

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

LABELING IMPORTED PRODUCE

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss an issue that is extremely important to the health of millions of American families, the labeling of imported produce. We were reminded just how critical of an issue this is twice last year when a breakout of *Cyclospora* bacteria occurred in imported Guatemalan raspberries and when the Hepatitis A virus was found in strawberries which were imported from Mexico. In this particular case, these strawberries were illegally used in our nation's school lunch program and more than 150 students in Michigan were infected. When you take into consideration that shipments were sent to as many as 15 other states, thousands more could have been at risk.

What is perhaps more frightening than the presence of these strawberries in our nation's school lunch program, is the fact that these children are in just as much danger eating dinner at home. Every day, millions of Americans buy produce without knowing where it was grown. Though nearly every consumer product we purchase has origin labeling, the fruits and vegetables we eat do not. Taking into consideration that foreign countries do not adhere to the same phytosanitary and labor standards as American growers and handlers, it is very likely that harmful fruits and vegetables are being stocked on the shelves of our local grocery stores.

Mr. Speaker, this is simply unconscionable. Many of these countries are using pesticides that are currently banned in the United States or using irrigated water that is contaminated with raw sewage. It is also not uncommon to find young children being forced to work up to 12 hours a day picking and sorting these products. It is for many of these reasons that 80% of those asked in a recent survey believe that produce should have a label indicating its country of origin.

I, along with many of my colleagues, have already become a cosponsor of H.R. 1232, the Imported Produce Labeling Act of 1997, introduced by our good friend, the late Sonny Bono. This legislation will extend our current labeling laws, under the Tariff Act of 1930, to require country of origin labeling on imported produce at the final point of sale, the grocery stores. This requirement is neither complicated nor burdensome to farmers and retailers. H.R. 1232 will simply require that the country of origin of imported produce be displayed in a clear and visible manner if the produce package is not already labeled. For example, a grocer could place a sign above the food bin or include the information on or next to the price sign.

This action not only promotes safety awareness, but is good trade policy as well. Many of our major trading partners, including Canada, Japan, Australia and various European

nations, require country of origin labeling for imported produce, including the fruits and vegetables they buy from the United States. H.R. 1232 will place American farmers and consumers on a level playing field with our trading partners by harmonizing our labeling policies.

Most importantly, however, this action will provide American consumers with the opportunity to decide for themselves what fruits and vegetables they wish to buy, I firmly believe that it is not only a parent's right to know where the food they are feeding their family originated, but is also our responsibility to provide safe food to our nation's children. It is my understanding that Congressman Condit has recently requested to become the first sponsor of H.R. 1232 for the propose of adding cosponsors and working for its consideration. I applaud this action and urge all my colleagues, who have not already done so, to strongly consider cosponsoring this important legislation and support its passage when it reaches the Floor.

TRIBUTE TO REV. ANTHONY W. WILCOTS, A MAN WITH A MISSION

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend marked a celebration for a fine young man who is serving as shepherd to some of my constituents. That young man is Reverend Anthony W. Wilcots. Rev. Wilcots is the pastor of the Liberty Baptist Church of Elizabeth, New Jersey. Although his physical presence with this church is short-lived, the spirituality and lessons he has taught are far-reaching. As we begin our life's journey we never know what paths we'll cross or with whom we'll come in contact but if we're fortunate to be prepared and faithful we are usually blessed to meet and serve those for whom we were destined.

Rev. Wilcots' journey has taken him far and wide and he and his congregants have certainly benefitted. Rev. Wilcots, a native of Houston, Texas, is a graduate with the Bachelor of Arts degree from Texas Southern University, the Master of Divinity degree from the School of Theology, Oral Roberts University and the Master of Sacred Theology degree from Yale University School of Divinity. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Social Ethics at Drew University. His evangelistic ministry has carried him to college campuses, churches and tent crusades in over 30 states, the District of Columbia and six foreign countries. Mr. Speaker, as you can see Rev. Wilcots has taken his calling seriously and continues to increase his capacity to serve the minds and souls of many.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in expressing our appreciation to Rev. Anthony W. Wilcots and his family for his contributions to our community.

HONORING VILICIA ELIZABETH CADE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the skill and achievements of Vilicia Elizabeth Cade. Her contribution to public and community service is incomparable.

Vilicia was taught the value of community service and scholarship at a young age. As a child, she was often involved in community service through her family's church. Her zeal for community service found its firm foundations from these experiences.

In 1984, Vilicia attended the College of New Paltz. While enrolled full time she was involved in various community service endeavors. One particular project, involved creating a plan to provide resources for migrant workers. In addition, Ms. Cade stood in the forefront to fight injustice. She helped organize peaceful and successful demonstrations against apartheid. These demonstrations eventually lead to her college's discontinuing its use of a bank that had investments in South Africa. In the end, NYPRIG asked Ms. Cade to serve as a poster model for their 1986-97 campaign.

In 1986, she joined Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated. As a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, she continued her community service endeavors. In addition, her local chapter started a scholarship fund in the Sorority's name for female students. Vilicia obtained her Bachelor's degree in 1988. Without reservation her peers voted for her to be the first recipient of the "NIA" Award, an award for the highest grade point average in her major. She also received a full fellowship for graduate studies. In 1989 she attended the State University of New York at Albany for graduate school.

Upon returning to Brooklyn, Vilicia continued in her commitment to community and scholarship. She obtained employment with the Federation Employment Guidance Service (FECS). Through her employment as a case manager with "at risk" New York City Public High School students, she organized college trips and encouraged students to be actively involved in service learning projects. In 1996, she obtained her second Masters degree from Long Island University.

Vilicia was blessed with two beautiful sons, Jelani Omari (deceased) and Curtis Anthony. Encouraged by her supportive family, friends, and Sorors, Vilicia continues to fight for the betterment of her community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Vilicia Elizabeth Cade for all of her achievements, for being a woman who dares to be different, and for showing young women everywhere that they can do and accomplish anything.

• 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.

IN HONOR OF THE PANCYPRIAN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA WOMEN'S ISSUE NETWORK AND MRS. YIANOULLA VASSILIOU

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Pancyprian Association of America Women's Issues Network on the occasion of their first annual dinner dance. I would also like to honor the Pancyprian Women's Issue Network's first 1998 Woman of the Year Award honoree, Mrs. Yianoulla Vassiliou.

Mrs. Vassiliou, who is visiting the United States for several weeks, is a former principal and elementary school teacher in the occupied part of Cyprus in the village of Rizokarpaso Cyprus. Yianoulla Vassiliou has devoted the past 24 years to educating these enclaved children. For selflessly leaving her family and dedicating her time to ensure that these children in the occupied area receive an education, Mrs. Vassiliou is a worthy recipient of the first Pancyprian Women's Issue Network 1998 Woman of the Year Award.

The Pancyprian Association of America Women's Issues Network was established in the spring of 1996 by a group of dedicated women as a division of the Pancyprian Association of America, Inc. in an effort to bring together women of Hellenic origin. The Founding President, Dr. Florentina Christrodoulidou, has spearheaded the organization to be a significant component of the Hellenic women's movement.

The Pancyprian Women's Issues Network is a network group providing information and services to women within the Hellenic communities. It helps raise awareness about social, health, economic and other issues as they relate to women's roles as mothers, daughters, wives, breadwinners and homemakers.

The philosophy of the Pancyprian Women's Issues Network is one of extending a helping hand to others, and which is deeply rooted in efforts to develop mutual prosperity and steering lives towards family fulfillment.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to the Pancyprian Association of America Women's Issues Network, a group of dedicated Hellenic women who have successfully integrated the Hellenic spirit with American ideals and values. I also ask my colleagues to rise in tribute to the Pancyprian Association's Woman of the Year honoree, Mrs. Yianoulla Vassiliou.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF NEW HOPE FOUNDATION

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to acknowledge the positive efforts of the New Hope Foundation, Inc. in Jackson, MS. New Hope was established in 1981 as a non-profit organization to provide community-based alcohol and other drug abuse correction services to individuals, regardless of race, sex, re-

ligion, or national origin. New Hope's mission is to prevent, treat, and educate individuals living in low and moderate income communities about alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse.

Some of New Hope's programs include a Three Quarter-way House for males. This program is a secondary alcohol and drug treatment program for recovering chemically dependent persons. In this program, individuals are given an opportunity to improve their lives by participating in vocational and employment activities. New Hope also conducts several other programs such as support groups that help aid in temporary and permanent housing, medical assistance, achieving a Graduate Equivalency Diploma (GED), aid to the homeless and many other worthwhile benefits for men subjected and victimized by the ills of society. It is refreshing to know that organizations such as New Hope are created to help people who are not able to help themselves.

Mr. Speaker, I salute The New Hope Foundation. We can learn a lot from their determination and their commitment to assisting the less fortunate. I congratulate New Hope on their accomplishments and I encourage them in their quest to empowering a part of America that is almost too often neglected.

SALUTE TO DR. JOHN S. MBITI

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives a very special man, Dr. John S. Mbiti.

Dr. Mbiti has studied the attitudes of mind and belief that have evolved in the many societies of Africa. His interests are in biblical studies in relation to the expansion of Christianity and theological developments in Africa, Asia, and Oceania, and missiology, ecumenics, and the science of religion. Mbiti adds a new dimension to the understanding of the history, thinking, and life throughout the African continent. Religion is approached from an African point of view but is as accessible to readers who belong to non-African societies as it is to those who have grown up in African nations. The publication of his book "African Religions and Philosophy," has become essential reading for anyone concerned with African religion, history, philosophy, anthropology or general African studies.

As the representative of Elizabeth in Congress, I am proud of the accomplishments of Dr. John S. Mbiti. Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in expressing our appreciation to Dr. John S. Mbiti for his numerous outstanding contributions to humankind.

HONORING PETER C. CAMPANELLI

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the numerous achievements of Peter C. Campanelli during his fiftieth birthday celebration. His dedication to providing vital clinical

services to individuals afflicted with mental illness has been incomparable.

As an adjunct professor at Rutgers and as a supervisor of students working towards an expertise in Cognitive/Behavioral Psychotherapy, Dr. Campanelli has trained a new generation to deal with the intricacies of the mental health field. He also organized and directed the Institute for Community Living (ICL), a private not-for-profit corporation, for the purpose of development and operation of community residences for the mentally ill within the catchment areas of two large state psychiatric hospitals. ICL currently provides approximately five hundred and sixty residential beds within various levels of care. It is clear that Dr. Campanelli strives to provide vital services to a constituency desperate for health and social services.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Dr. Peter C. Campanelli on his fiftieth birthday and thank him for sowing the seeds for others in our community to follow in his footsteps and provide the needed services for those who live there.

IN HONOR OF IRENE KLEMENTOWICZ

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Irene Klementowicz, a resident of my district who has fought hard to protect the environmental health of her community.

Ms. Klementowicz has actively worked to improve her community since she first arrived in Greenpoint. Among her many activities, she helped ensure that a local factory started implementing pollution controls. This was especially important since it was situated directly across from two schools.

This early activism led to an appointment to Community Board 1, where she continues to champion the health and safety of her district. Among her accomplishments, she can be credited with a hard-fought and successful campaign to shut down the Greenpoint incinerator, long a source of pollution and nuisance.

Ms. Klementowicz's efforts have been recognized by numerous civic organizations. The City Club of New York honored her with an award for grass-roots leadership to the Concerned Citizens of Greenpoint, of which she is president. This group was formed to address environmental conditions that are detrimental to the health of Greenpoint citizens.

Her selfless efforts on behalf of the Greenpoint community have earned her the respect, and in some cases trepidation, of numerous public officials. She is both a tireless opponent of environmental degradation, and a committed activist for improving the quality of life in her district.

The efficiency and effectiveness Irene Klementowicz has displayed in Greenpoint should serve as a model for all community activists. Without people like Ms. Klementowicz working to improve communities on the local level, our work as Members of Congress would be compounded tenfold. It is the hard-working people like Ms. Klementowicz who

keep alive the small-town feeling which could so easily be lost in a big city.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to Ms. Irene Klementowicz, a woman who has worked very hard to improve her community.

AMERICA'S CREDIT UNION

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of America's Credit Unions. The United States Supreme Court ruled last week that the Depression-era statute which authorized the creation of our Nation's credit unions does not permit them to draw members from a variety of occupations. This decision will upset long-standing federal policies and the personal lives of 70 million credit union members and countless more workers who are considering their financial-planning options.

While the Supreme Court's ruling will stand as long as the statutes governing credit unions remain the same, Congress can act now to clarify the law and protect credit unions. H.R. 1151, "The Credit Union Membership Access Act," would permit credit unions to continue recruiting members according to their traditional practices. This bill has already received 182 co-sponsors, but it desperately needs more support to break its deadlock in Committee.

Credit Unions are the only source of financial services for many low-income Americans. It is unfortunate that I am the only Member of Congress from Mississippi—one of the poorest states in the Union—who is a co-sponsor of this bill even though there are over 419,000 thousand credit union members in Mississippi alone. Nonetheless, Congress can not afford to ignore this issue, and I sense the mood is changing here. Let us act swiftly and move to save credit unions by enacting this bill; more than 70 million Americans are waiting.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF RHODA HOOPER

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor an outstanding woman and worker, Rhoda Hooper, from my home state of New Hampshire.

