

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, last night I attended the 8th grade graduation of my son and I missed rollcall vote 214, the amendment by Mr. VISCLOSKY to bar economic support funds to countries which block or interfere with the transportation of humanitarian aid passing through humanitarian aid corridors.

If I had been present, I would have voted "yes" on the amendment.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3540) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes:

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

This is an amendment without a purpose. If the amendment's author wishes to save money, it is not at all apparent that this amendment will accomplish this. Indeed, the spending ceiling in this amendment is identical to the development assistance now allocated for India for the current year.

If, on the other hand, the author's purpose is to promote human rights in India, not even the author can persuasively argue that his amendment will force the Government of India to respect human rights. No one who knows India thinks that pressure of this sort is likely to force India to bow to our demands. To the contrary, no Indian Government could stay in power for 24 hours if it were seen to be bowing before American bullying.

Instead, this amendment will have only negative effects. It will disrupt our bilateral relationship with a major power. It will lessen our ability to make our voice heard in New Delhi on human rights and other important issues. And it will reduce the administration's flexibility in providing assistance to the poorest segments of Indian society.

Finally, the timing of this amendment could not be worse. A new Indian Government was just sworn in last Saturday. This government faces a vote of no confidence next week.

Do we wish to inaugurate relations with this new government by offering it a slap in the face?

Do we wish to push this new government, in the days before a crucial vote of no con-

fidence, into a nationalistic, anti-American response?

The answer to these questions can only be no.

So I urge my colleagues to reject this amendment. Its purpose is unclear but its likely effects are absolutely certain: it will damage our relationship with a major power and a new government without in any way advancing American interests.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LT. GEN. ARTHUR E. WILLIAMS

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. FAZIO of California, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to pay tribute to Lt. Gen. Arthur E. Williams.

Since August 1992, Lieutenant General Williams has served his country as chief of engineers and commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. His distinguished career in the U.S. Army spans a period of 34 years, including service as corps commander at the Sacramento District. I regret to see Lieutenant General Williams leaving his role at the Army Corps of Engineers, however, I congratulate him on a well-earned retirement.

I am fortunate to know Lieutenant General Williams both as a leader of the corps and as a friend. Among his many accomplishments with the corps, Lieutenant General Williams has made noteworthy contributions to the critical mission of flood control. His tireless efforts have served to protect thousands of Americans from life threatening natural disasters.

Lieutenant General Williams will long be remembered for his leadership, dedication, cooperation, and knowledge. He has truly been a superb commander. I wish him well in all future endeavors. I also wish his successor the best of luck—they will have a tough act to follow.

REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS

HON. BILL EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted today to take the floor of this great body in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of VFW Post 5896 in Farmington, MO. Few things give me greater pleasure than to offer my thanks and appreciation to those who have placed their lives on the line for this Nation, and I am very proud of my constituents who have served so bravely.

Every veteran is a source of strength and pride for our country. The courageous men and women who fought our Nation's battles secured the principles upon which this great

Nation was built. Millions of people around the world enjoy the blessings of freedom, peace, and representative government because of our veterans who were willing to risk their lives for them.

Mr. Speaker, VFW Post 5896 has, for the last 50 years, been an organization that inspires and strengthens the people of southeastern Missouri. The members of that organization have not only been great warriors, they have been great citizens. They have shown us that not only are the principles of democracy and freedom worth fighting for, they are worth living out. Each and every day—in our local communities, churches, families—these veterans are the pillars and foundation of our society. America is deeply indebted to them—not only for the wars that they have fought, but for the lives that they have lived. They continue to teach us, each and every day, what it means to be an American.

Mr. Speaker, it is with much pride and a grateful heart that I say "Happy 50th Birthday" to VFW Post 5896. They are surely Missouri's—and America's—finest.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRED HEINEMAN

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. HEINEMAN. Mr. Speaker, on June 5, 1996, due to an error, I was incorrectly recorded on the Radanovich amendment to H.R. 3540, the fiscal year 1997 Foreign Operations appropriations bill. The record reflects a "no" vote on rollcall vote No. 217. I request the record reflect I intended to vote "yes" and emphasize my strong condemnation regarding the atrocities that were committed against the Armenian people by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923. Turkey should acknowledge that these atrocities occurred and until they do, the United States should limit the amount of assistance that is given to them.

HONORING CARRINGTON WILLIAMS

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today and pay tribute to Mr. Carrington Williams, who is and continues to be an outstanding member of the northern Virginia community. A founding member of the Washington Airports Task Force, Mr. Williams is retiring from this group after serving for many successful years as chairman of the board, a position he has held since 1982. He is also a former member of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority's board of directors and served as chairman of its Planning

• 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.

Committee from 1987 to 1994. Mr. Williams' strong leadership has helped shape the National Capital region's development, especially through improved air transportation and increased access to world markets.

Mr. Williams received his undergraduate degree from Johns Hopkins University and earned his law degree at the University of Virginia. He is a former partner and current Of Counsel at the law firm of McGuire, Woods, Battle & Boothe, where he specializes as a tax attorney. During his career, Mr. Williams has held numerous public offices, particularly in the field of transportation. He is currently a member of the Environmental and Transportation Committee of the Greater Washington Board of Trade and is general counsel for the International Trade Association of Northern Virginia. Mr. Williams has also served Fairfax County as a five-term member of the Virginia House of Delegates and as a trustee of the George Mason University Foundation. Presently, he is a fellow of the American College of Tax Counsel and a trustee of the Virginia Conference on Federal Taxation.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Williams for over two decades, and am proud of the integrity and expertise he has displayed in his professional career and his public service. Throughout his life, he has received many well-deserved awards and honors for his service and contributions to northern Virginia. In 1991, he was the recipient of the George Mason medal, which was awarded by the board of visitors at George Mason University. Mr. Williams was also the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce's 1994 turkey roast honoree for his service and commitment to northern Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in applauding Mr. Williams' significant and enduring role in shaping both our local community and the Commonwealth of Virginia over the past 30 years.

CAPT. JOHN MICHAEL CRYE TO
RETIRE FROM COAST GUARD

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an outstanding individual, Capt. John Michael Crye, who is due to retire later this year. Captain Crye has served our country for more than 20 years, most recently as Deputy Chief, Coast Guard Congressional and Governmental Affairs. He also served as Coast Guard Legislative Counsel in the Coast Guard Congressional and Governmental Affairs Office. It is a privilege for me to recognize his many outstanding achievements and commend him for his superb service to this legislative body and our great Nation as a whole.

A native of Knoxville, TN, Captain Crye received his commission from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT. He was commissioned as an ensign in May 1972, first assigned as a deck watch officer aboard the Cutter *Morgenthau*.

Following this tour, Captain Crye was assigned to the Greater Antilles Section in San Juan, PR, as an operations center and search and rescue coordinator. He participated in

several heroic search and rescue cases and law enforcement seizures.

