

in H.R. 6. This agreement is the result of a year of difficult negotiations, and I believe that we should respect and honor their efforts. As Mr. Kildee pointed out the other day on the floor, the compromise is based on the Administration's proposal to set the student interest rate at a point where it will be the lowest it has been in 17 years.

We need to ensure that this compromise is written into law. There is no time left for political posturing as the July 1st deadline is just days away.

I want to thank my colleagues on the Education and Workforce Committee for their fine work on this principled compromise and urge my colleagues in the House to encourage the Senate to ratify it at the earliest possible date.

NATIONAL CORRECTIONS  
OFFICERS WEEK

**HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.**

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 1998*

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, during this National Correctional Officers and Employees Week, I wish to commend all of the officers and staff who work in correctional facilities in my home state of Oklahoma. In fact, every American owes a debt of gratitude to the men and women who work in our Federal and State correctional facilities all across our country.

Every day, hundreds of Americans are the victims of crime. Hopes and dreams are dashed by arsonists. Families are shattered by domestic abuse. Lives are taken and property lost. Often times, the only ones who stand between our personal safety and criminals are our brave men and women who work in law enforcement, especially those who work in correctional facilities. Correctional officers are given the special task of dealing with society's most incorrigible criminals, while seeking to reform those souls who may yet be turned away from a wasted life of crime.

We owe special thanks this week to the 22 Federal Bureau of Prisons officers and employees who have died in the line of duty since 1901. They gave their lives and sacrificed their futures to keep our families safe. We must keep the families of some of the more recently lost officers and employees in our prayers.

We also owe our gratitude to the public servants who have excelled in their duties and improved the quality of federal prison facilities. We owe our thanks to the people whom the Federal Bureau of Prisons has judged worthy of its highest awards for merit in 1998. These fine Americans include Thelma Olivares, who was named Supervisor of the Year; David Wedeking, who was named Department Head of the Year; Stephanie Gibson, who was named Employee of the Year; Charles Morris, who was named Correctional Officer of the Year; and Kristen Lunsford-Holley, who was named the Doug Krittenbrink Rookie of the Year.

America's correctional officers and employees are the difference between safe neighborhoods and senseless tragedy. Their efforts to reform young offenders while there is still hope, and their work to keep dangerous felons securely behind bars and away from our fami-

lies are contributions which all too often go unnoticed. Hopefully, during this National Correctional Officers and Employees Week, we will all reflect and be thankful that our country enjoys protection because we have the world's finest correctional employees.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE HONORING  
ANNE KELLOGG, LEGRAND  
SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

**HON. NICK SMITH**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 1998*

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence he has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Anne Kellogg, winner of the 1998 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Anne is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Anne Kellogg is an exceptional student at Marshall High School and possesses an impressive high school record. She has been involved with the National Honor Society. Anne is also involved with the Student Government, serving as the Class President for four years and the Student Council President her senior year. She is also a member of the varsity soccer and volleyball teams. Outside of school, Anne has been a representative for the United Way, a D.A.R.E. role model and has volunteered at the Tendercare Nursing Home in Marshall.

In special tribute, therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Anne Kellogg for her selection as a winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

MEDICAL INNOVATION TAX  
CREDIT ACT

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 1998*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleague SAM JOHNSON, to introduce legislation that would make it easier for medical schools, teaching hospitals, and not-for-profit hospitals in the United States to conduct potentially life-saving medical research. The enactment of the Medical Innovation Tax Credit would provide an important incentive for companies to fund more clinical research at these institutions. This bill would establish an incremental, 20 percent tax credit in a new section of the Internal Revenue code for com-

panies that conduct clinical testing research activities at U.S. medical schools and teaching hospitals. To get the tax credit, companies would undertake clinical testing activities at defined academic institutions: medical schools, teaching hospitals owned by, or affiliated with, an institution of higher education, and charitable research hospitals designated as cancer centers by the National Cancer Institute of the National Institute of Health. No tax credit would be available for clinical research activity conducted outside the U.S.

