to help provide relief from wasted time and energy spent tied up in traffic congestion. BART's expected ridership on the peninsula will eventually reduce close to 100,000 cars a day on neighboring freeways. Getting people out of their cars and off of freeways will help improve air quality in our region and will conserve fuel.

We have waited a long time on the peninsula for relief from the gridlock which exists on our freeways, Mr. Speaker. I have been a strong and consistent advocate since the 1950's for a mass transit system completely around the San Francisco Bay. I see the beginning of construction on the long-awaited extension of BART to the airport as a further important step in that direction. I look forward to the day when construction is complete and we will put this much-needed rapid transit extension to the airport into service.

CONGRATULATING JAMIE CLEMENTS ON HIS RETIREMENT AS LEGAL COUNSEL OF SCOTT & WHITE

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 7, 1997

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Mr. Jamie Clements on his December retirement as legal counsel for Scott & White Hospital in Temple, TX. I Hope Members will join with me today to thank Mr. Clements for his contributions to Scott & White, his community, and the country.

During his adult life, Mr. Clements dedicated himself to the legal and medical professions. He also found time to devote countless hours to local causes and charities.

Mr. Clements was born in 1930 in Crockett, TX. He attended the University of Texas at Austin where he received both a B.A. in 1953 with the first of his three terms as a Texas House Representative. His Texas House service was interrupted when he went to serve his country in the U.S. Marines Corps. From 1956–58 he was an infantry platoon leader before moving to the 3d Marine Air Wing where he was a legal officer. In 1959, he returned to the Texas House where he served his third and final term.

For the next 35 years, Jamie Clements established himself as a prominent member of the State and national bar associations and a strong leader in the field of medical law. He served as chairman for the committee on Liaison with the Medical Profession for the Texas Bar Association. He is the founder and past president of the National Health Lawyers Association. Jamie Clements is a professor of medical jurisprudence at the Texas A&M University College of Medicine, a member of the Government's Committee on Organ Transplantation and is a former president of the Board of Trustee of the Presbyterian Children's Home and Service Agency of Texas. He capped his legal/medical career with his present position as legal counsel of Scott & White Hospital.

In addition to his contributions to the legal and medical professions, Mr. Clements was an active member of the Temple community. From 1964 through 1965 he was the president of the Temple Rotary Club. In 1969 he was the chairman of the Temple Planning Commission and from 1970 to 1974 served as mayor of Temple. He went on to serve Temple as the chairman of the Law Enforcement Advisory Board, president of the Cultural Activities Center, a member of the Board of Directors of the Temple Industrial Foundation, and the president of the Temple Leadership Council.

On a personal note, I am grateful to call Jamie Clements a close, personal friend. He is a role model for all of us: a man of integrity, decency and compassion.

Let me also say that every accolade to Jamie Clements must also be considered a tribute to his wife of 35 years, Ann Trigg Clements. As a wife and a mother she has been a true partner in all of Jamie Clement's accomplishments.

Jamie and Ann Clements have made their community and our country a better place. They have personally touched the lives of all of us who know them and thousands of others who are the beneficiaries of their unselfish service.

I ask members to join me in wishing Jamie, Ann and their three children every success and happiness in the future.

JOHN MILTON GREGORY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 7, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the students at John Milton Gregory elementary School located in the 7th Congressional district on Chicago's Westside. Recently, we conducted a town hall meeting on education with the student body at that school. I would like to thank Dr. Hazel Steward, education officer for the Chicago Public Schools [CPS], Mr. Artie Borders, principal at Gregory and Mr. Lafayette Ford, local school council liaison for the CPS, for their assistance. The meeting will be broadcast on Cable Access TV (channel 19) on November 19, 1997 at 2 p.m., and again at 7 p.m.

The Gregory students were informed, thoughtful, and articulate. They were genuinely concerned about the differences between inner city and suburban schools. The questions were, and I quote, ''Why are suburban books newer than ours?'' ''Why are suburban desks newer than ours?'' ''Why is our equipment older?''; and ''Why don't we have recess anymore?'' These were big questions from young people that are intelligent enough to understand and recognize these differences. Gregory students were asking the same type of questions as Members of Congress.

In response to their questions, I had to tell the children at Gregory School that the majority in Congress was more committed to funding a $21 billion weapons program to purchase nine B–2 stealth bombers than placing these resources where they are desperately needed; in our educational system. I had to tell the children at Gregory that the U.S. Air Force does not even want or need these bombers. I had to tell the children at Gregory that the average urban school needs $1.7 million for repairs and upgrade, and we claim the title of being the riches country in the world. And I had to tell the children at Gregory that the majority in Congress does not see the need to heavily invest in our Nation's future, our children. Anyone who does not understand why we should be investing in public education ought to tune in on November 19 and be enlightened.

INTRODUCTION OF ''THE OSHA COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE ACT''

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 7, 1997

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to codify the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's [OSHA] consultation program. This is one in a series of bills which are intended to continue the process of changing OSHA.

More than 2 years ago, President Clinton, in response to our demands for changes in OSHA, promised to ''reinvent'' OSHA. One of the principal changes in that promised reinvention was ''to give employers a choice between partnership with OSHA or traditional enforcement.''

Unfortunately, OSHA's principal initiative for giving employers a choice, the so-called cooperative compliance programs has evolved into a program of targeted enforcement, as even OSHA now acknowledges.

In contrast, there are programs, operated by the States, which do give employers the choice of partnership or traditional enforcement. These relatively small programs have received some Federal funding since the 1970's. However, authorization for such consultation programs has never been made a part of the OSHAct, and, not incidentally, consultation has been one of the most underfunded and frequently ignored aspects of OSHA's program. In some states, an employer who requests consultation assistance must wait more than 1 year, sometimes 2 years, to receive it.

The lack of funding and recognition for the consultation and education programs is in contrast to their recognized importance toward meeting the goal of safer workplaces. In fact, in 1996 the $32 million appropriated for consultation programs allowed States to conduct approximately 24,000 consultation visits, while the same number of Federal enforcement inspections—24,000—cost OSHA over $120 million. My own company has participated in the North Carolina consultation program, and we have found that it truly is a way in which employers can work in partnership with OSHA and improve safety and health.

My legislation is based on the program in North Carolina, which operates with a combination of Federal and State funds. As is the case with the existing Federal funding, under the bill States would receive grants to provide both on-site consultation and other education and training activities. Employers who requested an on-site consultation or audit would not be subject to fines unless they failed to correct violations. Employers who request an on-site consultation and do correct violations may be exempt from OSHA general schedule inspections for 1 year.

The legislation specifies that not less than 90 percent of OSHA's compliance assistance funding should be used for the consultation