Mrs. Hooper was recently named as the "Outstanding Older Worker" from our fine state and I believe she serves as an example to us all that ability is truly timeless.

At the age of 88, Mrs. Hooper is the type of person we would all like to be, and certainly would be lucky to hire. Her success story is both poignant and triumphant. Forced to find employment after the death of her husband, Mrs. Hooper entered the job market as an older worker without significant work experience outside the home or even a driver's license. But despite the odds seemingly stacked against her, Mrs. Hooper found work at New Boston Central School where she has

fulfilled the role of office aide and so much more for the past seven years.

Since she does not drive, on a pleasant day she walks the quarter mile from her home to her job where she never missed a day. Her strong work ethic seems to be matched only by the size of her generous heart. Despite demanding office duties, Mrs. Hooper takes the time to take a personal interest in each of the students. For instance, you will never find a student at New Boston Central School without mittens. She knows when any of the children are without them and makes sure they do not leave school without a hand-knit pair. If you've ever experienced a New Hampshire winter, you know just how wonderful that gift of warm mittens can be.

Her co-workers call her "a lifesaver and a joy to work with." The students affectionately call her "Grandma." I call her a "winner." Not just because she has won a richly deserved award, but because she is a role model for workers everywhere. Mrs. Hooper has overcome obstacles to achieve her goals and change her life, and in the process has enriched the lives of countless others.

I extend my best wishes to Mrs. Hooper as she receives her award and urge her to keep up the good work. She is truly a special person and I am privileged to recognize her here today.

NEWARK STUDENTS PRACTICE
RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to the students of New Jersey for winning the Kindness and Justice Challenge. Pupils of New Jersey led the nation with 96,816 acts of kindness. Students from my home district of Newark, New Jersey led all municipalities with 30,615 good deeds. This is indeed an honor and a privilege to represent such model students.

The competition was started 3 years ago by Newark students who wanted to do something about all the negative images that faced their communities. Today we have over 40,000 pupils in over 12,000 classrooms participating in the contest across the nation. Good deeds are recorded on the Internet to keep an accurate account. Teachers had to pitch in during lunch breaks and at night because not all students had access to computers at home.

Newark students were led by Latoya Hedgespeth, a fifth grader at Madison Avenue School who recorded the most acts of kindness with 321 goods deeds. This truly exemplifies the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and should serve as a lesson to us all. The students were honored by Superintendent Beverly Hall and Mayor Sharpe James.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that my colleagues will join me as I extend heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to the students of New Jersey.

HONORING KANDACE V. SIMMONS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the efforts of one of the hardest working young women in my district, Ms. Kandace V. Simmons.

Kandace is the President and Chief Operating Officer of Simmons Design Group, Ltd., a building design firm located in Park Slope, Brooklyn. Simmons Design Group was established in 1969 by her father, the late Harry Simmons, Jr. as Simmons Architects. Ms. Simmons over sees the strategic planning marketing, financial administration, and project management of the firm.

Prior to permanently joining the family business in 1994, Kandace had a varied career. After graduation from Yale University in 1988, she was a financial analyst with Chemical Bank. She later moved to New York City Department of General Services (DGS) becoming a senior policy analyst where she implemented City-wide cost savings initiatives. Ms. Simmons also coordinated activities for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act in city-owned buildings. In 1992, while still employed by DGS, she founded Simmons Entertainment, managing jazz musicians and producing concerts in Houston, TX.

At her father's request, Ms. Simmons returned to Simmons Architects in July, 1994 with overall responsibility for the business management of the firm. After the death of her father in October 1994, Ms. Simmons took charge of the company. In addition to managing Simmons Design Group, she is an architectural student at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Kandace Simmons is the eldest child of the late Harry Simmons, Jr. and Dr. Sharon E. Simmons. She is also the sister of Harry Simmons III and Carlton Tarver.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Ms. Kandace Simmons for all of her achievements, for being a woman who dares to be different, and showing young women everywhere that they can do, and accomplish, anything.

SUPPORT HUMAN RIGHTS IN
MOLDOVA

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues information about a serious human rights situation in the Trans-Dnestr region of Moldova.

Since 1993, the men known as the "Ilascu Six" have been imprisoned for allegedly murdering two separatists in this region.

The State Department's most recent human rights report for Moldova states that serious questions have been raised about the fairness of the trial of the "Ilascu Six" conducted by Trans-Dnestr officials. There is a strong belief that these men were persecuted for political reasons—solely because they are supporters of reunification with Romania.

The leader of the group is Ilie Ilascu, president of the local branch of the democratic Moldavian Popular Front, which favors reunification with Romania. Such a move is strongly opposed by the Trans-Dnestr ruling authorities, who instead favor a closer alliance with Russia and independence for the Trans-Dnestr region.

Mr. Ilascu and three others remain in prison. One prisoner has been freed, and a sixth person, an infiltrator placed by the Trans-Dnestr secret police, was released after his testimony against the others.

There are reports that these men have been subjected to torture and mock executions. Ilie Ilascu remains in isolation in a top security prison.

Despite his imprisonment, in 1994 Mr. Ilascu was elected to the Parliament of Moldova. Although he has been duly elected, Ilie Ilascu has never been able to take his seat in parliament.

According to the State Department report, a group of Moldovan doctors was refused access to Mr. Ilascu in the fall. Trans-Dnestr authorities have also refused the International Committee of the Red Cross access for the purpose of monitoring the conditions of the prisoners.

Mr. Speaker, I believe we must press officials in Trans-Dnestr to allow access to these prisoners by the Red Cross.

I am pleased the State Department focused on this serious situation in its human rights report, and hope that it will continue to raise this issue with the governments of Russia and Moldova.

We should insist that Mr. Ilascu and the other prisoners be guaranteed their internationally-recognized human rights—the right to a fair trial, due process, and freedom of expression.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF MS. EUNICE GENTRY, MISS JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Eunice Gentry on obtaining the title of Miss Jackson State University 1997–98. Ms. Gentry is a native of Jackson, MS. She is a senior communications major and the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Roosevelt Gentry.

Ms. Gentry is very active in numerous organizations at Jackson State University (JSU). Such organizations include the Mass Communications Club, JSU Student Government Association, Tiger Pride Connection, and the JSU chapter of the NAACP. Among some of Ms. Gentry's accomplishments include her position as parliamentarian for the student chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists, a \$3,000 scholarship earned in a national essay competition sponsored by the National Black Programmers Coalition of Atlanta, and her membership to the W.E.B. DuBois Honors College. Over her summer break, Ms. Gentry worked as an intern for television station KVBC, the NBC affiliate in Las Vegas, NV.

Mr. Speaker, it is with the utmost pride that I stand here before you today and acknowl-

edge Ms. Eunice Gentry, Miss Jackson State University 1997–98.

IN HONOR OF THE NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY PUERTO RICAN/HISPANIC TASK FORCE

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the New York State Assembly Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force on the eve of their 11th Annual Conference.

This Task Force has brought together a large network of government officials, community leaders and service providers who share a common goal: improving the quality of life for our Hispanic population in New York. It has managed to draw on the strengths of its participants to move forward and knock down the continued barriers of bias and discrimination.

With great tenacity, the Task Force has fought for and won a number of battles on behalf of Hispanic constituencies. From identifying problems of access by Spanish speaking women to domestic abuse services to uncovering the tracking of Hispanic students in New York schools. Always, and with great success, they have found legislative solutions to these problems that have served to improve and protect the rights of all New Yorkers.

This year's annual legislative meeting will certainly bring to the fore some very important issues facing the Hispanic communities in New York. As our state legislature begins to work on issues such as the evolution of managed care, education reform and economic opportunity, the debate will no doubt be enhanced by the contributions to be made by this Task Force. In fact, all communities will be better served by having an inclusive report on these important topics.

I ask my fellow colleagues if I may take this opportunity to commend this fine organization for its leadership and resolve. May the Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force continue its admirable task to ensure equal access, true representation and opportunity for all constituencies in New York.

HONORING DEIDRA C. TOWNS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the skill and achievements of Deidra Towns. Her contribution to community and public service is incomparable.

A woman at the beginning of her career, Deidra's dynamic personality bespeaks a character that will stare the world down—and win. Already, she has flourished as an Administrative Assistant at Bedford-Stuyvesant Legal Services, a Managed Care Training Facilitator/Public Relations Coordinator at East New York Diagnostic and Treatment Center and as a Legislative Aid for the New York State Assembly. Currently, Deidra is the Team Leader for the Red Hook Public Safety Corps. In this po-

sition she has provided direction and structure to its AmeriCorps team. She has also planned and implemented projects designed to address public safety issues.

As a devoted mother to her daughter, Kiara, and a loving daughter to Edolphus and Gwen Towns, there is no doubt that this young woman will leave her special mark on her community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Deidra C. Towns for all of her achievements, for being a woman who dares to be different, and for showing young women everywhere that they can do and accomplish anything.

COMMEMORATION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY CANCER AWARENESS WEEK

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Childhood Cancer Awareness Week which will occur March 8th—March 14th in the County of Los Angeles. I would also like to acknowledge the American Cancer Fund For Children and its founder Steve Firestein for their tireless efforts to help children. Through their dedication and perseverance, they have influenced the lives of hundreds of children with cancer, while bringing awareness of this issue to our country as a whole.

Cancer is the leading cause of death by disease among children in our country. Each year, approximately 10,000 children are diagnosed with this frightening illness. A cure for cancer is an important goal that we all hope to achieve. Until that time, important services and programs like the American Cancer Fund for Children play a vital role in the lives of those afflicted with this disease.

The American Cancer Fund for Children has been established to provide financial assistance to families with children fighting cancer. When a child is sick, parents should not be restricted by financial burdens in determining what type of treatment their child receives. Funds are used for expenses such as a bone marrow transplant, housing and food. The American Cancer Fund for Children also enables parents to be with their children as they undergo treatment. This organization has also worked to meet hospital needs for patient and family services, helping to ensure the quality of care and improving the chances of survival. For instance, children participate in psycho-social services designed to foster self-esteem, encourage peer interaction and develop special patient communications.

Through his interactions with children entering the Los Angeles Orthopedic Hospital, Steven Firestein has provided them with courage and hope. He has established a national network of programs, through which he provides children with baseball caps, toys and sports cards. These small tokens do wonders to brighten a child's day.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in acknowledging the work of Steven Firestein and the American Cancer Fund for Children. They have worked to raise awareness of childhood cancer and they have motivated our community to take the first

steps toward achieving our ultimate goal of prevention.

IN RECOGNITION OF W.A. "BING"
LECROY

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding educator and citizen of the State of Alabama, the late W.A. "Bing" LeCroy. Mr. W.A. "Bing" LeCroy died on October 29, 1996, but his enthusiasm for the field of education can still be felt by everyone that he directly and indirectly touched throughout his career.

Bing LeCroy was born in Coosa County, Alabama, on April 1, 1918. Mr. LeCroy studied at Jacksonville State University and Auburn University where he received a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Administration. He later attended the University of Alabama at Birmingham for additional graduate work.

Bing left Coosa County and moved to Chilton County to begin his career as a classroom teacher. He later served as Superintendent of Education of Chilton County, State Superintendent of Education, Director of the Chilton County Area Vocational Center and Director and Coordinator of the Wallace Community College, Clanton Extension. After his many years as an Alabama educator, he became such a recognizable icon that he was known to thousands across the state as "Mr. Education."

Mr. LeCroy not only indulged in scholastic education, he also was a leader in civil education and worked tirelessly to ensure the safety and health of our children. During his administrative career in public education, he hired the first female bus driver in the State of Alabama. He also was the first proponent in the United States for mandating red stop signs on school buses, allowing for children's passage across the roads and highways.

In addition to the unparalleled dedication that Bing selflessly gave to his students, Mr. LeCroy was a devoted member of the First Baptist Church of Clanton and was a long-time member and President of Kiwanis Club.

Mr. Speaker, I am not the only person aware of Bing LeCroy's accomplishments. The thousands of students this man directly impacted will remain both a legacy and a reminder of the potential good that a teacher can achieve in a child's life. Recently, the Chilton County Board of Education recommended and approved the Chilton County Area Vocational Center be re-named the W.A. "Bing" LeCroy Career Technical Center. The re-naming of this building is a suitable memorial for a man who was known by those who love him as "Mr. Education".

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of one of Alabama's great education advocates, Bing LeCroy.

HONORING JUANITA C. BOBBITT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the skill and achievements of Juanita C. Bobbitt. Her contribution to the United Nations and women's issues is incomparable.

Ms. Bobbitt was raised in the Bedford-Stuyvesant community of Brooklyn. Her undergraduate degree from Brooklyn College of the City University of New York as well as her Masters degree from New York University and Harvard University, successfully prepared her for a United Nations career that has spanned nearly four decades.