This proposal comes at a time of substantive upheaval and transformation in our nation's health care system. As we all know, our medical schools and teaching hospitals are the backbone of innovation in American medicine. They are the places where scientific discovery intersects with patient care and medical and health professions training. But today these institutions are facing significant financial challenges due to fundamental changes in the health care system. Whereas medical schools and teaching hospitals used to be able to fund some research from excess patient care revenues, in the new competitive environment these institutions can no longer command higher prices from insurers simply because they fulfill the unique and critical missions of research and education. Additional private sector investment in our Nation's research and development is needed so medical schools and teaching hospitals can continue to fulfill their social missions.

I am concerned that while the clinical research market is booming, medical schools and teaching hospitals are losing market share for clinical testing research activities. The Medical Innovation Tax Credit would provide some assistance to these institutions, but would also stimulate them to continue improving their efficiency in operating the clinical research enterprise. And since the tax credit is narrowly tailored, its potential cost to the government is relatively small.

We need some way to help these institutions that is market-based and incentive driven. This proposal presents a creative way to encourage companies to conduct more clinical trials in the United States. It will arrest the declining share of trials conducted at these institutions and help alleviate some of the financial pressures they are experiencing. The Medical Innovation Tax Credit will provide needed resources for medical schools and teaching hospitals to maintain the robust research base necessary for high quality health-oriented education. Finally, it will strengthen the intellectual partnership between the private sector and medical schools and teaching hospitals to help ensure America's continued world leadership in research and innovation. I am proud to introduce this legislation and urge my colleagues to support a measure that will benefit all Americans.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
BATTLE OF PALO ALTO

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 1998*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, 152 years ago today, the first battle of the Mexican-American War was waged at Palo Alto, Texas, setting in

motion a history which still fascinates and touches us today. When the war was over 2 years later, the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo changed the face of our nation and forever shaped our relationship with Mexico.

The historical significance of this war and its aftermath was a defining one for the young nation of the United States; for the Republic of Mexico; and for the descendants of both countries who populate our communities today. The Mexican-American War has consistently been a major omission in U.S. history. That omission has a hidden cost. Because *who we are* is shaped by our history, we need to know that history. But it is not the past that shapes our future, it is today's new era of cooperation existing between the United States and Mexico.

Since the days when the United States and Mexico met on the battlefield, their descendants have grown together as flowers upon their graves. Our cultures and traditions are intermingled, not by design, but by fate and circumstance. We understand that our futures are interwoven; we share an economic and cultural bond.

The most important element of this shared bond is the North Atlantic Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). The spirit of NAFTA has brought about a mutual frankness and a newfound respect for one another. All across the Southwest, our mutual histories and customs are mingled, and they are evident in our daily lives. Our commonalities are evident in the food we eat, the music we prefer, and the dual languages we speak.

Economically, the outcome of the Mexican-American War immediately benefited the United States with the addition of the Southwest to the nation's territory. The Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo in 1848 was a turning point in our history. U.S. citizens in the rugged west joined the existing Mexican population, making the American Southwest a fascinating melting pot. This cultural blend produced some of the most enduring legacies of the American West: rodeos, cowboys, and the wild West.

Today, our economic fortunes are profoundly bound together. NAFTA is making North America the largest, most prosperous, and most efficient free trade zone in the world. Let me note here that it was Mexican President Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, in 1853, who first advocated the commemoration of those killed in the war and at the Battle of Palo Alto. So, it is fair to say that Mexico began the long process of making one-time adversaries into the friends and economic allies we are today.

Our political debates today so often touch on sensitive subjects that engender misunderstandings. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in offering a message of hope and friendship to Mexico, based on where we have been, where we are now and where we hope to go.

TALBOTT RETIRES: 4TH ESTATE  
SUFFERS LOSS

### HON. ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 1998*

Mr. BLAGOJEVICH. Mr. Speaker, this week, a "30-" will be placed on Basil Talbott's jour-

nalism career when he retires from the Chicago Sun-Times. For Chicago's newspaper readers, journalists and politicians, the loss is significant. Three decades of irreplaceable journalistic experience guided each of his stories. He had covered the Triple Crown of Chicago journalism—Chicago politics, Springfield's State House and Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.—for one of the nation's largest daily newspapers. Basil's forceful personality and zeal for news enabled him to find ways to plow through the obstacles to the information he needed. He combined tenacity with directness and integrity, qualities that caused Congressmen to view him with a little trepidation and a lot of respect. Few answered lightly when greeted by Talbott's trademark: "What's up?"

