

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE FBI FAIRNESS TO APPEAL IMPROVEMENT ACT (FBI FAIR)

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, some Federal Bureau of Investigation [FBI] special agents are accorded Merit System Protection Board [MSPB] appeal rights and others are not. This discriminatory policy offends traditional notions of fairness and should change. It is not fair that some agents receive MSPB appeal rights while others do not.

Because of my concern about this policy, today I will introduce legislation, the FBI Fairness to Appeal Improvement Act, a copy of which appears at the end of my statement. This simple legislation would amend 5 U.S.C. 7511(b)(8) by striking "the Federal Bureau of Investigation," thereby extending certain procedural and appeal rights with respect to certain adverse personnel actions to all employees of the FBI. This legislation corrects the current disparate treatment of nonveteran special agents regarding their ability to appeal adverse personnel actions and ensures the due process rights of all employees of the FBI.

Last Congress I introduced a bill, H.R. 2683, the Due Process for FBI Agents Act, with the same language as the measure I am introducing today. This legislation in the 104th Congress was attached to H.R. 3841, the Omnibus Civil Service Reform Act of 1996 which passed the House on September 27, 1996, but did not become law.

Special agents of the FBI are loyal civil servants dedicated to protecting Americans from the worst kinds of crime. Their jobs are difficult, demanding, and often dangerous. They are often transferred to posts far from home which demands considerable sacrifice by FBI families. FBI agents are on the front line of the fight against crime. The FBI motto—fidelity, bravery, and integrity—accurately characterizes the manner in which agents approach their important work.

These duties are performed by all agents, veteran and nonveteran alike. However, these two categories of agents receive disparate treatment when charged with misconduct. Military veterans are permitted full due process rights including the ability to appeal adverse personnel actions to the MSPB. In other words, veteran agents, who are in the excepted service, receive the same due process rights that employees in the competitive service receive.

Nonveteran agents, also members of the excepted service, do not. This means that a veteran agent will receive an outside, independent, objective review of his/her case while a nonveteran agent will not. Is this fair? I maintain that it is not. Furthermore, female special agents are particularly hit hard by this policy because few have served in the military; thus they are not eligible to receive the MSPB appeal rights that veteran agents, who are

predominantly men, do. Also, FBI agents should have the same MSPB appeal rights as federal law enforcement agents who work for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Drug Enforcement Administration, Customs Service, and Border Patrol.

As this legislation was considered in the House in the 104th Congress the FBI raised only one objection. The Bureau was concerned about MSPB decisions, in five cases, that a federal agency could not sanction an employee for making false statements to the agency regarding his or her alleged employment-related misconduct. The Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit affirmed the MSPB policy. But on December 2, 1997, in the case *LaChance v. Erickson*, the Supreme Court overturned the "bad law" established by the Court of Appeals. The high court held that the Fifth Amendment's Due Process Clause and the Civil Service Reform Act do not preclude a federal agency from sanctioning an employee for making false statements to the agency regarding his or her alleged employment-related misconduct. As a result, the one objection previously voiced by the FBI is no longer applicable.

Mr. Speaker, there is no reason to maintain the distinction between preference eligible veteran and nonveteran agents. All agents, whether veterans or not, should be treated in a fair and equitable manner. The FBI has considerable experience with the MSPB process available to veteran agents. I am not aware that there has been any particular abuse of the MSPB process by preference eligible agents. Likewise, I do not anticipate that expansion of MSPB rights to all agents would be burdensome on the FBI. There is no room in the modern FBI for discriminatory personnel policies; therefore, nonveteran agents should receive all the rights and enjoy all the privileges accorded to their preference eligible veteran counterparts.

Mr. Speaker, I urge our colleagues to cosponsor this important legislation. I also urge Congressman MiCA, chairman of the House Civil Service Subcommittee, to move this legislation as expeditiously as possible. Finally, I include a copy of this bill and a letter from former Congressman Ed Bethune who represents the FBI Agents' Association in support of this legislation in the record immediately following my statement.

ED BETHUNE & ASSOCIATES,
Washington, DC, March 31, 1998.

Hon. FRANK WOLF,
U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN: The FBI Agents Association, a non-governmental professional association, represents over 8000 active duty FBI Special Agents. The association strongly supports your effort to extend Merit System Protection Board appeal rights to all agents.

As General Counsel for the association I can tell you that the support for this reform is virtually unanimous among rank and file agents.

The association will be working to help you pass this much needed reform in this session of Congress. Again, thanks for your tireless efforts on behalf of the men and

women who are on the front line in the battle against crime.

Sincerely,

ED BETHUNE.

H.R. —

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "FBI Fairness to Appeal Improvement Act".

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF RIGHTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7511(b)(8) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking "the Federal Bureau of Investigation".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply with respect to adverse personnel actions taking effect after the end of the 45-day period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on roll call vote 83, H.R. 2608, to protect individuals from having money involuntarily collected and used for political activities by a corporation or labor organization, I was recorded as voting "no." It was my intention to vote "yes," to require the written and voluntary consent from an employee or union member before using any portion of their dues or fees for the organization's political activity.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MAYOR J. PETER KENDALL

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate J. Peter Kendall, mayor of Oakland, New Jersey, on being named 1998 Mayor of the Year by the New Jersey Conference of Mayors in recognition of his many years of exemplary public service. Mayor Kendall is one of the finest municipal officials in the State of New Jersey and this honor is certainly well deserved. From serving as the town Santa Clause each Christmas to using his business expertise to stabilize taxes, he is the very essence of a public servant who finds no job too large or too small to receive his complete attention.

Mayor Kendall and I have worked together on many local projects over the years and he has always provided me with good counsel and authoritative information. One of the most prominent projects in recent years has been the Ramapo River at Oakland Flood Control Project. Oakland has been plagued by devastating floods 15 times in the past 24 years.

• 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.

From the beginning, I was deeply impressed at how hard Mayor Kendall fought to spare his municipality's residents from enduring this hardship again. With his guidance, we have this year secured the first \$2.5 million of the total \$7 million in federal funds necessary for this much-needed project.

Mayor Kendall has brought a strong, successful business experience to benefit Oakland and the whole of Bergen County. Born in Seattle, he is a graduate of Long Island University's CW Post College. He spent 35 years as a manufacturing executive, as director of business systems and planning at Smiths Industries and vice president of manufacturing at Phillips Electronic Instruments. He owns Creative Systems Consulting Co., which helps design and install computerized manufacturing systems, and is executive director of the Bergen County Workforce Investment Board. As executive director, he supervises all workforce-training activities in the county.

Kendall's career in elected office began in 1985, when he was elected to the Oakland Borough Council. He served seven years as a councilman, during which time he was elected Council President four times. He was elected mayor in 1992 and is currently in his second four-year term.

As Mayor, Kendall has held borough property tax increases to less than 1 percent per year. He has reduced the borough staff by six positions and directed an \$8 million improvement in the town's water supply system without increasing water usage fees. Open space was increased to 20 percent of the borough's land area using a \$3 million grant-loan package he arranged with the State. He has worked to improve roads and recreation facilities and to upgrade equipment and facilities for both the Fire Department and the first-aid organization. In 1995, he organized the First Night Oakland New Year's Eve celebration to mark the town's 300th anniversary, beginning a new annual tradition.

One of Mayor Kendall's most-appreciated accomplishments was the construction of the new Oakland Senior Citizens Center, which opened in 1991. Widely regarded as one of the finest seniors' facilities in Bergen County, the project began in 1988 when Mayor Kendall obtained a \$150,000 grant from a local developer. He then led a \$1 million fund-raising drive that resulted in the opening of the new center. This facility has served countless individuals and is a center of community life for older residents of Oakland. It is a source of civic pride for all Oakland families.

In every way, Mayor Kendall has brought the people of Oakland together as a community and as a family.

Mayor Kendall is an active member of the Northwest Bergen Mayors Association, the New Jersey Conference of Mayors, the Bergen County League of Municipalities and the New Jersey League of Municipalities. He has also served with the Lions Club, Knights of Columbus and the Rotary Club. He is also an assistant scoutmaster. He and his wife, Frances, will have been married 36 years this July and have three sons—John, Mark and Sean, John and his wife, Carla, have two sons, Christopher and Peter, while Mark and his wife, Rose, have three children, Bianca, Dalton and Madisyn.

Peter Kendall is a hard-working, dedicated public servant. His efforts to improve the quality of life in the community that has been his

home are exemplary. I wish to add the recognition of the United States House of Representatives to that which he has received from the New Jersey Conference of Mayors.

THEATER MISSILE DEFENSE
IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 1998

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this legislation, the Theater Missile Defense Improvement Act (TMD), H.R. 2786.

I strongly support this legislation to provide additional funding to rapidly improve U.S. theater missile defense programs. The need for this legislation is clear. Last year, U.S. and Israel intelligence reports revealed that Russia engaged in a transfer of missile technology to Iran. An unclassified CIA report to Congress released in June, 1997 confirmed that Russia supplied a variety of ballistic missile goods to foreign countries including Iran. These missiles have an expected range of 1,300 to 2,000 kilometers within the range of Israel, Turkey, Saudi Arabia and 200,000 American military and civilian personnel.

