

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## THE WAR ON DRUGS

### HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I want to encourage my colleagues to read the following article from the Atlanta Journal Constitution dated September 24, 1997. I believe this is a blatant example of how our country has lost some major battles with the war on drugs, but the war itself is not lost. To many people it's become painfully apparent in the last few years the war on drugs has been failing. America has spent millions of dollars on efforts to rid our society of the ravages of illegal drugs, only to find ourselves in a situation that's worse than when we began. We must now have the resolve and fortitude to carry the fight to the dealers and traffickers themselves.

This is exactly why I introduced H.R. 41, the Drug Importer Death Penalty Act, to assist in curbing the quantities of drugs entering the United States. The legislation would call for a mandatory life sentence if someone is found to have brought a commercial quantity of drugs into the United States. On the second offense, a sentence of death would be imposed. It is time for us to send a serious and unmistakable message to those individuals who are profiting from destroying lives and irrevocably chaining our youth to the tragedy of illegal drugs. We will not tolerate the use of illegal drugs, and furthermore we will defend our country from those who wish to enter our borders with the intent to distribute these drugs that are poison to our society.

#### SUITCASES PACKING HEROIN

(By Ron Martz)

The second major heroin seizure in Atlanta in less than a month is raising concerns among law enforcement officials that the city has become a target for organizations trafficking in the drug.

Nine pounds of heroin believed to have come from Pakistan were discovered hidden in the linings of two large suitcases at Hartsfield International Airport on Monday night, bringing to 22 pounds the amount of the drug found in recent raids, the Drug Enforcement Administration announced Tuesday.

Police allegedly found 13 pounds of heroin from Thailand in the Atlanta apartment of John McGrath, 53, a native of Australia, on August 28. McGrath and three others have been arrested and charged with running an international heroin trafficking ring that brought the drug into Atlanta.

Kashis Rashid Rana, 22, of Kennesaw, was arrested and charged in Monday's seizure at the airport, which DEA officials said was worth about \$4 million.

The street value for a kilogram (2.2 pounds) of heroin can range from \$70,000 to \$200,000, DEA officials said.

The two seizures are not related, according to John Andrejko, head of the Atlanta office of the DEA, who called them "two of the largest ever" in the state.

"But what we're seeing in Atlanta is indicative of what we're seeing in the larger cities

across the country," he said. "The seizures are getting larger and the purity is going up."

McGrath pleaded not guilty Tuesday and was released on \$50,000 bond.

## IN PRAISE OF SGT. KEITH NOWLIN

### HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, one of my constituents, Army Sgt. 1st Class Keith H. Nowlin, son of William H. and Mary E. Nowlin of Ivanhoe, TX, was recently involved in specialized military training that is deserving of our recognition.

Sergeant Nowlin was part of an elite group of soldiers from Fort Hood, TX, who traveled to the Army's National Training Center in Fort Irwin, CA, to test the world's most advanced military technology that could transform the battlefield of the 21st century. He is a member of the 4th Infantry Division's 1st Brigade, a unit charged with learning and testing new software, computers and weapon systems that could be used in refitting conventional tanks, artillery equipment, air defense weapon systems, infantry fighting vehicles, and attack helicopters.

The unit traveled to California's Mojave Desert to do battle with a highly trained opposition unit called the OPFOR, which is made up of some of the Army's best soldiers trained in former Soviet Union tactics and using Soviet-style equipment. Nowlin and his unit used their new technology in a series of mock battles to see how well they performed against the OPFOR. Nowlin was a platoon sergeant in this high-tech battle. His training included two years of classes and field testing of over 70 different pieces of high tech equipment and software packages. The information gathered from this exercise is being processed to help determine what systems work and what do not.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that my congressional district is represented in this type of training, which is so important to our strategic defense planning. The future security of our great Nation will depend on the training and expertise of our enlisted men and women as well as advanced technologies such as those being tested in the deserts of California. I commend Sergeant Nowlin's efforts and the efforts of all those in our military who are dedicating their lives and their careers to the defense of our Nation. As we adjourn today, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing to them our gratitude and our support, and to let Sergeant Nowlin know that we are very proud of his accomplishments of the past—and of his service today and in the future.

## INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 2635—THE HUMAN RIGHTS INFORMATION ACT

### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday with a number of our distinguished colleagues in the House, I introduced H.R. 2635, the Human Rights Information Act. Joining me to introduce this bill were my colleagues CONSTANCE MORELLA of Maryland, JAMES MCGOVERN of Massachusetts, ELIZABETH FURSE of Oregon, JOHN LEWIS of Georgia, JAMES OBERSTAR of Minnesota, MARTIN SABO also of Minnesota, JOSE SERRANO of New York, BERNIE SANDERS of Vermont, and MARTIN MEEHAN of Massachusetts. Our legislation is a companion bill to S. 1220, which Senator CHRISTOPHER DODD of Connecticut introduced in the Senate with a number of his distinguished colleagues in that House.

Our legislation will dramatically improve the current declassification procedures of human rights documents pertaining to gross human rights violations in Guatemala and Honduras. This important bill strikes an appropriate balance between the need for speedy and comprehensive declassification and the need to protect legitimate U.S. national security interests. It will be of invaluable assistance to the work of my good friend, Dr. Leo Valladares, the Honduran Human Rights commissioner, who came to testify before the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, which I cochair with Congressman JOHN EDWARD PORTER. It also will support the work of the Guatemalan Clarification Commission, as well as the people of Guatemala and Honduras in general. Only full consideration and investigation of human rights abuses in these two countries can achieve the full accountability needed to rebuild a peaceful and reconciled civil society in those areas.

The Government of Guatemala and the rebels, the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG], formally ended their hostilities at the end of 1996. But peace cannot exist without truth, a principle which these parties recognized in agreeing to establish a truth commission—The Commission for the Historical Clarification of Human Rights Violations and Acts of Violence which have Caused Suffering to the Guatemalan People. Given this monumental task, the commission has only a very short period to accomplish its important work. The commission's work by law is to take only 6 months, but that time limit can be extended for another 6 months. The clock began ticking when the work of the commission formally began on July 31, 1997. Therefore swift and comprehensive declassification of all relevant United States agency documents is critical to the success for peace and democracy in Guatemala.

The same applies to Honduras. In 1979, the first disappearance took place in Honduras and dozens of others followed, along with

• 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.

extrajudicial killings. This nightmare followed the implementation of the Honduran military's National Security Doctrine which embarked on a deliberate policy of eliminating people suspected of having links with insurgencies in Honduras and El Salvador or with the Sandinistas in Nicaragua. In May 1992, a law created the National Commissioner for the Protection of Human Rights and in November appointed Leo Valladares Lanza to lead this work. By December 1993, the Commissioner had published a report entitled "The Facts Speak for Themselves" detailing the disappearance of close to 200 persons since 1980.

Before Dr. Valladares concluded his preliminary report, he asked the U.S. Government for files and information. With a number of members of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, I have supported the requests made by Dr. Valladares in several letters to the President and to other administration officials. Despite a Presidential Executive order, declassification of relevant documents has been very narrowly focused and extremely slow. Thus far, the State Department has responded by releasing 3,000 pages of documents, while other agencies fell dramatically short in their efforts to comply with Dr. Valladares' requests.

Mr. Speaker, The Human Rights Information Act will make a number of important changes in the law that will assure prompt and complete declassification of important human rights documents, while at the same time fully respecting and protecting our legitimate national security concerns. The legislation requires Government agencies to review human rights records within 120 days after inquiries by the Honduran Human Rights Commissioner or the Guatemalan Clarification Commission and ensure the release 30 days thereafter. The legislation also applies to requests from appropriate human rights organizations in other Latin American or Caribbean countries requesting information relating to human rights abuses in their countries. The legislation will ensure that an interagency appeals panel reviews agencies' decisions to withhold information, and it provides that two outside human rights specialists suggested by human rights NGO's and appointed by the President will be members of this appeals panel. The declassification standards in this legislation follow the same standards as the Congress has already enacted in the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Act.

Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, at a press conference on the steps of the U.S. Capitol, I publicly announced the introduction of this legislation. Joining me on this occasion—in addition to our colleagues ELIZABETH FURSE and JAMES MCGOVERN—were a number of outstanding leaders in the struggle for human rights in Central America. They included:

Jennifer Harbury, U.S. attorney, author, and wife of disappeared Guatemalan Guerrilla commander Efraín Bámaca Velásquez; founding member of Coalition "Missing." Ms. Harbury, who now lives in Texas, came to Washington yesterday especially for this event.

Sister Dianna Ortiz, OSU, an Ursuline nun subjected to horrifying torture in 1989 following her abduction. She is a human rights activist and founding member of Coalition "Missing."

Calixto Torres, a Guatemalan community worker who was forced to flee because of his work. He has been granted political asylum

and currently works with Guatemala Partners and the Latin American Youth Center.

Meredith Larson, a human rights worker attacked by knife-wielding assailants in 1989, is a founding member of Coalition "Missing." She is a resident of the beautiful city of San Francisco and came to Washington especially for this event.

Oscar Reyes, editor of Washington metro Hispanic newspaper "El Pregonero" who himself is a victim of torture in Honduras.

Eileen Connolly, sister of Father Carney who disappeared in Honduras in 1983, and her husband.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the text of H.R. 2635 be placed in the RECORD at this point. I urge my colleagues to join me as a cosponsor of this important legislation.

H.R. 2635

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Human Rights Information Act".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Agencies of the Government of the United States have information on human rights violations in Guatemala and Honduras.

(2) Members of both Houses of Congress have repeatedly asked the Administration for information on Guatemalan and Honduran human rights cases.

(3) The Guatemalan peace accords, which the Government of the United States firmly supports, has as an important and vital component the establishment of the Commission for the Historical Clarification of Human Rights Violations and Acts of Violence which have Caused Suffering to the Guatemalan People (referred to in this Act as the "Clarification Commission"). The Clarification Commission will investigate cases of human rights violations and abuses by both parties to the civil conflict in Guatemala and will need all available information to fulfill its mandate.

(4) The National Commissioner for the Protection of Human Rights in the Republic of Honduras has been requesting United States Government documentation on human rights violations in Honduras since November 15, 1993. The Commissioner's request has been partly fulfilled, but is still pending. The request has been supported by national and international human rights nongovernmental organizations as well as members of both Houses of Congress.

(5) Victims and survivors of human rights violations, including United States citizens and their relatives, have also been requesting the information referred to in paragraphs (3) and (4). Survivors and the relatives of victims have a right to know what happened. The requests have been supported by national and international human rights nongovernmental organizations as well as members of both Houses of Congress.

(6) The United States should make the information it has on human rights abuses available to the public as part of the United States commitment to democracy in Central America.

#### SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD.—The term "human rights record" means a record in the possession, custody, or control of the United States Government containing information about gross human rights violations committed after 1944.

(2) AGENCY.—The term "agency" means any agency of the United States Government

charged with the conduct of foreign policy or foreign intelligence, including the Department of State, the Agency for International Development, the Department of Defense (and all of its components), the Central Intelligence Agency, the National Reconnaissance Office, the Department of Justice (and all of its components), the National Security Council, and the Executive Office of the President.

#### SEC. 4. IDENTIFICATION, REVIEW, AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF HUMAN RIGHTS RECORDS REGARDING GUATEMALA AND HONDURAS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the provision of this Act shall govern the declassification and public disclosure of human rights records by agencies.

(b) IDENTIFICATION OF RECORDS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each agency shall identify, review, and organize all human rights records regarding activities occurring in Guatemala and Honduras after 1944 for the purpose of declassifying and disclosing the records to the public. Except as provided in section 5, all records described in the preceding sentence shall be made available to the public not later than 30 days after a review under this section is completed.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 150 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall report to Congress regarding each agency's compliance with the provisions of this Act.

#### SEC. 5. GROUNDS FOR POSTPONEMENT OF PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF RECORDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—An agency may postpone public disclosure of a human rights record or particular information in a human rights record only if the agency determines that there is clear and convincing evidence that—

(1) the threat to the military defense, intelligence operations, or conduct of foreign relations of the United States raised by public disclosure of the human rights record is of such gravity that it outweighs the public interest, and such public disclosure would reveal—

(A) an intelligence agent whose identity currently requires protection;

(B) an intelligence source or method—

(i) which is being utilized, or reasonably expected to be utilized, by the United States Government;

(ii) which has not been officially disclosed; and

(iii) the disclosure of which would interfere with the conduct of intelligence activities; or

(C) any other matter currently relating to the military defense, intelligence operations, or conduct of foreign relations of the United States, the disclosure of which would demonstrably impair the national security of the United States;

(2) the public disclosure of the human rights record would reveal the name or identity of a living individual who provided confidential information to the United States and would pose a substantial risk of harm to that individual;

(3) the public disclosure of the human rights record could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, and that invasion of privacy is so substantial that it outweighs the public interest; or

(4) the public disclosure of the human rights record would compromise the existence of an understanding of confidentiality currently requiring protection between a Government agent and a cooperating individual or a foreign government, and public disclosure would be so harmful that it outweighs the public interest.

(b) SPECIAL TREATMENT OF CERTAIN INFORMATION.—It shall not be grounds for postponement of disclosure of a human rights

record that an individual named in the human rights record was an intelligence asset of the United States Government, although the existence of such relationship may be withheld if the criteria set forth in subsection (a) are met. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term an "intelligence asset" means a covert agent as defined in section 606(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 426(4)).

**SEC. 6. REQUEST FOR HUMAN RIGHTS RECORDS FROM OFFICIAL ENTITIES IN OTHER LATIN AMERICAN CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES.**

In the event that an agency of the United States receives a request for human rights records from an entity created by the United Nations or the Organization of American States similar to the Guatemalan Clarification Commission, or from the principal justice or human rights official of a Latin American or Caribbean country who is investigating a pattern of gross human rights violations, the agency shall conduct a review of records as described in section 4 and shall declassify and publicly disclose such records in accordance with the standards and procedures set forth in this Act.

**SEC. 7. REVIEW OF DECISIONS TO WITHHOLD RECORDS.**

(a) **DUTIES OF THE APPEALS PANEL.**—The Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (referred to in this Act as the "Appeals Panel"), established under Executive Order No. 12958, shall review determinations by an agency to postpone public disclosure of any human rights record.

(b) **DETERMINATIONS OF THE APPEALS PANEL.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Appeals Panel shall direct that all human rights records be disclosed to the public, unless the Appeals Panel determines that there is clear and convincing evidence that—

(A) the record is not a human rights record; or

(B) the human rights record or particular information in the human rights record qualifies for postponement of disclosure pursuant to section 5.

(2) **TREATMENT IN CASES OF NONDISCLOSURE.**—If the Appeals Panel concurs with an agency decision to postpone disclosure of a human rights record, the Appeals Panel shall determine, in consultation with the originating agency and consistent with the standards set forth in this Act, which, if any, of the alternative forms of disclosure described in paragraph (3) shall be made by the agency.

(3) **ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF DISCLOSURE.**—The forms of disclosure described in this paragraph are as follows:

(A) Disclosure of any reasonably segregable portion of the human rights record after deletion of the portions described in paragraph (1).

(B) Disclosure of a record that is a substitute for information which is not disclosed.

(C) Disclosure of a summary of the information contained in the human rights record.

(4) **NOTIFICATION OF DETERMINATION.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Upon completion of its review, the Appeals Panel shall notify the head of the agency in control or possession of the human rights record that was the subject of the review of its determination and shall, not later than 14 days after the determination, publish the determination in the Federal Register.

(B) **NOTICE TO PRESIDENT.**—The Appeals Panel shall notify the President of its determination. The notice shall contain a written unclassified justification for its determination, including an explanation of the application of the standards contained in section 5.

(5) **GENERAL PROCEDURES.**—The Appeals Panel shall publish in the Federal Register

guidelines regarding its policy and procedures for adjudicating appeals.

(c) **PRESIDENTIAL AUTHORITY OVER APPEALS PANEL DETERMINATION.**—

(1) **PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OR POSTPONEMENT OF DISCLOSURE.**—The President shall have the sole and nondelegable authority to review any determination of the Appeals Board under this Act, and such review shall be based on the standards set forth in section 5. Not later than 30 days after the Appeals Panel's determination and notification to the agency pursuant to subsection (b)(4), the President shall provide the Appeals Panel with an unclassified written certification specifying the President's decision and stating the reasons for the decision, including in the case of a determination to postpone disclosure, the standards set forth in section 5 which are the basis for the President's determination.

(2) **RECORD OF PRESIDENTIAL POSTPONEMENT.**—The Appeals Panel shall, upon receipt of the President's determination, publish in the Federal Register a copy of any unclassified written certification, statement, and other materials transmitted by or on behalf of the President with regard to the postponement of disclosure of a human rights record.

**SEC. 8. REPORT REGARDING OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS RECORDS.**

Upon completion of the review and disclosure of the human rights records relating to Guatemala and Honduras, the Information Security Policy Advisory Council, established pursuant to Executive Order No. 12958, shall report to Congress on the desirability and feasibility of declassification of human rights records relating to other countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. The report shall be available to the public.

**SEC. 9. RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.**

(a) **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.**—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit any right to file a request with any executive agency or seek judicial review of a decision pursuant to section 552 of title 5, United States Code.

(b) **JUDICIAL REVIEW.**—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to preclude judicial review, under chapter 7 of title 5, United States Code, of final actions taken or required to be taken under this Act.

**SEC. 10. CREATION OF POSITIONS.**

For purposes of carrying out the provisions of this Act, there shall be 2 additional positions in the Appeals Panel. The positions shall be filled by the President, based on the recommendations of the American Historical Association, the Latin American Studies Association, Human Rights Watch, and Amnesty International, USA.

**TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR JASON HU**

**HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, over the past 15 months, many of us in the House have had the opportunity to meet and work with the Representative of the Republic of China in Washington, Ambassador Jason Hu. Ambassador Hu will be leaving Washington soon to return to Taipei, and I want to take this opportunity to thank him for his service and his friendship, and to honor him for the great diplomatic skills he brought to his job here.

Our two countries have many interests in common, most importantly our shared commit-

ment to freedom and democratic principles. Ambassador Hu has been effective in emphasizing those common interests during his stay in Washington, and keeping us informed about Taiwan's concerns and its hopes for the future. He has demonstrated his skill in helping to define the limits and the possibilities of the relationship between our two countries, and in helping to find ways to assure that our formal and informal relations serve those common interests.

While we are sad to see Ambassador Hu leaving us, I also want to congratulate him on his new assignment as the Republic of China's foreign minister. I am confident that his work in the Ministry will continue to build friendship between our countries and to build on those shared interests. I believe Ambassador Hu understands our people and our country well. The same is true, of course, of Taiwan's President, Lee Teng-hui, who once lived in my congressional district when he attended Cornell University.

Let me add to my personal congratulations to Ambassador Hu my congratulations to all the people of Taiwan on their national day.

**TRIBUTE TO TEODORO VIDAL, HIS GIFT TO AMERICAN CULTURE**

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Teodoro Vidal, a Puerto Rican businessman and art collector, who has donated his splendid collection of colonial artwork from Puerto Rico to the Smithsonian Institution.

"Colonial Art From Puerto Rico: Selections From the Gift of Teodoro Vidal", part of Vidal's remarkable endowment to the Smithsonian, is now on exhibit through March 8, 1998 at the National Museum of American Art. Most of his collection will be exhibited in July when the National Museum of American History opens "Teodoro Vidal: A Collector and His Collection."

Mr. Vidal, believed in the need to preserve the Puerto Rican patrimony. Forty years ago he started collecting santos, figures of saints and other religious personalities carved in wood, when he saw that tourists were buying most of the pieces and taking them out of the island.

His collection—3,200 historical and cultural artifacts from Puerto Rico—includes paintings by José Campeche, recognized as the greatest Latin American painter of the 18th century, portrait miniatures, costumes, amulets, jewelry, masks, toys, photographs, and 700 "santos". Some of the pieces date back to the 17th century.

Vidal's treasure is one of the largest donations by an individual to the Smithsonian Institution. Today the Smithsonian will honor Teodoro Vidal for his breathtakingly valuable gift to the American people. Exhibitions of this magnitude will contribute to the understanding of Latin American peoples, their histories, and diverse cultures.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues and their staff to visit this extraordinary exhibit, and to join me in recognizing Mr. Teodoro Vidal for his magnanimous gift to the Smithsonian Institution, a gift which is a blessing for the peoples of this Nation.

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY'S  
CENTENNIAL YEAR

**HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the following resolution recognizing the beginning of Northeastern University's centennial year.

Initially, founded in 1898 in a few rooms at the Y.M.C.A. in Boston, Northeastern University is now a national research institution enrolling more than 11,000 undergraduates, 5,000 graduate students, and 10,000 part-time students in seven colleges and nine graduate and professional schools. It offers a variety of educational programs including nursing, pharmacy, health sciences, business, computer science, engineering, liberal arts, and sciences.

Northeastern University holds a special place in the heart of Boston and in the higher education community. The university was initially created to provide educational opportunity for working families in Boston and its surrounding towns, and has remained fully committed to that mission as it has developed into a world-class research university. Today, the school boasts of its reputation for a top-notch faculty and it attracts students from across the United States and dozens of other countries.

Northeastern University developed an innovative model of cooperative education that is practical in today's workplace. Throughout their schooling, students combine their classroom instruction with on-the-job experience. Cooperative education has enabled Northeastern students to gain practical experience and job skills, thus giving them an edge over other recent college graduates.

Northeastern University has never forgotten its roots. It is deeply committed to its original purpose and it continuously reaches out to its surrounding communities by helping to prepare middle- and high-school students for college. In addition to providing health care services for children and families, and scholarships for hard-working students, the university generates innovative housing and economic development proposals to improve the quality of city life.

Northeastern University's 100 experience years of worthy of congressional and national acclaim.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MICHAEL  
BUSE

**HON. JACK METCALF**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Michael Buse of Stanwood, WA, who was selected as the winner of the 1997 Voice of Democracy broadcast scriptwriting contest for Washington State.

His essay "Democracy—Above and Beyond" compares American democracy to an eagle perched for flight as we look into the new millennium. American democracy soars above and beyond all other forms of govern-

ment. He concludes that it is our duty to go above and beyond as citizens to preserve and protect our form of democracy.

I would like to congratulate Michael again for his success in this program and thank the Veterans of Foreign Wars for their support of America's youth. I ask unanimous consent that Michael's award-winning essay be included in the RECORD:

"DEMOCRACY—ABOVE AND BEYOND"

Like an eagle perched for flight, American Democracy stands ready, looking into the twenty-first century; a new millennium. As it spreads its wings and gazes over the Earth, American Democracy soars above and beyond all other forms of government.

Why? Perhaps it is because our democracy is above indifference to the wants, needs, and wishes of its citizens. Our democracy is run for, of, and by its people. American Democracy is beyond the control of a single despot or a celebrated few.

Our democracy is founded on the idea that there are extraordinary possibilities in ordinary individuals. Abe Lincoln, our sixteenth President, comes to mind as a young man who rose from the depths of poverty to become perhaps the greatest President our country has ever known. His example—and a number of others—have proven repeatedly that no matter how humbly a child is born, he or she has a chance to engage the minds and capture the imaginations of our whole country. Our democracy is above and beyond all others simply because we have a chance. Under American Democracy we may do as we please, as long as we remain responsible citizens.

The beauty of American Democracy is that we all—man or woman, rich or poor, of whatever race, creed, or religion, have value and are valued. General Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain, "Hero of the Little Round Top", addressing his soldiers before the Battle of Gettysburg explained the notion of American Democracy by saying, "It's not the land, there's always more land, it's the idea that we all have value."

Today, our American Democracy is the wealthiest, most powerful and freest nation on Earth. Our people are free to criticize their leaders and to elect new ones. We have freedom of the press, religion, and speech. We are free from unjustified arrest by police and have the right to trial by a jury of our peers. Our system of Democracy, as laid out originally in the Constitution and Bill of Rights, was not perfect, but our forefathers anticipated the future, and insured us the power of amendment, which has allowed us over time to continue to work for civil rights for all of our people. Perhaps that is why the world looks to American Democracy as a model. Of the 191 nations listed in the World Almanac, 167 have written constitutions that were either influenced by or modeled after American Democracy.

In a speech delivered to the U.S. Congress, Vaclav Havel, President of the newly formed Czech Republic, asked: "Wasn't it the best minds of your country who wrote your famous Constitution and Bill of Human Rights? Those great documents which insure American Democracy inspire the world. They inspire us to be citizens."

As participants in what George Washington called the "great experiment of American Democracy" it is our duty to go above and beyond as citizens to preserve and protect our form of Democracy.

IN MEMORY OF RAY PEELER

**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Ray Peeler, Jr., whose death on June 26 at the age of 68 marked a great loss for the city of Bonham, TX. Ray was a popular local attorney, banker, and community leader. He also was a loyal Democrat whose close friends included the late President Lyndon Baines Johnson and the late Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Sam Rayburn. For many years Speaker Rayburn kept his local office on the third floor of the Peeler Building on the Bonham Square.