Completing a successful tour at Greater Antilles Section, PR, Captain Crye returned to his alma mater, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, as the non-appropriated funds activities officer. His outstanding performance at the Coast Guard Academy led to his selection to the University of Miami School of Law.

Upon completing law school, Captain Crye was assigned to numerous legal staff positions throughout the Coast Guard. His most notable legal staff assignment was to the Coast Guard Maintenance and Logistics Command Atlantic, where he defended and prosecuted some of the most detailed and controversial Coast Guard Courts-Martial Cases in Coast Guard history.

Due to his continued outstanding performance, Captain Crye was handpicked for an assignment to the Coast Guard Congressional and Governmental Affairs Office. During his tour as legislative counsel, Captain Crye worked very closely with congressional staffs in drafting important maritime and safety legislation such as the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 and the passenger vessel *Safety Act*. As a result of his efforts, he was nominated for the "Justice Tom C. Clark Outstanding Lawyer Award."

Captain Crye was later promoted to his current position as Deputy Chief of the Coast Guard Congressional and Governmental Affairs Office. In this position, Captain Crye has provided the members of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, our personal staffs as well as many of you standing here today, with superior support regarding Coast Guard plans and programs. His valuable contributions have enabled Congress and the Department of Transportation to work closely together to ensure the Coast Guard remains "Semper paratus"—always ready.

Mr. Speaker, Captain Crye, his wife, Sheila, and their two children, Marilena and John, have made many sacrifices throughout his career. Captain Crye will be retired on August 1, 1996, and I call upon my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to join me in wishing him much success, as well as fair winds and following seas.

LEAH McCANDLESS MEMORIAL

HON. BILL RICHARDSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. RICHARDSON, Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I share with my colleagues the news of the recent passing of a highly respected and admired woman in the Southwest. Mrs. Leah McCandless of Hobart, OK, died on May 22, 1996, less than 1 month shy of her 96th birthday.

For a better part of this century, political candidates who wanted to represent Hobart, OK, in the Federal, State, and local legislative bodies stopped by the McCandless home in hopes of seeking her blessing. Over pie and coffee, candidate after candidate would give their best arguments as to why they would be best for Hobart and Oklahoma.

Mrs. McCandless won many battles in her long life. She was probably most proud of the five sons she raised who all became success-

ful in their chosen careers. She was married for more than 60 years to Cecil McCandless who operated a successful clothing store in Hobart. In addition to her political activity, she was a member of her Presbyterian Church for 70 years and became the first woman elder of her church.

At a memorial service for her at her church, Mrs. McCandless left the following words for those in attendance—words that are worth repeating here:

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one,
I'd like to leave an after glow of smiles when
life is done,

I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly
down the ways,

Of happy times and laughing times and
bright and sunny days.

I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry
before the sun of

Happy memories that I leave When my life is
done.

The local newspaper in Mrs. McCandless' hometown said it best when the Hobart Democrat-Chief's Joe Hancock editorialized, "Leah McCandless Was A Legend in Our Time!" I want to share Mr. Hancock's comments as well as an obituary printed in the local paper. After reflecting on Mrs. McCandless wonderful life which spanned nearly the entire 20th century, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to this woman and join me as we express our condolences to her caring family and many friends.

[From the Hobart Democrat-Chief, May 30,
1996]

LEAH McCANDLESS WAS A LEGEND IN OUR
TIME!

Leah McCandless was a true lady. She was an inspiration and she was an institution. She left memories with those of us who knew her we'll not forget.

She was an amazing person. She studied events and was prepared to discuss them. Among her friends were many of our state's and nation's leaders. Many of them anxiously awaited her advice and opinions.

She loved the OU Sooners and the Dallas Cowboys. She was a rabid fan!

But none of that approached what I consider her greatest accomplishment. She melded a great family of five sons and a husband during rough depression times.

All five boys received higher educations after graduating from Hobart High School. All of them stayed close to their mother.

Her family was supported by a small family clothing business. As far as I know she never actually worked in the store but did make lunch to bring to town to her husband, Cecil. He ran the Man's Store alone during the early years.

The Presbyterian church was an integral part of the McCandless family life.

The great lady died last week but she lives on in the lives of her surviving family members and those of us who knew her.

LEAH McCANDLESS

Mrs. Leah McCandless, 95, a resident of Hobart for 70 years, died on Wednesday, May 22, 1996 in Elkview General Hospital after a serious illness for several months. She was born in Wichita, Kansas, at the turn of the century, June 17, 1900. She witnessed the many technological and scientific inventions (the automobile, airplane, television, radio, etc.) that we take for granted today.

Her father, W.S. Yeager, organized several banks in Oklahoma, including Verden and Cement where she lived as a child. The family settled in Mangum in 1910 where she met and married her husband, Cecil R. McCandless, in 1918.

They moved to Hobart in 1925 where Mr. McCandless opened the Army store which later became the Man's Shop. He was very active in the Hobart business and civic community until his death in 1982.

The McCandlesses had five sons, the oldest of whom, Bill, died in 1982. His widow, Betty of Oklahoma City, is a frequent Hobart visitor. The other four are Jack, a retired Gates Corporation executive, Denver, Colorado, and wife, Kay; Earl, musician and retired Army officer, Solana Beach, California; John, attorney, Oklahoma City, and wife, Anne; Bob, Lawyer-lobbyist, Washington, D.C.

Each of the sons was educated in the Hobart public school system and each graduated from Hobart High School.

In addition Mrs. McCandless had nine grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter.

Mrs. McCandless had always been very active in the civic, social and spiritual life of the Hobart community. She was a founding member of the Mothers' Club, a long time member of the Yamparika Club and the McDowell Club of Allied Arts.

She was member of the Presbyterian Church for 70 years, active in Circle #3, the Wednesday morning prayer group and was the first woman Elder of that church.

She supported and received much pleasure from the Shortgrass Playhouse and the Kiowa County Museum. Mrs. McCandless maintained an avid interest in political affairs (national, state and local) all her life and thoroughly enjoyed reading and discussing public policy issues.

Leah McCandless leaves a host of friends in Kiowa county, throughout the state of Oklahoma and the United States. On her 80th birthday, Governor George Nigh, proclaimed that day "Leah McCandless Day" in Oklahoma. On her 95th birthday this past June, she received congratulatory letters from President Bill Clinton, Vice-President Al Gore, O.U. President David Boren, former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Jim Wright, presidential candidate U.S. Senator Bob Dole, former U.S. Senator Fred Harris and nationally syndicated columnist Robert Novak, among many others. A tribute was read to her on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives and entered into the United States Congressional Record.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to the Leah McCandless Memorial Fund at the Hobart Presbyterian Church.

Services were at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 28, 1996 at the First Presbyterian Church, Hobart, Oklahoma. Officiating were Rev. Jerry Hilton, pastor First Presbyterian Church, Midland, Texas and Rev. Ginger Allen, pastor First Presbyterian Church, Hobart, Oklahoma.