In response to this threat, last year the House passed legislation, H.R. 2709, to deter Russian assistance to Iran's missile program by imposing sanctions on foreign companies that assist its missile development. However, in the six months since the passage of H.R. 2709, Iran has successfully tested a medium range missile engine, and North Korea and Iraq have continued to expand their missile capabilities. In addition, in the six years since 28 soldiers lost their lives in a SCUD attack in Dharan, Saudi Arabia, the U.S. still has not developed the ability to readily deploy defenses against sophisticated missile threats. The existing TMD systems were designed to repel older threats and have only limited capabilities against the newest generation of more capable missile systems.

While I fully respect the goals of the Nunn Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program, which has provided assistance to Russia and other republics in dismantling and limiting the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the former Soviet Union, I am concerned that the third goal of this important program has been compromised. The third goal was to prevent the diversion of nuclear technology from the former Soviet republics to rogue states. The Israeli and U.S. intelligence reports confirm that Russia has violated the terms of the Nunn Lugar agreement, and I believe the rapid development of a deployable TMD system is needed to secure the interests of the United States and its allies, especially Israel, in the Middle East.

The bill authorizes the Secretary of Defense to identify actions the Defense Department could take to counter the threats enhanced missile programs pose to the United States, establish cooperative measures between Israel and the United States to protect Israel against such threats, and develop a program to counter such threats within the next one or two years. In addition, it would provide funding to ensure that the capabilities of U.S. TMD systems keep pace with missile development

programs being undertaken by Iran, North Korea and other regional threats.

I believe that passage of this bill is vital to U.S. security and interests in the Middle East, and I urge my colleague to support its passage.

CAMPAIGN REFORM AND
ELECTION INTEGRITY ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 1998

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, the American people must think this debate is quite disingenuous. They recognize that all our discussion about campaign reform is to take the debate away from the real problems—that some people broke the campaign laws. They took money from foreign interests; that is illegal under current law. They solicited money in government offices; that is illegal under current law. They sold access and privileges to high government officials; that is illegal under current law. Apparently, those people think if they talk ever more loudly about reforming the system, the American people will forget that they broke the laws we already have.

But no matter what brings us to this debate today, I think this bill—and the other three bills which make narrower reforms—does make some needed reforms. And I don't apologize that I am voting for partial reform because we can't get agreement on everything. If I have a toothache and a backache, I don't mind fixing the toothache even if that doesn't cure the backache.

Much has been said about illegal foreign money. Accepting money from foreign interests has always been illegal. But I agree with taking this further step to say that only those who are American citizens can give to the political candidates that only they can vote to elect. And if we are concerned that non citizens are voting, let's give our local election officials the ability to confirm that those who register are indeed citizens. Let the registrant check a box affirming that he or she is a citizen. That's neither discriminatory nor onerous.

My campaign committee tells me the new reporting requirements will be more difficult to comply with, but I support them. One of my contentions all along has been that more disclosure is good for open honest campaigns. The very best campaign finance reform is that which focuses on letting more sunshine into the process.

I strongly support the provision that requires unions or corporations to get permission from their employees before they use their workers' dues to support candidates. According to polling data, so do about three-fourths of the union members. Asking a union member for written permission to spend their hard earned dues dollars to support candidates cannot possibly be construed as denying workers their rights. They can agree with letting the union leadership make decisions about whom they support or they can keep it to spend as they wish. It gives them power over their own earnings; it does not deny them any right.

The underlying reform bill allows middle class candidates to run for office against millionaires by removing party and individuals

contribution limits so that parties can match a wealthy candidate's personal spending that goes beyond an individual contribution limit. No longer will the millionaire have a nearly insurmountable advantage.

This bill increases individual contribution limits to \$2000 for a candidate for federal office. It does not increase PAC contribution limits. It bans soft money for federal parties and also for state parties in those cases where they are joint federal and state elections.

Certain reforms I support are not here; I favor a requirement that candidates must raise half of their campaign funds in their own state. I support lowering PAC contribution limits to match the amount an individual can give. But the fact these items are missing does not mean I can't support the good things that are here.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good package of bills which makes some much needed reforms. I am pleased to support each of them.

MANAGED CARE AND MENTAL HEALTH: WHY THE PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS IS IMPORTANT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join today with my colleagues to urge support for passing the Patients' Bill of Rights Act of 1998, a bill that would give millions of Americans enrolled in managed care plans a measure of control over the quality of care they receive.

For consumers of mental health and substance abuse benefits—which are often arbitrarily capped at a particular dollar level—this bill contains key quality provisions. It provides for continuity of care, access to specialists, choice of specialist, enables exceptions from overly restrictive drug formularies, and provides for an independent external appeals process.

The bill will guarantee that consumers can continue seeing their providers for 90 days after they change plans if they are in the middle of a course of treatment. For those with psychiatric disabilities, this continuity of care provision is critically important, since studies show that a sudden change of doctors for patients with serious psychiatric disorders can result in devastating setbacks.

The abrupt termination of psychiatric services to thousands of Los Angeles County Medi-Cal beneficiaries last year illustrates this point well.

Last year, the California State Department of Health contracted with Foundation Health to provide comprehensive medical services to its Medi-Cal population in Los Angeles. In turn, Foundation subcontracted out the provision of psychiatric services to MCC Behavioral Health Care. When MCC's contract ended, it notified 5,000 enrollees that their mental health services would be terminated in two weeks.

All were undergoing a course of psychiatric treatment, and many suffered from severe psychiatric disorders, such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, or major depression. Most were not fully fluent in English. A full-blown crisis was averted when the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health offered

to care for the notified patients—but the Department was not fully equipped to do the job. As a result, some of the most severely disabled fell through the cracks and were lost to treatment.

Beyond continuity of care, the Patients' Bill of Rights would boost consumer confidence in HMOs with a simple requirement that health plans provide a list of contracted providers and their qualifications on request and that enrollees be able to choose among the providers who serve the plan members. This requirement would apply to mental health providers if the plan offers mental health and substance abuse services.

Today, consumers in managed care plans are not commonly given a list of the mental health providers in their own plans. When enrollees call to seek psychiatric care, they are often required to reveal confidential information about themselves over the phone to a "triage" staffer whom they don't know—and who may have no formal mental health training. The staffer then generally gives the caller names of one or two mental health professionals who are selected on the basis of zip code—not based on an assessment of the individual's need for a particular type of care.

In an article published on May 6, 1997, *The Washington Post* questions whether zip code referrals produce good patient care results. The article discusses the experience of Mark Hudson, who worked for a Blue Cross/Blue Shield plan as a telephone referral assistant in Massachusetts from 1992 to 1995. "I did the diagnosis and approval" for 80–100 calls a day for plan subscribers, Hudson is quoted as saying. He routinely made referrals to two therapists located in the town where the callers lived, regardless of the medical needs they described. Hudson has no mental health training, and says Blue Cross officials specifically instructed him not to provide enrollees with the names of other approved therapists.

Mr. Speaker, this makes no sense at all. Consumers who need mental health services should have the same freedom to select from a full panel of providers just as those seeking physical care typically can. The Patient Bill of Rights would help equalize this unfair practice.

Access to appropriate prescription drugs for psychiatric disorders is another paramount issue. In a 1997 survey, the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill found that five of the nation's largest behavioral health care companies failed to provide access to breakthrough antipsychotic medications. Yet for serious disorders such as schizophrenia, older medications may give only partial relief, and have far more serious side effects.

There is a requirement in many managed care plans that psychiatrists must first document two failures of older medications before a new one can be approved. Such policies are penny wise and pound foolish, since patients suffering severe side effects from these sometimes-outdated drugs can easily wind up needing hospitalization. Obviously, this can also result in suboptimal psychiatric care.

By requiring an exception process to the drug formularies often used by plans and by allowing access to the external appeals process, the bill will allow mental health patients to have stronger protection than they do today. The external appeals process required by this bill offers an additional important level of protection for consumers of mental health and substance abuse services. Without it, consum-

ers are forced to receive final medical decisions from health plans that hold a financial interest in denying care.

In an article published on March 3, 1998, *U.S. News* explores this risk in some details. The article discusses the experience of Dr. Linda Peeno, who worked as an HMO's medical director—the person who must ultimately approve or reject requests for care. "The decision [to approve a voice machine for a plan beneficiary—a young woman who suffered a usually-fatal brain stem stroke] is now mine, and I feel the pressure to find a way to say no", Dr. Peeno is quoted as saying. She went on to add, "If I cannot pronounce it medically unnecessary, then I have to find a different way to interpret our medical guidelines or the contract language in order to deny the request." Unhappy with her role as a medical care denier, Dr. Peeno left the industry in 1991.

Mr. Speaker, mental health and substance abuse is probably the area where managed care has the most serious problems. We need an entire bill devoted to addressing these special problems—but the bill I am cosponsoring today is a good beginning on these problems. In the coming weeks, I will be introducing separate legislation to deal with the unaddressed mental health and substance abuse consumer issues. In the meantime, we should not delay in passing the important protections contained in the Dingell-Gephardt-Kennedy bill.

HONORING OUR DESERVING VETERANS

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to identify an inequity that has gone unresolved for too long. This inequity currently exists in the process of honoring our veterans in the Navy and Marine Corps who served our nation from 1943 to 1961. These proud men and women deserve to be recognized in the same fashion as their counterparts in the other service branches.

The Navy Combat Action Ribbon is awarded to Navy and Marine Corps personnel based upon active participation in ground or surface combat beginning March 1, 1961. The equivalent Army award, the Combat Infantry Badge, has been given to Army personnel since July 4, 1943. Why should this unfair discrepancy stand?

H.R. 543, a bill introduced by Rep. MICHAEL McNULTY, would erase the imbalance between the eligibility date requirements of the Navy Combat Action Ribbon and its counterparts in the other service branches. H.R. 543 provides for an award of the Navy Combat Action Ribbon to Navy and Marine Corps personnel during the period between July 4, 1943, and March 1, 1961.

Mr. Speaker, I believe we must pass H.R. 543 to correct the inequality in how we honor our veterans. As the current award process stands a large segment of the veterans' population is being excluded from proper recognition for the dedication and sacrifice they proudly made for our country. By passing H.R. 543 we would rightfully honor those who bravely served our nation.

BEST WISHES TO J.J.!

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my best wishes to a very well-loved member of the San Diego Community: J.J. the Gray Whale.

When J.J. was stranded on a beach more than a year ago, she was not expected to survive her journey to Sea World, San Diego. But survive she did. She was a mere 1,670 pounds and 13 feet, 10 inches long when she was saved. She has grown more than 10-fold—to 18,200 pounds, about the weight of six Buick Skylarks, and is 30 feet long.

Today, J.J. is scheduled to be released back to the Pacific Ocean to join other gray whales migrating north from Baja California to Alaska. Her recovery has been monitored by children around the country and I join them in wishing J.J. a successful transition back to the ocean and a safe journey.

J.J. was named after Judy Jones, who died after a life dedicated to rescuing sea lions. Scores of veterinarians, animal-care specialists, research scientists and animal trainers showed similar dedication in saving J.J. and preparing her for release. Over the past year, they have nursed her from a malnourished and dehydrated near-death state, taught her to eat from the bottom of her pool—similar to the way whales eat from the ocean bottom—and taught her to vocalize and recognize other gray whale sounds.

Her rescue and upcoming release are historic—it marks the first time that an orphaned gray whale has been raised by humans and released back into the wild. The Coast Guard, U.S. Navy, San Diego Police and Hubbs-Sea World Research Institute are handling the daunting logistics of her release.

J.J.'s life thus far has provided a wealth of scientific discoveries about gray whales. Her release provides a chance for her to live with other gray whales. I ask you to join me and the literally thousands of people cheering for J.J. in extending our thoughts and good wishes for her successful journey back to the wild.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. DOREEN
SILVERMAN BROGDEN

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Doreen Silverman Brogden, a woman who is a credit to our nation, the state of Alabama, and my alma mater, the University of Alabama School of Law, where she has been employed for the past 30 years.

Doreen Silverman was born in England during the War. In 1957 she traveled to the United States to live with her aunt and uncle in Brooklyn, New York. One year later, at a dance in the city, she met a young American serviceman named Harold Brogden. Eight months later, on December 29, 1958, they were married.

In 1961 Mrs. Brogden moved with Harold back to his native Alabama, where he at-

tended the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. Born and bred in London, she was not at all sure about moving to this southern state. But, as she has so often in her life, Doreen Brogden summoned the grace and pluck instilled in her at the Skinner School for Girls in Stamford Hill, and approached change with open arms. Upon arriving in Alabama, Mrs. Brogden found employment with a local attorney, Mr. Gordon Rosen, and began to learn the ways of the Bar. On September 1, 1968, she joined the staff of the University of Alabama School of Law as secretary to Dean Daniel J. Meador. She served under two subsequent deans, Thomas L. Jones and Thomas W. Christopher, before becoming the school's Law Publications Coordinator in 1984. In this capacity, Doreen Brogden has served as sage and assistant to over a generation of student editors on the staffs of the Alabama Law Review, The Journal of the Legal Profession, the Law and Psychology Review, and the American Journal of Tax Policy.

Over the years, Mrs. Brogden has worked tirelessly to better the law school she calls home. At the same time, she has been a loving wife to her husband Harold and a devoted mother to their son Gregg, who was born in 1966. You will see pictures of both prominently displayed in her office at the law school among those of her favorite students and faculty members throughout the years—of which there are many. Yet no picture is more prominently displayed than that of Gregg and his wife Lyric, whom he married in 1993.

When you meet Doreen Brogden for the first time, she will tell you that she lives by the creed her mother taught her in England: "I bow down to God only, the rest of us are equal." She is as good as her word. From deans to law students, Doreen Brogden treats them all alike: as peers when they deserve it, as friends if they can earn it, and, above all else, as her own children. Mrs. Brogden is an exemplary Alabamian who has earned the respect and gratitude of a countless number of Alabama law students. She is particularly treasured by the staff of the Alabama Law Review, where she has guided countless Managing Boards through the trials and tribulations of producing three issues a year.

As we approach the 30th anniversary of her joining the University of Alabama School of Law, I seek to honor this special woman. We are grateful that she found her way to our state, a state she loves as much as any native-born citizen. But Alabama cannot claim all of Doreen Silverman Brogden. She is truly an international individual, and she exemplifies a goodness that knows no boundaries. Mr. Speaker, I join today with her many friends and admirers at the law school in thanking Doreen Brogden for her life of service and her heart of gold.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN COOKSEY

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. COOKSEY. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, I was not present to record votes on rollcall votes No. 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83 and 84. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 76, 82, 83 and 84; "aye" on

rollcall 77, 78, and 80; "no" on rollcall 79; and "nay" on rollcall 81.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL REDMOND

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. REDMOND. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on Roll Call No. 19 and had I been present I would have voted "No."

ILLEGAL FOREIGN
CONTRIBUTIONS ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 1998

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the Illegal Foreign Contributions Act legislation that unfairly targets Legal Permanent Residents by restricting their right to participate in political activities. Specifically, this legislation bans campaign contributions by Legal Permanent Residents.

This legislation is patently unconstitutional. Legal Permanent Residents are like citizens in many ways: they work, they pay taxes, they can get drafted into the military, and they contribute to our economy and our society. Most importantly, the Courts have consistently held that Legal Permanent Residents enjoy the same First Amendments rights as do United States citizens. To silence legal residents in the arena of political speech goes against the most basic principles of our democracy.

The Supreme Court established in Buckley v. Valeo that campaign contributions are "political speech", and therefore protected under the First Amendment. Political contributions are one of the ways that like-minded individuals associate in furtherance of common objectives. Under Buckley and subsequent cases, any law which limits expenditures or completely prohibits campaign contributions from particular persons presumptively violates the First Amendment. Regardless of whether each of us agrees with or likes the decision in Buckley, it is the law and the court's constitutional analysis applies whether the person making the expenditure is a citizen or a Legalized Permanent Resident. Mr. Speaker, I have here in my hand a letter authored by nearly 100 law professors stating that a ban on campaign contributions by Legal Permanent Residents would violate their First Amendments Rights.

I hope that my colleagues will think carefully before casting a vote tonight on this legislation. I hope that they will vote to support the constitutional rights of our nation's Legal Permanent Residents.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, today I want to put the leadership on notice that the need for

campaign finance reform did not end last night. Our campaign finance system is broken and something must be done to take the influence of big money out of the process. The incremental bills we passed last night did nothing to address the fundamental problems in the system.

Until we do more, campaigns will continue to be dominated by soft money, independent expenditures and pressure on candidates to raise more money to combat these groups. There are a number of bipartisan campaign reform bills that begin to address these problems, the Shays-Meehan bill, and the Bipartisan Campaign Integrity Act both would reduce the influence of big money in politics. The House must be given the opportunity to vote on these bills.

The partisan tricks that the leadership used last night were as sham and a fraud on the people of this nation. The leadership should in no way assume that they made good on their promise to allow a vote on campaign finance reform. Until we have an open, honest vote on campaign finance reform I will not end my efforts to force that vote. The people of my district did not send me here to accept "no" as an answer.

AMERICA'S POLICE OPPOSE THE
SAFE ACT (H.R. 695)

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, the National Sheriffs' Association, the Association of Chiefs of Police, the District Attorneys' Association, and The National Association of Attorneys General all oppose H.R. 695 (The SAFE ACT). The members of these organizations are planning to visit with Members of Congress this Spring to urge opposition to the SAFE ACT.

The Justice Department found that the bill would "severely compromise law enforcement's ability to protect the American people from the threats posed by terrorists, organized crime, child pornographers . . . and other criminals," the President will veto the bill if it is presented to him in its current form.

The so called SAFE ACT (H.R. 695) presents an extremely one-sided response to the encryption issue. The bill was drafted by and for the software industry, at the expense of the national security and public safety needs of the American people.

