

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### CLINTON'S FAILED AFRICAN POLICY

**HON. JOHN L. MICA**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, fortunately, history will cast final judgment on this administration and President Clinton's failed African policy.

After the made-for-T.V. and carefully staged events fade from memory, some grim scenes of Clinton failed African policies will haunt us for generations.

There won't be a Clinton visit to Somalia. Somalia has returned to chaos.

While we hear the cheers in African streets today—we must not forget the jeers of crowds in Mogadishu.

We must not forget that this President placed U.S. troops under disorganized U.N. command and they were killed and dragged shamelessly on African soil. This President turned a Bush humanitarian mission into a foreign relations and military disaster.

History will also record this administration's failure to halt a "Holocaust of our time" in Rwanda.

Not only did the President fail to act after the killing began—In fact, President Clinton and his administration repeatedly blocked U.N. efforts to send in an All-African force before the genocide began.

Mr. Speaker, fortunately history will not be blinded by the temporary glare of a television camera either in Africa or in America.

### HONORING JUDGE FRANK C. WISE

**HON. RON KLINK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Honorable Frank C. Wise on his retirement after over forty years of service to the citizens of Pennsylvania and the United States of America.

Judge Wise enlisted in the Pennsylvania State Police in 1960 after serving four years in the U.S. Navy. He was first stationed in Troop A Greensburg, but moved to Troop B in Pittsburgh after a few years. Judge Wise served as a state policeman for 26 years before retiring in 1986.

The retirement of Frank Wise was short-lived, however. He was appointed district justice by Governor Dick Thornburg to fill a vacancy in Saxonburg. Judge Wise was elected to his first full term in 1987 and was re-elected in 1993. He has faithfully served the community in this capacity ever since.

Judge Wise has also been active in other areas of public life over the years. He has served as the Special Court Judges Association's liaison with the Pennsylvania State police. In this role, he has been instrumental in

the establishment of experimental programming for the cadets of the Pennsylvania State Police Academy. In addition to this duty, Judge Wise has also served on my yearly panel that interviews candidates for appointment to the U.S. Service Academies.

Judge Frank Wise epitomizes the image of the public servant. His work in both facets of our justice system, law enforcement and the courts, has left an indelible mark upon them and upon the people of Pennsylvania. Judge Wise, your legacy will live on in all those who have had the opportunity to work with you and learn from you.

On behalf of my fellow members, I commend Judge Frank C. Wise for all his achievements. He has demonstrated a commitment to service that all citizens can be proud of. We congratulate you, Judge Wise and wish you all the best in the future.

### PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE IN CHINA: HAO FUYUAN AND NGAWANG OESER

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to call to the attention of my colleagues Mr. Hao Fuyuan, a Chinese Prisoner of Conscience adopted by my office as part of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus' Adopt-a-Political Prisoner campaign. Mr. Hao is a peasant from the province of Shandong who, inspired by the Tiananmen Square disturbances he saw on television, joined some students making their way to join the fray.

Upon returning from Tiananmen Square, Mr. Hao purchased a blank tape and recorded such messages as "Li's words deceive the masses; You must not believe him"; "You should listen to Voice of America"; and "Students and workers all over the country, strike!" Mr. Hao played this tape in seven peasant homes in his village.

Arrested during the aftermath of the bloody crackdown in Tiananmen Square, June 4–5, 1989, Mr. Hao was tried and found hostile to the socialist system and sentenced to ten years imprisonment and three years loss of political rights for "broadcasting dissent to the masses." He has currently served eight of those ten years in Shandong Prison 3 in Weifang, punished simply for exercising his right of free speech, a right recognized by most governments throughout the world as a fundamental human right.

Mr. Speaker, in March, 1997, the category of "counterrevolutionary crimes", under which Mr. Hao was charged, was eliminated by the Chinese legislature. Even more suggestive, four men charged with counterrevolutionary crimes for their involvement in the 1989 protests were recently released. This suggests that the Chinese government, under its new leadership, may be rethinking the Tiananmen

Square incident. The time is right, Mr. Speaker, for the release of Hao Fuyuan, and I invite my colleagues to join me in urging the Chinese government to release him from prison.

My office has also adopted Mr. Ngawang Oeser, a monk from the Drepung Monastery currently jailed in Drapchi. Mr. Ngawang was arrested for "spreading counterrevolutionary propaganda", such as a translation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which China itself signed fifty years ago. For this "egregious crime", Mr. Ngawang received the outrageous sentence of seventeen years in jail with loss of political rights for an additional five years. He has so far served nine years of that sentence.

Mr. Speaker, Amnesty International rightfully considers Hao Fuyuan and Ngawang Oeser Prisoners of Conscience, those imprisoned solely for the non-violent expression of their beliefs, who have not used or advocated violence. In cooperation with Amnesty International, the Congressional Human Rights Caucus in October of last year sponsored a campaign urging congressional offices to adopt a Tibetan or Chinese Prisoner of Conscience. Many of my colleagues in Congress have participated in this project, joining the Congressional Human Rights Caucus in the belief that a violation of human rights anywhere is a violation of human rights everywhere.

All Prisoners of Conscience, insofar as they have defended human rights without resorting to violence, are eminently deserving of our assistance. Mr. Hao is especially significant, however, because like most of the more than 2,500 political prisoners in China, he is not a well-known intellectual or activist. Hao Fuyuan is a simple man who was dissatisfied with his country's leaders and who communicated that dissatisfaction to his neighbors. He did nothing more. He is a testament to the truth that, though occasionally perceived as the property and passion of an educated elite, human rights are universal . . . and they must be universally recognized.

### THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KIWANIS CLUB OF SPARTA, NEW JERSEY

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Kiwanis Club of Sparta, New Jersey.

The Kiwanis Club of Sparta was organized and chartered in 1948 and has for the past fifty years provided leadership, personal service, commitment and financial support to the Sparta Township community. The Club currently consists of fifty-five members who each contribute thousands of voluntary hours of service to the community and have faithfully followed the ideals and principles of Kiwanis International, its parent organization.

• 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.

The Club has been recognized as one of the leading service clubs in Sussex County, New Jersey, as a result of its many community activities. Some of these activities including sponsoring high school Key Clubs, giving over \$98,000 in scholarships to high school seniors over the past twelve years, providing approximately \$35,000 per year in financial support for community groups and activities in Sparta Township, as well as community service projects ranging from flower planting and roadside cleanups to providing volunteer assistance to senior citizens and delivering food to the needy.

As the Kiwanis Club of Sparta continues its long tradition of dedicated service to the Sparta community, I want to ask you, Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues, to join me in commemorating the 50th anniversary of their organization. I sincerely wish that it may enjoy many more years of fellowship and service.

#### CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, today is a sad day for our democracy. This was the week that the House of Representatives was to debate and vote on campaign finance reform. Yet, here we are on Friday with the news from the leadership that a vote has been delayed. What is most upsetting is the reason for the delay, a majority of the House supports campaign reform.

The leadership, out of fear of actually doing something, first tried to push a bill that contained so many poison pill provisions that it was destined to fail. Now that this strategy appears doomed, the leadership simply pulled the bill and refuses to even consider a vote. The will of the majority in the House has now been denied, just as a majority in the Senate was denied passage of a reform bill.

The reason a majority of members support real reform is because they have heard from their constituents, just as I have, that the citizens are tired of the influence of big money in the political process and they want reform. If we fail to change the current system, we will continue to erode the confidence of the public in our democratic system.

I hope that next week brings, at last, the chance for this body to make a difference in our campaign finance system. The people of my district want action now!