As a consultant to governments and an expert in public administration and management, she has travelled to Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Europe. She is fluent in French and Spanish. Recently, she was responsible for managing a group of professionals to formulate and implement programs in developing countries and economies in transition devoted to social, rural and community development, poverty alleviation, and the advancement of women. She is currently leading the Gender Advisory Services Unit in the Division for the Advancement of Women within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Most recently, Ms. Bobbitt organized a workshop on behalf of the United Nations to examine the ways to enhance the partnership among entrepreneurs, government, and the business community. As a result of Ms. Bobbitt's workshop, the Lausanne Enterprise was created to serve as an international mechanism to further develop women's entrepreneurship worldwide as a result of Ms. Bobbitt's workshop.

As an active member of her community, Ms. Bobbitt has served on various academic committees. She is also a long-standing member of St. George's Episcopal Church and a Golden Life Member of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc., a Public Service Sorority.

Ms. Bobbitt has been able to reach these incredible goals and also be the proud mother of one son, Edmund Michael Bobbitt, a Harvard graduate and entrepreneur.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Ms. Juanita C. Bobbitt for all of her achievements, for being a woman who dares to be different, and for showing young women everywhere that they can do and accomplish anything.

PRESIDENT'S BUDGET BRINGS
BACK DEFICIT SPENDING

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, last week the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) released an analysis that shows that the President's FY1999 Budget submission would result in a \$5 billion deficit, even with the \$130 billion in new taxes his plan proposes. President Clinton's Budget not only comes as a disappointment, it blows a hole in the agreement he made with Congress last year and breaks the promise he made to American taxpayers.

As a member of the Appropriations Committee, I admit that these figures do not come as a shock. Considering that the President's proposal includes 85 new programs, costing at least \$150 billion over the next five years, we shouldn't be surprised that the numbers in his budget don't add up. Mr. Speaker, the President's budget puts us right back on the path to deficit spending. To top it off, this plan raises taxes to the highest level since 1945. That is totally unacceptable.

The CBO analysis projects that by 2000, the deficit would return to \$5 billion under the President's plan. If no changes were made to the Balanced Budget pact agreed to last summer, however, the CBO reported that there would be a higher surplus each year through 2003.

Mr. Speaker, this is one more indication that Bill Clinton is not sympathetic to the American taxpayer. It took a Republican Congress to create and pass the Balanced Budget Agreement, and it's going to take a Republican Congress to protect it. Bill Clinton has only given lip service to balancing the budget, but is apparently not willing to be a partner in that effort.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS
OF AMANDA DAVIS

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to laud the accomplishments of Amanda Davis, a senior at Eastern Illinois University (EIU). Amanda is from Mt. Vernon, Illinois, a town I represented during my first two terms in Congress, and she served as an intern in my Washington, D.C. office last summer. She possesses maturity beyond her years and a character made up of the finest qualities: intelligence, integrity, and a desire to help those around her. I believe her example is one to be emulated by not only her peers, but by the entire nation.

The first thing you notice about Amanda is her seriousness. She is not a frivolous person, and immerses herself in the projects she undertakes. In my office, this trait manifested itself in everything from her thorough Capitol tours to her tireless research into numerous legislative issues. An accomplished scholar, the list of her academic achievements, awards, and activities is truly staggering. I will list just a few: recipient of the Herbert F. Hueller and Jennifer Woods Scholarships, Honors student and regular member of the Dean's List, high school valedictorian, co-editor of and contributor to *The Vehicle*, EIU's literary magazine, and membership in numerous honor societies. She is perhaps most passionate about women's issues, especially as related to the correctional system and literacy. Her work on these subjects has resulted in numerous papers that she has presented at professional conferences across the nation. Somehow, Amanda finds time to volunteer as a tutor for illiterate adults and a crisis hot-line worker at a battered women's shelter. Her unrelenting pursuit of knowledge and her penchant for helping others is a powerful combination, and it will lead her to accomplish great things in the future.

Mr. Speaker, it is people like Amanda Davis that never allow me worry about the future of the United States. Every summer our congressional offices are filled with thousands of our brightest young minds, and they will be prepared to pick up the mantle of public service when their time comes. Amanda has already answered this call. As I stated earlier, I hope her example serves as a catalyst for others, and I thank her for all of her efforts on behalf of the people of Illinois.

HONORING CYNTHIA CARRINGTON-MURRAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the skill and achievements of Cynthia Carrington-Murray. Her contribution to the health care community is incomparable.

After transferring from her native Trinidad and Tobago, she received her Bachelors Degree in Nursing and a Masters in Community Health Administration from Long Island University. Currently, Cynthia is the Executive Director of the Woodhull Medical Center in Brooklyn, a 428 bed public hospital that is part of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation. Woodhull is the acute care hospital for the North Brooklyn Health Network with over 18,000 discharges and 240,000 clinic visits annually. The Center operates three free-standing residency programs in Internal Medicine, Primary Care Pediatrics and Dentistry.

A dynamic and personable leader, Cynthia brings over twenty years of progressive leadership to the formidable task of interpreting Woodhull's mission, vision and goals. A strong advocate of community health, she imbues her work with vigor, compassion, and a keen understanding of the needs of the North Brooklyn community. She has received numerous awards for her professional excellence and she is a member of the Board of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, President of the Trinidad and Tobago Nurses Association of America and the President of the East 45th Street Block Association.

As a wife and mother to two, daughters Camille and Kamika, Cynthia has managed the triumphs and pressures of those roles, and risen to excellence in the field of nursing.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Cynthia Carrington-Murray for all of her achievements, for being a woman who dares to be different, and for showing young women everywhere that they can do and accomplish anything.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, today is the date for the special election in California's 22nd Congressional seat, the race to replace my friend Walter Capps. The winner of today's race will be decided by the voters of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties. The loser in

this race has already been decided, and it is the current campaign system.

The race for this seat has seen an unprecedented level of outside spending by special interest groups trying to influence the election. While the citizens of California's 22nd district have repeatedly said that education and taxes are their top priorities, outside groups have overwhelmed the district with television commercials that only impact their own narrow agenda's.

I am afraid that the spending in this race is only a sign of things to come. If we don't pass meaningful campaign finance reform the outside interest groups are going to spend unlimited amounts of money in each Congressional campaign, and each candidate will be forced to raise more money to combat that spending. We need campaign finance reform to stop this vicious cycle. Mr. Speaker the people of my district refuse to accept "no" for an answer.

HONORING THE PINK OYSTER INTEREST GROUP

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Pink Oyster Interest Group's service to Southern Prince George's County, Maryland.

In January of 1996, five sorors, Patricia Oliver Bell, Annette Oliver Boxley, Irene Bullock-Overton, V'Nell De Costa and Gloria McCray Watson were gathered at Pat's Exclusives Boutique. In conversation, the subject of starting a local graduate chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. in the Ft. Washington area surfaced. Soror Gloria McCray Watson was charged with determining the procedure for starting a new chapter.

As directed, later in the same month, Soror Gloria McCray Watson reported to the group advising them of the procedure for the formation of an interest group. A meeting was scheduled for March 29, 1996 at Pat's Exclusives Boutique.

On March 29, 1996, the group's first meeting was held at Pat's Exclusives Boutique. Soror Carmilla Watkins of Nu Zeta Omega was invited to serve as an advisor to the group. The meeting was attended by Sorors: Patricia Oliver Bell, Annette Oliver Boxley, Yvonne Bundley, Irene Bullock-Overton, V'Nell De Costa, Brenda Jones and Gloria McCray Watson.

On Sunday, April 21, 1996, the groups' next meeting was held at Pat's Exclusives Boutique. Soror Wilma Holmes Tootle, North Atlantic Regional Director, was our guest, where she most graciously sanctioned the formation of a formal Interest Group of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., in Ft. Washington, Maryland.

The group met at Pat's Exclusives Boutique again in the month of May. However, it soon became necessary to move the meetings to another location because of the tremendous response from sorors in the area. Soror Gloria McCray Watson was charged with securing a location for the meeting.

Officers were elected to conduct the business of the Interest Group. The Officers were: Irene Bullock-Overton—President, Gloria

McCray Watson—1st Vice-President, Patricia Oliver Bell—2nd Vice-President, Pamela Mohammed—Recording Secretary, Andriese Payton-Watson—Assistant Recording Secretary, Brenda Jones—Financial Secretary, V'Nell De Costa—Treasurer, Annette Oliver Boxley—Historian, Angela Roberts—Assistant Historian and LaKeisha Ratcliff—Philacter.

Soror Watson recommended and later secured Harmony Hall Regional Center for the third Thursday of each month. In June of 1996, 36 members strong, the Interest Group moved the meetings to Harmony Hall Regional Center in Ft. Washington, Maryland. Also at this meeting, it was recommended by Soror Angela Roberts that the group be formally known as, "The Pink Oyster Interest Group". The name was enthusiastically accepted by the sorors in attendance.

By August of 1997, the Group had initiated various programs and performed numerous community service projects. Some of the programs and activities included but are not limited to: an ongoing senior citizens project at Livingston HealthCare Center in Ft. Washington, Maryland; an Adopt-a-School partnership with Potomac Landing Elementary School in Ft. Washington, Maryland; a voter registration drive; an Adopt-a-Road partnership with Prince George's County; donated school supplies to the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., AKA-IFESH project; sponsored five Southern Prince George's County middle school students for the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Putting emphasis on Math and Science (PIMS) Camp held at Bowie State University; donated career clothing to the Anacostia Center for Mental Health; made a financial contribution to the Maryland Stallions Basketball league; awarded scholarships to two Prince George's County senior high school students from Crossland High School; sponsored a Minority Business Symposium; established an AKAdemy; donated books for the library for Potomac Landing Elementary School in Ft. Washington; donated career clothing to the Maryland State Department of Rehabilitative Services and participated in the AIDS WALK '97 in Washington, DC.

The commitment of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., is service to all mankind. The mission of this chartering shall be to extend Alpha Kappa Alpha's commitment to the citizens of southern Prince George's County.

HONORING RENEE POLLACK

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the skill and achievements of Renee Pollack. Her contributions to education, particularly Bushwick High School, are incomparable.

Her philosophy is simple: "Students need to be able to dream the way I dreamed and I will try to help make those dreams come true." Early in her career she served as an assistant principal of Pupil Personnel Services at Park West High School in Manhattan. Renee was also a Spanish teacher, grade advisor, and served as a member of various task forces and steering committees.

Renee has realized her childhood dream of being a principal and it is clear that her students are as enthusiastic about her as she is

about them. During her tenure, Renee has obtained new computers for the library, laboratory and the college office; improved the functioning of the program office for the teachers and students; expanded the technology initiative for all the content areas; opened a Saturday community school for students and parents to have an opportunity to learn; and opened the pool and gym on Saturdays so students and their parents can go swimming.

It is clear that Ms. Pollack has a vision for Bushwick High School and its surrounding community. I have no doubt that she will leave an indelible mark on all the teachers, students and parents that she will come in contact with.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Renee Pollack for all of her achievements, for being a woman who dares to be different, and for showing young women everywhere that they can do and accomplish anything.

MANAGED CARE AND MENTAL HEALTH/SUBSTANCE ABUSE: A NATIONAL DISGRACE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, managed care does many things well and some things poorly. It has been my impression that its major failing lies in the area of mental health and substance abuse services—and the following report submitted to the Congressional Budget Office in October 1997 by J. Wrich & Associates, Inc. (JWA) confirms that impression.

The report, which describes a pattern of lying about services, malpractice, and profiteering at the expense of some of the sickest in our society, is a call to action. As we consider managed care consumer protection and quality legislation, we need to provide special protections in the mental health and substance abuse sectors.

In the coming weeks, I will be proposing legislation to address some of the issues so well-raised by the Wrich report. Portions of this report follow:

A. OVERSTATED PROGRAM UTILIZATION

There was a tendency with providers audited to overstate utilization. In some instances multiple patient numbers were assigned to the same patients. One provider issued a new case number each time it authorized additional care. In other instances, case numbers were assigned on an annual basis, thereby enrollees were counted more than once if they received services in two or more calendar years.

In one audit the utilization reported by the contractor to the customer was: 5085 patients.

The audit found utilization to be: 3495 patients.

Variation—overstated utilization reported vs. actual: 45%.

B. TIMELINESS OF SERVICE

J. Wrich & Associates has consistently found timeliness of service to fall far outside the contractor's written standards.

Typically the contractor's written standards fall within the following parameters:

Routine cases shall receive service within 5 days;

Urgent cases shall receive service within 24 hours;

Emergency cases shall receive service within 2 hours.

This computes to a blended average standard for elapsed time of 4.32 days.

Actual performance in audits JWA has conducted ranged from 8.5 to 19.3 days.

Variation—Contractor's written standards computed to a blended average vs. the blended average of actual waiting time for care: 97% to 347%.

C. NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

Coverage

Coverage is frequently spotty. Where managed behavioral health care serve employee groups in multiple locations, JWA finds considerable unevenness in provider network development and accessibility. In the case of one managed behavioral health care company serving a statewide enrollee group, the contractor's proposal and initial agreement called for a minimum of one chemical dependency and one mental health provider in each county. Two years into the contract, gaps in the provider coverage were found to be as follows:

Findings	Counties not covered (%)	Enrollees not covered (%)
No providers at all	15	6
No mental health providers	16	7
No substance abuse providers	32	19
No adolescent/child providers	25	12

In this case, the customer paid the full premium for 100% of the plan's enrollees during that time frame even though the managed behavioral health care network was never completely in place to serve all of them.

Matching Service to Enrollees' Problems

JWA found that provider networks are rarely developed with adequate consideration of expected high incidence of certain disorders. Two landmark studies of incidence and prevalence—the Epidemiologic Catchment Area Study and the National Comorbidity Study—indicate that as many as 80% of the adult population with a behavioral health disorder have one of four major diagnosis or some combination thereof—substance abuse disorders, major depression, anxiety, and phobia. None of the managed care companies JWA audited have built their networks on a research-based rationale of expected patient needs.

Contractor reports on employing minority providers are often overstated. One ploy involved hiring high percentages of Asian and Indian providers who were anxious to build their practices and willing to work for lower fees, as opposed to employing established African Americans providers who would have more closely profiled the culture and ethnicity of the target population.

D. CLINICAL ISSUES

JWA found the charts they have audited to reveal a surprisingly high percentage of problems across the full spectrum of service.

Findings	Problem charts (%)
Failure to properly evaluate/diagnose/treat substance abuse cases where a diagnosis of a substance abuse disorder was documented in the chart, or where there were strong indications of the presence of a substance abuse disorder	54.8–78.3
Failure to properly evaluate/diagnose/treat psychiatric disorders cases where a psychiatric disorder was documented in the chart or where there were strong indications of the presence of a psychiatric disorder	4.3–8.6
Failure to follow up	6.3–78.8
Instances in which a patient had not received care within three months of initial contact due to delays in authorization or due to other administrative/clinical problems	4.1–26.0

E. ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

The frequency of administrative problems which had an impact on the delivery of care varied widely among providers. Problems included delays in answering telephone inquiries, failure to authorize care in a timely manner, problems with payment of claims.

Total Problems of Cases: 37% to 86%.

F. PATIENT PLACEMENT CRITERIA

JWA audits have shown that the criteria for inpatient, residential, or intensive outpatient treatment is often extremely restrictive. In one audit the provider required an attempt to harm self within the previous 24 hours, or significant action or harm to another person within the previous 24 hours, or significant threatening action to damage property with high lethality in order to receive intensive outpatient care or inpatient care.

Another audit revealed that the criteria for admission to detoxification services put the patient at risk because it included a confirmed diagnosis of addiction plus the presence of delirium tremens. Most experts would agree that a major purpose of detoxification is to prevent DT's, which are life-threatening medical conditions.

Mr. Speaker, the J. Wrich & Associates report causes great concern. While the audit findings cannot be generalized to the entire managed care industry, several audits performed by this company since 1992 have found significant problematic similarities in placement criteria, practice guidelines, network development procedures, and pricing among many of the firms. Currently patients have little protections against the bad mental health care that they often receive.

In the near future, a large number of us will be introducing a Patient Bill of Rights to provide new protections in managed care. Some of the provisions of that bill will help stop the type of abuses and abysmal care documented by the JWA audits. I suspect, Mr. Speaker, that the problems in the mental health and substance abuse sector are so severe, that we will need separate, special legislation to address this sector's unique problems. I am working on such legislation and welcome ideas and suggestions from the provider and patient communities.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. WALTER F. LAMACKI, DDS, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding gentleman who for many years has served the people of my district in the field of dentistry, Dr. Walter F. Lamacki, DDS.

Dr. Lamacki has been practicing dentistry for 35 years, and 24 years have been spent in the town of Burbank, Illinois. However, on March 1, 1998, Dr. Lamacki retired, and his practice will undoubtedly be missed by many people.

Before entering general practice, Dr. Lamacki attended the University of Illinois and Loyola University and served in the United States Army Dental Corp. Over the years, Dr. Lamacki has held numerous positions in the Chicago Dental Society, including the position of President. He has served on several committees of the Illinois State Dental Society and the American Dental Association. Dr. Lamacki also has served on the Board of Governors of Loyola Alumni Dental School and as President of the Loyola Alumni Association.

Dr. Lamacki is a respected member of the Chicago dental community. More importantly, he is a respected member of his community,

both for the service he has given in dentistry and his commitment to civic concerns. He has taken on responsibilities as the President of the Burbank Chapter of the American Cancer Society, as a member of the Burbank Chamber of Commerce, and as a Member of the Palos Gardens Civic Association.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to applaud Dr. Lamacki on behalf of the many people he has treated and befriended in his years of practicing dentistry. I would like to extend my very best wishes for continued success and happiness in retirement and in the years to come.

HONORING ROBIN HUNTER-BUSKEY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the skill and achievements of Robin Hunter-Buskey. Her contribution to the health care community is incomparable.

A native New York, Robin attended the State University of New York at Stony Brook, where she completed the Physical Therapy and Physicians Assistant Programs. She has practiced in a variety of healthcare settings including: HomeCare, Emergency Medicine, OB/GYN, Substance Abuse, infectious Disease, Rehabilitation, Internal Medicine and Geriatrics. In her current role, Robin brings her urban medicine experience into a growing suburban community.

As a dedicated member of various professional organizations, Robin has been a consultant to the New York State Board for Physical Therapy and a public member of the Board for Professional Medical Conduct. She is a clinical instructor and mentor to physician assistant students, medical students and others interested in the health professions. Also, Robin has given countless hours toward ensuring increased minority recruitment and retention in health professional programs. Though Ms. Hunter-Buskey has moved to North Carolina, I know her work in the community will always be appreciated.

As a mother of two, Veronica and Bennett, family involvement and support has given deeper meaning to Robin's commitment to helping others. Raising a developmental challenged child has helped her provide motivation for others.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Robin Hunter-Buskey for all of her achievements, for being a woman who dares to be different, and for showing young women everywhere that they can do and accomplish anything.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE "DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE VACANCIES CLARIFICATION ACT OF 1998"

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Department of Justice Vacancies Clarification Act of 1998." This legislation will

end the practice of appointing acting personnel for indefinite periods of time to important jobs in the Department of Justice. For too long, the Department of Justice has used this method to evade the political accountability provided by the Senate confirmation process.

In 1988, Congress reenacted the Vacancies Act to prevent the filling of Executive Branch positions with acting personnel for long periods. Generally speaking, the Vacancies Act says that a person may serve as an acting head of an office for no more than 120 days. 5 U.S.C. § 3348. (These times are tolled while a nomination is pending or when Congress has adjourned sine die.)

Most organic statutes for government departments have language that says the head of the agency may delegate his functions to anyone within the Department. See, e.g., 28 U.S.C. §§ 509–10 (language for the Department of Justice). Both Democrats and Republicans in the Executive Branch have interpreted this kind of language to be an alternative method of filling vacancies that is not subject to the 120-day period provided in the Vacancies Act. That interpretation effectively nullifies the Vacancies Act.

The Department of Justice Vacancies Clarification Act of 1998 would make it clear that the general language in the Department of Justice statute is not intended to override the Vacancies Act and that the Vacancies Act is the only method for filling vacancies in the Department of Justice.

In addition, to insure that the language is not ignored, the Act provides that when any acting person serves beyond the time provided in the Vacancies Act, the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit will step in to appoint someone to fill the job until someone is nominated and confirmed. The Court could not appoint a person who had previously served as an acting head for that particular vacancy or a person who was nominated, but did not get confirmed. This is similar to language that already exists with respect to United States Attorney positions. 28 U.S.C. § 546. My intent is not so much that the Court ought to make such appointments, but to give the Executive Branch an incentive not to let the time lapse.

I believe that this legislation will clarify the law, vindicate our system of checks and balances, and be to the advantage of all concerned. I hope that all of my colleagues will support it.

WHY IT MATTERS

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, for those who missed it, I would like to bring an opinion piece from the March 6th Wall Street Journal to the attention of my colleagues. William J. Bennett has once again provided an insightful analysis on recent developments in the White House that demands the consideration of Congress and the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the following column by Mr. Bennett to the attention of all interested parties.

[From the Wall Street Journal, Mar. 6, 1998]

WHY IT MATTERS

(By William J. Bennett)

In the matter of Bill Clinton and Monica Lewinsky, almost everything points to the conclusion that something unseemly happened: the tapes; Ms. Lewinsky's 37 visits to the White House; Mr. Clinton's morning-after-the-deposition meeting with his secretary, Betty Currie; the gifts; the talking points; Vernon Jordan's many activities; the job offer from United Nations Ambassador Bill Richardson; the president's stonewalling; his initial, unconvincing denial; his refusal to explain what happened; Press Secretary Mike McCurry's remark that the relationship is probably "very complicated"; and White House surrogates' declaration of "war" against the independent counsel.

Nevertheless, many Americans think the scandal—even if true—is either "none of our business" or not worth the effort to inquire about. This apparent indifference is surprising and unsettling. It is therefore important to respond to the most common arguments made by those who believe that a president's sexual involvement with a 21-year-old intern, and the ensuing suspected coverup, are essentially irrelevant to our national life:

We shouldn't be judgmental. At a recent speech before an organization of religious broadcasters, I criticized the president's unwillingness to explain what happened in the Lewinsky matter. A member of the audience took me to task for "casting stones." I responded that it shows how far we have fallen that asking the president to account for possible adultery, lying to the public, perjury and obstruction of justice is regarded as akin to stoning. This is an example of what sociologist Alan Wolfe refers to as America's new "Eleventh Commandment: Thou shalt not judge."

LOST ITS WAY

Even the Rev. Billy Graham declared yesterday: "I forgive him. . . . I know how hard it is, and especially a strong, vigorous, young man like he is; he has such a tremendous personality. I think the ladies just go wild over him." Mr. Graham, perhaps the nation's most admired religious figure, apparently is willing to shrug off both adultery and lying, without any public admission or apology on Mr. Clinton's part. This is what the theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer called "cheap grace."

All of us are in favor of tolerance and forgiveness. But the moral pendulum in America has swung too far in the direction of relativism. If a nation of free people can no longer make clear pronouncements on fundamental matters of right and wrong—for example, that a married, 50-year-old commander-in-chief ought not to have sexual relations with a young intern in his office and then lie about it—it has lost its way.

The problem is not with those who are withholding judgment until all the facts are in, but with the increasing number of people who want to avoid judgment altogether. For it is precisely the disposition and willingness to make judgments about things that matter that is a defining mark of a healthy democracy. In America we do not defer to kings, cardinals or aristocrats on matters of law and politics, civic conduct and moral standards. We rely instead on the people's capacity to make reasonable judgments based on moral principles. Our form of government requires of us not moral perfection but modest virtues, and adherence to some standards. How high should those standards be? Certainly higher than the behavior alleged in this case.

Those who constantly invoke the sentiment of "Who are we to judge?" should consider the anarchy that would ensue if we adhered to this sentiment in, say, our courtrooms. What would happen if those sitting on a jury decided to be "nonjudgmental" about rapists and sexual harassers, embezzlers and tax cheats? Justice would be lost. Without being "judgmental," Americans would never have put an end to slavery, outlawed child labor, emancipated women or ushered in the civil-rights movement. Nor would we have mobilized against Nazism and communism.

Mr. Clinton himself put it well, in a judgment-laden 1996 proclamation he signed during National Character Week, which said that "individual character involves honoring and embracing certain core ethical values: honesty, respect, responsibility. . . . Parents must teach their children from the earliest age the difference between right and wrong. But we must all do our part."

A president's private behavior doesn't matter. In a recent Wall Street Journal/NBC News poll, 57% said that private character doesn't matter at all or matters only if it interferes with his ability to do the job. Of course, if Mr. Clinton did have sexual encounters with Ms. Lewinsky, it involves at least adultery and lying to the public—and probably lying under oath as well. In any event, the attempt to rigidly compartmentalize life in this way is divorced from the real world. A mother would not accept from her son the explanation that his drug habit doesn't matter because he did well on the Scholastic Assessment Test; a police commissioner should not dismiss the raw bigotry of a detective because he has a good arrest record.

Yet in the name of "compartmentalization," many now seem willing to accept raunchier behavior from our president than we would from any CEO, college professor or Army drill sergeant. Housing Secretary Andrew Cuomo put it this way: "Let's remember what's important here. The lives of the American people are more important than the personal life of the president." But Mr. Clinton is a laboratory test case of why private character is relevant. Prevarications typify his private and public life. A seamless web of deceit runs through the man and through his administration.

John Adams held a far different view than Mr. Cuomo does. Adams wrote that the people "have a right, an indisputable, unalienable, indefeasible, divine right to that most dreaded and envied kind of knowledge; I mean, of the characters and conduct of their rulers. Rulers are no more than attorneys, agents, and trustees, for the people; and if the cause, the interest and trust, is insidiously betrayed, or wantonly trifled away, the people have a right to revoke the authority than they themselves have deputed."

To better understand the limits of the "private-public" argument, imagine the storm that would engulf a president who privately supported a whites-only membership policy in a country club. Most voters would rightly deem this private sentiment to be of intense public interest. Why, then, are we supposed to accept a man in the Oval Office whom many parents would not trust alone with their daughters?

The only thing that matters is the economy. "What we should be talking about is that we are going to have the first balanced budget in more than three decades," says one citizen, who voted against Mr. Clinton in 1996. "That's going to impact our children, not this sleaze that is masquerading as news." This sentiment reveals an arid and incomplete understanding of the presidency. More than any other person, the president

symbolizes America. He stands for us in the eyes of the world and of our children, who inevitably learn from his example. Whether or not Bill Clinton escapes impeachment, his legacy will be one of pervasive deceit, squandered trust, a reckless disregard for the truth, heightened cynicism and a nastier political culture.

A ROGUE IN OUR MIDST

This corruption matters a great deal. Even if the Dow Jones breaks 10000. Even if Americans get more day care. Even if the budget is balanced. It matters because lessons in corruption, particularly when they emanate from the highest office in the land, undermine our civic life. Children are watching, and if we expect them to take morality seriously, they must see adults take it seriously. As C.S. Lewis wrote: "We make men without chests and expect of them virtue and enterprise. We laugh at honor and are shocked to find traitors in our midst."

Today we find not a traitor but a rogue in our midst. Of course, rogues have been with us forever, and the corruption of people in power is at least as old as the Scriptures. But in America today, more and more citizens seem to be complicit in that corruption. One worry of the Founders was that luxury and affluence might dull our moral sensibilities. The next few months will go a long way toward determining how strongly we believe in something we once revered as "our sacred honor."

HONORING JOYCE ARBERMAN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the skill and achievements of Joyce Arberman. Her contributions to our community are incomparable.

Ms. Arberman's service to the community spans almost two decades. She works closely with the Ladies of the Adult Retardate Center (LARC), a program which is nearest to her heart. Currently, she works to organize the Center's annual major fund raiser. Over the years, Ms. Arberman's efforts has lead to the raising of almost over a million dollars for LARC.

Currently, Ms. Arberman serves as State Committeewoman of the 39th Assembly District, a post she was elected to in 1984. She, along with Assemblyman Anthony Genovesi, are the leaders of the Thomas Jefferson Democratic Club in Brooklyn. Clearly, our district has only benefitted from her tireless efforts.

Ms. Arberman's family remains a source of strength for her. She has a son, Jeff, a daughter, Jamee, and is also the grandmother of two wonderful grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Joyce Arberman for all of her achievements, for being a woman who dares to be different, and for showing young women everywhere that they can do and accomplish anything.

WOMEN'S BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I rise today to commend the Women's Business Development Center, which is located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The Women's Business Development Center (WBDC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the economic empowerment of women. The Center provides services and programs that support and accelerate women's business ownership and strengthen the impact of women on the economy. The Center enables women to launch new businesses and helps those currently in business to remain successful.

The WBDC was formed in July, 1995 with the assistance of a three-year matching fund grant from the U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of Women's Business Ownership. By offering a full range of services and utilizing the expertise of successful women business owners to deliver its programs, the Women's Business Development Center is the Greater Philadelphia Region's focal point for women's economic empowerment opportunities.

To date, the Women's Business Development Center has provided information, business assessment, training and counseling services to over 4,500 potential and existing women business owners. The metropolitan Philadelphia area has 127,100 women-owned business enterprises that employ 448,500 people and generate over \$56 billion in sales. Women-owned business are a viable economic force and WBDC is vital to their continued growth and success.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms. Geri Swift, President of the WBDC. Working with the community, business organizations, and all levels of government and the corporate sector, Geri has played an essential role in supporting the growth and development of entrepreneurial business ventures. In addition to being the current President of WBDC, Ms. Swift serves as the national vice president of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) and as a director of the National Foundation of Women Business Owners. Geri Swift was also the founding president of the NAWBO, Greater Philadelphia Chapter.

HMO QUALITY DATA: LET THE PATIENT BEWARE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, as the nation moves increasingly toward managed care, a high priority must be to give the patient/consumer reliable, accurate information on the quality provided by HMOs.

On February 26 the chief medical officer of the Medicare agency testified that the popular HEDIS data used to measure how well HMOs

are doing in a variety of areas is, in some cases, very inaccurate and misleading. I've asked the Health Care Financing Administration to give us more information on this problem and the extent of the errors.

There are private groups which accredit HMOs and use HEDIS data to help measure those plans. The leader in these private groups is the National Commission on Quality Assurance. But it is all very confusing to the consumer. The following shows why.

How NCOA Accreditation Compares to U.S. News and World Report Rankings of HMO's

U.S. News ranking	Full Acc.	1-Yr. Acc.	Prov. Acc. ¹	Denied	Review ²	N/A ⁴	P/S/E ³	Totals
****	41	15	0	2	0	6	0	64
***	46	30	7	1	1	5	6	96
**	47	30	0	1	1	16	8	103
*	13	7	1	0	1	5	10	37
Not ranked	14	0	0	0	1	7	5	27
Totals	161	82	8	4	4	39	29	327

¹ Provisional accreditation: plan meets some standards; can move up if review after one year shows improvement.

² Initial status determined but under review.

³ Initial status Pending/review Scheduled/rating Expired.

⁴ Accreditation information not available.

Source: U.S. News and World Report, October 13, 1997.

One of the most important things would be to ensure that these private accrediting and rating groups, which are paid for their services by those they rate, are true to the public interest. I have proposed legislation, H.R. 800, which would require that the boards of accrediting organizations like NCQA and JCAHO include public interest representatives and public meetings.

So much money is at stake in the quality ratings of managed care plans, that I do not believe the ratings should be directed in private and by boards of directors who include representatives of the interest being evaluated.

HONORING JACKIE SMITH

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the skill and achievements of Jackie Smith. Her contribution to women's sports is incomparable.

Jackie began playing organized basketball at the age of 11. The effort that she put into the game since then has made her a competitive player of international renown. She attended Forest Hills High School and, as a premier player, received All-City honors and the 1st Regusus award given by New York City. Upon graduation, she received a full athletic scholarship to St. John's University where she led the team to two Big East championships, four NCAA appearances, and has received numerous individual awards.

In 1986, after receiving her Bachelors degree, she played professionally with the Racing Club de France in Paris, France. In 1988, she returned to New York City to play an instrumental role with the Brooklyn Sports Foundation as its Community Relations Director. While in this position, she worked closely with the Foundation's Chairman, Board of Directors, and community leaders to plan and develop the first and only sports complex for amateur sports in Brooklyn.

In keeping with her love of sports, this year she became the Head Women's Basketball Coach at York College and is committed to building a successful program.

The October 13, 1997 issue of US News and World Report rated 223 HMOs using data largely from the National Commission on Quality Assurance's HEDIS system. The rating also showed whether NCQA had given full or partial accreditation to those HMOs.

Using the HEDIS data on things that people care about, like immunization rates, mammography rates, etc., US News ranked plans as Above Average or Below Average—but the NCQA accreditations had relatively little to do

with how plans did on the US News ratings. For example, NCQA denied accreditation to 2 plans that US News found among the best, but denied none among the plans that US News found the worst. Following is a table my staff did showing the results.

What can be done to make this babble of ratings more useful to the public?

Mr. Speaker, join me in congratulating Ms. Jackie Smith for all of her achievements, for being a woman who dares to be different, and showing young women everywhere that they can do, and accomplish, anything.

TRIBUTE TO DAWSON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the tremendous bravery shown by Dawson High School students earlier this year. These students, whose high school is in my district, have displayed an incredible example of courage in the face of danger and given all of us a fascinating story of courage and bravery.

Mr. Speaker, on January 6th of this year, students from Dawson High School arose and planned their day as usual. As they waited in their neighborhoods for the school bus, they had no way of knowing about the dangers that awaited them. Because there has been heavy rains in Dawson the previous week, many of the roads were flooded. The school bus that the Dawson students were on, got caught in one of those flooded roads and was swept off into a ditch towards the flooded creek.

Mr. Speaker, this would have been a tragic situation, if it had not been for the quick thinking of the older students on the bus. They took the initiative to check for anyone who was hurt, and then they moved all 40 students to the right side of the bus in order to keep it from flipping over.

The students who put their fear aside and acted so bravely were: Shelley Wheat, Jessica Hall, Misty Rounsavall, Jeremy Rounsavall, Jasm McCury, Keith Becker, James Stults, Sarah Urrutia, Kevin Ivie, Dorinda Golden, April Dooley, Jennifer Wren, Mandy Houk, Niki Dooley, Krysty Copeland and Sharlaine Hooley.

Mr. Speaker, it's hard to overestimate the fear I think anyone would feel faced with a situation such as this. I know I join the people of Dawson in thanking these young heroes and heroines for their courage and their inspiration.

THE 150th ANNIVERSARY OF SENATE APPROVAL OF THE TREATY OF GUADALUPE HIDALGO IN 1848

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today—March 10th—marks one of the great historic occasions in the history of the United States, and it is a particularly significant anniversary for the people of the great State of California. Today is the 150th anniversary of the vote in the United States Senate in which that body approved the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo by a vote of 38 to 14. That historic document marked the conclusion of the two-year war with Mexico.

The treaty is also a tribute to American diplomacy and the creativity of Nicholas P. Trist, the chief clerk of the Department of State who was sent to Mexico by President James K. Polk at the end of 1847 with instructions "to take advantage of circumstances as they might arise to negotiate a peace." After a lengthy delay, Trist was about to begin negotiations with Mexican representatives when the President sent instructions for Trist to return to Washington. Trist—convinced that he was on the verge of achieving all of the objectives that he was sent to achieve—ignored his instructions to return, continued his negotiations with Mexican officials, and concluded the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, named after the place where it was completed.

When Trist returned to Washington with the treaty, President Polk could find no fault with the document and, despite "the exceptional conduct of Mr. Trist," submitted the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo to the Senate for its advice and consent. It was this document which was approved by the Senate on March 10, 1848, which I invite my colleagues to join me in commemorating today, Mr. Speaker.

The anniversary of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Mr. Speaker, is an occasion for both celebration and for thoughtful reflection about the nature of our great nation.

First, Mr. Speaker, it is an occasion for celebration because the treaty led to major changes that helped to define the United

States as we know it today. Under terms of the treaty, 1.2 million square miles were added to the United States, and the United States government paid \$15 million to the government of Mexico. Included in these new territories were the Mexican states of Upper California and New Mexico, which today comprise the entire state of California, plus most of New Mexico, Arizona, and Nevada, as well as portions of Utah, Wyoming, and Colorado.

The treaty also confirmed the Rio Grande River as the boundary between the State of Texas and Mexico. Texas had become an independent Republic in 1836, and, at the request of the majority Anglo American population, it was annexed to the United States in 1845. Questions regarding the boundary between Texas and Mexico were among the principle causes of the United States' war with Mexico.

My home state of California has become the most populous state in our Union, with some 32 million residents—12 percent of the entire population of our country, considerably ahead of Texas (19 million) and New York (18 million). Furthermore, California has made significant contributions to the history, character, and culture of the United States. It has provided a number of prominent national leaders in science, medicine, education, entertainment, and many other fields, and our state has been the home state of two presidents of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, this Sesquicentennial of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo is also an occasion for us to reflect thoughtfully upon the cultural heritage of Hispanic Americans in the United States. Under terms of the treaty, residents of the land that was ceded to the United States who were Mexican citizens were permitted to choose American or Mexican citizenship, and it guaranteed the property rights of new Hispanic Americans by reaffirming land grants that had been made by Spain and Mexico before 1846. The treaty, however, did not define or affirm the language or cultural rights of these new American citizens of Hispanic background. In the half century after the approval of the Treaty, most states in the new territories that were added to the United States enacted laws limiting the participation of Hispanic participation in voting, the judicial process, and education. Other laws resulted in dispossessing many Hispanic Americans of their lands.

Throughout most of the 150 years since the historic approval by the Senate of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Hispanic Americans have been subject to exclusion and marginalization. In recent times, however, this treaty has become a potent symbol as Hispanic Americans have affirmed their right to participate fully in American life. Again, Mr. Speaker, it is California that is a harbinger of the America of the twenty-first century. Hispanic Americans play an important role in the economic, political and social life of the State of California, and they bring a vitality and a healthy diversity to our state and to our nation. As California moves toward becoming a "majority minority" state, with Hispanic Americans the largest of our state's minority populations, it is my hope that Americans of all ethnic backgrounds can work together in contributing to the greatness that the rich diversity of our nation can produce.

Mr. Speaker, as we mark the Sesquicentennial of the Senate's approval of the Treaty of

Guadalupe Hidalgo, it is my sincere wish that all of us as Americans will take this occasion to recommit ourselves to understanding, appreciating, and celebrating the depth and meaning of our historical past. It is also my hope, Mr. Speaker, that we will also recommit ourselves to the ideals of equality and diversity which have contributed so much to the richness and culture of our nation and of which this anniversary should remind us.

HONORING ELBA IRIS ROJAS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work and achievements of Elba Iris Rojas. Elba was born in Puerto Rico and she and her family moved to the United States when she was just a child. Her family has allowed her to become the success that she is today.