Burial was in Hobart Rose Cemetery under direction of Hackney Funeral Home, Hoabart.

Active casketbearers were Delmar Richard, Jack Calmes, Milton Krieger, Bruce Myers, Paul Hinds, John Montgomery, Marshall Harris and Dr. Ralph Phelan.

Honorary casketbearers were Norris Dame, James Brown, Everett Brazil, Walter Pfenning, Joe Hancock, Dr. Michael Krieger and Ralph Patchin.

HIGHLANDS, TX, OPENS ITS FIRST SHERIFF'S STATION

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. BENTSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the community of Highlands, TX, in

my district, which on June 15 will celebrate the opening of its first sheriff's station. I am confident that this station, the result of a Federal-local partnership will help prevent crime and ensure that more criminals are apprehended and brought to justice. This is an example of community policing at its best.

This Highlands Sheriff's Station would not have been possible without the hard work and commitment of the Harris County Sheriff's Department, the sheriff's citizens advisory committee, the Highlands Rotary Club, and the U.S. Department of Justice through the community oriented policing services [COPS] program. The COPS program is providing the funding for the deputy who will be stationed in Highlands.

I want to personally recognize and thank Sheriff Tommy Thomas for all he has done to make this Highlands station a reality. He has demonstrated strong leadership in protecting not only the more populated areas of Harris County, but smaller, more remote communities such as Highlands as well. And I appreciate the close working relationship our offices have had in securing the Federal grant for additional sheriff's deputies.

I also want to recognize the efforts of the sheriff's citizens advisory committee and the Highlands Rotary Club. Concerned citizens groups are vital partners with law enforcement officers in fighting crime, and this station would not have been possible without their efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the people of Highlands and the Harris County Sheriff's Department for their dedication and congratulate them for joining in this partnership that will benefit us all. This storefront station represents the beginning, not the end, of a partnership between the sheriff's department, the people of Highlands, and the Federal Government to ensure that residents and businesses enjoy the service and protection they deserve.

MAINTAIN STRONG PROTECTION MEASURES FOR PATIENTS

HON. PETER G. TORKILDSEN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, as our country's health care system continues to evolve, it is essential to maintain strong protection measures for patients. As a cosponsor of the Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act, the Patient Right to Know Act, and the Senior Citizens' Access to Health Care Act, I recognize the need to protect new mothers, senior citizens, and all patients from restrictions that undermine a physician's ability to provide quality care to their patients.

To emphasize this point, I ask that this letter to the Honorable MICHAEL BILIRAKIS, chairman of the Health and Environmental Subcommittee, from Massachusetts State Representative Brian Cresta be submitted for the RECORD.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Boston, MA, May 28, 1996.

Hon. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS,
Chair, Health and Environment Subcommittee,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BILIRAKIS: It has come to my attention that the Coalition for Health

Care Choice and Accountability has decided to act upon the proposal for national standards for accountable managed care. This is certainly an important step toward ensuring that all U.S. citizens are allowed the freedom to choose a health care provider when enrolled in a managed care plan.

As a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives and an active member of the Committee on Human Services and Elderly Affairs, I have received much input from my constituency regarding issues such as this. Therefore, I am no stranger to the problems that many people are facing while accessing the best care within the restrictions of their health plan.

To ensure that residents of the Commonwealth are able to receive fair and adequate health services, the Massachusetts Legislature has passed landmark legislation to allow for the coverage of emergency room services, protect hospital stays for mothers who have given birth, and allow consumers the right to full information about the health plan, to name a few.

Although I am certain that we will continue to work to provide residents of Massachusetts with cost-effective care, I am also aware of the importance of the presence of federal laws to umbrella any laws passed at the state level. It is important not only for Massachusetts alone but the entire country to ensure that U.S. citizens who are managed care enrollees are provided the opportunity to receive the highest quality of care.

This measure is a win-win situation for the industry, which will have a consistent platform across the country rather than different regulations from state to state and for the consumer, by ensuring that high quality care is provided to all managed care enrollees. For this reason, I support this effort and appreciate your continuous work for better national consumer protection legislation.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you have any questions regarding the present situation in Massachusetts or if I may be of further assistance to ensure that this measure is passed.

Sincerely,

BRIAN M. CRESTA,
State Representative, 22nd Middlesex District.

TRIBUTE TO TOP POLICE CHIEF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Police Chief Salvatore Rosano of Santa Rosa, CA, who retires this month after 22 years of impeccable public service, and as a hero to our community. I would like to share with my colleagues Chief Rosano's enumerable accomplishments over his 38 years of public service which have made him one of California's most highly praised guardians of safety.

Chief Rosano started his career in public safety at the age of 19. He was appointed police chief to the city of South San Francisco in 1970—the youngest police chief in the State of California, and served as president of the San Mateo County Law Enforcement Chiefs' Association. In 1974 he was selected as chief for the city of Santa Rosa where he proudly served 22 years. Throughout his career, Chief Rosano's natural leadership skills made him a major player in California law enforcement, and he served on many State law enforcement boards, commissions, and public safety organizations.

Chief Rosano's statewide and countywide service is renowned and endless. Chief among his local accomplishments are his implementation of a neighborhood oriented policing program to better address our community policing needs. His leadership also helped set in motion a gang enforcement program, developed a unique environmental crimes unit, and organized one of the few bomb and explosive device units in northern California.

With any good leader comes a road of hard knocks from those opposed to change. It's no surprise that Chief Rosano is no stranger to criticism for his outspoken support of gun controls and for initiating the city of Santa Rosa's gun exchange program. With almost 700 weapons exchanged, this event was the most successful gun exchange program in California. Recently, the Sonoma County Peace and Justice Center announced their plans to host the city's second gun exchange program in honor of the retiring chief. This program is a model for public-private partnerships between local businesses, the community, and law enforcement.

Chief Rosano's longstanding career of achievement earned him the California Peace Officers Association's Law Enforcement Professional of the Year, the most prestigious award in the law enforcement profession. Chief Rosano is also the longest-serving chief in the State of California, and the city of Santa Rosa is extremely grateful for the top service and protection he has provided the community.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Chief Rosano for his exemplary service over the past 38 years. As a nation, we are in debt to the efforts and dedication of individuals, who, like Chief Rosano, place the safety and well-being of others above their own safety. I salute Chief Rosano, and wish he and his family much success with their future plans.

17TH ANNUAL PORTUGAL DAY FESTIVAL

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to New Jersey's Luso-Americans, who are in the midst of celebrating 2 weeks of festivities honoring their heritage and history. The 2-week celebration in Newark's "Ironbound" is one of the largest Portuguese celebrations in the world. This extraordinary event will culminate with the Grande Parade to be held on June 9, 1996.

