

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO BISHOP AND MRS. COUSIN OF THE BRIDGE STREET A.M.E. CHURCH AS THEY HOST THE 174TH NEW YORK CONFERENCE OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Philip Robert Cousin, Sr., the 96th Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal denomination as he joins over 100,000 congregants from throughout New York State and the Nation to celebrate their religious and cultural heritage, while also attending worship and legislative sessions. Founded in 1787, the African Methodist Episcopal church is the oldest of its kind in the United States and has grown up to 7,000 churches nationwide. Bishop Cousin has worked tirelessly to mobilize African-American communities throughout the United States with his spiritual strength and courageous leadership. The people of Brooklyn and New York have benefitted a great deal from Bishop Cousin and the Bridge Street A.M.E. church as he hosts another spiritually enlightening conference.

I would also like to honor Mrs. Margaret Joan Cousin for her work in expanding AIDS education and awareness within the African-American community in the United States. As a dedicated leader and educator, Mrs. Cousin was responsible for developing the national standard for a curriculum in African-American culture, education and history—a model that has been adopted by academic institutions nationwide. Her work as a teacher in North Carolina has earned her the esteemed honor of Teacher of the Year, and was awarded Supervisor of Quadrennium by the Women's Missionary Society from 1987 to 1991. Mrs. Cousin has brought boundless energy and vision to the Eleventh and First Episcopal Districts of the African Methodist Episcopal Church with her focus on AIDS education.

It pleases me greatly to participate in this historic conference. I wish all the friends, families, ministers, community leaders and supporters of the Bridge Street African Methodist Episcopal Church abundant success in organizing the New York annual conference.

KATHRYN SOSINSKI, LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let it be known, that it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Kathryn

Sosinski, winner of the 1996 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Kathryn 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.

Kathryn Sosinski is an exceptional student at Bronson High School and possesses an impressive high school record. Kathryn's involvement in student government and school activities began her freshman year and continued through her senior year as the class president. She is a member of the National Honor Society and the Varsity Club. Kathryn was a member of the homecoming court and attended Girl's State. Outside of school, Kathryn has spent much of her time volunteering for several local organizations.

In special tribute, therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Kathryn Sosinski 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.

NATIONAL COALITION OF TITLE I/CHAPTER 1 PARENTS—REGION II 22d ANNUAL IN-SERVICE PARENT TRAINING CONFERENCE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, May 31, 1996, at the Sheraton Hotel in Eatontown, NJ, the National Coalition of Title I/Chapter 1 Parents—Region II will hold its 22d Annual In-Service Parent Training Conference.

It is with great honor that I pay tribute to the National Coalition of Title I/Chapter 1 Parents and proclaim this day as "Title I Day". Title I is the largest federally funded elementary and secondary education program. Evolving from President Lyndon Johnson's Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, Title I has provided academic assistance to economically and educationally disadvantaged children. In a time when spending cuts for educational programs are threatening the futures of our children, I have stood up to defend and maintain the educational system in this country. It is a welcome relief to see the fine work that this organization is responsible for and to know that parents everywhere are receiving the necessary assistance for improving the quality of their children's education.

Mr. Speaker, this 22d annual conference is an important event and one that should re-

mind us all of the importance of a sound educational system and the future of our children that we hold in our hands.

TEN YEARS OF SERVICE BY THE INTERFAITH SHELTER NETWORK

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate 10 years of dedicated service by 10,000 volunteers of the Interfaith Shelter Network in San Diego County, CA.

Ten years ago, the Network began as an idea in the minds of several people who were trying to resolve some problems of the homeless in the region. In 1985, the Network was formed as a joint effort between San Diego County community, civic, and religious leaders—and it started on a small scale, with approximately a dozen congregations.

The Network offers 8 to 10 weeks of shelter for each participating guest who is referred by a social service agency. Congregations provide sleeping accommodations and meals as the guests work on transitional plans with their social service agencies to get back into their own housing. Participating congregations have developed a family-style environment where the volunteers become an important extended family for their guests.

Responding to the need with rapid growth, the Interfaith Shelter Network now includes more than 130 Christian, Jewish, and Baha'i congregations in seven regions of San Diego County. More than 4,100 people have been provided with over 81,000 nights of shelter—and more than half of the 4,100 guests have left the Network's shelters for their own housing. When the program started, many of the people served were single men. Two years ago, families became the largest group served, as they also became the fastest growing segment of the homeless population.

The Network, administered by the Ecumenical Council of San Diego County under the supervision of Executive Director Glenn Allison, began its second program in 1990—the Transitional Housing Program. To date, this new program has assisted more than 25 families, including 110 people, with education and counseling.

The 10th anniversary of the Interfaith Shelter Network will be commemorated with an anniversary service and Thank-You Picnic this coming Sunday, May 19. On this joyous occasion, I commend the Ecumenical Council, the city and county of San Diego, and the many private donors who, with their donations and other means of support, have made the idea of the Network a reality.

I commend the guests of this program who have enriched the lives of their host congregations and those who, with determination, have left the ranks of the homeless.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

And I commend the thousands of volunteers from the Christian, Jewish, and Baha'i communities who, with their generosity of time and spirit, have made the Network work.

So often, we look around at the problems overwhelming our cities and despair that nothing can be done. In contrast, the Interfaith Shelter Network is an example of how people can make a positive difference in their communities.

REV. BILLY GRAHAM: A SOCIETY
POISED ON THE BRINK OF SELF-
DESTRUCTION

HON. ROBERT K. DORNAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, I commend to you and our colleagues the following transcript from the marvelous speech by the Rev. Billy Graham delivered in a jam-packed rotunda on May 2, 1996. I urge everyone to heed its words.

THE HOPE FOR AMERICA
(By Dr. Billy Graham)

Mr. Vice President; Speaker Newt Gingrich; Majority Leader Bob Dole; Senator Strom Thurmond; Members of the House of Representatives and the Senate; distinguished guests and friends.

Ruth and I are overwhelmed by the very kind words that have been spoken today, and especially by the high honor you have just bestowed on both of us. It will always be one of the high points of our lives, and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for this unforgettable event. We are grateful for all of you in the Senate and House who have had a part in it; and President Clinton for his support in signing the resolution.

As we read the list of distinguished Americans who have received the Congressional Gold Medal in the past—beginning with George Washington in 1776—we know we do not belong in the same company with them, and we feel very unworthy. One reason is because we both know this honor ought to be shared with those who have helped us over the years—some of whom are here today. As a young boy I remember gazing at that famous painting of Washington crossing the Delaware. Only later did it occur to me that Washington did not get across that river by himself. He had the help of others—and that has been true of us as well. Our ministry has been a team effort, and without our associates and our family we never could have accomplished anything.

I am especially grateful my wife Ruth and I are both being given this honor. No one has sacrificed more than Ruth has, or been more dedicated to God's calling for the two of us.

However, I would not be here today receiving this honor if it were not for an event that happened to me many years ago as a teenager on the outskirts of Charlotte, North Carolina. An evangelist came through our town for a series of meetings. I came face-to-face with the fact that God loved me, Billy Graham, and had sent His Son to die for my sin. He told how Jesus rose from the dead to give us hope of eternal life.

I never forgot a verse of Scripture that was quoted. "As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (*John 1:12, KJV*). That meant that I must respond to God's offer of mercy and forgiveness. I had to repent of my own sins and receive Jesus Christ by faith.

When the preacher asked people to surrender their lives to Christ, I responded. I had little or no emotion; I was embarrassed to stand with a number of other people when I knew some of my school peers saw me; but I meant it. And that simple repentance and open commitment to Jesus Christ changed my life. If we have accomplished anything at all in life since then, however, it has only been because of the grace and mercy of God.

As Ruth and I receive this award we know that some day we will lay it at the feet of the One we seek to serve.

As most of you know, the President has issued a proclamation for this day, May 2, 1996, to be a National Day of Prayer. Here in Washington you will see and hear of people throughout the District of Columbia praying today. It is encouraging and thrilling that here, and across the country people have committed themselves to pray today for our leaders, our nation, our world, and for ourselves as individuals. I am so glad that before business each morning, both the House of Representatives and the Senate have a prayer led by Chaplain Ogilvie of the Senate, who has had so much to do with this event today, and Chaplain Jim Ford, who used to be chaplain at West Point when I went almost every year to bring a message to the cadets.

Exactly 218 years ago today—on May 2, 1778—the first recipient of this award, George Washington, issued a General order to the American people. He said, "The . . . instances of Providential Goodness which we have experienced and have now almost crowned our labors with complete success demand from us . . . the warmest returns of Gratitude and Piety to the Supreme Authority of all Good." It was a message of hope and trust, and it also was a challenge for the people to turn to God in repentance and faith.

We are standing at a similar point in our history as less than four years from now the world will enter the Third Millennium. What will it hold for us? Will it be a new era of unprecedented peace and prosperity? Or will it be a continuation of our descent into new depths of crime, oppression sexual immorality, and evil?

Ironically, many people heralded the dawn of the 20th Century with optimism. The steady march of scientific and social progress, they believed would vanquish our social and economic problems. Some optimistic theologian even predicted the 20th Century would be "The Christian Century", as humanity followed Jesus' exhortation to love your neighbor as yourself. But no other century has been ravaged by such devastating wars, genocides and tyrannies. During this century we have witnessed the outer limits of human evil.

Our mood on the brink of the 21st Century is far more somber. Terms like "ethnic cleansing" "random violence" and "suicide bombing" have become part of our daily vocabulary.

Look at our own society. There is much, of course, that is good about America, and we thank God for our heritage of freedom and our abundant blessings. America has been a nation that has shown a global compassion that the rest of the world seemingly does not understand. After World War II because we had the Atom Bomb, we had the opportunity to rule the world, but America turned from that and instead helped rebuild the countries of our enemies.

Nevertheless, something has happened since those days and there is much about America that is no longer good. You know the problems as well as I do; racial and ethnic tensions that threaten to rip apart our cities and neighborhoods; crime and violence of epidemic proportions in most of our cities;

children taking weapons to school; broken families; poverty; drugs; teenage pregnancy; corruption; the list is almost endless. Would the first recipients of this award even recognize the society they sacrificed to establish? I fear not. We have confused liberty with license—and we are paying the awful price. We are a society poised on the brink of self-destruction.

But what is the real cause? We call conferences and consultations without end, frantically seeking solutions to all our problems; we engage in shuttle diplomacy; and yet in the long run little seems to change. Why is that? What is the problem? The real problem is within ourselves.

Almost three thousand years ago King David, the greatest king Israel ever had, sat under the stars and contemplated the reasons for the human dilemma. He listed three things that the world's greatest scientists and sociologists have not been able to solve, and it seems the more we know, and the greater our technology, the more difficulties we are in. In perhaps the best-known passage of the Old Testament, Psalm 23, he touches on the three greatest problems of the human race.

First, David said, is the problem of emptiness. David wrote: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." He was not talking just about physical want, but spiritual want.

I stood on the campus of one of our great universities some time ago, and I asked the Dean, "What is the greatest problem on your campus?" He replied in one word: "Emptiness." The human heart craves for meaning, and yet we live in a time of spiritual emptiness that haunts millions.

"Nirvana" is the Hindu word for someone who has arrived into the state of perpetual bliss. Media reports said that Kurt Cobain, the NIRVANA rock group's leader, was the pacesetter for the nineties, and the "savior of rock and roll." But he said the song in the end which best described his state of mind was "I hate myself and I want to die!" And at age 27 he committed suicide with a gun.

Second, is the problem of guilt. David wrote: "He restoreth my soul, he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness." Down inside we all know that we have not measured up even to our own standards, let alone God's standard.

Third, David pointed to the problem of death. "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me." Death is the one common reality of all human life. Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown did not realize his time had come when he stepped on that plane in Croatia a few weeks ago.

From time to time I have wandered through Statuary Hall and looked at all those statues of some of the greatest men and women in our nation's history. But one thing is true of every one of them: They are all dead.

Yes, these three things—emptiness, guilt, and the fear of death—haunt our souls. We frantically seek to drown out their voices, driving ourselves into all sorts of activities—from sex to drugs or tranquilizers—and yet they are still there.

But we must probe deeper. Why is the human heart this way? The reason is because we are alienated from our Creator. That was the answer David found to these three problems: "The Lord is my shepherd." This is why I believe the fundamental crisis of our time is a crisis of the spirit. We have lost sight of the moral and spiritual principles on which this nation was established—principles drawn largely from the Judeo-Christian tradition as found in the Bible.

What is the cure? Is there any hope?

Ruth and I have devoted our lives to the deep conviction that the answer is yes. There

is hope! Our lives can be changed, and our world can be changed. The Scripture says, "You must be born again." You could have a spiritual rebirth right here today.

What must be done? Let me briefly suggest three things.

First, we must repent. In the depths of the American Civil War, Abraham Lincoln called for special days of public repentance and prayer. Our need for repentance is no less today. What does repentance mean? Repentance means to change our thinking and our way of living. It means to turn from our sins and to commit ourselves to God and His will. Over 2700 years ago the Old Testament prophet Isaiah declared: "Seek the Lord while he may be found: call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon" (Isaiah 55:6-7, NIV). Those words are as true today as they were over two and a half millennia ago.

Second, we must commit our lives to God, and to the moral and spiritual truths that have made this nation great. Think how different our nation would be if we sought to follow the simple and yet profound injunctions of the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount. But we must respond to God, Who is offering us forgiveness, mercy, supernatural help, and the power to change.

Third, our commitment must be translated into action—in our homes, in our neighborhoods, and in our society.

Jesus taught there are only two roads in life. One is the broad road that is easy and well-traveled, but which leads to destruction. The other, He said, is the narrow road of truth and faith that at times is hard and lonely, but which leads to life and salvation.

As we face a new millennium, I believe America has gone a long way down the wrong road. We must turn around and go back and change roads. If ever we needed God's help, it is now. If ever we needed spiritual renewal, it is now. And it can begin today in each one of our lives, as we repent before God and yield ourselves to Him and His Word.

What are YOU going to do?

The other day I heard the story of a high school principal who held an assembly for graduating seniors, inviting a recruiter from each branch of the service: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines to each give a twelve minutes presentation on career opportunities they offered to the students. He stressed the importance of each staying within their allocated time.

The Army representative went first, and was so eloquent that he got a standing ovation, but went eighteen minutes. Not to be outdone, the Navy presentation was equally superb, but took nineteen minutes. Air Force then gave a sterling presentation, which lasted twenty minutes. By now, the principal was irate, and admonished the Marine recruiter that he had only three minutes before the students had to leave for the next class!

During the first two minutes of his shortened time, the Marine didn't say a word, but individually and carefully studied the faces of each student. Finally, he said, "I've looked across this crowd and I see three or four individuals who have what it takes to be a United States Marine. If you think you are one of them, I want to see you down front immediately after the assembly."

