual. Nothing is forbidden. Everything is permissible, from the shockingly vulgar music that urges kids to go out and shoot cops, to "art" that depicts Christ plunging into a vat of urine—to the desecration of a cherished symbol like the U.S. Flag.

Are these really the freedoms our forefathers envisioned when they drafted the Bill of Rights? Thomas Jefferson himself did not regard liberty as a no-strings proposition. His concept of democracy presupposed a nation of honorable citizens. Remove the honorable motives from a free society and what you have left is not democracy, but anarchy. What you have left, eventually, is "Lord of the Flies."

Amid all this, the flag stands for something. If respect for the flag were institutionalized, and children were brought up to understand the unique collection of principles it represents, there would be inevitable benefits to society, benefits that would help turn the tide of today's chaos and disrespect. For no one who takes such principles to heart—no one who sees the flag as an untouchable symbol of democracy, of decency—could possibly do the things that some people do, these days, in the name of freedom.

The flag stands for something miraculous that took life upon these shores more than two centuries ago and, if we only let it, will live on for centuries more. It stands for a glorious idea that has survived every challenge, that has persevered in the face of external forces who promised to "bury" us and internal forces which promised to tear us apart. Let us never forget this.

And let us not forget that 63 out of 99 senators voted with us, or that we won over 375 legislators in total. Our efforts were no more wasted than were the efforts to take remote outposts in the Pacific a half-century ago. Those efforts, too, failed at first, but eventually we prevailed.

We undertook a noble fight in trying to save our flag, and the fact that we have suffered a temporary setback does not diminish the nobility of what we fought for. This is not over by a long shot. They will hear from us again.

#### TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH DOUPHNER

HON. ANTHONY BEILENSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 28, 1996

Mr. BEILENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Topanga, California's

most dedicated and admired citizens, Elizabeth Douphner, who passed away recently.

Betty Douphner served as executive officer-clerk of the Board of Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains, formerly of Topanga-Las Virgenes Resource Conservation District, which carries out environmental education and restoration projects. During the 34 years Betty was employed by the district, she watched it grow from an operation with one employee, herself, to the 50-employee agency it is today.

In her position with the district, Betty worked tirelessly for our community. She helped secure conservation services for landowners in the area, wrote the district's quarterly newsletter, coordinated the annual plant sale, hired personnel, maintained all the district's records, and helped establish and maintain the district's Vance Hoyt Memorial Library. She became an expert on the law governing the operation of resource conservation districts in order to properly advise the district board.

Betty was also responsible for writing and obtaining the first grants that expanded the district's education program. The large number of awards to the district for conservation and education are a testimony to the effectiveness of her work, for which she was twice honored with a distinguished service award by the Employee Association of the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts.

Betty contributed much to the community in other ways as well. For her volunteer work with schools, the Women's Club, and the Strawberry Festival, the Topanga Chamber of Commerce recognized her as the 1979 "Citizen of the Year." She was also a volunteer with Share International, where she helped publish its monthly magazine.

Betty Douphner's warmth, enthusiasm, and dedication are greatly missed by all of her colleagues at the district, and by everyone else who knew her. The entire Topanga community joins me in expressing our deep sorrow to her family and friends, and our heartfelt appreciation for her many years of outstanding public service.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF LAWRENCE G. REUTER, METRO GENERAL MANAGER

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 28, 1996

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to take this opportunity to recognize the many accomplishments of the general manager of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit System [WMATA], Mr. Lawrence G. Reuter. It is indeed the Washington area's loss that Mr. Reuter has chosen to accept the position of president of New York City's transit system.

Mr. Reuter, as general manager of WMATA for the past 2 years, has consistently proven that he knows how to run a railroad. His administrative skills have been evident as he has kept the fast-track program, designed to complete the planned 103-mile metrorail system in an accelerated time period, on schedule and within budget. Under his stewardship, WMATA now has the remaining four rail segments under construction. Completion will finally provide a complete network linking all of the sub-

urban communities to all of the District of Columbia.

Perhaps the most difficult issues Mr. Reuter has addressed during his tenure at Metro are the fiscal challenges faced by all jurisdictions throughout this region. He has had to be resourceful in order to preserve quality Metro service at a time when State and local response to these budgets are lean, and Federal transit assistance has been diminishing.