Over 1.5 million Luso-Americans have settled throughout the United States, with an estimated 200,000 Luso-Americans in the Garden State alone. In New Jersey, the largest concentration of Luso-Americans live in the "Ironbound" section of Newark. Through the years, they have turned an old neighborhood into a thriving and prosperous commercial and residential center. Their hard work and perseverance can be seen on the streets of Newark, especially Ferry Street, the heart of "Ironbound." Ferry Street is lined with many restaurants offering the delicate cuisine of Portugal. Luso-Americans have turned Ferry Street into a Portuguese city in miniature.

The annual Portugal Day festival is a time for Americans of different nationalities to savor

and enjoy the rich traditions of Portugal. Visitors from all over the country come to take part in the festivities, some of which are broadcast throughout the globe via satellite through Portugal's national TV, RTP1.

Seventeen years ago, Bernardino Coutinho founded the festival and has strived every year to make it a wonderful event. The Bernardino Coutinho Foundation was established on May 22, 1992, to assume responsibility for organizing this 2-week festival. The festival is a part of the foundation's commitment to enhancing the cultural and social development of the community.

I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Luso-Americans throughout New Jersey as they celebrate their rich heritage. It is an honor to be representing such a remarkable group of people.

KEN HEREDIA HONORED FOR OUT- STANDING SERVICE TO SAN JOSE FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 230

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the noteworthy achievements of Ken Heredia of the San Jose Fire Department. Mr. Heredia has been the president of the San Jose Fire Fighters Union, Local 230, for the past 8 years. In addition, he has served 15 years on the fire department's union executive board.

During the years Mr. Heredia has served the San Jose firefighters, he has demonstrated an unselfish and much valued commitment to organized labor and the fire service. On June 8, 1996, a special barbecue will be held by the San Jose Firefighters Local 230 in honor of Mr. Heredia and his years of dedicated service to our community.

Mr. Heredia, a native of his community, was recently promoted to battalion chief of the San Jose Fire Department. Although he will be sorely missed as a leader of local 230, I would like to extend my congratulations and best wishes to Mr. Heredia as he takes on his new role in the department. I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing this dedicated public servant.

A TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 284

HON. NORMAN SISISKY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. SISISKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an American Legion auxiliary unit located in Colonial Heights, VA. Unit 284 administers many volunteer programs in my district, with special emphasis on veterans, children, and the community. Members also volunteer time to junior activities, Americanism, and educational programs.

By selflessly giving their time and energy to such worthy causes, the members of unit 284 have set an example from which we can all learn. Recently, in order to help prevent crime in their area, unit 284 joined with local civic or-

ganizations, and fire and police departments, to celebrate National Night Out. With the rise of crime in many areas, it is important for everyone to join together in order to ensure the safety of their communities. Unit 284 recognizes the significance of this effort, and through their work with National Night Out, they helped educate both children and adults on crime.

It is an honor to have such a giving organization as the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 284 in my district. Their work, as well as other American Legion auxiliary units throughout the country, have touched many lives. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the national organization's 75th anniversary, it is with great pride that I recognize American Legion Auxiliary Unit 284 for their outstanding service to the constituents in my district.

INTRODUCTION OF BREAST IMPLANT RESOLUTION

HON. BARBARA F. VUCANOVICH

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, what are the facts on silicone breast implants? Are they safe? Do they lead to immune disorders in women? There are no clear answers to these questions, but conflicting information has been provided to American women—making it difficult for women to make important health decisions.

In 1992, the FDA Commissioner imposed significant restrictions on access to silicone breast implants, based on concerns that there may be a connection between immune disorders and women who have silicone breast implants. Recent scientific studies conducted by the Mayo Clinic and Harvard Medical School suggest that there is no evidence of a connection between silicone implants and autoimmune disease or classic autoimmune symptoms. Many women, however, have questioned the validity of these studies. The FDA has not issued a definitive statement on the relationship between silicone gel breast implants.

This indecisive action has caused many problems for women in the United States. Some women neglect to obtain proper breast care due to the fear and uncertainty surrounding the issue. For women with breast implants, adequate information on breast care is not readily available since the National Cancer Institute and other health agencies are waiting to develop information, pending FDA's action. This also means that very few postmastectomy breast cancer patients have access to silicone breast implants, since they must participate in clinical trials to obtain these devices. As a breast cancer survivor, I recognize the importance of breast health and the fear and confusion in determining the best treatment for the patient. Information about breast implants could help alleviate that fear.

Unfortunately, this also has a broader impact on the public by adversely affecting the supply of raw materials used in other lifesaving products such as pacemakers, heart valves, hip and knee joints, and artificial blood vessels.

Today, I am introducing a resolution which expresses the sense of the House that the

FDA should take immediate steps to resolve the fears and concerns of women with breast cancer by issuing a definitive relationship, or lack thereof, between silicone gel breast implants and connective tissue disease, classic autoimmune symptoms and other serious diseases. This resolution also calls on the FDA and the National Cancer Institute to develop recommendations for breast care practices for women with breast implants. This resolution has the support of the National Breast Cancer Coalition. It is time for the FDA to give women the information they need to make wise decisions about their health and their lives. I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort.

A GOOD NEIGHBOR ON CAPITOL HILL FOR 175 YEARS; ST. PETER'S PARISH

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Peter's Parish, founded on Capitol Hill in 1821.

On June 29, 1996, St. Peter's will officially celebrate its 175th anniversary with a homecoming celebration, giving testament to the spirit and faith of the Hill community.

As the local parish, St. Peter's has weathered the changes in Congress and seen this neighborhood grow from a cozy residential area to the bustling cluster of Federal buildings we have today. Its existence is one of the few marks of continuity left to our past.

As a longtime resident of the Capitol Hill area, I salute St. Peter's as a historical symbol and an excellent neighbor. I hope that the next 175 years will be equally good to the parish.

TRIBUTE TO BRIGHTON, MI,
ROTARY CLUB

HON. DICK CHRYSLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. CHRYSLER. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today and pay tribute to an outstanding organization in the city of Brighton, MI. On June 18, 1996, the Brighton Rotary Club will celebrate its 60th anniversary of becoming a chartered member of Rotary International, the largest service group in the world. The club currently counts numerous business and professional leaders of Livingston County among its numbers. I am truly proud to be counted among these dedicated servicemen and women.

The Brighton Rotary Club has been living out its motto of "Service Above Self" since its creation in 1936. Brighton Rotarians participate in numerous hands-on activities—including Christmas in April, Shots for Tots, Ringing the Bell for the Salvation Army, and additional one-on-one activities. The club also supports numerous groups and agencies with financial support. These groups include Lacasa, Women's Resource Center, Brighton Boy Scout Troop 350, Catholic Social Services, the Brighton Senior Center, the Hartland Senior Center, and several students attending Michi-

gan colleges and universities. Major fundraisers include the Brighton Rotary Auction, The Great Duck Race, and the Holiday Concert.