Ray was the third generation of his family to live in Fannin County. He graduated coaledictorian from Bonham High School, received his B.A. with high honors from the University of Texas at Austin and his L.L.B. in 1951. He served as a captain in the U.S. Air Force from 1951 to 1953 during the Korean conflict.

He returned to Bonham, where he began his practice of law in 1953 and served as district and county attorney from 1960 to 1961. He was a member of the American Bar Association, State Bar of Texas, and served as vice president of the State Jr. Bar of Texas from 1959 to 1960. He was active in Democratic politics and was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1960.

Ray was a prominent member of the community and devoted his professional and personal talents to a variety of civic organizations. He served as chairman of the Bonham United Fund and was active in bringing new industry to Fannin County through his service as president of Bonham Industrial Foundation for 10 years. Ray was an honorary life sponsor of the Fannin County Historical Society and was past president and member of the Bonham Chamber of Commerce, Texas Pecan Growers Association and Texas Horticulture Society. He also was a member of the Bonham Rotary Club and the Masonic Lodge. Ray served as president and chairman of the board of directors of Fannin Bank and chairman of the board of First National Bank.

Ray was selected for membership in Phi Beta Kappa, Phi gamma Delta and Phi Alpha Delta and was named to Who's Who in the South and Southwest in 1993. He was a member of the First Christian Church, Disciples of Christ, where funeral services were held.

He is survived by his wife, R'Cella Dean Peeler, son and daughter-in-law William Bryan Peeler and Amy Peeler of Bonham, daughter and son-in-law Maribel Peeler Griffon and Mark Griffon of Friendswood; stepchildren, Cressie Renfrow Todd and Larry Renfrow; sister Virginia Cothran of Forth Worth; and several grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, as we adjourn today, it is a privilege for me to pay my last respects to a man who gave so much of himself to his profession, his community, and his country—Ray Peeler. He will be missed by all those who knew him and who loved him, and I am honored to have been his friend.

TRIBUTE TO DR. STANLEY B. PRUSINER, A "MOZART OF SCIENCE," ON HIS RECEIVING THE NOBEL PRIZE IN MEDICINE

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege and pleasure to hail the accomplishments of Dr. Stanley B. Prusiner, the 1997 recipient of the Nobel Prize in Medicine. Dr. Prusiner, a professor at the University of California San Francisco, joins 30 other Nobel laureates in the UC system, including UCSF's two previous medical honorees—microbiologists J. Michael Bishop and Harold Varmus, the current head of the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Prusiner was awarded this premier distinction for his landmark discovery of prions, rogue protein particles that function as infectious agents. This remarkable innovation could eventually lead to a cure for dreaded neurological diseases such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Huntington's, and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, ALS, better known as Lou Gehrig's disease. In the citation announcing Prusiner's \$1 million prize, Sweden's noted Karolinska Institute lauded the social impact of his achievement.

"Stanley Prusiner's discovery provides important insights that may furnish the basis to understand the biological mechanisms underlying other types of dementia-related diseases, for example Alzheimer's disease, and establishes a foundation for drug development and new types of medical treatment strategies."

For Dr. Prusiner and for his entire research team at UCSF, this recognition marks the zenith of a 15-year battle for a revolutionary theory that flew in the face of earlier scientific judgments about the causes of communicable brain diseases.

Prusiner's commitment to using his medical genius to helping others began long before his discovery of prions. Born in Des Moines, IA, he graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Medical School and, after long doing biochemistry research at the National Institutes of Health, moved to the Bay Area in 1972 to begin his residency in neurology at UCSF. That year, a pivotal event shaped the direction of Prusiner's expertise: He began treating a Marin County woman affected with Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, an exceptionally rare and always fatal condition that mercilessly destroys the brain. Prusiner's patient passed away after 7 weeks in the hospital, but her sickness impelled her doctor to examine further links between Creutzfeldt-Jakob and similar neurological illnesses, and to seek the cause of these devastating diseases. "At that time," said Prusiner years later, "most people believed that the brain diseases were caused by slow viruses, but since I didn't know any virology, I figured I ought to look for some other explanation—and that's when I started hunting for proteins that might be involved." This research continued throughout his tenure as a Howard Hughes Investigator at UCSF from 1976 to 1981, culminating in his development of the prion theory in 1982.

Prusiner's then-radical pronouncement stated that the cause of Creutzfeldt-Jacob and related maladies was not a virus at all; rather, these illnesses emanate from prions, bio-

logically unique proteins which contain no DNA. Rather, in place of genetic reproduction, prions convert neighboring proteins, creating more disease-causing agents. This phenomenon has a devastating effect on nerve cells in the brain, ravaging tissue and leading to a certain death.

The scientific community greeted the prion theory with disbelief and outright criticism that targeted not only Prusiner's conclusions, but his ethics as well. His financial grants quickly vanished, and he was forced to operate for years with only in-house grants from the loyal UCSF administration. These frustrations strengthened Prusiner's dedication to his work and as the years progressed, the case for the prion theory became stronger and stronger. His opponents found little evidence to discredit his conclusions, and Prusiner and his dedicated team of researchers, notably brain pathologist Stephen DeArmond and pharmacologist Stephen Cohen, published hundreds of papers substantiating the role of the prion in a variety of contagious neurological diseases.

The grants returned, with significant contributions including a \$2.5 million prize from the W.M. Keck Foundation in Los Angeles and the Israeli Government's prestigious \$100,000 Wolf prize. Such resources enabled Prusiner to tie the existence of prions to the recent British epidemic of bovine spongiform encephalopathy, BSE, better known as mad cow disease, and to chart the course for eventual cures to BSE and other disorders. He also won the coveted Albert Lasker Basic Medical Research Award in 1994, generally regarded as a strong indicator of a future Nobel Prize. In the words of his colleagues, neurologist and biochemist Jiri G. Safar, Prusiner "carried on his shoulders the burden of proving this extraordinary new idea. \* \* \* He single-handedly validated his theory. To do that, it takes a person of strong conviction and real guts." Mr. Speaker, we are all in debt to the courage of this outstanding man.

Dr. Prusiner's next challenge is to eradicate these diseases from the face of this planet. In the aftermath of the BSE outbreak in Great Britain, he has used his findings concerning the replicating and infectious nature of prions to lobby the Food and Drug Administration and the Department of Agriculture to protect our food supply and make sure that such a plague will never occur in this country. Prusiner's research will also continue to seek the causes of Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Huntington's, and ALS. Once the origins of these diseases are discovered, treatments such as gene therapy and prion-blocking medications may be created to cure them or to prevent them from spreading. Prusiner expects that within the next 5 to 10 years we will see a drug to stop the progression of Creutzfeldt-Jakob, the disease that led him to this area of neurological research a quarter century ago.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Prusiner has earned our utmost gratitude and respect. As his UCSF colleague Dr. DeArmond remarked, he is truly a "Mozart of science." Prusiner's brilliance, dedication, and, most of all, his persistence are a credit to his country and to the San Francisco community where he has lived with his wife, Sandy, and his family for over 25 years. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating the 1997 recipient of the Nobel Prize in Medicine, Dr. Stanley B. Prusiner, for his most-deserved award, for his devotion to

finding answers to questions that have vexed the scientific world for generations, and for his dogged commitment to standing up for his life-saving beliefs in the face of cynicism and skepticism.

SALUTING PEG LEG BATES ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Peg Leg Bates on his 90th birthday. Mr. Bates is a world renowned entertainer, a successful businessman, and a local legend for Kerhonkson, NY, who has been a good friend to many people and warmed the hearts of even more.

Mr. Bates performed with some of the greatest names in show business: Pearl Bailey, Ed Sullivan, Sarah Vaughn, Cab Calloway, Nat King Cole, Lena Horne, Billy Eckstein, and many others. With his indefatigable spirit, determination, and considerable charm, Mr. Bates showed the world that there were not obstacles, only opportunities, and not insurmountable barriers, but barriers to be danced over. He did this, and so much more, with class, poise, and brilliance.

So on his 90th birthday this weekend I would like to have my fellow Members of the House of Representatives join me in saluting Pet Leg Bates and wish him many years of good health and happiness to come.

TRIBUTE TO CELIA CRUZ, THE QUEEN OF LATIN MUSIC

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Celia Cruz—world renowned singer of Latin music. The Smithsonian Institution will honor her on October 16, during a special program entitled "¡Azúcar!" The Smithsonian Honors Celia Cruz".

The Smithsonian will present Celia Cruz with the Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Music from the National Museum of American History's Programa Latino. Celia Cruz, popularly known as the "Queen of Latin Music", will donate one of her most famous costumes to the National Museum of American History.

Cruz first rose to fame in her native Cuba as one of the most exciting and creative performers of "mambo" of the late 40's. Since then, Cruz has achieved one success after another. In 1950, she joined the legendary orchestra La Sonora Matancera with whom she recorded 20 gold albums and toured the United States and Latin America. Her artistic alliance with Tito Puente—"the King of Latin Music"—as well as with Johnny Pacheco, Willie Colon, and the Fania All-Stars in the 1970's resulted in numerous albums and enduring fame. More recently, she has performed with David Byrne, Ray Barretto, Emilio Estefan, Willie Chirino, and Olga Tañón.

During her successful 50-year career, Celia Cruz has recorded over 70 albums, won a Grammy Award and 10 Grammy nominations. She performed in various films, including "The Perez Family" and "The mambo Kings", and has been recognized with more than 100 awards from publications and institutions around the world. Among other honors, Cruz received an honorary doctorate from Yale University, a star on Hollywood Boulevard, and recognition from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Celia Cruz for her extraordinary talent, her vibrant contributions to the history of music, and her generous gift to the Smithsonian Institution.

THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S 86TH  
NATIONAL DAY

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, for many years now, I have joined my colleagues in congratulating the leaders of the Republic of China [ROC] on their National Day.

Today I congratulate President Lee Teng-hui and the people of Taiwan on the ROC's 86th National Day.

President Lee has just completed a very successful Latin American tour and Taiwan has been invited to join the System of Central American Integration. President Lee is an energetic man who is moving forward on a number of diplomatic recognitions for Taiwan.

In the months and years ahead, I hope that Taiwan will continue to enjoy its prosperity and freedom.

FDA APPROVAL OF LEADCARE

**HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to rise today to inform the House that on September 10, 1997, the Food and Drug Administration announced the approval of a new portable, easy to use, medical screening device that can quickly detect high levels of lead in blood. The Leadcare In Office Test System was developed by ESA, Inc., of Chelmsford, MA, and AndCare, Inc., of Durham, NC, in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Located in my congressional district, ESA, Inc., is a biotechnology research company whose products and services have played a significant role in advancing the health care of Americans for over a quarter century. Since its establishment in 1970, ESA has designed and manufactured numerous high technology analytical instruments used for analyzing minute quantities of substances, often at the molecular level. The company's products are frequently utilized in biomedical research projects, clinical laboratories, and environmental quality control studies.

The recently approved Leadcare System promises to dramatically improve the rate at

which children in the United States and abroad are screened for lead poisoning. Currently, blood samples from children tested for exposure to lead must be sent to a laboratory for clinical evaluation. This process could take several days or even weeks. With the Leadcare System, a sample of a patient's blood obtained by a finger stick can be analyzed by the system within 3 minutes, and the results are instantly displayed. Moreover, clinical studies conducted by ESA indicate that the new test is as reliable as established laboratory screening methods. Both ESA and the Department of Health and Human Services believe that the expediency of the Leadcare System will allow health care professionals practicing in urban, underserved areas to screen more high-risk children in transient innercity communities.

The FDA's approval of the Leadcare System is also a major victory for the many countries around the world currently losing the battle against lead poisoning. Following the FDA's decision, HHS Secretary Donna Shalala, stated that "thanks to the FDA and CDC, and to memorandums of understanding we have developed with other countries, this new technology can soon be applied to fighting lead poisoning throughout many areas of the world." To this end, ESA plans to introduce the Leadcare System to public health officials and primary care physicians in countries with high incidents of lead poisoning.

Mr. Speaker, the FDA's approval of the Leadcare System is truly a landmark in the fight against childhood lead poisoning.

TRIBUTE TO BOB TEDFORD

**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Robert A. (Bob) Tedford, one of the most influential citizens and civic leaders of Farmersville, TX, during the past quarter of a century. Bob died recently after a sudden illness, and he was such a pervasive presence in the community that his absence is difficult to accept and to measure.

Bob's influence in Farmersville began in 1963, when he moved there to establish the Bob Tedford Chevrolet Co., which, under his leadership, developed into a thriving business. His energy, enthusiasm, and ability to relate to people were keys to his success in business and also to his community leadership. Bob's imprint could be seen in almost every civic organization and leadership position in Farmersville.

Bob served as mayor, city councilman, and school board president. He was instrumental in obtaining funding to rebuild a State highway through downtown Farmersville. He was president of Farmersville Centennial and a founder of Old Time Saturday, an annual civic fundraising event that has raised an estimated \$200,000 over the years for the library and other civic projects.

Bob was past president of the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, and library board and was chairman of the board of First Bank of Farmersville. He was a lifetime charter member of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars,

member of the Royal Order of Jesters, and member of Masonic Lodge No. 214 for 30 years—serving as past master and secretary. He was a patron of the Farmersville Order of the Eastern Star No. 940 and a member of the Hella Temple and Scottish Rites of Dallas.

Sports were a particular passion. He was an avid golfer, a great baseball fan, and an ardent supporter of high school sports. He operated the game clock at Farmersville High School football games for 30 years and attended the state basketball tournament every year except for one when he suffered a heart attack. He took special interest in the young people of Farmersville and was active in Little League and Boy Scouts.

A native of Clearwater, TX, Bob served in the U.S. Army just after the end of the Korean war and earned the rank of sergeant. Afterwards, he worked for the railroad in Gene Autry, OK, where he met and married the former Sandra Haney in 1955. He is survived by Sandra, son and daughter-in-law Robbie and Kailyn Tedford, daughter and son-in-law Beverly and David Toney, sister Mrs. Glennis Lilley, brother Nelo Tedford, and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Tedford was a friend to many and a friend of mine. He was a driving force in Farmersville and an inspiration to all who had the pleasure of knowing him—and he will be truly missed. He leaves behind a community service and compassion, however, that will be remembered for years to come, and as we adjourn today, let us do so in memory of and in honor of Robert A. "Bob" Tedford.

NOW MORE THAN EVER, IT'S TIME  
FOR AN INDEPENDENT COUNSEL

**HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct your attention to the following "Tale of the Tapes" editorial from the Albany Times Union, a newspaper circulated in my district. The editorial criticizes the Clinton administration for its feeble attempt to explain away its delay in forwarding videotapes of the White House coffees. The administration's most recent and abominable excuse for its inadvertent overlooking of the video tapes is that they entered the wrong word search on the computer.

The administration's the buck-stops-there philosophy seems to now have gone beyond the customary excuses and is reliant on more creative ones. The mishaps, stalling, and inadvertent overlooking is at an all time high in the White House. And in the midst of all this, Attorney General Janet Reno remains hesitant to appoint an independent counsel to investigate the campaign finance violations and abuses originating in the White House and risks being seen as a cohort in all of this. It has become apparent that Ms. Reno cannot carry-the-ball and shed some light on these campaign finance illegalities, I think it's time that she hand the ball over to an independent counsel who can.

[From the Albany Times Union, Oct. 8, 1997]  
TALES OF THE TAPES

THE WHITE HOUSE STRAINS CREDULITY IN ITS LATEST ATTEMPT TO EXPLAIN WHY VIDEOS OF COFFEES WERE LATE TO SURFACE

The Clinton administration is repeating a tawdry chapter of history in its feeble attempt to explain away its delay in forwarding videotapes of President Clinton attending White House coffees where campaign contributors were guests. The White House has, however, added a new cyberspace twist to it all.

The tapes had been sought by the Senate committee looking into 1996 campaign fundraising practices by both Democrats and Republicans. Though filmed in 1995 and 1996, the videos weren't anywhere to be found until last weekend, when a 90-minute sampler was forwarded to Senate investigators and the Justice Department.

In the words of Lanny J. Davis, a special White House counsel, the tapes had been "inadvertently" overlooked.

Never mind that this administration has used "inadvertent" to explain away so many lapses that the word now ranks in the political lexicon right along with such staples as "stonewall" and "plausible deniability." This time, however, the twist is that the computer made them do it.

How so? The White House says it ordered a search for the tapes, just as the Senate committee requested. Somehow, though, the diligent, trusted White House aides came up empty handed. Turns out they were entering the wrong word search in the computer.

Instead of searching under the word coffee, they were busy searching under the words fund raising.

Thus a new blame-it-on-technology excuse enters the political lexicon, right along with the tried and true evasion of blaming the secretary for an 18-minute erasure on a Nixon audiotape.

It's difficult to decide who looks more foolish in the wake of these revelations—Mr. Davis and his boss, or Attorney General Janet Reno, who wasn't told of the tapes until after she announced that her Justice Department had found no evidence that President Clinton had violated any laws by attending the coffees.

Now there is talk of even more tapes of political fund-raisers that have yet to be released by the White House. Little wonder that Sen. John McCain, the Arizona Republican who is co-sponsor of major campaign finance reform legislation, is shaking his head and saying, "I've never seen anything like it."

All the more reason for Ms. Reno to face up to her obligation to appoint a special prosecutor.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be in Washington on the evening of October 8, to cast my vote on the motion to instruct conferees on the foreign operations appropriations bill. This motion to instruct is superfluous and serves only to increase unwanted pregnancies. Had I been here, I would have voted "no" on restricting family planning activities just as I voted "no" when this motion came to the floor yesterday.

RESCUE MISSIONS DESERVE OUR ATTENTION

### HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I want to encourage my colleagues to read the following article from Policy Review by Rev. Stephen Burger.

On May 30, I had the opportunity to visit the Atlanta Union Mission, a private, faith-based rescue mission. The Atlanta Union Mission serves men, women, and children throughout the city and in part of a 250-member International Union of Gospel [IUGM]. During my visit, I listened to participants of the mission's program, who talked about their experiences. Many of them stressed that they had been through other programs in the past, and eventually relapsed, but that the Union Mission had been effective in dramatically changing their lives for good. The key to this effectiveness, was that the mission stressed a Higher Power, and recognized the benefits of faith in counseling and rehabilitation programs.

Collectively, the International Union of Gospel Missions represents the sixth largest charity in the United States. Last year IUGM missions provided more than 30 million meals, 22 million pieces of clothing, and 11 million beds to homeless men, women, and children.

I would encourage my colleagues to visit a rescue mission in their districts in the near future. Although most of these missions receive very little, if any, Government funding, they have proven to be the most cost effective, dollar for dollar, and, most important, they have the highest success rate in drug treatment and rehabilitation. As Rev. Stephen Burger has written, the approach that rescue missions take toward helping the homeless become productive members of our society deserves our attention.

[From the Policy Review, Oct., 1997]

ARISE, TAKE UP THY MAT AND WALK

(By Rev. Stephen Burger)

Spend a little time in virtually any city in America and you'll see them—in doorways, under bridges, poking through trash cans, begging for loose change. They are America's homeless. They no longer wear the face of the 55-year-old alcoholic man; they look more and more like young crack addicts, battered women and children, prostitutes, gamblers, and AIDS sufferers. On any given day, about 600,000 people are living either on the streets or in shelters trying to stay alive.

Americans are a compassionate people. But traditional approaches to the problem—promoted through government initiatives and many private charities—have been so ineffective at treating the fundamental causes of homelessness that we must reconsider what it means to help our neighbors in need.

Many government programs assume that homelessness is simply the absence of four walls and a roof. Usually it is not: The lack of affordable housing, though a problem, is not why most of these people have no permanent address. Most people in trouble economically have friends and families whose homes they could share temporarily if they choose to. The level of government spending on the problem likewise leaves deeper issues untouched. There are more than 60 separate federal programs that provide some form of help. The federal Department of Housing and

Urban Development (HUD) now operates homeless shelters and drug rehabilitation programs in every major city in the United States. But the rates at which the able-bodied homeless graduate to independence from these programs rarely rise above single digits.

America used not settle for this level of failure. If anyone can testify to that, we can.

The International Union of Gospel Missions—whose staff members often emerge from the ranks of the formerly homeless—has been helping the destitute break the cycle of dependence since 1913. Last year, our emergency services and long-term rehabilitation programs helped 14,000 homeless men and women achieve self-sufficiency. These were not "easy" cases. Thousands walked into our doors addicted to alcohol, heroin, crack cocaine, and other drugs. Many have been prostitutes, or veterans who couldn't adjust to civilian life. Many have committed crimes, served time in prison, and failed other rehabilitation programs.

Our experience teaches us that America needs nothing less than a reformation in the way we think about homelessness. Many traditional and government-funded approaches fail not for lack of money but for a deficit of vision: They do not treat the whole person. They neglect the familial and moral aspects of a person's life. They refuse to challenge the homeless person's fundamental way of thinking. Says Rev. Mickey Kalman, the executive director of City Rescue Mission in Oklahoma City: "The philosophy of government homeless programs is to respect and protect lifestyles that produce homelessness."

Most significantly, these programs ignore the central dimension of the problem—the spiritual. After more than 35 years of trying to help homeless people with every imaginable problem, I cannot escape this fact: Men and women who walk away from their jobs, their families, and their homes do so because, fundamentally, they are turning away God and His claim on their lives. But government funded policies, by definition, must exclude this vital dynamic from the discussion. It is a prescription predestined for failure.

Not only are government approaches not working, but government regulations continue to impede or thwart the most innovative programs. Labor laws, zoning issues, licensing requirements are all getting in the way of private, religiously based efforts to deliver effective care. Authorizing block grants and returning power to the states will not by themselves make much of a difference, because it's state and local governments that throw up some of the most egregious obstacles to our faith-based shelter programs. Moreover, much of government's regulatory itch is aggravated by blindness to the moral and spiritual causes of homelessness.

What follows are some of the dynamics of change: We make sure that these elements are present in all of our 245 rescue missions in the 210 cities in which we operate nationwide. Though our missions offer various educational, job-training, relational, and other skills, these three principles establish an ethical and religious foundation without which all our other efforts would amount to nothing.

#### THE FAITH FACTOR

It is very difficult to overstate the importance of the spiritual aspect of this problem. Spiritual renewal is the fountainhead for personal transformation.

Enoch Walker was married and had a child he loved, a job he enjoyed, and a house in Washington, D.C. Then he began abusing alcohol and drugs, what he calls "the great removers" in his life, because they became

more important to him than his family and friends. Soon his wife left him, taking their child. He became so abusive that even his dog left him. He lost his job, smashed his car, and started living on the streets.

Walker went through several rehabilitation programs. He doesn't know the precise number because he doesn't even remember some of them. Yet each time, he slipped back into addiction. "When I was functional, I would put on a nice three-piece suit and go and get the good jobs," he says. "But it was like putting a three-piece suit on a fish. Nothing would happen on the inside."

Then he checked himself into the Gospel Rescue Ministries of Washington, D.C. There, he received not only mental and physical counseling, but something else—spiritual guidance. As he says, "They reached my heart and . . . gave me an awakening." He has now been clean for three years, and is a self-employed carpenter with two other men working for him.

Walker's story is important because his background is so typical of America's homeless population. Homeless advocates are quick to point out that many of the homeless suffer serious or acute mental illness. They are correct. There are no easy answers for how to help heal these people and restore balance and normality to their lives. Many of them may never leave an institutionalized or group-home setting.

The mentally ill, however, do not make up the majority of the people who walk into our centers. About 80 percent of the homeless who enter the City Mission in Cleveland, for example, show symptoms of substance abuse. At our Mel Trotter Ministries in Grand Rapids, Michigan, perhaps 90 percent struggle with addictions that have helped spawn and sustain a whole set of destructive attitudes and behaviors. There is simply no way to get at those behaviors without first helping the addict break his or her addiction for good. Most government and traditional shelter rehabilitation programs are notoriously poor in curing addictions. Many do not even try.

But those that do suffer from a crucial flaw. Although grounded in the best of intentions, federal programs by law can only administer to mental and physical maladies, not the spiritual. Any homeless programs that receive federal funds "must provide shelter and other eligible activities in a manner free from religious influence," writes Michael Stover, HUD's assistant general counsel for the Rocky Mountain region, in a 1995 legal brief. "It may not provide religiously oriented services to persons using the homeless shelter and must not hire only persons from a particular religious persuasion." There it is; an explicit rejection of faith as the crucial component of change. This is why the overwhelming majority of our mission directors steer clear of government funding.

We've seen countless people wander into our shelters with a mind-wrenching addiction to crack cocaine; for example, and it's obvious to us that it takes more than physical and mental counseling to break that grip. Simply telling that addict to eat his vegetables and study the multiplication tables just isn't enough. Ask any of our mission directors, many of whom have 20 to 30 years experience helping the homeless. The spectrum of addictions and difficulties from which the homeless suffer have no long-term care outside of a heartfelt commitment of faith.

