

turn have children at a young age. Mr. Speaker, our society suffers when our children start life with such odds against them.

We must do also better because an ounce of prevention is indeed worth a pound of cure—prevention works. Studies show that the federal government spends more than \$39 billion in assistance to families begun by teen parents and only \$131 million to prevent teen pregnancy. When we work with our kids to prepare them to avoid pregnancy, through good parental communication and involvement in their lives, education, and family planning programs, the numbers are clear: unintended birth decline.

What a better way, Mr. Speaker, to reduce abortion in this country than to prevent unintended pregnancies? I hope today we can all renew our efforts to support and fund teen pregnancy prevention programs.

SALUTE TO LARRY CARPENTER

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant on his retirement, Ventura County Sheriff Larry Carpenter. Sheriff Carpenter protected the people of Ventura County, California, for almost 30 years, serving the community as a defender of the law and an educator of safety. I am proud to say Larry has been my friend for many, many years.

As a committed and highly ethical officer of the law, Larry quickly climbed the ladder of rank and responsibility within the department. Joining the Ventura County Sheriff's Department in 1969 he has served in many capacities, from public speaking, to personnel and training, to narcotics, to managing court services and custody. In 1974, Larry was promoted to senior deputy sheriff and later that same year, promoted again, making him a sergeant. In 1984, Larry was appointed undersheriff and managed the operations of the entire department as second in command. Larry's long law enforcement culminated in 1993 when he became sheriff.

Those who have worked with, and for, Larry have described him as a loyal person with the finest ethical standards. His interpersonal and organizational skills made him a good manager, but Larry's stellar professional attributes were not his only strong points—they simply served as a vehicle for his creative and ambitious ideas which he implemented for the good of his community.

Larry developed the Sheriff department's "hostage negotiation team" and was an active proponent of opening the Todd Road Jail, which boasts an innovative inmate management philosophy. He led the fight to continue the use of military surplus helicopters, saving millions of local tax dollars annually, and implemented a platoon response plan for tactical emergencies. In addition, he opened "storefront" operations to deliver sheriff's services into the neighborhoods. These are merely few of sheriff Carpenter's achievements which have made real differences in the lives of Ventura County's citizens.

You cannot put a price on safety, or thank someone enough for putting their life on the

line to protect others. We can never really repay the heroism and bravery which protects us each day, which often goes unnoticed. But we can say thank you: Thank you sheriff Larry Carpenter for your years of service protecting our families and for making our community a safer and better place to live. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing my friend Larry a long and happy retirement.

TRIBUTE TO RONALD SNYDER

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great teacher, Mr. Ronald Snyder, on his retirement from St. John's Lutheran School in Red Bud, Illinois.

Over the last 43 years, Mr. Snyder has shared his many talents with the community. Mr. Snyder joined the St. John's staff in 1955 and has taught both the seventh and eighth grade classes. In his early years he also served the school as Principal, Choir Director and Youth Director.

For over a decade, Mr. Snyder has been taking the eighth graders, who he teaches all subjects to, on a trip to the Nation's Capital. Mr. Snyder has helped the students experience this once in a lifetime trip through many hours of hard work and fundraising efforts.

Mr. Snyder was raised in Columbus, Indiana. From there he went to teacher training school at Concordia Lutheran College in River Forest, Illinois where he majored in Elementary Education. Right out of college he was called to teach at St. John's Lutheran School. Over the years, he has taught 786 students and has served with sixty-two other teachers. As the eighth grade teacher for the majority of his dedicated service to St. Johns he has influenced many young lives. Mr. Snyder who lives in Red Bud, Illinois with his wife Eunice, will retire at the end of this school year.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Ronald Snyder on his retirement after many devoted years of service to the children of St. Johns and the entire community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ASSISTING ACQUISITION OF RUSSIAN MATERIAL ACT

HON. TED STRICKLAND

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation, the Assisting Acquisition of Russian Material (AARM) Act, along with my colleague ED WHITFIELD of Kentucky, which would provide the Department of Energy with "standby" authority to purchase Russian uranium under the U.S.-Russian-HEU Agreement signed in 1993. The Russian Federation and the United States entered into this agreement to ensure that highly enriched uranium (HEU) from dismantled nuclear warheads would be used for peaceful purposes only. In January 1994, President Clinton announced that the U.S. and Russia signed a

contract to purchase \$12 billion of highly enriched uranium over a 20-year period. The U.S. purchase of 500 metric tons of this material is clearly a crucial national security initiative. This foreign policy measure provides an important incentive to the Russian Federation to continue dismantling its nuclear weapons and ultimately helps to safeguard the U.S. and the rest of the world from the threat of a nuclear incident.

I strongly support this foreign policy objective which serves our national security interests and those interests of the entire world. However, under this U.S.-Russian Agreement, the United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC) will serve as the Executive Agent responsible for acquiring the downblended Russian uranium which it will then sell as commercial nuclear reactor fuel. The status of USEC as the Executive Agent under this agreement troubles me because, at this time, the government is privatizing the industry responsible for implementing the U.S.-Russian HEU Agreement. A private USEC acting as the Executive Agent will face conflicting obligations to maximize profits and to fulfill its requirements under both the U.S.-Russian Agreement and the statutory purposes guiding the privatization process of the corporation.