The club is particularly supportive of programs for youth which stress development of leadership skills and community service. The club has initiated the Interact Club in Brighton High School, currently 75 members, sends students to Girls State and Boys State, and is sending 10 students to the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards [RYLA] conference in Ontario, Canada. International efforts include eye glasses projects in Mexico and the Caribbean, a sanitary facilities project in India, and ongoing support of the Polio Plus project to internationally eradicate polio and other childhood diseases by the year 2000.

The Brighton Rotary Club has repeatedly gone above and beyond the call of duty in helping people and organizations within Livingston County. I ask the other members of the U.S. Congress to join me in recognizing its 60 years of outstanding service and wishing it many more years of continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO STUDENTS OF
HALF HOLLOW HILLS HIGH
SCHOOL EAST

HON. RICK LAZIO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, today, I wish to recognize the award-winning students of Ms. Gloria Sesso's class at Half Hollow Hills High School East in Dix Hills, NY. From April 27 to April 29, 1996, these outstanding Long Island students competed against teams from every State in the Nation in the "We the People * * * The Citizen and the Constitution" Program. The team earned the distinction of representing New York at the national finals in our Nation's Capital after winning competitions at local and State levels.

The dedicated team of students was awarded an honorable mention as one of the competition's top 10 finalists. The members of the Half Hollow Hills team are: Taryn Brill, Sidney Change, Pei-Sze Cheng, Lauren Chernick, Jodi Citrin, Adiya Dixon, Judy Fong, Nicole Hamburger, Hamilton Hayashi, Lora Hock, Jenny Jaung, Michael Kesden, Brian Kinney, Jaime Kleinman, Duane Koh, Juna Kollmeier, Jessica Lepler, Ayodeji Marquis, Douglas McVey, Howard Newman, Benjamin Oren, Mark Palmeri, Craig Rosenbaum, Amy Rosenberg, Sherry Sandler, Melissa Scharoun, David Scheine, Kristine Schmidt, Brett Sherman, Marcie Silver, Matthew Teicher, Lauren Wagner, Jaret Weber, Matthew Wurst, Carin Zerkowitz. The students were coached and greatly assisted by their teacher, Ms. Sesso, as well as Stephen Schechter, the State coordinator, and Steve Waldman, the district coordinator. The great success of this team is a tribute to all of the time and effort they put into learning about the Constitution.

The "We the People * * * The Citizen and the Constitution" Program is designed to provide students with a greater understanding of the Constitution and the rights and responsibilities of American citizens. For the past 9 years, the program has helped educate 22 million students at all levels.

During this year's competition, students participated in simulated congressional hearings where they were asked questions to demonstrate their knowledge of the history, values, and application of the Constitution. Their oral presentations were evaluated by a panel of judges that included Government leaders, lawyers, and constitutional experts.

I am very proud of the success this Dix Hills team has achieved, and wish them great success and personal satisfaction in the future.

RETIREMENT OF COL. JOHN C.
MEYER, JR.

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Col. John C. Meyer, Jr., on his retirement from the U.S. Air Force after 24 years of service to our country.

Colonel Meyer is currently the chief of the Weapons and Nuclear Deterrence Requirements Division, Directorate of Operational Requirements, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, DC. As chief, he has overseen the requirements development for all of the Air Force's air-delivered munitions and for the maintenance and modernization of the Nation's ICBM force.

Colonel Meyer has served our country with distinction. His decorations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with five devices, the Air Medal, the Aerial Achievement Medal with one device, the Air Force Commendation Medal with one device, and the Combat Readiness Medal with four devices.

Mr. Speaker, on June 7, 1996, Colonel Meyer will retire from the U.S. Air Force. On behalf of this body of legislators, I would like to congratulate Col. John C. Meyer, Jr., on his retirement and thank him for his selfless service to his country.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. ARTHUR
MAYER ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. CALVIN M. DOOLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. DOOLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise before my colleagues today to recognize a dedicated educator from my district, Dr. Arthur Mayer, on the occasion of his retirement.

During my lifelong residence in Hanford, I have known few people more dedicated to the improvement of our schools than Dr. Mayer. Arriving in Hanford in 1979, he served as superintendent of Hanford Elementary School District until 1986. These were years of growth, and Dr. Mayer's leadership played an important role in improving the quality of Hanford Elementary schools.

But it was at Hanford Joint Union High School District that Dr. Mayer has made perhaps his greatest impact. Starting as superintendent in 1986, he embarked on initiatives to improve school facilities, establish new

management systems, restructure the curriculum, and set up an academy system that improved the interaction among the staff and the students.

Because of these efforts, Hanford High School has been at the forefront of the restructuring efforts at the State and national levels, and has received several State and national recognitions.

These efforts have paid off at the level that counts the most: student achievement. When Dr. Mayer started at the high school district, student test scores were in the lowest 25th percentile among State schools. Now, after 10 years of Dr. Mayer's leadership, the student scores are in the top 30th percentile. Knowing Dr. Mayer, I am sure this accomplishment is the one that he is the most proud of.

I understand that although Dr. Mayer is retiring, he intends to remain involved in education continuing to teach college education courses. I, for one, certainly hope he does so—tomorrow's educators have a lot to learn from this distinguished superintendent.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a dedicated educator, who has always put the concerns of the children first, by congratulating Dr. Arthur Mayer on his retirement.

POSTURING ON ABORTION

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask for unanimous consent to insert Father Robert F. Drinan's opinion editorial "Posturing on Abortion," the New York Times, June 4, 1996 into the RECORD. Father Drinan, a Jesuit priest, is also a professor at the Georgetown University Law Center and a former Representative from Massachusetts.

I applaud Father Drinan for standing up in support of a goal that both Democrats and Republicans should agree to—limiting the number of abortions in the United States. Father Drinan rightly argues that Congress and the President should move away from partisan grandstanding on abortion issues and work together to protect women's reproductive health.

As a Catholic, I would like to thank Father Drinan for publicly opposing the so-called partial birth abortion ban. It was incredibly difficult for me to vote against this bill. Yet as Father Drinan noted, Congress should be focusing on reducing the number of abortions, not posturing on issues that do not allow doctors to safeguard women's health or protect those unfortunate victims of incest and rape.

POSTURING ON ABORTION

(By Robert F. Drinan)

WASHINGTON.—The indignant voices of the pro-life movement and the Republican Party will likely reach new decibels in the campaign to urge Congress to override President Clinton's veto of the bill banning so-called partial-birth abortions. But Congress should sustain the veto. The bill does not provide an exception for women whose health is at risk, and it would be virtually unenforceable.

I write this as a Jesuit priest who agrees with Vatican II, which said abortion is virtually infanticide, and as a lawyer who wants the Clinton Administration to do more to carry out its pledge to make abortions rare in this country.

The bill the President vetoed would not reduce the number of abortions, but would allow Federal power to intrude into the practice of medicine in an unprecedented way. It would also detract from the urgent need to decrease abortions, especially among unwed teen-agers.

The Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act passed the House by 286 to 129, and 290 votes are required to override the veto. It cleared the Senate by 54 to 44; though it seems unlikely that 13 of the 44 votes would change, all bets are off in an election year.

More than 95 percent of all abortions take place before 15 weeks. Only about one-half of 1 percent take place at or after 20 weeks. If a woman has carried a child for five months, it is extremely unlikely that she will want an abortion.

The three procedures available for later abortions are complicated and can be dangerous. The vetoed bill would have criminalized only one—a technique called dilation and extraction—that medical experts say is the safest of the three. The bill calls this procedure a "partial birth," a term that experts reject as a misnomer. Indeed, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists supported the veto.

President Clinton said he would sign a bill regulating late-term abortions if it provided an exception for women whose health might be at risk if they did not have the procedure. As the bill stands, the abortion would be allowed only if a woman might die without it. Mr. Clinton is serious, as Governor of Arkansas, he signed a bill prohibiting late abortions except for minors impregnated by rape or incest or when the woman's life or health is endangered.

In any case, a conviction would be difficult to obtain if the bill became law. Legal experts say that doctors could argue that the language was too vague for a measure that imposed criminal sanctions. And juries might be reluctant to convict a doctor who aborted a fetus that was likely to be still-born or in cases where the woman's health or ability to have children was in jeopardy.

The bill would also sanction intrusive enforcement by requiring Federal officials to keep informed about doctors who performed late-term abortions. The F.B.I. would be authorized to tell nurses and health aides that they had a duty to tell officials about illegal late abortions.

If Congress were serious about getting a law on the books limiting late abortions, it would include the woman's health as justification for the late-term procedure. But it seems more intent on using Mr. Clinton's veto as a political weapon. This will poison the campaign and inhibit a larger discussion about real strategies to reduce abortions.

U.S. ARMY CECOM RECEIVES 1996 QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROTOTYPE AWARD

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command [CECOM], Logistics and Readiness Center in receiving the 1996 Quality Improvement Prototype [QIP] Award for the President's Quality Award [PQA] Program. This is truly a great accomplishment and reflection of the dedicated and professional staff employed at the CECOM Logistics and Readiness Center, at Fort Monmouth, NJ. It is,

moreover, a deserved recognition of the center's quality accomplishments and team-work in the fields of communications and electronics.

Mr. Speaker, the work done by the people at CECOM's Logistics and Readiness Center is not an easy undertaking, and the significance of winning the QIP cannot be underscored enough. Despite the demands placed on the shoulders of those tasked with maintaining the U.S. Army's communications and electronics equipment, the Logistics and Readiness Center, year-in-and-year-out, runs a well-planned system that spans all levels of the organization—the true hallmark of a first-class, quality-managed operation. The panel of judges responsible for designating the recipient, which is comprised of representatives from both the Federal government and the private sector, conducted a rigorous selection process. And as the quality and number of the other organizations vying for this prestigious award indicates, the competition was keen. In short—as is evidenced by the list of previous recipients of the QIP—to win this award is to be designated as among the best America has to offer.

In closing, I once again commend the people of the CECOM Logistics and Readiness Center for their efforts. By winning the 1996 Quality Improvement Prototype Award, the center has undeniably established itself as a model of excellence for all to follow. I congratulate the hardworking people of the CECOM Logistics and Readiness Center for a job well done.

A TRIBUTE TO THE BROOKHAVEN FIREFIGHTER'S MUSEUM

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Brookhaven Volunteer Firefighters Museum and to the founders of this wondrous historical preserve, dedicated to the heroic tradition of volunteer firefighting in the Town of Brookhaven, Long Island. These devoted men and women turned their collective dream into a poignant legacy of the history of volunteerism in Brookhaven's 38 fire departments.

Officially dedicated on Saturday, May 25, 1996, the Brookhaven Volunteer Firefighters Museum is a wonderfully fitting tribute to the generations of heroic volunteers who, time and again, answered the call for help and selflessly put themselves in harms way to protect their neighbors and communities. Within the walls of this 100-year-old former fire house is an impressive storehouse of memorabilia and apparatus, historical photos and old newspapers clippings from the earliest days of organized firefighting. Included in the museum's collection are eight antique firetrucks, an original 1890 Hook and Ladder cart from the Bellport Fire Department and a century-old portable fire extinguisher donated by the Brookhaven Town Highway Department. There is also an amazing array of original fire shields, nozzles, hoses, and alarm bells.

But more than just a dusty collection of antiquated equipment, this museum shelters within its walls the memories of heroic deeds, of

lives saved and property safeguarded by ordinary men and women who fulfilled an unspoken obligation to their community and country.

The firefighters' commitment was never more evident than it was in August 1995, when thousands of volunteers fought the two most destructive wildfires to strike Suffolk County this century. These heroic volunteers put their lives on the line while battling brush fires that consumed nearly 4,000 acres of Pine Barrens in Rocky Point and Westhampton. Miraculously, not a single human life was lost in the fire and the total property damage was kept to a minimum.

Though the heritage it preserves is grand, the genesis for the Brookhaven Firefighters Museum is more modest. The idea was born more than 5 years ago when a group of long-time friends and volunteer firemen decided they needed to preserve the history of local firefighting for their own children and grandchildren.

The museum's board of trustees and founder raised all of the funds, solicited the artifacts, secured the building and located the property where the museum stands. The Brookhaven Firefighters Museum's trustees are: president, Joseph Sommers; vice president, Lee Bunten; treasurer, David Waldron, Jeff Davis, Susan Savochka, Gene Gerrard, Robert Collins, Robert Poucel, Ed Corrigan, Robert Wilson, Richie Adams, Ronnie Magagna, Artie Read, John Austen, John Blaum, Sr., and Robert McConville.

Appropriately, the museum building was originally built in 1889 to serve as the Center Moriches Fire House. The former fire house was being used as a warehouse by the Center Moriches Paper Co. when the company donated the building for the museum. With the help of a State grant, the museum's board of trustees had the former fire house moved the 15 miles from Center Moriches, on Long Island's South Shore, to its current location at Fireman's Park in Ridge.

As you enter Fireman's Park to visit the museum, you will notice a line of 38 monuments along the roadside, one each from every fire department in the town of Brookhaven. That section of road is known as Fireman's Way, the path each visitor will pass through on their way to any of the fire drill competitions held at Fireman's Park. Those monuments are reminders of the sacrifice and commitment that volunteer firefighters have made for their communities in Brookhaven Town.

For the thousands of volunteer firefighters who have saved lives and property throughout the history of Brookhaven Town, and Long Island, the Volunteer Firefighters Museum preserves their magnificent legacy of sacrifice for their children and grandchildren. May this wonderful museum serve as a reminder of their heroic efforts for many years to come.