In an editorial, The Washington Post declared that "the real question is whether you believe this stuff poses a significant national security threat in the wrong hands. If you do—and we think it irresponsible to assume otherwise—then it's not enough to declare uncrackable privacy a civil right. You have to at least address the question of how to minimize intrusion into that right while preserving some ability to grapple with the potential danger."

The SAFE ACT (H.R. 695) is an unacceptable, unbalanced solution to the critical issue of encryption. It is imperative that the provisions included by the National Security Committee and the Intelligence Committee be incorporated into the Goodlatte bill in order to effect a compromise between the needs of in-

dustry and the legitimate law enforcement and international security needs of the American people. I respectfully request that you support a balanced encryption policy and oppose H.R. 695.

FOREST RECOVERY AND
PROTECTION ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 27, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2515) to address declining health of forests on Federal lands in the United States through a program of recovery and protection consistent with the requirements of existing public land management and environmental laws, to establish a program to inventory, monitor, and analyze public and private forests and their resources, and for other purposes:

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Chairman, I know all too well how valuable our Nation's forests are, because in Eastern Long Island we have lost to development hundreds of thousands of acres of pine barrens that protect and filter the water that settles into the sole source aquifer that holds our drinking water.

The Forest Recovery and Protection Act (H.R. 2515) before us today would sacrifice the public benefits of our forests like water quality, wildlife habitat and recreation and instead promote clear cutting in our last remaining unspoiled wild forests.

Instead, we should be building on recent Forest Service efforts to study and protect these vanishing roadless areas.

When the studies are done and the facts are in, only then should we decide what to do about the practice of commercial logging on public lands.

The Forest Recovery and Protection Act (H.R. 2515) before us today pretends to be about a "forest health crisis;" in fact, the only crisis in our National Forests has been caused by excessive road building and destructive logging—a practice that would continue under this legislation if it is passed today.

The Leach-McKinney bill that I am an original sponsor of would put an end to decades of forest management for the benefit of timber industry profits and instead protect the public benefits of our forests like watershed protection and recreation.

The Forest Recovery and Protection Act (H.R. 2515) would steal money from environmental restoration and roads maintenance programs and put it into a new slush fund to promote clear cutting programs.

It specifically directs the government to ignore the costs to taxpayers of the clear cutting programs in this bill.

Money that now goes to promote irresponsible logging through Forest Service slush funds, should instead be put into environmental restoration and job training programs to create sustainable local economies, no longer based on environmental destruction.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I was traveling with the President in Africa Friday, March 27, 1998, and was unable to vote. I would have voted in favor of the Boehlert amendment to H.R. 2515 (Rollcall No. 79). I would have voted against H.R. 2515 (Rollcall No. 80).

COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS OF
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES
AND THE PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES, H. RES. 404

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce today a Resolution commemorating 100 years of relations between the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines. It is right and fitting that the House of Representatives makes note of the special relationship that the United States and the Philippines have shared for nearly a century.

The beginning of our country's relationship with the Philippines in 1898 also marked the beginning of our great interest in the Pacific and the development of strong, robust historical and cultural ties between the Philippines and the United States. To its credit, the Philippines has modeled its governmental institutions of those of the United States and they share our commitment to democracy, human rights and free market economics.

Though the United States and the Philippines are literally an ocean apart, the large Philippine-American community, numbering over 2 million, has immeasurably enriched the social and cultural fabric of the United States and serves as a sturdy bridge of friendship between the two countries.

Until the end of the Cold War, the United States maintained major military facilities in the Philippines which played a significant role in the maintenance of regional peace and stability. The United States has important strategic, economic and political interests at stake in Southeast Asia and in maintaining stability remains an overriding U.S. security concern in the region. To this end, Filipino soldiers have stood shoulder to shoulder with American troops on the battlefields of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam to protect and advance these mutual interests. Today, the Philippines remains an important partner and ally in guarding the peace and maintaining stability in Southeast Asia.

The United States is pleased with the flourishing of democracy in the Philippines. It is hoped that the Philippines will serve as an example to others in the region and will encourage progress in the furthering of democratic principles and practices, respect for human rights, and the enhancement of the rule of law.

The Philippines and the United States are increasingly important trading partners providing the United States with significant commercial opportunities. The Philippines is the twenty-first largest trading partner of the United

States and constitutes a large market for U.S. exports. I am confident that despite current economic uncertainties, the Philippines will weather the troubles plaguing Asia and emerge even stronger than before.

The Congress looks forward to a broadening and deepening of friendship and cooperation with the Philippines in the years ahead for the mutual benefit of the peoples of the United States and the Philippines.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to introduce this legislation and I invite my colleagues in the House of Representatives to support this Resolution commemorating the distinctive ties between the people of these two great nations.

I insert the entire text of this resolution in the RECORD.

H. RES. 404

Whereas 1998 marks 100 years of special ties between the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines and is also the centennial celebration of Philippine independence from Spain which initiated relations with the United States;

Whereas the people of the Philippines have on many occasions demonstrated their strong commitment to democratic principles and practices, the free exchange of views on matters of public concern, and the development of a strong civil society;

Whereas the Philippines has embraced economic reform and free market principles and, despite current challenging circumstances, its economy has registered significant economic growth in recent years benefitting the lives of the people of the Philippines;

Whereas the large Philippine-American community has immeasurably enriched the fabric of American society and culture;

Whereas Filipino soldiers fought shoulder to shoulder with American troops on the battlefields of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam;

Whereas the Philippines is an increasingly important trading partner of the United States as well as the recipient of significant direct American investment;

Whereas the United States relies on the Philippines as a partner and treaty ally in fostering regional stability, enhancing prosperity, and promoting peace and democracy; and

Whereas the 100th anniversary of relations between the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines offers an opportunity for the United States and the Philippines to renew their commitment to international cooperation on issues of mutual interest and concern: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates the Philippines on the commemoration of its independence from Spain;

(2) looks forward to a broadening and deepening of friendship and cooperation with the Philippines in the years ahead for the mutual benefit of the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines;

(3) supports the efforts of the Philippines to further strengthen democracy, human rights, the rule of law, and the expansion of free market economics both at home and abroad; and

(4) recognizes the close relationship between the nations and the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines and pledges its support to work closely with the Philippines in addressing new challenges as we begin our second century of friendship and cooperation.

IN HONOR OF FRANKLIN PERRY
GOULD'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JAY W. JOHNSON

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Franklin Perry Gould of Crivitz, Wisconsin on the occasion of his 90th birthday.

Mr. Gould was born on April 21, 1908 in Marinette, Wisconsin. His father, B.P. Gould, operated a logging camp in the white pine forests of northern Wisconsin, a thriving business. Mr. Gould attended Crivitz High School, where he played basketball and graduated as Valedictorian in 1928.

Despite the hardship of the Great Depression, Mr. Gould was able to attend Carroll College in Waukesha, Wisconsin, and there he received his undergraduate degree in 1932. After college, he returned to Crivitz and started a business as a land surveyor.

In his long career, Mr. Gould served as the charter president of the Wisconsin Land Surveyors, which was organized in 1956. He also served as the president of the Wisconsin Towns Association, Chairman of the Town of Stephenson, and as a member of the Marinette County Board for 12 years.

During World War II, Mr. Gould moved his family to Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, where he helped the war effort by building ships.

After retiring from land surveying, Mr. Gould worked with his son, Donald Franklin, as a home builder. Even in retirement, Mr. Gould still visits home building sites whenever possible.

Everyone who has the pleasure to know Mr. Gould agrees he is a kind and noble gentleman who has no equal when it comes to honesty, integrity and perseverance. Today we pay tribute to him for all he has given to his family, his friends and his community for these 90 years.

THE RETIREMENT OF THOMAS G. POWERS

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, all of us who are privileged to serve in the House know how much we rely on the hard work of our staffs, both in our own offices and in the various committees on which we serve. Occasionally, we are fortunate enough to work with a staff member who is so knowledgeable and effective in his or her area that it is difficult to imagine anyone else holding down that responsibility. I rise today to report to the House the retirement of such a staff member, the long time senior counsel to the Committee on Small Business, Tom Powers.

Tom has the distinction of being the longest tenured staff member in the history of the Small Business Committee—27 continuous years, in all. In fact, Tom is the only staffer to have served throughout the full standing Committee's existence, it having attained this status with the beginning of the 94th Congress in 1975. He also served throughout the period

during which the Small Business Committee was a permanent select committee, from 1971 to 1975.

Tom earned law degrees from both Drake University in his native Des Moines, Iowa and New York University in New York City. He served as legal counsel to the Iowa General Assembly and Polk County, Iowa before coming to Washington in 1971.

He served as subcommittee counsel to our colleague, Hon. JOHN DINGELL, and then counsel to the full committee under Chairmen Joe L. Evins and Tom Steed. In 1977, Tom became the Committee's General Counsel, serving in that capacity under Chairmen Neal Smith and Parren Mitchell. Tom continued to serve as my senior counsel from 1987 until recently when I resigned my ranking minority position on the Small Business Committee to assume that position on the Banking and Financial Services Committee.

