

AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL
GROUNDS FOR BREAST CANCER
SURVIVORS EVENT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 17, 1998

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 238, legislation authorizing the use of the Capitol grounds for a breast cancer survivors' event sponsored by the National Race for the Cure Organization on April 1.

As a woman and a mother, I feel that there are few issues as important to women's health as the breast cancer epidemic facing our nation. As you may know, breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in American women today. An estimated 2.6 million women in the United States are living with breast cancer. Currently, there are 1.8 million women in this country who have been diagnosed with breast cancer and 1 million more who do not yet know that they have the disease. It was estimated that in 1996, 184,300 new cases of breast cancer would be diagnosed and 44,300 women would die from the disease. Breast cancer costs this country more than \$6 billion each year in medical expenses and lost productivity.

These statistics are powerful indeed, but they cannot possibly capture the heartbreak of this disease which impacts not only the women who are diagnosed, but their husbands, children and families.

Sadly, the death rate from breast cancer has not been reduced in more than 50 years. One out of four women with breast cancer dies within the first 5 years; 40 percent die within 10 years of diagnosis. Furthermore, the incidence of breast cancer among American women is rising each year. One out of eight women in the United States will develop breast cancer in her lifetime—a risk that was one in fourteen in 1960. For women ages 30 to 34, the incidence rate tripled between 1973 and 1987; the rate quadrupled for women ages 35 to 39 during the same period.

I am particularly concerned about studies which have found that African American women are twice as likely as white women to have their breast cancer diagnosed at a later stage, after it has already spread to the lymph nodes. One study by the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research found that African American women were significantly more likely than white women to have had a mammogram or to have had no mammogram in the 3-year period before development of symptoms or diagnosis. Mammography was protective against later stage diagnosis in white women, but not in black women.

We have made great progress in the past few years by bringing this issue to the nation's attention. Events such as last October's Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the National Race for the Cure are crucial to sustaining this attention. I look forward to continuing to support my own local "Race for the Cure in Houston."

Let's support these brave women in their fight against this dangerous disease. We have the opportunity with a simple "yes" vote to signal Congress's commitment to finding a cure to this deadly disease. I urge all of my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 238.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 18, 1998

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, yesterday this body welcomed LOIS CAPPs as the newest member of Congress. In her acceptance speech Representative CAPPs complimented the people of her district for raising their voice above the avalanche of special interest money to tell her what was important in their lives. I also rise to complement the people of the 22nd district of California.

In the special election to replace my friend Walter Capps, an unprecedented amount of special interest money poured into this district. The outside interest groups tried to push issues like abortion and term limits, important issues to be sure, but not the issues the people of California were concerned about. LOIS CAPPs, and her opponent, should be credited for standing up to the special interests and remembering that the most important issues are the ones advanced by the people.

The race for the 22nd district in California is just one more example of why we need campaign finance reform. The people of the 22nd district wanted to talk about education, taxes and transportation. The special interests spent thousands of dollars trying to convince the people that they had other interests. We must act now to take the special interest money out of the political system. The people of my district, and the people of the 22nd district of California refuse to accept this.

TRIBUTE TO COL. BEN ORRELL

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 18, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel Ben Orrell upon his retirement from the United States Air Force after serving our great nation for 30 exemplary years. For the past four years, Colonel Orrell has held the distinguished position of the United States Special Operations Command Chairman for the National War College. Shortly after joining the faculty, Ben established a solid reputation not only among academicians and students, but leading professionals in the field, national leaders, and prominent think tanks, as THE authority on special operations. His strong background as a command pilot with 3,800 flying hours and 400 overarching combat missions spanning conflicts in Vietnam, Panama during Just Cause, and in Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Storm, brings unprecedented expertise and credibility to this position. Ben is routinely sought by the military leadership and academics for his firsthand knowledge and advice regarding national security issues. His complete understanding of Special Ops, coupled with his vast command and combat experience and demonstrated sound judgment, have directly benefited the United States Air Force. Commissioned through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1968, Colonel Orrell began his distinguished career as a C-141 pilot stationed at

McChord Air Force Base, Washington. In 1971, he flew HH-53 helicopters at Nakhom Phanom Royal Thai Air Base, in Thailand. Among Colonel Orrell's many assignments he was an HH-53 helicopter instructor pilot at Hill Air Force Base, Utah; a public affairs officer at Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico from 1976-1979; and as the Director of Aircrew Standardization and Evaluation for the Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois.

Colonel Orrell continued to demonstrate his leadership abilities by being assigned as the Commander of the 55th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida from 1984 to 1987; Assistant Deputy Commander for Operations and Deputy Commander for Operations with the 1st Special Operations Wing, Hurlburt Field, Florida; Vice Wing Commander and then as Wing Commander of the 39th Special Operations Wing at Royal Air Force Alconbury, United Kingdom from 1991 until 1994, when he was assigned to his current position. Colonel Orrell's military decorations include the Air Force Cross, the Silver Star, the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross with one oak leaf cluster, the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the Air Medal with nine oak leaf clusters, the Aerial Achievement Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, and the Air Force Commendation Medal. He has served with great distinction and has earned our respect and gratitude for his many years of unselfish service to our nation's defense.

It is with great pride that I congratulate Ben upon his retirement and wish he and his wife, Linda, all the best as they move on to face new challenges and rewards in the next exciting chapter of their lives.

NORTHERN IRELAND

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 18, 1998

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 152. This resolution, introduced by Representative SMITH, expresses a sense of the Congress that all parties to the multiparty peace talks regarding Northern Ireland should condemn violence and fully integrate internationally recognized human rights standards and adequately address outstanding human rights violations as part of the peace process.

I believe the principles embodied in this resolution—commitment to nonviolent solutions and basic respect of others—are the key to reaching a peaceful solution in Northern Ireland. It is only when all parties in the talks treat each other with dignity and respect that a substantive and last peace agreement will be possible. Both sides, nationalist and loyalist, must make basic human rights a priority and incorporate those principles into the final peace agreement. A society that does not embrace such principles can never achieve peace and would not be worth living in.

This week I met with many of the participants in the Irish peace process, including the women delegates who are forging the framework for this new society in Northern Ireland. I learned that the concerns of these women