Mr. Reuter has provided the kind of leadership necessary to run a public service organization in these tight fiscal times. He has consistently encouraged private sector partnerships in order to fully capitalize on the public investment in Metro. He was instrumental in the negotiation of an agreement with the RF&P Corp. to construct, entirely with private funds, a Metrorail station at Potomac Yard in Alexandria, VA. This is the first agreement of this type ever executed in the United States. His commitment to public-private partnerships has enabled Metro to streamline its joint development program making it easier for the private sector to invest in properties near Metrorail stations. His efforts to bring private sector investment to locations in proximity to Metro reflects his firm view that this region must fully utilize our investment in Metrorail. Mr. Reuter recognizes that the Metro system provides economic opportunity to all of the communities along its lines as well as environmental benefits to the entire region.

Larry Reuter has demonstrated his extraordinary ability to lead during one of the most challenging times for the transit authority. This region owes Mr. Reuter our gratitude for preserving our investment in the Metro system and for continuing to provide quality public transit service to the entire National Capital region.

#### TRIBUTE TO JONATHAN NEWTON

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 28, 1996

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, the volunteer fire service community and the entire State of Delaware suffered a tragic loss recently with the death of Jonathan Newton. Mr. Newton, at the young age of 31, was the consummate volunteer firefighter. At the time of the accident, he was en route to a fire safety program at a local middle school. It was not uncommon for Mr. Newton to volunteer his time and energy to programs that heightened public awareness about fire safety. In fact, his community education work earned him recognition as Firefighter of the Year for the Hockessin Fire Company.

When a firefighter in Delaware suffers a tragedy, it is felt by the entire fire service community. They are like a family, a unique group of individuals who take great pride in their heritage of volunteer service. Friends and family members alike spoke of Mr. Newton's altruism, and fondness toward children, as he devoted so much of his time to educating them about fire safety.

What is most tragic about Mr. Newton's death is that he leaves behind a family. He has a wife who is 7 months pregnant and two children—all of whom will always have a special place in the Delaware volunteer fire service family.

Mr. Newton's legacy of commitment and dedication as a volunteer firefighter will find a permanent place in the Delaware volunteer fire service mantra, reminding future volunteer firefighters of the importance of their mission. On behalf of the citizens of Delaware, I offer my condolences to Sharon Newton and the entire family on the untimely and tragic death of a true American hero, Mr. Jonathan Newton.

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HONORING MICHAEL EAKIN

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 28, 1996*

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to J. Michael Eakin who was recently elected as Pennsylvania Superior Court Judge and is ending his tenure as Cumberland County District Attorney. For over 20 years he has served the citizens of Pennsylvania's 19th Congressional District by dedicating his career to protecting those who live in Cumberland County and ensuring the laws of the Commonwealth are upheld.

Mr. Eakin's accomplishments in both enforcement and prevention are numerous. He is responsible for establishing the first multicounty drug task force in Pennsylvania's history. He has also dedicated much of his time to working with at-risk youth through programs such as drug abuse resistance education. In addition, Mr. Eakin has led efforts to reduce Cumberland County's alcohol-related fatalities by developing innovative programs which work to expeditiously apprehend and process drunk drivers. Several community service groups including Mother's Against Drunk Drivers and the Cumberland-Perry Drug and Alcohol Council have recognized Mr. Eakin for these achievements.

Mr. Eakin has contributed a great deal to the professional development of attorneys and law enforcement personnel. Currently recognized by the Pennsylvania District Attorney's Association and Pennsylvania Bar Association as an authority on law enforcement, he has developed and led training sessions for new district attorneys throughout the State.

Mr. Speaker, by working hand in hand with the community, Michael Eakin has exemplified the true definition of public service. On behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 19th Congressional District, I thank him for his years of dedication and wish him continued success as superior court judge.

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SRI LANKA'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 28, 1996*

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, Sunday, February 4, 1996, marked the 48th anniversary of the independence of Sri Lanka. I know my colleagues will want to join me in saluting our good friends in Sri Lanka on this momentous occasion.

Sri Lanka and the United States have much in common. Both are committed to political pluralism, and both believe in the efficacy of

free markets and private enterprise. In addition, Sri Lanka has been a good friend to the United States for many years. We work together on regional issues and in the United Nations. We collaborate on a range of critical transnational issues such as population, food security, and the environment. The United States is Sri Lanka's largest trading partner. Sri Lanka has long hosted an important Voice of America facility on its territory.

Sadly, what should have been a day of celebration for our friends in Sri Lanka was instead a time of mourning. Several days before National Day, Colombo, the Sri Lankan capital, was rocked by a terrorist explosion that claimed nearly 100 lives; 1,400 other men, women, and children were injured in the blast.