Who do you think drew the biggest crowd!

This afternoon, as I look out across this distinguished group gathered here, I see

more than a few men and women who have what it takes, under God to lead our country forward "through the night" into the next millenium—individuals who represent civic and governmental authority—as well as doctors, lawyers, clergy, artists and media.

Again, Ruth and I are deeply humbled by this award, and we thank you for all that it represents.

We pledge to continue the work that God has called us to do as long as we live.

Thank you.

HONORING THE FLYNNS LICK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Flynn's Lick Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in fire-fighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

IN CELEBRATION OF NFPA'S CENTENNIAL

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the National Fire Protection Association [NFPA] as it celebrates its 100th anniversary. Organized in 1896, the NFPA is an international nonprofit organization with headquarters in Quincy, MA. Over 68,000 members and 300 employees are dedicated to helping all Americans reduce the burden of fire on the quality of life by advocating scientifically based consensus codes and standards, research and education for fire and related safety issues.

The NFPA's national consensus codes and standards are respected worldwide. Over 5,300 individuals serve voluntarily on technical committees that develop over 300 safety codes and standards which are widely adopted and enforced throughout the land. Among the most widely used codes are the "National Electric Code," the "Life Safety Code," the "Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code," the "Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems," the "Standard for the Storage and Handling of Liquefied Petroleum Gases," "National Fire Alarm Code," and the "Standard for Health Care Facilities." These documents, when adopted by Federal, State, or local government make our daily lives safer. From the buildings we live in to the training of the firefighters who dedicate themselves to protecting lives and preserving property, the NFPA has been the leader in advocating fire safety throughout its 100 years.

NFPA presents its public education programs about fire safety in a positive, non-threatening manner to children. The "Learn Not to Burn [LNTB]" curriculum stresses how to prevent fires and teaches basic fire safety behavior. This successful program is used by schools in all 50 States and is credited with saving over 300 lives.

At the Eighth Annual Fire and Emergency Services Dinner on April 30, NFPA was honored with the Congressional Fire Services Institute's Partnership Award. This award recognizes NFPA's outstanding commitment to the fire service community and its many contributions to fire safety.

I would like to invite the U.S. Congress to join me in congratulating NFPA on this historic anniversary. As the association enters its second century, its dedicated membership will continue to make the United States a safe place for all Americans.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating NFPA on its 100th anniversary.

ALICESON ROBINSON, LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let it be known that it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership, and community service, that I am proud to salute Aliceson Robinson, winner of the 1996 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Aliceson 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.

Aliceson Robinson is an outstanding student at Homer High School and her high school

record is exceptional. President of the National Honor Society, Aliceson has also earned the Jackson Citizen Patriot Class Act Award, the Albion College Sleight Leadership Award, and was listed in "Who's Who Among American High School Students." As captain of the Quiz Bowl Team, a science olympiad participant, she has excelled academically. Aliceson has also been involved with student government and a member of SADD and other community organizations.

In special tribute, therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Aliceson Robinson 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 THE FAIRGROUNDS
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Fairgrounds Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These fireman must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

U.S. HOUSING ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2406) to repeal

the United States Housing Act of 1937, deregulate the public housing program and the program for rental housing assistance for low-income families, and increase community control over such programs, and for other purposes.

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 2406, the United States Housing Act of 1996. Let me say at the outset that, while I appreciate the efforts of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to improve the Federal housing stock in this Nation, these reforms come at the expense of the most vulnerable in our society—the poor, elderly, and disabled.

The most revealing element of this measure can be found in the opening section entitled "Declaration of Policy to Renew American Neighborhoods". This policy statement includes a declaration that "the Federal Government cannot through its direct action or involvement provide for the housing of every American citizen, or even a majority of its citizens, but it is the responsibility of the Government to promote and protect the independent and collective actions of private citizens to develop housing and strengthen their own neighborhoods".

This declaration reverses a longstanding policy of nearly 60 years which expresses a goal of our Nation that all citizens have decent and affordable housing. What follows in H.R. 2406 substantiates this reversal from a moral obligation the United States as a world leader once advocated on behalf of its citizens.

For example, take the provision that retreats on the Brooke amendment which protects people from paying excessive and disproportionate amounts of their income on housing. The bill before us would only apply the Brooke amendment to current residents of public housing with incomes below 30 percent of median income, and for current elderly and disabled residents. No future elderly or disabled recipients would get the protection of the Brooke amendment if they are under 30 percent of median income.

This bill would also diminish the percentage of housing units available to the very lowest income families; causing irreparable harm to those in need. Current law provides that 85 percent of public housing units be provided to families with incomes at or below 30 percent of median income. H.R. 2406 requires only 25 percent of these units be set aside for these families. While a local housing authority can provide more units to the very poor, they will be losing Federal assistance—and will likely be desperate to rent to higher income families in order to make up the deficit from the dwindling Federal revenues. This situation comes at the expense of the very poor.

Mr. Chairman, this measure takes housing reform to new heights by including a provision that creates tenant self sufficiency contracts. We expect a person—who is often uneducated, unskilled and without work—to negotiate a contract with a housing authority that states how long they think they will need this assistance. What is so damaging about this contract is that when it ends, the resident graduates or, simply put, loses assistance.

Like many other Members of Congress, I recognize the need to examine and reassess our public and section 8 housing programs because of the many changes that have occurred since these programs were first established. During the 103d Congress, similar re-

forms as those proposed in H.R. 2406 were passed by the House in a bipartisan vote. H.R. 2406 includes most of these reforms. Unfortunately, as we have seen with most of the legislation promulgated by our colleagues on the majority side of the House, this bill goes too far and will cause irreparable harm to thousands of the poorest, the most vulnerable, the most needy of our citizens.

Mr. Chairman, not every community in this Nation can boast the leadership of a top-notch and experienced Public Housing Authority director as we do in Cleveland. If we had the absolute knowledge that this would be the case, few of us would argue against much of what is in this bill. But that is not the situation. As proposed in this bill, the future of thousands of Americans would be left to local authorities without Federal regulation. Reasonable reform is one thing; indifference to the plight of the poor is another. I urge my colleagues to vote no "on" H.R. 2406.

HONORING THE FAIRVIEW
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

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the United States Housing Act of 1937, de-regulate the public housing program and the program for rental housing assistance for low-income families, and increase community control over such programs, and for other purposes.

Mr. REED. Mr. Chairman, I regret that I must vote against H.R. 2406, the Housing Act of 1995. While I support the provisions which reduce burdensome regulations for public housing authorities and consolidate numerous programs, I do not support the provisions which will limit housing options for our Nation's most vulnerable residents and families.

During House debate, I spoke in favor of Representative FRANK's amendment to retain the Brooke amendment, an amendment which would have ensured that residents in public housing do not pay more than 30 percent of their limited income toward rent. Although the House was successful in retaining this important provision for our Nation's elderly and disabled, and those with incomes below 30 percent of the area median, H.R. 2406 still contains language which will effectively shut out low-income working Americans from affordable, decent housing. I have long held that we need meaningful welfare reform and that there ought to be a safety net for those Americans trying to get their feet back on the ground. Repealing the Brooke amendment will severely hurt our Nation's low-income, working residents who are struggling to afford a home, food, clothing, and medicine.

In addition to repealing the Brooke amendment, the House bill also changes regulations regarding income targeting. I commend Chairman LAZIO for his efforts on compromise language with Representative KENNEDY from Massachusetts to reserve more public and assisted housing for the very poor. I also share the goal of integrating a broader range of incomes for people in public housing, but I remain concerned that many low-income Americans will still be cut off from housing assistance while housing authorities seek to attract people with higher incomes. It is my hope that the House-Senate conference will result in an agreement to ensure that those who are in dire need of housing are able to receive assistance.

Mr. Speaker, I heard from hundreds of Rhode Islanders who expressed serious concerns about this bill and the repeal of the Brooke amendment. At a time when Americans are already coping with drastic budget cuts, it does not make sense to disadvantage working residents and families by placing affordable, decent housing out of their reach.

Mr. Speaker, everyone needs a place to live, and, as such, housing legislation should be a bipartisan effort. The Senate has taken this to heart and passed bipartisan legislation which preserves the Brooke amendment. It is my hope that the final bill will be more like the Senate version, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure safe, decent, affordable housing for all Americans.

HONORING THE FRANKLIN
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services

provided by the Franklin Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in fire-fighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school at Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

ADOPTION PROMOTION AND
STABILITY ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Adoption Promotion and Stability Act. I commend Congresswoman MOLINARI for bringing the important issue of adoption to the floor. H.R. 3286 attempts to correct the disproportionate representation of minorities in the foster care system by preventing discrimination in the placement of children on the basis of race, color or national origin. This bill also provides adoptive parents up to \$5,000 in tax credits to assist in adoption expenses.

Mr. Speaker, the promotion of adoption is one of the most important things we can do to strengthen American families. All children, regardless of age, sex ethnicity, and physical and emotional health are entitled to a family. Adoption enables children, whose parents cannot or will not raise them, to become part of a permanent family. Furthermore, it serves as a second chance for the thousands of children who have been removed from their families because of abuse or neglect.

The high cost of adoption can be an impediment to many families wanting to adopt. With the inclusion of legal fees, court costs and charges levied by adoption agencies, the cost of an adoption can exceed \$15,000. This is a heavy burden for America's low- and middle-income families who desire to adopt. The \$5,000 adoption tax credit included in this may make the difference between a child in foster care becoming part of an adoptive family or remaining in foster care indefinitely.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to express my concern regarding the title III provision in H.R. 3286 which would overhaul the Indian Child

Welfare Act [ICWA]. I supported the Young-Miller amendment which would have eliminated title III from this bill, and am hopeful that further consideration will be given to convening hearings or meetings with the Indian community on the title III provision.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3286 represents a positive approach in finding homes for our Nation's needy children. Although the bill is not flawless, I support this effort to facilitate the adoption of children, and to decrease the time that many of our children languish in the foster care system. I join with my colleagues in support of this legislation.

HONORING THE FORKS RIVER
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Forks River volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These fireman must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in fire-fighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

KELLY BUNCH, LEGRAND SMITH
SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let it be known that it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Kelly Bunch, winner of the 1996 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Kelly 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.

Kelly Bunch is an exceptional student at Tecumseh High School and possesses an impressive high school record. A member of the National Honor Society, Kelly has also been a student council representative and the treasurer of her senior class. She was nominated to National Young Leaders Conference, and was listed in "Who's Who Among American High School Students." Kelly also was a member of the softball team and the varsity volleyball team. Outside of school, Kelly was involved with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

In special tribute, therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Kelly Bunch for her selection as a winner of the 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 THE FLAT CREEK
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Flat Creek Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in fire-fighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

TRIBUTE TO THE WINNERS OF
THE JOHN F. KUBIK HUMANITARIAN AWARD

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to the winner of this year's John F. Kubik Humanitarian Award, Ms. Vlasta Sneiderger.

Ms. Sneiderger, a regional branch manager for MidAmerica Federal Savings Bank in Berwyn, IL, was presented with the award last month by the Sequin Retarded Citizens Association at their annual award dinner.

Ms. Sneiderger was recognized for her tireless service to the community. The John F. Kubik Award, named for a local newspaper journalist and publisher, was established to embody the community spirit and dedication of its namesake.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Ms. Sneiderger on receiving this award and wish her many more years of service to her community.

IN HONOR OF THE GIBBSTOWN
FIRE CO.

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to honor the volunteers of the Gibbstown Fire Co. These brave individuals risk their lives every day protecting the citizens of Gibbstown. I commend all of them for their invaluable services to our community.

On May 11, 1996, the company dedicated the opening of their new fire station. The firemen themselves helped with the cost of the building by raising \$140,000. The new station has the capability to house up to five firemen, is completely computerized, and handicapped accessible. Along with the countless hours of training and dedication required to serve as a fireman, this building will help save lives.

I ask my colleagues to stand with me and applaud the selfless efforts of the Gibbstown Fire Co., and all fire companies for that matter. These heroes sacrifice their own lives to make our communities a safer place.

HONORING THE FOSTERVILLE
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Fosterville Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in fire-fighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

HONORING THE HILB, ROGAL, &
HAMILTON CO. OF NEW JERSEY

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to rise today in honor of a special group from my district in New Jersey. Over the past 5 years the Hilb, Rogal, & Hamilton Co. of New Jersey has devoted itself in serving our communities. They have generously supported local churches and youth organizations by donating their volunteer services and materials to veterans and young people throughout the State of New Jersey.

Therefore, I congratulate Arthur C. Hanebury, C.P.C.U., president and the entire Hilb, Rogal, & Hamilton Co. for their honorable work and dedication. Hence, I officially proclaim March 16, 1996, to be Hilb, Rogal, & Hamilton Co. Day in the First Congressional District of New Jersey. Speaking not only for my district, but for the State of New Jersey as well, we are very fortunate to have such a charitable group gracing our State.

HONORING THE EAST CLAY
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the East Clay Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteer, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in fire-fighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they

need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
JEWISH FEDERATION OF THE
CINNATI

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati. The federation has a proud history. Its predecessor organization was founded in 1896 to help those many immigrants from Central and Eastern Europe who fled repressive policies and practices of their native countries. Its efforts to help refugees and immigrants continued through the events leading up to and following the Holocaust in Europe in the 1940's and have been renewed in this decade as a result of the opening of the borders of the former Soviet States and the Eastern bloc countries. As Jewish immigrants stream out of Eastern Europe, the Jewish Federation has helped local agencies provide relocation and resettlement services in the Cincinnati area and in Israel. Since 1989, the federation has assisted with the resettlement of more than 1,200 Jewish immigrants and refugees in Cincinnati alone. During the same period, the federation has supported programs to help over 600,000 Jewish immigrants who have taken refuge in Israel.

Over time, the Jewish Federation has expanded its activities to include educational, cultural, and humanitarian programs for all members of the community. For example, it works with community organizations to provide services for Jewish youth and the elderly. The federation should also be commended for its commitment to improve interfaith and intergroup relations in Cincinnati and around the world.

I would like to offer my warmest congratulations to the Jewish Federation for 100 years of excellent and meaningful contributions to the Jewish community and to the promotion of international human rights. I wish the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati and all its members continued success in the coming century.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL PIEKARSKI
AND DARLENE SOB CZAK

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to two outstanding guardians of public safety from Cicero, IL. Firefighter Michael Piekarski and Police Detective Darlene Sobczak, who were recently recognized by the Cicero Lions Club on Lions Club World Service Day.

Firefighter Piekarski and Detective Sobczak were honored for their outstanding contributions as part of the Lions Clubs' effort to recognize those who risk their lives to protect their fellow citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I, too, congratulate these two fine public servants on this award and extend thanks on behalf of all my fellow citizens for their efforts and those of their colleagues who protect our lives and property.