As a result of her dedication to education, Ms. Rojas was awarded a scholarship to Kings County Hospital of Nursing in 1968. During her tenure in the nursing program, Elba knew that she could best serve her community as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. For over twenty years she has managed to provide invaluable services in this capacity through a joint program of Kings County Hospital Center and Down State Medical Center. While working at the Hospital, Ms. Rojas has participated in numerous health fairs and career days in community high schools. She also serves as a mentor to nursing students. I have no doubt that Mrs. Rojas has guided many young people to make their own contributions to the field of health.

When one speaks to Ms. Rojas, one gets a sense that she is truly excited about her life. As a wife, mother of three, and a professional, it is clear that the demands of these roles do not exhaust her, but strengthen her commitment to her work and family.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Ms. Elba Iris Rojas for all of her achievements, for being a woman who dares to be different, and for showing young women everywhere that they can do and accomplish anything.

CARING AND SHARING, INC.

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an organization in my district that's doing amazing work for veterans in Western Pennsylvania, Sharing and Caring, Inc.

Sharing and Caring is an all volunteer organization dedicated to helping our nation's most important heroes, our veterans. Each year, Sharing and Caring organizes a cruise on Pittsburgh's rivers for hospitalized veterans. The event gives these veterans an opportunity to spend a day outside the hospital, but it's also an opportunity for our entire community to honor the service of our veterans by sponsoring, or "adopting", a veteran for the boat ride.

In 1985, the first year of this event, Sharing and Caring's river boat cruise benefitted over 500 veterans. Today, that number has doubled, allowing more than 1,000 veterans to take part in the day's events. This effort to give veterans a "holiday" outside of their normal hospital environments deserves acknowledgment and commendation.

The people who started this event, however, deserve just as much praise. As a hospital volunteer, Bernard Pack, who himself is a veteran of World War II and Korea, was dismayed by the sight of so many veterans spending their days watching television inside hospital wards. His desire to bring something special to the lives of his comrades propelled him and fellow volunteers Robert Riethmiller and David Gool to organize the first river boat cruise. Out of this event, Sharing and Caring, Inc. was formed, and the organization has gone on to help numerous hospitalized veterans.

I want to extend my personal thanks and best wishes to Bernie, Robert and David for the time, energy and effort they put into creating Caring and Sharing. And I also want to thank all the volunteers that keep the organization going. Your efforts to help our veterans is an inspiration to us all.

INTRODUCTION OF DUTY
SUSPENSION BILLS

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing the attached four bills at the request of a chemical manufacturer in my Congressional District. Enactment will increase this company's ability to compete in a highly competitive U.S. agricultural market. These bills will also improve the health of our environment, because the products involved are used in lower concentrations than chemicals used today, and they break down quicker in the environment than the older generation of products. Suspension of the duty on these products will have a positive effect on U.S. companies, because they are not currently manufactured in the United States.

A BILL To provide for reductions in duty for the chemical DPX-E9260

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

SECTION 1. REDUCTION IN DUTIES FOR DPX-E9260

(a) REDUCTION IN DUTIES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the general column rate of duty for the article described in subsection (b) shall be—

(1) 6.0% for goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, during calendar year 1999; and

(2) 5.3% for goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, during calendar year 2000.

(b) DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLE.—The article which subsection (a) applies is DPX-E9260, 3-(ethylsulfonyl)-2-pyridinesulfonamide (CAS No. 117671-01-9), provided for in subheading 2935.00.75 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States.

A BILL To provide for reductions in duty for carbamic acid (U-9069)

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

SECTION 1. REDUCTION IN DUTIES FOR CARBAMIC ACID (U-9069).

(a) REDUCTION IN DUTIES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the general column rate of duty for the article described in subsection (b) shall be—

(1) 9.0% for goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, during the period beginning on the 15th day after the date of the enactment of this Act and ending December 31, 1998;

(2) 8.3% for goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, during calendar year 1999; and

(3) 7.6% for goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, during calendar year 2000.

(b) DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLE.—The article to which subsection (a) applies is Carbamic

Acid, [3-((dimethylamino)carbonyl)-2-pyridinyl sulfonyl]-, phenyl ester (CAS No. 112006-94-7), provided for in subheading 2935.00.75 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States.

A BILL To provide for reductions in duty for the chemical Rimsulfuron Technical

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

SECTION 1. REDUCTION IN DUTIES FOR RIMSULFURON TECHNICAL.

(a) REDUCTION IN DUTIES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the general column rate of duty for the article described in subsection (b) shall be—

(1) 8.0% for goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, during the period beginning on the 15th day after the date of the enactment of this Act and ending December 31, 1998;

(2) 7.3% for goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, during calendar year 1999; and

(3) free for goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, during calendar year 2000.

(b) DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLE.—The article to which subsection (a) applies is Rimsulfuron Technical N-[[4,6-dimethoxy-pyrimidin-2-yl) aminocarbonyl]-3-(ethylsulfonyl)-2-pyridine-sulfonamide (CAS No. 122931-48-0), provided for in subheading 2933.59.10.

A BILL To suspend temporarily the duty on the chemical DPX-E6758

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

SECTION 1. SUSPENSION OF DUTY ON DPX-E6758.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is amended by inserting in numerical sequence the following new heading:

“9902.33.59	(4,6-dimethoxypyrimidin-2-yl) carbamic acid, phenyl ester (provided for in subheading 2933.59.70).	Free
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No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2000”.
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(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by this section applies to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after the date of the enactment of this Act.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION ON THE WORLDWIDE TRAFFICKING OF PERSONS, A VIOLATION OF FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing today a resolution condemning the global increase in the trafficking of persons and urging increased efforts to combat this violation of fundamental human rights.

Trafficking involves the use of deception, coercion, abuse of authority, debt bondage, or fraud to exploit persons through forced prostitution, sexual slavery, sweatshop labor, or exploitative domestic service. Trafficked women are often subject to battering, cruelty, rape, and other forms of physical and mental abuse.

The resolution I am introducing today, builds on my efforts over the past several years to bring attention to the problem of the trafficking of Burmese women and children into brothels in Thailand. As we learn more information, it is becoming tragically clear that trafficking knows no national or regional boundaries. Worldwide, four million women and children are trafficked each year, most by criminal syndicates that turn \$7 billion in profits annually.

Trafficking is particularly aggravated in areas of the world in economic and social upheaval. An unhappy side effect of the breakup of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact is the vast increase in trafficking from Russia, Ukraine, Eastern Europe and the Newly Independent States. Criminal organizations are capitalizing on the poverty, rising unemployment, and the disintegration of social networks to exploit and abuse women and children.

In addition to bringing attention to this troubling situation, the resolution lauds the anti-trafficking efforts of the President, First Lady, Secretary of State and the President's Interagency Council on Women. Working with key non-governmental organizations, they have focused on trafficking as a significant problem

and are working to mobilize a comprehensive response.

The resolution particularly directs the Departments of Justice and State to continue and increase their efforts to address the trafficking of women into the United States. We must ensure that our legal system can effectively prosecute traffickers and the crimes associated with trafficking, while ensuring the dignity and human rights of trafficking victims. The State Department should continue its trafficking prevention efforts, and its partnership with nations around the globe to combat these heinous crimes.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and Senator WELLSTONE, who is introducing the Senate companion resolution, in supporting this resolution. We must put Congress squarely on record in opposition to the abhorrent practice of trafficking.

H. CON. RES. —

Whereas one of the fastest growing international trafficking businesses is the trade in women, whereby women and girls seeking a better life, a good marriage, or a lucrative job abroad, unexpectedly find themselves in situations of forced prostitution, sweatshop labor, exploitative domestic servitude, or battering and extreme cruelty.

Whereas trafficked women are often subjected to rape and other forms of sexual abuse by their traffickers and often held as virtual prisoners by their exploiters, made to work in slavery-like conditions, in debt bondage without pay and against their will;

Whereas the President, the First Lady, the Secretary of State, and the President's Interagency Council on Women have all identified trafficking in women as a significant problem and are working to mobilize a response;

Whereas the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing Conference) called on all governments to take measures, including legislative measures, to provide better protection of the rights of women and girls in trafficking, to address the root factors that put women at risk to traffickers, and to take measures to dismantle the national, regional, and international networks in trafficking;

Whereas the United Nations General Assembly, noting its concern about the increasing number of women and girls who are being victimized by traffickers, passed a resolution

HONORING BARBARA ELK

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the skill and achievements of Barbara Elk. Her contribution to education, particularly William H. Maxwell Vocational High School, is incomparable.

Barbara has served as principal of William H. Maxwell Vocational High School since 1991. Before becoming principal, she was District Manager of Clinical Services for the Brooklyn Superintendency for five and one half years. She served as an assistant principal of Special Education at John Dewey High School and teacher at James Madison High School. Altogether, she has served the New York City Board of Education as an educator, administrator, and supervisor for twenty-six years.

Barbara has always known that her mission is to educate and challenge the student and staff by nurturing and encouraging their growth, to ensure a positive impact upon home, school, and community. She believes that when children are prepared mentally, emotionally, spiritually, and physically for today and the future, we all gain strength, success and deep satisfaction. This holistic view of education makes me proud to know that she is involved in preparing our children for the next century.

Ms. Elk has received tremendous support from her husband, Barry, two sons, Adam and Benjamin, a daughter-in-law, Tari, her sister Deborah and her family.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Barbara Elk for all of her achievements, for being a woman who dares to be different, and for showing young women everywhere that they can do and accomplish anything.

in 1996 calling upon all governments to criminalize trafficking in women and girls in all its forms and penalize all those offenders involved, while ensuring that the victims of these practices are not penalized; and

Whereas numerous treaties to which the United States is a party address government obligations to combat trafficking and the abuses inherent in trafficking, including such treaties as the 1956 Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery, which calls for the complete abolition of debt bondage and servile forms of marriage, and the 1957 Abolition of Forced Labor Convention, which undertakes to suppress and not to make use of any form of forced or compulsory labor: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) trafficking consists of all acts involved in the recruitment or transportation of persons within or across borders involving deception, coercion or force, abuse of authority, debt bondage or fraud, for the purpose of placing persons in situations of abuse or exploitation such as forced prostitution, sexual slavery, battering and extreme cruelty, sweatshop labor or exploitative domestic servitude;

(2) trafficking also involves one or more forms of kidnapping, false imprisonment, rape, battering, forced labor or slavery-like practices which violate fundamental human rights;

(3) to address this problem, the Department of Justice Office of Violence Against Women, with the cooperation of Immigration and Naturalization Service, should submit a report to Congress on—

(A) efforts to identify instances of trafficking into the United States within the last 5 years;

(B) the successes or difficulties experienced in promoting interagency cooperation, cooperation between local, State, and Federal authorities, and cooperation with non-governmental organizations;

(C) the treatment and services provided, and the disposition of trafficking cases in the criminal justice system; and

(D) legal and administrative barriers to more effective governmental responses, including current statutes on debt bondage and involuntary servitude;

(4) in order to ensure effective prosecution of traffickers and the abuses related to trafficking, victims should be provided with support services and incentives to testify, such as—

(A) stays of deportation with an opportunity to apply for permanent residency, witness protection, relocation assistance, and asset forfeiture from trafficking networks with funds set aside to provide compensation due to victims of trafficking; and

(B) services such as legal assistance in criminal, administrative, and civil proceedings and confidential health care;

(5) the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Department of Justice Office of Violence Against Women, and nongovernmental organizations should—

(A) develop curricula and conduct training for consular officers on the prevalence and risks of trafficking and the rights of victims; and

(B) develop and disperse to visa seekers written materials describing the potential risks of trafficking, including—

(i) information as to the rights of victims in the United States, including legal and civil rights in labor, marriage, and for crime victims under the Violence Against Women Act; and

(ii) the names of support and advocacy organizations in the United States;

(6) the Department of State and the European Union—

(A) are commended as to their joint initiative to promote awareness of the problem of trafficking throughout countries of origin in Eastern Europe and the independent states of the former Soviet Union; and

(B) should continue efforts to engage in similar programs in other regions and to ensure that the dignity and the human rights of trafficking victims are protected in destination countries;

(7) the State Department's Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, together with the Department of Justice and the Department of the Treasury, should continue to provide and expand funding to support criminal justice training programs, which include trafficking; and

(8) the President's Interagency Council on Women should submit a report to Congress, not later than 6 months after the date of the adoption of this resolution, with regard to the implementation by the Secretary of State and the Attorney General of the duties described in this resolution.

SEC. 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the President, the Secretary of State, and the Attorney General.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID MAURICE LOZANO

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an officer of the law, David Maurice Lozano, of Harlingen, Texas. David is retiring from the U.S. Probation and Parole Department in Brownsville, Texas.

As a former law enforcement officer myself, I know about the danger and difficulty of dealing with criminals and the havoc they create. Upholding the law is often a thankless task, yet it is critical to our society.

David Lozano served in the United States Air Force after high school. After he got a degree in education at Southwest Texas State College in San Marcos, Texas, he worked as a special agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Later, he worked as a supervisor at the U.S. Social Security Administration in Harlingen.

He spent the last 20 years working for the federal government at the U.S. Probation and Parole Department in Brownsville, most recently as a supervising probation officer. David has a distinguished body of work doing a hard job to make his community a safer place to live.

