

restoration. He initiated the Sacramento winter-run salmon broodstock program and the Sacramento spring-run chinook working group. He was a critical voice in the debate leading to the enactment of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act, rallying the fishing industry to support our efforts to provide water for fish and wildlife.

He was active in coho salmon recovery efforts, and was a member of the Ecosystem Roundtable dealing with funding proposals for the Bay-Delta. He was a long-time member of the Commercial Salmon Stamp Committee and the California Advisory Committee on Salmon and Steelhead Trout. He also served as president of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Association (PCFFA) for 9 years. Through it all he fought tirelessly for the industry and the restoration of the fish they depend on.

Nat gave up fishing a few years ago to work full-time on fish and fish habitat conservation as the Habitat Director for PCFFA. In this role, he was instrumental in the developing and building support for new habitat protection measures that were included in the most recent reauthorization of the Magnuson Act. He was a current member of the Pacific Fishery Management Council, and prior to be appointed to the Council he served as chairman of their Salmon Advisory panel. A proponent for protecting marine areas, he was to be the Pacific Council's representative on the upcoming Year of the Ocean Conference in Monterey.

Nat Bingham was an independent thinker, a strong moral voice, and a great conservationist who looked at the long term, not just the present. He would take on large industry—whether it was oil, timber, or agribusiness—the government, the environmental community, or even his own fishing industry when he felt they were wrong. He approached these challenges as a consensus builder not an adversary, however, trying to build bridges between opposing interests for the good of the resources and the people that depend on them.

There are some people who have been so important and have been doing the work for so long in their community that their value to the people, the community and the resource is impossible to measure. At the same time, they have been fighting the fight for so long, you can't remember what it was like before they came along. Nat Bingham was one of those people. His contributions to the protection of the resource and our environment were immeasurable, and the thought of fighting the good fight without him is almost impossible to imagine. We will continue to fight however, to save the salmon and their habitat. Nat would expect no less, and it is an appropriate way to honor his memory.

TRIBUTE TO BEN WILLIAMS

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding career of an educator in our community. A lifelong educator with the Toledo Public School system, Ben Williams will be feted at a retirement event that

will also serve as a scholarship dinner in his honor on May 23, 1998 in Toledo.

A product of the Toledo Public Schools himself, Ben began his career in 1968 at Woodward High School, where he taught general science and coached freshman boys basketball. Ben truly discovered his passion as a teacher and coach at Toledo's Scott High School in 1969, where he remained until retirement. While at Scott, he taught health education, became Chair of the Physical Education Department, and coached the junior varsity and varsity boys basketball teams. During his seventeen years as head coach, his teams have won an amazing ten City Championships, and last year, the Scott Bulldogs won the Ohio State Championship. No doubt, the Bulldogs with this victory expressed their appreciation to him for his lifelong dedication to them. Eight of the teams under his leadership have ranked among the top ten Ohio AAA teams. His accomplishments earned Ben the designation of AAA Boys Basketball Coach of the Year.

Ben's success as a basketball coach has not been simply about fostering technical skills and teamwork on the basketball court. States a noted local sportscaster, "While building the area's top basketball program at Scott, Ben has not let his players forget why they are in school. He not only insists on athletic achievement but academic efforts as well." Indeed, 90 percent of his players have gone on to college! Truly a mentor to his players, Ben puts his philosophy into action, explaining "Most of our boys come from broken homes. I spend more time with them than the typical coach. I have a year-round relationship with them. We try to keep basketball in perspective. Academic achievement and personality improvement are the most important things."

Ben also founded the City of Toledo Recreation Department's Annual Early Bird Basketball Clinic, serving over 600 children in each of the 8 years he directed the program. He has directed various recreation and youth offices in both Toledo and Erie, Pennsylvania. Finally, he worked with the University of Toledo's Summer Sports Program for 13 years, from 1970 to 1983.

Ben Williams is a graduate of Bowling Green State University, where he earned both his undergraduate and graduate degrees. He has also worked toward his doctorate at Gannon College in Pennsylvania, George Washington University, and Sir George William's University in Montreal. He holds a teaching award from Phi Beta Kappa, and has received many other awards for his exemplary teaching and service to our community.

In addition to an extraordinarily successful teaching and coaching career, Ben is happily married to Arielle. They are the proud and earnest parents of Robert, Kristie, and Leah.

Perhaps Ben Williams' proudest professional moment came when Scott High School last year renamed its field house in his honor. In accepting the tribute, Ben spoke of his State Championship team. "This close unit has shown what discipline, hard work, and caring can do for all who wish to beat the odds." Indeed these stand as fitting words by which we all might live.

SUPPORTING H.R. 59

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 59, the National Right To Work Act. This bill would repeal those sections of Federal law which allow big labor to force hard-working Americans to pay union dues under the threat of losing their jobs.

This is un-American. Yet, it happens to thousands of men and women every single month of the year. Union bosses take the hard-earned money of workers who have no legal say in the matter.

Mr. Speaker, it was Congress who created this problem. We gave big labor the privilege and authority to take this money away, by taking away the worker's freedom to choose whether or not to pay union dues.

Congress must now give that freedom back to American workers.

H.R. 59 empowers Americans and gives them the choice that never should have been taken from them in the first place.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 59, the National Right To Work Act.

INTRODUCTION OF THE JUDICIAL ANTI-NEPOTISM ACT

HON. JENNIFER DUNN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to preserve the institutional integrity of the federal courts. This bill will clarify the 1922 anti-nepotism law (section 458 of Title 28 of the United States Code) which prohibits the appointment or employment in any court of individuals who are related within the degree of first cousin to any justice or judge of that court.

Currently, there is disagreement about whether this anti-nepotism law applies simply to judges' personnel decisions or whether it includes presidential appointments to judicial offices in federal courts.

I believe that the law must apply to both if courts are to remain unbiased. It is the duty of Congress to ensure that the credibility of our judicial branch is not compromised. That is why I am introducing the Judicial Anti-nepotism Act. This legislation clarifies the intent of the original law to preclude the appointment of a judge to a court if that person is related within the degree of first cousin to any judge, including a judge retired in senior status, of that same court.

If the law were not to apply to the familial relationship of judges, close family members would be able to serve concurrently on the same court, causing litigants to lose confidence in a system clearly designed to be objective and impartial. We simply cannot afford to let this happen. We must assure that federal judges are independent from any outside influence in order for their decisions to be completely impartial and based only on the laws and facts of the cases.

I encourage my colleagues to support this bill and help uphold the just character and