Sri Lankan officials have blamed the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam [LTTE] for this despicable act of terrorism, which, if true, would make the Colombo attack merely the latest in a long line of cowardly terrorist acts the LTTE has taken. The world community should be forthright in its denunciations of this group. Let there be no doubt on this score: Genuine freedom fighters do not wantonly take the lives of the very people they claim to be liberating.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to conclude by reiterating my congratulations to the brave people of Sri Lanka on the occasion of their National Day, as well as my deepest condolences for this horrid act of terrorism that struck down so many innocent people.

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CONGRESS MISSES THE MAGIC SHOW

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 28, 1996*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, in passing a Defense authorization bill which includes a cruel and wholly unjustified provision requiring the discharge of all service members who are HIV-positive, Congress served itself and the Nation very badly. Our former colleague, who is now the junior Senator from California [Ms. BOXER] recently illustrated how unwise and unfair this new policy is with an article in the Los Angeles Times for February 6. Because we still have a chance to redeem ourselves by repealing this provision before it goes into effect, it is very important that all Members reflect on the truth of what our former colleague has written and so I ask that the article entitled "Congress Misses the Magic Show" by BARBARA BOXER, in the February 6, Los Angeles Times be reprinted here.

[From the Los Angeles Times, Feb. 6, 1996]

CONGRESS MISSES THE 'MAGIC' SHOW

(By Barbara Boxer)

Americans cheered last week as Earvin "Magic" Johnson triumphantly returned to the Los Angeles Lakers. In just 27 minutes, he scored 19 points and dispelled any remaining doubt about his ability to compete at the highest level.

To their credit, Magic's fans, coaches, teammates and even his NBA opponents welcomed him back with open arms. Imagine how absurd it would be if Congress, just as Magic demonstrated his Hall of Fame talent, passed a law requiring the NBA to fire all basketball players who have the HIV virus.

This past week, Congress did something just that absurd.

A little-noticed provision of the annual military spending bill requires the Pentagon to fire all soldiers, sailors and Marines who test positive for the HIV virus, even if they perform their duties as skillfully as Magic Johnson makes a no-look pass. The military strongly objected to this provision, but Congress did not care. The president has called the new policy unfair, but because it is part of a larger bill that includes urgently needed funding for our troops in Bosnia, he will sign it into law.

Under current policy, military personnel with the HIV virus are permitted to remain in the services as long as they are able to perform their duties. If their health deteriorates, the military initiates separation procedures and provides disability benefits and continued health insurance coverage for them and their dependents. So they can remain near health care providers, military personnel with HIV are placed on "worldwide nondeployable status," which means that they cannot be sent on overseas missions. Soldiers with other serious chronic illnesses, such as severe asthma, cancer and diabetes are also nondeployable. In fact, only about 20% of the more than 5,000 nondeployable personnel are infected with HIV.

The congressional authors of the new policy, led by Rep. Robert K. Dornan of Orange County, argue that nondeployable personnel degrade military readiness because they cannot be sent overseas. However, their true motive appears to be less lofty than protecting the readiness of our forces. The new policy irrationally singles out military personnel with HIV. If backers truly believe that nondeployable personnel harmed readiness, why wouldn't they seek to oust soldiers with diabetes and asthma? The only conceivable answer is that readiness is not their real motivation. Their motivation is discrimination, pure and simple.

Can anyone seriously contend that 1,059 HIV-positive soldiers—less than 0.1% of the total force—can meaningfully affect readiness? The Pentagon doesn't think so. Its top personnel policy expert, Assistant Defense Secretary Fred Pang, recently wrote that "as long as these members can perform their required duties, we see no prudent reason to separate and replace them. . . . The proposed provision would not improve military readiness or the personnel policies of the department."

If Magic Johnson can run and leap with the best of them, why can't a military clerk file with the best of them, or a military driver drive with the best of them?

Perhaps the worst aspect of the new policy is its total rejection of the compassion and camaraderie for which the armed forces are rightfully praised. The United States of America does not kick its soldiers when they are down. We have a proud tradition of standing by those courageous enough to dedicate their careers to the defense of our nation. That tradition will end the day this new policy is enacted.

Military personnel discharged under the new policy will lose their jobs even if they exhibit no signs of illness. They will lose their right to disability benefits and their spouses and children will lose their health care coverage. This policy is worse than wrong, it is un-American.

The same day that President Clinton signs the bill that includes this new policy, a bipartisan group of senators will introduce legislation to repeal it. The president and our senior military leaders support repeal. Despite their strong support, the odds are unclear. But I am certain about one thing: