

"No" on rollcall 321, Solomon amendment to H.R. 3756.

"No" on rollcall 322, Gutknecht amendment to H.R. 3756.

"Yes" on rollcall 323, on passage of H.R. 3756.

"Yes" on rollcall 324, motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3166, Government Accountability Act of 1996.

"Yes" on rollcall 325, motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3161, extend most-favored-nation status to Romania.

"Yes" on rollcall 326, motion to close portions of the conference on H.R. 3230, fiscal 1997 Defense authorization.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on July 17 and 18, 1996 for rollcall votes 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, and 331. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, and 331, and I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes 329 and 330. I request that the RECORD reflect my positions on these votes.

TRIBUTE TO VILLAGE OF ORCHARD PARK ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my enthusiastic congratulations to the village of Orchard Park, in New York's 30th Congressional District, on the occasion of its 75th anniversary.

Founded in the early 19th century by Quakers, Orchard Park originally fell under the charter of the town of East Hamburg, NY. A group of concerned citizens petitioned the town of East Hamburg for the incorporation of the village of Orchard Park on August 21, 1921, and on October 18, the measure was subsequently ratified by a vote of 155 to 96.

Throughout its celebrated history, the village of Orchard Park has steadfastly demonstrated its distinct sense of civic loyalty and pride through its dedication to local education, financial development in its business and retail districts, and careful maintenance of the village's original charm of 1921.

As a former teacher in the Orchard Park Central School District, I have seen first hand the village's dedicated commitment to its residents, distinguished community service, and strong sense of community spirit and pride.

Mr. Speaker, today I join with the residents of the village of Orchard Park, village Mayor Patricia Dickman, the members of the village board, and indeed, our entire western New York community in warm tribute to the village of Orchard Park on the occasion of this historic anniversary, and send my personal best wishes for continued prosperity in the future.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MINISTER JOHN CHANG

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to see that Mr. John Chang has been appointed the new foreign minister of the Republic of China.

Educated at Georgetown University, Mr. John Chang is a career diplomat. His most recent post was minister of the Overseas Chinese Commission, Republic of China.

Minister Chang speaks fluent English and French. An avid swimmer, he also excels in tennis and golf. He is married and has three children.

Under Minister Chang's leadership, I believe that the Republic of China and the United States will become even closer partners in trade and other matters vital to the interests of both nations. It is my personal hope that the Republic of China and the People's Republic of China will soon engage in serious discussions—as equal partners—of their eventual reunification and that the Republic of China will soon be able to participate in the activities of the World Trade Organization and the United Nations.

In the meantime I send my best wishes and congratulations to Foreign Minister John Chang of the Republic of China.

INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT DEBT REDUCTION ACT OF 1996

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, today I am happy to introduce a bill cosponsored by Representatives GREENWOOD, MCKEON, FATTAH, FAWELL, CLINGER, and GEKAS which corrects a technical problem with the language of the Higher Education Act that thwarts competition among lenders in the Federal Family Education Loan Program and results in higher costs for students in need of unsubsidized student loans.

The Higher Education Act as interpreted by the U.S. Department of Education allows lenders to pay origination fees—3 percent of the loan amount—charged a student at the time as subsidized loan is obtained; one where the Federal Government pays the interest on the student's behalf while in school. Unfortunately, the Department has interpreted the language of the Higher Education Act to prohibit lenders from paying origination fees—3 percent of the loan amount—charged a student if the student obtains an unsubsidized loan one where the student is responsible for all the interest.

The result is that student's obtaining unsubsidized student loans are forced to pay higher up-front costs simply because of an interpretation that we believe is incorrect.

Under the bill being introduced today, anyone may pay the origination fees on behalf of the student borrower. This is particularly significant in Pennsylvania because of the loan programs administered by the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency. For the

1995–96 school year—prior to the Department's ruling on the origination fee issue—students and families in Pennsylvania had an extra \$2 million available for immediate educational expenses due to a special loan program which reduced a student's origination fee from 3 to 1 percent. More than 36,000 students received this benefit for the 1995–96 school year. If we allow the Department of Education's interpretation to stand, more than 9,300 students, in Pennsylvania will have to forego the benefit of reduced up-front fees and we don't think that should happen.

