

to marry but decided to live together outside of the bond of marriage. When Tom and Mary sell the home they are each entitled to exempt \$125,000 from capital gains taxes for a total of \$250,000. Thus they are exempted from having to pay any taxes at all, even though they realized the same gain on their home. The only differing factor is that they are not married.

Our Government should be about the business of encouraging strong families, not penalizing them for staying married. We should do everything within our power to promote strong marriages and families. Correcting this inequity will help us do this.

My bill gives both a husband and a wife \$125,000 each upon the sale of their home, thus raising from \$125,000 to \$250,000 the total exemption available to married couples. This is the same level of exemption nonmarried individuals are entitled to and its time we treated married couples equitably.

I encourage my colleagues to join me by cosponsoring this bill. Let's help America's families. Let's encourage marriage and the stability it brings to our society and our children.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENTS OF
RETIRED PHOTOGRAPHER, MAURICE
SORRELL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, Maurice Sorrell, a native Washingtonian, has been involved in photography in the D.C. area since the early 1950's. His interest in this medium was piqued as he observed his uncles, both amateur photographers, taking pictures of his parents. In 1947, determined to develop his skills, Mr. Sorrell enrolled in a 3-year photography course at the Department of Agriculture Graduate School which he completed in 2 years.

Mr. Speaker, in 1957, Mr. Sorrell was hired by the Pentagon as a photographer. As a result of discrimination, however, he was only permitted to work in the dark room. Maurice Sorrell left the Pentagon to work full-time as a freelance photographer and also worked as a photographer for the Johnson Publishing Co. Mr. Sorrell served as a mentor, colleague, and friend to the Exposure Group—the African American Photographers Association, Inc. in Washington, DC.

Mr. Speaker, Maurice Sorrell's photographs of black events graced the pages of the Washington Afro-American Newspaper. In 1961, through the efforts of the late Art Carter, publisher of the Afro-American Newspaper, and the late Louis Lautier, a national congressional correspondent, Mr. Sorrell was the first black photographer to gain admittance to the prestigious White House News Photographers Association. Mr. Sorrell traveled to more than 24 countries including 14 countries in Africa. He shot the World Series as well as NFL sporting events. He photographed inmates on

death row and in the gas chamber at a Federal prison in North Carolina. He traveled aboard Air Force One and covered six Presidents. Maurice Sorrell traveled throughout the South with Lady Bird Johnson taking pictures of "poverty." He covered the march to Selma, AL. He was in Memphis, TN, covering the garbage worker's strike when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was assassinated. It was Maurice Sorrell who took the first group photograph of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this body join me in a salute to this photographer, this historian and the magnificent sum of his accomplishments.

FITTING WORDS HONORING DICK
FITTON

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, Richard J. Fitton retired as chairman of the board of First Financial Bancorp on April 22, 1997. Today, I rise to honor Dick Fitton, a man for whom I have a tremendous amount of admiration and respect.

Dick began his banking career in 1952 as a management trainee for First National Bank and Trust Co. in Hamilton, OH. In 1965, he was elected to the bank's board of directors, and became president and chief executive officer the following year. He led management in the formation of First Financial Bancorp in April 1983 and served as the holding company's president and chief executive officer. In 1991, he retired as president of First Financial Bancorp and was elected chairman of the board. His retirement from day-to-day banking activities came in 1992 when he relinquished his duties as chief executive officer of First Financial Bancorp. During his distinguished banking career, Dick served on the board of directors of the American Bankers Association, the Ohio Bankers Association, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland—Cincinnati Branch.

As a lifelong resident of Hamilton, OH, Dick is one of this city's most respected and admired citizens. His continual commitment to the community and its people is an inspiration to all who know him. Dick carries with him a belief that his work is not finished until his community is better off. He has been a primary supporter of Ft. Hamilton-Hughes Memorial Hospital, Junior Achievement, the United Way, and the Hamilton Community Foundation. He has worked on many community projects that have benefited the city of Hamilton greatly, including the formation of Miami University's Hamilton campus, the Hamiltonian Hotel, and the low-level dam on the Great Miami River. His work on these projects, and others, have made his name synonymous with Hamilton, OH.

Mr. Speaker, Hamilton, OH, would not be the city it is today had it not been for the lifelong commitment that Dick Fitton has put forth to this community's development. He is a friend and a citizen we can all be proud of.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THOMAS M.
CLIFTON

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Thomas M. Clifton, chief of the Totowa, NJ, Police Department on his retirement after nearly four decades of dedicated and distinguished public service. Chief Clifton will be honored by his friends and colleagues at a retirement dinner tomorrow night. There will be a great outpouring of deepest appreciation for his years of service. He has been a leading figure in keeping Totowa a safe community—the sort of place where you can raise a family, own a business, and build friendships that last a lifetime.

Born in New York City, Chief Clifton grew up in Paterson, where he graduated from the Paterson Technical and Vocational High School. Chief Clifton joined the U.S. Navy Reserve for 2½ years at age 17, followed by a 4-year, regular-duty enlistment in the Air Force. He attained the rank of staff sergeant before his honorable discharge in 1955.

Returning to civilian life, Chief Clifton began his career in law enforcement in 1956 when he became a part-time police marshal with the Totowa Police Department. He was appointed as a regular patrolman in 1957, under the command of the late Chief James C. Pellington.

Chief Clifton made detective in 1968, and a series of rapid promotions followed. He became a sergeant in less than a year and was named detective bureau commander, with the rank of lieutenant, in 1971. He was promoted to detective captain in 1977, and 3 years later became deputy chief. He served in that post for a decade before becoming chief of police in March 1990.

While Chief Clifton spent the later years of his career in police management, he was active in the police union during his earlier days. He joined the Policemen's Benevolent Association in 1958, and served from 1963 to 1969, as the New Jersey State delegate for Local 80, which included the police departments of Totowa, West Paterson, Little Falls, Pequannock, and the Passaic County Park Police.

Married to the former Dorothy V. Darby, Chief Clifton and Mrs. Clifton are the proud parents of six children and nine grandchildren.

We place our full trust in police officers like Chief Clifton to protect our lives, families, children, neighbors, and property on a daily basis. The citizens of Totowa are extremely grateful for the dedication and professionalism that have been the hallmarks of Chief Clifton. His strong leadership has ensured that members of the Totowa Police Department have been among the finest in the communities that make up the Fifth Congressional District.