

We must continue efforts that make it easier for child support collectors to do their job.

For kids' sake, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL GARSON

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commend and congratulate Michael Garson for his outstanding community service in my district. Mr. Garson was recently honored by the Harry S. Truman Democratic Club, also in my district. Community action and service are critical to the betterment of our cities, and Mike certainly is an outstanding example of how people involved in such service can have positive impact on those around them.

In addition to serving as a Democratic State committeeman and as a Democratic leader of the 41st assembly district, Mike is a member of the New York State and Brooklyn Bar Associations, the International Legal Fraternity Phi Delta Phi, B'nai B'rith Sheepshead Lodge, Congregation Beth Shalom of Sheepshead Bay, and the Jewish War Veterans No. 335, Cohen-Eisenman Post. He also services with distinction on the board of directors of the Kings Bay YMHA-YWHA. He was honored in 1982 by the Kings County Young Democrats and is listed in Who's Who in the East. Mike lives in the Madison section of Brooklyn with his wife, Laurie, and his daughter, Francesca.

I thank Mike for his continued community service and wish him success in his life. I sincerely hope that we will continue to work together for many years to come.

HONORING SHERMAN SPEARS

HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievement of one of my constituents, Mr. Sherman Spears. He will be honored on October 14, 1997 as a recipient of the Amendment Award of Excellence in Crime Prevention on behalf of the National Crime Prevention Council. Out of 140 nominations, Mr. Spears was selected along with eight extraordinary individuals who are fighting crime and building community.

Mr. Spears was shot at the age of 19 and fortunate to have survived. The incident, which left him a paraplegic, motivated him to dedicate his life to doing what he can to help at-risk young people make choices to keep themselves and others alive, and to teach them how to build safer communities. Since 1993, he has been the Coordinator of Teens on Target, a youth violence prevention program in my hometown of Oakland, CA. He began the Caught in the Crossfire hospital peer visitation program in 1994.

Mr. Spears used his experience and understanding to develop the Caught in the Crossfire program. This program provides adolescents, who are recovering from violent injuries

in the Highland hospital trauma center, with educational materials about violent crime to dissuade victims and their friends from retaliating against their attackers. Upon discharge, Mr. Spears contacts the patients to see if they have used the referrals given to them, such as joining a program to help them get their GED, changing friendship groups, or joining and attending a physical rehabilitation program.

Caught in the Crossfire provides visitation to all recovering adolescents who are referred by the Highlight hospital staff. This averages 50 visits per year. The average length of hospital stay of each patient is 2 to 3 days; Mr. Spears responds to the call for help within 24 hours.

Teens on Target approaches at-risk youth in an attempt to reform their perspectives and to help them understand the repercussions of violence. The program trains multiethnic urban youth to educate their peers about the causes of violence and how to prevent it at home, in their neighborhood, and in their city. Each year, 25 youth from two high schools in Oakland are trained by Mr. Spears to: First, provide peer violence prevention education at schools, conferences and community events; second, educate professionals on the impact of violence on youth and strategies for prevention that will work; third, provide an informed voice to the media about how youth can be leaders in preventing violence; fourth, provide positive role models for youth; and fifth, provoke policymakers to take action to prevent violence. The youth, at risk for dropping out of school themselves, are referred to Teens on Target by probation officers, principals, counselors, and teachers. They provide four inter-active violence prevention workshops to approximately 2,000 youth per year addressing the issues of gun violence, street and gang violence, alcohol and drug violence, and family violence. Over 5,000 youth have received this training since Mr. Spears has coordinated the project.

I would like to thank the National Crime Prevention Council and Ameritech for their commitment in helping individuals fight crime and build community and for recognizing and honoring the work of Mr. Spears and others.

Sherman Spears did not let his experience with violence become an excuse for defeat. He has not allowed the physical difficulties resulting from that incident to keep him from making a contribution to his community. Instead, he has used his unique insight to create programs to address crime throughout Oakland. We, in Oakland, are fortunate and proud to have Mr. Spears working on the front lines, to help break the vicious cycle of violence. Thank you so much for your commitment and work on our behalf. I also ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Sherman Spears and hard-working individuals like him who make a difference in their communities.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1997

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to announce an important initiative for rural America. Recently, rural areas

have been faced with rising health care costs, and providing medical services has become a financial burden on local government. As a result, rescue and EMS squads have had to forgo needed improvements, construction, and equipment. When a loved one requires emergency services, ambulances must roll, equipment must work and facilities must be in place. These organizations often make the difference between life and death in an emergency. We cannot risk one life because of a lack of sufficient funds for these organizations.

