

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT S. EVANS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an individual who has dedicated his life and career to public service.

Robert S. Evans will retire this month after devoting 50 years of dedicated service to South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, SC. Mr. Evans began working at the university in 1947 as a temporary worker. In 1961, he was hired by the college as a stockroom clerk and supervisor of waiters. He was later promoted to assistant director of food services and subsequently appointed director of food services at the university.

In addition to his service to the university, Mr. Evans is an active member of his community. He is a member of the Masons, the NAACP, the Epsilon Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, the Elk Lodge, and Alpha Psi Omega Drama Fraternity. This remarkable individual also participates in the Orangeburg Neighborhood Youth Commission, the South Carolina State Booster Club, and the Mental Health Board. Mr. Evans is an active member of Mount Pisgah Baptist Church in Orangeburg, SC, where he serves as deacon, secretary of the church board, and liaison to the trustee board.

Robert Evans has touched the lives of many people of Orangeburg and across South Carolina through hard work and tireless dedication to others. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in congratulating Mr. Evans on the occasion of his retirement after 50 illustrious years of service to South Carolina State University.

**MICHIGAN IS GETTING
SHORTCHANGED**

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, as we approach decisions on appropriations bills and Federal spending that goes to individual States, I am very concerned about a recent study indicating that my home State of Michigan is getting shortchanged.

Michigan ranks in the top 10 in the amount of taxes we pay into the Federal Government and at the bottom in terms of the benefits we receive in return.

According to this study by the Northeast-Midwest Institute, Michigan ranks 47th in total funds it gets from the Federal Government and deal last in the amount it gets per person to repair its roads. Michigan citizens have the most to gain if we allow them to keep their tax dollars at home rather than sending taxes to Washington.

Mr. Speaker, for the RECORD I would like to submit an article written by Lisa Zagaroli in this morning's Detroit News on this very issue.

(By Lisa Zagaroli)

Pothole-plagued Michigan ranked dead last in the amount of money per person that the U.S. Transportation Department doled out among states last year, a new report shows. "We've been complaining for a long time about getting ripped off by the federal government and this just confirms that," said John Truscott, a spokesman for Gov. John Engler.

"We knew we were near the bottom, I didn't know we were at the bottom."

The transportation department spent \$77 per Michigan resident in the 1996 fiscal year, for a total of \$743 million, according to the study by the Northeast Midwest Institute, a non-profit policy organization. Engler wants the federal government to give Michigan an additional \$200 million.

Michigan's per-capita share of U.S. transportation dollars compares to \$879 per capita in sprawling Alaska, \$296 in Wyoming and \$252 in Montana.

But the higher dollar amounts weren't reserved for large, sparsely populated states.

Connecticut, a small state with a third of Michigan's 9.6 million population, got \$179 per person. New Jersey, which has 8 million residents, got \$148 per person from the federal agency that funds roads, bridges and other transportation projects.

Rep. James Barcia, D-Bay City, said he, too, was surprised that Michigan ranked dead last despite the "pitiful shape" of its roads.

"This underscores the need to work together in a bipartisan fashion to make sure Michigan gets a fair return," he said.

Barcia sits on the House committee that is rewriting the funding formula for transportation dollars. Michigan currently is a "donor state"—paying more in federal gas taxes than it gets back.

Michigan ranked third from the bottom in overall spending by the federal government, about the same as it has in the last several years.

The state received \$4,131 per capita in federal spending, only 81 percent of the national rate, or \$941 less per person, the report said.

"This is one of the reasons we are so big into block grants, so we can figure out where our tax dollars are spent instead of some federal bureaucrats," Truscott said.

IN HONOR OF CONGRESSMAN JOHN
LEWIS OF GEORGIA

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize my friend and colleague, the Honorable JOHN LEWIS of Georgia. During his tenure in the House of Representatives, he has distinguished himself as a man of highest integrity and commitment to improving human relations in our country.

His accomplishments in the area of civil rights are as remarkable as they are numer-

ous. Congressman LEWIS' concern with spreading awareness of the civil rights movement and its importance in contemporary society is reflected in his desire to educate not only those who reside in his district, but outside of his district as well. This desire clearly manifested itself in 1989, when at the request of a parent concerned with the fact that her daughter's predominantly white eighth grade class did not possess an understanding of the enormity of the civil rights movement, he traveled to Shawnee Mission, KS, to speak about his firsthand experience.

Over 200 eighth grade students sat mesmerized as Congressman LEWIS delivered an emotionally charged speech which included his involvement with sit-ins at segregated lunch counters, the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee which he chaired, and his participation and subsequent beating during the freedom rides. His modesty would have prevented the students from knowing that he was one of the "big six" in the civil rights movement, had it not been for the research they had conducted on their own prior to his arrival. Congressman LEWIS conveyed the importance of commitment to a cause, and relayed his extraordinary experiences while maintaining a demeanor marked with humility. Two years later, he returned to the school in Shawnee Mission as he once again embraced the opportunity to tell his story in an attempt to educate and enlighten a small group of our Nation's younger generation. The selflessness he exhibited in traveling a thousand miles from his district, motivated solely by a desire to educate and share, is unique in a world where many individuals succumb to monetary or press related incentives.

This anecdote is but one of many instances where Congressman LEWIS has exhibited his unchallenged commitment to civil rights in the United States. Born in 1940 to a sharecropper in Alabama, he was the first in his family to finish high school. At 18, he met Martin Luther King and by 19, had already become a force in the civil rights movement through activities such as organizing the first lunch counter sit-in. He actively participated in the 1961 freedom rides, the 1963 March on Washington, and the coordination of the Mississippi Freedom Project. He led the Selma to Montgomery March for voting rights in 1965, and was attacked by policemen in his quest for equal rights for all. His strong participation in these events eventually led to the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

On Friday, June 27, Congressman LEWIS hosted a luncheon for senior citizens residing in the high-rises of his district. His goal was to provide them with an opportunity to interact with their representative in a fun, relaxed environment. This annual event has grown from a gathering of 250 senior citizens to a community event of over 900. Funded entirely through private donations, Congressman LEWIS has been able to sustain this event for 7 years.