"Skid Row is not a geographical location," says Kalman, a former drug addict. "It's a heart condition. Unless you change a homeless individual's heart—not just his mind and body—he will remain homeless."

For this reason, all of our missions instill in homeless people the reality of a God who

loves them, cares for them, and wants to help change them. In our view, based not only on our theology but on our experience, it is Jesus Christ, not any program, who transforms a man's or woman's life, who gives them the strength to summon the courage to break their destructive habits.

#### A MORAL INCUBATOR

Hand in hand with faith commitment is the sustained determination—both from shelter staff and the homeless themselves—to stay clean, hold down a job, or save a marriage. The homeless need and environment in which they are challenged to acknowledge and consistently renounce unhealthy behaviors; otherwise, they won't acquire the practical or emotional skills they need to succeed.

Mouthing a religious commitment is not enough; there must be actions to match. Our shelters insist not on perfection, but on repeated, good-faith efforts to change. And with God's grace, and a disciplined environment, they do. "We not only place responsibility on our clients," says Rev. Carl Resener, the executive director of the Nashville Union Rescue Mission, "we demand that, as a condition of living at the mission and participating in its programs, these men and women change their destructive habits."

This is one reason our shelter programs span several months. It gives the homeless time not only to rid themselves of their addictions, but also to build a foundation of faith, education, and social skills necessary to succeed in life. Consider our Regeneration Program at our Miami Rescue Mission. Rev. Frank Jacobs, the executive director, oversees an eight-month recovery program for 130 men. Bible study is mandatory. The men commit to memory biblical passages—they call them "arsenal verses"—that address behavioral problems such as drunkenness, laziness, and theft. The mission also offers a three- to four-month period of daily instruction on coping and social skills, with a heavy emphasis on relapse prevention.

Listen to Raymond Nastu, a drug addict arrested more than 80 times for offenses ranging from drug possession to brawling. He checked into the Bridgeport Rescue Mission in Connecticut. "I should have been dead so many times I can't keep track of them," he says. But the mission's strict regimen and climate of tough love turned him around. "I never had people care about me the way they do here, and that gave me the hope and courage to believe I could change." Today, Nastu is drug free and works as a carpenter.

Now compare that to some of the larger shelters in the country that place virtually no conditions on their residents. The results have not been pretty. Take the Mitch Snyder Shelter, in Washington, D.C. It is named after the homeless activist whose 1983 hunger strike prompted the Reagan administration to renovate a Federal building so that it could be used as a homeless shelter. As documented by a *60 Minutes* exposé, this shelter has been a haven for the selling of crack cocaine and liquor, as well as misuse of charitable funds and general corruption.

#### FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Our missions place a heavy emphasis on rebuilding relationships to one's family, friends, and religious community. *Positive relationships are a vital link between the homeless and lasting rehabilitation.*

"We don't always want to put our clients back with their old friends because sometimes the old friends are the problem," says Rev. George Verley of the Union Gospel Mission in St. Paul. "However, the worst thing in the world is for them to be alone, so we teach them to establish relationships. It's vital that they have this support structure when they leave us."

This is probably one of the most overlooked elements of most traditional and government-funded shelter programs. The homeless typically are treated in utter isolation; little attempt is made to reconnect them to family members. Yet when caregivers don't know a person's family background, it often becomes much more difficult to discern the most effective ways to help.

Many shelters, fearful of crossing church-state lines, do not even introduce the homeless to religious communities that could offer support. The Salvation Army shelters are a noteworthy exception here, but the majority of shelters have no process for helping a recovering addict plant roots in his or her community.

There may be no more important step for a formerly homeless person, however, than to be grounded in a community of caring, committed individuals. Listen to Enoch Walker again: "If you do not have people surrounding you who care about you and give you unconditional love and give you the time that it takes to work yourself through it and work with you, I do not really see too many people who can make it." The pressures of life, the temptations of the street, the siren call of old habits—all can easily prove to be too much for the men and women struggling to get back on their feet.

#### THE GOVERNMENT ALBATROSS

We know that these and other principles are crucial to effectively helping the homeless help themselves. Though we don't expect the people we serve to pay us a dime—most couldn't—that doesn't mean we have no expectations of them "There are two root causes of homelessness," says Rev. Mike Edwards from the Los Angeles Mission. "Lack of relationships and lack of responsibility. Re-establishing a sense of both is key to our long-term success."

Success for us means much more than feeding people and keeping them safe, as important as those objectives are. Our aim is to help people break their addictions, learn basic life skills, and become honest, productive members of their communities. Over the last few years, we've conducted internal studies of our programs and the results are truly encouraging: The vast majority of our missions achieve success rates of more than 50 percent, with many achieving success rates of 70 or 80 percent. That means that most of the people who graduate from one of our programs become independent; a few slip back into old habits, but most remain addiction free, employed, and connected to family and friends.

Our success is also reflected in support from our communities. Eight years ago, the cumulative budgets of the 210 U.S.-based member missions in the International Union of Gospel Missions totaled \$50 million. Today, IUGM counts 245 missions as members, and their cumulative budgets add up to more than \$300 million. The overwhelming majority of our programs are funded privately, through individual donors, churches, and corporate sponsors. We don't require or expect government to lend a hand—and it hasn't.

Nor do we expect government to get in the way of our efforts—but it has. There are several areas where government bureaucrats have been unsupportive or downright hostile to rescue ministries' efforts. These include labor laws, zoning issues, licensing, surplus food distribution, and disaster relief.

Most of their objections stem from their reading (misreading, actually) of the First Amendment's religion clauses, designed to ensure citizens' basic religious freedoms. To which we respond: If we want a person to be truly free, that person must first be free of drugs. This is the promise rescue ministry fulfills.

Consider the following trouble areas:

Labor. For years, rescue missions have struggled with the issue of whether homeless men and women who do work in the missions as part of rehabilitation qualify as employees under the Fair Labor Standards Act. In September 1990, the Labor Department determined that the Salvation Army had to pay the minimum wage to clients performing work as part of rehabilitation, unless the Army's location registered as a "sheltered workshop." (Sheltered workshops historically have been places handicapped people went for training, not live-in facilities.)

After much political and legal wrangling, the Labor Department suspended enforcement pending further study. Their policy remains in suspension, but has not been formally revoked.

Zoning. City and county boards have stopped or interfered with mission programs across the nation. The Denver Rescue Mission is located in an area known as Lower Downtown or "LoDo." This was formerly Denver's Skid Row, an area where the destitute congregated. In recent years, however, the area has been redeveloped and now supports a burgeoning night life.

That welcome development has had a most unwelcome side effect: City officials have ratcheted up their efforts to curb the mission's work. For example, on cold nights, the 110-bed mission used to set up about 40 cots in the chapel to meet the increased need. City officials never raised any objection because it took people off the street. Today, city officials flatly prohibit this practice.

City officials in Daytona Beach, Florida, have not allowed the Daytona Rescue Mission to locate within the city. The mission has gone to federal court. In Albany, New York, the Capital City Rescue Mission has been trying to relocate in order to expand its services. Recently, the city rejected the mission's request to move to a previously agreed-upon property. Other missions that have encountered significant roadblocks include the Union Gospel Missions of Dallas, Spokane, and Yakima, Washington.

Licensing. The licensing of faith-based programs, beyond issues of health and safety, has become a major impediment to many missions' spiritual integrity. Licensing has brought regulations such as a "client's bill of rights" in Tennessee, which originally included the right not to be presented with religious teaching. (That's somewhat like organizing a football team and including the right not to be touched!)

Then there is the case of the City Mission in Schenectady, New York. It was cited by New York's Department of Social Services because it prohibited pornographic materials from its facilities. Only after three months of negotiation did the mission and state authorities reach agreement that the mission was within its rights to prohibit pornography.

"We determined that on health and safety issues, we would submit to government regulations," says Eivion Williams, the mission's executive director. "But this was an issue of morality—what was right and what was wrong—and we stood firm. And in the end, we wound up getting what we asked for."

Food Distribution. For many years, rescue missions accepted federal surplus food and distributed it to the needy without excessive oversight or regulation. In December 1993, however, the U.S. Department of Agriculture mailed a memo to missions in its Western region that stated that USDA commodities were not to be used in meals where individuals were required to attend religious services. This caused confusion among many mission directors who were uncertain how to interpret the new rules. On advice of counsel, some missions have turned down USDA com-

modities because they believe accepting the food would subject them to federal regulations that compromise religious teachings.

Indeed, one of the interesting contradictions of federal policy is that schools, day-care programs, and early childhood development classes operated by churches may serve surplus food—even though their programs are grounded in religious beliefs. The government seems to believe that children in religious programs need good food, but homeless in religious programs do not.

Tonight 27,000 people in America are staying in rescue missions. Each is being fed, sheltered, and assisted. Last year, rescue missions served more than 28 million meals to the poor and homeless. That's enough to provide a meal to every resident in the state of California. Yet each person is also being challenged with hope and opportunity. Our rehabilitation programs involve over 11,500 men, women, and children.

Rescue missions are poised to continue their dramatic growth and success. Drug rehabilitation programs are expanding to meet the increasing need. Computer training and educational programs are now staples at many missions, providing GED preparation, core curriculum classes, drivers education, and job training. Missions are also setting up joint ventures with local businesses to give reformed addicts on-the-job training.

Unfortunately, our optimism at the progress of our missions is tempered by the cold realities of the street. The face of homelessness in America is changing. It is getting younger and more female. Children, once a rarity at shelters, are showing up with increasing frequency—and this cannot bode well for American society.

There are other problems. As Rev. Tom Laymon, the executive director of Mel Trotter Ministries in Grand Rapids, observes, "There is an aging population in our prisons that will eventually be given back to society. Many will have spent decades in prison. This means a whole new generation of 'older homeless' will be out on the streets and in need of our services."

Amidst this trend, federal and state homeless and anti-poverty programs—devoid of moral, spiritual, or religious counseling—will continue to fail. The answer is not for government to get into the religion business, but at the very least, to get out of the way of religiously based groups that are making a decisive difference in people's lives.

We have identified more than 100 American cities with populations of over 40,000 that are without a rescue mission. In 10 years IUGM wants to have programs in each of these. Our hope and prayer is that missions around the country will demonstrate the power of a well-rounded program that nourishes mind and body, spirit and soul.

"HEY—I'M HUNGRY."

Those involved with rescue missions know the difficulties and dangers of inner-city life. Many, like Mickey Kalman, spent years on the street—drifting, stealing, begging, and doing drugs—until they reached out for help. Kalman, now the executive director of City Rescue Mission in Oklahoma City, was invited to speak at the 1996 Republican National Convention, in San Diego.

Mickey Kalman's young life centered around alcohol. "I grew up with drunks and learned to drink," he says. He joined a gang. When he wasn't travelling and getting into mischief, he found trouble locally. At one point he pulled a gun on his teacher, threatening to "blow his brains out." By the age of 12, he was on probation.

Later Kalman got involved with drugs. "Once I ran away with a shipment of dope, sold it, and hid out in Wyoming," he remembers. "When I didn't have money for gas, I siphoned it out of construction trucks."

One day he found himself in Stockton, California, alone and hungry. He'd been living on the streets for the better part of two years. He walked up to the door of a rescue mission and said, "Hey—I'm hungry." The man at the mission offered Kalman some food and some work. He didn't usually get offers for work, but he agreed. Kalman decided to enter the rehabilitation program, where he found faith in God and the power to turn his life around.

Today, Rev. Mickey Kalman oversees a mission budget of \$1.4 million, with a staff of 21. Thousands are helped by his mission every year. "Rescue mission work isn't easy," he says. "It's hard to love some of the people who come to us . . . [but] when they knock, I say, 'Come on in. My name is Mickey Kalman. How would you like to stick around and do a little work?'"

CHRISTENING OF MADISON  
WHITFIELD WILSON

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I announce the christening of my granddaughter, Madison Whitfield Wilson, on Sunday, October 12 at Lakewood Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville, FL

Madison is the first child of my daughter Katie and her husband George. She was born at 5:15 p.m., Thursday, July 31, 1997, at Jacksonville Memorial Medical Center and weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces at birth.

This wondrous event is a poignant reminder that the primary purpose of our service here as Members of the U.S. Congress is to build a better future for America, for our children, and their children.

In that spirit, I share the joy of Madison Whitfield Wilson's arrival with my colleagues and urge our renewed dedication to ensuring that America's tomorrows will be even better than her yesterdays.

HONORING THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOMEN'S HEALTH INITIATIVE AT BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Women's Health Initiative [WHI] at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston as they celebrate their third anniversary and build on their landmark research on women's health. A vital component of the Texas Medical Center in my district, the Women's Health Initiative is one of 40 clinical centers across the country taking part in the WHI, the largest ever women's health study in the United States.

Three years ago, the National Institutes of Health awarded Baylor College of Medicine a grant of \$11.8 million to conduct the largest, longest clinical trial in Baylor's history. This study is examining the health of more than 5,400 women over a 12-year period, and focuses on diseases that are critically important to the health of women: cardiovascular diseases, breast cancer, colorectal cancer and

osteoporosis. Cardiovascular diseases are the leading killer of postmenopausal women, and breast cancer is the second killer among cancer in women. Colorectal cancer is responsible for at least 4 percent of the deaths of women aged 50 to 79 and is the third-leading killer among cancer in women. Osteoporosis is the condition resulting from a weakening of the bone after menopause. The information provided by the Women's Health Initiative will lead to breakthrough treatments for these diseases and improve the lives of women in Texas and across the Nation.

The Baylor Clinical Center has recruited 3,300 women for an observational study to gather information regarding risk factors for these diseases. The Baylor Clinical Center will also recruit an additional 2,100 women for a clinical trial to research whether diet and hormone replacement therapy help women lead healthier lives. Information gathered from this clinical study will help women to make informed decisions about which therapies to use to prevent disease and stay healthy.

I also want to highlight the efforts of Dr. Jennifer Cousins, director for the Center for Women's Health, to bring this critical WHI study to the Houston area. I believe Dr. Cousins is critical to the success of this study and she should be commended for her hard work.

I am honored to have worked closely with Dr. Cousins and Baylor College of Medicine to expand the WHI's study to ensure even more women benefit from their groundbreaking research. I look forward to continuing to work with Baylor and the Women's Health Initiative to further expand this study and provide more funding for the National Institutes of Health [NIH] and the Office of Women's Health, which funds this important program.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Women's Health Initiative at Baylor College of Medicine for 3 years of excellence and innovation in medicine and wish to congratulate the 2,000 study participants who will participate in a birthday party on Thursday, October 23, 1997. I look forward to even greater successes as they work to ensure healthier lives for women in the 21st century.

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HONORING RALPH LISTON

**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege for me to rise today in memory of Ralph Moody Liston, a prominent member of the Wills Point, TX, community who died recently at the age of 73.

Ralph Liston was a successful farmer, rancher, and businessman. He owned a propane company, exterior design company, and lumber community. As a farmer, he was once named Outstanding Conservation Farmer of the Year.

Ralph also was active in his community. He was a longtime member of the school board, served as election judge, Chamber of Commerce president, chairman of Van Zandt County Building Committee and a member of the Farmers Home Administration Board. He was a member of Masonic Lodge 422 and was active in the Methodist Church, where he served in various capacities through the years.

I felt a special kinship to Ralph—in that I was always told by my mother that we were both named after the same distant relative—Mary Katherine Moody. I knew his wonderful mother and dad as Cousin Mary and Cousin Jim. It seems that part of our family came to Texas from Arkansas. Ralph carried on the great tradition of love of family and success in business and faithfulness to his church—a tradition handed down through the years. I will miss him.

Survivors include his wife of 54 years, Helen; sons, Rickey and Ralph Moody Jr.; daughters, Linda Wehr and Teena Liston; seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my sympathy to his family and many friends in Wills Point and Van Zandt County. As we adjourn today, I would like to take this opportunity to pay my last respects to this great citizen—Ralph Moody Liston.

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TRIBUTE TO HENRY B. GONZALEZ

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHET EDWARDS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 7, 1997*

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, today it is with great pride yet with heartfelt sorrow that I ask members to join me in honoring our colleague, HENRY B. GONZALEZ, on 36 years of service in the U.S. House of Representatives.

At the end of this year, HENRY B. GONZALEZ will take his leave of this body. A great void will be left in our ranks when he is gone. His towering presence, financial expertise, and willingness to take a stand for causes large and small will be sorely missed.

Although the country and this Congress have changed dramatically since HENRY B. GONZALEZ assumed his congressional seat in November 1961, he has always remained true to this country, to his beloved 20th Congressional District in San Antonio and to this Congress.

Like so many of us, HENRY B. GONZALEZ dedicated his life to serving his community and his country. I was extremely blessed to follow in his footsteps first to the Texas State Senate and then to the U.S. House of Representatives.

My relationship with HENRY B. GONZALEZ began long before we served together here in the U.S. House. In a way, we served together in the Texas Senate although he had left that body two decades before I set foot there in 1983.

In the chamber of the Texas Senate hangs a painted portrait of HENRY B. GONZALEZ who served from 1956 to 1961. As a young senator, I remember looking at his portrait and the paintings of other famous Texans that hang there including Stephen F. Austin, the father of Texas; and Lyndon B. Johnson and Barbara Jordan who both served the State and the Nation with distinction.

I always considered myself fortunate to be serving in the State legislative body where HENRY B. GONZALEZ broke new ground for improved race relations in Texas. In 1957, HENRY B. GONZALEZ proudly and bravely stood on the senate floor to fight and filibuster nine bills that would have expanded the then common practice of segregation.

After 36 hours HENRY B. GONZALEZ and his allies had successfully stopped seven of the segregation bills. He was subjected to fierce personal and professional attacks, but refused to retreat or surrender. His determination to do what was right for all Texans began the process of tearing down the wall of racial separation that existed in the State.

I never had the privilege of serving with him in the Texas Senate. But when I saw the portrait, I always tried to adhere to the principles he brought to office—honesty, integrity, and loyalty. His reputation, then as now, is that of a legislator who would fight for all people no matter their race, color, creed, or religion.

It was Texas' loss and the country's gain when HENRY B. GONZALEZ resigned his senate seat to make a successful run for the U.S. House of Representatives.

On November 4, 1961, HENRY GONZALEZ took his congressional seat and immediately found his calling on the House Committee on Banking, Finance, and Urban Affairs. Although the name of the committee has changed through the years, his commitment to consumers, small business owners, and taxpayers has never wavered.

He served as Banking Committee chairman from 1989 to 1994. Under his leadership the panel conducted more than 500 hearings and moved 71 bills through the legislative process. During his tenure laws were passed that protected bank depositors, made credit available to small business owners, cracked down on financial fraud and other crimes, and made housing more accessible to Americans.

Despite the long hours and hectic schedule of a Congressman and committee chairman, HENRY and his wife of 57 years, Bertha, raised eight children. Henry and Bertha now have 21 grandchildren and 3 great-granddaughters who will continue to bring joy in the years to come.

It has been a great privilege to serve with HENRY B. GONZALEZ and to work with him on so many issues of importance to Texas and the United States. Although HENRY B. GONZALEZ is heading home, he will always be remembered for his selfless service and willingness to fight for principle.

I ask Members to join with me in honoring HENRY B. GONZALEZ for his many contributions in the past and for his success in the future. HENRY B. GONZALEZ may be leaving this House, but he will never be forgotten either here or at home.

His portrait will hang in the Texas State Senate and his memory will remain in the hearts of his many friends and colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives. Goodbye, Mr. Chairman.

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HONORING IRENE V. SHUMAN

**HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding citizen of the 11th district on her 80th birthday. On October 22, 1997, Irene Shuman will celebrate her 80th birthday surrounded by many family and friends. Irene has been a member of the Glen Forest community for the past 42 years where she is known to and loved by everyone in the neighborhood.

Irene is known as the ombudsman of the Glen Forest community and is often called the mayor of Glen Forest. She knows all of the children's names, she can tell you who lives where, and she knows everyone from the surrounding neighborhoods that work with the Glen Forest Civic Association. Irene's love for people has helped Glen Forest remain a tight knit community where the people look out for one another and work together to make the neighborhood a better place to live. She has been the keeper of the oral history of Glen Forest for more than 30 years and has passed on neighborhood legends to successive generations of children.

Irene is and has been involved in every aspect of the Glen Forest community. She has been active in community affairs since the early 1960's. For 15 years, she held the community rummage sale that raised money for the neighborhood pool. People would donate items for the sale throughout the year and Irene would sort and price them for the annual event. She has also run the summer program for Glen Forest for 28 years. This duty includes the opening and closing pool picnics for which she buys and prepares 100 chickens. Irene has always done this because she believes it brings the community together. This is also why she has worked tirelessly to improve the community pool for the past 25 years.

Irene has mowed the pool lawn for the past 24 years and she is the oldest licensed pool operator in Fairfax County. Irene has maintained the pool by painting the bath houses inside and out every year as well as tarring and repairing the roof. Many in the community do not even know that she has done all of this, even though she hates to swim. Irene was also a mainstay of the Garden Club for the 20 years of its existence. Every year, no matter the weather, she sold Christmas wreaths to raise funds for the Garden Club.

Irene's many accomplishments include work outside the Glen Forest Civic Association. She has worked with all of the Mason District supervisors to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for the past 30 years, including myself when I held that position from 1979 to 1991. Irene often appeared before the Board of Supervisors to testify about issues affecting the community. She has held the Membership Chair for the Civic Association for the past 10 years and has worked ceaselessly to keep the Glen Forest neighborhood a nice place to raise children. Irene helped keep Glen Forest Street from becoming a through street from Route 7 to Carlyn Springs Road so parents did not have to worry about speeding traffic when their children played outside. She also rid the neighborhood of a pornographic book store by going down to the store to confront the owners and customers.

I know my colleagues will join me in saluting a woman who has made her neighborhood a beautiful and better place to live. Irene Shuman is a remarkable individual who has an energetic spirit that inspires those around her to become involved. I share the celebration of her 80th birthday and her lifetime of civic achievements.

IN RECOGNITION OF OCTOBER AS  
NATIONAL MEDICAL LIBRARIANS  
MONTH

**HON. MAJOR R. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize October as National Medical Librarians Month, and to honor the more than 5,000 medical librarians working in hospitals, academic health centers and libraries across the country for their role in improving the health of all Americans by increasing access to health care information.

As a former librarian, I can appreciate the specialized skills needed in today's electronic information age to access, filter and evaluate the most up-to-date medical information for the medical community and for the general public. The ability of medical librarians to maneuver quickly through the wealth of health care information on the Internet, and to identify the most credible, relevant and appropriate sources of information for each request, underscores the increasing importance medical librarians will play in the future.

Studies show information provided by medical librarians improves patient outcomes. Physicians report a reduction in mortality, hospital admissions, surgery, and hospital acquired infections due to information obtained by medical librarians. They say information from the medical librarians allows them to make more accurate diagnoses, reduce unnecessary tests, select more appropriate drugs, and give accurate and current information and advice to their patients.

As we celebrate National Medical Librarians Month, I also honor the longstanding partnership between the medical library community and the National Library of Medicine [NLM] at the National Institutes of Health. For over a century, medical librarians have benefitted from the extraordinary work being done at NLM, the world's premiere medical library. Through access to NLM's state-of-the-art medical databases and telemedicine project sites, medical librarians are able to provide doctors and patients, often in underserved rural and urban areas, with the most current and accurate health-related information.

Mr. Speaker, as we move into the 21st century, it is clear that the advancement of telecommunications technology will continue to revolutionize the delivery of health care in America. I believe by being wired to the world, medical librarians will lead the health care industry in this revolution.

During the month of October, I ask all Members to join me in saluting this county's medical librarians for their role in keeping America better informed about health care and encouraging more active participants in the health status of this country.

HONORING BENNY MARTIN

**HON. VAN HILLEARY**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. HILLEARY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the man whom Country Music

Magazine has called the "World's Greatest Fiddle Player," Mr. Benny Martin.

Benny recently added another honor to his very long list of impressive accomplishments when his hometown of Sparta, TN, dedicated new city limit signs which designate the town as the "Home of Benny Martin." When you look at everything Benny Martin has done over the course of his distinguished musical career, it's easy to see why Sparta is so eager to call him a native son.

Benny began his musical career in his childhood more than 50 years ago, and he became a member of the Grand Ole Opry in 1946. Since then, he has performed in person on at least three continents on some of the world's most prestigious stages, including Buckingham Palace in London, Carnegie Hall in New York, and of course, the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville. Benny has also performed on many television shows, including "The Steve Lawrence Show" and Dick Clark's "American Bandstand."

But perhaps the most important impact Benny Martin has had is on the musical heritage of the great State of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I think my home State of Tennessee has the richest musical heritage of any State in our Union. From old-time mountain bluegrass in east Tennessee to the soulful blues of west Tennessee, from the Grand Ole Opry in Music City to Elvis Presley in Memphis, Tennessee's musical roots run deep.

