

considered on the floor, Members of the House leadership drafted language which would, in effect, exempt legislation designed to modify capital gains tax rates.

As a result, House Joint Resolution 62 would have made it more difficult for Congress to cut out corporate welfare, while making it easier to enact tax programs that would disproportionately benefit the wealthiest Americans. When House Joint Resolution 159 was considered during the 104th Congress, it did not contain this glaring inequity, and I was able to support it. However, this is clearly not the same initiative we considered a year ago.

I believe it is crucial that Members of Congress commit themselves to eliminating the budget deficit and crafting a fair and equitable Tax Code. Certainly, an income tax hike is no way to accomplish these goals. House Joint Resolution 62, as it was first drafted, was a well-intentioned initiative, designed to protect the American public from such an increase. However, in the end, it became a dysfunctional, inequitable measure which could have obstructed our path toward these objectives. I am pleased the House defeated this measure, and I urge my colleagues to turn their attention to eliminating unwarranted revenue subsidies and putting our Nation's financial house in order.

SALUTE TO CLEVE McDOWELL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 1997

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Dr. Cleve McDowell who was born to the late Mr. and Mrs. Fudge McDowell on August 6, 1941, in Drew, MS. Dr. McDowell departed this life on Thursday, March 13, 1997, leaving a proud legacy as a mentor, civil rights leader, and community activist.

He received his early education in the Drew (MS) Public School system where he served as class president, editor of the school newspaper, captain of the debating team, and a member of several varsity sports teams.

Dr. McDowell was an honor graduate of Jackson State University in 1963, and had done further study on the graduate level during the 1970's. While at Jackson State University, he worked as a student assistant under the last Medgar Evers (1962-63). He became the first African-American student to attend a white graduate school in Mississippi by enrolling in the University of Mississippi Law School with the aid of a Federal Court Order and the U.S. Army troops in June 1963. He later enrolled in Texas Southern University Law School in Houston, TX, where he became president of the Student Bar Association and received several merit awards. He later worked on the field staff for the Mississippi State Conference (1964). Dr. McDowell left the Mississippi Field Staff to join the staff of the Chicago Branch of the NAACP and served on committees of the National Youth Work Committee of the NAACP, where he worked in employment, voter education registration, fund raising, and community development.

He served as staff consultant to the Cook County Department of Public Aid (Chicago). He also served as personnel director-program

analyst for Coahoma Opportunities, Inc., of Clarksdale, MS. In April 1969, McDowell joined the Mississippi Head Start Training Coordinating Council as its executive director. In October 1973, he joined the Governor's Office of Human Resources and OEO as the Head Start coordinator for the State of Mississippi. In May 1974, McDowell became associate director of the Mississippi Bar Legal Services Program where he served until he started his private practice of law in Drew, MS, in 1975. In addition, he served as managing attorney for the North Mississippi Rural Legal Services in Clarksdale, MS, from 1977 to 1979; served as a member of the Mississippi State Penitentiary Board of Directors (1971-76); and was elected to serve as Tunica County Judge (1978-82).

He was a member of the Mississippi State Bar Association, the American Bar Association, and the Magnolia Bar Association. He was admitted to practice in the Northern and Southern United States District Courts, Fifth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals and the Eleventh Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals.

Dr. McDowell was an active member of Epsilon Xi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and was worshipful master of Drew Lodge No. 6 of the Most Worshipful Stringer Masonic Grand Lodge (Prince Hall) of Mississippi. He was also a member of the Knights Templars Royal Arch, a 32d Degree, and Shriner Masonic units.

Dr. McDowell was the senior pastor of the Greater Holly Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Drew, MS, and chairman of the Sunflower County, Democratic Party. He also served as the public defender for Sunflower County, MS. He was also a former member of the board of alderman and past vice-mayor of the city of Drew, MS.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me and the civil rights community in saluting Dr. Cleve McDowell for his outstanding contributions to this Nation.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 1997

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, over the past two decades, college tuition costs have skyrocketed by over 200 percent while median household income increased by just 82 percent.

Increasing college tuition has caused many students to rely more and more on college loans and other forms of aid to finance their way through college. The average student loan has risen from \$518 in 1980 to \$2,417 in 1995. In total, student loan debt has reached an all time high of \$24 billion.

Education is a high priority, and we have to find other ways to finance it besides sinking our children into debt. That's why I am introducing this bill that would allow families to exclude from income tax any educational assistance provided by their employers toward the education of their children.

Several companies have already taken the lead in providing this kind of assistance. For example, General Motors [GM], Ford Motor Co., Chrysler Corp., and the United Auto Workers [UAW] have developed the Scholar-

ship Program for Dependent Children. Under GM's program, the auto maker will provide up to \$1,000 annually in tuition assistance for each dependent child of active, retired, or deceased GM workers who are pursuing post-secondary education or training.

We need to encourage this kind of employer-employee partnership to meet the needs of working Americans without expanding the size of Government. This legislation would do just that.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor this bill and support employer-employee cooperation in education.

MINNECHAUG GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM WINS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 1997

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Minnechaug Regional High School girls basketball team on winning the Massachusetts Division I championship.

Throughout the season, these young women's positive attitude distinguished them from their competition. On the way to 23 victories and only 2 defeats, their teamwork, selflessness, and the courage to never give up, propelled their success. Game after game, they rallied to victory after disappointing starts. This is the hallmark of a championship team.

In winning their first State championship, first western Massachusetts championship, and the first championship by any western Massachusetts team in 4 years, I commend them. This is a milestone achievement. I hope that the members of the team, coach Dave Yelle, and the Minnechaug Regional High School community know that all of us in the second district join them in taking pride in their season. Congratulations, Falcons.

KILDEE SALUTES CESAR CHAVEZ AWARDS CEREMONY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 1997

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to an outstanding leader, whose efforts have helped improve the lives of all Hispanics. Cesar Chavez has been immortalized in my home town of Flint, MI.

On April 19, 1997, the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement Flint/Genesee Chapter will hold the Third Annual Cesar Chavez Awards Ceremony. The day will begin with a "March for Justice" which will take place on Cesar Chavez Drive in Flint, MI. The march will pay tribute to 20,000 strawberry workers and also honor the memory of Cesar Chavez and the 10th anniversary of the naming of Cesar Chavez Drive in Flint, MI.

It is with great pride and admiration that I will honor Cesar Chavez and the legacy he has left behind for all Americans to follow. Cesar Chavez fought for many of the same ideals and human rights that I have fought for during my tenure in the U.S. House of Representatives. Cesar Chavez worked selflessly