

IN HONOR OF WMZQ

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to one of the top rated radio stations in the Washington area, WMZQ. June 22 marks their 20th anniversary on air as a country music station, serving the musical and community needs of our region.

On June 22, 1977, WMZQ 98.7 FM signed on the air with the song "Are You Ready for the Country?" Since that time, the Washington Metropolitan area has benefited from the talent and commitment of their staff. The Country Music Association [CMA] has honored WMZQ's contribution to country music by naming WMZQ the CMA Station of the Year in 1989. The radio industry has also recognized WMZQ's programming excellence with several Achievement in Radio [AIR] Awards.

WMZQ's staff is intertwined with the greater Washington community. WMZQ has supported many charitable organizations like the American Heart Association, the March of Dimes, Children's Hospital, the American Red Cross, and Toys for Tots through event participation and public affairs programming. WMZQ's loyal listeners' generous response to the Annual St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Radiothon has raised over \$2 million in just 5 years. Listener's contributions during the Coats for Kids campaigns has kept thousands of children warm during the winter months. WMZQ's Christmas in April home renovation projects has provided many elderly, low-income, and handicapped neighbors with safer living conditions.

On June 22, the WMZQ staff and 15,000 of their most loyal fans celebrated the radio station's 20th anniversary at the Bull Run Country Jamboree. This year they were proud to host Paul Brantly, LeAnne Rimes, Neil McCoy, and Wynonna. Over the last 7 years this annual event has raised over \$600,000 for the Northern Virginia Park Authority. This year, WMZQ general manager, Charlie Ochs, rededicated the efforts of the WMZQ staff to better serve the country music listener and to continue to work to make the Washington area a better place to live.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in celebrating the special anniversary of WMZQ. Not only do they provide the region with good country music, but they have supported our community through many volunteer programs. They have enriched the lives of their listeners, have enhanced the quality of life in our region and have grown to be one of the top rated country stations in the Nation.

TAXPAYER RELIEF ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2014) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to subsections

(b)(2) and (d) of section 105 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1998:

Ms. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Chairman, I rise to oppose H.R. 2014, the Republican tax bill, which shifts the burden of achieving a balanced budget by 2002 to those least able to pay.

Mr. Chairman, H.R. 2014 directs 70 percent of the tax cuts to the top 20 percent of the Nation's taxpayers. H.R. 2014 further limits the new \$500-per-child tax credit so that the working poor would not be eligible. H.R. 2014 also allows investors to reduce the taxable value of their capital assets by the rate of inflation, beginning in 2001. H.R. 2014 disproportionately benefits the very wealthy since 62 percent of all capital gains are realized by people with incomes of \$200,000.

With respect to education, H.R. 2014 provides \$31 billion in tax cuts to pay for higher education costs over the first 5 years, although the GOP congressional leadership and the White House had agreed earlier on a \$35 billion cut. In addition to reducing the allocation for education tax cuts, H.R. 2014 changes how these tax cuts would be applied.

For example, under H.R. 2014, a tuition tax credit replaces the HOPE tax credit. The new tuition credit provides for 50 percent of the first \$3,000 of tuition paid, and not a full tuition credit of up to \$1,500. Accordingly, those students who attend community colleges and other low-tuition schools where costs total, say, \$2,000 will receive only \$1,000—that is, 50 percent of \$2,000—and not the full credit of up to \$1,500 proposed by President Clinton. And, by applying the Pell grant offset to the new tuition tax credit, H.R. 2014 further reduces the credit that will be available to low-income students attending low-tuition community colleges.

H.R. 2014 provides for education saving accounts as a way to minimize taxes. But these accounts are also skewed against low-income families. Why? Because the tax education is taken when tuition is paid rather than deposits are made to the accounts. Only high-income families will be able to save enough to take advantage of this tax deduction.

H.R. 2014 provides for a child tax credit which will, however, be effectively denied to lower-income working families who have the greatest need for it. While H.R. 2014 phases out the child tax credit at \$75,000—single returns—and \$110,000—joint returns—the tax bill provides that any earned income tax credit received by lower-income working families will be used to offset the child tax credit, thereby ensuring that the child tax credit will be denied to lower-income working families.

Single parents who need child care, and use the dependent care tax credit will also be effectively denied the new child tax credit. Why? Because the tax bill provides that any dependent care tax credit claimed by single parents will be used to offset the new child tax credit.

The capital gains provisions in H.R. 2014 disproportionately benefits the richest Americans. Aside from the fact that 62 percent of capital gains are realized by people with incomes over \$200,000, investors will be able to index their capital gains for inflation—that is, reduce the taxable value of their capital assets by the rate of inflation—beginning in 2001. The longer an asset is held, the greater the inflation indexing will be. This will result in very large tax cuts for the very rich.

In addition, the indexing of capital gains for inflation, beginning in 2001, means that the projected \$3 billion in capital gains-related revenue gains of the first 5 years will be offset by huge revenue losses in the second 5 years. Indeed, the capital gains provisions of the tax bill are expected to contribute about \$33 billion to the deficit over 10 years.

H.R. 2014 is fundamentally unfair. This bill, like last year's egregious welfare legislation, punishes the most vulnerable of our citizens: the working poor. The tax bill offers the working poor no relief, and ensures that the gap between the working poor and the rich will widen even more.

I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 2014.

HONORING LAWRENCE COUNTY
CANCER SOCIETY**HON. RON KLINK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 1997

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Lawrence County Cancer Society and their efforts to combat breast cancer. On July 12, 1997 they will be holding their First Pink Ribbon Golf Classic to raise money for cancer research and increase the public's awareness about this deadly disease.

Sadly, breast cancer is the second leading cause of death among women today. The American Cancer Society predicts that this year 180,200 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed, and nearly 46,000 women will die of this deadly disease. Research shows that breast cancer will affect 1 out of every 9 women in America. Today, according to the American Cancer Society, two-thirds of all women over the age of 65 are not receiving mammograms, even though doctors recommend that they get one every other year. Early detection of this disease is vital. By doing so, we can save lives.

The Lawrence County Cancer Society is doing all they can to change these terrible statistics by encouraging women to get checked for this disease as early and as often as possible. Research shows that if breast cancer is detected early, a woman has a 40-percent greater chance to survive this disease. By spreading the word about the benefits of early detection, the Lawrence County Cancer Society is helping to save the lives of the women of America.

Mr. Speaker, I again want to applaud the Lawrence County Cancer Society for their courageous efforts. I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing their efforts to combat this lethal killer.

IN HONOR OF GOLDEN AGERS OF
SS. CYRIL AND METHODIOUS
CHURCH**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Golden Agers of SS. Cyril and Methodious