#### HONORING THE MIDLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

### HON. RON KLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. KLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Midland Volunteer Fire Department of Beaver County. The fire department was recently named to the Pennsylvania Fire Services Institute's 100 Year Honor Roll. This honor roll commemorates fire departments with more than a century of service. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the

volunteers, both past and present, for more than 100 years of public service to their community.

The Midland Volunteer Fire Department is made up of individuals who risk their lives in the service of their fellow citizens. The volunteers have other concerns in their lives including their careers and their families. However, when the emergency call sounds, the members of the Midland Volunteer Fire Department put their own lives on hold to provide safety and emergency services to the citizens of Midland. They provide an invaluable service to the entire community.

On behalf of my colleagues in the House of Representatives, I would like to wish the Midland Volunteer Fire Department many more years of successful public service. They have protected the lives of the families, the property, and the spirit of their community with honor and dignity. I ask you and all members to join me in a special salute to the Midland Volunteer Fire Department.

#### SECRETARY OF STATE MAD-ELEINE K. ALBRIGHT'S STRONG SUPPORT FOR RELIGIOUS FREE- DOM

### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 12, the Congressional Human Rights Caucus held an important meeting with a number of the distinguished members of the Advisory Committee on Religious Freedom. I had the great honor of chairing that meeting of the Caucus. The Advisory Committee on Religious Freedom was established last year by the Secretary of State to report to the Secretary and to the President on issues of religious persecution and appropriate United States government policy on religious liberty issues.

The Advisory Committee is composed of a number of distinguished religious, academic, human rights and foreign policy leaders. The Committee members have spent a great deal of time meeting and examining the relationship between religious freedom and American foreign policy.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, the Advisory Committee on Religious Freedom Abroad presented its Interim Report to the Secretary of State and the President. Our hearing on Thursday focused on this significant report. In order to deal with serious, and in many places growing, pressure upon believers who wish to practice their religion in peace, the Advisory Committee on Religious Freedom Abroad has met a number of times this past year and has prepared an excellent report on the problem of religious persecution. The report of the Advisory Committee includes a series of thoughtful and useful recommendations for United States policy to encourage and promote religious liberty.

I am delighted, Mr. Speaker, that Secretary Albright began immediately to implement the recommendations made by the Committee. At the time the Advisory Committee's Interim Report was made public, she announced that she was implementing the first recommendation of the Committee by designating a new

senior-level coordinator at the Department of State who will have responsibility for integrating concern for religious freedom into U.S. foreign policy and for developing a coordinated interagency strategy on this issue of great importance to the American people.

As Secretary Albright said when she met with journalists at the time the report was released,

America is a leader in promoting religious freedom because it serves our interests and because it is right. We hope to pursue that goal with even more vigor and effectiveness in the days ahead.

REMARKS BY SECRETARY OF STATE MAD-ELEINE K. ALBRIGHT ON THE INTERIM REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES FROM THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ABROAD, WASHINGTON, D.C., JANUARY 23, 1998

Good afternoon. I wanted to come down here today to bring to your attention the very constructive and timely interim report I've just received from my advisory committee on religious freedom.

I very much welcome this report. Although I've just begun to study it, its overall direction and tone is very much in keeping with the Administration's own intentions and aspirations. So I'm pleased to tell you now what I told the committee just a little bit earlier, which is that I'm taking immediate action on the report's first and most important recommendation.

I will designate a new, senior-level coordinator within the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor to ensure that our efforts to advance religious freedom are integrated successfully into our broader foreign policy. The coordinator's responsibilities will include developing a strategy for appropriate overall implementation of the advisory committee's recommendation. This work will be done under the direction of Assistant Secretary John Shattuck, and in consultation with the White House, religious leaders, members of the advisory committee and of Congress.

In this way, we can assure the American people and the committee that its best ideas will be brought to life, not studied to death. I also assured the committee that I consider the promotion of religious freedom to be an integral component of US foreign policy to be pursued not in isolation, but as part of our efforts to increase the respect for human rights around the world.

That's why I've urged our diplomats to raise our concerns about religious freedom energetically; report on these issues thoroughly; and maintain contact with NGOs and local religious leaders on a regular basis. We will continue these and other efforts and give serious consideration to the committee's ideas on how we can do them better.

As we speak, the resilience and depth of the human desire to worship freely is on display in Cuba. Decades of repression could not vanquish the thirst for religious liberty on that island, just as it has not diminished the desire among the Cuban people for political liberty. The Cuban Government did the right thing in permitting His Holiness, the Pope, to accept the invitation of his church to visit.

Let us pray that the message of freedom and respect for the individual which he is conveying will influence the direction of government policies long after this historic visit is concluded so that Cuba, indeed, becomes more open to the world, and the world can, indeed, become more open to Cuba.

In closing, I want to thank publicly every member of the religious freedom advisory committee. This is a committee uniquely

qualified to discuss and review America's approach to promoting religious freedom abroad. Its members include religious leaders who represent millions of Americans of all major faiths and denominations, and scholars who have dedicated their professional lives to the study of issues related to religious liberty.

In the course of their work, they interviewed such eminent figures as the Dalai Lama, Cardinal Daly of Northern Ireland and Pastor Robert Fu of China. The committee clearly took its work very seriously, and we take it seriously as well.

America is a leader in promoting religious freedom because it serves our interests and because it is right. With the committee's counsel, we hope to pursue that goal with even more vigor and effectiveness in the days ahead.

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH CALDWELL, ESSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 27, 1998

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Borough of North Caldwell, Essex County, New Jersey.

The Borough of North Caldwell was part of a large tract of land known as "Horseneck" that was purchased by a group of colonists from the Indians who lived in the area in 1701. In 1784 a group living in Horseneck organized a Presbyterian Church Society and in 1787 they voted to change the name of their community to Caldwell in honor of the Reverend James Caldwell who had helped them form their church group. North Caldwell continued as part of Caldwell Township until the last 19th century, when citizens, wanting improved roads and a better school, felt they could better achieve these goals as an independent municipality.

Since its modest beginning, the Borough of North Caldwell has steadily developed into a thriving residential community, counting among its residents a nationally known portrait painter and an American Poet Laureate and Pulitzer Prize winner in poetry. While the area was originally farm country, North Caldwell soon had its share of local industry. By the early half of the 19th century a large bark mill was established, which boasted a water wheel that was five feet wide and eighteen feet in diameter. After changing ownership in 1846, the mill was converted to operate as a grist mill and a saw mill. By 1931, multistory buildings had been erected and a prosperous local economy was in full operation.

The ensuing years brought many complexities and the demand for organization of a variety of resources for citizens' needs. North Caldwell currently has a full-time professional staff, including a police department, which has grown from three officers in 1930 to seventeen today, and a fire department incorporated in 1922, which is 28 members strong. The Borough's excellent school system dates back to 1770, when the first schoolhouse was built. Several subsequent schools were built during the 19th century, and the first Board of Education was appointed in 1903. Today there are several schools in the Borough, including the

West Essex Regional Schools opened in 1961.

Mr. Speaker, for the last 100 years, the Borough of North Caldwell has prospered as a community and remains a thriving municipality today. By all accounts, it will continue to prosper in the future and I ask my colleagues to congratulate all residents of North Caldwell on this special anniversary year.

STATEMENT UPON THE INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO PROHIBIT THE ATTACHMENT OF NONEMERGENCY ITEMS TO EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS BILLS

**HON. RON KIND**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 27, 1998

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, "Emergency" supplemental bills should contain funding for just that—emergencies. They should not be golden opportunities to attach funding for pet projects or legislative riders.

That is why I have introduced this legislation to "prohibit nonemergency spending or legislative provisions in emergency appropriation laws." This bill will not effect nonemergency spending bills, supplemental or otherwise. It is my belief that emergency bills are larger magnets for nonessential spending and inappropriate legislative provisions because they have the greatest likelihood of passing.