Congressman JOHN LEWIS is a shining example of how one individual can persevere in

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

the fact of extreme adversity. His commitment to all individuals, young and old, is a testament to his impeccable character.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in commending Congressman JOHN LEWIS. His accomplishments speak for themselves, yet his humility surpasses all he has done for his district, his country, and the rights of all Americans. It is with a great sense of pride that I refer to Congressman JOHN LEWIS as a colleague and friend.

TAJIKISTAN'S PEACE ACCORD

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, after 5 long years, Tajikistan's civil war—the costliest conflict in the former Soviet Union, in terms of casualties—may be over. Negotiations underway since 1994 under U.N. auspices have finally produced a peace accord and the opposing sides have crafted a power-sharing arrangement. Provisions are in place for over 20,000 refugees to return and elections are planned within 12 to 18 months.

Tajik President Imomali Rakhmonov and Saidabdullo Nuri, leader of the United Tajik Opposition [UTO], signed the General Agreement on Peace and National Accord on June 27. Among the accord's key features is the 26-member National Reconciliation Commission, composed of 13 government and 13 opposition representatives, and chaired by Nuri. Until elections are held, the opposition will control at least 30 percent of government portfolios. The opposition's fighters will be integrated into the government's force ministries, and 460 fighters will protect opposition leaders in Dushanbe. On July 10, the Reconciliation Commission came to terms on a general amnesty that will allow members of the UTO to return to Tajikistan.

The general agreement was signed in the Kremlin, testifying to Russia's key mediating role. Moscow had backed Tajikistan's Government against the opposition—a melange of democratic, Islamic, and regional forces—since the war broke out in 1992, but has obviously rethought its priorities and acknowledged that the opposition cannot be defeated militarily, at acceptable cost. Moreover, the advance of the Taliban forces in Afghanistan, which Tajik opposition fighters had used as a staging ground for assaults against Russian and Tajik Government forces, has also convinced Moscow and, apparently, anti-Taliban, Shiite Iran, that Tajikistan must be stabilized in the face of the new threat from Sunni Islamic fundamentalism.

As many analysis have pointed out, however, it is too soon for rejoicing. Though Moscow seems determined to end the conflict, there are several potential spoilers. Foremost among them is Abdumalik Abdullojanov, Tajikistan's former prime minister and chairman of the Party of National Revival. Abdullojanov represents the interests of Leninabad, the country's most populous and wealthy oblast, which had produced Tajikistan's rulers since the 1930's. By contrast, President Rakhmonov and his followers are from Kulyab oblast, whereas Nuri and most of the opposition are affiliated with the

mountainous region of Karotegin. Yet Abdullojanov was not invited to participate in the peace talks or the Reconciliation Commission, and his followers have been given no positions in the coalition government. With no stake in the agreement and no incentive to promote its success, Abdullojanov has every reason to undermine its implementation, and can count on the backing of the population in northern Tajikistan.

Abdullojanov also has the presumed support of Islam Karimov, President of Uzbekistan, which borders Leninabad oblast and is Abdullojanov's base of operations. Karimov did not authorize Uzbekistan's signature as guarantor of the Tajik peace agreement, indicating that Russia and Uzbekistan—though they share deep concerns over Taliban victories in Afghanistan—continue to compete for influence in Tajikistan, and that Tashkent will not play along unless its interests and those of its allies in northern Tajikistan are taken into account.

If the government in Dushanbe does not see these dangers, the opposition does. On June 28, UTO first deputy leader Akbar Turajonzade told Interfax that Dushanbe's unwillingness to include representatives of other parties and movements, specifically mentioning Abdullojanov, was a mistake and could jeopardize prospects for peace.

Apart from Abdullojanov, any number of well-armed military commanders, with strong local bases, could resume hostilities or simply block the establishment of a unified country with a recognized government exercising authority over its entire territory. And even if they could be brought over, the process of sharing government portfolios and dividing the economic pie among all the various movements and factions will require masterful diplomacy.

Still, the peace accord and all its attendant problems are far preferable to the alternative. Tajikistan's population has not known peace since the country became independent. The understanding between the government and the opposition may finally have laid the groundwork for the broader reconciliation that will be needed for enduring stability.

Mr. Speaker, quite apart from the obvious humanitarian imperatives, it is in the United States interests that Tajikistan's peace accord succeed. War-torn Tajikistan lags behind most other New Independent States in building democratic institutions. We should encourage the reconciliation process and urge that the planned elections take place as scheduled and that they be as free and fair as possible. It would be especially useful for IFES, the Washington-based International Foundation for Election Systems, which has done such important work in helping local authorities organize elections all over the world, to be involved with Tajikistan's Central Election Commission. Hopefully, conditions will permit other United States NGO's to begin working with political parties, and gradually help put back on track the democratization in Tajikistan that was so tragically interrupted in 1992.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GEORGE S. ANSELL

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Mr. SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the exceptional contributions Dr. George Ansell has made for America's higher education system. As the president of the Colorado School of Mines, he has announced his retirement. Dr. Ansell is truly dedicated to the higher education system and the students he serves. Under the leadership of Dr. Ansell, the Colorado School of Mines has emerged as one of the West's premier institutions excelling in engineering, applied science, and earth sciences.

Dr. Ansell has broadened the college's scope to include high academic achievement and quality research, and insisted on seeing each strengthen the other. The Colorado School of Mines was recently recognized by the National Science Foundation for institution-wide reform in undergraduate education in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology. The selected colleges are now considered national models of excellence by the NSF.