SCOTT KNUDSON, GUAM'S REP-
RESENTATIVE TO THE 1996 GEOG-
RAPHY BEE

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I have always considered myself an educator first and foremost. This is why I always welcome with great pleasure students who take the time to visit my office. Sometime this month, I highly anticipate meeting a student from Guam. He is Scott Knudson, the winner of this year's Guam Geography Bee.

On March 29, finalists from 12 elementary and middle schools competed in this event open to students from grades four to six. Since Scott was the winner of the competition, he will be representing the island of Guam in the National Geography Bee competition that will be held here in Washington on May 28 and 29.

Scott, the son of Marilyn Knudson and the late Kenneth Knudson, is a sixth-grade student at Inarajan Middle School. His achievements have brought much pride to his family, school and community. I am sure that all his hard work will once again be exhibited in the national competition.

I would like to congratulate Scott for winning the Guam Geography Bee competition and wish him the best in the national competition. In addition, I would also like to commend all who participated in the competition and recognize the efforts of Mr. James Szafanski for organizing this year's event. I urge everyone to keep up the good work.

THE SOUTHEASTERN POWER
ADMINISTRATION

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the Georgia State Senate recently adopted a reso-

lution that urges the Congress of the United States to reject the proposal to sell the facilities used to generate electric power marketed by the Southeastern Power Administration. For the RECORD I submit a copy of the resolution adopted by the Georgia State Senate on February 13, 1996.

A RESOLUTION

Urging the United States Congress to reject the proposal to sell the facilities used to generate electric power marketed by the Southeastern Power Administration; and for other purposes.

Whereas, a proposal has been made to the United States Congress to sell facilities used by the Southeastern Power Administration (SEPA) which is headquartered in Elbert County, Georgia; and

Whereas, these facilities, which include nine hydroelectric dams, provide electric power and reservoirs for Georgia; and

Whereas, all of these facilities, operated by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, also provide the public with needed fish and wildlife resources, municipal, industrial, and agricultural water supplies, flood control, reservoir, and downstream recreational uses, and river water level regulation; and

Whereas, such proposed sale would give too little assurance that these assets will be administered with due consideration to the purposes of the facilities not related to power production, such as water supply, flood control, navigation, recreation, and environmental protection; and

Whereas, the revenue from the electricity generated by the hydroelectric dams exceeds the retirement obligations of the construction bonds and costs of operation and maintenance for these facilities; and

Whereas, many Georgians served by these facilities could likely experience significant rate increases in electricity and water as a result of this sale.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Senate that the members of this body urge the United States Congress to reevaluate the negative impacts of this proposal and avoid any transfer of federal dams, resources, turbines, generators, transmission lines, and related power marketing association facilities.

Be it further resolved that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the presiding officer of the United States Senate, and members of the Georgia congressional delegation.

HONORING THE FAIRVIEW
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Fairview Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civil-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for other while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars

where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. JOEL
COTTON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to bring to the attention of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives the accomplishments of Mr. Joel Cotton, a high school teacher in Rifle, CO.

Mr. Cotton is 1 of 100 teachers and 100 students from across the United States to be awarded a Tandy Technology Scholar prize. These scholars were chosen for the excellence in computer science, math, and science.

Mr. Cotton has worked diligently to educate his students by using innovative classroom techniques. He has written his own math programs, including Design a Ranch and Gliding Through Algebra on Mountain Bikes. He has also been named Colorado Teacher of the Week twice, and also teaches computer science at the Colorado Mountain College.

He plans to unselfishly use his prize money to purchase a more powerful computer and software, to design new programs for teaching computer science and math.

Mr. Cotton is a dedicated professional, and the children of the Third Congressional District will be better off because of him.

TRIBUTE TO THE ALL-PUERTO
RICAN 65TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the all-Puerto Rican 65th Infantry Regiment that fought in the Korean war.

The 65th regiment, nicknamed the "the Borinqueneers" became one of the most decorated units during the Korean conflict. One hundred twenty-five soldiers of the 65th were awarded the Silver Star and four received the Distinguished Service Cross.

The heroism of the 65th brought the unit admiration and accolades from our Nation's highest-ranking military officers. The most famous and important letter came from General Douglas MacArthur.

The 65th had been ordered to do reconnaissance behind the enemy front lines and re-

lated to the command post of the Third U.S. Infantry Division. One night the command post was attacked by more than one thousand North Korean regulars who had penetrated U.S. lines without detection. The 65th was alerted to the threat and went into action to protect vital U.S. supply lines. Their quick reaction enabled them to counter and destroy the North Korean force, thereby saving the Third Division Commander, staff and troops from being captured or killed.

In response to the actions of the 65th, General MacArthur, who had rejected the 65th for combat in World War II, wrote in 1951:

The Puerto Ricans forming the ranks of the gallant 65th Infantry on the battlefields of Korea by valor, determination and a resolute will to victory give daily testament to their invincible loyalty to the United States and the fervor of their devotion to those immutable standards of human relations to which Americans and Puerto Ricans are in common dedicated. They are writing a brilliant record of achievement in battle and I am proud indeed to have them in this command. I wish that we might have many more like them.

Other triumphs of note for the 65th were the rescue of the First Marine Division from Hagaru-ri where the division had been surrounded by Chinese military forces. The 65th provided a safe corridor for the Marines to escape and formed the protective rear guard on their road to Hungnam.

In his book, "Puerto Rico's Fighting 65th Infantry," Brigadier General W.W. Harris (Ret.) writes:

I have not encountered any people more dedicated and zealous in support of the democratic principles for which the United States stands. Many Puerto Ricans have fought to the death to uphold them.

General Harris commanded the 65th during the Korean War.

On March 29, 1996, at Puerto Rican Affirmation Day ceremonies in Washington, thousands of people gathered at the Vietnam Memorial to pay tribute to veterans of Puerto Rican heritage and in particular to the 65th Infantry that fought so courageously in the Korean war. Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jesse Brown praised the 65th, much as Generals MacArthur and Harris had in the 1950's.

So today, I rise to pay tribute to these valiant soldiers for democracy and freedom and to honor their contributions to our Nation and to the people of Puerto Rico. The memory of the 65th Infantry should never be allowed to fade.

HELP DECISIONMAKERS UNDER-
STAND THE IMPORTANCE OF
LEARNING ANOTHER LANGUAGE

HON. PATRICIA SCHROEDER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to include in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following excerpts from essays by Colorado students who participated in the first essay contest sponsored by the Colorado Congress of Foreign Language Teachers. Their theme was, "Help Decisionmakers Understand the Importance of Learning Another Language." Students from kindergarten

through university level participated. I commend these students for their efforts.

"Learning a foreign language weakens barriers that some use to justify resentment."—Karin Wangberg, grade 11, Aurora

"By learning another language, you can discover a whole new world."—Anne Cook, grade 8, Littleton

"Many of today's stereotypes and hostilities between nations lie in a misunderstanding and lack of appreciation for cultures outside of one's own. Learning a foreign language inspires a respect and an understanding of each other's uniqueness."—Tiffany Shea Wine, college student, Federal Heights

"It is good to know how to speak another language to help others who don't know your language. You can teach other people too and they could help other people."—Heaven Tapia, grade 2, Denver

"I think kids should get a good education, and foreign languages are part of a good education. It is just as important as math, writing and spelling, etc. It is fun, interesting, exciting and educational."—Caroline Lea, grade 4, Lakewood.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE RIGHT
REVEREND FATHER MOUSHEGH
MARDIROSSIAN

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday May 3, 1996, in Los Angeles the Right Reverend Father Moushegh Mardirossian, Locum Tenens was elected as Prelate of the Western Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America. I wish to add my sincere congratulations to Prelate Mardirossian upon his elevation.

Prelate Mardirossian studied at the Armenian Seminary of the Great House of Cilicia in Antelias, Lebanon. Upon graduation from the clerical college of the seminary in June 1974 he was ordained deacon.

He served in the Catholicosate as vice sacristan-sexton and secretary to Catholicos Khoren I and Catholicos Karekin II in the chancery. In the seminary he served as administrator and an educator, while teaching courses.

In 1979, he was assigned pastor to the Armenian Community of Thessalonika of Greece. When in Thessalonika, he attended classes in Greek language and philosophy at the Aristotelian University.

For his thesis on a translation and critical analysis of John's Gospel, he earned a doctorate of the Armenian Church, in December 1979.

Beginning in 1982, he served as assistant to the Prelate and held pastoral positions in the Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of North America. In recognition of his service, in 1987, he was elevated to the rank of Father Superior and was ordained. In the same year, he was assigned to the post of dean of the Forty Martyrs Armenian Apostolic Church of Orange County.

With the Western Prelacy he has been a member of the National Representative Assembly and member and chairperson of the Religious Council. Since 1991, he has served as vicar general to the Prelate.

Prelate Mardrossian is currently pursuing a master's degree at Fuller Theological Seminary.

On November 17, 1995, the Joint Session of the Religious and Executive Councils of the Western Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America unanimously elected the Right Reverend Moushegh Mardrossian Locum Tenens of the Prelacy.

On May 3, 1996, in Los Angeles, he was elected to the position of Prelate of the Western Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America and for this honor I sent my sincere congratulations. I wish Prelate Mardrossian every continued success in his new position serving the Armenian Church and the Armenian people, many of whom I have the honor of representing in California's 19th District.

WOMAN OF SPIRIT: CAROL ANTON MURPHY

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Carol Anton Murphy, a life-long resident of the Pittsburgh community, who was recently recognized as a Carlow College Woman of Spirit.

Carlow College created the Woman of Spirit Award to highlight women in the Pittsburgh area who personify the college's ideals of a Catholic liberal arts education: to involve young women in a process of self-directed, life-long learning which will free them to think clearly and creatively, to challenge or affirm cultural and aesthetic values, to respond reverently and sensitively to God and others, and to render competent and compassionate service in personal and professional life. The college has certainly fulfilled the purposes of the award in the admirable life of Carol Anton Murphy.

Carol Anton began a career of service after graduating from Carlow College in 1957 as a speech therapist for the Allegheny County School System and later for the Dioceses of Pittsburgh. Carol Anton married Maurice "Mossie" Murphy in 1959. Together, they started a family in 1964. Today, Carol and Mossie Murphy are the proud parents of 7 children and 15 grandchildren. A model family woman, Carol was the first recipient of the Commitment to Family Award by Carlow College in 1974.

Carol Murphy has demonstrated constant commitment to community and church through volunteer work. At St. Philomena, Carol delivered communion and prayer on Sundays. Along with fellow St. Philomena parishioners, Carol started Eucharist Ministers for the Sick and House Bound. She has also volunteered at Presbyterian Hospital as an Eucharistic Minister delivering communion to hospital patients.

A strong supporter of education and the right of every child to a quality education, Carol has been an active fundraiser for many Pittsburgh schools. She has worked on the behalf of St. Philomena's Guild, Central Catholic Mother's Guild, and Duquesne University Women's Advisory Board. She has also had an active history on the Carlow Col-

lege Alumnae Board, serving as chair of the student alumnae parties, board president, and co-chair of the annual fund.

Carol Anton Murphy knows her Carlow College education prepared her to be an active Christian woman and taught her the importance of service and commitment to her community and the city of Pittsburgh. Carol Anton Murphy has led an exemplary life and is unquestionably a Woman of Spirit. I want to congratulate Carol Anton Murphy for receiving this prestigious award.

A TRIBUTE TO BARBARA GIBILISCO

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Barbara Gibilisco, a student at Neumann College in Aston, PA. Ms. Gibilisco is the recipient of the Pennsylvania Association for Adult and Continuing Education 1996 Award Recognizing Outstanding Adult Students in Higher Education.

Criteria for judging undergraduate nominees are: contributions to institution and community; clearly defined goals; grades; innovative approaches to meeting educational needs; overcoming difficult circumstances in order to pursue higher education; sensitizing the institution to the needs of adult students; success in coping with numerous roles; support of others returning to school; and strength of nomination material.

Those criteria, while impressive and difficult to meet, do not capture the courage, the commitment, nor the generosity of this woman. Barbara Gibilisco is a wheelchair mobile student graduating from Neumann College in May 1996, with a bachelor's degree in liberal studies. Even though Barbara lives independently with her mother, she attends classes at Inglis House, a wheelchair community in West Philadelphia which serves as an extension site campus for Neumann College. She has maintained a perfect 4.0 grade point average throughout her career.

In addition to being a student, Barbara Gibilisco owns and operates a home-based answering service; tutors the residents of Inglis House on the pre-GED and adult basic education level in reading, math, and computer literacy; is a certified Gateway tutor for the mayor's commission on literacy; is a part-time learning therapist for the Department of Education; and acts as a spokesperson for the Muscular Dystrophy Association and the Orleans Vocational Center. As a hobby, she is a licensed class amateur radio operator.

After graduation, Barbara Gibilisco plans to work full-time to support herself and her mother. Her personal objectives are to design computer software programs related to compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act; to serve as a consultant to small businesses and firms that seek to comply with the mandates of the Americans With Disabilities Act; and to work in an educational setting as a mentor, teacher, or small group leader with students in need of adult basic literacy education.

Obviously, Barbara Gibilisco is deserving of this award. The courage and commitment she has brought to fulfilling her goals for a college

education combined with a generosity of spirit reflected in her efforts to bring education to others makes Barbara Gibilisco a role model for all.

TRIBUTE TO VFW POST 7337 OF CASTLETON, NY

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, as you know, one group I have a particular admiration for is our veterans. It was one of the reasons I asked for a seat on the Veterans Affairs Committee in my first term, and it's one of the reasons I fought so hard to have the Veterans' Administration elevated to a full, Cabinet-level department.

And one group was always right beside me in such efforts, Veterans of Foreign Wars. I can think of no group has done more to promote the interests of our Nation's veterans. Today, I'd like to single out one VFW post, a very special one which is typical of VFW posts across the country.

VFW Post 7337 of Castleton, NY, is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Think of that, Mr. Speaker. It's first members were, of course, the boys just returning from Europe and the Pacific and every other theater of World War II. Then, in the early fifties, they were joined by veterans from the Korean war. In another 15 years, the veterans of the Vietnam war arrived on the scene. And finally, in this decade, we've seen those who served in the Persian Gulf join their older comrades.

From its beginning, Post 7337 was made up of citizen heroes, who left their homes and loved ones to undergo incredible hardships and sacrifices, including the supreme sacrifice, in defense of our freedoms. But the majority survived to return home, complete their educations, find jobs, raise families, and become the most respected members of their communities.

I've met many of the members of Post 7337. I was thinking of them and of other veterans like them when Ronald Reagan signed into law my measure making the Veterans' Administration a Cabinet department in 1988. With that signature, we made sure the interests of veterans would always have the ear of the U.S. President.

It is to those same interests that Post 7337 has so faithfully applied itself for 50 years.

Mr. Speaker, with the approach of Memorial Day, that special day for all veterans, I ask you and all members to join me in a special salute to VFW Post 7337 of Castleton, NY, as it celebrates its 50th year.

