

the Immigration and Nationality Act to authorize the Attorney General to continue to treat certain petitions approved under section 204 of the act as valid, notwithstanding the death of the petitioner or beneficiary.

In the past, circumstances have arisen where a family has been petitioned for the right to immigrate to the United States. In these cases, the papers were in order and preliminary approval was granted. However, before final approval was given, either the head of the family or the family's petitioner died unexpectedly. As a result, under current law, when the beneficiary died, the surviving spouse and children are unable to immigrate and must begin the process again. In cases where the petitioner died, the family wishing to immigrate must likewise restart the application process.

This legislation would allow the Attorney General, acting for humanitarian reasons, to disregard such a death in applying the provisions of this act to either the surviving spouse and children, in the case of a beneficiary's death, or to the beneficiary and family in the case of a petitioner's death.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation which will correct an unforeseen, yet unfortunate injustice in our Nation's immigration laws.

H.R. 1961

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. TREATMENT OF CLASSIFICATION PETITIONS UPON DEATH OF PETITIONER OR BENEFICIARY.**

Section 205 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1155) is amended—

(1) by striking "The Attorney General" and inserting "(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the Attorney General"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(b) EFFECT OF DEATH ON CERTAIN PETITIONS.—

"(1) DEATH OF PETITIONER.—In any case in which a person who has filed a petition under section 204 on behalf of a beneficiary dies after the approval of the petition, the Attorney General may, for humanitarian reasons, disregard such death in applying the provisions of this Act to the beneficiary and any spouse or child of the beneficiary.

"(2) DEATH OF BENEFICIARY.—In any case in which a beneficiary of a petition filed under section 204 dies after the approval of the petition, the Attorney General may, for humanitarian reasons, disregard such death in applying the provisions of this Act to any spouse or child of the beneficiary."

**NATIONAL SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1997**

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 19, 1997*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 437) to reauthorize the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes:

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 437, to reauthorize the National Sea Grant College Program. The

Sea Grant program is one of the few Federal programs that attempts to address specific public needs while simultaneously conducting innovative research through academic institutions.

The program has made measurable contributions in aquatic resource management and sustainable economic development while working for the protection and maintenance of marine and costal resources. As we continue to develop our costal areas, the need for sound marine science as a guide for wise and sustainable growth becomes increasingly vital.

In addition to conducting solid and applicable research, Sea Grant also works to train students for related careers. Many of the students who work with Sea Grant today will be the marine scientists and resource management experts of tomorrow. This investment in costal development and preservation will have tremendous future value.

The Sea Grant program supports research in over 200 participating universities throughout the United States and Territories. But Sea Grant is not just about research, it is about scientifically sound public policy. Through partnerships between academic, government, and business entities, Sea Grant research impacts decisions that effect our costal environments and the people that live there. This is especially important for an island community such as Guam.

Currently, the University of Guam works in collaboration with the University of Hawaii through their Sea Grant program. However, Guam looks forward to having separate Sea Grant status at some point in time.

I urge my colleagues to support this investment in the future of our costal communities. Sea Grant is good for our economy, good for our environment, and good for our students.

**IN CELEBRATION OF HAROLD AND MALKAH SCHULWEIS 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 19, 1997*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and ask you and my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 50th wedding anniversary of Rabbi Harold and Malkah Schulweis.

Harold and Malkah were introduced at a seminary prom. Harold was so captivated, he immediately pursued her. A short time later they had their first date and on the second date he asked her to marry him. She said no, but a year later they were happily engaged to be married on June 22, 1947.

Their life together began in a tiny New York apartment. The war had just ended and they were beginning their lives together with nothing but the desire to build a life of love and dedication to one another. It is for this dedication which I honor them today.

When Malkah became pregnant with their first born, Seth, they decided it was time for a change and they moved to Oakland, CA. Eleven months later their second child, Ethan, was born, followed by their only daughter Alisa. Today, they are the proud grandparents of 12 wonderful grandchildren.

Their children recall great memories which illustrate the love which Harold and Malkah

share. She has opened the aesthetic world of art and music for him, while he has broadened her spiritual horizons—they complete each other.

Few words come close to describing the love that Harold and Malkah share, but I think Robert Frost said it best when he said "Love at the lips was touch, as sweet as I could bear; and once that seemed too much; I lived on air."

It is an honor to join the family and friends of Harold and Malkah Schulweis as they reach this milestone and celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

**A SPECIAL SALUTE TO MARY STRASSMEYER**

**HON. LOUIS STOKES**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 19, 1997*

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to salute Mary Strassmeyer, an outstanding member of the journalistic community and columnist for the Plain Dealer newspaper. After more than 40 years as a journalist, Mary is retiring from the trade. On June 23, 1997, colleagues and friends will gather for a special retirement party in Mary's honor. I take pride in recognizing Mary Strassmeyer for her many achievements, and wishing her well as she brings to a close this chapter of her life.

Mary Strassmeyer is a graduate of Notre Dame College, as well as Cleveland State University's Cleveland-Marshall School of Law. She is a member of the Ohio State Bar and maintains her own law practice. Ms. Strassmeyer joined the Plain Dealer newspaper in 1960 as a feature writer. In the years before she was named society editor in 1965, she also served as beauty editor, assistant travel editor, and interim fashion editor.

Mr. Speaker, readers of the Plain Dealer are the beneficiaries of Mary Strassmeyer's talents as an adept and skilled writer. She has charmed the public with her columns in the newspaper, including her current column, "Mary, Mary." Like many readers, I enjoy the information, insight, and entertainment provided by "Mary, Mary." From society parties to current events, Mary Strassmeyer has covered it all, and with a special flair that she alone possesses. One of the highlights of her career came in 1994 when Mary was inducted into the press club of Cleveland's Journalism Hall of Fame. It is just one of the many honors which have been accorded her during a very distinguished career.

The departure of Mary Strassmeyer from the Plain Dealer also brings to mind the friendship that I have shared with her over the years. Mary Strassmeyer is a woman whom I admire and respect. She is also a person of the highest caliber and integrity. I am grateful for her friendship, and I join her friends and colleagues in wishing her much continued success.