Mr. Speaker, Benny Martin and his fiddle have a very prominent place in that rich history, and I'm proud to call him a Tennessean, a constituent, and like the residents of Sparta, I'm also proud to call him a native son.

SISTER JOHN MARIE SAMAHA  
HONORED FOR COMMUNITY  
SERVICE

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commend the work of Sister John Marie Samaha of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth.

Sister Samaha entered the Sisters of the Holy Family on July 2, 1943. Sister Samaha began her ministry at a day care center, and soon afterward served as religious instruction teacher at various locations in northern California. In 1960, she became supervisor of religious instruction for the Archdiocese of San Francisco. In 1967 she became supervisor of religious education for the Sister of the Holy Family. From 1970 to 1975, Sister Samaha served as the superior of Holy Family Convent in San Jose, and from 1975 to 1979 she was the vice president of the Sisters of the Holy Family Community.

Sister Samaha is currently pastoral associate at St. Joseph Parish in Mission San Jose. She has cared for the sick and visited the terminally ill. She has planned activities for seniors, and helped families deal with the death of loved ones. She has encouraged a spirit of family among parishioners, and assisted the needy with food, rent, and bill payments.

Through groups like the Tri-City Homeless Coalition, the Centerville Free Dining Room, Second Chance, SAVE, and CAUS, Sister

Samaha has helped supply food, clothing, and a range of support to needy individuals throughout our community.

On October 10, 1997, Sister Samaha will be honored by her friends and colleagues at the Ohlone College Foundation's annual luncheon. I join in recognition of her lifetime of giving to the community.

HONORING BERTHA GORDON MILLER AND THE SEVEN ACRES JEWISH GERIATRIC CENTER

**HON. KEN BENTSEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Bertha Gordon Miller of Houston, who on October 21, 1997, will be honored by the Seven Acres Jewish Geriatric Center with its 1997 Spirit of Life Award.

Mrs. Miller has spent a lifetime giving and working for charitable causes and is described by Punkin Hecht and Barbara Schneider, co-chairs of the Seven Acres award luncheon, as a role model among role models.

A native Houstonian, Mrs. Miller attended Rice University. She was married to the late Isadore Miller for more than 50 years, and they have two children, Dede Weil and Arnie Miller, and five grandchildren.

A member of Seven Acres' Board of Directors since 1953, Mrs. Miller continues to contribute her time and talents to the Jewish home, which has benefited from endless hours of dedication on her part. Although she is said to have worked for every fundraising drive in Houston, she has narrowed her activities in recent years to three organizations: Seven Acres, the Houston Symphony, and the Retina Research Foundation.

Through her good work, Bertha Gordon Miller has touched the lives of Houstonians in countless ways. But most of all, she has helped ensure a high quality of life for the residents of Seven Acres, the largest and only Jewish geriatric facility serving the Texas gulf coast.

Seven Acres provides the highest standards in adult day health care through the Wolfe Center and specialized geriatric care and services through its 290-bed residential facility. Funds raised by the awards luncheon will help provide financial aid and other benefits for the residents.

The annual Spirit of Life Award celebrates and recognizes long-term community service performed with the highest standards of integrity. The exemplary individuals so honored have demonstrated extraordinary commitment and serve as role models of dedicated service on behalf of others. The award recipients are persons whose energy and community spirit have earned them the respect and admiration of all those touched by their accomplishments.

In addition to Mrs. Miller, Edward Asner, the award-winning actor, noted activist, and humanitarian, has been named by Seven Acres as recipient of its 1997 National Spirit of Life Award and will be guest speaker at the luncheon.

Bertha Gordon Miller and Edward Asner certainly meet the high standards of the Spirit of Life Award and serve as examples for all of us of outstanding community service.

INDIAN GOVERNMENT APPEARS TO BE BEHIND BOMBINGS OF MARKET AND TRAIN IN DELHI AREA

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, the recent bombing of a market in New Delhi and a train outside New Delhi are terrorist acts that must be condemned by all decent people. The loss of life and the injuries to people are tragic, but I especially want to note that the explosions injured five Australians and two Japanese visitors to India. I note that the Council of Khalistan, the organization leading the Sikhs in their struggle for freedom from Indian oppression, issued an excellent press release condemning these bombings as "a cowardly and reprehensible act against God and man."

The Indian regime blames the bombings on a "Sikh terrorist" organization called Shaheed Khalsa. If they are responsible, they deserve the condemnation of the civilized world. But even the Indian press is reporting that no one has ever heard of this organization before. It just appeared on the scene very suddenly, at the moment when it is most convenient for the Indian Government. Even the Decca Herald newspaper reports that this organization is a fraud. It is likely that Shaheed Khalsa is a front for the Indian Government.

The bombings were apparently carried out using RDX explosives, a weapon known to be in common use by the Government. This is the same explosive the regime planted on American citizen Balbir Singh Dhillon, a Sikh businessman, father of two, and activist who went to Punjab to visit family and some Sikh religious sites.

India has a record of state terrorism. In November 1994, the newspaper Hitavada reported that the Indian Government paid the late governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, \$1.5 billion to create terrorism both in Punjab, Khalistan, where Sikhs are in the majority, and in the neighboring state of Kashmir, which has Muslim majority.

The terrorism creates an excuse to crack down and kill even more Sikhs. More than 250,000 Sikhs have already died at the hands of the Indian Government since 1984, according to numbers issued by the Punjab State Magistracy and by a coalition of human rights groups. It has also killed more than 200,000 Christians since 1947, over 53,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988, and tens of thousands of Assamese, Manipuris, and others. It has also killed thousands of Dalits, black untouchables, the aboriginal people of South Asia. Over 60,000 cash bounties have been paid to police officers for killing Sikhs like little Arvinder Singh, a 3-year-old child who was killed along with his father and uncle. The police claimed that the three were terrorists and received a \$30,000 cash bounty for their murders.

On September 4, over 1,000 Indian security forces launched a raid on a Sikh church, called a Gurdwara, in Chandigarh. They illegally arrested nine Granthis, the local clergy. Three of the Granthis were severely beaten and tortured. No charges were filed against any of the Granthis. This happened on the very same day that we were voting on whether to cut aid to India and just a week before the state funeral of Mother Teresa.

Mr. Speaker, we must ask the question, who benefits from these bombings? Clearly, no one could believe that the Sikhs benefit. They will only suffer more bloodshed and repression as a result of these horrible acts. The Government of India, however, sees its country falling apart from the weight of its domination of a diverse land with many nations and 18 official languages. They are desperate to keep their empire together. These bombings provide a perfect excuse to suspend the elected government in Punjab, impose direct rule from New Delhi, and increase the repression and bloodshed.

Responsible Members of Congress and decent people everywhere must speak out against this genocidal policy. We should support all the freedom movements of South Asia by word and deed. We must go on record in support for freedom for Khalistan and all the nations of South Asia, and we must stop U.S. aid to this terrorist regime and place it under embargo until the freedom of all peoples and nations in the region is respected. Only then will India truly be able to call itself a responsible, secular democracy.

I am placing the Council of Khalistan's press release on the bombings into the RECORD.

DR. AULAKH CONDEMNS INDIAN GOVERNMENT BOMBINGS OF MARKET AND TRAIN IN DELHI AREA

WASHINGTON, D.C., October 2.—Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, today strongly condemned the bombing of a market in New Delhi and a train outside New Delhi. "This is a cowardly and reprehensible act against God and humanity," he said.

Although the Indian government blames the bombings on a "Sikh terrorist" group called Shaheed Khalsa, Dr. Aulakh pointed out that no one has ever heard of this organization. "It appeared out of thin air," he said. "I suspect that it is yet another terrorist organization convened, armed and controlled by Indian security and intelligence services, if it even exists at all."

"These bombings are desperate acts of a desperate political party," he said. "If you want to find out who is really responsible, investigate Congress politicians who have lost electoral support. Ask the question: Who benefits from these bombings?" Dr. Aulakh said. The Congress Party supports the ruling 13-party coalition.

"Every time the ruling party, in particular Congress, loses control of State government in Punjab," Dr. Aulakh said. "These bombings begin to occur throughout Punjab and Delhi. It then allows Delhi to suspend the government and impose direct rule in the name of maintaining law and order. At that point, police and security personnel shut down the press, the courts, rights groups and Sikh temples and the slaughter of our Sikh brothers and sisters begin anew. These bombings allow the police to continue their extortion, kidnapping and murder-for-cash bounty rackets." He noted that Delhi has suspended Punjab state government nine times, every time a Sikh party wins power they are never allowed to finish their term of office.

On September 4, a week before the state funeral for Mother Teresa, 1000 Indian security troops raided a Sikh church (Gurdwara) in Chandigarh and illegally arrested nine clergy (Granthis). Three were severely beaten in jail. None of the Granthis was charged with a crime. The government has murdered more than 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, according to Punjab State Court and human rights groups findings. Over 60,000 cash bounties have been paid to police for killing Sikhs.

"The bombings show that India stops at nothing to end the freedom struggle," Dr. Aulakh said. On Oct. 7, 1987, the Sikh Nation declared its independence from India, forming the separate country of Khalistan. The Council of Khalistan was formed at that time to serve as the government pro tempore of Khalistan. It leads the peaceful, democratic, nonviolent independence struggle.

"India's artificial empire is collapsing around them, so the regime resorts to acts of terrorism to keep it together," said Dr. Aulakh. "The democratic nations of the world must rise up and condemn this cowardly act and the reign of terror it advances."

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#### 86TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROC

### HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, October 10 marks the 86th anniversary of the founding of the Republic of China [ROC]. In Taiwan, October 10 is known as National Day and is a day of celebration and remembrance. I think it is important that my colleagues and I take a moment to send our congratulations to the 21 million people on Taiwan for developing a strong participatory democracy.

The ROC government began 11 years ago to take the final steps toward true political maturity. They broadened the scope of local and national elections, increased licensing of private TV and radio stations, and privatized government-owned monopolies. These reforms culminated with the popular, direct election of Lee Teng-hui as Taiwan's President.

Mr. Speaker, the Republic of China's current representative to the United States, Dr. Jason C. Hu has been an integral part of the positive political developments of the past 11 years. In 1991, as a cabinet official under President Lee, Dr. Hu helped to open the political system to greater participation. As the President's spokesman during the last election, Dr. Hu helped to get out President Lee's message of political inclusion which helped garner Lee more than 54 percent of the vote in a four-way race. As representative to the United States, Dr. Hu has worked to strengthen ties between the United States and the ROC.

Later this month, Dr. Hu will be returning to the ROC to become the Minister of Foreign Affairs. In this very senior position within the President's cabinet, Dr. Hu will build on the work he has begun here in the United States. I am sure he will help guide the ROC to even better relations with the United States. I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating the ROC on its National Day, and in wishing Dr. Hu well and thanking him for all his assistance.

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#### TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT LEE AND DR. HU

### HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, there is one worthy country in the world that deserves much wider recognition. It is the Republic of China

in Taiwan. Even though it is the 14th largest training entity in the world and a full democracy. Taiwan is recognized by only 30 countries in the world. Recently President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan visited several Central American countries to shore up diplomatic support for Taiwan.

To help him win more international friends and support, President Lee has announced that Taiwan's representative in Washington, Dr. Jason Hu, will be Taiwan's new foreign minister.

We were delighted to hear the good news. We know Dr. Hu will make an excellent foreign minister. During his past 15 months in Washington, Dr. Hu is known as a hard-working diplomat who conducts his country's business with charm and intelligence.

It is my hope that Taiwan's diplomatic fortunes will dramatically improve in the months and years ahead now that President Lee has chosen Jason Hu as his country's top diplomat.

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#### IN HONOR OF PULASKI DAY

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Casimir Pulaski, a Polish patriot and a military hero. The Polonia Foundation, the Polish Legion of American Veterans, U.S.A., and many other organizations in the Cleveland area are holding a memorial ceremony in honor of Casimir Pulaski, Saturday, October 11, 1997.

Pulaski originally made his name fighting the Russian domination of Poland. When he met Benjamin Franklin in Paris in 1777, he was already one of the most renowned cavalymen in Europe. Sympathetic to the American cause, he sailed to America and was made head of the newly formed American cavalry during the Revolutionary War.

Pulaski was involved in many significant battles during the Revolution. His last took place at Savannah, GA in October 1779 where he led a valiant charge against British artillery. He was shot and died a few days later. Pulaski was one of the more dashing European volunteers to join the Americans in the Revolution. He reportedly wore a plumed hat, flashing saber, and an elaborate uniform and spent his own money to feed and equip his troops.

He fought valiantly for the ideals of the American Revolution and made important contributions to American history. Because of his courage and bravery, Casimir Pulaski is an American hero and an significant figure in the role Polish immigrants have played in American history.

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#### SHIRLEY SISK HONORED FOR DEDICATED SERVICES TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE 13TH DISTRICT

### HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Shirley Sisk, the

executive director of the League of Volunteers. Shirley Sisk founded the League of Volunteers in 1979. She served as president until accepting the position of executive director in 1989. For three decades, Shirley has worked in numerous ways to make our community a better place.

From 1972 to 1993 Shirley served on the Newark City Council. During that time she was committed to responsible management of the city's policies, programs, and budgets. Her leadership resulted in a range of programs including the Human Relations Element of the General Plan, Music at the Grove, School/City Youth Committee, Volunteer of the Year Recognition, and Newarks of the World.

Shirley is the founder and president of the annual Newark Days Celebration. The celebration is a shining example of volunteer support which is enthusiastically anticipated by the community each year.

Shirley is also the founder and president of the Bay Area Cable Excellence Awards Program and the Society for the Preservation of Carter Railroad Resources. She is actively affiliated with the Ohlone College Foundation, the Business Leadership Council, and the Fremont Kiwanis.

In 1994 the State of California recognized her outstanding service and numerous achievements by naming her Woman of the Year.

On October 10, 1997, Shirley will be honored by her friends and colleagues at the Ohlone College Foundation's annual luncheon. I would like to join their commendation of her hard work on behalf of our community.

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#### TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY AND DR. JASON HU

### HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on the eve of Taiwan's National Day, I wish to pay tribute to President Lee Teng-hui of the Republic of China. This first democratically elected head of state in Chinese history has recently led his country through major constitutional reforms and visited several Central American countries in his effort to shore up diplomatic support for Taiwan.

In addition, President Lee has announced that Dr. Jason Hu, Taiwan's top diplomat in Washington, will become Taiwan's new Foreign Minister.

I believe Dr. Hu is the right person to help President Lee win more international friends in the months and years ahead. Even though Taiwan is a major political and economic power in the world, it hasn't received proper international recognition.

In his new position as foreign minister, Dr. Hu will have the right platform to tell the world why Taiwan deserves a much louder voice in the international arena.

Best wishes and good luck to both President Lee and Representative Hu.

POLICE OFFICIAL STRIPS AND  
TORTURES WIDOW, SON IN  
FRONT OF EACH OTHER

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, another disturbing violation of human rights has occurred in Punjab, Khalistan. On August 21, according to several reports, a police subinspector in Bathinda forced a local widow and her adult son to strip naked, then tortured them in front of each other. Apparently, the widow's other son eloped a few months before that and for some reason, the police were seeking information about his elopement. In their unwarranted pursuit of this private information, they took the extreme measure of torturing two people. Unfortunately, this is not unusual in India. Torture, rape, and even murder are common, everyday occurrences in Punjab, Kalistan, in Kashmir, in Nagaland, in so many parts of India's brutal and corrupt empire.

An elected mayor was tortured in front of the people merely for being an Amritdhari Sikh. In Bombay, 33 Dalits—"Black untouchables"—the aboriginal people of South Asia were killed during a peaceful protest. In Kashmir, at least 20 reporters were beaten during a protest at the Chief Minister's office. They were protesting the police beating of a fellow reporter from Agence France Presse who had instructed his photographer to take a picture of a woman being beaten by the police. These are recent incidents, not old information. Sadly, these are just a few of many recent incidents of torture, brutality, and murder by the Government of India. This is completely unacceptable.

We must stop taxing our own people to support these brutal rulers. The time has come to impose stringent economic sanctions on this regime until basic human liberties are observed. Finally, this Congress must put itself on record in support of freedom for all the nations of South Asia. This is what our principles demand of us. We must do our duty to the people of the world.

HONORING CHARLOTTE AUSTIN  
JORDAN

**HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, the National Crime Prevention Council and Ameritech have honored a constituent of mine, Charlotte Austin Jordan of Winnetka, CA, with the Ameritech Award of Excellence in Crime Prevention. Ms. Jordan is 1 of 8 winners selected from 140 nominations. Her work and perseverance deserves to be recognized.

Charlotte Austin Jordan is not a stranger to adversity. In May 1988, her 13-year-old daughter was brutally murdered by gang members in a case of mistaken identity. Further, in 1996, her 24-year-old son was also murdered by gang members. The death of her first child prompted Ms. Jordan to volunteer at the California Youth Authority in impact of crime on victim's classes. This program pro-

vided a meeting place for victims of crime to confront juvenile offenders and to verbalize what effects crime had on their lives.

Next, Ms. Jordan formed Save Our Future, a community-based nonprofit organization dedicated to educating, protecting, and empowering our youth. SOF provides many programs such as parenting, substance abuse, tutoring conflict resolution, and college and career development.

As an innovator, she recognized the need for housing for paroled youth who are unable to return to their homes. She consequently developed Ja'mee's house to provide a structured environment for formerly incarcerated young men who have exhibited a willingness to change. She also became involved with Partnership for Change, a mentoring program for at-risk children ages 8 to 19 who have been paroled or are on probation.

I would like to thank the National Crime Prevention Council and Ameritech for honoring Charlotte Austin Jordan with this award and applaud her dedication to helping individuals fight crime and build communities. Ms. Jordan knows all too well the firsthand experiences, her faith in the ability to reform offenders has never been shaken. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this brave woman and hard-working individuals like her who make a difference in their communities.

YOM KIPPUR HOLOCAUST OBSERVANCE  
AT TEMPLE BETH DAVID

**HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today full of joy and fulfillment as my constituents and the other members of Temple Beth David of Commack, Suffolk County, prepare to join together to observe a most special Yom Kippur service.

This Saturday, on Yom Kippur 5758, the most sacred of all days in the Jewish calendar, Rabbi Leonard Troupp of Temple Beth David and his congregants will reunite a sacred Holocaust Torah scroll from the town of Dobris, in what was then Czechoslovakia, with Petr Herrmann, a resident of that village prior to the Holocaust. Thus, the congregation will, in the words of Rabbi Troupp, "witness the victory over evil and glimpse the possibility of God's promise for all mankind."

Mr. Herrmann's biography is one from which great novels can be written. It is full of adventure, good and evil and is filled with the indomitable human spirit to survive and maintain justice, love and freedom.

The Herrmann family lived in Dobris from 1793 until the tragedy of the Holocaust. Uncles, cousins, friends, neighbors and even Mr. Herrmann's father, Alois, became B'nai Mitzvah as they stood before the Torah scroll that now has found a home at Temple Beth David. That Torah was a part of their lives that was viciously torn from them in 1939 as the Holocaust descended upon Europe. Mr. Herrmann, his parents, relatives and friends were taken from Dobris and sent to locations whose names evoke the most unbelievable horrors and cruelty that have yet been devised: Theresienstadt, Auschwitz, Birkenau. Sadly, many of the Dobris Jews perished at these death camps.

On this Yom Kippur, 55 years since he and the Jewish community of Dobris were deported, Petr Herrmann will show that he has done more than just survive. He and his wife, Jarmilla, will stand once more before the Dobris Torah and recite the traditional Jewish blessing that gives thanks for having been able to observe and participate in this event. He will proudly recite the family names from Dobris—Arnstein, Bloch, Bohm, Fleischmann, Frankl, Gluck, Katz, Kosiner, Lederer, Lion, Oppenheimer, Pollack and Porges—families that were proud members of the Dobris Jewish community; families who are now but memories.

Mr. Speaker, as we observe this solemn and moving occasion, it is fitting that we pay tribute to those self-effacing people who in the times of greatest adversity still reflect the compassion and courage of our society. I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me now in commending the efforts of Pamela Gershowitz, head of the Dobris Committee at Temple Beth David; Werner Reich, who led the search that brought Mr. Herrmann to Commack, Rabbi Leonard Troupp, and other members of the Temple Beth David congregation, in recognizing the heroic tale of Petr Herrmann, and in welcoming the Herrmann family back to the Dobris Torah in Commack.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2158,  
DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS  
AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND  
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND  
INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 1997*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to comment on the VA-HUD appropriations bill, H.R. 2158 that has emerged from a conference committee between the House and the Senate. This legislation provides resources for a wide variety of programs, two of the most notable concern section 8 housing subsidies and the service coordinators that are supported through the Department of Housing and Urban Development [HUD].

In the State of Ohio, there are more than 50,000 apartment units in which citizens receive rent subsidies from the HUD section 8 program. My congressional district on the west side of Cleveland has a substantial concentration of section 8 projects and eligible persons, many of whom are elderly and disabled. Our Nation has made a compact with these residents to help them maintain a decent place to live. As we know, many of the section 8 contracts will be expiring in the next few years. Fortunately, this appropriations bill provides a total of \$9.4 billion in fiscal year 1998 for the renewal of section 8 rental housing contracts. This is more than twice the amount that was provided last year for similar activities. This money will be available for HUD to work with apartment owners at section 8 properties to ensure that rent subsidies will continue for elderly, disabled, low income and other persons who depend on rent subsidies. Although this

amount is less than what was originally requested by the President for section 8 renewals, I am confident that HUD can meet the challenge of using this money in a cost-effective and sensitive manner.

The other good news concerns service coordinators. These staff persons work in section 8 projects to assess the daily living activities of residents and tailor a package of services that gives residents access to community services. Every day service coordinators help to save the lives of elderly and disabled persons who need help. When I learned that the money for this program had expired, and that service coordinators at the Westerly Apartments in Cleveland and other locations would soon be dismissed, I wrote to members of the Appropriations Committee asking that money be made available to keep this important program operating. I was very pleased to see that this appropriations bill states that "at least \$7,000,000 shall be used for grants for service coordinator and congregate services for the elderly and disabled." This money will allow HUD to renew all of the service coordinator grants that are expiring in the near future. The bill states that it is the intention of the U.S. Congress that the service coordinator program extend into the future. I commend the House and Senate conference committee for their willingness to maintain this vital assistance to elderly and disabled citizens.

During an era in which all government agencies are called upon to make hard decisions about how our tax dollars are used, this appropriations bill makes a number of wise choices. I therefore urge my colleagues to support this measure.

CONGRATULATIONS TO GAIL A.  
HOFFMAN FOR HELPING TO  
BUILD A BETTER ATLANTA

**HON. JOHN LEWIS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to announce that Gail A. Hoffman, a resident of Georgia's Fifth Congressional District, once again has been recognized for her work to improve communities in Atlanta. The National Crime Prevention Council and Ameritech have selected Ms. Hoffman to receive the Ameritech Award of Excellence in Crime Prevention. Ms. Hoffman's efforts to work with troubled communities and to bring individuals from all walks of life together makes her worthy of this acknowledgment.

Ms. Hoffman is the president and executive director of the Bridging the Gaps project. BTG is a nonprofit organization with a mission to empower ethnically diverse communities, public and private organizations, and law enforcement with the ability to improve the quality of life for Georgia's refugee and immigrant communities.

BTG was created in 1987, after Ms. Hoffman and then Detective M.C. Cox began convening meetings with the Multicultural Crime Task Force to help confront increasing gang activity in the Asian community. Through these meetings, Ms. Hoffman recognized that, because of cultural differences and communication barriers, non-English speaking people feared the police and felt unsafe because they

believe that they are not protected from crime. As a result, Ms. Hoffman developed BTG and several related projects.

To help bridge the cultural divide, BTG created a computerized language bank that contains the names of bilingual officers and civilians interested in translating for public safety officers and the courts. Law enforcement training courses, including language specific classes and community education programs, have helped eliminate communication barriers and cultural stereotypes among non-English speaking people and public safety officers. BTG has published a "Personal and Home Safety Orientation Manual for Refugees and Immigrants" manual in 11 different languages.

BTG also has convened approximately 120 meetings between public safety officials and ethnic communities. The project provides homework assistance, peer counseling, and English as a second language assistance to Southeast Asian youth who are vulnerable to gang recruitment activities. BTG provides youth support groups in five counties to assist over 150 refugees make positive life choices.

States throughout the country are interested in creating similar programs like BTG. Thanks to Ms. Hoffman's problem solving and leadership, better communication and understanding exist among Atlanta's diverse ethnic groups.

I thank Ms. Hoffman for the hard work and dedication that allowed her to earn the Ameritech Awards of Excellence in Crime Prevention. I applaud the National Crime Prevention Council's dedication to helping individuals fight crime and build community. I appreciate Ameritech's commitment to supporting crime prevention initiatives. I ask my Colleagues to join me in congratulating Gail Hoffman and other hard-working individuals who make a difference in their communities.