POST-COLD-WAR COOPERATION

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I come before the House to praise the spirit of unity and cooperation between two nations, the United States and the Republic of Lithuania, whose peoples just a few short years ago knew very

little about each other. This spirit has been fostered by the men and women of the Pennsylvania National Guard's Military Support Division. Under the leadership and guidance of Maj. Gen. James W. Mac Vay, the Adjutant General of the Pennsylvania National Guard, the Military Support Division oversees the Guard's State Partnership Program [SPP] with the Republic of Lithuania.

The State Partnership Program with Lithuania began in May 1993, increasing in size and scope over the past years. The mission of the State Partnership Program, one of the many that the Military Support Division fulfills, is to conduct a bilateral military outreach program with Lithuania designed to assist that nation in the building of an essential military infrastructure compatible with the traditions of a democratic society. Since July 1994, soldiers of the Pennsylvania National Guard have visited with their Lithuanian counterparts 22 times, providing valuable expertise on a variety of issues. In addition, Lithuanian experts visit Pennsylvania and learn first hand how our military and government agencies work together.

These visits have fostered tremendous goodwill between members of both delegations. There is an American military liaison team chief in Lithuania who works very closely with the U.S. Ambassador to Lithuania, the Lithuanian military, the European Command and National Guard Bureau. Today, in fact, we were honored to have three members of the Lithuanian delegation visit our Nation's Capitol. It was a joy to see the delight in their faces as they walked through these hallowed halls and sat in the gallery of this body. Col. Algirdas Stulginskis, Lt. Col. Romualdas Kisielunas, and Maj. Vidas Astrauskas have learned much about our country during their stay here; not simply technical aspects about government agencies and emergency programs, but about the spirit of freedom and all for which America stands.

Groups of Lithuanian soldiers have visited Pennsylvania a total of 20 times. Every visit consists of meetings with members of Pennsylvania communities and learning about how a democratic society operates. American and Lithuanian visits are crucial to the success of the democratization of eastern Europe, and the fact that they are conducted by citizen soldiers from both countries cannot be ignored. During this time of military downsizing, we are asking our men and women of the Reserves and National Guard to do far more than ever before. The simple fact is that these dedicated people are doing their jobs exceedingly well with no complaints.

The men and women of the Pennsylvania National Guard can teach us all something about sacrifice and commitment to the principles which made our Nation what it is today—a shining example of freedom and democracy. We thank our Lithuanian visitors for their dedication to the cause of democracy and welcome them back to learn more about the beauty of our wonderful form of government. We look forward to learning from them as well, since they are all too familiar with how easily freedom can be lost.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to read on the front page of the Washington Post that the administration is finally considering imposing sanctions on China for the piracy of United States intellectual property rights.

The flagrant and illegal piracy of United States intellectual property rights continues to flourish in many parts of the globe, most notably in China. USRT has estimated that the piracy of U.S. patents and copyrights and the counterfeiting of our trademarks costs the U.S. economy billions of dollars annually.

Piracy undermines our ability to compete in the global marketplace by denying U.S. companies access to new markets. Such unfair trading practices ultimately result in the loss of jobs here at home.

The piracy of intellectual property rights is an issue which I have followed for several years. I, along with many of my Texas colleagues, have written the United States Trade Representative on several occasions requesting that strong action be taken against China for the piracy of United States intellectual property rights.

In fact, this week, I agreed to cosponsor a measure soon to be introduced by Congresswoman PELOSI to impose sanctions against China for their intellectual property rights violations.

I firmly believe that the United States Government must take forceful action to convince China to crack down on this piracy. The United States simply cannot tolerate the theft of its industries' valuable intellectual property. I urge the Clinton administration to follow through on their warnings and impose stiff sanctions on China.

EBIL MATSUTARO, WINNER OF THE 1996 GUAM SCRIPPS HOWARD SPELLING BEE

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, students representing schools from Guam, the Republic of Palau, and the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands recently gathered in Guam to participate in the local competition of the Scripps-Howard Spelling Bee. Originally open only to Guam students, the annual event allowed contestants from the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Marshall Islands in 1989. This year marks the first time a student from Palau is declared the first place winner.

Ebil Matsutaro, this year's winner, will be our representative in this year's National Spelling Bee competitions to be held here in Washington. She is the daughter of Francis and Lucy Matsutaro. An eighth grade student at the Seventh Day Elementary School in Korror, Palau, this active 13-year-old is a member of the yearbook staff, the secretary of her class, and has a 4.0 GPA. She also has a brother, Ngerbol, and a sister, Erbai.

I congratulate Ebil for being the first Guam Scripps-Howard Spelling Bee to hail from the Republic of Palau and wish her the best in the national competition. In the same respect, all of this year's participants deserve special recognition. On behalf of the sponsors, the Pacific Daily News and the Rotary Club of Guam, I commend Ebil and the contestants of this year's Spelling Bee competition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, due to a family emergency, on May 10, 1996, I was absent from the Capitol and missed votes on rollcall No. 163, approving the Journal; rollcall No. 164, the Young amendment to H.R. 3286; rollcall No. 165, passage of H.R. 3286; and rollcall No. 166, passage of House Resolution 430. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 163, "no" on rollcall No. 164, "yes" on rollcall No. 165, and "yes" on rollcall No. 166.

WHAT I LEARNED ABOUT HOW WE PICK OUR PRESIDENT

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, Lamar Alexander has written a very insightful article for the Weekly Standard about what he learned during his run for the Presidency. Our electoral process would be better if every American would read this article. I would like to call this piece to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

[From the Weekly Standard, Mar. 25, 1996]

WHAT I LEARNED ABOUT HOW WE PICK A PRESIDENT

(By Lamar Alexander)

While my wounds are fresh, let me offer several ways to fix how we nominate presidents. First, for those who only see it on Inside Politics, let me describe what running for president really feels like (especially when you have just lost). It is like scaling a cliff for three years in the dark to earn the privilege of shooting one NBA-range three-point shot, i.e., the New Hampshire primary. It is like walking above Niagara Falls on a swaying tightrope as the wind blows and the crowd shouts, "FALL!" This by itself is one reason to salute Bob Dole for making his way so well through such an obstacle course.

Now, to fix the process (although I should proclaim up front and loudly that it is the candidate who must accept responsibility for losing, not the process):

Report on those who are actually running for president. It sometimes seemed that 90 percent of the political news during 1995 was about numerous Americans, estimable as they may have been, who had no intention of running or who couldn't win even if they did.

Ban the phrase "the motley crew." Referring to those of us actually running, this phrase usually begins to appear after several months of stories about those who aren't running. Isn't it time after 200-plus years of presidential elections to realize that any

American looks better rocking on the porch than he (or she) does trudging through the mud buck-naked with spotlights turned on (another way to describe participation in the current presidential nominating process)?

Raise the limits on individual giving to campaigns from \$1,000 to \$5,000. The well-intentioned \$1,000 limit, placed into the federal law after Watergate, was meant to reduce the influence of money in politics. As with many federal laws, it has done just the opposite. For example, to raise \$10 million in 1995 for my campaign, I attended 250 fund-raising events. This took about 70 percent of my time. I became unusually well acquainted with a great many good Americans capable of giving \$1,000 (who probably represent a cross section of one percent of all the people in the country). Wouldn't I have been a better candidate—and the country better off had I been elected—if I had spent more time traveling around America and visiting our allies abroad? (I actually did this during 1994, when I was not meeting nice people who could give \$1,000.)

Remove the state spending limits. This is step two in the crusade to deal with the phenomenon of the zillionaire in politics. Think of it this way: Say the fifth-grade teacher organizes a contest for class president with water pistols as the weapon of choice; then some kid arrives with a machine gun. Either take away the new kid's machine gun (Bill Bradley suggests a constitutional amendment to limit what individuals can spend on their own campaigns) or give the rest of the fifth graders the freedom to raise and spend enough money to buy their own machine guns. In one week just before the New Hampshire primary, Steve Forbes bought 700 ads on one Boston television station in one week, most of them negative advertising against Dole (plus a few gentler ads against me). Forbes, let us remember, spent almost no time raising his money and had no limits on what he spent per state. The rest of us did. If New Hampshire is most of the ballgame in the presidential primaries, why shouldn't we be permitted to defend ourselves even if we use up all the money the government allows us to spend during the entire campaign?

Deregulate the election process. The Federal Election Commission is full of competent people trying to do their jobs (several of whom are about to audit my campaign, which, if everything works out perfectly, will only take only about three years. I am not kidding). The campaigns are grossly overregulated. Of the \$10 million our campaign raised during 1995, about \$1 million went for accountants and lawyers for compliance with the federal rules. Is it really necessary, for example, for the federal government to decide that a candidate's campaign T-shirts need not bear the "Paid for by . . ." disclaimer? Fewer rules and full disclosure should be the bywords here.

Start the coverage earlier. From the moment the networks began to cover the campaign (this year it was not until late January), you could feel the lift. As a candidate, you can also feel the collapse. I cannot help but think that there are ways—even many months out—to relate the day's news about, say, the failure of the Hartford school system's private-management contract to what the presidential candidates say about how schools should be run.

Spread it out. At a breakfast in Washington in November, I said this to my friends in the news media: "If you guys were sports-writers, you would arrive during the last quarter of the Final Four championship game and claim you had covered the entire basketball season." You can imagine how many friends I made with this statement, but I was right. By my count, the news

media covered the presidential race aggressively for just 21 days, from the Iowa caucus on February 10 until the South Carolina primary on March 2. Most of what went before consisted of asking people like me, "Why are you behind Bob Dole 72-3 in the polls?" at a time when everyone knew Dole and no one had ever heard of me. After South Carolina, the most frequently asked question was, "When are you going to get out?" So, most of us did. Let us hope the national political writers never decide to become umpires. The World Series wouldn't last more than one inning.

Now, in defense of the media, it is hard to cover a 21-day wild rollercoaster ride, which is what the nominating process has become: 38 primaries in 25 days. Let's change this: Let Iowa and New Hampshire go it alone in February. Then, require all the other states to hold their primaries on the second Tuesday of March, April, or May. This would give winners a chance to capitalize on successes, voters a chance to digest new faces, and candidates a chance to actually meet voters. What do you think would have happened this year if after the surprising New Hampshire primary (Buchanan winning, Dole stumbling, me surging, Forbes falling) there had been three weeks to campaign before a March 12 primary in a bunch of states? Then another month until another set of primaries? Lots more interesting—and lots more conducive to sound judgment by the voters, too.

Create a new C-SPAN channel to cover the country outside Washington. Chief executives from outside Washington sometimes make the best chief executives in the country. Why not a cable channel devoted entirely to Michigan governor John Engler's charter schools, San Antonio county executive Cyndi Krier's crime program, Milwaukee's school-choice program? Give these leaders as much C-SPAN face-time as members of Congress. This will give the public more exposure to state and local politicians who might then have a better chance of winning national office.

Let the candidates speak more often for themselves. Praise the media here. C-SPAN's Road to the White House on Sunday nights set the pace. I was astonished how many told me they saw C-SPAN's 50-minute coverage in July of my walk across New Hampshire. The New York Times printed excerpts from candidates' speeches, even some very long excerpts. The networks all showed unedited stump speeches of the major candidates.

Find the good and praise it. These were always the words of my friend the late Alex Haley. I can find the good easily about this process, even with its flaws. During the last year I walked across New Hampshire meeting several hundred people a day, spent 80 days in Iowa in maybe 200 meetings that ranged from 20 to 300 people, and had at least 50 meetings in Florida with the delegates to the Presidency III straw poll. During most of these meetings I was little known and unencumbered by news media. At least the news media presence was so small it did not disrupt the flow of the session.

I remember wishing time after time that anybody who had any sense of cynicism about our presidential selection process could be with me, as a fly on the wall—because they could not be cynical after hearing and seeing and feeling what I saw. The audience always listened carefully. Their questions went straight to the heart of what kind of country we could have, of our jobs, our schools, our neighborhoods, and our families. In meeting after meeting, I came away certain that this is a nation hungry for a vision contest, not one willing to tolerate a trivial presidential election. There is a great market in the American electorate for a full-fledged discussion about what kind of country we can have in the year 2000 and beyond.

The reason to make certain we have a properly functioning presidential nominating process is that the presidency itself is our most important institution as we go into the new century, and the debate about who should be that president is our most useful national discussion.

HONORING THE DRY HOLLOW VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Dry Hollow Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These fireman must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

MEDICAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the Georgia State Senate recently adopted a resolution that encourages the Congress of the United States to enact health care reform measures that include Medical Savings Accounts [MSA's]. State legislators realize that MSA's will eliminate barriers to health insurance and increase access for millions of Americans. For the record I submit a copy of the resolution adopted by the Georgia State Senate on March 5, 1996.

A RESOLUTION

Encouraging the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to provide for medical savings accounts; and for other purposes.

Whereas, it is estimated 37 million Americans are without health insurance, many while between jobs, and more are underinsured because of the effects of rising health

care costs and spending. The costs of health care are escalating, forcing employers to trim the level and availability of health care benefits to their employees; and

Whereas, overutilization of health care services for relatively small claims is one of the most significant causes of health care cost and spending increases. Currently, more than two-thirds of all insurance claims for medical spending are less than \$3,000.00 per family per year in this country; and

Whereas, in response to the runaway cost increases on health care spending in this country, the private sector has developed the concept of medical savings accounts. This initiative is designed to ensure health insurance availability for Americans. It is predicated on providing incentives to eliminate unnecessary medical treatment and encourage competition in seeking health care; and

Whereas, through employer-funded medical savings account arrangements and reduced cost qualified higher deductible insurance policies, millions of Americans could insure themselves for both routine and major medical services. Under the concept of medical savings accounts, an employer currently providing employee health care benefits would purchase instead a low cost, high deductible major medical policy on each employee. The employer may then set aside the saved premium differential in a medical savings account arrangement. The participating employees would use the money in the account to pay their medical care expenses up to the deductible. However, any account money unspent by the participating employees in a plan year would then belong to the employees to save, spend on medical care, or use otherwise. This would be a strong incentive for people not to abuse health expenditures and to institute "cost-shopping" for medical care services; and

Whereas, by setting aside money for employees to spend on health care, employees could change jobs and use the money they had so far earned to buy interim health insurance or to cover health care expenses, thereby eliminating the problems of uninsured between jobs and helping to reduce "job-lock"; and

Whereas, by making medical care decisions the employee's prerogative, individual policyholders have a strong stake in reducing costs. This simple financial mechanism will expand health insurance options to others who presently have no insurance. Most importantly, this move to decrease health care cost burdens in this country would require no new federal bureaucracy and would be revenue neutral to employers.

Now, Therefore, be it Resolved by the Senate that the members of this body encourage the Congress of the United States to enact legislation swiftly and in good faith to enable Americans to establish medical savings accounts.

