

lending a helping hand and became the first woman president of the Latin American Postal Workers. While continuing to work full time, she earned her AA degree in 1981 and a BS degree in public administration in 1985. In 1989, she was elected Western region coordinator of the APWU Post Office Women for Equal Rights. She organized her union's Childcare Committee and worked for a 24-hour childcare facility for postal workers. She joined Toastmaster International, became a public speaker, and attended the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995, and she now makes frequent public presentations about the conference. She is a member of the Soroptimists and volunteers as a facilitator in the Women's Financial Information Program.

Mr. Speaker, Maryann Medina is an outstanding citizen and I salute her for her remarkable contributions and commitment to our community. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and congratulating her on being inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

WE DON'T ALL DO IT

HON. TOM CAMPBELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. Speaker, the most disappointing phrase anyone serving in public office can hear today is they all do it. That is, essentially, the White House defense of the crass sale of Presidential perks to major donors to the President's party. From the public polling data, it appears the President and Vice President are winning with this defense. Since everyone does it, it sounds almost hypocritical for critics to point out the unique venality of the White House political machine. There is a surmise that Members of Congress also sell perks of office for campaign advantage. In fact, we do not.

Let me contrast what we have learned about the President and Vice President with what is typical of a congressional office. In my congressional office, I receive letters of praise and letters of criticism. I do not send the letters of praise over to my campaign office so that funds can be solicited from those who wrote. I receive an extra ticket to the State of the Union address and to speeches by visiting heads of state to Congress. I do not auction those off, but give them to my staff. When people ask to get on my schedule to talk about a political topic, I schedule the meetings for the coffee shop across from my district office in California; in Washington, I schedule them at the private Capitol Hill Club. I don't make fundraising calls from my congressional office—and I don't know any Members of Congress who do. I know that Government locations are for carrying out the Nation's business, not for dialing-up contributors. So does everyone with any ethical sense above numbers.

That's why I found the Vice President's excuse that he thought the law didn't apply to him so bizarre.

In his White House news conference, which some in the press called surreal, the Vice President stated—no less than seven times—that counsel had advised him that “there was no controlling legal authority” showing him in violation of the law.

First—there is such “controlling legal authority.” It's called the U.S. Code.

Section 607, of title 18, of the United States Code states that, “It shall be unlawful for any person to solicit or receive any contribution * * * in any room or building occupied in the discharge of official duties by any person mentioned in section 603 * * *.” Section 603 of Title 18, defines “any person” to include “an officer or employee of the United States or any department or agency thereof, or a person receiving any salary or compensation for service from money derived from the Treasury of the United States * * *.” Violators of section 607 can be fined and/or imprisoned for up to 3 years. How much more clear can it be?

Second—put the law to one side. What about a sense of personal ethics? Do we really need a law to say—“Don't use the public's money for personal political gain?”

Mr. Speaker, in light of the President and Vice President's actions, Congress needs to send a signal of hope and self-confidence to the entire country that we don't all do it. Regrettably, many people looking at Congress think each of us does pretty much the same sort of thing, or at least looks the other way when one of our colleagues does. Well, as a matter of fact, not everyone does use public office for personal political gain. And not every one of us looks the other way, either.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON MOVIN' MAVS AND DUNCANVILLE HIGH SCHOOL'S GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two amazing athletic achievements that were recently accomplished by basketball teams in my district. On March 2, the University of Texas at Arlington wheelchair basketball team, the Movin' Mavs, captured their fifth National Intercollegiate Wheelchair Basketball Championship. They were the first wheelchair basketball team to visit the White House.

I am also very proud of the Duncanville High School's girls basketball team. The girls team recently won their 18 State tournament title after finishing the season with a 38-0 record.

Both of these extraordinary teams deserve both praise and national recognition of their achievements. Each individual member of the Movin' Mavs has waged a personal battle to overcome disability and become a champion. And the Duncanville team's incredible run of 38 consecutive wins makes it a team for the record books.

My congratulations go to the 1996-97 UTA “Movin' Mavs” wheelchair basketball team: James Hayes, coach; Adrian Casell, manager; Jackie Middleton, trainer; Javier Gonzalez, Danny moor, Cezar Olivas, Enoch Ablorh, T.K. Dannelley, Takk Kerst, Jack Ricks, Jon Rydberg; and to the 1996-97 Duncanville High School girls basketball team: Sara Hackerott, coach; Christie Sparks, assistant coach; Andrea Bentley, Kenya Larkin, Remy McElroy, Dawn Owens, LaDonna Palmer, Tanika Catchings, Shunda Murray, Portia Lowe, Alana Griffin, Julie Jesperen, Angela

Francis, Jalle Mitchell, Dana Godfrey, Jessica Barr-Long, Brianna Brown.

THE HOMEOWNERS CAPITAL LOSS RELIEF ACT

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, current tax laws discourage homeowners from selling their homes. By keeping them in homes they can't afford to lose money on, we are making it harder for families just starting out to purchase their first home. My bill will free up those homes for first-time buyers. I am working to make the American dream a reality for as many families as possible.

Recently, I introduced bipartisan legislation which would allow homeowners to deduct losses taken on the sale of their home from their taxes. The Homeowners Capital Loss Relief Act would enable many homeowners to sell their homes below the price they paid and deduct this loss from their taxes. I know that our families work to scrimp and save for their piece of the American dream. They should not be penalized for a depressed real estate market and a drop in the value of their homes.

Mr. Speaker, this pro-homeowner provision was originally passed as part of the Balanced Budget Act of 1995. I was disappointed that this provision did not become law. Today, I am working to change that and provide much-needed tax relief to America's homeowners.

This bill recognizes that owning a home is more than just an investment—it is an important goal for many Americans. In addition, by enabling more families to purchase their first home, my legislation will encourage more investments in our communities.

Mr. Speaker, the American people have looked to us again and again for tax relief. It is time to give them the results they deserve. We must provide for our current and future homeowners.

TRIBUTE TO JESSICA FRANK

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jessica Frank, a dedicated youth leader who is being honored as an inductee into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

Jessica Frank is a recipient of the National Council of Teachers of English Writing Award and has won accolades from her teachers for her creativity and determination. She has volunteered as a teacher's aide with emotionally disturbed third and fourth graders, has tutored a runaway youth who speaks English as a second language, and is a member of Moving On Racial Equality. Jessica has created projects that combine community service and social justice for her 400-member church youth organization and helped renovate an elementary school in a low-income area in San Francisco. She has organized and conducted a workshop on homelessness and spent last summer tutoring on a Navajo reservation. She