Tom's encyclopedic knowledge of small business issues and of Small Business Administration programs and legislation is legendary. Our friend, Representative Neal Smith, who served so honorably in this House for 36 years and was the father of many of those programs, remarked in his recent book, *Mr. Smith Went to Washington*, that Tom was the expert in the country on SBA programs. In keeping with the Small Business Committee's long tradition of operating in the most bipartisan and cooperative spirit possible, Tom made his expertise available to all Members on both sides of the aisle and to their staffs; and the respect which Members on opposite sides of an issue shared for Tom's knowledge and judgment was often decisive in our fashioning a workable compromise. Similarly, Tom used his technical skills and talent for negotiation in countless instances to resolve legislative and other disagreements between the House and Senate or between the Congress and the Executive Branch.

Tom has been deeply involved in virtually all small business legislation in the last quarter century. Of course, SBA's authorizing legislation has been a primary focus of his responsibilities over the years. But Tom also successfully shepherded the enabling legislation for all three White House Conference on Small Business (1980, 1986, and 1995), the original Regulatory Flexibility Act, the Prompt Payment Act, the Equal Access to Justice Act and federal procurement reform legislation, in addition to legislation establishing the nationwide Small Business Development Center network, the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program, new financing mechanisms for certified development companies (CDCs) and small business investment companies (SBICs), and new secondary market programs to enhance small business access to capital from sources traditionally unavailable to smaller concerns.

In addition to his legislative responsibilities, Tom also served as the Committee's liaison with the Committee on Appropriations, with which the Small Business Committee enjoyed an exceptionally good relationship. As though all these duties were not enough, Tom served as the Committee's parliamentarian and, in this role, earned the respect of all Committee members for his knowledge of House Rules and procedures and for his impartiality.

Over the years, Tom has received countless commendations for his accomplishments and services on behalf of the small business community. During Small Business Week in May,

in fitting recognition for his untiring efforts, Tom will receive from SBA's Chief Counsel for Advocacy, Hon. Jere Glover, a Special Advocacy Award for unique and outstanding advocacy achievements on behalf of small business.

It is hard to overstate the influence Tom Powers has had on small business legislation and policy during his long tenure here. It is also hard to imagine the Small Business Committee without him. I know that I speak for all members of the Committee, past and present, and for the whole House in thanking Tom for his extraordinary service and devotion, both to the House and to the small business community, and in extending to him our best wishes for success in his future endeavors.

THE AMERICAN LEGION OPPOSES
H.R. 695, THE SAFE ACT

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, as you know, every major police organization in the United States, representing millions of Americans strongly oppose H.R. 695. Now our veterans have joined their efforts to defeat the bill. I have included in the RECORD today a letter from The American Legion which outlines their opposition to H.R. 695, the Safe Act.

The American Legion concurs that there are some provisions in the original H.R. 695 that can and will be detrimental to our national security and law enforcement efforts and will advise its membership of 4 million to the bill's shortcomings.

THE AMERICAN LEGION,
Washington, DC, February 25, 1998.

Hon. GERALD B. SOLOMON,
*U.S. House of Representatives, Rayburn House
Office Building, Washington, DC.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE SOLOMON: Thank you for advising me of your concerns with pending encryption legislation. After reviewing the legislation and reading testimony by respected authorities in law enforcement and national security matters, The American Legion concurs that there are some provisions in the original H.R. 695 that can and will be detrimental to our national security and law enforcement efforts.

It is our contention that the Department of Commerce should not be making decisions that impact so strongly on our country's national security. That responsibility should be left to other agencies of the federal government who have more expertise in electronic intelligence technology. The language in the amended version of H.R. 695 (Section 3) that was developed by the House Committees on National Security and Intelligence appears to provide a degree of limitation and control in this sensitive area and is a measure we can support.

The American Legion will be conducting its annual Legislative Conference at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on Capitol Hill, March 22-24. I will ask our Legislative staff to invite representatives of the Justice Department to speak on this matter. We shall also voice our concerns to Members of Congress when we make our annual visitation on March 24.

Thank you for alerting us of this situation. We will continue to monitor this matter and will also advise our membership of the pending legislation and its shortcomings.

Sincerely,

ANTHONY G. JORDAN,
National Commander.

ESSAYS ON FREEDOM

HON. DAVID M. MCINTOSH

OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. MCINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, recently I had the pleasure of hearing three essays from three young students in Madison County. I wish to share these essays with my colleagues and the American people. The essays show a key understanding of the principles upon which our great nation was founded. Our country will continue to prosper if future generations, like these young students, hold dear to one of our cherished American values . . . Freedom. God Bless America.

WHAT FREEDOM MEANS TO ME
(By Danny Breeden)

It is hard for me to explain what freedom means to me because I have always been free. So were my parents, grand-parents, and many of my ancestors. So, when I want to think about being free I need to think about people who are not free. I think about; Hebrew slaves under the Egyptian pharaohs, the colonists before the Revolutionary War, American slaves before the Civil War, and the Jewish people under Hitler in Germany in the 1940's. I am sure today that there are still people in the world who are not free.

The Hebrews did not have any rights. Some of them could not even eat, drink, and sleep when they wanted to. They also didn't have the right to worship who and when they wanted to.

The colonists were oppressed by the king. They were heavily taxed and were not allowed to meet about town problems. Also they were not allowed to worship the way wanted to.

The Jews and the slaves were beaten, tortured, and even killed. They were also not allowed to speak or worship freely.

You know, when you think about it there is always a war when a group of people want to be free. It's not fair. Innocent men and women die for their freedom and the freedom of their families.

WHAT FREEDOM MEANS TO ME
(By Staci Johnson)

Basically, what freedom means to me is to have a choice. The choice to live where we want, work where we want, worship how we want, and much more.

In America, we have a lot of freedoms. We can have as many children as we please, whereas some countries can't. In some countries if they have more than one child, they would have to kill them.

We also have the freedom to go to church wherever we wish to or believe in whatever kind of God we choose. Along with this freedom, we have the choice to own the Bible. We can read it any time we want. Some countries like China doesn't allow the Bible or the freedom of religion. If you bring a Bible into China you are most likely to be put in prison.

Also in America, we have the right to voice our opinion. We can speak against the government without a fear of going to jail or a fear of being killed. We have the freedom to speak out in favor of what we want, desire, or need. We have the freedom to vote on who we want to be the leaders of our country. We also have the freedom to vote privately. We can vote for a Democrat or a Republican to be the leaders of our country.

Parents have the freedom of choice in education for their children. They can homeschool them, send them to private school, or send them to public school.

We can travel freely from state to state whenever we wish to without fear because of our freedom.

We also have the opportunity to try for any kind of job we want. We can quit a job if it is not the right one for us or if a better one comes along.

We can go to a grocery store or a mall whenever we need or want. We can buy whatever we shall please to buy. We can buy the food we want or the clothes we desire and much more.

We have so many freedoms. We are the most blessed country in the world. We should be grateful for what we can do and what we have. I love freedom, don't you?

WHAT FREEDOM MEANS TO ME
(By Andy Rogers)

When I hear the word "freedom" I think of times in American history when all people did not possess freedom. Slavery allowed human beings to be bought and sold as if they were just property. Slaves had only freedoms that their owners approved of. When America was colonized, Indians had lots of freedom, living and hunting where they pleased. As more white settlers came and invaded Indian territory, Indian freedom was whittled away until they were forced to live on reservations.

As a twelve-year old it is amazing to think I have more freedom than any adult slave or Indian. I have the freedom of choice because I can choose my friends, the things I wear to school, and how I spend my free time. I enjoy the freedom of speech because I can say what I think and talk about subjects I like. I have the freedom of religion because I can praise God freely and don't have to hide to worship him.

As a preteen I cannot enjoy as many freedoms as adults because I cannot vote, own land, get a job, or drive a car, the list goes on. But some of these freedoms I would not want because they are a lot of responsibility for a kid like me. There are other freedoms I cannot enjoy yet for safety reasons.

As I mature, my parent's give me more freedom. I look forward to the time when I become independent. Then I can live on my own and do what I want when I want to do it.

One freedom that is usually not thought of is man's free will. This is a freedom that every human being has whether they are slave, Indian, child, or adult. Free will is God's most important freedom to man. It enables man to choose everlasting life by believing in Jesus Christ as our Savior, and choosing to follow His will for our life.

I am so thankful to God for all the freedoms He has given me, but especially the gift of free will which lets me choose the ultimate freedom—heaven.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
HONOREES

HON. MARTIN OLAV SABO

OF MINNESOTA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, as Women's History Month draws to a close today, I rise in recognition of five notable Minnesota women who have made significant achievements in their respective professions and who deserve to be recognized as a result.

Rosalie Wahl is the first woman to have been named a Minnesota Supreme Court Justice. First appointed to the Court in 1977, she served as a Justice for 17 years. By the time she left the Court in 1994 there were four

women Justices. During the course of her career, she witnessed encouraging changes taking place for women in the state political arena, but her hard work and leadership made Wahl one of the true "pioneers." Wahl has said, "I feel we as women move forward together . . . none of us can really get where we are today without the help of other women and the men who have given us a hand." Prior to becoming a Supreme Court Justice, Wahl worked for the State Public Defender starting in 1967, where she argued over 100 cases before the Supreme Court, upon which she would later serve herself. Wahl attended William Mitchell College of Law, where she later served as an assistant professor and ran the Clinical Criminal Program prior to joining Minnesota's highest court.

