

vastness of space and do a job that no one could be sure was even possible. We need to be bold and innovative, and I understand that we cannot make progress unless we take risks.

Nonetheless, I have serious reservations about NASA's emphasis on human space spectaculars. If our goal is really to explore space and advance our knowledge of its mysteries, robotic rather than human exploration can penetrate longer, farther and deeper into space for a fraction of the cost.

I do not reject the long-term goal of human space exploration, but believe that NASA's focus should be on scientific research projects like Mission to Planet Earth, which will improve the quality of life for people on this planet. Among other things, this approach would mean scaling back if not eliminating the Space Station, the purpose of which has never been as clear as its huge costs.

IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR HENRY KING

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man, Henry King, who at the age of twenty-seven, when most persons are just beginning to think about their careers, took part in one of the most prominent events in the post-World War II era: the Nuremberg Trials. Professor Henry King undertook a great task in joining the United States prosecution team at Nuremberg and his many accomplishments in the field of law during and after the trial truly are a testimony to his successful career.

Professor King was educated at several fine institutions of higher learning in his younger years and later matriculated at Yale Law School. After graduating and obtaining a prestigious position with a New York law firm, King was offered the chance to join the U.S. prosecution team in the trials of Nazi criminals at Nuremberg in 1946. Exempted from military service because of a heart murmur, King felt he could serve his country and attempt to correct the wrongs of the war by serving as an attorney on this team.

King was heavily involved with the prosecution of Erhard Milch who participated in slave labor and human experimentation. While investigating Milch, King met and interviewed Albert Speer, one of Hitler's highest ranking lieutenants, and gained insight on the secret activities of the Third Reich. After success in the prosecution of the Nazi war criminals, King had a successful career in corporate and government posts. He became chief corporate international counsel for TRW in 1983 and joined the faculty at Case Western Reserve University's School of Law. He recently authored a book about Speer and his experiences at the war tribunal.

My fellow colleagues, join me in saluting the accomplishments of Professor Henry King through his many years in the practice of law and most notably, his contribution to his country at the Nuremberg war crimes trial.

TRIBUTE TO JACK FIELDS

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 1998

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate, Mr. Jack Fields upon his retirement next month from his position as St. Clair Shores City Clerk. His friends and colleagues will honor him with a retirement party at Blossom Heath on April 8, 1998.

Jack Field's compassion and dedication have earned him a special place in the hearts of the residents of St. Clair Shores. In his office, a cork board is warmly decorated with pictures of families and children who reside in St. Clair Shores. The people who know and work with Jack realize he is more than just the City Clerk, he is a friend. As St. Clair Shores mayor Curt Dumas has said, "He has touched a lot of people in many ways. Jack Fields always has that kind of smile on his face that helped so many people."

When Jack quit his job at an automotive factory in 1971 to run the Civic Arena, he had no idea the job would lead him to the position of City Clerk. During the twelve years that Jack ran the Civic Arena, he earned a reputation for fairness and as a peacemaker. His popularity within the community prompted city officials to ask Jack to apply for the position as clerk. Jack turned them down. However, after some persuasion, Jack became the City Clerk in 1983. Jack has said, "I have loved this job more than I can express." I as sure many people in the community feel the same way about him.

St. Clair Shores has been lucky to have a leader like Jack Fields. Few people give to their community with the same time and energy that Jack has given to his. On behalf of the citizens of St. Clair Shores, I would like to thank Jack for all of his hard work and dedication.

VETERANS' ACCESS TO EMERGENCY HEALTH CARE ACT OF 1998 H.R. 3702

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 1998

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, for years veterans who rely on the VA for their health care have run into a brick wall when they sought reimbursement from VA for emergency health care received from a non-VA provider. Even when veterans took the time to contact VA when a medical emergency arose and were directed by VA to seek emergency care from the closest health care provider, they have been routinely denied reimbursement by VA for the cost of the emergency health care they needed and received from a non-VA provider.

The Veterans' Access to Emergency Health Care Act of 1998 will provide veterans access to emergency services when and where the need arises. It will solve a long-standing problem—reimbursement from VA—that has bedeviled veterans who needed and received emergency health care when they were needed from a non-VA provider.

The Veterans' Access to Emergency Health Care Act of 1998 will also make it possible for

the Department of Veterans Affairs to comply with the Consumer Bill of Rights, which President Clinton has directed every Federal agency that administers or manages health plans to adopt. VA has reported that it will largely be able to comply with the Consumer Bill of Rights through administrative action, but legislation will be required to provide veterans the access to emergency services. Currently, only veterans who are on VA property when an emergency occurs receive reimbursement from VA for contract emergency care furnished by a non-VA provider. VA has limited emergency care capabilities and must refer much of its emergent care to other providers.

The Consumer Bill of Rights, developed by a Presidential Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry, establishes eight basic rights for consumers. In addition to access to emergency services, these rights include: Accurate information about health plans; a choice of providers and plans; participation in treatment decisions; nondiscrimination; the protection of their confidential medical information; and a fair and efficient process for complaining about and/or appealing a medical decision; and responsibility for one's own health.

VA has reported it will be able to largely comply with the Consumer Bill of Rights through administrative action, but legislation will be required to provide veterans the access to emergency services.

The Veterans' Access to Emergency Health Care Act of 1998 will provide veterans access to emergency services when and where the need arises. Providing veterans who rely on VA for health care access to emergency services when the need arises is long overdue. This legislation should be quickly passed by Congress and signed into law by the President.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, April 22, 1998 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

I often hear that nobody really cares that the way we finance political campaigns is rotten. Polls indicate that by a wide margin Americans believe the system is corrupting and needs a major overhaul, yet I rarely find people outraged that the system isn't being reformed. The American people are deeply cynical that the system will ever be changed. They recognize that special interests and elected officials from both parties are complicit in the system and have a vested interest in perpetuating it. After all, they have made the system work successfully for them.

I've come to the view that those of us who think the current system must be overhauled immediately need to spell out more specifically why Americans should be outraged by the failure of Congress to reform the campaign finance system.

NEED FOR REFORM

Defenders of the current system argue that as a nation we spend far less on our federal elections than is spent to advertise various consumer products, that contributions from