

Citation of Merit award to his 1998 Jinx Hazel Arts Citizen of the Year Award, a Northern Virginia Community Foundation Founders Award in 1997 and his designation in 1996 as the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year. He has served for an unprecedented third term as Chairman of the Board of the Arts Council and is on the Board of Directors for numerous arts and educational organizations. In addition, he has supported many county-wide and national human service causes such as the American Heart Association, United Way, the Hospice of Northern Virginia, the Women's Center, the Adopt a Family Program, and Ronald McDonald House to name only a few.

Mr. Speaker, we thank you for this opportunity to recognize such valuable members of the Northern Virginia community. We wish each of them the best in their endeavors to improve the lives of our constituents. Their life time dedication to volunteering is truly an inspiration to us all.

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TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM L. CULVER

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 1998*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize a fellow Missourian, Mr. William L. Culver, for his contributions to culture and history. In February 1998, Bill Culver participated in a C-SPAN contest that outlined the travels of Alexis de Tocqueville. He captured in art the essence of Tocqueville's travels in search of American democracy and was recognized as a top 10 national prize winner. He is an avid C-SPAN watcher and has faithfully shared his caricatures with this organization.

Bill Culver has been interested in art since he was a small child. He grew up in Northwest Missouri, attended the University of Missouri Law School, and successfully practiced law for many years. Bill now spends time doing what he enjoys most—writing and illustrating children's books. Also, he teaches part time at Columbia College at the Lake of the Ozarks.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Bill Culver on this award and wish him good luck as he continues to illustrate art and developing legacies for future generations to enjoy.

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PUT WORDS INTO ACTION: GIVE A TAX BREAK TO STAY-AT-HOME PARENTS

**HON. BOB FRANKS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 1998*

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, last month, Congress voted on Daycare Fairness for Stay-at-Home Parents, a resolution recognizing the importance of stay-at-home parents and the care they give their kids.

I supported H. Con. Res. 202, because I believe that the Federal Government has for too long discriminated against parents who choose to stay at home to raise their children. We as lawmakers need to recognize the sac-

rifices these parents make to be at home with their kids, and encourage the kind of care that only they can give.

But a sense of Congress means nothing unless we back these words up with action. We should pass legislation that brings real tax relief to parents who stay at home.

The keystone of our child care effort should be to reverse current federal tax policy which effectively discriminates against parents who choose to stay at home to raise their children.

That is why I have introduced legislation that will universalize the Dependent Care Tax Credit (DCTC) to give stay-at-home parents tax relief equal to that received by parents who choose to leave their children with an outside caregiver. Under my bill, H.R. 3176, parents who stay at home with their pre-school age children will receive credit on \$2,400 of expenses for one child, and \$4,800 for two or more children.

The Dependent Care Tax Credit (DCTC) is currently available only to working parents for expenses related to non-parental child care. In effect, the DCTC subsidizes parents to leave their children in the care of others. In my view, this is a fundamentally misguided and harmful policy.

While I supported H. Con. Res. 202, parents who sacrifice a second income to stay at home with their kids deserve more than just a pat on the back. Let's show stay-at-home parents that we mean what we say. Support extending the Dependent Care Tax Credit. America's families and our children will be better off for it.

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INTRODUCTION OF THE IDENTITY PIRACY ACT

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 1998*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, last week I introduced the Identity Piracy Act to give the Secret Service and prosecutors more crime fighting tools to protect victims of identity fraud. Under current law, the attempt to defraud an individual by using his or her identity is not by itself a punishable offense. The Identity Piracy Act (IPA) closes this loophole, and makes the theft of one's identity a specific category of crime punishable under federal law.

In order to prosecute someone for identity fraud under current law, a person must commit another type of fraud such as wire, bank, or credit card fraud. The IPA would make the act of obtaining someone's identity with the intent to defraud a person or entity a federal crime. Punishment would include up to twenty years in prison, additional time for a conspiracy to commit identity fraud, fines, and restitution.

Imagine learning that someone has stolen your name and social security number and used an out-of-state address to apply for nearly 15 credit cards. Imagine that you didn't learn about the theft of your identity until the credit card company calls to check with you about \$2,500 worth of charges you didn't make. Under current law, only the theft of the \$2,500, and not the assumption of your identity, is punishable by federal law. The Identity Piracy Act (IPA) closes this loophole, and makes the theft of one's identity a crime.