THE CLOCK IS TICKING ON THE  
PANAMA CANAL'S TRANSFER

**HON. PHILIP M. CRANE**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, in just over 2 years, the United States will transfer control of the Panama Canal and our adjacent bases to Panama under the terms of the 1977 Panama Canal Treaties. Already, preparations for this transition are underway. At this moment, U.S. military forces are scheduled to be drawn down in the region from the 5,600 that remain, out of the traditional 10,500 U.S. troops stationed there, to 4,400. The significance of this process, its imminent completion, and the impact it could have on the U.S. economy and the security of the region cannot be understated. For this reason, I am reintroducing a resolution today calling for the negotiation of a base rights, canal operation and security agreement with Panama that provides for a continued U.S. military presence in the region after December 31, 1999.

More than 80 years ago, the United States completed construction of the 51-mile-long interoceanic ship canal across the Isthmus of Panama, one of the great engineering marvels of its or any age. Since then, this man-made waterway has served the maritime nations of the world almost without interruption, enabling ships to travel from the Atlantic to the Pacific

and vice versa much faster and cheaper than would have been otherwise possible. For more than 80 years, the U.S. military has stood watch over the canal from a series of bases located in a 10-mile-wide strip of territory adjacent to the canal. From that position, the United States has been prepared to respond effectively not only to immediate threats to the canal itself, but also to other problems that could have eroded hemispheric peace and security. By December 31, 1999, however, the United States forces on these bases must be withdrawn and control over them and the canal will be transferred to Panama. In preparation for this date, the U.S. Southern Command recently moved to its new headquarters just west of Miami.

The great importance of the Panama Canal to our country cannot be overlooked when you consider that 15 percent of U.S. seaborne trade, and 5 percent of the world's, passes through its locks. These figures become even more significant when you take into account that trade comprises nearly 30 percent of our gross domestic product [GDP], and that roughly 25 percent of U.S. economic growth in the last 4 years has come from increased exports. As a mature economy, it is clear that the United States must seek to open new markets to our products for our economy to continue to grow and create high paying jobs. For this reason, as chairman of the Ways and Means Trade Subcommittee, I have supported Chile's accession to the North American Free Trade Agreement [NAFTA], as well as the trade liberalization underway through the Summit of the Americas and the Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation [APEC] forum, and the initiation of a trade policy toward sub-Saharan Africa. However, it only takes one look at a globe to recognize the critical importance of the Panama Canal to getting U.S. exports to their destinations overseas. Absent the canal, U.S. products would have to be transported via more expensive routes, adding to their overall cost and decreasing their competitiveness in foreign markets. On this basis, it is clear that continued growth in U.S. exports and job creation is, at least in part, dependent on the regular operation of the Panama Canal well into the 21st century.

For all of these reasons, the United States national interest compels us to seek the negotiation of an agreement with Panama that will: First, allow the United States to leave military bases in Panama past the turn of the century; second, permit U.S. military forces to operate out of those bases; and third, enable the United States to guarantee the regular operation of the canal. At present, the administration is conducting negotiations with the Panamanians to provide for a continued United States presence in Panama. However, I believe that a continued U.S. presence is meaningless without also having the ability to intervene to guarantee the canal's security and insure its regular operation.

It is clear that the conclusion of such an arrangement would also benefit Panama, as 6,000 Panamanian citizens are currently employed on U.S. bases, and \$200 to \$600 million in additional income for Panama is tied directly to the United States military presence in the region. Moreover, a poll of Panamanians published in March found that 72 percent of those surveyed would like the United States bases to remain open after their scheduled closure date. Similar polls have shown that

Americans support a continued U.S. presence in the region as well.

Unfortunately, time is growing very short and urgent action is needed to negotiate an agreement with Panama before the United States withdrawal is complete. I ask my colleagues to join me as cosponsors of the critical resolution that I am introducing today and to support swift action on this issue.

TRIBUTE TO TAIWAN AND DR.  
JASON HU

**HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Republic of China on Taiwan on the 86th anniversary of the founding of their nation. Congratulations are in order for President Lee Teng-hui and Vice President Lien Chan, who have strived diligently to maintain strong economic growth and advance democracy for their country. Aided by the tireless efforts of people like Dr. Jason Hu, they have also expanded Taiwan's official and unofficial ties abroad. As Taiwan's representative to the United States, Dr. Hu has been in our Nation's Capital since June 1996. But a farewell and congratulations is in order as he is leaving our country soon to become Taiwan's foreign minister, a post for which he has proven to be well-suited.

During his tenure in our country, Dr. Hu has helped us to understand the complex issues affecting our two nations. His knowledge and tact have served his country well. His hard work and positive attitude have helped to bridge the gaps between our two peoples, helping us avoid the pitfalls that misunderstandings can bring.

As a dedicated and intelligent diplomat, Dr. Hu promises to be an excellent foreign minister. I wish him luck in his new position.

RECOGNITION OF MARY L. TOBIAS  
FOR HER LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT  
TO THE CITIZENS OF THE STATE OF OREGON

**HON. ELIZABETH FURSE**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mary L. Tobias, of Washington County, OR, who has contributed immensely to the democratic process and, through her leadership of the Tualatin Valley Economic Development Corp., epitomizes the spirit of public-private partnership.

Under Mary's leadership, TVEDC has developed into a model private nonprofit business organization serving to connect businesses and government, introducing an articulate, collective insight to the public policy discussion. Today, TVEDC's opinions and recommendations in land use and transportation, environmental regulations, education funding, and sensible growth management are valued by representatives at all levels of government.

As a mother, grandmother, successful small business owner, and former mayor, Mary has

given back to her community through countless personal commitments and honorable deeds. Her records of selfless service is truly remarkable.

Embarking on a new path, I wish Mary the best, congratulate her on all that she has accomplished, and thank her for her making my community a better place to live.

STOP HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN  
KOSOVA

**HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, Since the spring of 1989, when the regime of Slobodan Milosevic brutally occupied Kosova, the Serbian authorities have violated the human rights of the Albanian population. I would point out that ethnic Albanians comprise more than 92 percent of the total population of Kosova. Shortly after the Serbian occupation, all Albanian-language educational institutions were closed, and Albanian students were forced to attend makeshift classrooms in private homes throughout the province.

Thirteen months ago, an agreement was signed by President Ibrahim Rugova of Kosova and Serbian President Milosevic to enable Albanian students and teachers to return to their schools and to reopen the Albanian-language University of Prishtina. The international community hailed this agreement as the first step towards the settlement of the crisis in Kosova. However, no progress has been made towards implementing the agreement because of the Serbian regime's intransigence. Last week, the lack of Serbian willingness to comply with the agreement prompted students in Kosova to peacefully protest to bring world attention to their plight.

More than 50,000 students gathered in Velanija on October 1, the beginning of the new academic year in Kosova, to begin their protest. There they were met by Serbian police, who informed them that their protest was illegal because it had not been cleared by the occupation authorities. When the students refused to disband, the police encircled the crowd and brutally attacked the nonviolent protesters with truncheons and tear gas.

Throughout Kosova, Serbian police have attacked students and teachers, barricaded Albanian primary and secondary school buildings, and sealed off entire towns and cities. Yet the Albanian people of Kosova refuse to abandon their struggle for self-determination. The Albanian-American community has called on the international community to take measures to prevent the conflict from escalating further. Inaction and silence by the world will only encourage the Serbian occupiers of Kosova to pursue a more aggressive and repressive policy, as they did in Bosnia. Such a result could happen without timely action and a firm resolve on the part of the United States and the world's democracies.

The gross violation of the human rights of Albanian students, teachers, and defenseless citizens of Kosova must be stopped. The daily reality of Albanians in Kosova was illustrated for me today when a member of the Albanian American Civic League called me in desperation over the plight of his brother Hazyr

Dervishi. Mr. Dervishi, who suffers from a heart problem, was brutally beaten by the Serbian police for teaching Albanian students the Albanian language out of his home in Gjakova, Kosova. He was then taken by force to the Albanian border, and warned not to return to his home and family. Under the Serbian police system, Hazyr Dervishi is a marked man in Kosova. Yet, he plans to risk his life in order to rejoin his family.

On behalf of Hazyr Dervishi and so many other innocent Albanian victims, the United States State Department must make a public and unambiguous statement condemning the ongoing human rights violations in Kosova. Our Government should make it clear to the Serbian Government that we will not tolerate the continued abuse of ethnic Albanians in Kosova and the denial of their basic human and civil rights.

When will we learn how to deal with the barbaric Communist regime of Slobodan Milosevic, who rose to power on the dead bodies of so many innocent Albanian citizens of Kosova? When will we learn that only timely action and resolve will have an impact on dictators like Milosevic? I implore you, Mr. Speaker, and I implore our Government, not to let Kosova, which many have described as the modern-day equivalent of the Warsaw Ghetto under the Nazis, become the next Bosnia. We need to change a failed foreign policy that has allowed the victimization of Albanians in Kosova and Macedonia to continue unabated. Our policy must change now before it is too late.

SERBIAN SISTERS

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to commend the Circle of Serbian Sisters of Northwest Indiana. This distinguished organization is holding its fifth annual benefit at St. Elijah's Serbian Orthodox Church Hall in Merrillville, IN, this Sunday, October 12, 1997.

The Circle of Serbian Sisters of Northwest Indiana is the combined effort to four Circle of Serbian Sisters organizations, each of which has about 200 members. The presidents of the Circle of Serbian Sisters organizations are: Ms. Helen Tezich, from St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in East Chicago; Ms. Natalie Tica, from St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in Schererville; Ms. Ann Rudman, from St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church in Merrillville; and Ms. Milica Bodrozic, from St. Elijah Serbian Orthodox Church in Merrillville.

Some 5 years ago, these organizations unified to assemble this humanitarian fundraiser in order to provide aid to orphaned and refugee children in the former Yugoslavia. This year alone, three women—Milica Bodrozic, Mira Radakovich, and Violet Sekulich—who are from various kolos—circles—personally distributed monies to various orphanages and families in financial need. And 2 years ago, the Circle of Serbian Sisters sent over 7,000 packages and vaccines to displaced children, who are forced to live in refugee camps and shelters. These individually wrapped packages consisted of underwear, sweat suits, and

candy. The Circle of Serbian Sisters of Northwest Indiana works with the International Orthodox Christian Charities and Serbian Orthodox Church in the former Yugoslavia.

Four priests who have supported this effort from the very beginning are: Father Steve Kovacevich, from St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in East Chicago; the Very Reverend Father Milan Savich, from St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in Schererville; the Arch Priest John Todorovich, from St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church; and Father Lazar Kostur, from St. Elijah Serbian Orthodox Church.

This year, the Circle of Serbian Sisters will be honored with the presence of His Grace Right Reverend Longin, Bishop of Dalmatia and Auxiliary Bishop to His Holiness Patriarch Pavale. His Grace Right Reverend Longin is also the Administrator of New Gracanica, seated in Third Lake, IL.

Mr. Speaker, during this difficult time in the former Yugoslavia, the mission of the Circle of Serbian Sisters of Northwest Indiana offers renewed hope in the humanity of all people. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending the Circle of Serbian Sisters and wishing them well on their fifth annual banquet, as well as the continued success of their humanitarian efforts.

THE SPIRIT OF ATONEMENT AND  
THE MILLION MAN MARCH

**HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, as you know, we will soon leave for a week-long district work period. However, I did not want my colleagues to leave before pointing out a key event that will occur next week in many cities in our Nation. Two years ago on October 16, 1997, the largest nonviolent demonstration in the history of the United States took place less than 100 yards from where I now stand. This demonstration, the Million Man March, saw African-American men stand up and dedicate themselves to take control of their lives, their destiny, and their communities. A larger theme of the march was that of atonement, to reconcile our differences with one another so that we may face all of the challenges that oppress African-Americans in a solid wall of unity, in a united front of understanding and peace. Despite entreaties by the media and other sources, initially questioning whether any men would show up for this march, combined with the media's sub rosa notions of violence that was expected from such a gathering of African-American men, this march was a fantastic success. Many of our States, cities, and communities are budding with new organizations, large and small, dedicated toward making our neighborhoods a safer place.

I am an avid, ardent, and enthusiastic supporter of the goals and ideals of the march: acknowledging past mistakes, confessing these errors to those whom we have wronged, asking for forgiveness, and having the restoration of spirit that is encompassed in taking these steps. Collectively, African-Americans must atone for the destruction that is going on in our communities. Collectively, America must atone for the divisiveness that has wreaked so

much dissension among all of God's children. And, it is collectively how these challenges will be solved. The theme of the Holy Day of Atonement, "To be Young, Gifted and Atoning," will emphasize a focus on what needs to be done, with and for our youth, to save us all.

It is in this spirit that I honor and support the goals and ideals of October 16, 1997, as a day of atonement. Each city will observe this day in its own manner. "To be Young, Gifted and Atoning," emphasizing the condition of our youth, will allow all Americans to discover where the power is located to solve these problems—the power is located within ourselves.

I support the effort of African-American men to build the strength within themselves to forge better men, better sons, better homes, better communities, and better nations. I support the effort of African-American women to work with African-American men toward these desperately-needed ideals. I support the effort of every American to improve our country, reach out and help those willing to help themselves. The Holy Day of Atonement is an excellent vehicle to continue upon the success of two years ago, and I applaud the hard work of its dedicated staff and volunteers in the 15th Congressional District of Michigan and in other cities throughout our great Nation.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS  
MONTH

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, October is the month set aside to bring national attention to the crime of domestic violence in this country. It is a crime that affects people in all communities, transcending economic, geographic, and racial lines. With a woman battered every 13 seconds it has reached epidemic proportions and is the greatest cause of injury to women in the United States today. Yet, the nature and seriousness of domestic violence as a crime is often ignored.

To combat domestic violence, education is a vital component to helping society understand the problem, and to changing attitudes and perceptions about this crime. By raising the level of awareness and understanding about domestic violence we can overcome the shameful stigma and psychological barriers and associated with this epidemic that prevent us from effectively ending the cycle of violence.

As co-chair of the Violence Against Women Working Group, I will co-host a reception in Los Angeles with California State Senator Hilda Solis on October 14, 1997, to honor organizations and individuals that work tirelessly against domestic violence. This year's reception will honor Alana Bowman, special assistant to the Los Angeles City attorney, the Domestic Violence Coalition at California Hospital Medical Center, Junior Leagues of California's Silent Witness Project, and El Monte City mayor, Pat Wallach.

Alana Bowman has been a champion for victims of domestic violence for over 10 years. As the former head of the Domestic Violence Unit for the city attorney, she set the standard for prosecution of offenders in the city of Los

Angeles. Ms. Bowman has played a key role in the development of landmark legislation of domestic violence and continues to do so in her new position as special assistant and as a member of the National Advisory Council on Violence Against Women. She is the author of numerous legal manuals and article on domestic violence.

To meet the needs of the surrounding community and as a response to the request from the Los Angeles Police Department's Central Division, California Hospital Medical Center formed the Domestic Violence Coalition in 1996, under the direction of Dr. Robert Splawn. The coalition is comprised of representatives from the LAPD, city and district attorney's offices, elected officials, shelter, advocacy agencies, and hospital staff. Its mission is to provide immediate, compassionate support services to victims, and to work towards the prevention of domestic violence.

The mission of Junior Leagues of CA Silent Witness Project is to "promote peace, healing and responsibility in adult relationships in order to eliminate domestic murders in the United States by the year 2010." The project is a memorial to personalize the individual woman behind the horrifying statistics of domestic violence. The exhibit educates and galvanizes public and legislative support to the domestic violence.

Mayor Pat Wallach of El Monte has been a steadfast supporter of services for domestic violence victims. Most recently, she led the fight that resulted in the city's contribution of \$167,000 in HOME funds to buy a building that was transformed into a shelter for battered women and their children.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, I urge my colleagues to join me and Senator Solis in recognizing and congratulating these individuals and organizations who are devoted to the elimination of the domestic violence cycle and to educating our communities about this hideous crime.

TRIBUTE TO FATHER WILLIAM  
CUNNINGHAM AND FOCUS: HOPE

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, October 12, there will be held the Annual Walk of Focus: HOPE.

This year's walk possesses a special significance and poignancy. It will be held without its founder and inspiration Father William Cunningham.

His death on May 26 of this year left a void that can never be filled.

The riots of 1967 changed life in the metropolitan area and the life of William Cunningham.

In turn, his response changed the life of the entire area. He decided to dedicate his service to the community. Combining his deep spirituality with brilliant organizational skills, he started the embryonic organization Focus: HOPE. That seed has grown from its initial food program to a broad-scale attack on the manifestations and causes of poverty.

Father Cunningham's dream was that people from all walks of life, races, and creeds could, and would, work together to enhance individual lives and the fabric of society.

With each new creative idea and its effective implementation, Focus: HOPE took another step toward fulfillment of his dream. Working with Eleanor Josaitis and an increasing group of volunteers and a diverse, talented staff, Focus: HOPE introduced food and health support for low-income mothers and exceptional job training and specialized production units. The Machine Training Institute and the Center for Advanced Technologies today stand as testimony that education can be for virtually all a ticket out of poverty into a new world of opportunity.

The power of his faith, his ideas and his personality assure that Father Bill Cunningham's dreams for Focus: HOPE will continue to be realized. There are too many of us who had the privilege to work with him over the years who will stand for nothing less.

Indeed, the strongest challenge is whether the work of Father Bill Cunningham can be replicated in other places.

Father Cunningham asked that no monuments be erected to his memory. When thousands of us walk in his memory on October 12, we will be carrying his message and his achievements with us for all the world to see.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JON CHRISTENSEN

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, on October 8, 1997, I inadvertently voted "no" on final passage of the American Land Sovereignty Protection Act (rollcall vote No. 504). I ask that the RECORD show that my intention was to vote "aye."

#### THE INTRODUCTION OF THE COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION ANTIPIRACY ACT

### HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to introduce the Collections of Information Antipiracy Act, a bill to encourage continued investment in the production and distribution of valuable new collections of information.

Electronic collections, and other collections of factual material, are absolutely indispensable to the American economy on the verge of the new century. These information products put a wealth of data at the fingertips of business people, professionals, scientists, scholars, and consumers, and enable them to retrieve from this haystack of information the specific factual needle that they need to solve a particular economic, research, or educational problem. Whether they focus on financial, scientific, legal, medical, bibliographic, news, or other information, collections of information are essential tools for improving productivity, advancing education and training, and creating a more informed citizenry. They are also the linchpins of a dynamic commercial information industry in the United States.

Developing, compiling, distributing, and maintaining commercially significant collec-

tions requires substantial investments of time, personnel, and money. Information companies must dedicate massive resources when gathering and verifying factual material, presenting it in a user-friendly way, and keeping it current for and useful to customers. U.S. firms have been the world leaders in this field. They have brought to market a wide range of valuable collections of information that meet the information needs of businesses, professionals, researchers, and consumers worldwide. But several recent legal and technological developments threaten to cast a pall over this progress, by eroding the incentives for the continued investment needed to maintain and build upon the U.S. lead in world markets for electronic information resources.

I recently received a report from Dr. Laura D'Andrea Tyson, former National Economic Advisor to the President and former Chair of the White House Council on Economic Advisors. Dr. Tyson's study demonstrates strong economic reasons for providing adequate statutory protection for the data base industry, and points out that failure to act may result in adverse effects on technological progress, on economic growth, and possibly on the research, education, and scientific communities. Noted authors and scholars have also endorsed the need to provide some protection to collections of information, to prevent free-loaders from appropriating the fruits of others' investments.

Here in the United States, the 1991 Supreme Court decision in *Feist Publications versus Rural Telephone Service Co.* marked a tougher attitude toward claims of copyright in data bases. While reaffirming that most—although not all—commercially significant collections of information satisfy the "originality" requirement for protection under copyright, the Court emphasized that this protection is "necessarily thin." Several subsequent lower court decisions have underscored that copyright cannot stop a competitor from lifting massive amounts of factual material from a copyrighted collection to use as the basis for its own competing product. Producers are concerned that some of these cases may also cast doubt on the ability of a proprietor to use contractual provisions to protect itself against unfair competition from such free riders.

In cyberspace, technological developments represent a threat as well as an opportunity for collections of information, just as for other kinds of works. Copying factual material from another's proprietary collection, and rearranging it to form a competing information product—just the kind of behavior that copyright protection may not effectively prevent—is cheaper and easier than ever through digital technology that is now in widespread use.

When all these factors are added together, the bottom line is clear: it is time to consider new federal legislation to protect developers who place their materials in interstate commerce against piracy and unfair competition, and thus encourage continued investment in the production and distribution of valuable commercial collections of information.

While copyright, on the Federal level, and State contract law underlying licensing agreements remain essential for protecting the enormous investment in collections of information, there are gaps in the protection that can best be filled by a new Federal statute which will complement copyright law. The Collections of Information Antipiracy Act would prohibit the

misappropriation of valuable commercial collections of information by unscrupulous competitors who grab data collected by others, repackage it, and market a product that threatens competitive injury to the original collection. This new Federal protection is modeled in part on the Lanham Act, which already makes similar kinds of unfair competition a civil wrong under Federal law. Importantly, this bill maintains existing protections for collections of information afforded by copyright and contract rights. It is intended to supplement these legal rights, not replace them.

The Collections of Information Antipiracy Act is a balanced proposal. It is aimed at actual or threatened competitive injury from misappropriation of collections of information or their contents, not at uses which do not affect marketability or competitiveness. The goal is to stimulate the creation of even more collections, and to encourage even more competition among them. The bill avoids conferring any monopoly on facts, or taking any other steps that might be inconsistent with these goals.

This bill differs dramatically from H.R. 3531, introduced in the last Congress by then-Chairman Carlos Moorhead. H.R. 3531 proposed to enact a new form of sui generis copyright protection of data bases. This bill is a minimalist approach grounded in unfair competition principles as a complement to copyright, and the damage that can be done from substantial copying of collections of information.

In drafting this bill, I was particularly mindful of the concerns of the library, scientific research, and educational communities. Concerns raised in response to the introduction of H.R. 3531 last year by these groups warned of the dramatic consequences that could result from legislation in this area. My staff and I heard these concerns, through personal meetings and through the Copyright Office report on this issue presented to the Congress earlier this year. This bill alleviates those concerns by specifically allowing access and use for those purposes, while still providing necessary protection to ensure continued investment and production of collections of information.

This legislation provides the starting point for legislative activity on an important and complex subject. I look forward to hearing the suggestions and reactions of interested parties and of my colleagues at a hearing later this month.

#### TRIBUTE TO JAMES W. MEREDITH

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to Mr. James W. Meredith, the first African-American to enroll in a segregated university in Mississippi.

October 1, 1962 marked the date when James Meredith became the first African-American to enroll at the University of Mississippi. Mr. Meredith was born in Kosciusko, MS, on June 25, 1933. After living several years in Mississippi, James moved to live with his uncle in St. Petersburg, FL, where he enrolled in high school and finished. He enlisted

into the U.S. Air Force at age 18, where he served for 9 years.

After graduating from the University of Mississippi, James Meredith went to study abroad in Africa where he wrote his first of numerous books entitled "Three Years in Mississippi." After his stay in Africa, James Meredith returned to Mississippi to start an organization called March Against Fear in order to empower and encourage African-Americans to register to vote. This organization went on to register 300,000 people in Mississippi.

In addition to his efforts to register African-Americans to vote, James Meredith started the James Meredith Library Clubs of America. This organization was created to lure African-American males into the library and encourage them to read.

Mr. Speaker, because of these many accomplishments, I would like to take time out to honor Mr. James Meredith for his vision and courage.

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IN RECOGNITION OF SHERIFF  
BRAD GATES

**HON. RON PACKARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of an outstanding member of my community in southern California. On October 30 of this year, 1997, the Boy Scouts of America will honor Orange County, CA, Sheriff Brad Gates with the William H. Spurgeon III Award.

Sheriff Gates has given both his support and service to the Boy Scout's Explorer program and the youth of Orange County for the past twenty-three years. Almost from the day he joined Troop 12 of the Scouts as a boy, Brad Gates has been a positive force in our community.

The list of Sheriff Gates' contributions to the citizens of Orange County is extensive. Since his days as a Scout, Brad has served as a member of the Orange County Council, as a board of directors member for both the Boy Scouts of America and the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program in Orange County and has cofounded Drug Abuse is Life Abuse, a community coalition of drug awareness and prevention programs.

Brad Gates is not just one of Orange County's most active volunteers, Gates has served officially as sheriff-coroner of Orange County since 1974. As one of our communities most important officials, Brad continues to provide outstanding leadership while managing the largest law enforcement agency in Orange County.

And in undoubtedly his most important position, Brad is both a husband and father as well as a good personal friend to many throughout our community. Mr. Speaker, Sheriff Brad Gates truly deserves the honor of being recognized today by our Nation's leaders, as he himself is clearly among them.

