

could total as much as \$97 million over a 7-year period, at \$37 per student plus startup costs. It makes more sense to educate our children, rather than waste our resources verifying their citizenship, while risking discriminating against our own citizens in the process.

Other provisions, such as those which would force public hospitals to identify illegals before being reimbursed, are equally immoral. This could threaten public health and possibly increase harassment and discrimination in our hospitals.

It is my hope that we may vote to divide this bill into two parts, one which deals with legal immigration and the other with illegal immigration. I support securing our borders with more agents, better equipment, and sturdy barriers. I applaud the deportation of criminals and increased penalties for people who fraudulently reproduce U.S. documents. However, I do not back the provision to enhance the power of Federal law enforcement, including increasing wiretap authority. This is a complex bill with more weaknesses than strengths, at this point. Splitting the bill could allow us to focus on the real problem, which is stopping illegal, not legal, immigration.

Let us decrease the flow of illegal immigrants to our Nation, while proceeding to advance legal immigration. Our country continues to obtain its ultimate strength from diversity. Our tradition as a nation of immigrants obligates us to find a fair and just way to handle that responsibility.

Specifically, on the amendments, had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Amendment No. 3, offered by Representative BEILENSEN—"yes";

Amendment No. 4, offered by Representative MCCOLLUM—"yes";

Amendment No. 7, offered by Representative BRYANT (TN)—"no";

Amendment No. 9, offered by Representative VELÁZQUEZ—"yes";

Amendment No. 10, offered by Representative GALLEGLY—"no";

Amendment No. 12, offered by Representative CHABOT—"no";

Amendment No. 16, offered by Representative CANADY—"no";

Amendment No. 18, offered by Representative DREIER—"no";

Amendment No. 19, offered by Representative CHRYSLER—"yes";

Amendment No. 22, offered by Representative POMBO—"no";

Amendment No. 24, offered by Representative GOODLATTE—"no";

Amendment No. 28, offered by Representative BURR—"no";

Bryant motion to recommit—"yes".

Final passage—"no".

In addition, on Thursday, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 80, "no" on rollcall vote 81, "yes" on rollcall vote 82, and "no" on rollcall vote 83.

And, on the motion to go to conference on the omnibus continuing appropriations bill, I would have voted "yes".

Finally, on Friday, I would have voted "no" on both the rule and final passage of H.R. 125, to repeal the assault weapon ban.

TRIBUTE TO GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. DAVID R. OBEY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 26, 1996

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to salute an outstanding young woman, Elizabeth Fox, who has been honored with the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. Gold Award by the Indian Waters Girl Scout Council in Eau Claire, WI.

She is being honored for earning the highest achievement award in Girl Scouting. The Girl Scout Gold Award symbolizes outstanding accomplishments in the areas of leadership, community service, career planning, and personal development.

Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., an organization serving over 2.6 million girls, has awarded more than 20,000 Girl Scout Gold Awards to senior Girl Scouts since the inception of the program in 1980. To receive the award, a Girl Scout must fulfill five requirements: earn four interest project patches, earn the Career Exploration pin, earn the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award project, earn the Senior Girl Scout Challenge, and design and implement a Girl Scout Gold Award project. A plan for fulfilling the requirements of the award is created by the senior Girl Scout and is carried out through close cooperation between the girl and an adult Girl Scout volunteer.

For the Girl Scout Gold Award project, Elizabeth organized a stuffed animal drive in her community and donated the toys to local time-out shelters. For her project, Elizabeth assessed the needs of her community, developed a plan to address one specific area in need, and followed through with the project to completion. The organizational and communications skills she developed through the project will benefit her throughout her life, and Elizabeth's dedication to Eau Claire will benefit the community for a long time to come.

The earning of the Girl Scout Gold Award is a major accomplishment for Elizabeth Fox, and I believe she should receive the public recognition due her for this significant service to her community and her country.

HONORING CHARLES C. WILLIAMS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 26, 1996

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise before my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to recognize Mr. Charles C. Williams. Mr. Williams is retiring after many years of dedicated public service. A retirement dinner in his honor is to be held on March 29, 1996 in Flushing, MI.

Throughout his 40-year career, Mr. Williams worked diligently to improve the lives of those who were less fortunate, and who were most in need. Mr. Williams proved to be a tireless advocate for children and played a vital role in helping to develop and advance programs dedicated to the preservation of one of the most important resources, the family. His work on behalf of his community has earned him the respect of not only his colleagues, but also the countless people whose lives were touched by him.

Mr. Speaker, Charles C. Williams has worked selflessly to make his community a better place in which to live. I know that his retirement dinner is not meant to celebrate his departure from the Department of Social Services, rather, the dinner is meant to show him the deep and abiding love and respect his colleagues, his family, his friends, and his community have for him. I ask you and my fellow Members of the 104th Congress to join me in paying tribute to such a dedicated public servant, Mr. Charles C. Williams.

H.R. 2202—THE IMMIGRATION IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST ACT

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 26, 1996

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I believe H.R. 2202 creates an aura of fear and suspicion within our communities. Instead of addressing the real problem—the loss of our jobs to illegal immigrants, it unfairly punishes children and college students seeking an education. My district in Rhode Island is comprised of American citizens and legal residents of a multitude of races and nationalities. Because of that, I voted against final passage of the bill.

I wholeheartedly support H.R. 2202's initiatives to end illegal immigration by increasing the number of border control agents, building additional roads and barriers and cracking down on employers who hire illegal aliens. This mean spirited bill however, heightens the fear, hysteria, and anti-immigrant fervor that is running rampant across this country. For this reason, I could not in good conscience support this legislation.

My district in Rhode Island is enriched by the many people who have brought their cultures and traditions to this great Nation to build a life for themselves and for future generations. I am proud of these hardworking Americans, who each day go to work, pay taxes, and contribute to creating a stronger United States and Rhode Island.

Rhode Island boasts a myriad of ethnic groups who take pride in these cultures and traditions. This allows future generations of Rhode Islanders to celebrate the lives of their forebearers while providing the greater community the opportunity to share, learn, and respect the value of difference. This fellowship is part of the solution to ending the ignorance and fear of the unknown. Whether it be the Portuguese fiestas in Bristol, the Greek festivals in Pawtucket, the Hispanic celebrations in Central Falls, the French-Canadian traditions in Woonsocket, the Italian feasts in North Providence, or the Irish parades in Newport, Rhode Islanders value and cherish their ethnic roots. H.R. 2202 contributes to the slow but sure demise of these cultural values.

I find it unconscionable that Congress would approve legislation allowing school administrators the right to demand proof of citizenship before allowing a child to receive an education. It is a travesty that in an effort to curb illegal immigration, the authors of this bill have chosen to scapegoat children. Have we become so desperate that we must resort to these drastic measures? Creating an Orwellian society in which individuals must present a