The provisions of the IPA are similar to those of the Senate Identity Theft and Assumption Deterrence Act. However, the IPA contains language endorsed by the Secret Service that clearly defines identity fraud as a federal crime and expands penalties for this crime.

Like the Identity Theft and Assumption Deterrence Act (ITADA), the IPA would give law enforcement officials more crime fighting tools to protect victims of identity fraud. It would also enable victims to seek financial restitution from identity fraud thieves, and give law enforcement officials expanded authority to seize the equipment that enable thieves to steal the identities of consumers.

Unlike other proposed identity fraud legislation, the IPA clearly defines the threshold that makes identity fraud a federal crime. The threshold provisions enable prosecutors to determine what actions trigger a federal identity fraud crime.

The IPA eliminates the dollar threshold for making identity fraud a federal crime. Under ITADA, a person must use an individual's identity to steal at least \$1,000 to make this type of fraud a federal crime.

The IPA would make taking the identity of both a person or an entity, such as a corporation, a federal crime. ITADA only covers theft from a person, not an entity.

The IPA refines what a court may provide in restitution to the victim of identity fraud. Under the IPA the court can provide restitution for attorney fees, to clear credit or debt history problems, and to clear debts and liens against a person. ITADA does not clearly define the restitution that can be provided.

The IPA refines the punishment for conspiracy to commit identity fraud. ITADA does not clearly define the punishment for conspiracy. IPA would increase the penalty for conspiracy by half of the maximum sentence for identity fraud.

The IPA creates definitions for what constitutes: a "means of identification," a "personal identifier," an "identification device," and "personal information or data." For example, use of data such as a fingerprint, a voice print, and a retina or iris image are identifiers that if used by an identity thief would be punishable under this law.

Federal law enforcement officials need to be able to keep up with changes in technology that have increased the number of identity fraud cases, in order to protect victims. We need to protect the rights of consumers like my constituent, Denise, whose case involving the theft of \$2,500 I described earlier. Denise has had to fight to clear her credit record of illegal charges. Since the initial theft, Denise learned that the identity thieves obtained credit in her name to lease housing. Landlords trying to collect from their tenants in out-of-state courts have led to a credit reporting nightmare for Denise.

The IPA would enable the Secret Service to pursue Denise's identity thieves. Under this bill, if these thieves are caught, they can be arrested on identity theft charges alone, their equipment for obtaining Denise's identity can be confiscated, and the courts can provide Denise the restitution she needs to clear her credit.

The IPA also gives people like my constituent, Denise, the assurance that law enforcement officials will have all of the tools they need to combat identity theft. I am sure that

many of my colleagues will learn about situations similar to Denise's, and I urge you to consider cosponsoring the IPA to advance this important crime fighting tool.

SMALL BUSINESS PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1998

SPEECH OF

**HON. LOUIS STOKES**

OF OHIO

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. 3310) to amend chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, for the purpose of facilitating compliance by small businesses with certain Federal paperwork requirements, and to establish a task force to examine the feasibility of streamlining paperwork requirements applicable to small businesses:

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 3310, the Small Business Paperwork Reduction Act Amendments of 1998. One of the purposes of the original Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 was to promote prompt dissemination of public information for major Federal agencies which depend on vital information from businesses. However, the proposed amendments will indirectly contradict the original intent.

Although I support the financial relief offered to small businesses in this bill, it would open the door for willful mistakes that would put various elements of Government control and worker safety at a disadvantage. For example, the Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration [PWBA] which depends on reports to ensure proper investing to secure our retirement savings for the future. This bill will weaken the ability of PWBA to protect workers' benefits by undermining current disclosure requirements. Another agency that would be adversely affected is the Drug Enforcement Administration [DEA] which uses business reports in order to detect drug trafficking. This bill would jeopardize reporting requirements that could provide evidence of criminal activity. Our Immigration Department relies on employers to file reports to monitor the hiring of illegal immigrants.

H.R. 3310 would weaken the ability of Federal agencies to receive vital information by making it easier for companies to bypass their responsibility to provide basic statistics needed for regulatory purposes.

In addition to the adverse effects this bill will have on Government regulations, it also places millions of American workers at risk by undermining the hard work of unions across America which have been successful in promoting the safety and health for workers in mines, factories, and other workplaces. These amendments would erode hard-fought protections that have played a significant role in the decreased deaths of workers.

