

sure he will continue to be active in his community in the future.

We can point with pride to Federal professionals like Vandy Miller for exemplifying the real spirit of public service. He has served with undying dedication, unrelenting commitment, and fervent devotion. I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this outstanding American, a man of God, a devoted public servant, and a family man.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House of Representatives and my constituents in the 4th Congressional District of Maryland, I want to personally thank Vandy Miller for his exceptional career of service to his country and community, congratulate him on this special occasion, and wish him all the best in retirement as he enters the next chapter of his life. In addition to wishing him and his supportive wife Sylvia good luck and Godspeed in his retirement, we also wish long and happy lives to his children and grandchildren, Markia, LaShawn, Kyle, and Vandy.

SMALL BUSINESS JOB  
PROTECTION ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 1996*

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3448, the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996.

Small business is the backbone of our Nation's economy. According to the Small Business Administration, small businesses generate more than 50 percent of our gross domestic product and employ 53 percent of the American work force.

Small businesses know their communities well. They often take a more personalized approach and fulfill unique needs for their communities that big business has no hope of duplicating.

With the downsizing of many large corporations, our Nation's economic health increasingly will become tied to the health of small business. Statistics indicate that small business accounted for two-thirds of the new job growth in the United States in 1994. Any further economic development our Nation hopes to enjoy in the next few years will be seriously inhibited without the expansion of small business.

Yet smaller firms can be at a disadvantage in getting the capital needed for start-up or expansion. It is essential to provide incentives to enable more small businesses to develop and grow throughout the United States, so that every American can benefit from the personalized services, innovative products, and modern technology as well as the new jobs and economic growth that smaller businesses provide to our communities.

So I was particularly disappointed that the research and development tax credit, usually a bipartisan provision, was voted down in the Ways and Means Committee on a party-line vote.

However, in light of the rapidly decreasing number of legislative days in this Congress to reach out to small business employers and employees, I nevertheless support H.R. 3448. It is the last opportunity to provide essential in-

centives for the development of small businesses. It also promotes job growth and educational opportunities for the millions of hard-working entrepreneurs who are at the heart of American economic success.

One of the main obstacles which has deterred small business development in the past is the difficulty small businesses face in providing employee pension plans comparable to those of large corporations. This bill creates the savings incentives plan for employees of small businesses that could operate as an IRA or a 401k plan. It will enable small businesses to offer the same long-term savings plans as larger firms, so that they can offer the same incentives in retaining qualified employees.

The Small Business Job Protection Act also addresses the concerns of many employees of nonprofit, tax-exempt companies who do not currently enjoy the security of a retirement account. This bill allows these organizations to offer 401k plans.

Work and education are the core of our economic success, and we should heartily support public policy proposals which encourage work with education, education with work. Incentives for both are provided by this legislation through the work opportunity tax credit and the employer-provided educational assistance tax deduction.

The work opportunity tax credit replaces the expired targeted jobs tax credit. Employers receive a tax credit equal to 35 percent of an employee's wages, for employees who receive economic assistance, including high-risk youth and veterans. The tax credit for employer-provided educational assistance allows individuals to deduct from their taxable income up to \$5,250 a year for employer-provided assistance for undergraduate tuition.

Hard-working people are taking risks to start and expand small businesses. They are discovering new approaches that stimulate and generate economic growth. We must nurture the efforts of these entrepreneurs, and we must also help small business employees who work hard to sustain these efforts.

H.R. 3448 is a step in the right direction towards encouraging the growth of small business and with it, the strengthening of our Nation's economy. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3448, the Small Business Job Protection Act.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN  
HERITAGE MONTH

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 29, 1996*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor the almost 9 million Americans of Asian Pacific heritage who make such a magnificent contribution to our society.

As the Representative of a district that boasts Asian Pacific Americans as more than 28 percent of its population, I am proud to be able to praise the men and women of Asian Pacific American heritage who have worked both to make our world a better place to live.

Yvonne Lee is just one of those people making a difference. A San Franciscan appointed by President Clinton to the U.S. Commission for Civil Rights, she has a long and outstanding record of community service, both

in San Francisco and throughout the Nation. Currently a fellow at the Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute, Yvonne previously served as the executive director of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance, a national civil rights organization.

I join my colleagues in celebrating Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and in saluting those in the Asian Pacific American community who have transformed our country.

HONORING PONTIAC CENTRAL  
HIGH SCHOOL'S U.S. FIRST TEAM

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 29, 1996*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in paying tribute to the great accomplishments of the members of the U.S. First Team. The team consists of 32 students and 7 faculty members from Pontiac Central High School, that is located in my district. The U.S. First Team, is also comprised of 28 engineers from Delphi Interior Lighting Systems. I am proud to inform my colleagues that the U.S. First Team, from Pontiac Central High School, received the coveted National All Star Rookie of the Year Award, during the 5th Annual U.S. First Competition, in Orlando, FL. The team has also been honored by receiving the Worcester Polytechnical Institution [WPI] design innovations scholarship.

The hard work and dedication of the team is reflected in the fact that more than 96 teams from all over the country were involved in the national competition. Their success is a remarkable display of what can be accomplished when people work together toward a common goal.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly honored to be able to recognize the outstanding achievements of each of the members of the Pontiac Northern High School U.S. First Team. They deserve the title of national winners. I know the entire U.S. House of Representatives joins me today in honoring this fine group of Americans.

SUPER SALESMAN ROBERT DAVID

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 29, 1996*

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a supersalesman and special person—WXYT's Robert David.

David was recently honored with 1996 Sales Success Award from the sales and marketing executives of Detroit.

Recognized as one of the best salesmen in metro-Detroit, the Northville native is such a charmer, he met his future wife on the Ohio turnpike, eventually sweet-talking her into marriage.

As the national sales manager at WXYT radio in Southfield, Rob has increased sales revenues tenfold in just 8 years. And he has done it through knowing his customers, studying their language, and speaking to them on their own terms.

His simple strategy has been nothing but a recipe for success. And yet, that is not