STATEMENT ON THE SPILL OF  
NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

**HON. BOB CLEMENT**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I recently had the fortune of attending a seminar entitled "Spill of National Significance," or "SONS." As ranking member on the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee, I feel that it is important to alert you to innovative research being conducted in this field.

SONS was a 3-day exercise that brought together notable individuals ranging from Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater and Coast Guard Commandant Robert Kramek, to representatives from FEMA, the EPA, and countless other agencies. They gathered in Philadelphia and Washington, DC, using interactive technology to find solutions for a simulated catastrophe.

The scenario involved three oil spills at two different sites, occurring within 6 hours of each other. SONS' participants were then required to resolve this crisis from various perspectives, ranging from political to environmental to financial.

Rather than wait for disasters to strike, attendees at this Coast Guard-sponsored event developed methods for dealing effectively with future oil spills. This is an example of an agency at its finest. I encourage other organizations to take a lesson from SONS and address future concerns today.

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TRIBUTE TO CHLOE CONEY

**HON. JIM DAVIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chloe Coney, a constituent of mine from Tampa, FL, who has been selected as one of eight national award winners for the Ameritech Awards of Excellence in Crime Prevention. This recognition is a fitting tribute to her tireless efforts over the past decade in developing a comprehensive and collaborative plan to revitalize low-income areas of east Tampa. I applaud the National Crime Prevention Council and Ameritech for honoring Ms. Coney's dedication.

Ms. Coney grew up in Tampa's North Boulevard Public Housing Project and her personal experiences in this economically disadvantaged area have given her great insight into the needs and opportunities of citizens living in east Tampa. She began her career of service as a parole officer and counselor where she implemented conflict resolution strategies in the Citizen's Dispute Settlement Programs for the Thirteenth Judicial Court.

Currently, Ms. Coney is the executive director of the Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa [CDCT]. This community-based nonprofit organization plans, promotes, and assists the redevelopment of the east Tampa area through a wide range of programs including community building, youth leadership, family stabilization, and economic development. Her efforts should serve as a model for comprehensive and collaborative approaches to

community-based crime prevention initiatives. Ms. Coney recognized early on that creating a safe and secure environment in east Tampa requires a multifaceted approach focusing not only on community policing but also on strengthening families, developing youth leadership, and creating economic opportunity.

One of Ms. Coney's successful programs is the CDCT's Men II Boys Mentoring Program which pairs 100 at-risk African-American youth, ages 11-14, with responsible adult men. These adults are willing to share their experiences and serve as role models, nurturing the healthy development of these youth into men. Ms. Coney has also created constructive programs such as the Inner-City Boys Choir, a medical apprenticeship program, a substance abuse prevention program entitled Striving To Achieve Rewarding Tomorrows [START], and Saturday Academy which improves the academic and social skills of at-risk seventh graders.

These programs can be successful only if strong family support exists to back them up. Ms. Coney recognizes this and established an annual Parent Enhancement Conference to educate parents on ways to better support their children's development. In addition, she offers workshops twice a month for parents and launched the East Tampa School-Community Partnership which is a network of social service agencies, school representatives, and parents.

Finally, recognizing that these efforts to build up our youth must be coupled with opportunities for the future, Ms. Coney has dedicated much of the CDCT's efforts toward economic development. This year, the Nehemiah Project has focused on "community building brick by brick," with the goal of stimulating commercial development and transforming abandoned buildings. These efforts represent a commitment to matching increased educational opportunities with increased job opportunities.

This short tribute cannot begin to describe Ms. Coney's outstanding efforts in redeveloping and revitalizing east Tampa and providing a safer community for citizens of all ages. Her impact on individuals, families, and communities is immeasurable. Therefore, I would ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Coney for her hard work and dedication in developing strategies for successful crime prevention and to thank all those individuals like her throughout America who have dedicated their lives to service in their communities.

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CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

**HON. RON KIND**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, today I stood on the steps of the Capitol with my fellow Democratic colleagues urging the leadership in the House and the Senate to allow a fair vote on campaign finance reform. A majority of the U.S. Senate, all the Democrats and a small number of courageous Republicans, have voted in favor of the McCain-Feingold campaign finance legislation. In the House we have not been given the opportunity to vote on any reform bill.

After we leave today for the Columbus Day recess, with the leadership's stated desire to

adjourn on November 7, we have only 3 weeks remaining in the 1997 legislative session. We must move quickly to take action before we run out of time. I encourage the leadership to give the public what it desperately wants, campaign finance reform.

Mr. Speaker, during the next week I will be traveling throughout my district in western Wisconsin. I will have to tell the people I represent that we have failed to even consider any of the campaign finance bills we currently have pending before Congress. I know that the people of western Wisconsin will not accept this answer. The people are tired of Congress unwilling to clean up our own house. Please give us a vote on this issue.

TRIBUTE TO NORFOLK COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE SAM T. BARFIELD

**HON. OWEN B. PICKETT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. PICKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Honorable Sam T. Barfield, who is retiring this year after serving as commissioner of the revenue of the city of Norfolk for the past 28 years.

Sam was born in Charleston, SC in 1917. He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1941 and was discharged 5 years later with honors and the rank of major. He entered private business in Norfolk, VA following his service in the Marine Corps and has continued to live there until the present.

He began his public service work early in his business career by serving on the board of directors for the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce from 1949 until 1968. He also sought public office and was elected to the Norfolk City Council, where he served from 1959 to 1969. During the difficult period following the Supreme Court decision in 1954 abolishing segregation in public schools, Sam took a public stand in favor of integrating the Norfolk city schools in order to keep them open.

He has been instrumental in the planning and construction of many downtown Norfolk landmarks, including Scope, Chrysler Hall, and the City Hall Complex.

He was elected to the office of commissioner of the revenue in 1969. One of his first innovations was the introduction and use of paper decals on windshields in place of metal city plates which resulted in a considerable cost savings to the taxpayers.

As commissioner, Sam worked cooperatively with the State's Governors, general assembly, and congressional delegation to effect tax reform, obtain payments in-lie of taxes for federally-owned property, and protect the role of the commissioners of revenue under the Virginia Constitution. He also served as president of the commissioners of the Revenue Association and the Virginia Association of Locally Elected Constitutional Officers.

Sam was outspoken and colorful politician who enjoyed people and took great pride in his community and his work. I know that his many friends and admirers join me in saluting him for his long, dedicated, and loyal public service.

HONORING PROJECT INFO COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC. ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY, AND MOCTESUMA ESPARZA AND DR. NELBA CHAVEZ

**HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding and invaluable community service organization, Project INFO, located in my congressional district. On Thursday, October 9, 1997, Project INFO will celebrate 25 years of dedicated community service.

Established in 1972 as a private nonprofit organization, Project INFO responded to the call for help from the Whittier Union High School District to assist in the prevention of student drug abuse. Since its inception, its purpose has been to strengthen the family unit by promoting mental health and well-being through proactive programs of education, prevention, and early intervention, and to strengthen the individual through personal development. Project INFO programs are particularly sensitive to the multicultural communities it serves.

Since 1972, Project INFO has expanded its services in a variety of areas to meet the needs challenging today's families. Most services are delivered by bilingual/bicultural staff. Project INFO offers eight different programs.

Windows/Ventanas is a program which works with families on developing communication skills. This program has been honored by State and national organizations for its effectiveness in the prevention of substance abuse through the strengthening of families.

Through drop-in centers located in the cities of El Monte, La Puente, and Glendora, Community Prevention and Recovery Programs [CPRP] offers a full range of alcohol prevention and recovery services. Each site has tailored a program to address its community's needs. At the El Monte site a domestic violence program for "batterers" called Domestic & Other Violence Education [DOVE] has been created to address the needs expressed by the judicial system and the community. The La Puente site initiated a Youth Federation to develop student leadership and Glendora has created a support group for middle school children.

Serving People In Recovery & In Transition [SPIRIT] is an outpatient drug free counseling program for recovering addicts and their families. This program is offered for both juveniles and adults. Counseling services are offered in all six schools of the Whittier Union High School District.

Building Employment Skills Training [BEST] is a program funded by the Job Training Partnership Act to provide job training and placement for economically disadvantaged individuals through partnerships with private employers.

Assistance with Alcohol and Sobriety Uniting Latinas [AASUL] is a media campaign designed to educate Latinas in California about alcohol abuse and related problems and offers a network of support services.

Child Abuse Risk Intervention and Neighborhood Outreach [CARINO], Spanish for "tender

affection", is a program that works with families to prevent and break the cycle of child abuse.

Challenging Latinos to Access Resource Opportunities [CLARO] uses positive role models and culturally appropriate support groups to challenge high-risk male youth to explore alternatives and prevent involvement in gang, alcohol and drug abuse, premature and/or irresponsible sexual activity and teen pregnancy. A pilot program, Self Empowerment Resources to Educate, Nurture and Advocate [SERENA], was developed to address, in a gender appropriate manner, the prevention strategies of CLARO for high-risk female youth.

Community Organizations Linking Optimum Resource Services [COLORS] is a family preservation program designed to provide a strong base of support for families dealing with abuse and neglect.

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of Project INFO, a special dinner will be held tonight. The theme of this year's celebration is "Twenty-Five Years of Touching Lives." Through its outstanding programs, Project INFO has provided exemplary service, addressing the vast and difficult barriers that our young people and families confront each day. Fortunately for those youth and families in need of assistance and guidance, for 25 years Project INFO has remained solidly committed to reaching out and touching those lives.

Also, tonight, Project INFO will honor Moctesuma Esparza and Dr. Nelba Chavez for their contributions to Project INFO and its mission. Moctesuma Esparza, a well known talented movie producer, has dedicated his time as a guest speaker at the Project INFO youth conferences, leaving a lasting impression on the youth participants. Dr. Nelba Chavez, Administrator for Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, has been a strong supporter of Project INFO and has spoken at several conferences for women sponsored by Project INFO.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I rise to recognize Project INFO for its 25 years of unwavering dedication to the needs of our youth and families and tonight's honorees, Moctesuma Esparza and Dr. Nelba Chavez. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting this fine organization and sending our gratitude and congratulations to the honorees and Project INFO on its 25th anniversary.

THE SENIOR CITIZEN  
RESPIRATORY CARE ACT OF 1997

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to restore Medicare coverage for ultrasonic nebulizers—medical devices used to treat patients with severe asthma, cystic fibrosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease [COPD], and other respiratory diseases.

In April 1997, the Durable Medical Equipment Carriers [DMERC's], under the authority of the Health Care Financing Administration [HCFA], made a significant change in Medicare reimbursement policy that will put senior

citizens and disabled persons with respiratory illnesses at serious risk. My legislation is very simple. It restores Medicare coverage for ultrasonic nebulizers to the same terms and conditions that existed prior to this change.

The device in question uses ultrasonic sound waves to turn medicine into a fine mist that is inhaled by the patient into the lungs. Ultrasonic nebulizers are extremely efficient at delivering medication where it is needed—the lungs—and in the optimum particle sizes.

Without any clinical justification and without any public notice or comment, the DMERC's have either eliminated Medicare coverage for ultrasonic nebulizers entirely, or reduced reimbursement rates so drastically that suppliers will no longer provide them.

The DMERC's decision was made despite the fact that ultrasonic nebulizers have been considered safe, effective, and medically necessary for years, and notwithstanding a large body of evidence that ultrasonic nebulizers are more efficient at delivering medication than the most similar alternative, the jet nebulizer or pneumatic compressor.

Furthermore, beneficiaries are being forced to switch to a metered-dose inhaler [MDI], which is not covered by Medicare. This has led to a significant increase in the out-of-pocket-costs of Medicare beneficiaries. I am particularly concerned that the additional costs borne by senior citizens may cause some to forego needed treatments—an outcome which could put their lives in jeopardy.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to the increased costs to seniors, the lack of openness and public accountability, the new "one-size fits all" Medicare respiratory care policy is downright dangerous. While metered-dose inhalers [MDI's] are wonderful devices, they are not the appropriate therapy for every person.

Indeed, a number of well-controlled studies suggests that up to 50 percent of senior citizens do not use MDI's properly—even after repeated instruction. What these studies imply is that if HCFA does not reverse the decision of the DMERC's and restore Medicare coverage for ultrasonic nebulizers, there will be seniors, forced to switch to MDI's, who could require hospitalization because they cannot use their MDI properly.

Asthma and cystic fibrosis are not diseases to be taken lightly—if a person does not have the proper medicine, they can die. It is that simple. In fact, of the nearly 5,000 people who die every year from asthma, most deaths resulted from patients who failed to take their medication.

For those with severe arthritis or poor hand-eye coordination, they cannot use an MDI at all. They will be the real victims of the new HCFA/DMERC policy on ultrasonic nebulizers. The HCFA/DMERC decision to deny ultrasonic nebulizer coverage is a clear case of a policy that is "penny wise and pound foolish." If a single inpatient hospital admission results from improper MDI usage, it will cost Medicare tens of thousands of dollars in increased costs.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I am concerned about the impact on seniors if the Food and Drug Administration [FDA] is allowed to begin banning metered-dose inhalers that contain chlorofluorocarbons [CFC's], as they proposed on March 6, 1997. If HCFA removes coverage for ultrasonic nebulizers, forcing seniors to use metered-dose inhalers, and FDA in turn removes most metered-dose inhalers from the market, seniors will be left with a dramatically

reduced range of therapeutic options at significantly higher prices.

This outcome is completely unacceptable, and that is why my good friend and colleague from Florida, Mr. CLIFF STEARNS, and I have joined in introducing the Senior Citizen Respiratory Care Act of 1997. Congress must act soon to reverse HCFA's "stealth" coverage change, and restore Medicare reimbursement to devices which are safe and effective therapeutic options for seniors with serious respiratory illnesses.

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TRIBUTE TO JUDGE MANUEL  
REAL

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, California's 43d Congressional District has been extremely fortunate to have many dedicated citizens who have been willing to contribute their time and talents to help make our community an exceptionally good place in which to live and work. One of the most dedicated and active of these citizens has been Judge Manuel Real.

Manuel Real is a U.S. district judge for the Central District of California, a position he has held since being appointed by then-President Lyndon Johnson in 1966. On Friday, October 10, 1997, I will be honored to participate in the opening of a new elementary school in Mead Valley, CA named in honor of Judge Real for its many years of service to the great State of California.

Judge Real first began his distinguished legal career as an assistant U.S. attorney. He left for a short time to enter into private practice before rejoining U.S. Attorney's office until he was appointed a U.S. district judge. During his tenure with the central district court, Judge Real served as the chief judge of the court from 1982–1993.

The students of the new Manuel Real Elementary School should strive to emulate the accomplishments of their school's namesake as well as his dedication to improving the community and its overall quality of life. On behalf of the citizens of the 43d Congressional District, I want to add to this tribute my congratulations, and to wish Manuel, his wife Stella, and their four children best wishes for a happy and productive future.

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TRIBUTE TO IRWIN ROSENBERG

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the spirit of volunteerism and community involvement and to honor Irwin Rosenberg as the recipient of the 1997 Nelle Reagan Award for Distinguished Community Service. This honor is bestowed upon Irwin for his extensive support for the Olive View-UCLA Medical Center Foundation and his long history of outstanding philanthropic and volunteer leadership in our community.

This prestigious award, named for President Ronald Reagan's mother, Nelle, was devel-

oped with the assistance of the Reagan family to honor dedicated community service. Long-term dedication has been a characteristic of Irwin Rosenberg's long volunteer career, which began at age 14 as a police explorer. By the age 17, he had received 22 commendations, including 1 for bravery.

Throughout his life, Irwin has developed relations with countless volunteer associations in our community. Some of these associations include the City Council for the Disabled, California Association of Physically Handicapped, and the Fair Housing Council of the San Fernando Valley. Irwin has also served as a board member for the United Way, Southern California Association of Governments, Granada Hills Little League and many other organizations. Currently, he serves as the vice-president and commissioner of the Los Angeles City Commission on Children, Youth and Their Families, commissioner of the Los Angeles County Private Industry Council, chairman-elect of New Directions for Youth, and vice-chair/board of managers of North Valley YMCA in addition to various other board memberships. This service represent a mere sampling of Irwin's involvement in our community and his commitment to all facets of helping people.

A former Nelle Reagan Award winner, Tim McBride, said "Irwin brought himself up to be somebody to be admired. He is a mentor and an example of someone who gives unselfishly of himself to help so many." It is this unselfish dedication that has earned Irwin the respect of our community and this award.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in recognizing Irwin Rosenberg for his dedication to our community and in congratulating him on receipt of the 1997 Nelle Reagan Award for Distinguished Community Service. His service stands for all to admire.

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IN RECOGNITION OF ST. LOUIS  
CARDINAL MARK MCGWIRE

**HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, the city of St. Louis and its baseball Cardinals have been blessed with great teams and great players over the years. Generations of baseball legends wearing the St. Louis Cardinals uniform—Dizzy Dean, Stan Musial, Bob Gibson, Lou Brock, and Ozzie Smith—all played before adoring crowds of St. Louis fans. This past year, we witnessed a legend-in-the-making when slugger Mark McGwire joined the Cardinals and chased baseball immortality. After hitting 58 home runs this season, Mark McGwire's name now joins the record books behind only Roger Maris and the legendary Babe Ruth on the all-time single season home run list.

Mark McGwire was embraced in St. Louis like few sports figures have in the city's history. But it was not only his tremendous feats on the baseball field that attracted fans but also his generous actions off the field. Mark McGwire stands as a role model for our children, teaching them that there are more important things in life than money and fame. His actions off the field show us the importance he places in the values we hold dear—

responsibility, community involvement, and family.

The city of St. Louis recently celebrated Mark McGwire's decision to sign a long-term contract to remain a Cardinal. McGwire demonstrated his generosity and commitment to the St. Louis community by pledging to donate \$1 million of his salary every year to his foundation for sexually and physically abused children. Mark McGwire's baseball statistics show his excellence on the baseball field but his decision to give \$1 million of his salary demonstrates what makes up his character.

I'm proud to be a St. Louis Cardinals fan—the greatest fans in all of baseball. Mark McGwire is the best home run hitter in the game today and someone in which the entire city can take pride. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mark McGwire on his outstanding baseball achievements and his decision to stay in St. Louis. I join the entire city in welcoming Mark McGwire and I look forward to admiring his work—both on and off the field—in the years to come.

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A BILL TO END THE U.S. TRADE DEFICIT

**HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, trade deficits matter. They represent millions of lost jobs—mostly in high wage manufacturing industries. They help keep U.S. interest rates at abnormally high levels, depressing economic growth. And large, persistent trade deficits with low wage nations inevitably depress wages in the United States and contribute to one of America's most vexing problems: the growing disparities in the wealth and incomes of our citizens.

The United States has not had a positive trade balance since 1975. The 1996 total trade deficit—including services—was \$111 billion. The merchandise-only trade deficit was \$192 billion—a new record. It's true that exports create jobs. But when imports—especially imports of goods that were once produced in U.S. factories—exceed exports by nearly \$200 billion a year, the result is a net loss of some of the best jobs our economy has to offer. That's exactly what this Nation's trade policies have delivered to the American people.

Today I am introducing a bill to establish the emergency commission to end the trade deficit. My bill would establish a commission to develop a comprehensive trade policy plan by examining the economic policies, trade, tax, investment laws, and other legal incentives and restrictions that are relevant to reducing the U.S. trade deficit. The commission would be composed of members with expertise in economics, international trade, manufacturing, labor, environment, and business. Senators DORGAN and BYRD have introduced companion legislation in the Senate.

Trade policy developed on a fast track has been disastrous for our people and our economy. It is time to slow down and carefully develop a trade policy whose principle objective is the generation of decent jobs and rising wages for the majority of our people.

TRIBUTE TO DALLAS LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a great American and a great organization. The Dallas Lighthouse for the Blind has a long history in Dallas of providing blind individuals with work opportunities. The six decades of work improve and enhance the job opportunities for sight-disabled Dallas residents. I am proud to have this modern industrial center in the Fifth Congressional District of Texas.

This year the fifth district has been doubly blessed. One of my constituents, Jeddie Alexander, has been named the Dallas Lighthouse for the Blind's Ronald Pearce Blind Employee of the Year. Jeddie is a machine operator in the molding department of the lighthouse. In addition, he helped produce eyeglass cases and binders. Jeddie is completely blind, but his uncommon ability has allowed him to run a sewing machine.

Jeddie's story vividly shows that we should focus on abilities, not disabilities. In 1985, Jeddie was shot. He lost the use of both eyes and has no light perception. As he recounts, "When I lost my sight, I had the impression that that was the end of myself. I would have to wait on other people to do things for me. After about a month and a half, I realized I didn't have to do that."

I applaud Jeddie's commitment to improving his life and the lives of the people around him. He has truly taken advantage of the opportunities the Lighthouse has given him. As a father of a young Down's syndrome boy, I understand the desperate need for organizations like the Dallas Lighthouse for the Blind. Organizations like this give the greatest gift in all of the world—freedom, independence, and self-reliance to individuals that need an extra boost on the road of life.

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WHY I SUPPORT "FAST TRACK"

**HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, many people have diverse opinions on the issue of fast track and its potential impact in a wide range of areas. I wanted to take this opportunity to define fast track and explain what it is intended to do and what it is not designed to do.

Fast track is simply the process by which Congress provides limited authority to the President to enter into more trade negotiations in order to lower barriers to our U.S. exports. All fast track does is allow the President the ability to negotiate these trade agreements and then present the agreement to Congress for a final "yes" or "no" vote on the entire package without adding or taking away specific words or sections from the agreement. During the negotiations and the drafting of the final agreement, fast track mandates that there is sufficient consultation with Congress so that the President will not present an agreement that does not have the support of a majority in

Congress. That, simply, is fast track, nothing more, nothing less.

Fast track is not a new concept. It has been a common practice for over 60 years, in some form, for every President since Franklin Roosevelt as tariffs became less and less a source of revenue for the U.S. Government and foreign trade policy grew in complexity and importance to the U.S. economy. The Reciprocal Trade Agreement Act of 1934 was the first time Congress delegated to the President the broad authority to set, within specific limits and for a limited time, tariff and other foreign trade policy.

Up until 1945, 32 bilateral tariff-reducing agreements were reached. In 1947, the United States became a founding member of the multilateral General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade [GATT], whose aim is a mutual reduction of barriers to trade among all the free market nations of the world. During this time, Congress extended the 1934 act 11 times to open up more markets to U.S. products by lowering tariffs.

Then, in 1962, Congress gave President Kennedy a 5-year authority to participate in the first major GATT round or negotiation to not just lower tariffs but eliminate duties on specific products. These global trade talks became more commonly known as the Kennedy round, named after his untimely death.

The Kennedy round concluded in 1967 when agreements were reached to reduce not only tariffs but, for the first time, non-tariff or redtape barriers. But more controversial, the executive branch, under President Johnson, also negotiated an international antidumping agreement that was not contained within the authority Congress originally gave President Kennedy. Congress subsequently enacted a law in 1968 nullifying any provision of this antidumping agreement that was not consistent with U.S. law.

Because of this dispute between the executive and legislative branch, a compromise was reached after a 7-year period when there were no significant global trade barrier reduction negotiations. Thus, the fast track procedures were formally adopted for the first time as part of the Trade Act of 1974. This legislation granted then President Ford another 5-year time period to negotiate a further reduction in trade barriers. These talks became more commonly known as the Tokyo round of the GATT. This round eventually produced a package of 14 international trade agreements that eventually became part of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979, negotiated by President Carter.

As part of this renewed fast-track authority, the executive branch agreed to more closely consult with Congress, even to the point of accrediting 10 Members of Congress to serve as advisors to trade negotiating teams. But, in return, Congress agreed not to amend or change the final agreement. Countries will not negotiate with the United States until they are assured that the final agreement will not be changed. However, the legislative branch established an informal process with the executive branch, from the beginning of the negotiating process to crafting the implementing legislation, that the final agreement reflects the will of a majority of Congress.

Fast track was further extended again to President Reagan as part of the Trade and Tariff Act of 1984. Thus, the U.S.-Israel Free

Trade Agreement in 1985 and the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement in 1988 was negotiated and enacted into law under this authority.

Fast track was extended again to President Reagan as part of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988. This authority allowed him and, subsequently Presidents Bush and Clinton to negotiate and enact the North American Free-Trade Agreement [NAFTA] in 1993 and the third major GATT agreement, otherwise known as the Uruguay round, in 1994.

Thus, President Clinton's fast-track proposal is nothing new. It has been used by 11 Presidents of both political parties for over the last 60 years. The previous fast-track authority expired in 1994. In the specific proposal before Congress, the President would be given until 2001, which can be extended until 2005 unless one House of Congress disapproves, the ability to negotiate further reductions to trade barriers around the world.

Once again, fast track does not take any power away from Congress. In fact, this procedure requires constant congressional review and input throughout each stage of the process from deciding which country to negotiate with to proposing the final legislative bill to implement the agreement. No President will submit a trade agreement that has not been thoroughly analyzed and supported by a majority in Congress. Without fast track, we would never have any more major agreements.