Today, I am introducing legislation that will seek to correct this problem. The Emergency Medical Services Enhancement [EMS] Act will allow emergency organizations to issue tax-exempt bonds to raise funds for the purchase of equipment and for the construction and improvement of facilities. Tax-exempt bonds are used to build schools, bridges, and other public facilities. Volunteer fire departments have issued these bonds to purchase equipment and facilities. It is only right that we give similar consideration to those volunteer organizations that provide life saving emergency services to our citizens.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation will have an immediate impact on volunteer emergency organizations in rural areas across this country. In Harnett County, NC, my home county, the town of Dunn is building a new EMS facility as a result of damage to the previous station from Hurricane Fran last year. The Dunn EMS would have saved half a million dollars if it could have issued tax-exempt bonds. In Franklin County, the Franklinton EMS has been co-located with the fire department since its headquarters were destroyed by Fran last year. This bill will help them rebuild and provide the quality services the people of Franklin County deserve. This bill will save lives in rural counties throughout the country.

Mr. Speaker, this bill builds on the work of my friend and a former Member of this body, Martin Lancaster. He laid the foundation for this effort by introducing this bill when he was in the House a few years ago. I am pleased to have the opportunity to introduce this bill that will fulfill a critical need in our rural communities.

SOMERSET AMVETS LOUIS A.
COLON POST #72 FIFTIETH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to congratulate the Somerset AMVETS Louis A. Colon Post #72 on their 50 anniversary. The Somerset AMVETS have been a source of community pride and public service since their inception in 1947.

For the past 50 years the Somerset AMVETS have worked tirelessly to promote the values of those who have served in the U.S. military. They have sponsored numerous youth athletic teams, partnered with Somerset South school in providing athletic and academic mentoring, provided scholarships to area youths attending college, worked with the VA voluntary services and for 50 consecutive years sponsored Boy Scout troop #2. This is just a sampling of the charitable and community service work the Somerset AMVETS have provided in the past 50 years.

Once again I would like to congratulate and commend the Somerset AMVETS Louis A. Colon Post #72 on their 50th anniversary. I with them continued success in all their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MARILYN LLOYD

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievements of one of our former colleagues, Marilyn Lloyd, who served in the House from 1975 to 1995. On October 10, Ms. Lloyd's 20 years of service to her district will be commemorated at the dedication of the Marilyn Lloyd Environmental and Life Sciences Complex in Oak Ridge, TN.

The Marilyn Lloyd Environmental and Life Sciences Complex will comprise most of the Environmental Sciences Division's labs and offices on the west end of Oak Ridge National Laboratory [ORNL]. Ms. Lloyd's successor, Congressman ZACH WAMP, along with various officials and dignitaries, will be on hand to express their appreciation for her efforts on behalf of ORNL.

There could not be a more fitting tribute to her hard work and dedication to the Oak Ridge community. As a senior member of the House Science Committee and chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Energy, former Representative Lloyd was in a unique position to assume a watchdog position and ensure that Oak Ridge was treated fairly. At a time when many DOE sites are struggling, Oak Ridge has maintained its status as a national leader in neutron science, cutting-edge technology, and environmental cleanup. None of this would have been possible without Marilyn Lloyd's diligence and commitment to the third District of Tennessee.

In her previous position as a U.S. Congresswoman, Ms. Lloyd brought attention to the need for fusion energy research and the Isotope Production and Distribution Program. Her dedication to her district and the science community was so deep-rooted, she chose to remain the chairwoman of the Energy Subcommittee even after she had obtained the seniority to chair a subcommittee on the House Armed Services Committee.

Ms. Lloyd still remains active in the science community and in Oak Ridge. She is an appointee to the Secretary of Energy's advisory board and a member of Lockheed Martin Energy Research Corp. board of directors. Her community service, church activities, and family keep her busy as well.

As the first and only woman to be elected to a full term in the U.S. House of Representatives from Tennessee, Marilyn always was a trailblazer. I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this tribute than my former colleague and friend, Marilyn Lloyd. Her past and continued work for the Oak Ridge National Lab and the Third District should never be forgotten.

CELEBRATION OF AUSTRIAN-AMERICAN DAY

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Austrian-American Day. President Clinton and Governors across the Nation proclaimed September 26, 1997, as Austrian-American Day. Three of my constituents, Christian Robin, Maria Groh, and Anna Goodman, came to Washington, DC, to celebrate this important occasion.

Why is September 26 important to Austrian-Americans? On September 26, 1945, at the meeting of all Federal Provincial Governors, the United States insisted that Austria remain a united nation. Had it not been for the United States, Austria would have been divided between the East and West.

This year also marks an important anniversary for Austrian-Americans. Fifty years ago, the United States initiated the Marshall plan. Through this plan, many war-torn European nations were able to rebuild after World War II. The Marshall plan enabled these nations to fend off the looming Communist threat.

Austrian-Americans work hard to make their communities a better place to live in by sharing what they have and helping others in need. In a sense, we can say that our aid in postwar reconstruction has come full circle. We are now receiving the benefits of the generosity that our Nation showed to another country in their time of need.

Mr. Speaker, many great Austrian-Americans have contributed to our way of life. I want to take a moment and reflect on some famous Austrian-Americans: Joseph Pulitzer, Supreme Court Justices Felix Frankfurter and Earl Warren, Estee Lauder, Fred Astair, and Arnold Schwarzenegger. These individuals have made many contributions to our society. Of course, there are countless other Austrian-Americans who have contributed greatly in the areas of literature, science, economics, medicine, and entertainment.

Austria and America have an inextricable bond which has been created not only through the Marshall plan but also through those Austrians who have chosen to make the United States their home. Though they may have been born and raised in another country, they have joined the melting pot that is our country, making our Nation even stronger by the addition of their experiences and hopes and dreams for America. We must take the time to learn and appreciate other heritages and cultures. I would like to commend Austrian-Americans for making their culture accessible to all of us through their many different activities throughout the United States.

CONGRATULATIONS TO J. EDWIN KYLE

HON. W. J. (BILLY) TAUZIN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, J. Edwin Kyle is celebrating his 80th birthday on October 12, 1997. I would like to wish him a very happy

birthday and congratulate him on reaching this milestone. I wish him many more joy-filled birthdays.

FAST TRACK IS THE WRONG TRACK

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that I have been a consistent and vocal critic of NAFTA. When Congress voted to expand the treaty to Mexico in 1994, I opposed it, and subsequent events have demonstrated all too clearly why NAFTA was a bad deal for the American working man and woman. The United States has lost more than 400,000 jobs, while the situation of Mexican workers has continued to deteriorate.

Perhaps NAFTA could have been salvaged when Congress received it for deliberation 4 years ago. Unfortunately, we had no choice but to vote for it as it was presented to us, with no opportunity to add amendments or insert clarifications of any kind, because in 1992, Congress handed President Bush fast track negotiating authority.

Now President Clinton would like to expand NAFTA to other nations in the Western Hemisphere, such as Chile. And, of course, he again wants fast track authority in dealing with our neighbors.

The problem with fast track is not so much that the President is using it to negotiate bad trade deals, although he did, and I believe he will again. The overriding concern is that fast track is yet another voluntary abrogation of congressional authority to the President.

It should be of great concern to my colleagues and all Americans that the people's legislature—Congress—could again surrender much of its constitutional prerogatives in shaping trade policy. There is no denying that we exist in a global economy, where we should always strive for free and fair trade. However, at a time when world commerce is becoming increasingly complex and the future well-being of American workers is pegged to the way we do business with other countries, Congress is voluntarily handing over its responsibility when it comes to shaping the rules by which we have to play.

Over the last 30 years, Congress has given up many of its traditional powers to the President, such as sending American troops into war zones. It is time for Congress to put a stop to this trend, and the upcoming fast track vote is the perfect place to turn the tide.

Even the ardent free traders at the Wall Street Journal recently published a poll that showed an overwhelming majority of Americans believe that Congress should play a role in the crafting of our Nation's trade agreements.

It is time for Congress to put a halt to both self-destructive trade agreements and the meek surrender of its prerogatives and responsibilities.