Our government should spend money on many worthwhile projects and programs. But a responsible government should make those spending decisions during the course of considering annual appropriations bills and other nonemergency supplemental bills. We shouldn't slow down much needed emergency money, or bank on its urgency, to pass all sorts of extraneous measures.

This legislation is a way to assure the people I represent that nothing will be stuck into these emergency bills "in the middle of the night." I want people to start trusting Congress again!

IN HONOR OF HARRISON PUBLIC SCHOOLS BEING AWARDED THE TECHNOLOGY LITERACY CHALLENGE GRANT

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 27, 1998

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House of Representatives I would like to congratulate the Harrison School District for being awarded the Technology Literacy Challenge Grant.

The Harrison Public School System understands that the Internet is not a novelty anymore. Increasingly it is an essential tool for information gathering.

The grant which totals over \$94,000, will be used to provide public Internet computers at Harrison High School, Harrison Community Center, and the Harrison Town Library. These funds will also pay for community Internet training programs. This program is not limited

to students. When the town's technology plan is fully implemented, all of Harrison's citizens will be able to share and collect information through the Internet. No one will be excluded from this virtual community because of a lack of equipment or expertise.

On May 31 Harrison Schools will be sponsoring a "Technology Fest." This event will open the schools to the public to share students' technology related projects. I would like to thank District Technology Coordinator, Frank A. Cappelle, and Superintendent John Di Salvo for making these educational opportunities possible.

THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS

**HON. LOUIS STOKES**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 27, 1998

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, as we examine proposed changes to the nation's health care delivery system, we must consider the vital role that public hospitals play in our communities. Recently, Dr. Bailus Walker, Director of the Health Policy Program at the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies and Deitra Hazelwood Lee, a Research Analyst, prepared a report which is entitled, "The Future of Public Hospitals." The report gives in-depth insight of the problems confronting the nation with regard to the decline of public hospitals. The work is worthwhile reading and I am pleased to share it with my colleagues and others throughout the nation.

THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS

Public hospitals nationwide are struggling to provide medical care to those Americans who need it most—the poor, the underinsured, and the uninsured. Because of the growth of Medicaid managed care, reductions in federal and state government funding, and the rise in the number of people without insurance, some public hospitals no longer have the financial stability to stay afloat. Many are merging, converting to private institutions, or closing their doors.

In the past, most cities had at least one public hospital, and cities like New York and Los Angeles had entire public hospital systems. But between 1981 and 1993 the number of public hospitals fell by 25 percent, a trend that is accelerating. Now Congress plans to cut Medicaid funding given specifically to public hospitals that serve a large number of Medicaid, low-income Medicare, and uninsured patients. The pending budget cuts are also going to shrink public hospitals' revenues far below what is necessary to meet the many health care needs of those who rely on this system for treatment.

Given the popularity of privatizing services, and the apparent growth of so many forms of health care, some—though not the poor—may wonder, Why is it worth preserving public hospitals at all? Can't the rest of our health system pick up the slack? It would be nice if that were possible, but the facts prove otherwise. Indeed, already the tears in the public hospital safety net are creating a new healthcare crisis in its own right. It we continue to lose these hospitals, many African Americans and other minorities, especially in urban communities, stand to lose their last certain access to medical care.

Public hospitals provide a significant share of all hospital care for those who are socially

and economically underprivileged. As hospitals of last resort, they have become a health care safety net because of their policy of admitting anyone, insured and uninsured alike. They also have a tradition of striving to be culturally sensitive. Finally, public hospitals provide essential medical services—which few clinics can offer and private hospitals often find unprofitable—such as emergency care, trauma care, burn care, and neonatal care, and they provide these vital services for the entire community.

The importance of this situation is brought into sharper focus by the increase in the number of uninsured. The most recent data suggests that there are more than forty million people in the United States who lack health insurance, including more than seven million African Americans. The number of uninsured is growing steadily as the cost of insurance continues to rise and as full-time, full-benefit employment remains scarce for urban minorities. Many full-time positions are being replaced as well by temporary or part-time jobs without health coverage. If the number of uninsured continues to grow, public hospitals will be the most affected because a large percentage of their patient base is the uninsured.

Many large, urban public hospitals also conduct medical education and research, which benefits the entire health care system. Many serve as teaching hospitals, where they train students. In addition, some urban public hospitals are major employers in the cities they serve. Closing these hospitals therefore increases the potential unemployment of both skilled and unskilled workers given the changes not only in the health care industry but in other related industries as well.

Many states have modified their Medicaid programs by shifting their method of delivering health care to managed care. Federal waivers now allow states to require that their Medicaid recipients enroll in managed care organizations, and many states have already modified their Medicaid programs with this new requirement. As of June 1996, this changeover had been carried out by 29 states and the District of Columbia.

This change in Medicaid policy is causing public hospitals to lose a large percentage of their patient base to managed care organizations. Approximately 43 percent of public hospitals' patients are covered by Medicare, Medicaid or other public insurance, and an equal proportion are uninsured. Even more important, 50 percent or more of these hospitals' revenue has been based on Medicaid payments. Unless they can effectively compete for low-risk Medicaid patients, they may soon lose so much revenue that they will simply have to close.

In addition to the managed care changeover, Congress plans to cut the Medicaid funding that has long been given specifically to public hospitals that serve large numbers of Medicaid, low-income Medicare, and uninsured patients. This special assistance, known as Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments, is set to be reduced by \$10.3 billion over the next five years according to the proposed Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

According to the National Association of Public Hospitals, federal DSH payments account for 13 percent of public hospitals' total revenues and pay for 40 percent of the cost of treating uninsured patients. The spending budget cuts are therefore going to shrink public hospitals' revenues far below what is necessary to meet the many health care needs of those who rely on this system for care.

The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, a research and policy think tank which attempts to increase black involvement in public issues, recently held a

series of forums on these issues, including a Capitol Hill briefing chaired by Congressman Louis Stokes. The forums were supported by a grant from The Commonwealth Fund of New York. What emerged from these forums was a set of six policy options and positions that, if adopted, could go a long way toward ensuring that the health care resource that public hospitals represent to inner city residents is preserved.

First: Maintain support from the community and local government by ensuring that these groups and officials are well informed and can participate in the decisions affecting the survival of public hospitals.

Second: Public hospitals should aggressively compete with managed care organizations for low-risk Medicaid and Medicare patients.

Third: State and local governments should upgrade urban public hospitals so they can have a realistic chance of competing for patients.

Fourth: Urban hospitals should reduce or reorganize their staffs to reduce their costs and improve quality service. A reduction in cost along with an improvement in public perception will help public hospitals compete.

Fifth: Federal and state governments should give Medicare and Medicaid subsidies to hospitals based on their service to the poor and uninsured.

Sixth: Federal and state governments should establish a way to monitor the care given by urban public hospitals.

Public hospitals today are suffering from a condition that, if left untreated, may prove fatal. The importance of their survival needs to be recognized and addressed. If we lose these safety-net institutions, many people will no longer have access to any medical care. The health of the people who live in urban communities—the majority of whom are African American, Hispanic, and other minorities—depends on public hospitals' remaining viable American institutions.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I was traveling with the President in Africa yesterday, March 25, 1998, and was unable to vote. I would have voted in favor of the McCollum-Conyers amendment to H.R. 2589 (Rollcall No. 68). I would have voted against the Sensenbrenner amendment to H.R. 2589 (Rollcall No. 69). I would have voted in favor of the Pombo amendment to H.R. 2578 (Rollcall No. 70). I would have voted in favor of H.R. 2578 (Rollcall No. 71).

#### CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF JAMES ALEXANDER AND ARISTEO TORRES

#### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, The United Steelworkers of America (USWA) Local 1010, a union that has represented the Inland Steel labor force since early this century, has worked tirelessly over the years to better the

living conditions and increase the living standards of Inland steelworkers and the communities in which they live. It is my distinct pleasure to announce that Local 1010 will be celebrating the retirement of two of its devoted members, Mr. James Alexander and Mr. Aristeo "Art" Torres, who retired from Inland Steel in January of this year. The celebration in honor of James and Art will feature an evening of dinner and music, and will be held today, March 27, 1998, at the American Legion Post #369, in East Chicago, Indiana.

James Alexander, a life-long resident of Gary, Indiana, began his dedicated career with Inland Steel in 1957. Over the years, he has held several positions within the company, including those within the coke plant, open hearth, cold strip, and 80-inch rolling operator. Perhaps James' most noteworthy achievement, however, was his devoted service to Local 1010, where he served as a respected union voice for his fellow steelworkers for 35 years. As a union representative, James held a variety of offices, ranging from safety steward to financial secretary, and he was elected union representative under six different administrators. Through his work with the union, James had the opportunity to meet several United States presidents, including Dwight Eisenhower, John Kennedy, and Richard Nixon. In addition to his service to the union, James devoted much of his time to community initiatives. He spent 21 years on the Gary Public Transportation Board, held the office of 1st Vice-President of the Gary Housing Commission, and is currently a precinct committeeman. James has also been an active member of his parish, St. Monica and Luke Roman Catholic Church, for 50 years.

A native of East Chicago, Indiana, Art Torres worked at Inland Steel as a craneman for 46 years. Throughout his career, he remained active within Local 1010, serving as assistant grievor, trustee, chairman of education, and board member. Realizing the importance of a unified membership, the focal point of Art's efforts with Local 1010 was educating steelworkers about the union and their rights as laborers. In addition, he participated in numerous pickets, including the Bridgestone/Firestone strike in the 1950s. Art has also been politically active over the years, serving as state delegate, working on various political campaigns, and carrying out the vital function of mobilizing voters within his community. In addition, he has been a long-time member of the Union Benifica Mexicana (UBM), an organization for Mexican-Americans, where he has served as an officer and chairman of various activities. In working for the betterment of Local 1010 and his community, Art takes great pride in his strides to be a good role model for young people, stressing the importance of earning a good education.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating James Alexander and Art Torres on their retirement from Inland Steel. James' family, consisting of his wife, Terry, and their eight children, Melanie, James Jr., Robert, Michael, Marcus, Barbara, Terese and Terrell, should be proud of his efforts. Art's wife, Cecelia, their children, Elizabeth and Angelina, and their grandchildren, Kathy and Jason, should also be very proud of his many achievements. Indeed, James' and Art's work for the labor movement and their communities has served as a beacon of hope and pride for all great

Americans who continue to pursue the American dream.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent during rollcall votes 76, 77, and 78. If present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 76, "aye" on rollcall vote 77, and "no" on rollcall vote 78.

## WELCOMING THE NWPC NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE TO NEW JERSEY

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome the National Women's Political Caucus 1998 Spring National Steering Committee (NSC) meeting to Newark, New Jersey. This marks the first time New Jersey has hosted this important event.

The National Women's Political Caucus (NWPC) is the only national, grassroots organization designed to help women from both political parties attain public office. Each year the Caucus trains and supports more than 50,000 women who are seeking elected or appointed government positions.

As Eileen P. Thornton, former WPC-NJ president, has written, "As we look back, it is good to reflect on how far women have come. But looking ahead, it is very important that we understand how far we still have to go to reach our goals."

The National Women's Political Caucus has served as a catalyst for getting women into public office. We can now say that due in part to this organization's efforts we have more women in the House of Representatives than ever before. But the NWPC understands that more must be done.

The organization's National Steering Committee meeting will bring women from across the country to develop strategies to elect more women to federal offices and to make NWPC endorsements. The National Women's Political Caucus National Steering Committee meeting will be held at the Newark Airport Marriott, March 26-28, 1998.

I would like to thank NWPC president Anita Perez Ferguson, WPC-NJ president Paige Berry and former WPC-NJ president Eileen P. Thornton for making this event possible. The political future of the women's movement is safe in their hands.

## IN HONOR OF JOSEPH JACOBSON'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in sending warm wishes to

Mr. Joseph Jacobson on the occasion of his 100th birthday.

Mr. Jacobson has been busy this last century it seems. He began his career in the construction industry in 1921, by 1923 he became a member of Local Union #3, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. He has remained an active member, in good standing, for over 75 years. Joseph literally worked his way up through the construction trade, holding a number of positions during his career. Today we see the magnificent projects he had the opportunity to work on, such as, the Metropolitan Life Insurance Building, Parkchester Housing Complex in the Bronx and the Port Authority Bus Terminal in Manhattan.

Throughout the years, Mr. Jacobson has also found time to dedicate himself to fine causes dear to his heart. For these efforts he has been recognized a number of times by organizations such as the Allied Union Club of Queens, Bronx Acorn Electrical Club, the Bronx Scouting Council and the New York City Central Labor Council. Because of his continued commitment and level of service to the community, the Bronx Acorn Club and the Electrical Square Club have awarded scholarships in his name. One in particular which makes him most proud is the Educational and Cultural Fund of the Electrical Industry which has awarded a scholarship in his name for the past 20 years.

Despite his retirement from the industry, he has remained quite active with his union helping organize retirees. Mr. Jacobson is currently President of the Retirees Association of Local union #3 I.B.E.W. He has also been active with the National Council of Senior Citizens and the New York State Council of Senior Citizens.

I would like to take this time to say that we should not let this birthday be just a celebration of how many years Mr. Jacobson has lived. Rather it should be a celebration of the events that have taken place during these precious years he has been given. Let us measure the life he has lived by the good deeds, by the joy he has shared and brought to others, by the generosity he has bestowed to friend and stranger alike and by the countless ways he has been an inspiration to those who have had the pleasure to meet him.

Happy Birthday, Mr. Jacobson, and I wish you many more.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I was traveling with the President in Africa yesterday, March 26, 1998, and was unable to vote. I would have voted in favor of the Kucinich amendment to H.R. 3310 (Rollcall No. 72). I would have voted against the McIntosh amendment to H.R. 3310 (Rollcall No. 73). I would have voted against H.R. 3310 (Rollcall No. 74). I would have voted against the Solomon amendment H. Res. 385 (Rollcall No. 75). I would have voted against the Dreier resolution H. Res. 393 (Rollcall No. 76). I would have voted against the Goodling amendment to H.R. 3246 (Rollcall No. 77). I would have voted against H.R. 3246 (Rollcall No. 78).

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. BLAGOJEVICH. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 26, 1998, on Roll Call 75, the rule for consideration of H.R. 1757, I inadvertently voted aye. I intended to vote no.

## "RECOGNIZING VETERAN OLYMPIAN AMY PETERSON"

**HON. BRUCE F. VENTO**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have the opportunity to recognize one of my constituents, Amy Peterson, who deserves a standing ovation from our nation for her magnificent achievements as a member of the U.S. Olympic speed skating team. Amy has endured an impressive battle to become the most decorated Olympian in Minnesota history!

Amy is from Maplewood, Minnesota and attended Johnson High School, graduating in 1990. She began competing in the Olympics in the 1990 Albertville Games, taking home a silver medal on the 3000 meter relay team. In 1994, she returned to Lillehammer to take home the bronze medal in the 500-meter race, and another bronze in the relay event.

Amy was diagnosed in 1995 with chronic fatigue syndrome, which severely hindered her energy level and limited her training. As we are all aware, Olympic training requires an intense athletic and mental commitment of no less than 100%. Amy struggled through her condition for 18 months until 1996, all the while training to the best of her abilities. For the first time in years, Amy again felt comfortable on the ice at the Olympic trials in January 1998, enough to win first place in the short-trials in all four of her races. Amy went on to take 4th place in the 500 meter race this year in Nagano, and 5th place with the U.S. Team in the 3000 meter relays.

I personally greatly admire Amy's incredible grit and determination. Amy's life story and experience captures the true meaning of the Olympics, the power of the human spirit demonstrated in this special competition. Amy has proven to the world, and especially to herself, that she can beat the odds to surpass all limits. My congratulations to Amy Peterson for her extraordinary achievements!

## EXTENDING THE VISA WAIVER PILOT PROGRAM

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 1998*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2578) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to extend the visa waiver pilot program, and to

provide for the collection of data with respect to the number of nonimmigrants who remain in the United States after the expiration of the period of stay authorized by the Attorney General:

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, the issue before us today is not a question of illegal immigration, there is no threat of an impending wave of illegal Greek or Portuguese immigration to the United States.

The question before us is one of fairness. It is a question of doing what is right by two countries who are our allies, our friends and our business partners. It is fair and right to extend the same rights to Greece and Portugal that we do to 25 other nations—the right to enter the U.S. freely for travel and business.

Prior to the passage of the 1996 Illegal Immigration Reform Act, Greece and Portugal would have been admitted to the Visa Waiver Program because their visa refusal rates are below three percent.

Concern about illegal immigration is misplaced and fails to recognize that the Greek and Portuguese economies are strong and unemployment rates are among the lowest in Europe—there is little incentive for people to leave their enchanting countries for ours.

Moreover, immigration to the United States from those countries is no greater than U.S. immigration to Greece and Portugal.

Finally, both of these communities have made enormous contributions to our country. In my district, the Portuguese American community has transformed part of New Jersey's great cities—Newark, Elizabeth, and Perth Amboy. And the Greek community's influence has been equally remarkable.

We need to level the playing field and let the Portuguese and Greek people know that the United States welcomes them as tourists and business travelers, as we do their other European counterparts.

#### CONFIDENCE IN THE FAMILY ACT

### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, there now exists a serious defect in our Federal criminal and civil law and procedures that has unfortunately been brought into focus by Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr's investigation of the President. Under Federal law and the law of most States, children can be compelled to testify against their parents, and parents against their children. Although most prosecutors refrain from subjecting a family to this terrible situation, it can and does occur. I have long believed that parents and their children should be shielded from this trauma, and that doing so would not do significant damage to the administration of justice.

Therefore, today I am introducing a bill, the Confidence in the Family Act, to ensure that parents and children cannot be compelled to testify against one another, and that confidential communications between parents and children will be protected. These privileges would be similar to the privileges provided to spouses under current Federal law, and would be developed by the Federal courts in light of the common law, reason, and experience.

Under current law a mother can be given the choice of providing testimony that reveals

her daughter's most personal confidences, or go to jail herself. A child can be put on the witness stand and forced to reveal personal discussions with his Dad. It does not matter if this testimony relates to the most private confidences that parents and children often share in the course of seeking comfort, support, or advice.

The damage that such an experience can cause parents, children, and familial relationships is readily apparent, and worthy of our concern.

It is not at all clear that forcing parents and children to testify against each other provides great access to truth and justice. When a potential witness is put into such a predicament, they face what legal scholars refer to as the cruel "trilemma." The witness has three choices: they may testify truthfully, they may testify and lie, or they may refuse to testify and risk contempt charges and imprisonment. Among these options, testifying falsely may often be the most appealing. The other choices certainly have serious societal repercussions.

Most jurisdictions recognize privileges for individuals in certain relationships (e.g., husband-wife, lawyer-client, psychiatrist-patient) to refrain from testifying. Surely, the confidences shared between a mother and daughter deserve at least as much respect as those between psychiatrists and patients. I believe that the law should recognize the special nature of the relationship between a parent and child, and that is the basis for this legislation.

I hope that my colleagues will join me in support of this important decision.

#### PERSIAN GULF VETERANS HEALTH CARE EXTENSION ACT OF 1998 H.R. 3571

### HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation to extend the period that Gulf War veterans with undiagnosed illnesses will be able to receive Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care. This measure will extend the authority for VA to provide treatment from December 31, 1998 until December 31, 2001. This extension makes the timeline for health care eligibility consistent with the presumptive period the Secretary of Veterans Affairs defined for compensation for disabilities due to undiagnosed illnesses.

More than a year ago, I encouraged VA to extend the presumptive period for compensation because no one could explain why so many veterans had health care problems following their military service in the Persian Gulf. Former VA Secretary Jesse Brown justified the extension of the presumptive period by stating that no one knows why so many veterans are still sick—seven years after serving in the Southwest Asian theater. Of the almost 700,000 individuals who served in the Persian Gulf, about 65,000 veterans have signed onto the VA's Persian Gulf Registry and about 19,000 have registered for DOD's Comprehensive Clinical Evaluation Program. VA's latest Gulf War Veteran's Statistics indicate that, of those veterans on VA's registry, about 11% have undiagnosed illnesses. In re-

sponse to the continuing health care problems reported by these veterans, Congress enacted legislation last year to require VA to develop innovative treatment programs for these veterans and to document the effectiveness of these programs in treating veterans. I believe the large number of veterans still suffering demonstrates the need for continuing to provide VA health care services for undiagnosed illnesses.

The Persian Gulf Veterans Health Care Extension Act of 1998 follows my introduction of H.R. 3279, the Persian Gulf Veterans Act of 1998. H.R. 3279 establishes a permanent process for awarding compensation for conditions presumed to be service-connected by virtue of Gulf War service. It also addresses the need for research in many areas, including defining effective health care treatments for those who have vague or undiagnosed symptoms and investigating emerging technologies to assess exposure to various hazards and agents. The legislation would also require VA and DOD to develop information resources, and mandate VA and DOD to document their outreach programs for veterans and active duty military members.

Our nation must continue to respond to Persian Gulf veterans' need for a complete range of benefits. Veterans still want to know why they are sick, but also need health care that can alleviate their pain and compensation to ensure that the effects of their illnesses do not impoverish them and their families. Continuing VA's authority to deliver health care benefits for conditions resulting from undiagnosed illnesses is critical to ensuring that Persian Gulf veterans get the services they still need. It is essential to continue to provide health care treatment to veterans as we continue to seek answers about the cause of their conditions.

#### FAIRNESS FOR SMALL BUSINESS AND EMPLOYEES ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

### HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 26, 1998*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3246) to assist small businesses and labor organizations in defending themselves against government bureaucracy; to ensure that employees entitled to reinstatement get their jobs back quickly; to protect the right of employers to have a hearing to present their case in certain representation cases; and to prevent the use of the National Labor Relations Act for the purpose of disrupting or inflicting economic harm on employers.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this legislation, which attempts to silence workers and diminish their ability to stand against discrimination in the workplace.

This bill prevents employees the opportunity to bargain or to protect their rights in the workplace. The bill subjects workers to an unreasonable and unjust test of motivation in order to gain employment, and will intimidate employees into giving up their right to join a union.

We currently have established laws to protect employers from workers performing illegal

activities in the workplace. Union organizing is not an illegal activity. This bill would overturn a unanimous Supreme Court decision which provided that a union organizer should be treated as an employee as long as union organizing does not interfere with his or her service to the employer. This bill singles out the National Labor Relations Board for the unreasonable burden of paying all attorney's fees of all prevailing parties in judicial proceedings, regardless of whether the boards position was justified.

