

School North. His talents and vision have created a safe haven for learning. His drive to improve the high school through numerous programs has resulted in the school earning National Exemplary School status in 1994-96.

The secret to Mr. Denewith's success is what he calls "teacher empowerment", a program designed to create a healthier, more open work environment. The idea behind the program is to give each person on staff an equal voice concerning the issues of the school. The teachers are given a positive role in how the school is run and communication is kept open.

Mr. Denewith is also committed to creating an environment where diverse groups can work together and resolve conflict. He initiated a "communications training camp" designed to help students deal with disputes. Each fall, 65 students from diverse backgrounds are sent to camp to learn nonviolent alternatives for settling a conflict. The program teaches students to accept different cultures and communicate with each other, a skill they can take back to their classmates and use throughout their life.

Mr. Denewith understands that parents play a critical role in the education of our youth. He has established a parent organization which discusses the importance of building relationships between students, parents, and school staff. Knowing that learning does not start or stop in the schools, Mr. Denewith has been committed to strengthening the bond between home and school.

I am pleased to honor Principal Denewith for the determination and respect that he has given to his students, staff, and community everyday. Over the years, Mr. Denewith's dedication to learning has not wavered. Many of us can learn from the lessons he teaches to our next generation of leaders.

HONORING DR. GERALD TIROZZI
FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
FIELD OF EDUCATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 1997

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, on May 9, 1997, my good friend, Dr. Gerald Tirozzi, is being honored by the Farnam Neighborhood House for his years of service to the city of New Haven. I am very pleased to recognize Dr. Tirozzi's extraordinary career in the field of education.

As a nation, nothing should be a higher priority than the education of our kids. How and what our children learn in school will have direct repercussions for the future of our country. Talented, energetic, and dedicated educators are the best way to ensure our kids have a strong beginning. Gerry Tirozzi has devoted his life and career to making certain our kids have every opportunity to succeed. Born and raised in New Haven, CT, Gerry began teaching science in a New Haven school in 1959.

His career has now taken him far from that school but his heart remains in the classroom. In the past 35 years, he has held a number of positions of leadership in the field of education and has an exceptional record of accomplishments. He has always focused on raising the expectations we have of our students. Gerry

truly believes that all our kids have the ability to excel and, while serving as Connecticut's commissioner of education, instituted reforms that significantly raise academic standards for students. Every parent wants their child to have the best education and Gerry's work in this State has helped make that possible.

On January 19, 1996, Gerry was appointed Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education at the U.S. Department of Education by President Clinton. This appointment has given Gerry the opportunity to serve not only the city of New Haven and the State of Connecticut, but to have an impact on kids in every community in the country. A tireless advocate, Gerry has used this position to continue his lifelong goal of improving education for all children.

Gerry's contributions to education at the local, State, and national level will be honored by Farnam Neighborhood House with the Community Service Award. Located in New Haven, Farnam is a community center which runs social and educational programs for children through seniors. A terrific asset to the New Haven community, Farnam brings people together and gives kids a positive way to spend time. As a child, Gerry was a member of Farnam and worked as a game room supervisor there during his college years. I commend Farnam Neighborhood House and I applaud Gerry's association with this great organization.

Dr. Tirozzi's work has touched countless children and made significant improvements in the quality of their education and their lives. I am proud to rise today on his behalf.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GRAND
JURY REDUCTION ACT OF 1997

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 1997

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation—the Grand Jury Reduction Act of 1997—to reduce the size of the Federal Government by reducing the size of Federal grand juries.

In our effort to streamline the judicial process and cut wasteful Federal spending, we cannot afford to leave any stone unturned. A good place to begin is with the size of Federal grand juries. In fact, the Judicial Conference recommended a reduction in grand jury size as long ago as 1974.

Currently, grand juries consist of at least 16 to a maximum of 23 jurors. Indictments may be found only upon the concurrence of 12 or more jurors. According to the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, in fiscal year 1992 the average number of grand jurors sitting on a grand jury in session was 19.8. And some grand juries sit with only 16 jurors, the number necessary for a quorum under present law.

A panel of 23 is administratively unwieldy, costly, and unnecessary. In fiscal year 1992 total grand jury payments totalled \$16,526,275—that's \$67 per day per juror. By reducing the size of Federal grand juries to a minimum of 9 and a maximum of 13, as proposed by the Judicial Conference Committee on the Administration of Criminal Law 20 years ago, we will see significant cost savings as well as a necessary streamlining of the judicial process.

The Grand Jury Reduction Act is a practical, as well as a fiscal, reform. In a 1977 hearing on this issue, the Counsel of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts testified: "our experience is that it is easier to summon a smaller panel than a larger one from throughout the larger districts." Therefore, reducing the size of grand juries will make the grand jury process more efficient.

The Grand Jury Reduction Act amends 18 U.S.C. 3321 to reduce the number of grand jurors necessary for a grand jury to be impaneled, and reduces the number needed to produce an indictment. Under this legislation, grand juries will consist of a minimum of 9 jurors, and a maximum of 13, with 7 required to indict. The bill does not in any way change the process or the standards required for grand juries—it only affects their size.

The Judicial Conference Committee on Court Administration and Case Management will be addressing this issue at its meeting next month, and the full Judicial Conference is likely to take a formal position on the legislation this year. I remain confident that, after reviewing the issue, the Conference will endorse the Grand Jury Reduction Act of 1997.

I am pleased to have my good friend and colleague, VIRGIL GOODE—D—VA—join me in this effort to streamline the judicial process and reduce the size and cost of government. I urge each of my colleagues to support the Grand Jury Reduction Act.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE DR.
RICHARD RIOUX

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 1997

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to a special friend and dedicated public servant whom we lost April 28, 1997, in Santa Clarita, CA.

Dr. Richard Rioux was the executive director of the Los Angeles County Antelope Valley Rehabilitation Centers in Acton and Warm Springs where he worked hands-on with more than 22,000 residents recovering from alcohol and drug addiction. Here he pioneered the development of an innovative literacy training program which has helped thousands of people attain the skills and knowledge necessary to be productive and responsible citizens.

Born in Fall River, MA, Richard moved to California in 1958, where he later became a Fulbright Scholar and student at California State University Northridge. Having earned his bachelor's degree, he then moved onto his doctorate in history from the University of Southern California.

Along with his accomplishments as an award-winning photographer, columnist, and author, Richard served as the founder and first president of his beloved Stevenson Ranch Town Council. In addition he was an avid sports enthusiast, having run 26 marathons and having climbed Mt. Whitney seven times. Most importantly, Richard was a devoted husband to his wife, Suzanne and father to Regina, Stephanie, Natasha, and Jeremy.

Known as "Doc Rioux," Richard could often be found in old town Newhall helping local merchants, seniors, and students. His warm smile and constant fellowship inspired others