ORDER OF CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS AND POSTPONING VOTES ON AMENDMENTS DURING CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3322, OMNIBUS CIVILIAN SCIENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT S. WALKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 29, 1996

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, during floor debate on May 29, 1996, on H.R. 3322, the Omnibus Civilian Science Authorization Act of 1996, it was mentioned by one of my colleagues that the Science Committee has only produced one committee report for all of 1995. I would like to correct the record with the following list of 14 committee reports filed so far during the 104th Congress; 12 of which were filed in 1995.

| Date | Title | Publication No. |
|------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Feb. 15, 1995 | Job Creation and Wage Enhancement Act of 1995 (H.R. 9). | H. Rept. 104-33, Pt. 2. |
| Mar. 30, 1995 | Hydrogen Future Act of 1995 (H.R. 655). | H. Rept. 104-95. |
| July 11, 1995 | National Sea Grant College Program (H.R. 1175). | H. Rept. 104-123, Pt. 2. |
| July 21, 1995 | Environmental Research, Development and Demonstration Authorization Act of 1995 (H.R. 1814). | H. Rept. 104-199. |
| July 28, 1995 | International Space Station Authorization Act of 1995 (H.R. 1601). | H. Rept. 104-210. |
| Aug. 4, 1995 ... | National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 1995 (H.R. 1852). | H. Rept. 104-231. |
| Aug. 4, 1995 ... | American Technology Advancement Act of 1995 (H.R. 1870). | H. Rept. 104-232. |
| Aug. 4, 1995 ... | National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 1996 (H.R. 2043). | H. Rept. 104-233. |
| Aug. 4, 1995 ... | Fire Administration Authorization Act of 1995 (H.R. 1851). | H. Rept. 104-235. |
| Aug. 4, 1995 ... | Department of Energy Civilian Research and Development Act of 1995 (H.R. 1816). | H. Rept. 104-236, Pt. 1. |
| Aug. 4, 1995 ... | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Authorization Act of 1995 (H.R. 1815). | H. Rept. 104-237, Pt. 1. |
| Dec. 7, 1995 ... | National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (H.R. 2196). | H. Rept. 104-390. |
| May 1, 1996 ... | Omnibus Civilian Science Authorization Act of 1996 (H.R. 3322). | H. Rept. 104-550, Pt. 1. |
| May 23, 1996 | Antarctic Environmental Protection Act of 1996 (H.R. 3060). | H. Rept. 104-593, Pt. 1. |

A TRIBUTE TO SOPHIE GERSON

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the lifelong accomplishments of Sophie Gerson, who has served the schools and the children of New York City for many years. Her dedication to the education of the young people of Community School District 2, which she has served for over 30 years, is evidenced by her history as a parent, a teacher and a school board member and president. She was a junior high school health and physical education teacher for 36 years, the last 25 at JHS 17 in the Clinton community. Her children both attended school in District 2, and as board member there, she was introduced or supported programs that have proved extremely beneficial to the children for whom she

has been responsible. Ms. Gerson has been an active and outspoken advocate for the children in her community, and for that she should be commended. Ms. Gerson's accomplishments that are numerous and impressive, and her hard work has provided the students of New York's School District 2 with a nurturing environment in which they have flourished. Sophie Gerson's years of leadership and caring in her community deserve our utmost respect and appreciation.

A TRIBUTE TO REVEREND HENRY CADE

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues a special anniversary. Tomorrow, the Central Presbyterian Church of Newark, NJ will be celebrating the 30th anniversary of its pastor, the Reverend Henry Cade. Although Rev. Cade first came to Central Presbyterian Church in 1965, this recognition had to be postponed because of a devastating fire that heavily damaged the church in 1995. But like anything worth doing, the time is not important as long as the thought is true.

Over the years Newark's Central Presbyterian Church has recognized the need for the church to become more than a site for worship. The Central Presbyterian Church has opened its doors to programs and services that truly help the community and its residents. The church sponsors programs like SHARE, a food program; preschool-head start programs, senior citizen programs; young adult ministries, homeless ministries, as well as others.

It takes a certain kind of leadership to make things happen. For the Central Presbyterian Church that leadership has come from Reverend Henry Cade for 30 years. Rev. Cade is a native of Selma, AL. He accepted the call as minister of the Central Presbyterian Church in 1965, having served as pastor of the First United Presbyterian Church of Athens, TN for 5 years. Rev. Cade has been educated at the Knoxville College, the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, graduate study in urban issues at Rutgers University and the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York. His formal educational experiences have been enriched with travel experiences he gained while traveling to Jordan, Israel, Egypt, and Greece.

Rev. Cade understands the importance and benefits of serving the larger community. He has served the Police Accountability Program under the auspices of the Metropolitan Ecumenical Ministry, the NAACP, the United Community Corporation, Essex County PUSH, Essex County Jail as chaplain, the New Well Drug Rehabilitation Center, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center, the Synod of the Northeast, the South Park Calvary Administrative Commission, and the Newark Presbytery in many capacities.

Presently he is the moderator of the Session of Roseville Presbyterian Church, a member of the Personal Committee and the Permanent Judicial Commission of Newark Presbytery, a member of the Newark and Essex Committee of Black Churchmen, and the chairman of the Newark and Vicinity Chapter of Black Presbyterians United.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure my colleagues will want to join me as I extend my congratulations and best wishes to Rev. Henry Cade, his family, and his congregation.

TRIBUTE TO THE BROOKLYN
HOSPITAL CENTER

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Brooklyn Hospital Center's 1996 Founders Ball and the awardees being honored. The Brooklyn Hospital Center has provided a tremendous service to the residents of Brooklyn and the awardees are deserving of special recognition for their commitment and dedication to the residents of Brooklyn.

The Brooklyn Hospital Center has provided outstanding care for the residents of Brooklyn for 150 years. It is committed to maintaining its position as a leader in health care delivery and medical education. One of its more recent contributions has been to take a lead in the development of the Brooklyn Health Network, a borough-wide coalition of local health care and related service providers. The Hospital Center has also distinguished among this coalition as having the largest complement of primary care physicians of any hospital in Brooklyn. This enables them to work with medical staff and physician groups to develop structures which both allow incentives and create physician support. In this way, the Brooklyn Hospital Center can continue to provide excellent care to the residents of Brooklyn.

The Walter E. Reed Medal will be awarded to two physicians at the 1996 Founders Ball by the Brooklyn Hospital Center in recognition of clinical excellence and commitment to the community and the Hospital Center. I am proud to announce that one medal will be awarded to Paul Finkelstein, M.D., Chairman Emeritus of the Department of Urology and Hospital Center trustee. Dr. Finkelstein is a native of Brooklyn and has been a physician for 45 years. He was a practicing physician with the Brooklyn Hospital Center from 1956 until 3 years ago, but I am pleased to report that he remains actively involved in the Hospital Center as a member of the Board of Trustees.

