

If we fail to alleviate this shortage of skilled workers, we will soon see the Ford Motor Cos. and Boeings take their business overseas to foreign competitors who have sufficient labor, while American businesses just disappear.

On January 27, I introduced H.R. 3110, the Skilled Workforce Enhancement Act, to return power and resources back to these small business owners so that they can address their need for new skilled workers. My bill would allow these small shop entrepreneurs to train people in their own plants. Currently, such training is cost-prohibitive to most small businesses. H.R. 3110 would allow the employer to train an individual through an 8,000 hour, 4-year apprenticeship program and, after completion, the trainee would be hired on for at least 1 year. In exchange, the employer will receive a tax credit of up to 80 percent of the wages paid to the apprentice, starting after the 5th year, in 20 percent increments for 5 years. The newly trained employee will have already been paying taxes for 5 years before the employer begins to receive the credit.

We need to pass this bill because it will: I. Provide a needed incentive to have the people who know the industry train the next generation of skilled workers in the metalworking trades; II. shift the responsibility of training from the bureaucracy to the private sector; III. encourage us to keep jobs in this country rather than recruiting from overseas; and IV. give small business some much-needed tax relief.

I would like to thank my constituent, Mr. Bill Bachman, Sr. of Bachman Machine Co., Inc. of St. Louis, MO, for his research, hard work, and most of all, his persistence in getting this legislation introduced. It is a workable solution that he and Mike Mittler of Mittler Bros. Machine & Tool proposed to help solve a real, and increasingly urgent problem in their industry. I would also like to thank John Cox and Becky Anderson of the National Tooling and Machining Association for their assistance on this issue. And I thank my colleagues, Representatives RON PAUL (R-TX) and STEVEN LATOURETTE (R-OH) for being original cosponsors of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, we have people who need good jobs and good jobs waiting for the right people. Let's match them up. I urge all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to become a cosponsor of the Skilled Workforce Enhancement Act.

A TRIBUTE TO SANDY HUME

HON. TOM DeLAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Mr. DeLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an energetic, intelligent and gifted young man who tragically died over the weekend.

Sandy Hume was a rising star in the media world. An aggressive reporter, Sandy broke the biggest congressional story of the year in 1997, regarding the frictions in the House Republican leadership. I didn't always agree with Sandy's conclusions, but his reporting was first class.

I'll always remember Sandy, roaming the halls of the Congress, hanging out in the Speaker's lobby, getting insights from so many members of Congress. He had a gift for un-

derstanding the news business, and he had a knack for getting the story first.

Sandy Hume represented the best of the younger generation. He worked hard, but he didn't let hard work upset his perspective. He had an innate sense of right and wrong, an abounding sense of fairness and a healthy skepticism of the political class that served him well as a reporter.

Sandy's death is tragic. Our souls survive death, the Roman poet said, and we know that Sandy's soul lives on. But all of us who knew him will miss Sandy's spirit, his sense of humor, and his sense of mission.

I want to extend my deepest condolences to his family, including Sandy's father Brit and his wife Kim, Sandy's mother Clare, and Sandy's sister, Virginia.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE JUELANN K. CATHEY

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Judge Juelann K. Cathey, who will be honored by the San Fernando Valley Bar Association for her many accomplishments throughout her career.

For over two decades, Juelann has dedicated her time and energy to our community through her work in the legal system. After graduating from the University of San Fernando Valley College of Law with honors, Juelann began her career as public defender in Colusa County. She was quickly promoted to Assistant District Attorney. Recognized for her hard work ethic and dedication, Juelann has continued to advance within the system. She now serves as the Los Angeles Municipal Court Commissioner.

Perhaps one attribute that colleagues find most refreshing is Juelann's ability to handle a stressful situation with humor. Though everyone is well aware of the seriousness of the issues she deals with on a daily basis, her grace under pressure puts everyone in the courtroom at ease. In addition, Juelann's ability to mediate situations successfully and her willingness to incorporate the ideas of others make her well respected among lawyers and her court staff.

These achievements are a testament not only to Juelann's dedication to her career, they also illustrate her strength of character and perseverance. Though Juelann is widely respected throughout our community for her demeanor in the courtroom, perhaps it is her personal strength and will to succeed which is so amazing. Widowed at the age of 28, Juelann was left to raise six young children on her own. Realizing that she needed to financially support her family, she decided to attend law school. Balancing school work and family was not easy, but Juelann excelled at both.

Booker T. Washington once said that, "Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which one has overcome while trying to succeed." Faced with a devastating personal tragedy, Juelann chose to move forward, making a life for her children and working to improve the social conditions within our community.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in paying tribute to Judge Juelann Cathey. She is truly a role model to those with whom she interacts, not only in the courtroom, but in the community as well.

CONGRESSMAN BENJAMIN A. GILMAN AWARDED COMMANDERS CROSS OF THE ORDER OF SERVICE OF THE POLISH REPUBLIC

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call to the attention of my colleagues in this House the very high honor recently bestowed upon our colleague from New York, Congressman BENJAMIN A. GILMAN, the Chairman of the International Relations Committee. During a visit to Poland last month as head of a congressional delegation, Congressman GILMAN was presented with the Commanders Cross of the Order of Service of the Republic of Poland by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Boleslaw Geremek. The award was made at the direction of the President of the Republic of Poland, Aleksander Kwasniewski.

The Order of Service is given to foreigners and to Polish citizens permanently resident abroad for distinguished service in support of cooperation between nations. The Commanders Cross is awarded to distinguished political leaders and leaders in the fields of culture, art, and science. The order was created by the Sejm (the Polish Parliament) in 1992. Previous recipients of this honor include Dr. Henry Kissinger, our former Secretary of State.

The decision to decorate Congressman GILMAN with the Commanders Cross of the Order of Service is a most appropriate recognition of his activities in support of cooperation between the United States and Poland, as well as cooperation with Poland and other countries of Central and Eastern Europe in their desire to be admitted to NATO. As the Chairman of the Committee on International Relations in the 104th and 105th Congress (since 1995) and as the Ranking Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs during the 103rd Congress (1993-1994), Congressman GILMAN was one of the leaders in the Congress in encouraging the expansion of NATO to encompass the newly democratic countries of Central and Eastern Europe, including Poland. Legislation that he introduced has provided important authorities to the Administration permitting the provision of assistance to these countries which have been proposed for membership in NATO, and the strong support in Congress for Congressman GILMAN's legislation has been an important indicator of Congressional support for NATO expansion.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues in the Congress to join me in extending congratulations and best wishes to BEN GILMAN for his receiving this most appropriate recognition of his outstanding contribution to the excellent relations between the United States and Poland.