

State and local sales and excise taxes. I can appreciate how this gives a competitive advantage to a handful of Indian businesses. I will support a bill which will cure this problem to the satisfaction of all of the interested parties.

But, the vast preponderance of land being taken into trust by the Secretary of the Interior has nothing whatsoever to do with tax advantages. Most parcels of land being taken into trust are small tracts consisting of an acre or two which lie within an existing Indian reservation, non-trust land scattered like a checkerboard between trust lands. Economically fencing, accessing, monitoring, and developing these checker boarded lands is extremely expensive, almost impossible.

The Interior Department spends millions upon millions trying to block up these lands and put them into useful production. But because of the 1887 General Allotment Act which allowed Indian lands to be sold and thereby taken out of trust, the Department has to take these lands back into trust.

The effect of the Istook amendment would be catastrophic for any Indian tribe which is trying to have even the smallest plot of land taken back into trust.

This spending limitation is aimed at solving a commercial problem which many of the States have already solved. Even Oklahoma has worked out most of its problems with these tax havens owned by an Indian tribe.

However, this limitation on appropriated funds ignores all of these solutions. Instead, this language would completely eliminate the Secretary of the Interior's ability to take any land into trust, in any State.

Mr. Chairman, this amendment is not only unnecessary but also wrong. The Indians of this Nation suffer the highest unemployment anywhere. Health care, child care, economic opportunity, and just about any other social service available to the average American is barely available on a marginal basis to Native Americans.

What we do not need is this strangle hold on the Secretary of the Interior.

I urge my colleagues to oppose the Istook amendment.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK PARKER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Mr. Frank Parker who died on Thursday, July 10, 1997. He was born in Mount Pleasant, PA. He graduated from Oberlin College in 1962 and then spent 2 years at University College, Oxford University, England. In 1966, he received his juris doctorate degree from Harvard Law School.

After law school, he began his distinguished career in the Office of the General Counsel of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission. He wrote the commission's report, "Political Participation" in 1968.

Mr. Speaker, I first met this giant of a man in 1968 while he was a lawyer in the Mississippi office of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. He served courageously in the protection of civil rights of black Mississippians in this office for 13 years. Mr.

Parker was a strong advocate for voting rights and worked vigorously for passage of the Motor Voter Act. His tireless fight for justice and equality is one of the defining principles of his life.

Mr. Parker was a MacArthur Foundation Distinguished Scholar at the Joint Center for Political Studies in Washington, DC, in 1985 and 1986 and spent the year doing research for "Black Votes Count." The book was honored by the American Political Science Association, the Mississippi Historical Society, and the Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Human Rights in the United States.

In 1992 and 1993, Mr. Parker returned to the Joint Center for Political Studies and did research for a book supporting affirmative action. Mr. Parker taught at the District of Columbia School of Law from 1992 to 1995. He taught law at American University for a year before leaving to take a position as a visiting professor of constitutional law at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, VA.

Mr. Parker leaves a proud legacy as a husband, father, brother, mentor, civil rights leader, community activist, and great American.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in saluting the late attorney Frank Parker for his outstanding contributions to this Nation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CHILD ABUSE NOTIFICATION ACT

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce the Child Abuse Notification Act of 1997. Children are solicited by pedophiles on the Internet everyday, and child pornography rings are doing a thriving business peddling their filth over the Internet. These actions are crimes. However, few perpetrators are apprehended because law enforcement can't effectively police the Internet, and Internet crimes are frequently not reported.

Federal law requires photo developers, doctors, teachers, and therapists to report incidents of suspected child abuse to law enforcement. However, Internet service providers [ISP's] are not currently held to that same standard. As a result, ISP's often respond to complaints of criminal activity against children by simply removing the offender from their system. Perpetrators are free to move to a new system or re-register under a new name. Either way, children are no safer.

That's why I hope you will join me as a co-sponsor of the Child Abuse Notification Act. This bill would add Internet service providers to the categories of professionals who must report suspected child abuse to law enforcement. This simple and effective legislation will help make the Internet safer for our children.

I hope my colleagues will join me by co-sponsoring this important legislation. We must not allow a small band of criminals take the opportunities provided by the Internet away from our children.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF SISTER FRANCINE NOLAN

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sister Francine Nolan on her retirement after 48 years of service to the Diocese of Pittsburgh and Greensburg, PA.

Sister Francine graduated from St. Xavier in 1948 and has been touching people's lives ever since. Having been raised in Pittsburgh's St. Paul Orphanage, Sister Francine devoted her life to giving back to the diocese and to teaching God's children. Since 1949, she has taught at various area schools.

Throughout her career Sister Francine has been recognized for her achievements. In 1975 Sister Francine was recognized as the National Teacher of the Year and in 1976 she was named the Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year. The people of western Pennsylvania are truly blessed to have had sister Francine as a part of their education community.

Sister Francine Nolan epitomizes the spirit of sharing and caring that makes our Nation great. Her legacy of teaching children will live on through those who have had the opportunity to work and learn with her. The French satirist Voltaire said that "We must cultivate our garden." Sister Francine, you have cultivated your garden and now it is time to sit back and enjoy the fruits of your labor.

So my fellow colleagues, it is with great pleasure that I urge you to join me in commending Sister Francine for her achievements. She has touched the lives of all who have known her and has demonstrated a commitment to service that the Diocese of Pittsburgh and Greensburg, as well as the entire fourth congressional district, can be proud of.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE VICTIMS OF THE "13TH OF MARCH" TUGBOAT MASSACRE

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 1997

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, we recently marked the third anniversary of one of the many heinous crimes committed by the Castro regime against the enslaved people of Cuba.

It was on July 13, 1994, that a group of 72 Cuban refugees boarded the "13th of March" tugboat in an effort to find freedom in the shores of the United States. But shortly thereafter their vessel was ambushed and savagely attacked by Cuban gunboats while still in Cuban waters.

Survivors tell the tale of how Cuban authorities mercilessly fired water cannons at the liberty seeking refugees, while at the same time ramming the tugboat in an effort to destroy it. Women and children screamed for pity—for mercy—but their cries for help went unanswered.

As the boat sank, refugees scrambled for their lives in the deep, warm ocean of the Caribbean, but it was all in vain for the Cuban gunboats circled the sinking ships creating a