Be it further Resolved that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and all members of the Georgia congressional delegation.

OLIVER SETH TRIBUTE

HON. BILL RICHARDSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I honor

today a great New Mexican and a great American.

Oliver Seth, who served on the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals for more than 30 years, died on March 27, 1996, at 80 years of age.

Judge Seth was born and raised in New Mexico. He later graduated from Stanford and then Yale Law School, returning to Santa Fe to join his father's reputable law firm, Seth and Montgomery, now Montgomery and Andrews. At the outbreak of World War II, Judge Seth joined the Army and was subsequently shipped to the European front, where he participated in the Normandy Invasion and the Battle of the Bulge. He achieved the rank of major and was decorated by the French Government.

After World War II, Judge Seth returned to Santa Fe and his father's firm. He married Jean MacGillivray, who, along with two daughters, Laurel and Sandy, and brother, Jim, survive him. Many prominent New Mexicans became Judge Seth's clients, including the late artist, Georgia O'Keeffe. He remained with his father's firm until being appointed to the bench in 1962, serving simultaneously on numerous boards and organizations in Santa Fe and helping found Santa Fe Preparatory School. He is fondly remembered by the law clerks for whom he served as mentor, many of whom became New Mexico attorneys and judges.

Oliver Seth was highly respected as an attorney, as a judge and as a kind, thoughtful and dignified human being. He will be greatly missed by many in New Mexico as well as around the nation. I respectfully invite all my colleagues to join me in giving tribute to this highly esteemed New Mexican.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAY DICKEY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. DICKEY. Mr. Speaker, I was excused from official business the evening of Thursday, May 9, 1996, and Friday, May 10, 1996. I am proud to say that I was absent in order to be present for my daughter's graduation. Had I been present my votes would have been cast as indicated below:

Rollcall No.	Vote cast
159	Yes
160	No
161	Yes
162	Yes
163	Yes
164	No
165	Yes
166	Yes

"HIGHWAYS AND YOU: THE ROAD TO OUR FUTURE"

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to insert the following article entitled "Highways and You: The Road to Our Future" into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. This superb article

was written by an old friend and respected colleague of mine by the name of Paul C. Mellott, Jr. Paul is the chairman of the board and executive vice president of H.B. Mellott Estate Inc. and the current chairman of the board of the National Stone Association. His remarks represent a keen insight into what the future of transportation policy holds and the exciting challenges that lie ahead for us as a Nation. Paul's words speak loud and clear to all of us who understand that an investment in infrastructure is an investment in the future prosperity of our country.

HIGHWAYS AND YOU: THE ROAD TO OUR FUTURE

(By Paul C. Mellott, Jr.)

As we approach the millennium and the impending 21st Century, a formidable array of new and exciting challenges loom on the horizon. Many of these issues could in varying degrees, alter the way which aggregate producers do business as well as impacting on the ultimate future well-being of our industry.

While emerging technology continues to open windows of opportunity for streamlining the production techniques and general administration of quarry business, the ever growing impact of government legislation and regulation overshadows virtually everything on our agenda.

The effectiveness with which our industry interacts with government will be a major determining factor in building the road to our future in the aggregates industry. It entails such crucial aspects as determining the future levels of federal investment in the highway program and other infrastructure activities.

Because of the central role which government affairs is destined to play in our future, the Association will—during my tenure as NSA Chairman—be placing a major focus on augmenting and upgrading the Government Affairs Program. However, it is important to point out that this emphasis is not intended in any way to detract from any of our other ongoing programs, such as our effort to emphasize the value inherent in aggregate products, our industry recognition activities, environmental stewardship, improved safety and health in the workplace, and the whole range of membership services which NSA provides on a day-to-day basis.

A SPLENDID TRACK RECORD

NSA's Government Affairs Division had a splendid track record in 1995. Our top accomplishment was securing enactment of legislation designating the 160,000-mile National Highway System (NHS) late in the first Congressional session. This "crown jewel" of NSA's legislative program establishes an enduring federal presence in the nation's highway network and will provide \$13 billion in federal aid for the NHS over the next two years.

This success certainly was a major milestone in the road to our future. As an added bonus, the NHS bill also contained a provision, strongly advocated by our industry, repealing the mandated use of crumb rubber in asphalt pavement—a provision that had been a part of the original Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA).

As a result of the Transportation Appropriations legislation, funding for the core Federal Aid Highway Program grew by \$400 million and highway spending for the current year was set at \$19.9 billion. Therefore, our strategy to work toward expanding highway appropriations in a year of declining federal spending on transportation proved to be successful. Furthermore, we believe that this offers tangible proof that Congress realized the inherent value of highway mobility to all Americans.

But seasoned Capitol Hill observers readily concede that there are no "final victories" in Washington. Indeed, there is little time—if any—for complacency and savoring our 1995 wins, because there is much to be done in the second season of the 104th Congress in preparation for such crucial issues as ISTEA reauthorization and taking the Highway Trust Fund off-budget.

DIVISION RE-ENGINEERING

A centerpiece of our government affairs emphasis activity will be a "re-engineering" of NSA's Government Affairs Division, which will be implemented on my watch as Chairman, I wish to emphasize at the outset that this revamping was not generated by any shortfall in meeting legislative goals and expectations. It is a recommendation that was generated from within the Division, and is intended simply to involve substantially more of our industry's leaders in developing policies and positions regarding legislation. Another important aspect of the re-engineering effort is to significantly broaden involvement of industry laymen in the political process via our rapidly growing Grassroots Network.

The initial step in re-engineering the Government Affairs Division was to create an expanded Steering Committee. This 30-member unit consists of a broad cross-section of leaders throughout the industry. The Steering Committee—headed by Government Affairs Division Chairman Craig Bearn of the Melvin Stone Company—will provide leadership for the Association's legislative, political action and government affairs programs. It also will serve as the mechanism for developing NSA policy and positions on key issues facing the industry in areas such as transportation infrastructure, federal spending, tax policy, labor/management relations and regulatory reform.

Our plan is for the Steering Committee to meet semiannually—once at the spring Government Affairs Conference, in Washington, and once at the call of the Chairman. A key element in the success of the Steering Committee concept is vigorous member participation. By agreeing to serve on this group, the participants are making a solemn commitment to the industry—either to participate in Committee deliberations personally, or by designating a senior representative from the company as an alternate.

The Steering Committee Chairman will appoint a limited number of ad hoc Task Forces on specific legislative issues especially crucial to aggregates industry interests, such as the upcoming ISTEA reauthorization and/or the percentage depletion allowance, both of which are high on the Congressional agenda in 1996.

Besides the Steering Committee, our re-engineering master plan calls for only one other standing committee—the Grassroots Network Committee, chaired by Bill Sandbrook of Tilcon New York Inc. I am extremely enthusiastic about NSA's Grassroots program, because I have long felt that the key to successful lobbying is grassroots member involvement.

There is a definite role for lobbyists in the legislative process and NSA has utilized its lobbying staff very effectively. Lobbyists can cite facts and figures and articulate policies and positions, but Congressmen want to hear from the folks back home. Often, when it comes time for the lawmaker to cast his vote on a critical issue his thinking can be tempered by strong constituent response. As the late Speaker of the House "Tip" O'Neill so aptly observed "All politics are local!"

EMPLOYEE PARTICIPATION

Currently, NSA's Grassroots Network has grown to more than 550 individuals who are committed to contacting their Congressmen

and Senators on issues vital to the aggregates industry when the need arises. In 1995 alone we made more than 1,500 Congressional contacts on issues ranging from the National Highway System to the pending Ballenger Bill on regulatory reform.

This provided an excellent start for getting the Grassroots program off the ground. But I am hopeful that our 1995 effort is just the beginning.

Successful recruitment into the Grassroots Network is not a matter that is limited to the NSA staff. I firmly believe that in a \$7.75 billion industry, which employs some 80,000 people throughout the nation, the number of participants in the Grassroots Network ought to be at least several times its current size.

It is incumbent on each member producer to encourage broad employee participation in the Grassroots effort. Because of the ultimate potential of this program, I believe that it is something that an employer would want to encourage all of his employees—and members of their families—to seriously consider participating in.

FY 1997 APPROPRIATIONS TESTIMONY: ARGUING FOR RELIABILITY AND CONSISTENCY

During my appearance before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation on February 29th, I urged Congress to apply the basic formula of $I=P=SL/QL$ in allocating funding for the nation's future surface transportation mobility needs: an upgraded infrastructure (I) equals increased productivity (P), which in turn paves the way to an increased American standard of living (SL) and quality of life (QL).

We further urged that, in evaluating competing funding requests, Congress recognize the basic fact that highways are the way we move the vast majority of people and goods in America. Citing research by noted economist Dr. David Aschauer, which clearly demonstrates the role of infrastructure investment in enhancing productivity and job growth, NSA maintained that both equity and practicality argue for increased federal user-fee financed programs to focus their attention on the most productive infrastructure investments—highways, airport runways and waterways.

My testimony strongly emphasized the need for reliability and consistency in the overall funding process for infrastructure. I pointed out that 40 to 60 percent of any quarry's market typically comes from road and construction repair. It is important for us to receive accurate and reliable forecasts for the future Federal Aid Highway Program so that we can prepare our business plans accordingly.

HIGHWAY INVESTMENT: THE ROAD TO OUR FUTURE

In our legislative deliberations with Capitol Hill, NSA has increasingly articulated the need for American investment in transportation infrastructure as a necessary requisite for securing the United States' position in a global economy. And simultaneously we have clearly stated our own industry's need for a reliable source of infrastructure funding in order to successfully carry out our role in ensuring our nation's mobility.

Our message has been clearly articulated, but because of a growing number of competing interests, it must be perpetually reinforced—on an almost daily basis. It must be reinforced by NSA's own lobbyists: it must be reinforced through participation in coalitions which share our mutual interests; and it must be reinforced by our Association's own members, via our Grassroots NSA work.

I urge everyone to participate, because highway investment is truly the road to our future!

RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE HAS TOO MANY COSTS

HON. WAYNE ALLARD

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, with the political season winding into high gear, Republicans and Democrats are facing off over another highly-charged issue: raising the minimum wage. As the rhetoric and accusations fly, let's not lose sight of the real goal at hand: to put more money in our workers' paychecks.

Some people think we can do that by boosting the minimum wage by 90 cents in 2 years. I think we can raise take-home pay by reducing the tax burden on our citizens in a number of ways, foremost by balancing our national budget. Another boost would be the \$500-per-child tax credit.

The effects of raising the minimum wage have been analyzed by countless economists, and the results vary widely, often according to the political leaning of the experts. We have to ask ourselves what risks are we willing to take, and do the benefits outweigh them?

After looking over different estimates and analyses, I am concerned that raising the minimum wage will have more negative effects.

I know firsthand the effects of raising the wage. When I owned my veterinary clinic, I had to let go of a part-time worker when the wage was increased. I know other small business owners will not be able to maintain their current levels of employment if the wage is raised.

Instead of earning an extra \$36 a week, some workers will be laid off and end up earning nothing, or have their hours cut and earn less.

Raising the wage is also likely to force owners and managers to raise wages at other levels as well. Unless they keep salaries proportionate, owners may sow worker discontent and salary inequity. Raising everyone's salary, however, could lead to an inflationary spiral, and offset the gains made by increasing the bottom wage.

A number of people in the service industry are likely to be laid off as well. Instead of paying people the minimum wage to pump gas, for example, we now rely on self-service. I can see this happening in other industries as well, such as cleaning and lawn care, and even such simple jobs as washing animals in a pet hospital.

Although small businesses and the private sector are going to be hit by a minimum wage increase, they are not the only ones who will feel the effects. One reliable study estimates that State and local governments will have to pay an additional \$1 billion from 1996 to 2000 in salaries if the increase is approved. Unless Federal assistance is provided to offset these added expenditures, Congress will be forcing another unfunded mandate on the States in violation of a new law.

Who makes minimum wage? In 1994, roughly 4.8 million workers were paid at or below \$4.25 an hour. All these workers were over 16, and 63 percent of them were over 20. Of these, 58 percent were women and 47 percent of them held full-time jobs. Today, about 12 million people make less than \$5.15 an hour.

In fact, a vast majority of economists agree that the Democrat plan to raise the minimum

wage will hurt the people most in need: low-skilled workers, women, and inner-city residents.

Historically, we can see how raising the minimum wage affects the economy and unemployment.

In the past 20 years, the minimum wage has been increased nine times, each time phased in over 2 years. During every 2-year period the wage was increased since 1973, unemployment also increased. This happened regardless of whether the economy was growing or shrinking.

The only exception was in 1977-79, when the economy grew at a rate of 5.6 percent. We are looking at a 21-percent increase in the minimum wage over 2 years now. The economy's annual rate of growth was 2.8 percent in the first quarter of 1996, and 2 percent for all of 1995.

That kind of growth doesn't appear strong enough to support such a high wage increase without causing more unemployment.

On the surface, raising the minimum wage might look like a nice thing to do for those workers at the bottom of the pay scale. But only on the surface. The potential effects on the economy overall, not to mention on the people we are purporting to help, could be devastating.

Instead of trying to score easy political points, we should institute policies that will have a lasting, positive effect on everyone in the economy. Balancing the budget would have the most profound lasting effect, by lowering interest rates on homes, cars, and credit cards.

Furthermore, we can also approve the \$500 per child tax credit, marriage penalty relief, adoption tax credits, and reduce the Federal gas tax.

That's the kind of relief we need, and the kind of relief President Clinton has vetoed.

INDIAN ELECTION-RIGGING

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I recently had the opportunity to meet with several prominent Kashmiri leaders to discuss the Indian Government's intentions to force elections upon the people of Indian-occupied Kashmir on May 23 and May 30, 1996. While I was not surprised to hear that Indian security forces are continuing to commit numerous human rights abuses against innocent Kashmiris, I was astonished to learn of how far the Indian Government is going to deceive the outside world into believing that Kashmiris actually support the upcoming elections.

I have been informed that the Indian Army is going door to door telling Kashmiris that they were legally bound to participate in the election and threatening physical retaliation against Kashmiris who fail to vote. Buses are being diverted from their normal routes to transport people to rallies supposedly in favor of elections. I have also been told that the Indian Government has organized 50,000 people to pose as Kashmiris and to travel throughout Kashmir on election day casting votes at every stop all under the watchful eyes and cameras of a select few reporters chosen

by India to paint the elections as a great success.

Mr. Speaker, it is quite well known by everyone who follows the Kashmir issue that the only vote people of Indian-occupied Kashmir desire is a vote which includes the option of independence from India. This option, while promised on numerous occasions by the United Nations, has been continually denied by the brutal Government of India. Why is self-determination deemed an inalienable right for so many peoples of the world, yet so taboo when talk turns to Kashmir? Are the peoples of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Ukraine, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Armenia, and Azerbaijan more capable or worthy of self-government than the people of Kashmir? Historically, Kashmir has been ruled as a princely state far longer than it has been part of India—a country which has existed less than 50 years. Its claims to independence are just as strong as those of the former Republics of the Soviet Union.

