

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Eileen is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, MI.

Eileen Rocchio is an exceptional student at Coldwater High School and possesses an impressive high school record, President of both the National Honor Society, and her class, Eileen was also listed in "Who's Who Among American High School Students." She was co-captain of the girl's basketball team, and was the 1995 homecoming queen. Outside of school Eileen has been very involved with Girl Scouts of America and received the Gold Award.

In special tribute, therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Eileen Rocchio for her selection as a winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support, and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

HONORING SARITA SPIWAK, WIZO
WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sarita Spiwak, a special woman who has dedicated herself to many humanitarian causes, most notably to the work of the Women's International Zionist Organization [WIZO]. This organization, founded in 1920, sets out to promote the welfare of women, children, the elderly, and immigrants, with the belief that this will strengthen and improve the quality of life for everyone in the State of Israel.

For her many years of hard work and commitment to the ideals of the WIZO, this Saturday, May 11, 1996, the organization will show its appreciation to Sarita by honoring her as its "Woman of the Year."

Sarita was born and raised in Bogota, Colombia. She married Dr. Jose Spiwak in 1967. In 1969, she and Jose moved to Israel with their newborn daughter, Daniela, fulfilling their Zionist dream. While in Israel, they studied and worked and also enjoyed the arrival of their second daughter, Yael, in 1971. Following Yael's birth, the Spiwaks moved back to Colombia. One year later, in 1972, the family moved to the United States. In 1976, their son, Allan, was born. Two years later, in 1978, Sarita, Jose, and their three children settled in Los Angeles.

In 1987, Sarita was asked, along with 10 other women, to begin a WIZO chapter in Los Angeles. For nearly a decade, Sarita's work with WIZO has led her to dedicate her time and resources to various other projects that support women, children and the elderly in Israel and throughout the world. She is a tireless advocate of efforts to preserving the State of Israel and an integral and prominent member of California's Jewish community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I ask my colleagues to join with me in saluting this

champion of human rights, Sarita Spiwak, for her commitment to the welfare of the less fortunate. I ask my colleague to congratulate her on being honored as the "Woman of the Year" by the Women's International Zionist Organization.

BALANCING THE BUDGET

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, as my Republican colleagues and I continue to work on the fiscal year 1997 budget resolution, we are committed to our course—a balanced budget.

The Republican budget plan will balance by the year 2002. It will protect priority programs with proven track records. It will privatize, eliminate, and reduce others that are inefficient and ineffective. It will provide middle-class families and small businesses with much-needed tax relief. And, it will take the power, money and influence out of Washington, emphasizing local solutions to local problems.

In contrast, President Clinton's budget only balances by raising taxes—on top of his historic 1993 tax hike. He would spend billions more of America's hard-earned dollars, perpetuating the big Government tax-and-spend policies that have characterized this administration. In fact, the President's budget creates at least 14 new Government programs and continues status quo welfare programs. If the current deficit was not enough, the President's budget would saddle future generations with at least \$119 billion more in deficit spending.

Mr. Speaker, the President's budget amounts to nothing more than higher taxes, more spending and bigger Government. American families do not want more added to their already unwieldy tax bill. They want smaller Government. They want less intrusive Government. Most of all, they want to keep their money—the money they work hard for so they can take care of their families, not the Government.

UNFUNDED MANDATES AND CBO
ESTIMATES

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 was intended to assist Congress in its consideration of proposed legislation by providing information about the nature and size of possible mandates in those proposals. The Congressional Budget Office is directed by that statute to help in developing such information.

I wrote to the Congressional Budget Office to express my concerns about serious problems with the unfunded mandates information CBO provided on the conference report on H.R. 1561, the America Overseas Interest Act. That correspondence appears in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of March 22, 1996, at E426.

I would now like to submit the CBO response to my earlier letter. I am pleased that

CBO acknowledges that it would be more useful to the Congress for CBO to provide the full cost estimate for any bill at one time, rather than in select parts, and that three of the four provisions in the conference report on H.R. 1561 would in fact increase costs to the States. I hope that in the future CBO will include such information in a single estimate at the time a bill is under consideration.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, April 18, 1996.

Hon. LEE H. HAMILTON,
Ranking Minority Member, Committee on International Relations, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN: I am writing in response to your letter of March 20, 1996, concerning CBO's intergovernmental mandates cost statement for the conference report on H.R. 1561, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1996 and 1997. Our mandates statement concluded that the conference report contained no intergovernmental mandates as defined by the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-4).

In your letter, you raised two major concerns about CBO's estimate. First, you suggested that separating the mandates cost statement from the federal cost estimate for a bill or conference report diminishes the usefulness of the information for Members. I fully agree. As a general rule, CBO attempts to send out all information on a bill—the federal cost estimate, the intergovernmental mandate statement, and the private sector mandate statement—at the same time. Sometimes, however, we cannot complete all those statements at once, and in the interest of providing information in a timely manner, we send them separately.

Second, you questioned CBO's conclusion that H.R. 1561 would impose no intergovernmental mandates. Because the definition of mandate in Public Law 104-4 is a narrow one, a bill can increase costs for states and localities without imposing a mandate upon them. In fact, H.R. 1561 is just such a case. As you suggest, states would face additional costs if more refugees enter the United States and receive benefits from AFDC, Medicaid, or other public programs. CBO's estimate should have indicated the likelihood of such costs, even though they would not be the direct result of new mandates imposed on the states.

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act defines a federal intergovernmental mandate as any provision in legislation, statute, or regulations that would impose an enforceable duty upon state, local or tribal governments, except as a condition of federal assistance or a duty arising from participation in a voluntary federal program. Under the act, a provision that related to large federal entitlement grant programs constitutes a mandate only if that provision would increase the stringency of conditions of assistance to state, local, and tribal governments under those programs, and only if the affected governments lack authority under that program to amend their financial or programmatic responsibilities to continue providing required services that are affected by the provision. Furthermore, section 4 of Public Law 104-4 specifically excludes from CBO's analysis certain kinds of legislative provisions, including any provision that "is necessary for the national security or the ratification or implementation of international treaty obligations."

Three of the provisions cited in your letter as having the potential to expand the states' burden of caring for refugees (sections 1104, 1253, and 1255) do not meet the definition of an intergovernmental mandate in Public