That's why I support providing any President, regardless of party affiliation, the ability to enter into comprehensive trade agreements to help boost our exports as long as the negotiations stick closely to resolving trade problems, not unrelated issues. Most observers believe Chile would be the next logical candidate to enter a free-trade agreement with the United States.

A free-trade agreement with Chile will be very beneficial to the United States. The average tariff or tax on United States exports to Chile is 11 percent. Yet, the average tariff rate for Chilean imports into the United States is less than 1 percent. Essentially, Chile already has a one-sided free-trade zone with the United States. Obviously, a free-trade agreement with zero tariffs on both sides is of greater benefit to the United States.

Chile has already entered into a variety of free-trade agreements with other nations, such as Canada and Mexico. There are documented cases when U.S. workers lost approximately \$500 million in export opportunities in 1996 to foreign competitors because the U.S. product had an 11-percent tax added on top of the base price. For example, workers at a major United States telecommunications firm lost the opportunity to help rebuild Chile's phone system to Northern Telecom of Canada because of the lack of a free-trade agreement with the United States. With fast-track authority, we can knock down these trade barriers, not just with Chile but with other countries and in specific sectors such as agriculture, automobiles, and environmental technology to help United States workers make products that will be sold abroad.

I understand that many oppose fast track because they sincerely believe that this vote serves as a referendum on the North American Free-Trade Agreement [NAFTA]. Many opponents of fast track believe that NAFTA has cost the United States hundreds of thou-

sands of jobs. First, the analysis is based on a false assumption that any trade deficit automatically translates into job loss. In some cases, imports create job opportunities here at home, from longshoremens to clerks in retail stores. In other cases, goods are imported into the United States for final assembly for consumption here or exported abroad. Thus, no one should assume that because there is a trade deficit with a certain country, then that automatically translates into U.S. job loss. If that were the case, then oil producing countries like Saudi Arabia and Venezuela would be the greatest displacer of United States jobs because oil imports comprise most of our global trade deficit.

In the specific case of Mexico, it is important to remember that NAFTA actually prevented a bad situation from turning worse. United States exports to Mexico suffered a decline in 1995 because of the peso devaluation and the ensuing economic downturn, which had nothing to do with NAFTA.

A less serious economic crisis affected Mexico during the early 1980's but the impact on United States exports was much greater than 1995. Mexico's economic growth rate dropped by a significant 7 percent in 1995 as compared to a growth rate decrease of 0.6 percent in 1982 and 4.2 percent in 1983. United States exports to Mexico dropped by 35 percent in 1982 and 24 percent in 1983. However, in 1995, United States exports to Mexico decreased by only 13 percent. Why? Because Mexico honored the tariff reduction commitments it made in 1993 as part of NAFTA.

In 1982, Mexico responded to its economic downturn by raising tariffs and other import barriers against United States products to protect their industries. But in 1995, while Mexico significantly raised tariffs and trade barriers against other nations not part of NAFTA such as Europe and Japan, Mexico did not do so against the United States and Canada because that action would have violated NAFTA. Thus, while United States exports to Mexico dropped off by half in the early 1980's, they only decreased by 13 percent in 1995 during a much more severe economic crisis thanks to legal protections contained in NAFTA. In other words, whatever United States job loss can be associated with trade with Mexico after NAFTA would have been much greater in 1995 if NAFTA was not in place. Thus, NAFTA prevented the loss of more United States jobs because under the terms of NAFTA, Mexico was prohibited from raising tariffs and more red-tape regulations to restrict U.S. exports.

While many northern Illinois exporters faced a rocky road with Mexico in 1995, prospects now look brighter. I see news headlines such as: "Midwest Boom Fueled by Mexico Trade," "Spurred by NAFTA, Illinois Exports Finally Rebound," and "NAFTA's Impact on Jobs Has Been Slight, Study Says." I have heard from many companies in the 16th District of Illinois whose workers have specifically benefited because of the increased openness in Mexico thanks to NAFTA. For example, Eclipse Corp. closed up their factory in Mexico and relocated operations back to Rockford because NAFTA now allows their product to be shipped much more easily into Mexico.

But regardless of anyone's position on NAFTA, opposing fast track will not do anything to solve any remaining trade problems the United States has with Mexico. To defeat

fast track will not stop United States companies from moving their factories to Mexico or slow down Mexican imports into the United States. It is very important to remember this because many who oppose fast track sincerely believe defeating this initiative will stop these practices.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I support fast track as one tool in our trade arsenal to help lower barriers around the world to U.S. exports. I have been fighting to make sure that our trade policy has all tools at its disposal, from antidumping laws, which helped Brake Parts of McHenry keep 400 jobs by fighting off unfair competition from unscrupulous Chinese brake rotor manufacturers, to the Export-Import Bank of the United States, which allowed Beloit Corp. with a manufacturing facility in Rockton, IL, keep 2,000 union workers employed along the Wisconsin-Illinois stateline border by providing a major loan to help sell two large, fine papermaking machines to Indonesia.

Mr. Speaker, fast track is simply another method to help break down trade barriers so that workers and farmers in the 16th District of Illinois can continue to build and grow products that will be shipped around the world. We cannot rest on our laurels during these good economic times, which have been caused, to a large degree, by the growth in U.S. exports, as we enter the next millennium. We need continued, further progress on the global elimination of barriers to U.S. exports. There is much more work that needs to be done. That's why we need fast track.

CONGRESSMAN KILDEE HONORS  
EDWARD J. KURTZ

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to rise before you today to pay tribute to an individual who exemplifies the very best in civic pride and responsibility. On Tuesday, October 14, the Flint, MI, area Chamber of Commerce will honor Dr. Edward J. Kurtz with their Charles Stewart Mott Citizen of the Year Award.

Dr. Kurtz's name has become synonymous with education. In 1968, Dr. Kurtz introduced himself to Baker college as a student. Little did he know that this was the beginning of a relationship that would span over 30 years. Upon completing courses at Baker, Dr. Kurtz continued his education, receiving his bachelor of science degree at Ferris State University in 1968. He then returned to Baker where he worked as an instructor and later served as executive director of the school until 1974. Dr. Kurtz was then named president and chief executive officer of Baker College System, a position he maintains to this day. While serving as president, Dr. Kurtz managed to find the time to obtain his master's degree from Eastern Michigan University in 1974 and his doctorate from Tiffin University in Ohio in 1987.

Because Dr. Kurtz has experience in all aspects of the educational arena at Baker, Dr. Kurtz provides a pleasing sense of familiarity and empathy for the students, staff, and faculty under his care. Due to Dr. Kurtz's leadership, Baker College System has set a new

standard for growth and expansion. During his tenure the college has grown from its humble beginning to a nine-campus, career-oriented, regionally accredited family of institutions. Offering over 80 academic programs, Baker's enrollment has seen a meteoric rise from 200 to over 15,000 students, rivaling many of the State's public 4-year institutions. Revenue for the school has increased from under \$500,000 to a current rate of more than \$70 million.

Dr. Kurtz's commitment to our community is evident in the number of organizations that seek his experience and insight. He has served in prominent leadership positions with groups such as the Greater Flint Educational Consortium, Community Foundation of Greater Flint, Flint Chamber of Commerce, and the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Michigan just to name a few. The honors and awards that have been bestowed on Dr. Kurtz are evidence of the regard in which he is held. However, we can never properly thank Dr. Kurtz for his dedication to educating our students and ensuring that no barriers exist to prevent an individual from obtaining the necessary skills to achieve.

Mr. Speaker, it is with a tremendous amount of pride that I appear before you today to recognize my colleague, my constituent, and my friend, Dr. Edward J. Kurtz. The Charles Stewart Mott Citizen of the Year Award is given to individuals who show leadership, integrity, credibility, inspiration to other people, and commitment to the community. Therefore, Dr. Kurtz is the perfect candidate to receive this prestigious award. His love and dedication has made our community a much better place. I urge my colleagues in the house of Representatives to join me in congratulating Dr. Edward J. Kurtz on this tremendous honor.

NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION  
WEEK

**HON. KENNY C. HULSHOF**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Speaker, as you know, October 5 through October 11 is National Fire Prevention Week. Today I want to take time out to recognize the firefighters back home in Missouri's Ninth Congressional District. While there are many local fire departments who demonstrate excellence within the community, one shining example is the Palmyra volunteer fire department.

Celebrating its 100th anniversary, the eighteen members of the Palmyra volunteer fire department received an award earlier this year, naming it the top fire department in the entire State of Missouri.

While they fight fires with the best of them, they truly are public servants. Nominated because of the community service performed by its members, the Palmyra fire department enjoys wide support from the local residents.

Fire Chief Chuck Hoehne, a 30-year veteran of the department, said it well, "Everything we do, the community is behind us. They support us 100 percent." Mr. Speaker, that is easy to believe once you learn more about the group.

When the team is not busy with their jobs, such as bank managers, sales clerks, construction workers, and insurance salesmen, they are out in Palmyra educating residents

about the importance of fire safety. They make trips to all the schools with the Stay Alive House, a model used to teach people how to escape from a burning building. Students also are invited to tour the fire station.

Due in large part to the education provided by this exceptional team, I am pleased to report that fires are on the decrease in Palmyra—something to celebrate during National Fire Prevention Week.

Congratulations are in order for the Palmyra fire department, making northeastern Missouri a safer place to live.

IN HONOR OF THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the members and clergy of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bayonne, NJ. This year the church is celebrating its 90th anniversary. When the church first opened its doors in 1907, it was the culmination of a dream 30 years in the making.

As early as 1877, the congregation was considering the idea that they had to build a church in Bayonne. At the time, since there was no church in Bayonne, worshipers had to row across the Kill Van Kull to Staten Island, a situation which presented many hardships to the Lutherans of Bayonne.

The church has not only survived for 90 years, it has also thrived, and in the process it has enriched the community. The church's numerous humanitarian public service projects and the friendly outgoing nature of the congregation's members, have helped make Bayonne and the surrounding area a better place to live.

For 90 years, congregants and clergy have worked diligently to ensure the success of the church and the community. Over their long and varied history the Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church relocated, expanded, built nursery and parish additions to their church building, and merged with the fellow Lutheran congregation of St. Paul's.

This important work was performed and done under the guidance, patients, and love of brave clergy who desired the best for their congregation and their community. Clergy such as the Rev. Bergwater, the ground breaking first pastor of the congregation, Revs. Willis and Clare, Rev. Schrum who built the parish house, Rev. Jaxheimer who oversaw major renovations and the historic merger with St. Paul's, and Rev. Larson who introduced new elements into the liturgy. During the past 10 years the mission of Grace Evangelical Lutheran has continued under the guidance of Pastors Ficken, Wright, and Carter.

The congregation is reflective of our Nation's greatest treasure—its people. A people who are not afraid to face the future. A people that know that with perseverance anything can be achieved.

It is an honor to have such an outstanding congregation in my district. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the excellent work of Grace English Evangelical Lutheran Church.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CHIEF  
JAMES E. ANTHONY OF THE  
GLENDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT

**HON. JAMES E. ROGAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend who has dedicated his life to serving his family, his community and his country. Glendale Chief of Police James E. Anthony has spent the last 34 years protecting the lives of others, and investing in the lives of those around him.

Chief Anthony followed both his father and his uncle into law enforcement. He began his career with the FBI in Washington where he quickly rose through the ranks to become special messenger to John Edgar Hoover.

In 1969, he returned to his native southern California and accepted a post with the West Covina Police Department. In his seventeen years of service there, he distinguished himself as a man of honor, integrity and determination. His efforts paid off when he was appointed to the position of department commander.

Chief Anthony is a natural leader, and his abilities were not to go untapped. In 1980 he became the Chief of Police of the Chino Police Department and served that community until his move to Glendale in 1992.

Mr. Speaker, over the last five years, Chief Jim Anthony has tirelessly served the people of Glendale, which is one of the largest cities in Los Angeles County. He has led a staff of over three hundred people by inspiring and encouraging others to offer their best for our community.

Chief Anthony has exemplified the spirit of law enforcement. In over thirty years of public service, he has seen the methods of fighting crime go from pen and paper to laser and infrared. As he looks forward to his retirement, I know my colleagues join me on behalf of the Congress of the United States in saluting Chief James E. Anthony, for his life of service to our community.

CONGRATULATIONS ON TAIWAN'S  
86TH NATIONAL DAY

**HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, October 10, 1997, marks the 86th anniversary of the Republic of China's emergence as Asia's first republic. I heartily congratulate not only the Republic of China, but Taiwanese nationals all over the world on this momentous occasion.

For years, the people of Guam have welcomed Taiwanese citizens, whether as permanent residents or visitors, to our island. Our cultural, economic, and political collaborations have proven beneficial not only on an official level, but on social planes as well. The recent renovation of the Chinese Park in Upper Tumon is a perfect example of our appreciation of each other's cultures and ways of living.

I also take this opportunity to commend the work of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Guam under the guidance of Director

General Leo Fu-tien Liu. Through capable leaders such as Mr. Leo Fu-tien Liu, Guam is sure to benefit further from cordial relations with the Republic of China.

Guam benefits from the diversity of its residents, and certainly from the Chinese community on our island. Through their expertise, diligence and charity, Taiwanese nationals and residents have helped Guam become what it is today, an island with a vibrant economy and satisfied residents.

I again congratulate the Republic of China on this propitious occasion. Happy Double Ten.

THE CONFRATERNIDAD GUINERA  
VEINTIOCHO DE ENERO HONORED

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the members and officials of the Confraternidad Guinera Veintiocho de Enero.

This organization, founded on the 8th of October in 1972 in Union City by Mr. Manuel Rodriguez and other residents from the town of Guines on the beautiful island of Cuba, is celebrating their 25th anniversary. The sons and daughters of Guines living in the United States have made us proud of their service and dedication on behalf of their community in Union City, NJ.

This organization came together at a time when Union City, like many inner cities in the United States, was facing financial hardship because their businesses were moving to the suburbs. The Guineros, as part of the Cuban community in exile, contributed to the city's renaissance, not only in Union City, but also in the neighboring towns of North Bergen, West New York, Guttenberg, and Weehawken. It is gratifying to know that this organization brought together the sons and daughters of a land left behind and also of an entire community.

I am certain my colleagues will rise with me to honor this wonderful celebration of a job well done.

IN HONOR OF STEVE DILLENBECK,  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE  
PORT OF LONG BEACH

**HON. STEPHEN HORN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished public servant, Mr. Steve Dillenbeck, executive director of the Port of Long Beach, California. Steve is retiring after 34 years in port administration—more than 6 of which were spent as executive director in Long Beach.

This great port which is located in the 38th Congressional District, has grown significantly under Steve Dillenbeck's management. His extensive seaport experience has helped make the Port of Long Beach a centerpiece of the Pacific rim economy and a keystone of U.S. global trade.

When Steve became executive director in 1991, Long Beach was one of the busiest ports in the country. Today, the Port of Long Beach is No. 1. The city of Long Beach and the surrounding regional economy are better off today because of this economic growth, due in no small part to the dedicated effort of Steve Dillenbeck and his talented staff.

Mr. Speaker, I join the Long Beach City Council and Board of Harbor Commissioners as well as the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and all the other local officials who are honoring Steve Dillenbeck for a job "well done."

HONORING THE LIONS CLUB  
INTERNATIONAL OF PICO  
RIVERA FOR 60 YEARS OF OUT-  
STANDING AND INVALUABLE  
SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

**HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the men and women of the Lions Club International of Pico Rivera on the occasion of its 60th anniversary. I am proud to be an honorary member of the Lions Club International of Pico Rivera and commend my fellow Lions for 60 years of outstanding leadership and dedicated community service. On October 11, 1997, my fellow Lions will join to celebrate this milestone.

The Lions Club International began in June 1917, founded by Chicago Insurance agent Melvin Jones. He presented to a group of small business clubs his proposal of consolidating their clubs into a strong, influential club. Its goal would be to serve the community and humanity. At the first annual convention in October 1917, 23 clubs participated. Today, there are over 40,000 Lions Clubs around the world.

Recognized as the oldest continuous service club in Pico Rivera, the Lions Club of Pico Rivera was chartered on September 24, 1937. It is a part of the International Association of Lions Clubs, known worldwide for its contributions to goodwill, fellowship, and humanitarian service. The primary focus of this fine organization is service to all of mankind, in the local community and throughout the world. For 60 years, the Pico Rivera Lions Club has shared in this vision and commitment.

The men and women of the Lions Club of Pico Rivera have played major roles in the advancement of the city of Pico Rivera, working diligently to establish a positive spirit of cooperation among the citizens of our community. They provide assistance for persons who are visually impaired and who lack the resources needed for specialized eye surgery. The Lions Club of Pico Rivera works with merchants, local government, and other service clubs to build a strong community.

The Lions Club of Pico Rivera is under the leadership of my dear friend, Lion Hilda Lopez, president, an outstanding community activist who follows in the tradition of her late husband, Lion Laree, in assuming the helm of this valued community organization. She is assisted by Vincent Chavez, vice president; Jess Benavidez, co-vice president; Mary Kambourian, secretary; John Diaz, treasurer; Mario Diaz, tail twister; Jack Thomas, lion

tamer, Dr. Fred Winnen, director; Carlos Garcia, director; Lupe Quintana, director; and Philip Barnecut, central region chairman.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the men and women of the Lions Club of Pico Rivera on the occasion of its 60th anniversary and in the recognition of its outstanding and selfless service to our community.

IN HONOR OF VARDA AND ARNOLD  
WENDROFF FOR OUTSTANDING  
CONTRIBUTION TO THE BAYONNE  
JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER ON  
ITS 45TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding family, Varda and Arnold Wendroff, who together through their tireless efforts and altruism have devoted 20 years to the workings of the Jewish Community Center in Bayonne. This year the Center will be honoring the Wendroffs at the 45th Annual Sustaining Dinner Dance on October 9, 1997 at the Jewish Community Center in Bayonne, NJ.

The Jewish Community Center has been a gathering place for the entire Bayonne community for the last 45 years. The excellent nonsectarian programs are sought after by community members of all ages—2 to 102—for nursery classes, youth basketball, concerts, lectures, a nutritious lunch program for the elderly, services for children with special needs, summer camp, children's summer theater workshop, and an adult peer learning program.

Varda Wendroff is the immediate past president of the Bayonne Jewish Community Center where she demonstrated skill, generosity, and good humor throughout her successful term. She has chaired the membership, nursery school, and Holocaust remembrance committees. Varda currently serves as president of the Bayonne Jewish Community Council. In her professional life, Varda teaches German, French and ESL at Bayonne High School. She was recognized with the Governor's Award for Excellence in Teaching and named in "Who's Who Among American Teachers."

Arnold Wendroff is vice president of the Bayonne Jewish Community Center and chairperson of the Personnel Committee. Arnold had served as chairperson of the Drama Committee and has received the Nathan Secunda Award for dedication and devotion. Professionally, Arnold is a second vice president of Chase Manhattan Bank, where he has worked for 33 years. He was the recipient of the prestigious Excalibur Award given to outstanding Chase employees.

I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the outstanding work of the Bayonne Jewish Community Center and the Wendroffs, who are being honored at its Annual Sustaining Dinner. This exceptional family has shown the diligent and unselfish work which exemplifies the qualities of caring citizens working to better their community. It is an honor to have such outstanding community leaders residing in my district.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE YWCA  
WOMEN OF INFLUENCE

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, October 18, the YWCA of Essex and West Hudson will honor the winners of their Annual Women of Influence Awards. I ask my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating these special women of achievement.

Among the honorees is Ms. Antoinette (Tony) O'Flaherty, a dear friend of mine and a person whom I greatly admire for her strong spirit, her generosity, and her tremendous contributions to our community. Ms. O'Flaherty, who holds a degree in economics from Mount Holyoke College, has been a tireless crusader in behalf of the poor and homeless of our community. After a distinguished career in the labor movement and county government where she held a number of positions including public information officer and coordinator for the Essex County Department of Citizen Services, Ms. O'Flaherty devoted her considerable talent and energy to community service. She served as chairperson of the Homeless Task Force established by the Newark Emergency Services for Families. Under her creative leadership, the task force brought together a group of homeless women from hotels and shelters to exchange information and ideas. It also provided a forum for exchanges among service providers, State, county and government representatives. Ms. O'Flaherty has championed the cause of those who are still struggling to succeed in our society, giving a voice to their concerns, hopes and aspirations for the future. Her many volunteer commitments include service on the New Jersey Child Care Advisory; the Newark Preschool Council, Inc.; chairperson of the Newark Emergency Services for Families Homeless Task Force; chair of the Essex County Advisory Board of the Salvation Army; board member of the Isaiah House; board member of the United Labor Agency; member of the League of Women Voters; and chair of the Essex Advisory Board of the Catholic Community Services.

One of her many accomplishments while working with the county was that Ms. O'Flaherty was able to create employment opportunities for qualified minorities who had previously encountered difficulties in breaking barriers. She understood that employment was the key to the economic success of the community. After I was elected to Congress, I was honored that she agreed to serve on my child care task force, sharing her vast knowledge and expertise for the betterment of the 10<sup>th</sup> congressional district.

Ms. O'Flaherty remains a vibrant force in our community. Just yesterday, she was personally greeted by President Clinton when he arrived at the Metropolitan Baptist Church in Newark, where he discussed an issue close to her heart—child care.

The other Women of Influence honorees who have also distinguished themselves through outstanding professional achievements and dedicated community service are: Susan Jenkins, business, executive at Merck and a member of the YWCA Board; Bernice

Davis, education, past superintendent, Orange Board of Education; Cheryl Hudson, entrepreneur, proprietor/publisher, Just Us Books; Dr. M. Calhoun Thomas, medicine, pediatrician with 21 years of service to the Orange community; Dr. Byrte Johnson, religion, a life of dedication to the ministry of music and youth; Michele Williams, religion, youth Sunday school teacher, and minister of music; Angela Hayes, youth president of Senior Teens of Jack and Jill of America; Harriett Johnson, nursing, assistant executive director, Board of Nursing, Orange.

Mr. Speaker, our community is proud of these women of accomplishment, and I know my colleagues join me in extending congratulations and best wishes for continued success.

HONORING CHARO FOR 30 YEARS  
OF OUTSTANDING AND INVALUABLE  
SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

**HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize CHARO Community Development Corporation on the occasion of its 30 Anniversary. For 30 years, CHARO has provided exemplary service to the greater East Los Angeles community.

Incorporated as a non-profit in 1967, Richard Amador, then Chief of Field Operations, Office of the President and Federal Coordinator, President's Committee on Manpower, took a leave of office from the President Johnson administration to start CHARO. CHARO is an innovative and progressive community organization that seeks to develop self sustaining economic development initiatives that create jobs and wealth for the community.

Its first program was initiated to bridge Federal, State, and local government agencies with community based organizations. CHARO developed the Manpower Information and Technical Assistance Services Program (MITAS) to more effectively provide human resource development services to communities. Since its inception it has continued to expand and develop the services it offers to address the needs of the community.

In 1969, CHARO created HEART (Hospital Employment and Related Training Project). HEART was the first program to design and develop new job classifications and on the job training in non-certified positions in health services. This was the first program of its kind to link community residents with training in the health care profession.

In 1970, CHARO was the first non-government entity to develop an On the Job Training (OJT) Program in the private sector with support services called Instant Job. Previously OJT was only available through a trade union. This program expanded the opportunities for the community to learn a trade through apprenticeship.

In 1971, with the assistance from the Carnegie Foundation and the PEDR Corporation, CHARO developed the Institute for Leadership Development, a certificate Management Development Program. Through the certificate program, Hispanic business professionals were empowered with the tools to succeed in business and become community leaders.

CHARO developed the first Vocational Training with English as a second language program to serve non-English and limited English proficient clients. VocESL was established in 1972, opening the doors for Latinos, stymied by a language barrier, to gainful employment.

CHARO Industries, established in 1972, addresses the lack of vocational opportunities for the developmentally disabled population. CHARO met this need by establishing the first bilingual/bicultural sheltered workshop for developmentally disabled adults. CHARO contracted assembly, packaging, and fulfillment services with private and public entities.

In 1973, CHARO created the first non-government employment and training center, CHARO Career Center. For over 20 years, the Center has facilitated in the placement of over 10,000 individuals. CHARO has been a leader in fixed price contract services, often placing long term unemployed and those formerly on welfare assistance or recently released from correctional facilities in to full time employment.

To serve families visiting relatives or friends in the hospital, CHARO established in 1976 an emergency drop-in child care center at the U.S.C.—Los Angeles County Medical Center. And in 1978, CHARO created the Child Development Center to address the child care needs of the Los Nietos-Whittier School District. Now serving over 150 pre-school children, the program operates as a child development center, providing educational enhancement exercises and food service program to local low income families. Seeing a rise in latch-key children, the Los Nietos-Whittier School District again called upon CHARO to meet the needs of working families. Using its own funds, in 1983, CHARO established two before and after school care facilities. Both programs provide homework assistance and tutoring programs for the after school youth program.