Mr. Speaker, this is not fairness for employees. This is an unfair gag on working people. I urge my colleagues to oppose this harmful legislation.

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RAISING THE AWARENESS OF  
FIBROMYALGIA

**HON. BOB FRANKS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise the awareness of a debilitating illness that currently affects more than five million Americans—fibromyalgia.

Fibromyalgia syndrome (FMS) is a chronic, widespread musculoskeletal pain and fatigue disorder that afflicts two percent of the general population. There is no known cause for FMS, a disease whose symptoms—in addition to the pain and fatigue—include chronic headaches, cognitive or memory impairments, and decreased endurance. FMS can be as disabling as rheumatoid arthritis, and while 24 percent of rheumatoid arthritis sufferers are classified as disabled, FMS is not recognized in the Social Security Disability Law.

A majority of FMS patients are female, and symptoms may begin in young, school-aged children. The average person spends five years and thousands of dollars in medical bills just to receive a diagnosis—all because few physicians possess the education to diagnose and treat FMS. In fact, prior to diagnosis, often 60 percent of patients with FMS undergo costly and unsuccessful surgeries. Tragically, even with a diagnosis there is no single therapeutic agent capable of controlling the symptoms of FMS.

Mr. Speaker, it is overwhelmingly apparent that awareness of this disease must be increased so as to ease the suffering of millions of Americans. Research funding for Fibromyalgia at the National Institute of Arthritis, Musculoskeletal and Skin disease measured out to only 0.6 percent of their annual budget in 1996. Unfortunately, very little grant money is awarded because awareness of this problem is so low. The time has come to address this obstacle so that the proper attention can finally be given to fibromyalgia sufferers. I challenge the medical and research communities to work toward increasing awareness and promoting treatments for fibromyalgia.

TOWN OF ONONDAGA CELEBRATES  
BICENTENNIAL

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, as a newly born nation expanded and grew two centuries ago, townships in America sprouted amidst the excitement of freedom and despite great obstacles. Such was the founding experience of my home town, the Town of Onondaga, which this week celebrates its 200th Birthday.

Although many of the festivities will occur this summer, culminating with a Bicentennial Parade on August 15, many proud residents are focused now on the Annual Dinner Dance April 4.

On behalf of our forefathers and generations to follow, I would like to thank the entire Town of Onondaga Bicentennial Committee for their important and historic work. I would ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating these civic leaders for their dedication to preserving the history which guides us into the future.

They are: L. Jane Tracy, town historian and co-chair; Thomas Andino, town supervisor and co-chair; Charles Petrie; David and Cathy Hintz; Kenneth Pienkowski; Gwynn Morey; Beatrice Malfitano, dinner dance chair; Mr. and Mrs. Willie Royal; Bonnie Romano; Dr. Gary Livent; Suzanne Belle; Mary Ryan; Donald Hamilton; Dorothea Schmitz; Leo Kelly; Dr. Arthur Dube; Margaret Boyd; Sherman V. Saunders; Mary Nowyj; Cara Burton; Jeff Martin; Mr. and Mrs. Michael Keegan; and Daniel Willis.

On a related note, I am very proud to be one of three Onondaga residents in town history to have represented Central New York in Congress. The others included my father, William F. Walsh, and one of the first settlers, James Geddes, who also served as Town Supervisor in 1799.

I am pleased also to mark this memorable time for all Town of Onondaga families in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on this date, forever preserving this memorable time.

Together, we in the Town of Onondaga thank God for our freedom, our country and our homes—just as we pray that we will impress on the next generation the importance of what the Founders of our nation and our town accomplished and the magnitude of the task. Only from history will we learn.

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IN HONOR OF THE FIFTEENTH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF THE NAM VETS  
ASSOCIATION OF THE CAPE AND  
ISLANDS, INC.

**HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw my colleagues' attention to a remarkable institution located in my Congressional District, that through years of hard work and sacrifice has become one of the premier social service centers for Vietnam-era veterans in the country.

For the past fifteen years, the Nam Vets Association of the Cape and Islands has pro-

vided a haven in Hyannis, Massachusetts for the veterans throughout our region. I would like to recount the story of how this organization was created by a handful of men, and how it has since affected so many lives.

In 1983, after viewing the unveiling of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, five Vietnam vets from Cape Cod decided to create an organization to address the human service needs of veterans at home. The five leased a small room staffed by a single volunteer to provide peer counseling. Today, the association purchased its own building and developed it into a well-equipped, one-stop Veterans Service Center that distributes over 55,000 meals annually from its food pantry, and provides over 1,300 units of social services a month.

The Nam Vets Association stepped in to provide desperately needed services that the state was not equipped to supply. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts granted Nam Vets a contract to oversee the delivery of these services but required a \$10,000 balance in the association's account before disbursing any funds. Short on cash, but not on valor, James Michael Trainor, then the group's president, mortgaged his own home to obtain the funds to ensure that the necessary care would be delivered to Cape and Islands vets.

The Nam Vets have also struggled through times when there was no state support. When the Commonwealth rescinded funding due to state budget constraints, the association's Board of Directors, made personal loans to cover staff salaries and maintain operations without interruption.

Over the past decade and a half, the Nam Vets Association has opened its doors to all local veterans. As the executive director John Eastman said, "Let no generation of veterans ever forget another generation of veterans." The Outreach Center has become a major health care facility—providing prescription drugs, psychiatric diagnosis, and follow-up counseling. For years, the Center was the only place on the Cape and Islands where these types of services were made available to veterans.

The Nam Vets have also become deeply involved in addressing the problem of adequate housing by providing assistance to vets and their families in finding affordable shelter. In 1993, working with the Barnstable Housing Authority, Nam Vets won a HUD Section 8 Single Room Occupancy Program grant to address the needs of the area's single homeless vets. The structure that became the SRO is affectionately known as "The Homestead" and was originally intended to house 40 to 60 homeless veterans. Since 1994 it has processed over 300 applications. The Nam Vets Association also participates in the VA's Homeless Provider Program which markets foreclosed properties at a discount to non profit agencies. Nam Vets has successfully found two homes for needy families through this program and is currently looking for other affordable homes to meet demand.

The Vietnam Veterans of America Convention recently acknowledged something I have known all along, that the Nam Vets Association is worthy of national attention. The Convention honored the Nam Vets with the 1997 Community Service Chapter of the Year award for their outstanding commitment and for the variety of the services they provide to the community.

As we celebrate Vietnam Veterans Day in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts this Sunday, I am proud to say I represent the members of the Nam Vets Association of the Cape and Islands and commend them for their years of hard work to establish this service organization. Its founders have worked countless hours to ensure that needed assistance is available to those who have made such sacrifices for our country.

Next time any of my colleagues visit Cape Cod, I encourage you to stop by the Hyannis Village Green and view the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial, which the Nam Vets built with their own hands—an act which symbolizes not only their commitment to their country but their continued dedication to honor all those who served.

#### RECOGNIZING PHYLLIS KORN

### HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a true heroine of my community: Phyllis Korn, retiring director of Alternatives for Battered Women, Inc. (ABW) in Rochester, New York.

Phyllis Korn has devoted almost twenty years of her career to helping battered women and their children. As director of ABW, Ms. Korn shepherded the organization from being a part-time hotline operated from a church basement to a full domestic violence agency featuring a 24-hour hotline, a 38-bed shelter, children's services, support groups, on-site court advocacy, and other services. Today ABW serves more than 4,000 callers per year and employs 27 staff full-time, 25 part-time, and 35 to 50 volunteers.