Mr. Speaker, I have heard some political theorists argue that granting the Kashmiris their independence would prove destabilizing to South Asia and could facilitate the breakup of India. Hogwash! What could be more stabilizing for India than to give the Kashmiris, who clearly do not want Indian rule, their freedom. No longer would India have to devote hundreds of thousands of troops and huge amounts of money to suppressing the Kashmiris. Even if the transition to independence proved turbulent, would it be any more turbulent than the transition of the former Soviet Republics to New Independent States? Is avoiding potential instability a higher goal than freeing people from an oppressive ruler?

Mr. Speaker, I hope everyone in the United States will be watching the upcoming elections in Kashmir very carefully. It is obvious that the Indian Government wants the world to stop asking these tough questions and wants the world's eyes to turn away from this troubled part of the world. That is why the Indian Government is going to such extremes to stage these elections. However, this should not come as a surprise to anyone who has had an opportunity to see what India is willing to do here in the United States to shield itself from United States congressional scrutiny. I encourage all my colleagues in the Congress to read the Thursday, May 9, 1996, Baltimore Sun article which documents how the Indian Embassy recently funneled \$46,000 in illegal campaign contributions to United States congressional candidates whom it perceived to be sympathetic to India. Such tampering in United States electoral politics by the Indian Embassy cannot be tolerated.

[From the Baltimore Sun, May 9, 1996]

CAMPAIGN FUND-RAISER ADMITS GUILT
(By Jim Hanker and Mark Matthews)

A prominent fund-raiser for Maryland Democrats pleaded guilty yesterday to election fraud in a scheme to launder at least \$46,000 in illegal campaign contributions he received from an official at the embassy of India in 1994.

Lalit H. Gadhia—a 57-year-old immigration lawyer and former campaign treasurer to Gov. Parris N. Glendening—confessed in U.S. District Court in Baltimore to his role in the scheme to influence congressional lawmakers involved in foreign-policy decisions affecting India.

An immigrant from Bombay, India, who was active in Baltimore's early civil rights

movement, Gadhia now faces up to five years in prison and \$250,000 in fines. Sentencing is scheduled for this summer.

Prosecutors say the case against Gadhia is one of only a handful of cases in which foreign citizens or governments have been linked to illegal campaign contributions in a U.S. political race, and may be the first time an official of a foreign embassy has been implicated.

"The fact that the money came from the Indian Embassy and that so many people were manipulated into participating in the scheme takes this case to a higher level than we normally see in these kind of investigations," said U.S. Attorney Lynn A. Battaglia. "Obviously, we have not seen a case like this in Baltimore before."

Among those who received the illegal funds were four members of the Maryland delegation and congressmen in Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio. According to documents filed in the case, federal authorities could find no evidence that any of the recipients was aware of the true source of the contributions.

"The campaign assumed that these were appropriate contributions," said Jesse Jacobs, press secretary for Sen. Paul S. Sarbanes, the Marylander who is the third-ranking Democrat on the Foreign Relations Committee. Mr. Sarbanes received \$4,500 of the questionable contributions.

Other Maryland Democrats who received \$3,000 contributions each were Reps. Benjamin L. Cardin and Steny H. Hoyer and former Rep. Kweisi Mfume.

In all, 19 Democratic candidates nationwide got the money shortly before the 1994 elections through a network of prominent Indian-American businessmen in Maryland, their families and employees of their companies. The donors then were reimbursed by Gadhia, who admitted yesterday that he used money from a minister at the Embassy of India in Washington.

Under Foreign Election Commission rules, it is illegal for noncitizens to make political contributions or for anyone to make donations in another person's name. But Gadhia never informed donors that the money was coming from India—or told them that it was a crime to accept reimbursement for a donation.

"The vast majority of people in the Indian-American community nationally are going to be appalled by this," said Subodh Chandra, 28, a Los Angeles lawyer who heads a political action committee that unwittingly received at least \$31,400 of the illegal contributions from Gadhia.

"We can only hope at this point that these were the acts of a lone bumbler or group of bumlbers and not some sort of international intrigue involving the Indian government. Whatever the case may be, it has harmed an immigrant community in this country that has worked hard for political recognition," Chandra said.

The scheme first came to light last year after a two-month investigation by The Sun into Chandra's PAC, the Indian-American Leadership Investment Fund. Federal campaign finance records showed that almost all of the group's money came from Baltimore donors with ties to Gadhia, who then was Glendening's campaign treasurer.

Donating mostly in \$1,000 and \$500 increments, contributors ranged from prominent Indian-American engineers and doctors to cooks, busboys, students and secretaries who never before had made a political donation.

A half-dozen contributors interviewed said they were paid by Gadhia or his nephew to write the checks, but had no idea the practice was illegal.

Satish Bahl, a part owner of the Akbar Restaurant on Charles Street—where kitchen employees made \$13,500 in bogus contributions—echoed other Baltimore donors in saying he now feels badly used by his former friend.

"I had no idea—absolutely no idea," he said yesterday. "We were not aware of the consequences. We were only involved third-hand. We never thought about how far this could go."

Gadhia denied the allegations at the time of The Sun's investigation. But the case against him continued to build last summer as FBI agents issued subpoenas to those who gave to the PAC or who attended fund-raisers held by Gadhia for Maryland congressional candidates, Baltimore Mayor Kurt L. Schmoke and presidential aspirants Bill Clinton and Michael S. Dukakis.

FORMER MD OFFICIAL

Gadhia was at the height of his political influence, having been rewarded by Glendening with an \$80,000-a-year post as his deputy secretary of international economic development. Within days, the governor demanded his resignation.

The allegations of wrongdoing stunned Baltimore's close-knit Indian-American community because Gadhia was its de facto political leader—the man with the golden Rolodex who could produce thousands of dollars in contributions with a round of telephone calls.

Then, on May 8, 1995, FBI agents seized documents from Gadhia's Charles Street office that quickly expanded the investigation beyond the PAC contributions.

According to records released yesterday by the U.S. attorney's office in Baltimore, the courier bill was addressed to a minister named Devendra Singh at the "Embassy of India" and it contained checks not only to the PAC but to 12 Democratic lawmakers.

The records enabled the FBI to trace some \$46,000 in illegal contributions back to Singh at the embassy, Battaglia said.

Singh, who now is a high-ranking police official in Rajasthan state in India, was minister for personnel and community affairs at the embassy at the time. Among his duties was to reach out to prominent Americans who had immigrated from India and seek their support for the government.

NO SUCH CONTRIBUTION

The current minister for community affairs, Wajahat Habibullah, denied that the embassy is involved in trying to influence U.S. foreign policy through campaign contributions.

"I have not made any such contribution," he said, adding that diplomats at the embassy have a budget for entertaining dignitaries but not for political donations. "Certainly it is not part of our work."

But it is not the first time the issue has come up.

India's current ambassador has been in Washington only since April. But his predecessor, Siddhartha Ray, who is now running for Parliament in India, drew harsh criticism from Indiana Republican Rep. Dan Burton for his statements backing certain members of Congress who were known to be strong supporters of India.

"We are very concerned about political activities at the Indian Embassy," Burton's chief of staff, Kevin Binger, said of the Gadhia guilty plea. "We feel very strongly that it should stay out of political races. Any allegation that this is going on should be investigated and made an issue with the Indian government."

Said embassy spokesman Shiv Mukherjee: "The Indian Embassy operates fully within the bounds of diplomatic propriety."

Officially, the State Department had no comment. Privately, however, officials

chalked up the illegal contributions that were funneled through Gadhia's Maryland political network to a lack of sophistication in how to influence the American political system.

One official said the Indians had made a fumbling start in their attempt to copy the formidable clout wielded on Capitol Hill by such countries as Greece and Israel, which are aligned with powerful and well-financed Washington lobbies.

India and its supporters in Washington have been extremely vocal in trying to limit U.S. military assistance to India's longtime adversary, Pakistan—most recently, the sale of 38 F-16 fighters.

As the Clinton administration has tried to improve trade and political ties with India while not damaging relations with Pakistan, much of this debate has played itself out before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and House International Relations Committee.

Federal Election Commission records show that the committee members have become magnets for campaign contributions from Pakistani and Indian immigrants living in the United States—and for Gadhia's laundered contributions.

In addition to Sarbanes, other Democratic committee members targeted were Sen. Charles S. Robb of Virginia, \$2,000; Rep. Gary L. Ackerman of New York, \$3,000; Rep. Sherrod Brown of Ohio, \$3,000; Rep. Lee H. Hamilton of Indiana, \$3,000; Rep. Eliot L. Engel of New York, \$3,000; Robert E. Andrews of New Jersey, \$3,000; and Rep. Howard L. Berman of California, \$2,800.

State Department officials said yesterday's revelations were unlikely to do serious damage to U.S.-Indian relations. Nor does the Gadhia case appear to rise to the level of other campaign financing scandals involving foreign nationals.

The Justice Department is investigating the campaign finances of Rep. Kim, a California Republican and the first Korean-American member of Congress.

Since December, four Korean companies—Hyundai Motor America, Korean Air Lines, Daewoo International (America) Corp. and Samsung America—have paid a total of \$1.2 million in fines in connection with illegal campaign contributions to Kim that were laundered through company employees.

In 1994, a number of Japanese citizens and corporations paid a \$162,225 civil penalty to the FEC for making more than \$300,000 in illegal contributions in Hawaii during the 1980s.

Perhaps the most famous episode of foreign intervention in recent history was the Korean scandal of the 1970s, in which a wealthy South Korean businessman funneled hundreds of thousands of dollars in bribes and contributions to U.S. politicians.

Among those caught in the scandal, which implicated more than 30 members of Congress, was Hancho C. Kim, a Maryland businessman. He was sentenced to six years in prison in 1978 for accepting \$600,000 in funds from the Korean government to influence members of Congress.

HOW THE MONEY MOVED

Aug. 16, 1993. Indian American Leadership Investment Fund registers as a political action committee (PAC) with the Federal Election Commission. In first 13 months, it raises \$700.

October 1994. Lalit H. Gadhia sends 41 checks totaling \$34,900 written by various individuals to the PAC. Between Oct. 30 and Nov. 3 the PAC sends \$34,800 to 14 congressional candidates and to the Massachusetts Democratic Party's Victory '94 fund. Federal prosecutors say that Gadhia selected the

candidates to receive contributions and that he reimbursed the authors of most of the checks, using money obtained from an official at the Indian Embassy in Washington.

October-November 1994. Another \$16,000 in contributions from individuals is made directly to 12 candidates, including eight who also received money from the PAC. The contributors are reimbursed by Gadhia, using money from the Indian Embassy official.

Dec. 1, 1994: Gadhia sends a report on the use of the campaign funds to the embassy official, Devendra Singh.

May 3, 1995. Gadhia resigns as Gov. Parris N. Glendening's campaign treasurer following a report in The Sun describing his fund-raising activities. He also takes leave of absence from his \$80,000 post as assistant secretary of international economic development in the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development.

May 8, 1995: FBI searches Gadhia's law office and finds evidence of the scheme to launder illegal campaign contributions.

June 30, 1995: Gadhia resigns his state job. Yesterday: Gadhia appears in federal court and admits his role in the scheme.

MEDICAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS:
DELTA DENTAL EXPLAINS WHY
THEY ARE ABOUT AS GOOD FOR
HEALTH CARE AS AN AB-
SCESSED TOOTH

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, following is a letter in opposition to medical savings plans from Delta Dental, the large dental health care plan that serves about 27 million Americans.

MAY 3, 1996.

Hon. FORTNEY PETE STARK,

U.S. House of Representatives, Cannon Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE STARK: I am writing to urge you to oppose the inclusion of Medical Savings Accounts (MSAs) in healthcare reform legislation currently pending in Congress (HR3103).

As you know, Delta Dental Plan of California is the state's oldest and largest dental health plan, covering almost 12 million people in our commercial and government programs throughout California and the nation. We are a member of the nationwide Delta Dental Plans Association, which serves more than 27 million Americans and includes participation of 67 percent of the nation's dentists.

Delta Dental Plan of California supports the primary objectives of the current incremental healthcare reform legislation to provide portability and limit preexisting medical exclusions. It is important to note that dental coverage plays an essential role in our nation's healthcare system. In fact, dental benefits embody the qualities being sought in healthcare reform by emphasizing primary care and preventive services, holding patients responsible for a portion of the services they receive and controlling costs. According to the Institute of Medicine, regular dental care dramatically reduces dental disease, saving \$4 billion annually. As a share of national health expenditures, dental costs have actually declined over the past three decades—from 7.4 percent in 1960 to 5.3 percent in 1990. While medical care costs were skyrocketing, the cost of dental care rose at a rate less than half that of physicians' services and one-third the rate of hospital costs.

While MSAs may help lower healthcare costs for some, they run counter to the principles of a sound dental care program.

MSAs discourage preventive care. Unlike physicians, dentists have an extensive, cost-effective set of preventive procedures to draw upon. By emphasizing preventive services, dental insurance helps improve health and lower treatment costs. MSAs, on the other hand, tend to discourage preventive, routine services. I am concerned that individuals will treat MSAs as cash savings and be more likely to regard dental care as something that can be postponed. By delaying routine care until dental problems are at more advanced stages, the eventual cost of treatment will be higher.

MSAs are less cost-effective. MSAs may actually result in higher employer benefit costs. Most healthcare dollars are spent on a small portion of the population in high amounts. Yet under an MSA option, individuals who are otherwise low utilizers to healthcare would be eligible to receive the full MSA contribution from their employers.

MSAs could lead to adverse selection and higher premiums. Young, healthy and financially well-off individuals are more likely to choose MSAs, leaving the poorer, sicker individuals in the insured population. Under those circumstances, employer premium costs would increase significantly.

I urge you to oppose the inclusion of MSAs in the final healthcare legislation. Should you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to call me.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM T. WARD,
*President and Chief Executive Officer,
Delta Dental Plan of California.*

DALLAS LOSES A COMMITTED CITIZEN

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, sadly today, I must report the loss of a friend, supporter, and committed citizen, Elsie Cohen Pearle. Mrs. Pearle, passed away at her Dallas home this past week following a battle with cancer.

Born as Elsie Cohen in Pittsburgh, she graduated from Schenley High School. Shortly afterward, she met and married Stanley Pearle. The couple moved to Texas after Dr. Pearle graduated from optometry school and she became very involved in the family's optometry businesses, which preceded the founding of Pearle Vision optical stores. She worked as an executive for the firm and handled all of the advertising.