As one terribly familiar with the various aspects of law enforcement, let me point out that Probation Officers have a difficult task in helping in the rehabilitation of those who have committed crimes against society, paid their debt and are trying to find their way outside the system. It is for those people like David, who can help difficult people re-enter our society, that we offer our gratitude today.

I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me today in commending an outstanding patriot and American, David Maurice Lozano, as he leaves government service. Please remember him again on March 19, when he will formally celebrate his retirement in the Rio Grande Valley.

HONORING PROFESSOR JOSEPH CREA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, just one block away from my district office is the campus of Brooklyn Law School. This year, Brooklyn Law School Professor Joseph Crea celebrates his fiftieth year as a member of the faculty. I believe that Professor Crea may hold the distinction of teaching more law students and training more lawyers than any other person in the United States and possibly in the world.

Professor Crea's path to the law is even more amazing than his longevity as a faculty member. He was born in 1915 and spent his early years growing up in Manhattan's Lower East Side. His family moved to the Gravesend section of Brooklyn and there he attended Bay Ridge High School as an evening student. By day, he drove a bread truck, and one day he drove past a pile of discarded books in an empty field. He found among them a legal treatise on corporate reorganizations and, when he read it, he discovered that the legal fees for reorganizing a small railroad, even in the depths of the Great Depression, amounted to \$2 million. Then and there he decided that law school was for him.

But first he would serve his country in World War II. Then as a returning veteran, he attended Brooklyn Law School at night, while working for the Selective Service Administration by day. He started law school even before he eventually graduated from Brooklyn College. During this period he also met and married his beloved wife Regina and started a family of four daughters.

Despite his family and professional commitments, Joe Crea was such an able student that then Dean Carswell asked him to join the faculty. The first course he taught in 1948 was Torts. Since then, he has taught most of the courses in the curriculum at one time or another and continues to teach a full load of both Corporations and Commercial Paper courses as Professor Emeritus.

In addition to being a key teacher and mentor for five decades of students, Professor Crea has been a pivotal member of the faculty. Nearly thirty years ago, at a critical moment in the law school's history, Joe Crea provided the leadership, vision, and cohesiveness that allowed Brooklyn Law School to begin its evolution into a modern law school with a national curriculum, faculty, and student body.

Even today, he provides the history and wisdom that helps Brooklyn Law School face its new challenges as we approach the beginning of the 21st century and the one-hundredth anniversary of Brooklyn Law School.

This year Brooklyn Law School honors Professor Joseph Crea's fifty years of teaching with two separate gala celebrations. I offer this tribute which will be presented to him in commemoration of his years of service and the incomparable impact he has had on his colleagues and on tens of thousands of students.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Professor Joseph Crea for his distinguished years of teaching at a Brooklyn Law School.

A TRIBUTE TO DONALD L. CLARK IN HONOR OF KYOKO INA AND JASON DUNGJEN: THE 1998 U.S. OLYMPIANS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues in the Congress to join me in paying tribute to Donald L. Clark, a truly outstanding Missourian. It has come to my attention, that after 48 years of commendable service to the Laclede Electric Cooperative, Don Clark has decided to retire.

A native of Pulaski County, MO, Don Clark graduated from Waynesville R-6 High School in 1949, at the age of 16. After graduation, he attended the University of Missouri Extension Service and participated in Electrical Engineering Short Courses in Columbia, Missouri. In addition, Don attended several specialized electrical schools in order to prepare him for a career in the electrical field.

Immediately after high school, in December of 1949, Don began working with Laclede Electric Cooperative, and he has remained with this company for 48 year. Over the years, Don has worked as a Groundsman, Linesman, Area Foreman, Operating superintendent, and General Manager. He was recognized by state and national associations as a Co-op leader. Don also serves on the NRECA board and the board of Show-Me Power Electric Cooperative.

In addition to a career in electricity, Don Clark honorably served his country in the United States Army. Don served in the Army from November 1952 until November 1954, and was sent to the Republic of Korea for one and a half years. While in Korea, Don served in the Field Artillery Observation Battalion, where he surveyed battlefields in preparation for artillery attack. During his last six months in Korea, Don served as Survey Party Chief, and he was discharged from active duty with an E5 rank.

Don Clark's military and civilian careers are enhanced by his participation in many community activities. Don has served as Chairman of Deacons at First Baptist Church in Lebanon, Missouri, and on the Building and Personnel Committees therein. He has also served on the Waynesville, Missouri, City Council and the Waynesville Area Vocational School Advisory Board. Don organized and was chairman of the Waynesville City Park Board for 15 years, and he has served as President of the Waynesville-Fort Leonard Wood R-6 School District. In addition, for more than 20 years, Don has participated in the Association of the United States Army. He has also served on the Committee of Fifty, the Red Cross Board, the Boatman's Bank Board, and is a member of the Rotary Club.

Don Clark's dedication to his nation, his community, and his career is exemplary, and I am certain that the Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to this fine Missourian.

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two outstanding individuals, Ms. Kyoko Ina and Mr. Jason Dungjen, in recognition of their incredible talents and accomplishments throughout their brilliant careers which culminated with their arrival in Nagano, Japan at the 1998 Winter Olympics. They are an example that the American dream is alive and well.

Ms. Kyoko Ina was born in Tokyo, Japan on October 11, 1972. She comes from a long tradition of athletes in her family. Ms. Ina's father was a 1924 Olympic track competitor, her grandmother played tennis at Wimbledon, and her mother is an Asian Games swimming champion. Her interests include jet skiing, horseback riding, tennis and car racing. It is an honor to have Ms. Ina's hometown of Guttenberg, New Jersey as part of my district.

Mr. Jason Dungjen, whose hometown is Nanuet, New York, was born in Detroit, Michigan on September 28, 1967. He won the U.S. Junior Pair Title in 1983 and finished second at the 1984 World Junior Championships with his sister, Susan.

Ms. Ina and Mr. Dungjen began skating at the ages of 4 and 11 respectively. Together they train in the town of Monsey, New York with the help of their coach, Mr. Peter Burrows, and choreographer Ms. Tatiana Tarasova. Ms. Ina and Mr. Dungjen have participated in numerous competitions including the National and World Championships.

It is an honor to have two such distinguished individuals who worked hard for their dreams and inspired the residents in my district and throughout America. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Kyoko Ina and Jason Dungjen who epitomize the good that can be accomplished when two people work together for a common goal.

TRIBUTE TO RANDOLPH NEWMAN

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Randolph Newman. The death of Dr. Newman on February 27, 1998 was a sad day for anyone who knew Ran. He will be greatly missed, both as a dedicated supporter of Santa Rosa Junior College and as a generous and caring individual.

Dr. Newman was raised in Oakland, California. He began his career in education as a business education teacher at Healdsburg High School before serving in the Army Air Corps. He returned to the field of education and eventually received a doctorate in higher education at Berkeley.

The Santa Rosa Junior College family will forever remember Dr. Newman's dedication as

President and close friend of the Foundation. As President, he expanded the college to become a community resource that offered, along with the traditional first two years of a baccalaureate degree, vocational and business training, adult education, and a variety of enrichment programs. He transformed the role of this junior college into a true community college—one of the best in the nation.

But Dr. Newman's work did not stop with S.R.J.C. His commitment to over 40 organizations, including his active membership in the Santa Rosa Symphony Association and the Sonoma County Library, is admirable. It is special people like Randolph Newman who make me proud to represent the California 6th District in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I acknowledge the loss of Randolph Newman. He was a tremendous asset to our community and an inspiration to us all. I extend my deepest sympathies to the Newman family and all who knew this wonderful man.

SJOGREN'S SYNDROME

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to a largely unrecognized and undiagnosed disease in our nation: Sjogren's Syndrome.

The month of March has been designated as Sjogren's Syndrome Awareness Month. Sjogren's Syndrome is an autoimmune disorder characterized by excessively dry mouth and eyes, although all of the body's glands that excrete sweat, saliva or oil can be affected. About half of all those affected experience Sjogren's Syndrome in connection with another disorder, such as rheumatoid arthritis, lupus or scleroderma.

An estimated four million Americans currently suffer with Sjogren's Syndrome, making it the most common autoimmune disorder in the United States according to the October 1997 International Symposium on Sjogren's Syndrome. The vast majority of Sjogren's patients are women and often go undiagnosed.

Tragically, Sjogren's Syndrome is incurable. The causes of this disorder have not yet been discovered, although scientists suspect a combination of infectious, hormonal and genetic factors aggravated by stress. Some basic steps can be taken to alleviate the symptoms of Sjogren's, but they are far from a cure.

The Sjogren's Syndrome Foundation is fighting to raise awareness and fund research into a cure, but they face a long road. I am proud to receive their 1998 Award for Exceptional Public Health Initiatives for my sponsorship of H.R. 306, the Genetic Information Non-discrimination in Health Insurance Act. I hope my colleagues will join the Sjogren's Syndrome Foundation in working to raise awareness, educate our constituents, and work toward a cure for this devastating disorder.

HONORING THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MEXICAN AMERICAN EDUCATION COMMISSION ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Mexican-American Education Commission (MAEC) for its 30 years of dedicated service to the students of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). On Friday, March 6, 1998, MAEC commemorated the 30th anniversary of the East Los Angeles "Blowouts" and the establishment of the Commission. At this special program, over 300 LAUSD students joined former MAEC directors, commissioners, and community and student leaders who participated in the 1968 walkouts. This program was an educational and historical reflection on an event that was significant to the city of Los Angeles and to the Mexican-American community.

For three decades, MAEC has worked to establish inroads to equitable educational opportunities for Chicano/Hispanic students and to fight the early discriminatory practices of the educational community. Today, MAEC continues to voice the community's concerns and make recommendations to the Board of Education about programs and issues related to the more than 435,000 Chicano/Hispanic students who comprise over 70 percent of the LAUSD student population. It has accomplished this task through pro-active assessments of the community's needs and recommendations on priorities. The Commission recommends projects and activities to improve the effectiveness of educational programs for Hispanic students. It also strengthens communication between the public and the LAUSD. To fulfill its mission of advising, assisting, and making recommendations to the Board of Education, the Commission conducts surveys and studies, participates in LAUSD committees, meets with school, community, and District groups, and advises students, parents and community members of the District's activities.

Dedicated to the principle of community involvement, MAEC membership is broad-based, and includes parents, educators, administrators, professionals, and civic and community leaders. The Commission has carried out its responsibilities through the generous support of its members who dedicate many hours of volunteer time and expertise to this worthy cause. I am proud to count myself as a current MAEC member and one of the 1968 Commission's original members, appointed by the Board of Education, the Educational Issues Coordinating Council and the Los Angeles Unified School District Office of Urban Affairs.

The dedicated efforts of its original members created an institution that has been instrumental in educational reform for the past 30 years. The members of the original MAEC were: Parents—Mr. Ben Carmona, Mr. Armando Chavez, Mrs. Sara MacPherson, Mr. Gordon Moreno, Mr. George Mount, Mrs. Celia Rodriguez, Mrs. Eva Romero; Educators—Dr. Rudolph Acuna, Mr. Raul Arreola, Mr. Ray Cenicerros, Mr. Joseph Conway, Mr. Marcos De Leon, Mr. William Forbes, Mr.

Oscar L. Gallego, Dr. Simon Gonzales, Mr. Cesar Gonzales, S.J., Dr. Kenneth Martyn, Mr. Joseph Maytorena, Dr. David Sanchez, Mr. Fred Sanchez, Mr. Frank Serrano, Dr. Frank Synder; Students—Miss Maria Baeza, Mr. Henry Gutierrez, Miss Rosalinda Mendez, Mr. Carlos Munoz, Mr. Monte Perez, Mr. Jesus Trevino, Mr. Carl Vasquez; Professionals—Mr. Manuel Aragon, Jr., Dr. Francisco Bravo, Mr. Ben Gurule, Rev. Vahac Mardirosian, Mr. Robert Morales, Mr. Richard Orozco, Mr. Joseph Ortega, Rev. Horacio Quinones, Mr. J.J. Rodriguez, Mr. Raul Ruiz, Mr. Esteban E. Torres.

Present Commission members are: Parents—Mrs. Ruby Aguilar, Mr. Ben Carmona, Mr. Armando Chavez, Mrs. Mary Fernandez, Mrs. Kay Gurule, Mrs. Sara Fernandez, Mrs. Kay Gurule, Mrs. Sara MacPherson, Mr. Gordon Moreno, Mr. George Mount, Mrs. Monica Salinas, Mrs. Rita Zepeda; Educators—Mr. David Almeda, Mr. Ray Cenicerros, Mr. Al Cobos, Mr. Oscar Gallego, Dr. Simon Gonzales, Mr. Joe Maytorena, Mr. Frank Serrano; Students—Mr. David Arellano, Miss Raquel Galan, Mr. Henry Gutierrez, Mr. Leonard Herrera, Mr. Carlos Ramirez; Professionals—Mr. Manuel Aragon, Jr., Rev. Vahac Mardirosian, Mr. Joe Ortega, Rev. Horacio Quinones, Mr. Esteban E. Torres.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Los Angeles Unified School District Mexican American Education Commission for its 30 years of outstanding and invaluable service to the students and greater Los Angeles community and for its dedication to tearing down barriers and ensuring that all students have equitable access to education.

