

that annual mammograms are of value to women in this age group.

Congress must take an active role in this issue and that is why I am introducing this bipartisan resolution that calls for one, additional research into the benefits of mammography for women aged 40 to 49, and two, a strong request that the advisory panel for the National Cancer Institute consider reissuing the guideline rescinded in 1993 for mammography for women when it convenes in February 1997, or until there is more definitive data, direct the public to consider guidelines by other organizations. The resolution will serve as the House's opportunity to concur with the Senate's statement on this matter, when on February 4, it approved Senator SNOWE's bill, S. Res. 47, by a unanimous vote of 98 to 0.

Mr. Speaker, and distinguished colleagues, please support this vital resolution that helps raise awareness of mammography and breast cancer guidelines.

INTRODUCTION OF A HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE REPUBLIC OF NICARAGUA ON HOLDING DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 1997

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with a group of colleagues, to introduce a concurrent resolution which does primarily two things: First, it congratulates the Republic of Nicaragua on holding democratic elections to elect an entirely new government, and second, it celebrates the peaceful swearing-in of a new President in Nicaragua. Along with me as original cosponsors of this resolution are BEN GILMAN, who is chairman of the House International Relations Committee, ELTON GALLEGLEY and GARY ACKERMAN, the incoming chairman and ranking member of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee, and CASS BALLENGER, my colleague on the International Relations Committee. I thank them for their support and assistance in putting this bill together.

My interest in Nicaragua started in 1988, when I first traveled there with a delegation of educators from my district to promote the values of education, and set up a private scholarship program for Nicaraguan students to study in the United States. While there, I met an extraordinary woman named Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, the wife of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, who was then editor of *La Prensa*. Two years later, I revisited Nicaragua with Elliott Richardson as part of the United Nations' Electoral Observation team to witness Violeta Chamorro's victory in Nicaragua's first democratic elections.

I returned again in 1993 with Priscilla and two of my grandchildren to see for ourselves the tremendous changes that Nicaragua had undergone under her steady and courageous leadership. In September of 1995, we hosted a luncheon for President Chamorro here in the Capitol where, joined by Senators CLAIBORNE PELL and TOM HARKIN, and Congressmen TORRES and BILL RICHARDSON, we continued our discussion of the far-reaching changes that Nicaragua had undergone in the past 5 years.

On October 20, 1996, democratic elections were held across Nicaragua to elect an entirely new government. Over 80 percent of the country's 2.4 million eligible voters cast their ballots for the President and Vice President, National Assembly and Central American Parliament Deputies, and mayors. These elections were not perfect—there were complications and irregularities in the process—yet a large group of international and domestic observers declared that the elections were ultimately free and fair, and a legitimate expression of the will of the people of Nicaragua.

The candidate of the Liberal Alliance Party, Arnoldo Aleman, who was previously mayor of Managua, was elected President by a margin of 49 to 38 percent over Daniel Ortega, the leader of the Sandinista Front [FSLN]. Aleman's alliance did not win an outright majority in the National Assembly, which leaves the Sandinistas with sufficient representation to be the country's leading opposition party.

On January 10, 1997, representatives from the United States and around the world witnessed the peaceful transition of the power of the presidency from Violeta Chamorro to Arnoldo Aleman. President Aleman immediately promised to continue the economic and social reforms started by the Chamorro administration, and most importantly, to work together with the other political parties to build a lasting peace and democracy in Nicaragua.

Mr. Speaker, the new Nicaragua is a country to be proud of. It is a success story. From a society bitterly divided by years of conflict comes a stable government with all of the new freedom that evolves along with democratization. Are there still problems in Nicaragua? Absolutely. The road to a lasting peace and democracy is a long one. There is no final destination. This bill recognizes that Nicaragua has come a long way since the turmoil of the 1980's. It also reaffirms the United States' commitment to promoting democracy throughout the Western Hemisphere.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you and all of my colleagues will join me today in congratulating the people of Nicaragua on the success of their elections.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO ABOLISH THE FEDERAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 1997

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce a bill abolishing the direct annual Federal appropriation to the Tennessee Valley Authority [TVA] at the end of fiscal year 1997. The elimination of this subsidy which has been provided by Congress since TVA's creation in 1933 is something that has been long overdue. I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this bill.

As a product of the new deal, the TVA was created as an independent, government-owned corporation exempt from taxation. Its original mission was to bring electricity and lights to the Appalachian hills and foothills. TVA serves a population of more than 7 million people in an 80,000 square mile region in Tennessee and parts of Alabama, Georgia,

Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, and Virginia. By some accounts the TVA is the Nation's largest utility.

Over the years TVA's mission has expanded to a point where some projects it currently undertakes are questionable at best. For example: Why would TVA be doing ozone research for the Federal Government when we already have an Environmental Protection Agency? What is TVA doing in China promoting trade when they are wholly owned by the U.S. Government and we currently have a Commerce Department to promote trade?

In fiscal year 97 TVA received \$106 million for its non-power programs which includes five major areas: Stewardship, Water and Land, Land Between the Lakes, Economic Development and the Environmental Research Center. Recently, TVA's chairman Craven Crowell recommended that TVA stop receiving an annual Federal appropriation for its non-power programs. I couldn't agree with him more and for that reason I am introducing this bill to speed the process along.

My bill would stop all funding for TVA's non-power programs at the end of this fiscal year and not at the end of fiscal year 1999 as Chairman Crowell recommends. It simply amends Section 27 of the TVA Act of 1933 to authorize no more direct Federal monies for the TVA. With annual revenues of over \$5 billion, TVA should not find it very difficult to abide by this new proposal. It should be the ratepayers of that region which fund TVA's activities not taxpayers all across the Nation. Pull the plug on the TVA now!!!!

INTERNATIONAL POPULATION ASSISTANCE

HON. DAVID E. SKAGGS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 1997

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, perhaps as soon as next week we will be debating the first foreign policy question to come before the House in this Congress—the rate of expenditure of appropriated funds for international population assistance.

This is a very important matter, one that will directly affect the quality of life of individuals and families around the world. It deserves careful attention by all Members.

Central to the debate will be the relationship between the restrictions that some seek to place on international assistance in this area and the incidence of abortion.

A recent issue of the Durango Herald included an article by the President of the Population Institute discussing exactly this point. Because I believe that it makes points that should be considered in the upcoming debate, I am including it in the RECORD for the benefit of all Members.

[From The Durango (CO) Herald, Feb. 2, 1997]
DEBUNKING ABORTION MYTHS—INCREASED CONTRACEPTIVE USE DECREASES RATE OF ABORTION

(By Werner Fornos)

Sometimes the line between dedication and obsession is pencil-thin.

An example is the 1994 shooting spree by anti-choice fanatic John C. Salvi III that left two dead and five injured at two health clinics in Brookline, Massachusetts.