Under Ms. Korn's leadership, ABW has been a leader in awareness and prevention of domestic violence as well as conference organization and education of local leaders. Ms. Korn is also a founding member of the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence and is an Advisory Board Member of the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence. She has established formal and informal collaborations between ABW and local institutions including hospitals, community health centers, legal services groups, and community organizations, innovations which have allowed our community to treat battered women and families more effectively and with more compassion.

Whether counseling battered women or educating law enforcement officers, Ms. Korn has been a tireless advocate for the most vulnerable members of our society. The long list of awards and honors she has received are testimony to the widespread and lasting impact of her work; most recently, she was named 1998 Woman of the Year by the Susan B. Anthony Society in Rochester. I am proud to count her among my constituents and, more importantly, among my friends.

Phyllis Korn has touched the lives of thousands of Monroe County citizens, offering a lifeline to women and children with nowhere else to turn. She has left an indelible mark on our community and a legacy for the future. With her as our inspiration, we can all work toward a day when domestic violence is only a distant memory.

IMF RECIPIENTS MUST MAINTAIN FREE AND OPEN MARKETS AND THE BURDEN OF PROVIDING IMF ASSISTANCE MUST BE EQUALLY SHARED

### HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation today which will require the Administration to monitor Asian countries that receive financial assistance from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) or from the U.S. Exchange Stabilization Fund, to ensure that these countries comply with commitments they have made to the IMF, that they fully implement market opening commitments they have made under bi-lateral and multilateral trade agreements, and that our IMF partners, especially Japan and the European Union, open their markets so that increased Asian exports are not dumped in the U.S. market, robbing American workers of their jobs and American firms of hard won market share. In addition, the legislation directs the Commerce Department to determine the appropriate application of U.S. antidumping and countervailing duty laws in light of currency devaluations in Asia, in order to prevent the dumping of subsidized and price-devalued Asian exports in our market.

I am happy to have my Colleagues, Congressman JOHN MURTHA and Congressman RALPH REGULA, joining me in the introduction of this legislation as original cosponsors.

Mr. Speaker, the House may soon consider legislation that would appropriate \$18 billion for the IMF, which has recently entered into assistance agreements with the troubled Asian economies of Korea, Indonesia, and Thailand. The Appropriations Committee has already conditioned the obligation of this funding on compliance by these Asian nations with their trade agreement obligations, and on the elimination of Government directed lending. This is an important step in the right direction, but more is needed.

Without the kind of careful monitoring required by the legislation I am introducing, we cannot be certain that the American taxpayers' contribution to Asian stability will be used to tear down already existing market restrictions and industrial policies in these countries, as well as subsidies, the irrational allocation of resources and other non-market decisions that caused this economic collapse in the first place. We must also make sure that our major IMF partners, particularly Japan and the European Union, do their part both to support the IMF effort and to open their markets to Asian exports.

Under the agreements that have been negotiated, the IMF is requiring these Asian countries to terminate national industrial policies and to undertake a number of other economic and financial reforms that should strengthen their economies. True economic stability can only be achieved in Korea and the other troubled Asian countries allow free markets to direct their national investment and resource decisions. Competitiveness is the key to stability in Asia, and investing in industries that are already producing far in excess of demand will not contribute to the long-term competitiveness of Asian industries.

Despite this fact, Korea has continued to invest heavily in automobile production, despite worldwide excess capacity in the production of motor vehicles. The IMF must be careful, therefore, that its funding is not misused by those in Korea who may be inclined to pursue the failed policies of the past in which the Korean government tightly restricted foreign motor vehicle imports (the foreign share of the Korean auto market is only 0.6%) and heavily promoted investment in Korean auto production.

Not only would significant new investment in Korean auto production provide a very unstable basis for that country's future economic growth, but a sharp rise in Korean auto exports to the U.S. could also severely threaten the health of U.S. and other foreign auto manufacturers and the workers they employ. This is not a remote concern. Based largely on the impact of currency devaluations in the last few months of last year, Korean automobile exports to the U.S. increased 8% in 1997 over their 1996 level. Clearly, there is a need to carefully monitor Korea's automobile exports to the U.S. and to other IMF partners, so that future IMF funding decisions can promote stable commercial and trade, as well as financial relations among nations.

It is not just Korean motor vehicle exports to the U.S. that have risen sharply in recent months, either. Although the U.S. had been running a healthy trade surplus with Korea, that surplus turned into a substantial deficit during the last three months of 1997, as the U.S. market began to be flooded with price-devalued imports from Korea. It was reported recently in the Financial Times that in the first 20 days of February, Korea's exports to the U.S. jumped 35%. During that same period, Korean exports to Japan increased by only 8.3%.

If a disproportionate share of Korea's exports are directed at the U.S. market, American workers and American firms will pay the price with lost jobs and lost market share. It is critically important, therefore, that Japan, the European Union, and other IMF partners share the burden of the new flood of exports coming out of Asia, by promoting consumption and opening their markets to exports from Korea and the other East Asian economies.

In this regard, I find it extremely unwise and unfortunate that the government of Japan announced last month that it would increase its duties from zero to 3 percent on 78 import items from Korea, including steel, textiles, and petrochemical products. This move is both harmful to the ultimate success of the IMF's efforts to build Asian economic stability and a direct threat to industries, like steel, in the U.S. and other countries where markets are open. The U.S. market must not become the world's dumping ground for price-devalued imports from Korea.

Steel is a good example of why I believe legislation needs to hold our other major IMF partners accountable for taking their fair share of Korean exports. Although trade agreements have eliminated many of the tariffs, quotas, and other formal government barriers to steel imports, steel producers in Japan, the European Union, and many other countries have entered into private, "mill-to-mill" agreements under which steel exports are tightly restricted. For example, Japanese steel producers have an agreement with the largest steel producer in Korea, POSCO, that limits Korea's exports

of carbon steel products to Japan to a little over 2 million metric tons per year.

Korea's POSCO has a similar agreement with the European Union, the so-called London Agreement or the East of Burma Agreement. Under that agreement, POSCO has agreed to ship no more than 200,000 tons of steel to the European Union in 1995, and steel producers in the European Union have agreed to ship no more than 200,000 tons of steel to Korea. That same agreement also limits the European Union's steel producers' exports to about 150,000 tons per year for Japan and to about 200,000 tons per year for the other Asian markets east of Burma.

Trade statistics for 1997 show how these agreements have severely restricted Korean steel exports to the European Union and have forced those exports into the U.S. market. For 1997, the U.S. was the only, I repeat, the only, significant non-Asian importer of Korean steel. On the other hand, the European Union imported only 0.6% of all the Korean steel sold on the world market during 1997.

For the U.S., the implication of these unfair and harmful export agreements is clear. The U.S., not Japan or the European Union, is most likely to become the dumping ground for price-devalued steel exports from Korea that, in turn, will rob American workers of their jobs and American firms of hard-won market share.

The only way to prevent this from happening is for Japan and the European Union to open, not close, their markets to steel and other imports from Korea. Clearly, Japan's recent tariff hike on Korean steel goes in exactly the opposite direction of what needs to occur. Failure to open markets elsewhere to exports from Korea and the other East Asian economies would only force the U.S. to take action under the anti-dumping and countervailing duty statutes to prevent the dumping of subsidized and price-devalued Asian exports in our market.

Mr. Speaker, it is essential that IMF funding legislation also provide for careful monitoring by the Administration and Congress of how IMF assistance is used by Korean and the other troubled Asian economies, as well as the extent to which our IMF partners open their markets to exports from these countries. Without such information, the U.S. cannot know whether IMF assistance is contributing to stable financial and commercial relations among nations, or whether future IMF assistance should be denied.