Mr. Speaker, businesses have an obligation to adhere to governmental regulations that protect workers and the American people by building a healthy society which ultimately benefit businesses.

I strongly support our small businesses as they are fundamental to the well being of our society, however, I do not support putting

American workers at physical risk by removing penalties for ignoring the law. I urge my colleagues to defeat this bill.

IN HONOR OF THE LAKE ERIE NATURE AND SCIENCE CENTER

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 1998*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication celebration of the newly renovated Lake Erie Nature and Science Center (LENSC) in Bay Village, Ohio.

In 1996, more than 124,000 people participated in the Center's programs. Students came from Cuyahoga and Lorain Counties, and other visitors represented 30 states and 11 countries. LENS C provides educational programs, wildlife rehabilitation, non-releasable wild animals and exhibits. The Center's goal is to involve individuals of all ages from every background in learning to care for wildlife and the earth in a fun, hands-on way.

LENSC recognized the growing need for more educational programs and exhibits and planned a \$2.3 million renovation project. The dedication ceremony will take place on Saturday, April 4th. Since its founding in the home of Dr. Elberta Wagner Fleming in 1945, LENS C has undergone remarkable changes and growth. This newest renovation added a new classroom designed for preschoolers, an event center, an expanded resource center, a new lobby with a nature art mural, a courtyard, volunteer room and a new conference room.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring the accomplishments of the Lake Erie Nature and Science Center.

TRIBUTE TO THE REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 1998*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the legacy of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who, thirty years ago this week was senselessly murdered by an assassin in Memphis, Tennessee.

Dr. King contributed more to the causes of national freedom and equality than any other man or woman of our century. His achievements as an author and as a minister were surpassed only by his leadership, which transformed a torn people into a beacon of strength and solidarity, and united a divided nation under a common creed of brotherhood and mutual prosperity.

It was Dr. King's policy of nonviolent protest which served to open the eyes of the American populace to the horrors of discrimination and police brutality. This policy revealed the Jim Crow laws of the South as hypocritical and unfair, and forced civil rights issues into the national dialectic. It is due to the increased scope and salience of the national civil rights discussion that the movement achieved so much during its decade of greatest accomplishment, from 1957 to 1968.

It was in 1955 that Dr. King made his first mark on the nation, when he organized the

black community of Montgomery, Alabama during a 382-day boycott of the city's bus lines. The boycott saw Dr. King and many other civil rights activists placed in prison as "agitators," but their efforts were rewarded in 1956, when the Supreme Court declared that the segregational practices of the Alabama bus system was unconstitutional, and demanded that blacks be allowed to ride with equal and indistinguishable rights. The result proved the theory of nonviolent protest in practice, and roused the nation to the possibilities to be found through peace and perseverance.

In 1963, Dr. King and his followers faced their most ferocious test, when they set a massive civil rights protest in motion in Birmingham, Alabama. The protest was met with brute force by the local police, and many innocent men and women were injured through the harsh response. However, the strength of the police department worked against the forces of discrimination in the nation, as many Americans came to sympathize with the plight of the blacks through the sight of their irrational and inhumane treatment.

By August of 1963 the civil rights movement had achieved epic proportions, and it was in a triumphant and universal air that Dr. King gave his memorable "I Have a Dream" speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. In the next year, Dr. King was distinguished as Time magazine's Man of the Year for 1963, and he would later be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 1964.

Throughout his remaining years, Dr. King continued to lead the nation towards increased peace and unity. He spoke out directly against the Vietnam War, and led the nation's War on Poverty, which he saw as directly involved with the Vietnam struggle. To Dr. King, the international situation was inextricably linked to the domestic, and thus it was only through increased peace and prosperity at home that tranquility would be ensured abroad.

When Dr. King was tragically gunned down in 1968 he had already established himself as a national hero and pioneer. As the years passed, his message continued to gather strength and direction, and it is only in the light of his multi-generational influence that the true effects of his ideas can be measured.

Dr. King was a man who lacked neither vision nor the means to express it. His image of a strong, united nation overcoming the obstacles of poverty and inequality continues to provide us with an ideal picture of the "United" States which will fill the hearts of Americans with feelings of brotherhood and common purposes for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to appropriately remember the significant deeds of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and to join in a moment of silent meditation in his honor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CORRINE BROWN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 1998*

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I was away from the House with the President on the historical visit to Africa. I was unable to vote on Rollcall votes 68 through 80. If I had been here I would have voted as follows: