

leaders such as the Pope decry the use of the death penalty. Proponents argue that taking a life—even an occasional innocent life—is a necessary cost of social order. I disagree. We should not lower ourselves to the level of the criminals. The death sentence endorses violence, and violence begets violence. We must show every compassion for crime victims, and deal severely with those convicted of egregious crimes, but the state should follow a higher moral standard than criminals.

I prefer to impose life without parole for serious crimes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 1997

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, September 8, and Tuesday, September 9, I was necessarily absent from the House and unable to cast the following rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Nay on rollcall vote No. 369, the Blunt amendment which sought to reduce funding for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration by \$11.2 million and increase funding for vocational education by \$11.2 million.

Nay on rollcall vote No. 370, the Norwood amendment which sought to reduce funding for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration by \$11.2 million and increase funding for Individuals with Disabilities Education Act by \$11.2 million.

Nay on rollcall vote No. 371, the Miller of California motion to adjourn.

Nay on rollcall vote No. 372, the Doggett motion to adjourn.

Nay on rollcall vote No. 373, the Souder amendment that sought to transfer \$21 million from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration Federal enforcement account and \$2 million from the executive direction and administration account to the compliance assistance account.

Nay on rollcall vote No. 374, the McIntosh motion that the Committee rise.

Yea on rollcall vote No. 376, the Burton amendment that sought to provide \$1 million in funding for the "We the People" educational program designed to educate high school and middle school students on the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

Nay on rollcall vote No. 377, the Coburn amendment that sought to transfer \$35 million to the State AIDS Drug Assistance Program from a variety of accounts.

Yea on rollcall vote No. 378, the Castle substitute amendment to the Istook amendment to require health centers that receive Federal planning funds to encourage family involvement and to counsel minors on methods to resist coercive sexual activities.

Yea on rollcall vote No. 379, the Istook amendment as amended by the Castle substitute amendment that requires providers of services under title X of the Public Health Service Act to certify that family participation is encouraged in the decision of minors to seek family planning services and that counseling is provided on how to resist coercive sexual activities.

VINCENT "JIM" GIANNOTTI
HONORED

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 1997

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, in recent years we have appropriately focused on the spirit of voluntarism and the benefits to both the volunteer and the service to which time is being given. It is an honor for me to bring to the attention of the House of Representatives and the American people an individual who exemplifies voluntarism and who has given so much of himself. Mr. Vincent "Jim" Giannotti of Meriden, CT, has served as a volunteer to the Veterans Memorial Medical Center in Meriden since September 18, 1979. This Friday, September 12, 1997, Jim will retire from the medical center after completing 18 years of volunteer service.

It is significant that Jim's service to the medical center didn't start until he was 72 years of age. This coming December 18, Jim will celebrate his 90th birthday. Since 1979, he has contributed over 19,000 hours of his time to the medical center.

Jim began his service with the delivery of newspapers to patients, visiting with them along the way, and giving them both friendship and companionship. He also volunteered in the Surgicenter and was a patient representative volunteer. Jim could always be counted on to fill in wherever he could and would gladly accept any assignment. He was not only a valuable asset to the volunteer department, but to the entire hospital as well.

Jim Giannotti is held in the highest esteem and is clearly respected by all who know him. Over the years, his tireless efforts and his unselfish donation of time and energy have helped the lives of so many and has helped Veterans Memorial Medical Center better serve the community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all of the people whose life he has touched, I want to congratulate Vincent "Jim" Giannotti upon his retirement and to thank him for his many years of service.

TRIBUTE TO DR. HAZEL HAWKINS-RUSSELL

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 1997

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I take the floor of the House today to honor and praise a magnificent educator and leader. I am proud to have her working in my district, continuing the tradition of educational excellence in our community. She is an outstanding advocate for increasing educational opportunities for minorities and those with special needs. The woman of whom I speak so highly and hold in such high esteem is Dr. Hazel Hawkins-Russell, who has persisted tirelessly with her work in education for 50 years. Dr. Hawkins-Russell has been a tremendous influence and positive role model for the youth of Riverside, CA.

Back in 1947, Dr. Hawkins-Russell made history as the first African-American school teacher to be hired in what was then known

as the Riverside city schools. For the next 23 years, she taught both elementary and junior high schools where she touched the lives of all of her students. Her enthusiasm and positive spirit served as an inspiration, and every student left Dr. Hawkins-Russell's class with a little piece of her in their hearts.

In 1970, after her career as a teacher, Dr. Hawkins-Russell became a consultant for the Pupil Services Department of the Riverside Unified School District. It was her responsibility to have an extensive knowledge of all California laws relating to minors. She provided technical assistance to schools in all discipline cases, prepared each case for hearing panels, and worked extensively with youth groups and services. Dr. Hawkins-Russell's mission was to help children who were having problems and prevent them from slipping through the cracks unnoticed or ignored.

From 1974 to 1982, Dr. Hawkins-Russell was the coordinator of the Emergency School Aid Act, a federally funded program that provided aid in remedial math and reading, as well as programs in multi-cultural awareness, human relations, tutorial assistance, staff development, parent effectiveness training, and conflict resolution. She was selected three times to assist in evaluation of ESAA proposals on a national level here in Washington, DC, and once on a regional level in San Francisco.

Aside from her job, Dr. Hawkins-Russell was actively involved with several organizations that are devoted to improving education. She was president of the Association of California Intergroup Relations Educators, worked as interim co-director at Riverside NAACP Child Development Centers, and was a member of the Western Riverside County Mental Health Association and the Attorney General's Commission on Racial, Religious and Minority Violence. She also served on the State library steering committee as a representative of San Bernardino, Orange, Inyo, and Riverside Counties and was elected as a delegate for the State of California to the White House Conference on Libraries and Information Services.

Let me add to this amazing list of achievements by mentioning a few honors she has received. She has been recognized with the ACIRE Presidents Award, the YWCA Award for Outstanding Community Leadership, a certificate for outstanding service at the First National Human Relations Conference, the Derby Club Outstanding Black Woman Inland Area Trophy, and most recently, the Ida Louise Jackson Graduate Achievement Award presented by Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority.

Dr. Hawkins-Russell continues to work in education as an adjunct faculty member at Riverside Community College. Dr. Hawkins-Russell's drive for excellence is a rare commodity, and she has touched the lives of many during her 50-year career as an educator. I am extremely privileged to have such an exceptional person serving the youth in my district. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Hawkins-Russell for her 50 years of hard work and the accomplishments she has made for education in my district, as well as the Nation. She has set a standard for community service and leadership that will remain for years to come. I hope that Dr. Hawkins-Russell will continue to be an advocate for children and quality education. I wish her happiness and good luck in her future endeavors.