The legislation I am introducing would give this monitoring responsibility principally to the U.S. Trade Representative and the Secretary of Commerce. The legislation would require these officials to consult regularly with key industry groups to share and confirm information that is pertinent to the monitoring effort. The monitoring results should be submitted bi-monthly to the Congress for as long as IMF-assistance is being provided to Korea and the other East Asian economies.

To prevent undermining the effectiveness of U.S. trade remedy laws that limit the dumping of imports and that offset the anti-competitive impact of subsidized imports, the legislation also requires the Commerce Department to take steps to ensure that appropriate consideration is given to the currency devaluations and the extension of government subsidized loans to manufacturers in those Asian countries receiving IMF assistance.

Mr. Speaker, I know my Colleagues share my concern that the generosity and willing-

ness of the American taxpayer to provide assistance for the IMF's efforts to build economic stability in Asia not undermine the strength and competitiveness of U.S. products in both our own domestic market and the world market. American workers and American firms have fought hard and long for the success they have earned. Let us not take away their hard-won gains.

250TH BIRTHDAY OF READING,  
PENNSYLVANIA

**HON. TIM HOLDEN**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 250th birthday of the largest and oldest city in my district, Reading, Pennsylvania.

Reading was founded by Thomas and Richard Penn, sons of William Penn, on March 30, 1748. The city was named for Reading, England, William Penn's ancestral home. The establishment of Reading was imminent because a number of Indian paths and primitive roads converged at the site along the Schuylkill River, which was a successful transportation corridor to Philadelphia.

During the late 18th Century, Reading was an important center for business, culture and military affairs. On July 8, 1776, Sheriff Henry Vanderslice read the Declaration of Independence from the Court House steps; and in the 1790s, President George Washington visited the city several times.

The railroads, iron industries, and textile mills provided a variety of employment opportunities to support the many workers who settled in Reading. The city grew quickly, from 3,000 in 1800 to 80,000 in 1900, and became a leading city of Pennsylvania.

Highlighted by a rich cultural and historical heritage, Reading is a unique city, which I take great pride in representing. In three days, Reading will celebrate its 250th birthday, a 5 x 10-foot Birthday card, signed by all the Members of Congress, will be on display.

Currently, the Card is on display in the Speakers' Lobby. I would greatly appreciate it if you would take a minute to stop by and sign this special card. It is not every day that a city turns 250 years old, and I hope you will take time to be part of this special recognition. Thank you!

PROPOSAL TO EXPAND MEDICARE

**HON. DOUG BEREUTER**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member highly commends to his colleagues this March 19, 1998, Lincoln Journal Star editorial on President Clinton's proposal to expand Medicare.

[From the Lincoln Journal Star, Mar. 19, 1998]

EXPANDING MEDICARE MEANS BIGGER  
PROBLEMS IN LONG TERM

President Clinton's proposal to expand Medicare has immense sugar-coated appeal.

It would allow those age 55 through 64 to obtain Medicare coverage as long as they paid the full cost of the federal health insurance program. There would be no cost to taxpayers for providing this new option to a supposedly needy group.

Congress, however, should reject the idea. This is no time to broaden a program already facing fiscal collapse in a few years when baby boomers start to retire.

In pushing for his program Tuesday, Clinton released a report showing that 4.6 million Americans are uninsured or rely on expensive individual insurance policies.

That represents 22 percent of Americans age 55 through 64. Nebraska, North Dakota and Texas were listed as states with the highest percentages of people with difficulty finding health insurance, a factoid that is not surprising because many self-employed farmers and ranchers have individual policies.

The biggest problem with the expansion of Medicare is that it would increase the role of government in health care. Government history here does not encourage optimism that good things will result.

In 1996, for example, the government overpaid health providers by \$23 billion. That represents 14 percent of all the money spent in the program. It represents about \$88 for each of the 260 million people in the country.

Obviously, the entrance of government into an entirely new market segment will hurt private insurance providers. But providing a government option also could have unintended effects on the private sector. It might encourage employers, for example, to drop insurance plans. Rather than offer post-retirement health insurance plans to early retirees, companies could rely on Medicare to supply the coverage.

Eventually, of course, as Sen. Chuck Hagel and Rep. Jon Christensen have predicted, there would be efforts in Congress to provide financial help for those in the new, lower age bracket. Instead of covering the full cost of the Medicare premiums, financial aid would be granted to those supposedly unable to afford Medicare premiums. The likelihood of that expansion happening is greatest in today's era of possible budget surpluses.

As it is, officials estimate that only about 10 percent of those eligible will buy into the Medicare program, because the premiums are expensive. People between 62 and 65 years old could buy in for a base premium of about \$300 per month. Those between 55 and 62 would pay about \$400 a month.

Despite its surface appeal, expansion of Medicare to those 55 through 64 would be only the first chapter in a script with an unhappy ending. Congress should refuse to start something destined to turn out badly. Medicare already is facing fiscal trouble. The expansion will only make its future more bleak.

AMERICAN ISRAEL PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HONORS MELVIN A. DOW

**HON. RICHARD K. ARMEY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 27, 1998*

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, on April 6, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) will honor the Texas congressional delegation for the work we do here in Congress on behalf of a strong U.S.-Israel relationship. I appreciate the dedication of the members of AIPAC and stand with the pro-

Israel community in celebrating 50 years of friendship between our great nations.

Also on April 6 there will be a special tribute to Melvin A. Dow, the president of AIPAC, for his dedication and commitment to our country's vital alliance with the nation of Israel. The Melvin A. Dow Distinguished Leadership Award, which will be established on April 6, will be a lasting tribute to an individual who has provided great leadership and vision. The award will be presented annually to a deserving Houstonian who exhibits exemplary leadership in AIPAC and on behalf of the U.S.-Israel relationship.

Mr. Speaker, I insert a brief biography of Melvin Dow to be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Melvin Dow is a lawyer and is Chairman/CEO of Dow, Cogburn & Friedman, P.C., a 36-lawyer firm in Houston, Texas. He was born in Houston, attended Houston public schools, received a B.A. degree from Rice University (Phi Beta Kappa and with Honors in Philosophy) and a J.D. (magna cum laude) from Har-

vard Law School, where he was an editor of the Harvard Law Review.

Following law school, he was commissioned a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army and served in the Army General Counsel's office in the Pentagon. Following Army service, he returned to Houston, where he has lived and practiced law ever since.

He is board certified as a specialist in commercial real estate law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, and is a charter member of the American College of Real Estate Lawyers. He has lectured on real estate law subjects at various legal seminars.

He is currently on the Board of Trust Managers (Directors) of Weingarten Realty Investments, a New York Stock Exchange real estate investment trust. He has previously served as a director of a bank and as a director of a title insurance company.

Mr. Dow has also previously served on the Board of Trustees of St. John's School, as President of Congregation Beth Yeshurun, Vice-President of the Jewish Federation of Houston, as a member of the Harvard Law School Board of Overseers' Visiting Committee and on various other boards or commit-

tees (e.g., U.J.A. budget and allocations committee, Jewish Community Center resident scholar program committee, etc.). He is currently President of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), a Trustee of the Jewish Publication Society and a board member of the Houston Chapter of the National Conference of Christians and Jews. He was the recipient of the 1995 NCCJ Humanitarian Award.

He has been married to the former Frieda Katz (a psychotherapist) for over 38 years. She has held positions in various civic and religious organizations and is currently a board member of the Joint Distribution Committee, the Houston Holocaust Museum and Education Center and Congregation Beth Yeshurun. Frieda and Melvin Dow have 5 sons (no daughters): David (married to Katya Glockner), Mark, Steven (married to Stacy Schusterman), Stuart and Leon (married to Bruria Wiener) and three granddaughters. The sons are, respectively, a law professor; poet-writer; executive director of a social service agency (and lawyer); lawyer; and graduate student at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.