Few reporters were less susceptible to the wiles of spinmeisters than Basil Talbott. He could trample a thin story idea with a single, devastating question. Like the best reporters, he was always skeptical, never cynical. Congressmen looking for high-calorie, low-substance puff pieces should look elsewhere; Basil put the interests of his readers first. As a former philosophy student at one of the nation's top universities, the University of Chicago, he was well-acquainted with Greek and Roman thought. But Basil Talbott's news judgment seemed guided by the more modern philosophy of Yogi Berra: "If it ain't interesting, it ain't interesting." Officials who had the smarts and will to make news found Basil with a ready pen.

Because of his wide experience, his stories got to the heart of the matter. He was always fair, always offered a chance to make a full case. His precise questioning could quickly expose a thin understanding of an issue or coax unexpected, intriguing details; in fact, transcripts of Basil Talbott interviews could serve as models for would-be cross-examiners.

Taken as a whole, the thousands of stories he filed in his career would make a small mountain. Anyone who understands the deadlines, knowledge, the source-work and the scrappiness that went into compiling that small mountain could only call it a substantial achievement.

Basil Talbott made a sustained commitment to compiling the first-draft of Chicago's recent history. His contribution to helping Chicagoans understand their city and their colorful politicians deserves commendation from this Congress. As Basil hits the send key on a 30-plus year career in journalism, we should lament the loss to Chicago's Fourth Estate, salute his fine example and wish him well in his quest to put a good lead on the next phase of his life.

### CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

#### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 1998*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I am dismayed to learn that the House of Representatives will once again delay a vote on campaign finance reform. We were promised a vote before May 15th, but now it appears that the leadership of the House has broken their promise again.

Mr. Speaker, there has been a great deal of attention paid recently to the internal debate over the campaign finance investigations in

the House. This debate has diverted attention away from the real issue, fixing the abuses in the system that are currently legal. I fear that perhaps that is the goal of the Republican leadership in Congress. By continuing to spend taxpayer dollars on Congressional hearings and keeping the attention on abuses that occurred in the past the leadership feels it will not need to fix the system for future elections. I will not let that happen.

The people of this country have spoken loud and clear, they want campaign finance reform. If you doubt the will of the public just look at all the Republican members who returned from the Easter recess willing to challenge the leadership and sign the campaign finance discharge petition. At that time the leadership gave their word that they would allow an open and honest vote on campaign finance reform. I hope that the leadership keeps its word and allows a vote next week.

HONORING REV. SPURGEON  
EUGENE CRAYTON

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 7, 1998*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Spurgeon Eugene Crayton, Pastor, Mount Ollie Baptist Church. Rev. Crayton has dedicated his life to the church and the community of Brooklyn, New York.

The 65-year-old Brownsville pastor is one of the busiest in the city. He conducts as many as fifteen revivals a year, preaching in a style that he describes as a combination of old fashioned flare mixed with contemporary versions of biblical stories. As a specialist in teaching Baptist doctrine, Rev. Crayton has held a variety of posts in the Eastern Baptist Association, representing Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau, and Suffolk counties, and is presently an Area Vice President of the Empire State Baptist Convention, which represents some 500 churches from Niagara Falls to East Hampton.

In addition to his pastoral duties, Rev. Crayton has managed to author several books, including a collection of short stories about his Korean War experiences called "Screams and Protest", which is used by the public school system. He has also written "God's Star in the East", a guide to Baptist congregations, and is working on a third book entitled, "The Black Baptist Church of Today". Always a man of action, Rev. Crayton has even found time to write plays, including "Another One Gone" and "The Erudite".

Through his commitment to work on behalf of the community, this dynamic minister has also served as a charter board member of the Half Way House Rehabilitation Center for Drug Abuse; as a Protestant Chaplain for the Madonna Heights School for Girls, a Catholic School; and is an instructor of English at Central Commercial High School in New York City.

Rev. Crayton's own words exemplify his extraordinary sensitivity to the needs of God's people: "We have a lot of dedicated ministers who want not only to be good preachers, but will help fight for social causes for their parishioners. There is a greater interest now on the part of the ministry to understand the religious, political, social, and economic problems of our