Joan Anderson Growe is the six-term Secretary of State of Minnesota and is the state's first woman constitutional officer to be elected in her own right. Her public life reflects a deep commitment to citizen participation and openness. As Secretary of State, Growe has led Minnesota in becoming an elections model for the nation. She instituted mandatory election judge training, had election safeguard laws enacted, and supervised election law recodification. Minnesota's statewide on-line computerized voter registration database is one of the first in the nation. Growe has assembled a coalition of public and private sector organizations and businesses to conduct a Get-Out-the-Vote drive in every general election. Minnesota led the nation in voter participation in 1976, 1980, 1984, and 1988 and tied with Maine in 1992 and 1996. She organized the National Advertising Council's first Get-Out-the-Vote drive in 1980.

Pamela G. Alexander is the Assistant Chief Judge of the Hennepin County District Court where she has served for the past 15 years. Her commitment to community service is evident both in and out of the courtroom. In the Hennepin County District Court, she serves on numerous committees which represent a wide range of issues. These include the Sexual Assault Coordinating Board, the Public Safety Facility Advisory Board, the Grand Jury Task Force, and the Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee. The Minnesota Supreme Court has also named her to the Racial Bias Task Force where she currently serves as Chair of the Implementation Committee for her district. Alexander has received several community service awards, including the Minnesota Minority Lawyers Profiles in Courage Award. She also serves as a motivational speaker for local youth, making many appearances in churches and schools throughout the year.

Alana Blahoski is one of two Minnesota women to have played on the gold-medal winning United States women's ice hockey team in the 1998 Winter Olympics. Her athletic achievements demonstrate genuine perseverance and dedication. A St. Paul native, Blahoski graduated from Johnson High School, where she was a three-time all-star hockey player. She graduated from Providence College in 1996. At Providence, she served as co-captain on the women's ice hockey team as a senior and was named the 1995-96 Eastern College Athletic Conference Co-Player of the Year. Blahoski went on to become a two-time member of the U.S. Women's National Team, recording two goals and four assists in ten games. She also appeared on U.S. Women's Select Teams in 1995, 1996, and 1997.

Jennifer Schmidgall is the second Minnesota woman to have been a member of the U.S. women's 1998 Olympic ice hockey team, showing exemplary athletic ability and sharing the excitement of earning a team gold medal at a young age. A native of Edina, Schmidgall's interest in ice hockey sparked during visits to an outdoor rink at Lewis Park with her father, where she would skate and watch him play hockey. She started playing "serious" hockey in the eighth grade. By 1995 she was a member of the U.S. Women's National Junior Ice Hockey Team, appearing on the team again in 1996. Schmidgall graduated from Edina High School in 1997. She plans to attend the University of Minnesota this year, where she would like to study business management and psychology.

I am pleased to honor these remarkable women in celebration of Women's History Month. I thank each of them for their contributions to the state of Minnesota and I wish them continued success in the future.

EAGLE SCOUT HONORED

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to bring to the attention of my colleagues an outstanding young individual from the 3rd Congressional District of Illinois who has completed a major goal in his Scouting career. Kevin J. Zielinski, a young man from Boy Scout Troop 358, Midlothian, Illinois will be honored at an Eagle Scout Court of Honor.

It is important to note that less than two percent of all Scouts in America attain the rank of Eagle Scout. This high honor can only be earned by those Scouts demonstrating extraordinary leadership abilities.

Kevin has clearly demonstrated such leadership abilities. When flood victims in North Dakota were in need of basic necessities, he took action. Kevin Zielinski led a group of volunteers that collected household cleaning supplies and personal care items for these victims of adverse circumstances. Through his achievements in Scouting, Kevin has shown that he is the kind of young man who can be counted upon to provide leadership in the community throughout his life.

Kevin also has the honor of being the 40th Eagle Scout from Troop 358. This shows that he has been successful in a highly disciplined organization of young men, promoting the kinds of values and achievements that we will always need to keep America a great nation.

In light of the commendable leadership and courageous activities performed by this fine young man, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Kevin J. Zielinski for attaining the highest honor in Scouting—the Rank of Eagle. Let us wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

DR. RUGGIERO HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished physician from Northeastern Pennsylvania, Dr. Nicholas Ruggiero. Dr. Ruggiero will be honored at a retirement dinner this week and I am pleased to have been asked to participate in this tribute.

A native of Pittston, Pennsylvania, Dr. Ruggiero graduated from Pittston High School in 1953. His parents could not afford tuition, so he worked his way through King's College before joining the army to acquire the money for medical school. He received his M.D. from Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia in 1966. He interned close to his hometown at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital and completed his residency and a fellowship at Jefferson.

During his fifteen-year tenure as the Director of the Coronary Care Unit at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, Dr. Ruggiero began the Cardiac Lab at General Hospital. Its success led to the first open heart program in the area. Heart disease can now be diagnosed and treated at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Ruggiero's successes with the Cardiac Lab and open heart program in Wilkes-Barre meant that heart patients could stay in Northeastern Pennsylvania for treatment. This was a major contribution to the region's medical community.

I am proud to be a part of a tribute to this fine physician and to have had the opportunity to bring his career and accomplishments to the attention of my colleagues. I join with his friends, his family, and the community in sending my very best wishes for a happy and healthy retirement.

THE SAFE ACT (H.R. 695) IS DETRIMENTAL TO ISRAEL'S NATIONAL SECURITY

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, below is the Clinton Administration's official position regarding the effect of immediate decontrol of encryption technology on Israel.

The potential consequences of an immediate decontrol of encryption exports is of international concern. This is not an issue for United States alone. As proposed in H.R. 695 (the SAFE ACT), the immediate decontrol of encryption exports would likely result in the proliferation of strong encryption to entities such as terrorists groups which then could use encryption to hide their plans and intentions. Such a move will have a destabilizing effect on national security worldwide.

The proponents of H.R. 695 maintain that our enemies and Israel's enemies will eventually possess encryption technology. This may be true, but fails to explain why we should rush to make this technology available to our enemies. The United States and Israel need time to develop a strategy and countermeasures to address these new technologies

and for this reason H.R. 695 should be opposed.

**DRURY PANTHER'S MEN'S AND
WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING
TEAMS**

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Drury Panther's Men's and Women's Swimming & Diving Teams. During the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II Swimming & Diving National Championship this year the men placed second overall for the second year in a row and the women placed first overall for the second year in a row. I congratulate both the men and women for their tremendous success at the national level. Even though these teams are made of great athletes, their success did not come easily. It came by spending between twenty-four to thirty hours a week in the pool. It came swimming between forty-two and sixty miles, six days a week. When you stop and realize that their time and commitment to swimming and diving doesn't happen in isolated preparation but as full time students at a college known for their high academic standards, it causes you to appreciate these student-athletes even more for their accomplishments both individually and as a team.

The Drury Panther's Swimming and Diving program is a program of success. It has been compared to the tradition of Nebraska Cornhusker football or Kentucky basketball. Only four years ago, Drury entered competition at the NCAA Division II level and both teams placed third overall in the first and second years. Before entering Division II, the men's team won seven national championships back to back at the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) level. The women's program was established in 1988 and claimed three national championships at the NAIA level before going on the NCAA Division II. Any athletic program becoming a national force in ten years is almost unheard of at any level of competition. Much of that credit goes to Coach Brian Reynold's, a former All-American swimmer for Drury. He has been named National-Coach-of-the-Year at the NAIA level and the women's NCAA Division II Coach of the Year last season.

I congratulate Coach Reynold's, his coaching staff and most especially the young men and women on the Drury Swimming and Diving team for their success this year and wish them continued successes in the years to come.

**HONORING THE OUTSTANDING
SERVICE OF MISS VALARIE K.
WOLFE**

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the

name of Valarie K. Wolfe, of Harrisburg, PA, in my congressional district. The late Miss Wolfe was a fourth-grade teacher at the Milton Hershey School, in Hershey, Pennsylvania, from 1967 to 1997. I am pleased to report that a flag of the United States of America was flown over the Capitol on February 6, 1998, in Miss Wolfe's honor.

The Milton Hershey School was founded with a Deed of Trust as a school for orphan boys in 1909 by the chocolate magnate Milton S. Hershey and his wife, Catherine, for they could not have children of their own. After Catherine's death, Mr. Hershey gave his life fortune to the school so that it would last in perpetuity. Today, the school has more than seventy-three hundred alumni and has an enrollment of over one thousand needy boys and girls.

Miss Wolfe, a recipient of the Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award, was a graduate of Shippensburg University and a member of the Zion Lutheran Church, where she was a Sunday school teacher and played the piano. Miss Wolfe was also very active with the Dauphin Dog Training Club, where she was an instructor for many years. She often took her fourth-grade students to the Club to try to instill in them love and respect for animals. Her great love of animals was indicative of her kind, generous, and warm personality. In addition, Miss Wolfe enjoyed teaching children through drama, for she was involved in many of the plays presented in the elementary school, Memorial Hall. Throughout her long and extraordinary career, Miss Wolfe has made lasting impressions on those who have had the honor to have known her. She was well known for inspiring students and teachers alike during her three decades of service at Milton Hershey School.