Dr. Ansell, born in Akron, OH, in 1934, grew up in New York, attending the elite Bronx High School of Science. He attended Rensselaer Polytechnical Institute on a Naval ROTC scholarship, receiving a bachelor's degree in metallurgical engineering in 1954, and later a master's degree in metallurgical engineering, and a Ph.D. in metallurgical engineering in 1960. He served as an engineering officer in the United States Navy from 1955 to 1958, and physical metallurgist on the Metal Physics Consultant Staff, U.S. Naval Research Laboratory—1957–58. From 1960 to 1984, he was a faculty member at his alma mater, RPI. He became chairman of the Materials Division, RPI—1969–74, dean, School of Engineering, RPI—1974–84, acting dean, School of Management, RPI—1980–81, and finally, president of Colorado School of Mines in 1984.

Dr. Ansell leaves the Colorado School of Mines with a legacy of excellence. His efforts have truly enhanced the institution. His leadership there will be sorely missed. His never-ending quest for academic perfection has truly left its mark.

I thank Dr. Ansell for his contributions, on behalf of the State of Colorado, and I enter into the RECORD a quote by Dr. Ansell that expresses his sentiments about the Colorado School of Mines:

It has been a great privilege for me to have served as president of Colorado School of Mines. My tenure has been filled with exciting challenges and opportunities to promote the vitality of this outstanding institution.

My proudest achievement has been improving the quality of an already outstanding institution by: increasing the number of underrepresented minorities from three percent to 14 percent of the undergraduate student body, increasing the number of female students to 25 percent of the entire student body, insuring through fundraising that any student who has the desire and the ability can attend CSM, regardless of his or her financial means, expanding the base of the school's first-rate faculty, and revitalizing the campus physical plant with state of the art facilities. Colorado is fortunate to have

in its midst a university which has the commitment and dedication of such an excellent Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, and outside benefactors, together with its extraordinary student body and alumni.

Mr. Speaker, the faculty, students, and all who have worked with Dr. Ansell are better people because of his integrity, leadership, and dedication to the Colorado School of Mines family.

QUINCY LIBRARY GROUP FOREST RECOVERY AND ECONOMIC STABILITY ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 858) to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a pilot project on designated lands within Plumas, Lassen, and Tahoe National Forests in the State of California to demonstrate the effectiveness of the resource management activities proposed by the Quincy Library Group and to amend current land and resource management plans for these national forests to consider the incorporation of these resource management activities:

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Chairman, with a vote of 429 to 1, the House has overwhelmingly approved Representative WALLY HERGER'S bill, H.R. 858, the Quincy Library Group Forest Recovery and Economic Stability Act of 1997. While Representative HERGER introduced the bill and the bill had bipartisan support, it really belongs to the Quincy Library Group, which is a coalition of local environmental group leaders, local timber firms, local business people, local government officials, and local labor union leaders. So that everyone knows what the Quincy Library Group agreement is, I ask unanimous consent to insert a copy of the agreement immediately following my remarks.

The bill was overwhelmingly approved because of Mr. HERGER'S bipartisan approach and because it is solution-oriented. It resolves forest conflict instead of promoting it. The bill embodies a new way of thinking about the Nation's forestry problems, the solutions for which come from the people who live in communities within our public forests. Thus, it draws on the community wisdom that our Government is supposed to be about. Our Nation is a government of the people because the people give us their wisdom.

Never in my years of serving as Alaska's only Congressman in this House have I seen such overwhelming support for a forestry bill and I truly believe that this level of enthusiasm results from the fact that everyone wins with the collaborative approach that the bipartisan sponsors and supporters have taken on this measure.

We did not come to the floor today with 429 votes. We would have probably received around 270 votes by my count on the Young substitute to H.R. 858, but that did not deter the sponsors of the bill and me from making further accommodations in the spirit that the Quincy Library Group agreement. We wanted to make people comfortable. We made ac-

commodations to Representative MILLER, the ranking member of the Committee on Resources and a person who I have grown to respect as a friend. We made many accommodations that Representative MILLER brought to us from the administration, which over the years has often supported the Quincy Library Group. Before that Mrs. CHENOWETH made some 50 changes to the bill in the subcommittee and in the full committee, many in response to administration and interest group concerns, before the bill was reported. I asked Senator FEINSTEIN, the lead on this issue in the other body for her recommendations and I incorporated those recommendations into my manager's amendment.

Because some modifications were made here on the floor, I want to explain them. I want to explain how the final Young substitute that we just agreed to differs from the Young substitute that appeared in the RECORD as amendment No. 1. I also want to explain some of the major amendments that were adopted in the committee and subcommittee.

The substance of the bill is Section 2. Section 2(a) is simply the definition of the Quincy Library Group agreement, which forms the basis of the bill. My amendment No. 1 and the final product agreed to by the House included clarifications that the library group agreement is for ecologic and economic health of lands and communities. This is a community stability proposal, which by its nature concerns ecologic health of the land and economic health of the communities. These are mutually exclusive and the Quincy plan integrates them. Ecologic health and economic health is what sustainable development is all about.

In subsection (b), the Young substitute basically requires implementation of the Quincy Library Group plan and, in particular, a cornerstone of the plan that is referenced in subsection (d) involving strategic fuelbreaks and group selection harvests. In subsection (b) where we direct the Quincy program, we added a proviso that required one environmental impact statement. We also added a requirement that the environmental impact statement be completed within 200 days of enactment.

The Young amendment No. 1 contained a subsection (i) that was mostly removed because we added the single EIS in subsection (b) at Mr. MILLER'S urging. However, I want to be clear that my substitute would have provided for a total of five EIS's over the course of the pilot project, one for the entire 5-year program including the first year's site-specific segment of the program and one site-specific EIS for each subsequent year's program. Mr. MILLER requested that I remove that provision and do only one EIS. We agreed to a 200-day timeframe for the EIS. The Quincy group has waited long enough for their consensus to reach the ground. This means that within 200 days after enactment, the program will be implemented.

We made no changes from my substitute, amendment No. 1, in subsection (b)(2) where the pilot project area is explained. The total acreage of the national forests that the pilot project covers is about 2.5 million acres. However, one key to the Quincy proposal is that fuelbreaks and other subsection (d) activities are only eligible for part of that 2.5 million acre area. Specifically those activities will be carried out on lands that are "Available for Group Selection" as identified on the QLQ map. This

is a cornerstone of the agreement because the land base was essentially that which would leave the roadless areas out of areas that would receive fuelbreak, thinning, group selection, and other silviculture treatments under the QLQ plan. "Available for Group Selection" area is about 1.6 million acres. Areas outside of the "Available for Group Selection" were essentially those recommended over the years for protection by local environmental groups that are participants in the Quincy Library Group and by national environmental groups.

My original substitute, amendment No. 1, would have gone the extra mile to ensure that the areas outside of those that are "Available for Group Selection"—the roadless areas for which environmental groups have long sought protection—would not be eligible for subsection (d) fuelbreaks, would not be eligible for any road building, and would not be eligible for any timber harvesting activities. The provision that would have done this was subsection (i)(5)(A)(i). This would have ensured that while the pilot project was being implemented or eligible to be implemented on the ground, the "Off Base" and "Deferred" land areas (essentially the roadless areas) would be ineligible for timber harvests, road building, and subsection (d) activities. That was my proposal in amendment No. 1, but Mr. MILLER required that it be removed, which in my view may lessen the protection of the roadless areas.

Subsection (c)(1), which removes spotted owl habitat from eligibility for harvest stayed in the compromise version. So did the riparian protection that was added in full committee. I might add that the riparian protection is straight from the Clinton Northwest Forest Plan, which was composed by scientists including the ex-chief of the Forest Service, Dr. Jack Ward Thomas. Personally, I think that this riparian protection may be too stringent, but it is part of the Quincy Library Group agreement and part of existing law that the Quincy group wants to follow. That is why it is in my substitute. It is part of the deal.

Mr. MILLER asked that I remove the provision that would have allowed more funding to be recommended and provided for riparian restoration projects, which I believe are an important part of the Quincy Library Group Agreement. The provision, subsection (c)(3), was removed.

The Quincy group's plan envisioned compliance with laws that ensured proper harvesting techniques and ensured forest standards would be met for management activities like fuelbreak construction. Nevertheless, we added a proviso that ensured that the resource management activities would be implemented to the extent consistent with the Federal laws that apply to such activities. This would included the interim guidelines for the spotted owl. Should final guidelines for the owl become effective, they would apply instead. This change makes the requirement of subsection (d) no less of a requirement than it was before. It simply means that in meeting the requirement of subsection (d)(1) and (2), for example, that the laws that guide good forest management and other applicable laws that would guide forest management activities apply to the carrying out the activities. The change does not make subsection (d) hollow.

Now for subsection (d). It requires fuelbreaks on not less than 40,000 acres and not more than 60,000 acres within the pilot

project area, meaning the "Available for Group Selection" area. This is a key to the Quincy plan because it will improve the ecology of the forest and the stability of the communities economically. Economic stability will improve because a more stable supply of timber will be available through the fuelbreak, thinning, and group selection requirements of subsection (d). People will work. The bill is not cast in terms of a particular volume of timber that is required to be harvested. Rather the bill requires acreage harvest for things like fuelbreaks and group selections, which might be part of a fuelbreak. The range of 40,000 to 60,000 acres was selected based on scientific information. The committee report explains that point. Even if 60,000 acres are treated with fuelbreaks and thinning each year it would take nearly 30 years to treat the entire land base that is "Available for Group Selection" under the Quincy plan.

Because there were allegations that the bill would allow too much harvesting, the committee added a maximum acreage of harvests 70,000 per year. While I do not think that too much of the group selection would be done outside of the fuelbreak system, 70,000 acres was selected because it would allow 60,000 acres of fuelbreaks plus some group selection.

Mr. MILLER, Mr. HERGER, and I agreed on new language concerning riparian management that was added to subsection (d). Mr. MILLER pointed out that riparian management is an important part of the Quincy Library Group agreement. While I believe my amendment No. 1 addressed riparian management by including the SAT guidelines for subsection (d) activities, we added some of the language suggested by Mr. MILLER and modified by me.

My modification to that language ties the riparian management into the SAT guidelines required for timber activities in riparian areas. Thus, under the SAT guidelines, there may be watershed assessments and watershed work that then opens the possibility of management of riparian areas. Flexibility that is needed if there is funding available for such activities. That is why we tied that new subsection (d) proviso on riparian management to the new subsection (f)(7) which ensures that amounts that are available for subsection (d)(1) and (d)(2) activities will remain available for those activities and not be transferred into subsection (d)(4) activities. In short, we wanted to ensure that riparian management, which may be very expensive, does not cut short the ability to achieve the critical fuelbreak and group selection work that will ultimately provide more revenue that could be directed by the appropriations committee to important riparian management or restoration efforts under (d)(4).

Subsection (e) simply requires cost effectiveness, something that is often missing in government. Cost effectiveness, means efficiency, not shoddy work or shortcuts on environmental protection.

We removed subsection (f) in the Young Amendment No. 1 at the request of the administration and Mr. MILLER. This will not affect implementation of the Quincy pilot project because other multiple use activities will be positively affected by implementation of the Quincy pilot project. For example, wildlife habitat will improve because it will not burn as readily or as badly.