I am also proud to announce that Eugenie Fribourg, M.D., is the second recipient of the Walter E. Reed Medal. Dr. Fribourg, also a native of Brooklyn was a family practitioner on the Hospital Center staff for 45 years. While she no longer practices medicine, I am happy to say she continues to be actively involved in several national medical associations.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to pay tribute to both Dr. Finkelstein and Dr. Fribourg for their dedication and commitment in providing medical care to the residents of Brooklyn. They exemplify the goals of the Hospital Center itself. I ask my colleagues to join me in this tribute to the awardees and the Brooklyn Hospital Center for many, many years of outstanding service. Thank you.

NONPHYSICIAN PROVIDERS PRO-
VIDE INVALUABLE HEALTH
CARE SERVICES

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 7, 1996

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, last week, the Subcommittee on Health and Environment held a hearing on issues surrounding managed care that I hope will lead to passage of much-needed legislation.

The focus of the hearing came down to choice. Patients want to be able to choose their own doctor. They want to be able to know of all of the treatments that are available to them. They want to be able to rely on the expertise of a medical specialist for a very specific medical problem. And as we continue to consider proposals to restructure Medicare, I would like to add that many seniors do not want to give up their choice of providers.

Real problems do exist and I believe that there are many legislative vehicles before Congress that will work to ensure quality care, while preserving choice. I am a cosponsor of the Family Health Care Act, H.R. 2400, which would set a ground floor, a minimum set of standards that all health plans would have to follow, including important point-of-service options and quality assurance mechanisms. This legislation will enable patients to see the providers of their choice, including nonphysician providers, such as opticians who provide quality care services to their patients.

I would like to include in the RECORD the statement of Paul Houghland, Jr., CAE, executive director, Opticians Association of America that was presented before the subcommittee on May 30, to further shed light on issues surrounding choice in a managed care setting.

STATEMENT BY PAUL HOUGHLAND, JR., CAE,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OPTICIANS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

On behalf of the Opticians Association of America (OAA), which represents the interests of more than 35,000 dispensing opticians throughout the United States, I am pleased that the Subcommittee on Health and Environment has convened hearings on managed care issues. As the panel with jurisdiction over health insurance it is important that you hear the view of all participants in the health care delivery system including nonphysician providers.

OAA wishes that these hearings had provided more of an opportunity for nonphysician providers to participate. This group of health care providers is responsible for many of the most cost-effective approaches to health care delivery. Yet nonphysician providers have had many difficulties being included in many managed care organizations (MCOs). For this reason OAA and many other nonphysician providers have joined the Coalition for Health Care Choice and Accountability (CHCCA), a group dedicated to making MCOs more accountable for their actions and more patient and provider friendly.

OAA wishes to associate itself with the written statement provided to this subcommittee by CHCCA and also to associate itself with the testimony presented by the American Dental Association, a CHCCA member. The concerns raised by these organizations reflect legitimate issues that should be addressed legislatively by this subcommittee at its earliest convenience.

OAA believes that many of the managed care problems that nonphysician providers in

general and opticians in particular face are corrected by HR 2400, the "Family Health Care Fairness Act" introduced by Representative Charlie Norwood of Georgia, a member of this subcommittee. OAA commends Representative Norwood for his leadership in calling attention to aspects of the managed care industry which need modification. We thank Representative Bill Brewster of Oklahoma for being the prime cosponsor of this measure. As a pharmacist, Representative Brewster understands well the struggles which far too many nonphysician providers have had with MCOs. OAA also appreciates the bipartisan support expressed for HR 2400 by its Republican and Democratic cosponsors.

The health subcommittee could prove its commitment to innovative solutions to health care problems by favorably reporting the Norwood bill to the full committee within the next 60 days. While aware of the shortness of the 1996 legislative calendar and the numerous demands upon your time, managed care issues are too important for Congress to abandon this year without significant action. Market-based solutions are not adequate to correct abuses within the managed care industry. HR 2400 provides fair and equitable solutions to real problems.

Many of managed care's shortcomings are discussed in the ADA and CHCCA testimony. After reading the stories collected by the CHCCA I am certain this panel will agree that action on HR 2400 will benefit the public interest. What more positive message could you take back to your constituents this fall than news that you approved a bill to make managed care more accessible, more accountable, more patient friendly?

OAA's national legislative agenda can be summarized very concisely: maximize competition within the health care market place and maximize freedom of choice for consumers. We support HR 2400 because it promotes equity for both consumers and providers. It contains nondiscrimination language which would assure that both those using the health care system and those providing the services are treated fairly.

A second major component of HR 2400 would require all MCOs to offer a point-of-service (POS) option to all subscribers. The health care marketplace has confirmed that a POS option is very popular and cost effective. Approximately three-quarters of the managed care plans offer this option. OAA and the CHCCA believe that all plans should include this option with a reasonable cost-sharing formula so that it is a viable alternative.

The POS issue was debated last fall in the Commerce Committee during the Medicare reform debate. Two members of the Health and Environment Subcommittee offered POS amendments supported by OAA and the CHCCA members. OAA appreciates the efforts of Representatives Greg Ganske of Iowa and Tom Coburn of Oklahoma. Unfortunately, both the Ganske and Coburn amendments were defeated because most members of the majority party refuse to support maximizing freedom of choice for consumers.

In a discussion of managed care issues last week on WPFV-FM in Washington, DC, Cindy Elkin, a Northern Virginia optician, described her experiences with managed care programs. She pointed out that many managed care vision programs referred eyewear customers for dispensing purposes to personnel who are often unlicensed, or uncertified, in short to persons who are not well trained or in a position to provide quality service. And this lesson is not lost on customers. Frequently, persons with managed vision care programs have found the quality to be so low

compared to their previous service that customers frequently vote with their feet. However, by choosing to forego a benefit provided by their employer these persons wind up with a self-chosen POS option with a 100 percent copayment.

OAA and its members strongly support competition and free market solutions within the health care sector. Because OAA believes so strongly in the principle of competition within the marketplace it will unveil a managed vision care program for its members next month at its national convention in St. Louis. The OAA managed vision care program, unlike so many vision care

programs currently available, will be open to all vision care providers willing to meet the terms and conditions of the program. We welcome participation by our friends in the ophthalmological and optometric community. We not only support the concept of provider equity, but we practice it in our own managed care initiatives.

While opticians are willing to compete within the free market for managed vision care business, we are well aware that a start up vision care plan offered by opticians will not level the playing field overnight. Our members still face numerous instances of discriminatory practices by managed vision

care plans which simply exclude independent opticians. This deprives the consumer of freedom of choice and the opportunity to shop for eyewear at the provider of choice. It also frequently denies the consumer a least-cost alternative.

Congress can level the playing field for opticians and all nonphysician providers who wish to compete within the managed care system by passing HR 2400. OAA calls upon this panel to begin the legislative process by sending this bill to the full committee for consideration with a strong endorsement.