Let the record reflect today that there is currently a void at the Milton Hershey School that will not soon be filled. Miss Wolfe always taught her fourth-grade pupils with dedication, understanding, patience, and love. I am honored to have had, in my congressional district, such a wonderful teacher who has touched the lives of so many. She will be missed, indeed.

**THE PASSING OF FORMER MEM-
BER HON. BELLA ABZUG OF NEW
YORK**

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to note the passing of a former Member who, in fact, was a noteworthy Member of the Congress.

When Bella Abzug was first elected to the Congress in 1970, she had the distinction of becoming the first Jewish woman to serve in this chamber. She soon became a household word not only in her own Congressional District in Manhattan, but throughout the nation.

On her very first day in Congress, she introduced legislation requiring the immediate withdrawal of all American forces from Southeast Asia. Although her resolution was defeated, it served notice to the Congress, the White House, and the nation at large that here was a Congressperson who was willing to make waves on behalf of her beliefs.

Soon, Bella Abzug was famous for introducing the resolution which forced the White House to make public the so-called "Pentagon Papers." As an ardent supporter of the Equal Rights for Women Amendment to the Constitution, she is credited with coining the well known phrase: "A woman's place is in the House—and also the Senate!"

Although at the time Bella Abzug had a reputation for abrasiveness, in fact she paved the path for many other women who followed her into this chamber, and for this we owe her a tremendous debt.

In 1976, Bella Abzug conducted an unsuccessful campaign for U.S. Senate, in which she was defeated by DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN, who continues to serve to this day. A year later, she was an unsuccessful candidate for Mayor of New York City. Although never again elected to public office, she remained a force for the causes she espoused until her death earlier today due to complications from heart surgery at the age of 77.

Bella survived her husband, Martin, an attorney, by 12 years. Those of us who knew Bella and Martin will never forget that dynamic team whose dedication was to a better life for all of us.

Bella Abzug will be buried at a private funeral on Thursday, with a public memorial at a time and location to be announced later.

To her daughters, Isobel and Eve Gail, and to her sister, Helen Alexander, we extend our heartfelt condolences. The world is a better place because of Bella Abzug.

HONORING MR. ELIO ROCA

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today it is an honor to recognize Mr. Elio Roca, a musical artist and actor well known to Hispanic audiences.

The Cuban patriot Jose Marti once said: "Men of action, above all, those whose actions are guided by love, live forever. Other famous men, those of much talk and few deeds, soon evaporate. Action is the dignity of greatness." Those words describe Elio Roca.

Mr. Roca has sung to sold out concerts in his native Argentina and has realized dozens of appearances on stages in Latin America and the United States. His performances at Madison Square Garden and the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles won critical acclaim. Mr. Roca is also known as one of the brightest actors in Latin America.

It must also be noted that this Argentinean native has been a supporter of human rights and a crusader against the Castro tyranny. He has written and dedicated a song entitled "To My Cuba I Shall Return" for all those Cubans who live in exile. Mr. Roca has been invited to tour the oppressed Cuban nation time and time again, and his answer has always been the same simple yet powerful response of a man of action, "never, never while Fidel is there."

Mr. Speaker, Elio Roca is a talented artist, a proud Argentinean, a friend of the Cuban people and above all, to quote a Cuban patriot "a man of action."

GOP SHOULD STOP PLAYING
POLITICS WITH PEOPLES' LIVES

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, to paraphrase a famous Republican, "There they go again." Just as they did last year, the Republican Congress is holding badly needed emergency funding hostage to political whimsy.

As we all remember, though I'm sure some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would like to forget, the GOP held up emergency appropriations for flood victims in North Dakota for political purposes.

This year, Republicans are holding up federal relief for families in the Northeast who were recently battered by icestorms. Rather than have a straight vote on the emergency appropriations, Republicans are tying these funds to their agenda to decimate housing aid, cut education, and eliminate the President's national service program.

It has become apparent that the House leadership would rather build bridges to their right-wing constituencies than rebuild communities shattered by the forces of nature. These tactics have failed before, and they will certainly fail again.

Mr. Speaker, the families in Upstate New York, Maine and other Northeastern states need help, not political maneuvering. And they need help right now. I ask my colleagues to oppose this measure and instead demand an immediate, clear vote on emergency funding.

IN HONOR OF PAUL ROBESON DAY

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the centennial of the birth of Paul Leroy Robeson.

Whereas, Paul Robeson grew up in Princeton, New Jersey, the son of an escaped slave who was a Presbyterian minister; and

Whereas, Paul Robeson's forensic skills while in high school won him a scholarship to Rutgers University where he was the only African-American student and only the third African-American student in the college's history; and

Whereas, Paul Robeson, a brilliant student who was elected to the highest academic honor society in America, Phi Beta Kappa, in his junior year, was valedictorian of his college class and a Commencement speaker at a college where he could not live on campus in a dormitory; and

Whereas, Paul Robeson, a gifted four-letter athlete and two year football All-American understood the importance of community service and received the acknowledgment of the New Brunswick, New Jersey African-American community at a banquet in his honor while a student at Rutgers; and

Whereas, Paul Robeson went on to earn a law degree at Columbia University School of Law in 1923 and was admitted to the New York State bar; and

Whereas, Paul Robeson made his mark in the United States and abroad on the stage

and screen including becoming the definitive *Othello* in modern theater and setting an all-time record for a Shakespearean play on Broadway of two-hundred-ninety-six performances; and

Whereas, Paul Robeson was a fearless advocate for the cause of human dignity and the civil rights of his fellow African-Americans and the human rights of other oppressed peoples throughout the world, and in doing so, sacrificed his career as a world renowned actor and singer; and

Whereas, in recognition of the achievements and accomplishments of Paul Robeson, the Chicago Board of Education constructed and opened Paul Robeson High School in the 1st Congressional District in 1977; and

Whereas, Paul Robeson's determination, academic achievements, self-discipline and self-esteem epitomize the traits and attributes that should be emulated by students all over the United States;

I applaud the Governor of Illinois, the Mayor of the City of Chicago and Paul Robeson High School in memorializing the life and works of Paul Robeson and celebrating April 9, 1998, as "Paul Robeson Day."

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LITERACY COUNCIL OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Literacy Council of Montgomery County, MD, on the occasion of its 35th anniversary on November 13, 1998. The Literacy Council was founded by Mrs. Beth Kilgore, and is a nonprofit organization supported by public funds and private contributions.

Since the Council's inception in 1963, the volunteer tutors have taught nearly 7,400 illiterate adults to read, write, and speak English. Dedicated volunteers act as administrators, office workers, speakers, and fundraisers, as well as tutors, and devote about 37,000 hours per year to the battle against illiteracy.

The Literacy Council has two primary programs: Basic Literacy, for English-speaking adults who have failed or have not had the opportunity to learn to read and write; and English as a Second Language, for foreign-born adults who need to learn English. At any given time, the Council has about 800 students and about 500 tutors participating in these programs.

The socioeconomic rewards of the services provided by the Literacy Council are invaluable. Newly literate adults become more involved and effective parents encouraging their children to aspire to more promising lives. Literacy skills enable these adults to acquire jobs and become productive members of society.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Literacy Council of Montgomery County, MD, for 35 years of dedicated service to our community. It is a proud moment for me to pay tribute to the winning combination of staff, volunteers, and students of the council who have devoted their time and energies to wiping out illiteracy in our Nation.

RECOGNIZING KENNETH J. BEEBY

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of the great, behind-the-scenes figures in American business today. He is Kenneth J. Beeby, who will retire this year after 25 years of service with Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc. Ken's leadership and dedication has led Ocean Spray and the cranberry industry nationwide through a period of unparalleled prosperity and growth.

Our professional and personal life creates many fine lines, demanding us to make many hard choices and decisions every day. Few people learn to navigate this line and maintain a balance—when to walk it, when to crossover and when to stand up and on what side. Ken Beeby is one of those few people who have mastered this ability with honor, self-respect and integrity.

During his 25 years of service to Ocean Spray, Ken has compiled an impressive record of achievement, rising to the post of Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary. Massachusetts is the birthplace of the cranberry industry and the home of Ocean Spray Cranberries, a grower owned market cooperative. For nearly 70 years, the cranberry industry has been a major contributor to our economic and employment base in Massachusetts. And Ken's keen intellect and understanding of the legal issues surrounding the Cooperative form of business and proper trademark usage enabled Ocean Spray to develop and grow into the organization it is today.

Cranberry growers nationwide respect and admire Ken's intelligent and professional manner in which he diligently performed his duties. His faithful service with various agricultural and trade organizations has been a benefit to the best interests of all cranberry farming communities across the country.

Ken started with the grower-owned cooperative in 1973 as House Counsel. In 1976, he was promoted to Chief Legal Officer and a year later, was named Vice President-General Counsel. In 1982, he was appointed Secretary of the Corporation.