In our funding subsection we specified that normal reprogramming guidelines must be fol-

lowed to shift funds if they ordinarily could not be used for the purpose described. We wanted to provide maximum flexibility for the Forest Service to use existing accounts to cover QLG activities. So that the funds now spent for timber sales will be shifted into timber activities associated with fuelbreaks, group selection, individual tree selection to meet the requirements of subsection (d). My substitute also included a proviso that ensures that the amount of overhead and general administration will not be too high. We wanted the money to reach the ground and implement QLG projects. We also did not want other multiple use activities, for example grazing, to suffer a loss of funds in order to implement the requirements in the bill. At the request of the junior Senator from California, Mr. HERGER and I agreed to add a provision that directly authorized funds to be appropriated to carry out the pilot project.

Regarding subsection (g) of my new substitute agreed to by the House, the term of the pilot project will be at least 5 years. This is necessary because it is a critical component of the Quincy Library Group's agreement of stability for a 5-year period. While we want the normal forest planning process to deal with evaluating the incorporation of the subsection (d) and possibly other components of the Quincy agreement into the plan, there is a great need for community and economic stability for the near term of 5 years. This is so that investment decisions can be made, the timber supply that results from fuel removal will be stabilized, and the pilot project can be carried out over enough of a time period to evaluate the results from a scientific standpoint. This balance is consistent with the goals of the National Forest Management Act and principles of sustainable development which seeks to ensure economic and ecologic balance.

Concerning subsection (i), we left the proviso that requires the environmental impact statement is to be prepared in consultation with the QLG, thus ensuring that there are open lines of communication between the Forest Service and the QLG in designing the subsection (d) activities and so there are no FACA problems. We also left the proviso that ensures contracting flexibility.

Regarding the new subsection (i) in our compromise, it is the same as subsection (j) of the Young amendment No. 1. It requires the planning process to evaluate the Quincy subsection (d) requirements, the land allocations, and the other features of the Quincy plan. It then allows the plan to be amended or revised.

Reporting requirements of new subsection (j) and (k) are critical. They will allow us to evaluate performance from a fiscal standpoint and from an ecologic standpoint with reference to the goals of the Quincy agreement and the pilot project. My substitute and the House-passed bill switched the subsection (k) report to begin at the midpoint of the pilot project. That is because we wanted to make sure that the information provided in the report would begin to be available as the land management plan revision or amendment was being developed under new subsection (i). My amendment No. 1 and the House-passed bill also specifically included watershed monitoring as an aspect of the science-based assessment.

Finally, the new subsection (l) was a proviso included by Mr. HERGER and myself at the request of Members of the House and the junior Senator from California and to address a concern identified by the chairwoman of the Council on Environmental Quality. This proviso ensures that pilot project is not exempt from any Federal environmental law, which is consistent with the QLG agreement and H.R. 858 as introduced. We specifically chose the word "exempt" to ensure that the provisions in the bill have a meaning and, as a subsequently passed law, overlay the current law. Thus, the fuelbreak and group selection requirements of subsection (d) are indeed requirements, not meaningless abstractions that do not produce the desired results of enhanced ecologic conditions and community stability due to a consistent and larger, but quite sustainable, supply of timber from the "Available for Group Selection" acreage. Adding the explicit statement simply solidified the fact that the pilot project will not be exempt from Federal environmental laws. Thus, standard and guidelines for harvesting trees will apply, as will procedural laws like the National Environmental Policy Act, which will govern the subsection (b)(1) environmental impact statement for the project.

I add some closing thoughts. First, this bill was designed for the Quincy plan. It is the right mix for the Quincy situation. It is needed to get the agency focused on implementing the plan on the ground. Other community-based forest plans may need their own mix of provisions in law to get their particular plan off of the ground or they may need no provisions in law. It is my hope that the Forest Service can accommodate future plans like the Quincy plan, but I will not be shy about supporting similar calls for legislation where it is necessary.

Second, I think that because we have a consensus here on the Quincy plan itself and now on the bill, that it gives us something to watch—a test case—to see how well our environmental laws really work and whether and how they may need to be changed. If the Quincy plan ends up working out in terms of implementation, we may need to evaluate ways to make similar plans easier to implement. If the implementation of the new Quincy Library law and the plan still end up in gridlock, then perhaps it sets the stage to look even deeper for more fundamental changes in the underlying forestry law and restructure it to foster constructive compromise instead of continual conflict.

Last, I thank the 429 Members of the House who overwhelmingly supported this bill. I want to especially thank Representative WALLY HERGER for introducing the bill and working on it with his usual enthusiasm. I also thank VIC FAZIO, who was the cosponsor of the bill from the beginning and helped to put together the compromise today. He worked closely with Representative HERGER, Representative CHENOWETH, and Mr. MILLER on our compromise that went down to the wire. I think that we ended up with a very good bill. It is a model for the future and a model for solving problems. Most of all I want to thank the members of the Quincy Library Group for staying together and doing what they knew was right for the environment and their community.

TRIBUTE TO THE SPANN FAMILY

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Spann family on the occasion of their family reunion to be held July 25–27, 1997, in Columbia, SC.

The Spann family began on May 16, 1844, with the birth of Jack Spann. Mr. Spann was born a slave in Middleton Township, Sumter County, and resided in Sumter County his entire life, both as a slave and a free man. Despite the condition into which he was born, Mr. Spann learned to read and to write, a feat denied to most slaves. Because of his literacy, he was able to memorize and readily quote scriptures from all books of the Bible. Due to his literacy and his faith in God, Jack rose to become an assistant clergyman at St. Luke African Methodist Episcopal Church. When not in the pulpit, Mr. Spann could be found on the family's farm as he provided for his family of 20 children. Although the children were born of two different mothers, the togetherness demonstrated by the Spann family was unmatched. To this day, the descendants continue to show that same bond.

The Spann family has been a part of the African-American experience in South Carolina for many years. As the Spann family comes together this year in Columbia, all agree that they have been blessed as they are able to share this reunion with the last living child of Jack Spann, Mrs. Eliza Spann Missouri Pickett, the present matriarch of the Spann family. In addition, Mrs. Pickett's son, Clarence Missouri, was my college roommate and has been a close friend of mine for over 40 years. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in honoring this fine family as they celebrate their family reunion.

JERI WARE: A BRIDGE BUILDER AND ROLE MODEL**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jerline "Jeri" Ware, a bridge builder and a role model to all. She passed away July 6, 1997. Jeri Ware was born February 13, 1924, on a farm in Beggs OK, the third of eight children. After graduating from Beggs High School at the age of 15, Jeri, with the approval of her family, friends, and church, set out to expand her horizons. Over the next several years, she lived in Colorado, New Mexico, as well as Hanford and Seattle, WA. In the mid-1940's, she moved to San Francisco, where she enrolled at San Francisco City College. There she studied political science, and also met and married John, her husband of 48 years.

In 1951, the Wares moved back to Seattle where Jeri would become known throughout the city and the Pacific Northwest as a respected community leader. During the next 46 years, Jeri championed issues such as employment and education. She urged city offi-

cial to address concerns about the lack of opportunities for many black Americans in Seattle; she helped establish cooperative nursery schools and tutorial programs at the University of Washington. Jeri was a charter member and chair of the Central Area School Council, and a member of the Seattle Human Rights Commission. My predecessor, Mike Lowry, recognized Jeri's talents; for almost a decade, she served the people of the Seventh Congressional District as a member of his District Office staff.

Jeri's opinion commanded the respect and attention of elected officials in Seattle because she was a bridge builder and a role model. She helped many public officials to understand issues impacting the community by presenting the problems along with attainable solutions. Jeri Ware led by personal example: she showed the importance of family strength by standing by her son's side when he protested the Viet Nam war. She embodied tolerance by embracing and respecting others' opinions although they may have differed from hers. She taught determination by her life-long efforts to help our youth prepare for their future.

Mr. Speaker, the Seventh Congressional District of Washington mourns the loss of Jeri Ware. Thanks to her, many strong bridges of friendship and understanding stand in Seattle today.

THE WHEAT AND BARLEY PROTECTION ACT OF 1997**HON. DEBBIE STABENOW**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of the Wheat and Barley Protection Act of 1997 which will facilitate a national partnership and provide urgently needed funds to accelerate the race for a cure for a disease that is ravaging our Nation's wheat and barley crops.

Wheat and barley scab has cost our national economy more than \$3 billion over the last 4 years. Michigan alone lost more than \$56 million to wheat and barley scab in 1996.

More than 80 percent of Michigan's farmers plant either wheat or barley. All varieties are vulnerable to the scab, which can severely reduce the production and quality of these crops.

The disease can produce vomitoxin, a toxin contaminant which has reduced prices to farmers and caused problems for the U.S. milling and malting industries.

My legislation unifies the efforts of 12 States' land grant universities into a cohesive research partnership. The Wheat and Barley Protection Act of 1997 will authorize \$5 million a year for 5 years to fund this national consortium that includes university breeders, plant pathologists, agricultural engineers, and food scientists. It will serve as a model for other such effective, integrated research projects in the future, bringing the public and private sectors together in an important effort to solve a national problem.

The Wheat and Barley Protection Act is a small investment compared to the billions of dollars that this disease, unchecked, will cost our economy. I am pleased that so many of my colleagues—Democrats and Repub-

licans—have cosponsored this legislation and will be working with me to swiftly pass this bill.

REGARDING THE FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 1997

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in full support of Senate Joint Resolution 29, the resolution directing the Department of the Interior to design and construct a statue depicting Franklin Delano Roosevelt in his wheelchair. I believe this inclusion in the Franklin Roosevelt Memorial Statue will further illustrate to the American public that a person with a disability is not limited in his or her ability to reach historic heights.

In addition to the Secretary working with the commission to incorporate a sculpture displaying President Roosevelt in a wheelchair, as instructed by the Senate Joint Resolution 29, I would also encourage the Secretary to look into a serious matter brought to my attention by the National Organization on Disability and the American Council of the Blind and as described in a May 20 article in the Washington Post. It appears that the Braille lettering on the monument is not readable by most blind or visually impaired visitors. In fact, on some areas of the monument the Braille dots are not accessible or not present at all. This is ironic in light of the fact that the description on the wall of President Roosevelt's programs to aid the blind, cannot be read by the blind. However unintentional, this makes a mockery of President Roosevelt's work and is frustrating to visually impaired visitors.

The main problem with the Braille is the size of the dots. The cells are too big to fit under a fingertip. Because of the enlargement, the spacing of the dots within a cell and between cells is incorrect. The sculptor admits that he took liberty by exaggerating the size of the Braille to achieve a certain concept. Unfortunately, his artistic interpretation has come at the expense of those who have low vision or who are blind. In essence, the majesty he sought to create for those who cannot see has proven to be a disheartening misadventure.

I would recommend that this artistic but unreadable Braille displayed on the memorial's Wall of Programs be supplemented by Braille which is readable. This Braille should conform to the specifications for raised character and Braille signage contained in recognized access codes such as the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines [ADAAG] and the American National Standards Institute's [ANSI's] A117–1 standard for accessible design for the disabled. The reproduced Braille should be placed on a metal plaque or plaques which are affixed at a reasonable and readable height and location on the Wall of Programs. Or, the plaques could be mounted near the Wall of Programs on stands located at a reasonable height and location immediately adjacent to the artistic, but unreadable Braille. I would also encourage the Secretary to replicate in Braille the inspirational excerpts from President Roosevelt's speeches, which are displayed in print throughout the memorial, so they may be enjoyed by blind or visually impaired visitors.

I believe these additions to the monument honoring our 32d President would be a fitting tribute to a great man who tirelessly served this country, and I would encourage full consideration of this important request.

RECOGNITION OF ISTEА
SUPPORTERS

HON. ELLIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great enthusiasm that I recognize the efforts of a group of dedicated activists from Westchester, Rockland, and Putnam Counties who undertook a 5-day bicycle trip from New York to Washington in support of the Intermodal Surface Transportation and Efficiency Act [ISTEA].

On June 4th this determined group of people, led by Greenburgh Town Supervisor, Paul Feiner, and joined by my constituent Leonard Morgenstern, arrived in Washington to bring the message of ISTEА to their national representatives. The message is clear: We must ensure that transportation alternatives and environmental quality initiatives remain fully funded in ISTEА reauthorization.

The efforts of this group highlight the foundation of ISTEА which is the use of intermodal transportation. ISTEА funding has never been solely intended for highway construction. My own State of New York has been a leader in building a diverse infrastructure which enables our residents to use alternative transportation sources.

In recognition of the efforts of those I have mentioned, as well as Gus DeSilva, David Kraker, Michael Ferrato, Joseph Ippolito, Carl Kulo, Lynn Gorski, Richard Sibley, Jeff Ziffer, David Gordon, I urge my colleagues to resolve that the reauthorization of ISTEА will maintain its dedication to environmental quality and transportation alternatives.

CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF
DR. BETTY SHABAZZ

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a true American hero; a lady of unconquerable spirit, a loving mother, educator, and activist for her people and our Nation. I rise to pay tribute to the legacy of Dr. Betty Shabazz. I would like to read to you the letter that was sent by me to Dr. Shabazz's family upon her passing:

DEAR ATTALLAH, QUBILAH, MALAAK, GAMILAH, MALIKAH, AND ILYASSAH SHABAZZ: Please accept my condolences upon the transition of your mother. I know this is a great loss to you. There can be no words to describe what you are feeling. I hope that it is of some comfort to you that I, and millions of other Americans, are also deeply saddened by her passing. I do not believe that I am exaggerating when I associate myself with millions of Americans in this regard. Your mother's self-evident love of her people, her heroic composure in assuming the mantle of

leadership, her purposefulness, her quiet strength, and her professional achievement have shown as beacons of triumph over adversity. Your mother's life has been a testament to the power of integrity and dignity.

When the harsh winds of hatred swept across our country and prematurely ended the life of Malcolm X, they could not overcome the strength of his wife. Dr. Betty Shabazz continued the struggle after his death, keeping his quest for justice for all alive. As a doctor of education administration, she brought the movement into academia, where she immeasurably touched the lives of hundreds of students. Dr. Shabazz served Medgar Evers College as director of Institutional Advancement with ability, passion, and caring, qualities that were reflected in everything she did in life.

A single mother, Dr. Shabazz's challenges as a parent were not unique. However, they were heightened by the fact that she was the single mother of Malcolm X's children. She reared her six daughters alone, constantly preparing them for a life in the forefront of the African-American community, one that is a requirement of their lineage. One of her daughters is a successful public relations executive, another a vocal activist in her late father's movement of human rights. In this way, Betty Shabazz has served as a model of motherhood and a reflection of the family values that every American family aims to emulate.

Malcolm X left us with a commitment to work so that people around the world, regardless of their race, are afforded their basic human rights. A warrior in her own right, Dr. Shabazz has made countless contributions to the cause of oppressed people around the globe, and especially within the African-American community. Her message will be forever with us, an inspiration to all who choose a life of service to their fellow man.

In this time of need for the entire Shabazz family, let us reflect upon the lessons that have been taught us by Dr. Betty Shabazz. Her life has been a testament to the virtues of family, community, and activism, and it is fitting for this House of Representatives, in the name of the American people, to pay her tribute.

HONORING JEFFERY J. DYE

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of an extraordinary young man, Jeffery J. Dye, who unexpectedly passed away April 21, 1997, at the age of 27. This remarkable young man will truly be missed.

Jeff had only begun to fulfill his limitless potential when he was struck down by an epileptic seizure. His loss is a tragedy to his family, his friends, and to anyone who believes in the honor of public service.

Jeff's passing is a personal loss to me, Mr. Speaker, because he served as a research assistant on my first campaign for Congress. In addition, his parents, Dennis and Janell Dye, live in my district in West University Place.

Though only 27 years old, Jeff Dye had already made his mark in the rough and tumble world of politics. His boundless energy and

enthusiasm for political battle served him well on the campaign trail and in the halls of power. He was a trusted aide in the offices of Texas Lieutenant Governor Bob Bullock, and Senator DANIEL AKAKA of Hawaii, but it was the thrill of political campaigning that truly stirred Jeff's passion.

In an age of cynicism and resentment toward government, Jeff held the firm belief that the government has a responsibility, indeed an obligation, to help those less fortunate in our society. He hoped to use the Internet as a tool to expand participation and open the doors of government to more people. He believed that making it easier to find information on candidates would give the electorate the tools they need to make better decisions.

Like many bitten by the campaign bug, Jeff bounced around from position to position across the country. Wherever he landed, Jeff's intelligence, enthusiasm, and integrity left everyone who met him with the impression that he was a young man with a very bright future. He served exceptionally at each of his many stops, wearing many hats along the way. He was a crack researcher, a spectacular fundraiser, and a cunning political strategist, and at the time of his death he had just begun a new challenge as executive director of the Tennessee Democratic Party.

But Jeff Dye will not be remembered only for his political resumé. He will be remembered for his passion, his commitment, and his dedication to making the world a better place. His parents are establishing a foundation in his name, dedicated to helping other motivated young men and women make their mark through public service. The foundation's goal is to fund travel and living costs for students who serve their junior year as congressional interns in Washington, DC.

Mr. Speaker, Jeff's years among us were far too few, but thanks to the efforts of his parents his idealism and dedication will live on. I look forward to the day when students from the Jeffery J. Dye Leadership Foundation serve as interns in my office and I urge my colleagues to also participate in this internship program. In this way we can all honor Jeff Dye and the ideals in which he so strongly believed.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 50TH
ANNIVERSARY OF WHLI AM GARDEN
CITY

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to WHLI AM, a radio station in Garden City, LI, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary of broadcasting on July 22. WHLI can be found at 1100 on the AM dial with a format of adult sophisticated music, including oldies by the original artists. Long Islanders enjoy music spanning the spectrum from Benny Goodman to Celine Dion; Frank Sinatra to Barbra Streisand, every day.

Program Director and legendary radio personality Dean Anthony heads up this radio station, which for 50 years has also been a strong voice for the Long Island community. Informative news programming adds to the appeal of WHLI, which broadcasts at 10,000

watts, making it easily heard by all in the Nassau County area.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues who may find themselves on Long Island to tune their radio dials into WHLI 1100 AM and listen to this terrific radio station, a true Long Island tradition. A hearty congratulation to the wonderful staff of WHLI on the occasion of their 50th anniversary. Here's to 50 more.

TRIBUTE TO JANE SMITH
STEWART

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 1997

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the most thoughtful, caring, and courageous women I ever knew, Jane Smith Stewart, who lived in my hometown of Lillington, NC.

Tragically, Jane Stewart passed away June 7, the very same day that here in Washington and in North Carolina's capital city of Raleigh, thousands participated in the "Race for the Cure" to raise money for cancer patients.

Jane was a registered nurse by training, educated at East Carolina University, and she was active in the Spring Hill United Methodist Church where she extensively worked with the youth program. Jane always cared about young people.

Jane Stewart was an amazing person, and for those who had the joy of knowing her, would have been hard pressed to point to a single characteristic or quality that defined her character.

Maybe it was her rare courage. Despite her painful illness, she remained active in the community and most of all with her three children. Though doctors told her she was too sick, she would go and watch her children participate in baseball and basketball and other activities. Her actions were and still are an inspiration to other cancer patients who knew her.

Or maybe it was her inner strength or faith that enabled her to carry on her activities in life despite being sick. She was always worried and concerned about the needs of others even as she faced her own battle with cancer.

She never stopped caring for her church, her community, or her family.

Mr. Speaker, I count myself as lucky because I knew Jane Stewart. She is survived by her husband Frank, and their three sons, Greg, Doug, and Brad Stewart, and her parents Bill and Donna Smith of Rocky Mount.

Their loss is also our loss. Her memory will continue to inspire us. Indeed, our community will surely miss Jane Smith Stewart.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill, H.R. 2107, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the National Endowment for the Humanities and in opposition to the Chabot amendment that would eliminate the NEH.

It is imperative that the government play an integral role in the preservation of the events and historical documents that shaped our Nation for this and future generations. The NEH fulfills that role.

NEH projects preserve books, newspapers, and official documents in an effort to retain America's heritage. NEH grants stimulate local economies by increasing attendance at humanities exhibitions and attractions.

I urge all of my colleagues to read the following letter to Members of Congress from Sheldon Hackney, the chairman of the NEH. This letter is an excellent explanation of the benefits our Nation receives from the work of the important National Endowment for the Humanities.

Without a strong link to the past, we cannot build a strong bridge into the future.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR

THE HUMANITIES,

Washington, DC, March 14, 1997.

DEAR MEMBER OF CONGRESS: America is a nation founded on an idea. That idea—democracy—lives on generation after generation through a celebration of the formation of this union, an examination of the principles of the past, and a teaching of the events and people who have gone before us to make us the country we are today. A great nation as ours must know its history if it is to be strong in facing the challenges of the future.

The National Endowment for the Humanities helps Americans to know more about who we were, who we are, and who we will be. We do this in part by devoting a large portion of our resources to help historians preserve and interpret our past and to share knowledge and evidence of our history with the American people.

For almost ten years, the NEH has helped museums and historical organizations undertake projects to ensure the preservation and security of millions of archaeological, ethnographic, and historical objects. The NEH also supports projects to train the staffs who maintain these historical collections. The training paid off in the wake of Hurricanes Hugo, Andrew, Iniki and the Midwest floods of 1993, because it helped minimize damage to collections in the areas affected by these disasters.

Through supporting the compilation of U.S. Presidential Papers, preserving photo-

graphs and saving brittle books, the National Endowment for the Humanities works to insure our nation's heritage is preserved and accessible to its citizens. If you have any questions about the work we do, please contact me or my staff in the Office of Congressional Liaison at (202) 606-8328.

Sincerely,

SHELDON HACKNEY,

Chairman.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 11, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill, H.R. 2107, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my concern over the recent cuts that we have allowed to be made to the National Endowments for the Arts. This program has a certain undeniable value that few other federally funded programs do. Art and artistically gifted people are often the cornerstones of communities, from campside storytelling to local movie theaters to large metropolitan galleries housing treasured symbols of our national and world culture. The cuts that have been made to the NEA will have a longlasting effect on us all, even if we don't take advantage of their direct benefits. I have been and will continue to be a strong supporter of the arts and other cultural resources.

The pictures that hang along the tunnel wall leading from House Office Buildings to the Capitol is something that most of us pass on a regular basis. Some of these efforts might have been submitted by young people from your own constituencies. It is my belief that most of us would have trouble denying these bright and eager minds the opportunity to express themselves and stymie their developments as mature and confident individuals which comes about through their self expression. It might also be difficult to travel back to your districts and see vacant theaters and the galleries where once entire communities found common ground and were exposed to the artistic genius that their region has helped produce.

The cost of this program equates to less than two hundredths of 1 percent of the Federal budget, costing American taxpayers just 69 cents per year. There is room in our balanced budget for these programs.

I personally voted against the block grant amendment submitted by my colleague VERNON ELHERS because I thought that it did not fully deal with the issue as soundly as I would have liked. The bottom line Mr. Chairman is that we must foster artistic expression with our youth.