Addressing the need for affordable housing, in 1989, CHARO developed one of the first complexes in East Los Angeles, Morengo Apartments, comprised of 24 one, two, three, and four bedroom units for low and moderate income families. In 1991, AMCAL, a subsidiary of CHARO, developed Arroyo Villas, a 22 unit complex of one, two, and three bedroom units for very low, low, and moderate income families in Highland Park.

In 1990, the CHARO Industrial Park was established on 2.7 acres in East Los Angeles for economic development. Recognizing that CHARO could provide competitive quality services, employing local residents, CHARO became the first non-profit to contract with Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, providing environmental services and installation of energy and water saving devices in home located in the City of Los Angeles. In 1993, CHARO created the Mid City Property Management to provide design and remodeling services to CHARO subsidiaries and divisions, and property management.

Since 1993, CHARO has trained over 400 Angelenos through the Entrepreneur Training Center. Utilizing the Cornell University/Wharton School of business, CHARO established the first bilingual/bicultural entrepreneur training program, resulting in over 110 new jobs and over 102 new businesses. The Los Angeles Career Center was established in 1994 as one of the first One Stop Employment and

Training Center serving East Los Angeles. Over the last two years, the Center has assisted over 700 residents in re-employment, generating over \$18.5 million in new wages. This year, CHARO implemented the East Los Angeles Business Assistance Center. Close to 100 clients received services, totaling over 500 hours of technical assistance, with a number of businesses referred to lenders for banking and financial services.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I rise to recognize the 30 years of dedicated community service and exemplary leadership CHARO has provided the residents on my congressional district and throughout the greater East Los Angeles area. I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Richard Amador and the men and women of CHARO Community Development Corporation on its 30th Anniversary.

### AMERICAN LAND SOVEREIGNTY PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. JAMES C. GREENWOOD**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 7, 1997*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 901) to preserve the sovereignty of the United States over public lands and acquired lands owned by the United States, and to preserve State sovereignty and private property rights in non-Federal lands surrounding these public lands and acquired lands:

Mr. GREENWOOD. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my support for H.R. 901, the American Land Sovereignty Act.

Unfortunately, on October 8, 1997, when the full House of Representatives voted on final passage of H.R. 901, I, in error, cast a "nay" vote on final passage. Mr. Speaker, I had intended to vote "yea" on final passage for H.R. 901.

I had assumed that when I cast my "nay" vote, that I was voting against a Miller of California amendment that would have weakened the bill. Mr. Speaker, only when I returned to my office did I realize that I made this error.

Mr. Chairman, I have always been a supporter of the American Land Sovereignty Act and voted in favor of similar legislation that the House acted on in the 104th Congress.

Furthermore, in the 105th Congress I voted in favor of several amendments, that were offered by my colleague, Congressman COBURN, to various appropriations bills, that would prohibit any funds appropriated in those bills from being used to support the U.S. Man and the Biosphere Program or the World Heritage Program.

Mr. Chairman, I regret that I made this error and wanted to take this opportunity to reiterate my support for this type of legislation.

### FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION REGULATORY MODERNIZATION ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 7, 1997*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I will support this bill today, because I believe this legislation will begin an important process in modernizing and improving the operations of the Food and Drug Administration. In addition, the bill will reauthorize and improve the highly successful Prescription Drug User Fees Act.

However, I am concerned that we should not take up a bill of this magnitude on the Suspension Calendar. While it is true that Chairman BILEY and Ranking Member DINGELL informed members of the Commerce Committee of their intentions, I do not believe this is an appropriate process.

First, not every member of this body is a member of the Commerce Committee. We should not restrict the rights of the members of the House to debate and offer amendments to this legislation. We cannot know if members planned to offer amendments, since the regular order was not followed and the Rules Committee did not meet on this bill.

Second, the Suspension of the Rules procedure is generally used to approve measures that are non-controversial or do not require large authorizations. This historical practice is reflected in Rule 28 of the House Republican Conference Rules that admonishes the Speaker not to schedule Suspension bills of over \$100 million in authorization, except if he seeks a waiver from the leadership. When Democrats had control of the House, they instituted a similar procedure. This legislation authorizes user fees in great excess of the \$100 million threshold and should be debated through regular order.

Third, this legislation creates a number of new responsibilities for the Food and Drug Administration. In addition, the FDA will need to divert a substantial amount of resources to implement the new policy changes contained in this legislation. This year the President requested \$68 million less than in FY 1997. Even though Congress appropriated substantially more, we must continue to ensure that the FDA has the resources to meet all its mandates, not just prescription drug reviews. I co-signed a letter with 85 other members of the House to request the President to expend more resources inspecting imported food. I have included a copy of the letter for the record and want to urge this body not to stretch the FDA so thin that it cannot perform its necessary public health functions.

Finally, I intended to speak in support of my amendment to the legislation authorizing a notification procedure at the FDA in relation to Food Contact Substances. Although the substance of my legislation was adopted by the Committee, a portion of my proposed authorizing user fees, a concept supported by the industry that would pay the user fees, was not accepted. I want to make it clear that although I acceded to the request of the majority to drop the user fees, it is my sincere hope and belief that the House should accede to the Senate position in conference and adopt the user fees.

In short Mr. Speaker, the issues surrounding this legislation are very complex. They do not lend themselves to suspending the rules of the House and expediting consideration, just because it is convenient. The Rules of the House protect the members in their rights to debate and thoughtfully consider legislation. I do not believe they should be suspended so lightly.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

WASHINGTON, DC, SEPTEMBER 24, 1997.

Hon. WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON,  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: We urge you to give serious consideration to remedying the inadequate food safety provisions in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Because of your commitment to ensuring the safety of our nation's food supply, we expect that you will not agree to fast track authority that does not contain adequate food safety protections. Current fast track proposals do not address these concerns.

In an effort to increase trade with Mexico, NAFTA limited border inspections of food and allowed Mexican trucks to enter the U.S. with limited inspection.

These lax inspection practices contributed to a sharp increase in food imports from Mexico: imports of Mexican fruit have increased 45 percent, and vegetable imports have risen 31 percent. More than 70 percent of these imports are carried into the U.S. on trucks. The General Accounting Office (GAO) recently found that 99 percent of Mexican trucks enter the U.S. without any inspection.

These provisions in NAFTA have resulted in imports of fruits and vegetables contaminated with diseases and unhealthy pesticides. We were alarmed earlier this year when 179 Michigan school children contracted hepatitis after eating tainted Mexican strawberries. In order to prevent similar incidents in the future, we urge you to take the following action:

Renegotiate the provisions in NAFTA that relate to border inspections and food safety, and ensure that any fast track authority include strong food safety protections.

Increase the funding for border inspections or, alternatively, limit the increasing rate of food imports to ensure the safety of our food supply.

Begin an aggressive program to label all food stuffs—including fresh and frozen fruits, vegetables and meats—with their country of origin.

We look forward to working with you on these vital public health issues.

Sincerely,

Sherrod Brown (D-13-OH), Bart Stupak (D-1-MI), Neil Abercrombie (D-1-HI), Tom Allen (D-1-ME), John E. Baldacci (D-2-ME), Jim Barcia (D-5-MI), Rod Blagojevich (D-5-IL), David Bonior (D-10-MI), Sonny Bono (R-44-CA), Bob Borsari (D-3-PA), George Brown Jr. (D-42-CA), Julia Carson (D-1-OR), Tom Coburn (R-2-OK), Jerry Costello (D-12-IL), John Conyers (D-14-MI), William J. Coyne (D-14-PA), Pat Danner (D-6-MO), Danny Davis (D-7-IL), Jim Davis (D-11-FL), Peter DeFazio (D-4-OR), Rosa Delauro (D-3-CT), William Delahunt (D-10-MA), Ronald Dellums (D-9-CA), Mike Doyle (D-18-PA).

Eliot Engel (D-17-NY), Lane Evans (D-17-IL), Vic Fazio (D-3-CA), Marc Foley (R-16-FL), Martin Frost (D-24-TX), Elizabeth Furse (D-1-OR), Sam Gejdenson (D-2-CT), Luis Gutierrez (D-4-IL), Maurice D. Hinchey (D-26-NY), Jay Johnson (D-8-WI), Paul E. Kanjorski (D-11-PA), Marcy Kaptur (D-9-OH), Joseph Kennedy (D-8-MA), Patrick Kennedy (D-1-RI), Dale Kildee (D-9-MI),

Ron Kind (D-3-WI), Ron Klink (D-4-PA); Dennis Kucinich (D-10-OH), Tom Lantos (D-12-CA), John Lewis (D-5-GA), William O. Lipinski (D-3-IL), James H. Maloney (D-5-CT), Thomas Manton (D-7-NY), Matthew Martinez (D-31-CA), Frank Mascara (D-20-PA), Carolyn McCarthy (D-4-NY), Jim McGovern (D-3-MA), Cynthia Ann McKinney (D-4-GA), Marty Meehan (D-5-MA), Jack Metcalf (R-2-WA), George Miller (D-7-CA), Patsy Mink (D-2-HI), Jerrold Nadler (D-8-NY), Jim Oberstar (D-8-MN), David R. Obey (D-7-WI), John Olver (D-1-MA), Frank Pallone (D-6-NJ), William J. Pascrell (D-8-NJ), Colin Peterson (D-7-MN), Glen Poshard (D-19-IL), Steve Rothman (D-9-NJ), Lynn Rivers (D-13-MI), Bobby Rush (D-1-IL).

Martin Sabo (D-5-MN), Bernard Sanders (I-At Large-VT), Adam Smith (D-9-WA), Debbie Stabenow (D-8-MI), Pete Stark (D-13-CA), Ted Strickland (D-6-OH), Karen Thurman (D-5-FL), John Tierney (D-6-MA), Ed Towns (D-10-NY), James A. Traficant, Jr. (D-17-OH), Bruce Vento (D-4-MN), Nydia Velasquez (D-12-NY), Peter J. Visclosky (D-1-IN), Maxine Waters (D-35-CA), Mel Watt (D-12-NC), Henry Waxman (D-29-CA), Robert Wexler (D-19-FL), Robert A. Weygand (D-2-RI), Sid Yates (D-9-IL).

IN HONOR OF JOSE ROSARIO:  
FOUNDER OF FOCUS AND A  
LEADER IN THE HISPANIC COM-  
MUNITY

### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding gentleman, Jose Rosario, who served as the founding father of FOCUS and contributor for the endowment of the Hispanic American community. On October 10, 1997, the Puerto Rican Congress Inc. will posthumously honor Mr. Rosario with a special reception at the Hilton in Secaucus, NJ.

Mr. Rosario, born in Moca, PR, passed away on August 29, 1997, in Carolina, PR. He was a hardworking accountant and a licensed real estate agent. Before moving to New Jersey 40 years ago with his wife Phyllis, he worked for the commonwealth of Puerto Rico. It is through his roots and heritage that he left a legacy of determination for improving human services in the Hispanic-American community.

Mr. Rosario, El Viejo as he was known to his friends, founded FOCUS, the Newark based social services agency, in 1967. Its mission was to provide education, job training, and other services for underprivileged Hispanics from the Newark area. Today, known as the Focus Hispanic Center for Community Development, the agency, led by Casto Maldonado, executive director, and Frank Morales, chairman of the FOCUS board of trustees, serves more than 9,000 clients every year through grants and donations to fund an annual budget of over \$1 million.

Mr. Rosario also established the New Jersey Office of Hispanic Affairs which set up the first bilingual education program in New Jersey schools and successfully pushed for passage of a law requiring Spanish interpreters in

the courts. Mr. Rosario pressed for the State high school equivalency examination to be given in Spanish, helped establish the New Jersey Puerto Rican Statewide Parade Committee, and in 1977 was awarded a seton hall honorary degree in humanities or improving the way of life for Hispanics in New Jersey.

I thank the Puerto Rican Congress for this tribute and it is an honor and a pleasure to recognize the accomplishments of this celebrated man. He is deeply respected for his tenacity in seeking the advancement of all Hispanic-Americans. I am certain that my colleagues will join me in paying tribute to this remarkable gentleman.

### TRIBUTE TO HENRY B. GONZALEZ

SPEECH OF

### HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 7, 1997*

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to pay tribute today to a long-time friend and dean of the Texas delegation, the Honorable HENRY B. GONZALEZ, who has announced that he will resign from Congress this year after 36 years of outstanding service.

For most of his life, HENRY GONZALEZ has been a dedicated public servant, both in Congress and previously in local and State government in Texas. As chairman and ranking minority member on the Committee on Banking and Financial Services in the House of Representatives, he has made his imprint on our Nation's banking, financial, and housing laws. As Representative of the 20th Congressional district of Texas, he has been a formidable advocate for policies and programs affecting his constituents. And as dean of the Texas delegation, he has been a respected and influential colleague.

I knew HENRY GONZALEZ when he first served in the Texas State Senate. Previously, he had been a member and mayor pro-tem of the San Antonio City Council, deputy director of the San Antonio Housing Authority and probation officer for Texas County. He worked as a civilian cable and radio censor during World War II and operated a Spanish/English translating business with his father. He also taught math to veterans and citizenship classes to resident aliens. HENRY was born and raised and educated in San Antonio schools, with the exception of studying civil engineering for 3 years at the University of Texas at Austin before graduating from St. Mary's University school of law. His life has been one of giving to those who needed him.

In all that he has done in public service, HENRY GONZALEZ has been an outstanding Representative for his constituents in Texas, the Hispanic community, and our Nation. During Hispanic Heritage Month, I can think of no one more deserving of our respect and our gratitude for 36 years of dedicated service in the House of Representatives than my good friend and colleague, HENRY B. GONZALEZ. As we adjourn today, I ask that my colleagues join me in bidding him a fond farewell and in wishing him God speed in his retirement.

### AMERICAN LAND SOVEREIGNTY PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

### HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 7, 1997*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 901) to preserve the sovereignty of the United States over public lands and acquired lands owned by the United States, and to preserve State sovereignty and private property rights in non-Federal lands surrounding those public lands and acquired lands:

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 901, The American Land Sovereignty Act. No longer can we sit back and let the United Nations dictate US domestic policy or infringe on our national sovereignty.

This is not a new argument. How many times do we have to hear about the abuses of the United Nations. In Alabama we hear that the United Nations is mired in one boondoggle after another, how we owe them \$1 billion, or how our troops are going to be forced to miss Christmas because some foreign dignitary believes it is reassuring to have our military guarding his personal possessions. Now we learn that the UN has declared certain pieces of United States soil to possess international status, independent of US sovereignty.

This is becoming unacceptable and borders on ridiculous. How much of this are we going to stomach before we tell the UN that it does not control the United States. The People govern the United States, and, as Representatives, we here in Congress are given the honor of governing this nation on behalf of our constituents. We need to unequivocally inform the UN that this is our country, not theirs. We need to tell the UN that we are going to hold it under close scrutiny and question all its actions.

Today, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 901. This important piece of legislation is a first step into curtailing the greedy clutches of the United Nations. It requires the Administration to seek Congressional approval before it can nominate any US land for inclusion on the World Heritage List. In addition, H.R. 901 stipulates that all lands that are to be included as a Biosphere Reserve must also be brought before Congress.

This bill sends a clear message to the UN and President Clinton that we are not going to allow any organization to disregard American Sovereignty. If the UN wants to make decrees that affect the United States, it must learn that it has to go through proper channels and ask permission.

The citizens of the United States, not the UN, will determine their own lives and their own futures.

### TRIBUTE TO THE ARTIST WYLAND

### HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication of the 76th Wyland

Whaling Wall in the city of Detroit on October 13, 1997. Wyland has chosen his home town to paint the 76th and final wall as part of his Great Lakes Midwest Tour.

In the tradition of Jacques Cousteau, by whom he was inspired as a youngster, Wyland has dedicated his career to educating and raising public awareness of the critical importance of our oceans and marine life. He is internationally renowned, with murals in Canada, Japan, Australia, France, and Mexico. His work will continue as he has set a goal of 100 murals worldwide by the year 2011.

While 1998 has been declared the "International Year of the Ocean," the people of Michigan, surrounded by the Great Lakes, have always treasured the unique habitat and wildlife fostered by marine environments. Each of Wyland's whaling walls will serve to heighten awareness and encourage future generations to appreciate and recognize the importance of marine habitats.

Mr. speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commanding Wyland, a native Detroiter, for his vision, dedication to our environment, and commitment to educating children and the public at large about our endangered oceans. I extend my gratitude for his donation of time and talent to beautifying our city, and encouragement as he continues to his 100th Whaling Wall Mural in the year 2011.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION RESOLUTION AND ADJUDICATION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. STEPHEN E. BUYER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 6, 1997*

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I on the House National Security Committee, are in the process of completing the congressional review of sexual misconduct in the military. As difficult and shocking as that review has been, it pales in comparison to the problems that are coming to light in the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Department of Veterans Affairs, this Nation's second largest agency, is a department that possesses a climate and culture that can only be described as openly hostile to women.

This culture not only allows the harassment of women, it aggressively moves to cover-up any allegations made by employees and often rewards those who have been convicted of wrong-doing.

There is a bunker mentality prevalent at the VA. It appears that the VA, when faced with accusations of sexual harassment, hunkers down and waits out the controversy while speaking aggressively. In reality, the attitude is that the VA winks at the claims of sexual harassment, protects the accused and victimizes the accusers.

As Kathy Lyons, a nurse with the VA described the VA process as, "The way they handle the thing is to punish the victims."

In 1993, this committee considered enacting legislation to re-organize the VA equal opportunity reporting system in light of abuses at the Atlanta VA hospital by the director, associate director, and chief of staff. At that time,

Secretary Brown convinced the committee that he had a "Zero tolerance" for sexual harassment and the committee did not pass the legislation.

My good friend and colleague, Congressman JAMES CLYBURN stated at that time that, "I don't care what you try to do, how many procedures you put in, how many training sessions you have, if your employees do not perceive the process or whatever you've done to be an adequate response to their past problems, there is going to be absolutely no trust in the process at all."

The problem has persisted. The pattern of reward and coverup, had it been undertaken in the military, would result in a major scandal. In the VA, it merely constitutes business as usual.

In April, the VA Committee held hearings that revealed, as described by Subcommittee of VA Oversight TERRY EVERETT, a pattern of "Club MED" treatment for senior VA employees that had been accused of sexually harassing their employees.

Following that hearing, Chairman EVERETT also stated that, "I have a concern there is a Good-Ole-Boy network out there and that there is a culture within the VA that protects the managers."

Specifically, the committee found that:

A hospital director in North Carolina who groped and abused female employees who was transferred to Florida to a job specifically created for him that preserved his six-figure salary;

A VA Director in Virginia who was reassigned to Atlanta after he was accused of seven accounts of sexual harassment.

A VA personnel director in California has been reprimanded but not severely punished after an investigation into his rape and sodomy of employees in his hospital.

Reports that since 1993, the VA has punished nine VA managers for various sexual harassment complaints.

Reports that the VA Headquarters in Washington alone has 73 equal opportunity complaints pending by employees at that facility.

Overall, the VA work force is 8.52 percent of the total Federal work force, but files 14.1 percent of all harassment cases filed within the Government.

These cases illustrate that the VA's culture is one of paying off the accusers and covering for the perpetrators.

The overall culture starts with the leadership at the highest levels of the VA. The fact that Acting VA Secretary and Secretary designate Hershel Gober is married to VA counsel Mary Lou Keener and that Mr. Gober's nomination has been placed on hold for irregularities in his background investigation is evidence of problems and conflict of interest at the top. I am deeply concerned this situation has been allowed to exist at the VA.

During consideration of this bill in committee, I offered an amendment that would establish an independent panel to assess the culture of the VA with regards to sexual harassment, equal opportunity, and hostility in the workplace.

I am pleased and honored that my colleagues accepted my amendment on a bipartisan basis. This is a sign that Members on both sides of the aisle recognized the problems within the VA and the need to look at those problems.

Four years after this committee's initial hearings, egregious problems still exist. I have

doubts in the VA's ability to police themselves. They simply have no grasp on the scope of these problems.

H.R. 1703 is designed to establish a new VA employment discrimination complaint resolution system. This legislation addresses the problem with the system within the VA.

My amendment tasks a panel to look at the people, their attitudes and practices within the VA. We need a baseline look at the culture within the VA, and recommendations on how to change that culture.

Some of the cases that the VA Committee has probed could have been handled even with the old EEO system in place. Within the VA, there was merely a failure to aggressively pursue. We need to know why those within the VA have this attitude, and what can be done to correct the situation.

RECOGNITION OF "A SAFE PLACE" FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

**HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with gratitude and admiration to acknowledge A Safe Place which will be honored on Saturday, October 11, 1997 for its dedication, service, and tireless commitment to the bay area community.

A Safe Place provides crucial supportive and transitional services to battered women and their children. The mission of this organization is to decrease the number of battered women and educate the community on the issue of domestic violence. This extraordinary organization also provides personal support and attention to battered women, assisting them in becoming self-sufficient and providing skills to develop positive self images which in my opinion, is crucial in breaking the cycle of violence. I cannot emphasize enough the value of these services to our community. All those who have tirelessly cared, and passionately struggled to create this organization and expand its resources must be commended.

In 1976, a small group of women working in a shelter in San Francisco, La Casa de las Madres, began a shelter in the East Bay. Soon after, they began providing referral services and crisis counseling from a small office in Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Oakland run solely by volunteers. The initial, attentive activist focused on the needs of the community, and created the basis for a holistic and nurturing environment for women and children, and a community outreach violence prevention program.

With this objective as the foundation for A Safe Place, the L.C. and Mary J. Scaggs Foundation provided a grant in 1978 which made it possible to fund three half-time positions. Over time, with grants, corporate contributions, and individual donations, the staff was expanded.

In December of 1980, A Safe Place was forced to find new facilities, or shut down completely. With the help of the media, the organization received a \$100,000 anonymous donation and a \$75,000 interest-free loan, which enabled them to purchase a house to be used as their new permanent facility. In March of 1981, the doors were opened and the house

welcomed 20 women and their children. The resolution of this crisis situation illustrated not only the dedication of the staff and volunteers of A Safe Place, but also the value and appreciation that the bay area community had for its services.

That was over 15 years ago. Since then, countless women have benefited from the care and dedication of this organization. Those who have entered A Safe Place receive much more than shelter, they experience physical, emotional and spiritual comfort and support which empowers them to begin a new way of life. In my opinion, the entire community reaps the benefits from the seeds planted and sown by A Safe Place which through its educational focus attacks domestic violence at its source and establish new patterns of productive living.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to salute A Safe Place and the role it has played in creating a safer, healthier, and more peaceful bay area community. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking this organization for its invaluable service.

IN HONOR OF MIGUEL PEREZ: AN  
OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL AND  
VALUED COMMUNITY MEMBER

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a special gentleman, Miguel Perez, who has distinguished himself through continuous dedication and hard work for the Latino community. Mr. Perez will be honored by the Bergen County Hispanic-American Advisory Commission on October 16, 1997 at the board of freeholders in Hackensack, NJ.

Throughout his long career, Mr. Perez has been an educator, role model, and strong voice for the downtrodden. He entered the United States as a refugee at an early age. He didn't speak a word of English, but by the time he reached high school, he became the sports editor of the Miami High Times. This was the beginning of a long and illustrious career in the media. Mr. Perez went on to become editor of two college newspapers, including, "The Falcon Times" of Miami Dade Community College, which received the Pace-maker Award, given to top six college newspapers in the nation. He was also founder and first editor of the Good Times of Florida International University, where he graduated in 1974 with a bachelor's degree in political science. Mr. Perez continued his passion and advocacy for those who are ignored, mis-

understood, and victims of discrimination, serving as a bridge to non-Latinos. "Teaching important lessons about our community," stated Latin New York magazine, "and tries to instill a sense of pride in Latinos."

Mr. Perez's commitment to serving his community extends beyond his journalism. In 1979 he was instrumental in helping police persuade three Spanish speaking gunmen to release two dozen hostages held in a Brooklyn supermarket. Two years later he spent three months disguised as an illegal alien and wrote a four-part series for the Daily News on sweatshops: "The new slavery," for which he was awarded the Public Service Award of the Public Relations Society of America, New York chapter. Upon graduation from Columbia, he went to work for the Daily News as one of the few English-language Latino columnists in the country at that time. In 1982 Perez won the Mike Berger Award, considered the top print journalism award in New York. This year he won a fellowship from the Newspaper Association of America to study interactive media at the prestigious Poytner Institute in St. Petersburg, FL.

A journalist more than twenty-four years, born in Havana, Cuba, 47 years ago, Mr. Perez has been covering the New York metropolitan area's Latino community relentlessly. He epitomizes excellence in community service, and it is an honor and a pleasure to have him residing in my district. I am certain that my colleagues will rise with me and honor this remarkable individual