Prior to joining Ocean Spray, Ken served as Staff Attorney and Assistant General Counsel with Seven-Up from 1961 to 1973. He is a graduate of Northwestern University School of Law and Beloit College in Wisconsin.

Ken is a member of several professional organizations, including the National Council of Farmer's Cooperatives, Grocery Manufacturers of America, National Food Processors Association, American Bar Association, Massachusetts Bar Association, American Agricultural Law Association, Association of Food and Drug Officials and the American Corporate Counsel Association.

An active participant in his home community, Ken is a Lay Person of his church and a former board member of the Plymouth Philharmonic Orchestra. He and his wife Shelley live in Duxbury, Massachusetts. They have three children and two grandchildren.

The cranberry industry has benefited from Ken's wise judgement, calm guidance and compassionate insight into the crucial issues facing business and agriculture. His devotion

to the cause has helped secure for Ocean Spray a position of prestige among American corporations, and surely secured for him an honored place in the history of Ocean Spray, the cranberry industry and American business.

RECOGNIZING MS. CLAUDIA ALVAREZ FOR HER THIRD-PLACE FINISH IN A NATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievement of Ms. Claudia Alvarez, whose essay on bilingual education won a third-place prize in a prestigious national essay contest sponsored by Scholastic, Inc., an educational publishing company.

Claudia's essay, "Estoy Orgullosa de Ser Bilingüe" ("I'm Proud To Be Bilingual"), very eloquently extols the virtues and enrichment of bilingualism from her personal perspective.

Claudia wrote her essay last year as a 5th-grade student at San Antonio School, located in the 16th Congressional District of California.

More than 40,000 students nationwide participated in the essay contest. Claudia's third-place finish earned her a \$1,000 educational grant from Scholastic, Inc., which was matched with a grant from New Star, an educational testing company. In addition, Claudia has been honored by the California Association of Bilingual Teachers at its recent convention in San Jose, California and was flown to Dallas, Texas with her teacher, Ms. Norma Rodriguez, to be honored by the National Association of Bilingual Teachers.

In its March 4, 1998, issue *La Oferta Review*, a bilingual newspaper serving Silicon Valley, published Claudia's essay in English and Spanish.

Claudia's outstanding achievement is indicative of the potential of our young people when provided with the proper educational tools.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join with me in recognizing the outstanding achievement of Ms. Claudia Alvarez.

[From *La Oferta Review*, Mar. 4, 1998]

I'M PROUD TO BE BILINGUAL

(By Claudia Alvarez)

I'm proud to be bilingual because that is who I am. I'm proud to be bilingual because my first language, Spanish in my mother tongue. It is the heritage from my ancestors. I'm proud to be bilingual because it is a privilege. When you speak one language well, you may feel like you are holding the world in your hands.

Those of us who speak two languages is like holding two worlds full of opportunities. Being Bilingual is like living in two rich exciting worlds, which one does not take over the other. Instead, they complement each other. Being bilingual opens more doors to the way of success. Also being bilingual is like having double brain capacity, because I can communicate my feelings, my fears, and dreams in more than one way. Being Bilingual is having double opportunities to communicate these dreams. To be able to speak

two languages, is like living in two worlds full of surprises, adventures, and lots of promises for a brighter future. I'm proud to speak English because it is the language I learned at school. It is the heritage I received from the educational system, and it is my country's official language.

COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY PRESIDENTS

HON. SCOTT L. KLUG

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. KLUG. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention, and to the attention of my colleagues, that the Council of Scientific Society Presidents (CSSP) will mark its 25th Anniversary in 1998. CSSP is the nation's largest multidisciplinary consortium of scientific, engineering and technical societies. It is composed of over 60 federations and societies, representing over 1.4 million scientists, engineers, technologists and educators.

CSSP fosters communication and collaboration among all science and engineering disciplines and develops policy statements on issues of national scope. Through its network of leaders, CSSP facilitates the implementation of those policies.

For 25 years, CSSP has been a leader and a voice of reason. CSSP has played a key role in the health of the S&T enterprise by developing a network of national leaders and serving as an advocate of wise science policy.

CAMPAIGN REFORM AND ELECTION INTEGRITY ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 1998

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of meaningful campaign finance reform.

I strongly support a thorough investigation of the practices of both political parties, and I want Congress to pass serious reform of the campaign finance system. We must eliminate the corrupting influence of special interest money from our political system and restore the faith of the American people in our public institutions. Neither party can claim total innocence of Washington misdeeds, and I believe the people of North Carolina sent me to Congress to work in a bipartisan manner to serve the public interest. That is what I try to do every day as a United States Representative.

At the start of the 105th Congress, the freshman class agreed that we would work on a bipartisan basis to reform the way that campaigns for public office are funded in this country. Each of us was pleased that the President agreed, and the Speaker of the House agreed, that we needed to pass campaign finance reform legislation during this Congress. While we were not able to bring any legislation to the floor last year, each of us was heartened to hear the Speaker say

that there "would be a very fair bipartisan process of voting when we bring the [campaign finance reform] bills to the floor."

I oppose the way that campaign finance reform legislation has been brought to the floor of this House tonight. The leadership of this body has made a mockery of the democratic process. By bringing these reform bills to the floor under suspension of the rules of the House, these bills are doomed to failure because a simple majority of votes is not sufficient to pass a bill; instead a super-majority of votes (or 2/3 of Members voting) is needed in order to pass campaign finance reform legislation. A good bill can pass with a simple majority; a bad bill will not pass with a super-majority. The Majority Leadership has made the determination to kill campaign finance reform legislation by making sure that it will not garner enough votes to pass.

The people of this country are discouraged by this type of behavior from this Congress and will not be fooled by this attempt to pass ill-conceived legislation. Rushing these bills through the people's House without the benefit of full and open debate makes a mockery of the democratic process; rushing these bills through without the benefit of open debate only encourages the cynicism of our society.

H.R. 3581, the misnamed "Campaign Reform and Election Integrity Act," allows wealthy individuals to contribute even more money, by doubling the current Federal dollar limits on contributions to candidates and tripling the limits on contributions to political parties and total contributions, plus indexing them to inflation. As a result, a wealthy person would be able to contribute \$100,000 more every election cycle. Most of the citizens of this country believe that there is too much money now being spent on political campaigns, and instead of curbing campaign spending, this bill increases the amount.

And, in another cynical attempt to prevent Hispanic citizens from voting, this bill includes a provision to establish a Federal "voter eligibility confirmation system" which allows state and local officials to drop voters from the rolls, solely on the basis of race or an "ethnic-sounding name." At a time in our Nation's history when fewer and fewer people take the time to go to the polls and cast a ballot, we should not further discourage people from voting by intimidating them from even trying to go to the polls.

Many Members of both the U.S. House and the U.S. Senate have introduced good campaign reform measures. However, in order to restore the trust and confidence of the American people, a way must be found to bridge differences and pass bipartisan campaign finance reform by the next election. I have co-sponsored the Independent Commission on Campaign Finance Reform Act of 1998. This legislation will establish a bipartisan commission of 12 members and will recommend reforms to the laws that govern Federal elections. I believe that an independent commission provides Congress the best opportunity to overcome the political and legislative impediments that have stymied previous campaign finance reform efforts.

Madam Speaker, the American people deserve a reform of the campaign election system. I hope that we will have the courage to do something meaningful toward that end during the 105th Congress.

JOSHUA AND DELORES CRUPI CELEBRATE GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring two of my constituents, Joshua and Delores Crupi, of Temple Hills, Maryland, on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary. This couple proves that with love, compromise, patience, perseverance, and understanding, a relationship can stand the test of time and serve as an example for others.

During World War II, a young woman left her native Kansas and came to Washington to work for the Navy Department. I suspect, she

expected to return home after the War ended and stay there for the rest of her life. However, a young man, a native Washingtonian, had other ideas.

Joshua Crupi and Delores Ellington were married on March 30, 1948, in Forestville, Maryland, and took the first step on a long, challenging, and successful life's journey together. This journey has seen many events: happy, exciting, sad and bittersweet.

Mr. and Mrs. Crupi are the parents of four children: Patricia J. Slater of Alexandria, Virginia; C. Steven Crupi of Havelock, North Carolina; Pamela C. White of Mystic, Connecticut; and J. Gregory Crupi of Edgewater, Maryland. In addition, they have a daughter-in-law, Christine, and a son-in-law.

The lights of their lives are their seven wonderful grandchildren: Randa and James Slater; Adam, Timothy and Kelly Crupi; and, Danielle and Alexander White. Mr. and Mrs. Crupi de-

light in spending time with their grandchildren and take great pleasure in the privilege of grandparents everywhere—spoiling their grandchildren.

Mr. Crupi is retired from the Office of the Architect of the Capitol's Senate Carpenter Shop; Mrs. Crupi is employed by the National Star Route Mail Contractors Association here in Washington.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Crupi are active members of Electra Chapter No. 2, O.E.S., of the District of Columbia.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in extending our very best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Crupi and our hope that they may share many more years of happiness and health. They are a wonderful example of the very best our country has to offer and a shining example to us all