INDIAN PRIME MINISTER
THREATENS UNITED STATES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to my colleagues' attention the attached articles from the January and February, 1998 edition of News India-Times and Burning Punjab placed into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I was shocked to read an article from News India-Times stating that "India will not tolerate the use of military force against Iraq." This threat was made by Inder Kumar Gujral, the caretaker Prime Minister of India, on January 30. "Hindustan will not tolerate another attack on Iraq," the Reuters news service quoted Mr. Gujral as saying.

Members of this House have differing views about the wisdom of launching a military attack against Iraq, but one thing I think we can all agree on is that this decision should be made by the government of the United States without the threats or interference of any foreign power, especially one that depends on American aid.

Indian is one of the five largest recipients of foreign aid from the United States. Its economy is so bad that half the population lives below the international poverty line. Yet it has been a major exporter of dangerous weapons to Iran and other hostile countries. How can the United States continue to aid such a country?

If the shoe were on the other foot, Mr. Speaker, India would be decrying this inter-

ference in its internal affairs. But Mr. Gujral seems to think that it is OK for him to interfere in America's internal affairs. Sovereign countries are allowed to have and express their opinions, even to express them in strong language, but this kind of threat against the sovereignty of the United States is unacceptable and must not be tolerated.

I also find it ironic that a country that has murdered almost 60,000 Muslims in Kashmir in the past decade is taking such a strong position in support of a Muslim country. If India's repression against the Sikhs of Khalistan, the Christians of Nagaland, the Dalits, the Muslims of Kashmir, and other minorities of South Asia were not reason enough to support the independence movements of South Asia, this kind of threat ought to make us support them for strategic reasons. Let us make it clear to India and all the countries of the world that we will not tolerate this kind of interference with our national sovereignty.

I am introducing the News India-Times article from its February 6 issue into the RECORD:

[From the News-India Times, Feb. 6, 1997]

ATTACK ON IRAQ WON'T BE TOLERATED:

GUJRAL

CALCUTTA.—India will not tolerate the use of military force against Iraq, Prime Minister Inder Kumar Gujral told an election rally Jan. 30.

Reuters quoted the premier as saying: "Hindustan will not tolerate another attack on Iraq." Gujral told the rally in the eastern city of Calcutta. "An attack on Iraq will jeopardize the peace in the entire Middle East region where more than 2.5 million Indians live."

Gujral said he had written to President Bill Clinton stating that an attack on Iraq would endanger the lives of expatriate Indians and had sent similar letters to leaders of the other four nations with permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council.

"However, India was of view that use of military force against Iraq will complicate the situation and will not contribute to the ends to which the UN is committed. Further, it will greatly aggravate the acute sufferings which the Iraqi people had undergone, he said, PTI reported.

In his letter to Clinton, Gujral drew attention to the geographical proximity and traditional cultural links which India has with the Gulf region and the substantial growth of New Delhi's interaction over the years with all the countries in the region, especially in the economic field.

"The Gulf countries, are among India's leading trading partners and sources of energy and are home to sizeable Indian community," Gujral said.

PUNJAB POLICE FRAME TWO MORE YOUNG SIKHS

Mr. Speaker, I was distressed by a recent report from Burning Punjab that two more young Sikhs were falsely arrested at Gurdwara Guru Nanak in Jalandhar by the Punjab police. These two Sikh youths were innocently riding by the Gurdwara on their bicycles, according to Burning Punjab, when they were beaten and shoved into a police jeep. Later about 150 police surrounded the Gurdwara.

No crime was committed, but the police falsely alleged that the two Sikhs they picked up were "militants," an odd claim considering that the Indian government is fond of telling the world that they have crushed the militancy in Punjab. How is it that none of these "militants," has ever been brought to trial?

Human-rights activists have appealed to the National Human Rights Commission for action. Let's see if anything happens.

Unfortunately, this is all too typical of Indian "democracy" in action. With the instability in India increased by the recent election results, I expect that this kind of abuse will continue no matter who winds up in the Prime Minister's chair. Is this a country that should be receiving U.S. aid and trade? I don't think so.

I would like to introduce the Burning Punjab article on this incident into the RECORD.

[From the Burning Punjab News, Feb. 13, 1998]

MILITANTS ARREST AT JALANDHAR A FARCE

CHANDIGARH.—Militants arrested by the Jalandhar police at Gurudwara Guru Nanak Mission is nothing more than a farce as claimed by a joint committee of Human Right organisations. According to Kuldeep Singh Jolly, Secretary of the Gurudwara Committee, the two Sikh Youth arrested by the police were neither going inside the Gurudwara nor were they coming out of it. In fact, both of them were moving on their bicycles when the cops pounced upon them. When they raised an alarm the cops started beating them and tried to push both of them into a waiting police jeep. Later on, according to Jolly, about 150 policemen surrounded the Gurudwara Sahib under the overall command of the SSP Hardip Singh Dhillon. According to the joint committee Maj. Gen. Narinder Singh, * * * Rama Krishnan (Advocate) and others, the police action is nothing more than a "drama" enacted by the Punjab police to defame Gurudwaras. Human Rights Organisations have decided to approach the National Human Rights Commission for intervention. Meanwhile police have identified the two arrested "Militants" as Baljinder Singh * * * Hardyal Nayar (Jalandhar) and Dhian Singh * * * Kapurthala. However, many a residents of Jalandhar are of the opinion that the episode of "Militants arrest" is just an election gimmick to give publicity to Prime Minister Inder * * * Gujral.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 3411, THE COMMISSION FOR AMERICAN MATHEMATICS LEADERSHIP ACT

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to announce the introduction of H.R. 3411, the Commission for American Mathematics Leadership (CAML) Act to create a commission on mathematics education. I am very pleased to join with my distinguished colleague from the other body, Senator FRIST of Tennessee, who is introducing the bill today in the Senate.

The need for the bill is clear. Just two weeks ago, the most comprehensive and rigorous international comparison of mathematics education ever undertaken revealed American high school seniors—even our nation's best students in advanced classes—to be among the world's least prepared. The results of this study, the Third International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), cry out for a comprehensive reexamination of our current approach to mathematics education in the United States. This bill will provide the commission necessary to achieve that goal.

H.R. 3411

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 "Commission for American Mathematics Leadership Act".

SEC. 2 FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) Students in the United States should be the world leaders in mathematics achievement within the next decade.

(2) The Third International Mathematics and Science Study (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the "TIMSS"), the largest international study ever undertaken of how students perform in mathematics and science, demonstrated that the mathematics skills of students in the United States (including the top 10 percent of students in the United States) lag far behind the skills of students in many other nations, even though students in the United States spend more class time on mathematics and science and usually are assigned more homework.

(3) Research indicates that the problems of mathematics and science education in the United States stem largely from the lack of a coherent and focused curriculum designed for high-level learning goals, the lack of assessment instruments aligned with such curricula, and the lack of a sufficient commitment by colleges and universities in the United States to high-quality teacher preparation and professional development programs.

(4) Core problems exist with the courses of study and the teaching style on which many schools in the United States rely to instruct students in mathematics and science, as reflected in the conclusion of the National Science Foundation that schools in the United States teach math concepts in superficial, and ultimately ineffective, ways.

(5) A developed framework for mathematics and science should be coherent, focused, and give balanced attention to basic skills, conceptual understanding, problem solving, reasoning, and communication skills, and appropriate uses of technology.

(6) The failure of mathematics and science teaching methods in the United States requires a systemic retraining of, and an increased emphasis on the professional development of, teachers in the United States.

(7) Teachers of mathematics and science should be well-trained professionals who combine sound knowledge of subject matter with the necessary skills and a good understanding of student learning and assessment.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established a commission to be known as the "Commission for American Mathematics Leadership" (in this Act referred to as the "Commission").

(b) COMPOSITION.—The Commission shall be composed of 12 members as follows:

(1) Four members appointed by the President.

(2) Four members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, in consultation with the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

(3) Four members appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate, in consultation with the minority leader of the Senate.

SEC. 4. DUTIES OF COMMISSION.

The Commission shall, in coordination with the National Academy of Sciences—

(1) review the existing research base on mathematics education leadership, including the status of mathematics education in the United States relative to international competitors;

(2) propose professional development priorities to assure that the teaching of mathematics at all educational levels in the United States is strengthened; and

(3) formulate an implementation proposal, including specific recommendations which

can be implemented by appropriate public and private agencies, for assuring world class achievement of the United States in mathematics education within a decade.

SEC. 5. REPORT.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and to the President pro tempore of the Senate a report including the findings and recommendations of the Commission under section 4.

SEC. 6. POWERS.

The Commission may, for the purpose of carrying out its duties, hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence, as the Commission considers appropriate.

SEC. 7. COMMISSION PROCEDURES.

(a) CHAIRMAN.—A chairman of the Commission shall be elected by the members of the Commission.

(b) QUORUM.—Seven members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting meetings.

SEC. 8. PERSONNEL MATTERS.

(a) PAY OF MEMBERS.—Members of the Commission shall not be paid by reason of their service as members.

(b) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—The members of the Commission shall be allowed, while away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the Commission, travel expenses (including per diem in lieu of subsistence) in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in Government service are allowed expenses under section 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 9. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.

The National Academy of Sciences shall provide the administrative support services necessary for the Commission to carry out its duties under this Act.

SEC. 10. FUNDING.

Out of any amounts appropriated for the National Science Foundation, \$750,000 shall be available for activities of the Commission.

SEC. 11. TERMINATION OF COMMISSION.

The Commission shall terminate 30 days after submitting the report required under section 5.

A UNIQUE TRIBUTE TO THE IRISH

HON. SHERROD BROWN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, St. Patrick's Day is fast approaching, that time of year when we all feel a little Irish. On this day, we honor Ireland's patron saint in a variety of ways, but Chippewa Lake Village, a small town in my northeast Ohio district, is home to perhaps the most unique celebration. At the urging of councilman Leonard English and other local residents, its town council has recently declared March 17 to be a legal holiday.

As the only municipality in the state, and possibly the nation, to honor St. Patrick's Day in this manner, Chippewa Lake Village is the proud inheritor of a tradition established in 1980 by neighboring Briarwood Beach which merged with Chippewa-on-the-Lake on January 1 of this year to form the new community of Chippewa Lake.

The history of Irish contributions to American and world achievements is a story well

worth celebrating. I am sure my colleagues will join me today in recognizing this unique and fitting tribute to a distinguished people and their heritage.

TERRORISM IN PESHAWAR,
PAKISTAN

HON. THOMAS J. MANTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. MANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep concern for the ongoing situation in the city of Peshawar in the Northwest Frontier territory of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. For the past decade, Peshawar has been the breeding ground for terrorism and religious extremism. Peshawar is the unfortunate home to the infamous "Jihad University", a training camp where young men are forcibly molded into hardened terrorists. After completing their "studies" the "graduates" of "Jihad University" are then sent across Pakistan's border to spread death and destruction on Pakistan's neighbors.

For the past decade, people living in India's northern-most state of Jammu and Kashmir

and its western state of Punjab have been victims of bombings, assassinations, and other deadly actions. Similarly, terrorists from Peshawar have been sent west from Pakistan into neighboring Afghanistan to join the Taliban forces. Mr. Speaker, the Taliban rule most part of Afghanistan in one of the most repressive regimes on earth.

"Graduates" of Jihad University also have made their way to the United States. Those convicted of the World Trade Center bombings are believed to have been trained in Peshawar.

Mr. Speaker, we now learn that Pakistan's neighbor to the northwest, Uzbekistan, has also been the victim of Peshawar's terrorist tentacles. On February 16th of this year, Abdulaziz Kamilov, the Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan, held a special briefing in Tashkent to discuss the serious threats emanating from Peshawar. According to Minister Kamilov, more than 400 young people from Uzbekistan are undergoing "special training" on "different forms of terrorist activity at special camps located in Peshawar." Upon completion of their trainings according to Minister Kamilov, "these so-called students get back to Uzbekistan illegally . . . with a view of carrying out illegal subversive activities." Minister Kamilov also noted that special training centers have been

established in Islamabad, Mardon, and Karachi.

Mr. Speaker, Uzbekistan and Pakistan have historically enjoyed good relations. Both are Muslim countries. Minister Kamilov pointed out that his government believes these terrorist activities originating in Pakistan are "carried out without knowledge of official authorities in Pakistan." Indeed, Minister Kamilov said his government has concluded that these activities are "beyond the control of the concerned governmental bodies there" and the Ministry found it necessary to bring this grave matter to the attention of the Pakistani Government.

Mr. Speaker, Pakistan has long been a source of terrorism throughout South and Central Asia. Many governments, including our own, have repeatedly stated that they do not believe Pakistan has an official involvement with these terrorist organizations in Peshawar or other locations in Pakistan. Yet, these militant cells continue to operate openly with impunity. It is long past time for the Government of Pakistan to eliminate the terrorist gangs within its own borders. Continued failure to do so can only lead to the conclusion that the Government of Pakistan is much more than an innocent bystander