The great thing about this proposal is that it doesn't cost the Federal Government a dime, while student's reap the benefits of competition in the student loan program.

And this doesn't just help Pennsylvania students. Lenders across the country can offer to pay a student's origination fees so students have more cash to pay for their higher education expenses. Reduced interest rates are already being offered by many lenders as a reward for making monthly payments on time and this is also a feature offered by the Pennsylvania program which helps students save a little money during the repayment period. The combined effect of reduced up-front costs and lower interest rates during repayment make all student loans more affordable and manageable for students.

I am particularly pleased to include for the RECORD, a letter from the Pennsylvania Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators who have expressed their wholehearted support for this legislation. These are the people on the front lines in the student financial aid office who daily advise and counsel our college students on ways to finance a college education and I am delighted to have their support.

PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS,

July 3, 1996.

Hon. WILLIAM F. GOODLING,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE GOODLING: The Pennsylvania Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (PASFAA) is a professional organization dedicated to promoting access to higher education by providing financial assistance to those who might otherwise be unable to attend. With more than 550 members, the PASFAA membership encompasses virtually every segment of higher education and every component of student financial assistance.

The purpose of this letter is to express PASFAA's wholehearted support for legislation which would allow for a reduction in the cost of origination fees for borrowers of unsubsidized student loans. Such legislation would enable lenders and guarantors to reduce the up front cost of student loans, thereby increasing the amount of money students would have available to them to meet their educational expenses for the 1996–97 academic year. In doing so, lenders would be providing a direct financial benefit to students without putting a corresponding burden on the federal budget or the taxpayers, making this legislation even more attractive.

This legislation would provide an immediate benefit to Pennsylvania residents receiving loan assistance through PHEAA's Keystone and Keystone Direct Loan Programs. In addition, lenders nationwide would now have the opportunity to offer low-cost loans by reducing origination fees if they so desire.

PASFAA deeply appreciates your support of student aid programs, and looks forward to working with you on this and other legislation designed to benefit college students. If we can be of any further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact any of our officers.

Sincerely,

GEORGIA K. PRELL,
PASFAA President.

TRIBUTE PAID TO MARJORIE
JEFFRIES OF MILTON, MA

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a woman who embodies beauty in culture, in nature, in life.

Marjorie Jeffries is a longtime resident in Milton, MA, who has never stopped living by her own advice: "Pay attention to the Milton community and give yourself to it."

In 1953, she and her husband David transformed a densely wooded piece of land into a nature paradise, complete with gardens of perennials, rocks, daylilies, and irises. The Jeffries built their home here, under a canopy of red oak and white pine trees, and protected the land with a conservation order. The deer, foxes, skunks, and chipmunks who live in the area roam freely here, and will be able to enjoy it forever. People, dogs, and horses who passed the house on their way to the Blue Hills often stop to mingle with the Jeffries or the animals in their yard.

After listening to the music that birds contributed to her backyard, Marjorie Jeffries decided to contribute some music as well.

Thirty-nine years after graduating Bryn Mawr College with a bachelor of arts degree, she earned a music major equivalent at Wellesley College. She then earned a master of arts in music composition from Connecticut College.

She continued her music studies, and has become a widely recognized composer and flutist. She has received grants and commissions for several of her pieces, and earned a citation from Gov. Michael Dukakis. She is a member of the Longy School of Music orchestra, and has served as the composer in residence for the Milton Public Schools.

Marjorie has always wanted others to be able to share in the joy of arts. In 1974, she founded the Milton Performing Arts to provide an outlet for the citizens of Milton to pursue their interest in writing, arts and music in an open forum. In 1992, she was designated as the Artist of the Month by the Milton Art Association for her "Variations of the View from Chickatawbut Hill," which was displayed at the Milton Public Library.

In addition to her contributions to nature and art, Marjorie has been active in many other communities. As a regular participant in town meetings, her opinions have garnered respect, despite the fact that she ruffles the feathers of State and national politicians on occasion. She also is a trustee of the Milton Public Library, and has worked to make the library a better tool of knowledge for the residents of Milton.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that we could all do well to follow Marjorie Jeffries' advice, to pay attention to our communities, and give ourselves to them.