Elsie Cohen Pearle was a charter life member of the National Council of Jewish Women, Greater Dallas section and she has been described by her friends and associates as a tireless and inspiring leader in the fundraising efforts of that organization. In Dallas, however, Mrs. Pearle was best known for her love of art and her support of numerous organizations. She was a member of the Dallas Jewish Historical Society, the League of Women Voters, the National Organization for Women, and Emily's List. She also chaired the women's division campaign of the Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas. She has also been active in every national political campaign since 1960. She attended State Democratic conventions and cochaired breakfasts, luncheons, and art shows on behalf of many political candidates.

In 1988 she was honored with the Israel Bonds Woman of Valor Award, and she and her husband were awarded the Torch of Conscience Award by the Dallas Chapter of the American Jewish Congress. Mrs. Pearle formerly served on the aesthetics committee of Temple Emanu-El, where she also served on the board of the music committee. She was to have been honored in November as the first honorary chairwoman of the National Council of Jewish Women's Gala Affair in Dallas.

Elsie, you will be missed.

TRIBUTE TO MARIAN KLEBANOFF

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Ms. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marian Klebanoff who will receive the State of Israel's Heritage Award on Sunday, May 19, 1996, in Wichita, KS. Marian has dedicated her life to her family and to her community and to the State of Israel.

Marian was born in 1916 in Kansas City, MO, the second child of Edith and Benjamin Bell. She graduated from Linwood Elementary School and Central High School. Marian attended the Kansas City Art Institute, the University of Kansas, and the University of Tulsa. In 1940 she married Nathan Wedlan of Kansas City where they lived most of their married life. They had two daughters, Myrna who is married to David Lyons and Bobbi who is married to Larrie Weil.

Marian first visited Israel in 1973 with her husband who died later that year. In 1978 she moved to Wichita, KS, to marry Joseph Klebanoff who has two sons, Gary and Alan. She and Joe have been blessed with seven wonderful grandchildren: Jonathan Wedlan Lyons, Brett Harrison Lyons, Parker Anders Weil, Sarah Marion Weil, Sarah Annie Klebanoff, David James Klebanoff, and Kara Klebanoff.

Marian's devotion to her family is equaled only by her commitment to helping others. She began her public service as a high school student when she volunteered at Congregation Beth Shalom in Kansas City, MO, as a librarian. A great lover of children, Marian taught Sunday school and nursery school and was camp director at Beth Shalom.

Marian has lived several places during her adult life and has always been actively involved in her community. In Kansas City Marian served as the director of Jewish education and art gallery coordinator for the Jewish Community Center; she also was a board member of Congregation Beth Shalom Sisterhood, National Council of Jewish Women, Hadassah, and Jewish Federation. While living in Tulsa, OK, Marian was president of the National Council of Jewish Women and served on the board of directors of Hadassah, Jewish Federation, and ORT.

More recently Marian has served on the board of directors of Jewish Federation of Wichita, Temple Emanu-El Temple, Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood, Hadassah, and B'nai N'rith Women. She has been president of Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood and also has served as chairperson of the Education and Anti-Defamation League communities as well as co-chair of the women's division of the Jewish

Federation. Marian is also a member of the Wichita Gardens Botanica, Wichita Art Museum, Wichita Center for the Arts, Wichita Symphony Association, Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum, American Civil Liberties Union, and the Mainstream Coalition.

I am proud to list the many organizations with which Marian has worked, but Marian's life has been much more than the sum of all the wonderful parts. The Hebrew language has no word which directly corresponds to the English word "charity." The closest word for "charity" in Hebrew is "Tzedakah" which is a Judaic admonition to be righteous, compassionate, and, above all, help one's fellow man. Marian is a most perfect example of this combination of community service and responsibility.

I am honored to rise before this distinguished body to recognize Marian Wedlan Klebanoff who has earned my respect and that of her family and her friends. She is a worthy recipient of the State of Israel's Heritage Award for her devotion to her family, to her synagogue, to her community, and to the State of Israel.

A TRIBUTE TO DAVID M. MARSHALL, JR.

HON. MIKE WARD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to an outstanding citizen in my district, Mr. David M. Marshall, Jr. Mr. Marshall has been a loyal employee of the Louisville Naval Ordnance Station for 38 years and retired as of May 3, 1996.

Mr. Marshall's long years serving at the Naval Ordnance Station are a credit to his dedication to the United States and its Armed Forces. During his long tenure, he was key in developing many defense technologies. His talents as a mechanical engineer will surely be missed. I would like to personally thank him for his commitment and to extend my best wishes to him and his family as they celebrate his retirement this weekend.

POLISH-AMERICAN WAR VETERANS

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the Polish-American War veterans in my congressional district, who are celebrating their 50th Anniversary as a veterans organization in the Metro East and will celebrate that distinguished anniversary on June 1, 1996.

This local Polish-American War veterans organization was formed immediately after World War II, when so many local Polish-Americans living in Southwestern Illinois left their homes and families to fight to free Europe and preserve democracy here in America. Upon their return, these veterans decided to form their own local PAWV organization.

According to the local organization, these original ideas were nurtured at the S.M. (Steve

Mizulski) Tavern in East St. Louis, where planning sessions took place. The PAWV was subsequently chartered in May 1946 by the State of Illinois. The first officers were Stanley Gula, President; Stanley Boryczko, Vice-President; Joseph Skowron, Secretary; Michael Bartosz, Treasurer; and Adam Wondolowski, Sergeant-at-Arms. Other active leaders were Walter Kolczak, Les Kloczak, Aloysius Szablowski, Edward Cich, Ed Wondolowski, as well as John Radon, Ted Skrabacz, and Ben Nieciecki.

Over the years, events were staged throughout the Metro East, with its 25th Anniversary celebrated on October 2, 1971, at the Catholic Knights and Ladies Hall in Belleville. Under the leadership of Albert (Butch) Rolek and other committed members, a permanent site for the PAWV was found in 1979 on North 81st Street in Caseyville.

The PAWV sponsors a variety of community events every year, including the annual Father's Day program, ethnic celebrations, children's events, as well as national and State holiday observations. The Ladies Auxiliary, a group of dedicated wives and mothers, supports the activities and continues to work to foster an understanding and love of the Polish community.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the PAWV on its 50th Anniversary.

BLOOMFIELD CITIZENS COUNCIL
AWARDS

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a number of Pittsburgh residents who were honored on May 3 with Bloomfield Citizens Council awards. Every year, the citizens council grants these awards to members of the community who have made a significant contribution to the quality of life in Bloomfield.

For decades of countless volunteer hours and for her tireless dedication as the editor of the Spirit of Bloomfield newsletter, Janet Scullion was presented for the first time in the history of the council with a dual award, receiving both the Mary Cercone Outstanding Citizen Award and the Distinguished Leadership Award.

For her dedication to the education and spiritual commitment of two generations of Bloomfield children, Sister Mary John Cook is being honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award, Sister Mary John has served as the principal of Immaculate Conception School for 16 years.

Two community members received recognition for their commitment to athletics and were jointly awarded the Outstanding Athletic Leadership Award. Dan Brannigan worked tirelessly for several years to develop and support basketball and volleyball programs for young people in the Bloomfield community. George Savarese has given his heart and soul to the success of the hockey league program which helps Bloomfield boys build character and self-discipline.

For knowing the streets and encouraging everyone to join together and work with the police, the Public Safety Award was bestowed upon BILL BRADLEY.

Never refusing to help his community through countless hours of service with the Bloomfield Lions Club, the St. Joseph Nursing Home, and the Meals on Wheels Program—and for always being willing to go the extra mile—Emil Del Cimmuto was recognized with the Extra Mile Award.

An impressive record of attendance at meetings, hearings, and hundreds of volunteer hours of committee work on everything from youth to seniors made the selection of Phyllis McQuillan as the recipient of the Community Commitment Award unquestionable.

City Council President Jim Ferlo, longtime community activist, was the founder and driving force behind such organizations as the Patient's Right Program, the Pennsylvania Alliance for Jobs & Energy, and the Save Nabisco Action Coalition. For his numerous community activities, and because Jim is always there as a loyal friend with an optimistic vision when the citizens of Bloomfield needed him, Jim Ferlo has been honored with the Neighborhood Loyalty Award.

A dedicated and outspoken 15-year-old who volunteers at West Penn Hospital, Kristen DiGiacomo has been honored with the Junior Patriotism Award. This remarkable young woman is truly a model for all young people in the city of Pittsburgh.

For his partnership with the Bloomfield Citizens Council to advance the educational opportunities for Bloomfield children at Immaculate Conception School with microscopes, lab equipment, and computers, Charles O'Brien was honored with the Academic Advancement Award.

Greg Feigel and Larry Camerota are the two recipients of the Outstanding Athletic Achievement Award.

The recipients of the posthumous awards this year were Mary Lou Johnson and Gilda Zolabinski. Mary Lou's life was marked by her dedication to family, friends, and community. Gilda also had a deep commitment to the people she loved, and to the quality of life in Bloomfield.

For his creative display of more than 6,000 lights and different winter scenes which are admired by everyone, Jack Rice received the Creative Christmas Award.

For their admirable effort, the following people received an honorable mention for the Creative Christmas Award: Michael Armenti, Gary Caldwell, Humphrey DiGiacomo, John Fugil, and Michael Magliocco.

All of these individuals have made significant contributions to the people and community of Bloomfield in Pittsburgh. It is only through such efforts that the quality of life in our communities can be maintained. They deserve our thanks and commendation. I salute them.

GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD
RECIPIENTS

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to salute a group of outstanding young women who will be honored on May 22, 1996, by Tropical Florida Girl Scout Council in Miami, FL, for earning the highest achieve-

ment in U.S. Girl Scouting. They are Julie Vilaboy of Girl Scout Troop No. 52, Jessica Tejera, Rusonda Solomon of Girl Scout Troop No. 79, Lauren Schwartz of Troop No. 75, Laura Santos of Troop No. 52, Marisa Key of Troop No. 535, Carrie Hoffman of Troop No. 79, Jennifer Harvey of Troop No. 79, Luvy Delgado of Troop No. 140, Alicia Castellanos of Troop No. 52, Jessica Bernabei of Troop No. 140, Maria Beotequi of Troop No. 140, and Tracey Adams of Troop No. 711.

The Girl Scout Gold Award symbolizes outstanding accomplishments in the areas of leadership, community service, career planning, and personal development. The award can be earned by girls aged 14 to 17, or in grades 9 through 12.

Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., an organization serving over 2.5 million girls, has awarded more than 20,000 Girl Scout Awards to Senior Girl Scouts since the inception of the program in 1980.

To receive the award, a Girl Scout must earn four interest project patches, the Career Exploration Pin, the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, and the Senior Girl Scout Challenge, as well as design and implement a Girl Scout Award project. A plan for fulfilling these requirements is created by the Senior Girl Scout and is carried out through close cooperation between the girl and an adult Girl Scout volunteer.

As members of the Tropical Florida Girl Scout Council, these outstanding young women began working toward the Girl Scout Award as early as September of last year. They completed their projects in programs such as self-awareness/self-help, youth monitoring, and education and community service.

I know that my colleagues will join with me in extending to these outstanding young women our congratulations for a job well done and for their service to our community and our country.

ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION HONORS
NATHAN N. SCHIOWITZ

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nathan N. Schiowitz, who has been selected by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Unit of The Arthritis Foundation as its 1996 Community Leader of the Year. I am pleased to recognize Mr. Schiowitz as he receives this honor on May 15, 1996.

The Arthritis Foundation gives the Community Leader Award to those community leaders who demonstrate outstanding leadership qualities in their communities and who have selflessly given of themselves for the betterment of others. Nathan Schiowitz fulfills, and surpasses, these requirements. He is truly deserving of this award.

Nathan Schiowitz began his professional career in 1924 when he joined his father's company, the General Supply and Paper Co., located in Wilkes-Barre, PA. He quickly became a leader in the business, and rose to the position of president before his retirement in 1975.

As Nathan's leadership qualities grew with his experiences at the General Supply and Paper Co., he shared those qualities with his

community. From 1925 until 1940, Nathan served on the Jewish Welfare Agency's Board of Directors. In 1972, he served on the Flood Recovery Committee and worked to provide assistance to victims of the Hurricane Agnes flood which devastated much of the Wyoming Valley.

Currently, Mr. Schiowitz is president of the Congregation of Ohav Zedek, and serves on the board of the Jewish Community Center. He is vice president and treasurer of the Jewish Federation of Greater Wilkes-Barre, and is also treasurer of the Jewish Community Center's Trustee Board. He has been named honorary chairman of the United Hebrew Institute and serves on Jewish Family Service Board.

Nathan Schiowitz's leadership does not stop with these positions. He also serves as the treasurer of the Ecumenical Enterprise Corporation and is operations chairman of the Meadows Nursing Home Board. He is also a member of several Masonic organizations including the Irem Temple Mystic Shrine.

For his leadership roles, Nathan has been honored extensively. He has received the Ohav Zedek Endowment Award and was recognized in 1982 by the Jewish Federation of Greater Wilkes-Barre USA Campaign and the United Hebrew Institution 25th Anniversary Endowment Campaign. Nathan was honored with the National Council of Jewish Federations Endowment Acknowledgement in 1986 and received a Community Service Award from the B'nai B'rith in 1988. In 1991, he was honored by Wilkes University at the dedication of the Schiowitz Hall.

With his active participation in so many organizations, Nathan Schiowitz has become an outstanding leader throughout the Wyoming Valley. His capabilities and character have resulted in the innumerable accomplishments and successes. His interaction with others has been responsible for improving the lives of so many people.

Mr. Speaker, Nathan N. Schiowitz is truly deserving of The Arthritis Foundation's 1996 Community Leader of the Year Award. On behalf of his community, I would like to thank him for all that he has done to better the lives of others, and wish him continued success in all that he does on behalf of others.

IN HONOR OF RUTH JERNIGAN

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Ms. Ruth Jernigan. She retired on April 1, 1996, after a total of 44 years of tireless service as a community and legislative advocate.

Ruth began working in 1952 at McDonnell Douglas in Long Beach, CA, where she was employed until 1978. In 1978, she began 18 years of service to the United Auto Workers [UAW] as a UAW international representative, where she has served as a coordinator for the UAW Western Region Political and Legislative Program. Her territory included part of northern California from Fresno to Oregon, the States of Oregon and Washington, and parts of northern Nevada. Her responsibilities included serving as the direct liaison between the UAW and city, county, State, and Federal

elected officials and advocating for legislative issues on behalf of UAW members, their families, and the community.

Throughout her long career, Ruth also served with distinction on several commissions. She was a commissioner for the Department of Water and Power in Los Angeles where her duties included planning and developing new programs for the department. She served as a commissioner on the Los Angeles County Commission for Women. In this capacity, she planned and developed programs to promote women to the highest levels of management in every department of the county of Los Angeles. She also served as a commissioner for Industrial Innovation for the State of California, an organization which provides a forum for debate and policy guidance for the Governor and the legislature on the role of technical innovation in maintaining California's leadership in the Nation's economy.

