

school. The result of his efforts: an increase from 490 to 836 student by 1984; expansion of the Sacred Heart Gymnasium; construction of the theology wing, Bishop Blanchette Library, and the Christopher Cooper Computer Center.

It was through his hard work, self-sacrifice, dedication, and ability to lead that all of these goals were realized and instead of Providence High School's doors closing in 1969, countless numbers of students were able to receive a fundamental Catholic education from one of the finest schools in Illinois.

In 1985 Father Kaffer was named auxiliary bishop of Joliet by Pope John Paul II and his era at Providence ended. However, his wisdom and commitment to the school will always be part of its legacy. Truly a man of God, Father Kaffer serves as a role model for all of us and how we must all work together for the good of the community.

Congratulations Father Kaffer on being named UNICO's Citizen of the Year and best wishes.

INTRODUCTION OF THE
REGULATOR TERM LIMIT ACT

HON. TOM CAMPBELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that will begin to ensure the accountability of our Nation's independent regulatory agencies by imposing term limits on their members. In my view, any entrenched Government body, whether legislative or regulatory, loses accountability and responsiveness. By imposing term limits, we will bring independent regulatory commissions in step with the current movement to energize Government bodies by turnover, thereby making them more accountable to the American citizens.

The Regulator Term Limit Act of 1996, would limit an individual to two terms as a member of any independent regulatory commission. This bill had its genesis in the recently enacted ICC Termination Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-88), in which Congress adopted the suggestion of Surface Transportation Board Commissioner Gus A. Owen to limit the STB Commissioners to two terms. Mr.

Owen, himself a long serving Commissioner, saw the need to end the entrenchment which is all too common in regulatory agencies.

Independent regulatory agencies perform quasi-legislative or quasi-judicial functions. They make their decisions based on findings of fact, supported by evidence, and drawn from a record open to public scrutiny. To fulfill their mission, independence from the executive or legislative branch is essential. Their public accountability, however, is frustrated if the decision makers become entrenched. We should guarantee their accountability by requiring that Commissioners serve no more than two terms. In addition, in the Jeffersonian citizen-legislator spirit, we will be providing more opportunities for talented people to serve their Nation when Commissioners return to private life.

As original cosponsors, I would like to thank Mr. CLINGER, Mr. MCINTOSH, Mr. PACKARD, Mr. LARGENT, Mr. UPTON, Mr. CASTLE, Mr. SCARBOROUGH, Mr. HORN, Mr. BONO, and Mr. ZELIFF. Their efforts are much appreciated and I look forward to continued input on this bill.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation that helps ensure good government by preventing the entrenchment of independent regulatory commissioners through the imposition of term limits.