OREGON'S WELFARE-TO-WORK
PROGRAM

HON. ELIZABETH FURSE

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, Oregon has an outstanding welfare-to-work program in place that has allowed Oregon to achieve one of the Nation's steepest declines in welfare cases. Since March 1994, our welfare caseload has dropped from 44,000 to 32,000, and State officials expect that these numbers will fall to less than 25,000 in the next 4 years. Most of the credit for this success goes to our vigorous JOBS welfare-to-work program and the Oregon Health Plan, which provides health insurance to people who otherwise would go on welfare.

Oregon has received waivers from the Federal Government which allow sweeping changes in our welfare system. These waivers enable Oregon to require all welfare recipients to seek jobs to move their families out of poverty. The goal is for families on welfare to take control of their lives and avoid long-term dependence on welfare. Like the Castle-Tanner substitute and the underlying bill, Oregon's JOBS program shares the expectation of aggressively moving people from welfare to work. All three also emphasize aggressive child support collection, employment supports such as child-care subsidies, and can require teen parents to live in safe, supervised settings. I am pleased that the Republicans' Medicaid reform plan, which I strongly opposed in the Commerce Committee, has been dropped from this bill.

These bills, as well as the one being debated in the Senate, contain language that enables States with waivers to continue their existing welfare programs. In addition, the legislation states that if new requirements are put into law, they will not apply to States with waivers. In order for Oregon to make the strides that we are committed to, it is essential that this language be maintained and that it include States whose waivers were approved by September 30 of this year. I will work with Members in the other body to make sure this provision remains in the conference report on the bill.

Oregon is a national leader in welfare reform. I support reforming our welfare system and am committed to moving the process forward. I call on other States to match Oregon's achievements in sensible, humane welfare reform.

SCANA CORP. RECEIVES THE
COMMON GOALS AWARD

HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the SCANA Corp., which serves the Second Congressional District of South Carolina, for receiving the Common Goals Award from the Edison Electric Institute [EEI] last week in Washington. The award, was given for outstanding achievement in the field of educational partnerships, was bestowed on the

SCANA Corp. for its sponsorship of "The Coach," a computer equipped traveling classroom. "The Coach," which is staffed with State adult literacy specialists, travels throughout South Carolina to offer free training to employers for the development of adult literacy programs for their employees. In presenting the award, EEI President Tom Kuhn noted that, "by helping people improve themselves, SCANA opens the way to a more highly skilled workforce, a more competitive economy, and a better quality of life."

Mr. Speaker, the SCANA Corp. is to be commended on the contributions that "The Coach" has made to increasing adult literacy in South Carolina. As it celebrates its 150th anniversary, the SCANA Corp. can take great pride in its history of service to the people of the Palmetto State.

H.R. 3814—COMMERCE, JUSTICE,
STATE APPROPRIATIONS

HON. CARDISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to revise and extend my remarks. Wake up America. Wake up and see what the Dole-Gingrich Republicans are trying to do to you again. Just when you had thought the Republicans had learned some lessons of last year when they, over and over again, shut down the Federal Government, while assiduously trying to dictate their extremist conservatism on everyone, and unabashedly trying to deny personal liberties and restrict public services, they are back at it again. I must say, they are a persistent bunch. In these proposed appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, State, Justice, and major related agencies, the Dole-Gingrich cabal is attempting to legislate morality and economies through the appropriations process. Tucked neatly among programs in this bill that most people recognize, that is, the Census Bureau, F.B.I., Drug Enforcement Administration, Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the U.S. Supreme Court, are severe levels of funding reductions that are undoubtedly designed to strangle the Small Business Administration [SBA], the Securities and Exchange Commission [SEC], the Minority Business Development Agency [MBDA], and the Legal Services Corporation [LSC].

Funding for the Small Business Administration, is slashed by almost \$21 million below last year's appropriations, the SEC is cut by \$225.1 million less than requested by President Clinton's budget, and the Legal Services Corporation is under funded by over \$199 million. Since the Dole-Gingrich Republicans have been unable to kill them politically in an up and down fight on neither policy nor politics, they're trying to severely maim them by cutting off the checking account that funds them. Wake up America, look around you, and think about what the conservative Dole-Gingrich folk are doing to America's economy and to the right of every American to have legal counsel.

It is easy to understand why the Dole-Gingrich Republicans slashed the social programs in the Department of Health and Human Services appropriations a few days ago: there