Ruth was also a founding member of the 100 Black Women Organization of Los Angeles County, a member of NAACP, the Urban League, and the Black Women Forum.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in recognizing Ruth Jernigan for all of her years of dedicated service. I wish her much happiness and success in her future endeavors.

THANK YOU SAM GIBBONS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. Speaker, I rise not to say goodbye but say thank you to a good friend and wonderful legislator who truly cares about the people he represented in Congress. I am speaking of Congressman SAM GIBBONS from Florida who is retiring from the House of representatives. I am sad to see him leave because I know how much he helped and how much he gave of his time to make sure that everyone in his district and in the Nation was heard.

He is a true public servant who worked to better his district in the State of Florida and the Nation as a whole. His 30-plus years of dedicated service to the House of Representatives has not only made the Congress a better place, it has overwhelmingly enhanced all Members of Congress who have had the pleasure to serve with him.

Senior citizens in my district know who SAM GIBBONS is because of his stand this year on Medicare and Medicaid issues. He stood up and made his voice heard for those seniors who could not come to Congress and speak to their own Representatives.

But, in his tenure in Congress he worked diligently to make the voice of the underdog heard. His senior position as ranking member on the Ways and Means Committee gave him the ability to keep in touch with issues that matter to everyone.

Mr. Speaker, I will greatly miss SAM GIBBONS when he leaves at the end of this Congress for all his strength, power, and wisdom. Congress is losing one of its best, an American hero, and I know in some capacity SAM will continue to work for the Nation.

THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS
REVOLUTION

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, few pieces of legislation pass this body with the bipartisan support that the Telecommunications Act of 1996 enjoy. Last month I held a telecommunications conference in my district with the goal in mind of letting my constituents of the Sixth District of Texas know how this bill will positively change their lives for the better. I believe it is important that people understand the importance and the magnitude of this legislation. The keynote speech was delivered by the President of the National Cable Television Association, Decker Anstrom. The speech he delivered that day seemed to translate the importance of this bill quite well. I would like to respectfully submit that speech for the RECORD.

REMARKS OF NCTA PRESIDENT DECKER ANSTROM BEFORE CONGRESSMAN JOE BARTON'S CONFERENCE IN DALLAS, TEXAS

Thank you, Congressman Barton for inviting me here today. I know I speak for not just the cable industry, but for the entire communications industry, in expressing my appreciation for your unwavering commitment to telecommunications reform and for your firm determination to make it happen.

As you all probably know, Joe was quite a baseball pitcher, with a hard fastball. Now, in Washington, he's the Nolan Ryan of telecommunications, and will strike out any pointed-head regulator who dares to get in the way of competitive, deregulated markets.

It's great to be back in Texas, which, as the TV commercial says, is just like a "whole another country." Of course, Washington, DC, is its own world: 60 square miles surrounded by reality. But Texas is the real world.

In any event, it's only fitting that you should be focusing on the future of telecommunications, since telecommunications will have such a significant influence on the way we work, learn and live.

Today, you've heard from a wide range of leaders in telecommunications, representing the diverse and competitive nature of the industries. If you reflect on what they've said, there's little doubt that we're entering a period of significant change—and great opportunity.

Indeed, it's not an exaggeration to say that we are entering a revolutionary time in American telecommunications.

What I'd like to try to do this afternoon is to put this revolution a little broader context by asking the question: what forces have come together to shape the telecommunications revolution now underway? And to try to answer the most important question: what will this revolution mean for communities, families and businesses?

So, let me start with the first question: why a revolution now?

I'd point to three major factors: dramatic changes in technology; dramatic changes in consumer demand; and the dramatic change in law and regulation.

First, technology. Now I'm no engineer. In fact, I still can't tell you how TV signals can go through a solid wall—although if it's any comfort to others in my predicament, I've asked senior engineers and they confirmed my guess: it's magic!

But I can tell you that the competitive opportunities you heard about this morning

are being fueled by the 0's and 1's of the digital age, tiny computer chips, and fiber optics.

When we refer to digital technology we're really talking about technology that employs the language of computers—they communicate in digits, 0s and 1s. Until about 1990, we could only use that language to transmit data between computers.

But then, researchers discovered a way to break down TV pictures and sounds into those same 0's and 1's computer language. That meant that a telephone call, an E-Mail message, or a movie could all be transmitted using 0's and 1's—rather than using sound waves. Those 0's and 1's don't take up much room, in the air or inside a wire. The result: we can move lots of information very efficiently and quickly.

Just think, only a few 0's and 1's gives you a chance to see and hear Roseanne perform while getting data on her weight and cholesterol levels at the same time! That's revolutionary—or maybe cause for a revolution!

Meanwhile, those thin little electronic chips that run computers and other gizmos have continued to get tinier and tinier—while their capabilities have improved dramatically and their costs have plunged. And all that, in turn, has made it increasingly cheaper and easier to not only build computers that are smarter and faster, but also the telecommunications networks and electronics that use them.

Further helping speed the development of the telecommunications revolution has been the rapid deployment of fiber optic wires, particularly in the cable industry. Through fiber optic cable, we can move those 0's and 1's at the speed of light. And as we all know, nothing moves faster than the speed of light. Except, of course, for Deion Sanders.

The second major factor driving the telecommunications revolution is the revolution in consumer demand. This is a force that companies ignore at their peril. The plain fact is, of course, that the engineers can design all the widgets they can dream of—but without consumer demand, those widgets will remain on factory loading docks.

Now, I don't propose to review thoroughly the profound changes that have been underway for at least a decade that are reshaping consumers' expectations and desires. But here are three significant economic, social and cultural changes that have affected us all and have helped drive the telecommunications revolution:

One: average Americans appear to have less time for their personal lives and leisure—making them demand more products and services that are more convenient to use, when they want to use them. In particular, we'd like to go to one place for a package of services. That's why we like shopping malls.

Two: continued inflation, coupled with sluggish growth in average wages, has turned most of us into more picky and choosy consumers—we're more price-sensitive and value-conscious when we buy things.

An three: the explosion of personal freedom and independence in our society has made people more discontented with limited choices in the marketplace—we want options in what we buy.

Think about how these forces have already been reflected in telecommunications just during the past 10-15 years:

In 1980, most consumers could choose from just three broadcast networks; today there are more than 100 cable and broadcast networks to choose from.

In the early 1980's, only 7 percent of U.S. households had a personal computer; today 40 percent do so.

In 1980, only 2 percent of U.S. TV households had a VCR; today it's nearly 80 percent.

And hold your hats on this one: In 1985, wireless phones were used by about 340,000 persons; that figure has since skyrocketed to 34 million!

These trends all point to one inescapable conclusion: consumers and businesses no longer will stand still for shoddy service, or poor price/value, or no choices.

If a telecommunications company can step in to address these concerns, they will win customers. With technology now enabling that to happen, that's why telecommunications markets like local phone service and cable, that historically have been characterized by a single provider, will change.

Which brings me to the third major factor fueling the telecommunications revolution: the dramatic change in law and regulation, represented by the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

The telecommunications reform legislation enacted in February replaces a crazy-quilt-patchwork of judicial decisions and laws and regulations that limited competition and hampered telecommunications' firms development with a new deregulated policy that will stimulate growth and development.

It's hard to believe, but the enactment of this legislation marked the first fundamental rewrite of federal communications laws in some 60 years. Not since 1934! Think about how very long ago that was. So long ago that the Dallas Cowboys were known only as people who rode horses and worked with cattle. So long ago that the New York Yankees were "America's team"

As you all know, the new law lifts state and local legal barriers to competition in telecommunications. It's designed to make sure this competition is sustained—and kept on a level playing field—by requiring that local phone monopolies open their networks to competitors.

And once the local phone monopolies do show that they've opened their networks to competitors, they get the green light to enter the long distance market. And, of direct interest those of us in the cable industry, the second the legislation was signed by the President into law, telephone companies got the OK to offer video programming directly to their customers—as well as to manufacture telecommunications equipment and to continue to offer information services.

In short—everyone's market has been opened to competition.

The bottom line: telecommunications law has finally caught up with technology and consumer demand.

Now that the new telecommunications reform law has stripped away major competitive barriers, the path is clear for the digital revolution to pick up real steam. What will that mean for consumers and businesses? Fundamentally, it means competition and choices. But things may be confused and messy for a few years.

Clearly, now that telecommunications reform is fact, we can expect competition to take off in many places. Today's local phone monopolies, including the dominant Regional Bell Companies, will face competition for the first time—from cable companies, long distance companies, and other Bell companies.

For example, here in Texas, cable company Time Warner recently received approval from the state public utilities commission to offer local phone service. Teleport, which is fully owned by cable companies, has also received a green light to provide local phone services in Dallas.

In the long distance market, Bell companies will offer new competition to long distance companies like AT&T, MCI, and Sprint.

The television marketplace will become more competitive, too. The cable industry

will continue to face fast-growing competition from direct broadcast satellite (DBS) firms, microwave-based cable systems (MMDS), and, of course, from telephone companies who will offer cable service. In Richardson, SBC Communications already is providing cable service in competition with the cable company, TCI.

But if I can add a parochial note here: Like those tough football linebackers from small Texas towns, we cable guys may be smaller than the bigger kids from Dallas and Houston, but we're faster and leaner—and we'll give the telephone companies a run for their money as we move to compete with them for phone service.

This new competition won't come easily. To construct new facilities, develop and market new services and continue to strengthen core businesses will cost telecommunications companies tens of billions of dollars in the next decade. And companies will need to acquire new marketing and technical expertise.

For many, the best route for entering new markets will be to seek out allies who have that missing ingredient necessary for competitive leadership—the right experience, the right technology, the right programming, or the right marketing know-how needed to obtain that prized competitive edge, not to mention the access to more capital!

So with the competition growing fiercer, expect all sorts of arrangements, alliances and mergers as companies battle for the hearts and minds of consumers and businesses. In some cases, it may involve consolidation within one sector, such as the just-announced merger between the two Bell companies, PacTel and SBC Communications. In other cases, it may involve mergers across sectors, such as the recently announced merger between phone giant U.S. West and Continental Cablevision.

There will also be partnerships and ventures across industry lines to help each company compete in new markets. Sprint, for example now has a partnership with three leading cable companies, TCI, Cox and Comcast, to provide local phone services, in combination with Sprint's long distance service.

Cooperative arrangements won't be limited to the biggest companies, however. For example, cable company TLCA, based in Tyler, Texas, is now reselling long distance phone services at competitive rates through an alliance with a small independent telephone company in Texas, Lufkin Conroe Telecommunications.

At first blush, all these mergers and alliances may seem to be anti-competitive. After all, aren't big companies simply getting bigger? Yes—but: keep your eye on the end-game. It's not to protect business-as-usual. Rather, these alliances are designed to build up the muscle needed for the competitive clashes ahead.

The ultimate goal of all these companies will be to become consumers' and businesses' first choice for one-stop shopping for voice, video and data services. And consumers and businesses will win—with firms offering convenient, often discounted packages of telecommunications services we can't even imagine today.

This competition won't be pretty. In the next few years you'll see plenty of confusion as consumers try to make heads or tails out of what's going on. We'll need a scorecard to know who's offering what—at what prices.

And be ready to have your dinner hour interrupted and your mailbox stuffed. We will undoubtedly be saturated by high-octane marketing campaigns out to sign up customers for new packages of communications services. Remember when AT&T began to face heated competition from MCI and Sprint? A once quiet marketplace suddenly

turned into the telecommunications industry's equivalent of the New Hampshire primary—with TV ads and mail solicitations from the long distance competitors seemingly appearing almost daily. That may be tame to the marketing that we will see for all communications services!

Consumers may find it frustrating, at first, to try to sort out all the dramatic changes coming in this industry. But the telecommunications revolution, by providing competition and choices, will make consumers the ultimate winner. This revolution will have particular meaning in business, education, and technology.

Business, big and small, will benefit from increased efficiencies and worker productivity provided by enhanced communications services. New wireless paging systems and other communications devices will make business traveling easier and more productive. Video conferencing will reduce the need for it. Many will be increasingly able to work from home. And, lower local and long distance phone rates brought on by competition will help everyone's bottom line.

In education, through high-speed Internet access, students will increasingly have the means to connect, at the speed of light, to the world's best libraries—such as the Library of Congress—and top research centers. Television will make long-distance learning a reality. Quite simply, the telecommunications revolution will enable us to bring the world into every classroom.

Finally, the digital revolution will not just provide consumers with far more choices in the home, but also help give them more control over how their families use those services. In our mass culture, families increasingly want—and need—to be able to control what their children experience. Through new viewer discretion technologies such as the v-chip, and other digital applications, and the

new TV ratings system that cable and the broadcasters will introduce by early 1997, parents will have more tools to make more informed, smarter decisions about what their children see on TV and use on the Internet.

In conclusion, I want to again thank Congressman Barton for his leadership that made telecommunications reform law—and thereby created a deregulated marketplace that will allow the telecommunications revolution to flourish.

Like Texas, this revolution will be limited only by our imaginations.

THE LEWIS AND CLARK RURAL
WATER SYSTEM

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, before me is a copy of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 107 as adopted on April 24, 1996, by the Iowa 76th General Assembly. It is a concurrent resolution urging the U.S. Congress to authorize construction of the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System. I ask that the State assembly's resolution concerning this important project be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 107

(By Kibbie and Rensink)

A Concurrent Resolution urging the United States Congress to authorize construction of the Lewis and Clark rural water system.

Whereas, the Lewis and Clark rural water system was envisioned and organized to supply a safe and adequate drinking water supply to 180,000 residents of northwestern Iowa,

southeastern South Dakota, and southwestern Minnesota; and

Whereas, five communities and two rural water systems in northwest Iowa, representing 24,000 residents of Iowa, joined the Lewis and Clark rural water system in hope of solving existing problems relating to inadequate supplies and poor quality of drinking water; and

Whereas, the 1993 Session of the Iowa General Assembly enacted legislation authorizing federal, state, and local governments to cooperate in managing and administering rural water districts; and

Whereas, federal legislation authorizing construction of the Lewis and Clark rural water system and federal, state, and local government cost-sharing to assist project sponsors in building the project has been introduced in the United States Congress; Now therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring, That the 1996 Session of the Iowa General Assembly is committed to supporting the Lewis and Clark rural water system and urges congressional approval of federal legislation authorizing the construction of the Lewis and Clark rural water system.

Be it further resolved, That copies of this resolution be sent by the Secretary of the Senate to the members of Iowa's congressional delegation.

LEONARD L. BOSWELL,

President of the Senate.

RON J. CORBETT,

Speaker of the House.

I hereby certify that this Resolution originated in the Senate and is known as Senate Concurrent Resolution 107, Seventy-sixth General Assembly.

JOHN F. DWYER,

Secretary of the Senate.