Under the laws governing privatization of USEC, Congress specifically outlined eight statutory criteria, including a requirement that privatization lead to "continued operation" of the gaseous diffusion plants in Portsmouth, Ohio and Paducah, Kentucky. However, if USEC is forced to purchase significant quantities of Russian uranium under the HEU Agreement, the corporation may be forced to reduce work at the plants or to close one entirely. Clearly, the role of USEC as the Executive Agent under the Agreement could lead the newly privatized corporation to choose between the national security purpose of importing higher priced Russian material and its own desire to maximize profits. Furthermore, the public objective of purchasing specific quantities of Russian uranium directly conflicts with and adversely affects the statutory criteria calling for continued operation of the gaseous diffusion plants.

In order to help resolve these potential conflicts and ensure that U.S. foreign and domestic policy objectives are met, the AARM Act states that the Department of Energy will have the authority to purchase, hold and resell the downblended HEU imported from Russia under the U.S.-Russian Agreement. This legislation helps to preserve the livelihoods of those in the communities surrounding the gaseous diffusion plants while ensuring that the U.S. continues to purchase Russian uranium to reduce the threat posed to the world by dismantled nuclear warheads. The bill represents a common-sense solution, ensuring that the government maintains responsibility over our national security interests and that the private sector can function without being saddled with unnecessary burdens.

TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT LEE

HON. JOE SCARBOROUGH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, Taiwan, known as the Republic of China, marked its

president's second anniversary in office on May 20, 1998. President Lee Teng-hui, a Taiwan-born statesman, should be commended for his leadership and vision for his country.

President Lee's leadership lies in his ability to rally his 21 million compatriots into believing that the course Taiwan has chosen to take, economic and political, is right for them. President Lee has convinced them that their future lies in free trade and private enterprise as well as in full democracy. With the help of his compatriots, President Lee will lead the Republic of China to ever greater economic prosperity at home and international recognition abroad.

On the occasion of President Lee's second anniversary in office, I wish President Lee godspeed and good fortune.

NORTHERN IRELAND PEACE TREATY

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my Colleagues the following excerpts from an interview with the new President of Ireland, Mary McAleese. In her poignant description of President Clinton's visit to Northern Ireland in 1995 and his consummate diplomacy in that extremely delicate political environment, she notes how grateful the people of Ireland are to the President for his commitment and effort toward bringing about a peace treaty in Northern Ireland. I felt it should be brought to your attention. The interview, with reporter Niall O'Dowd, appeared in the May/June 1998 edition of Irish America Magazine.

Irish America: You met President Clinton during his visit to Northern Ireland in 1995. What were your impressions of him then and now?

On the day that he came to Northern Ireland, I don't think there is any doubt that the Unionists, for instance, were very skeptical. And you know as well as I do the minefield that is Northern Ireland. If you use the word Derry instead of Londonderry, or Londonderry instead of Derry, everyone is exercised. The opportunities to make a mess are total. For a president to come, and speak off the cuff as he did was amazing. He spoke flawlessly. He did not put one single foot wrong. He didn't get one inflection wrong, he didn't get one name wrong. I was absolutely mesmerized by his sheer intellect—the man is incredibly clever.

I don't know a politician on this planet who has the intellect, the depth, the charismatic skills of this man. He is extraordinary.

What he did that day was a miracle, because there was a lot of Unionist skepticism about him, a lot of determination that no matter how good this party got, they weren't going to enjoy it. And yet they did. Over the twenty-four hour period, he effectively seduced them. He won them over.

He and his wife worked a miracle that day. I just want people to know how very grateful we are for this president who is so committed. He has been a large part of the scaffolding that is holding up this kind of precarious edifice of peace.***

We are very grateful to the ongoing American commitment to Ireland in all its aspects because we are on the way to achieving phenomenal success. As a small island off

the west of Europe, it is desperately important to us that we have friendships that open a window onto an entirely different world to ours. It helps us to blossom and grow. I want to be able to celebrate, and thank people for that and develop a sense of the global Irish family.

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE 32ND ANNIVERSARY OF GUYANA'S INDEPENDENCE

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the New Jersey Arya Samaj Mandir, Inc. as they celebrate a very special occasion—the 32nd Anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Guyana. In honor of this event, a commemorative flag-raising ceremony will take place on Tuesday, May 26, 1998 in the Council Chambers at Jersey City Hall.

In 1621 the Dutch started to colonize Guyana and in 1640 the first slaves arrived from Africa. In 1763 about 100 years before the American Emancipation, the slaves in Guyana revolted in the ill fated effort known as the Berbice Slave Rebellion. In 1781 the British captured the colony but were ousted within the year. From 1782 until the return of the British in 1812 the colony was administered by French and Dutch Administrations.

In 1835 laborers were brought in from Portugal and 1838 marked the beginning of indentured servitude with the arrival of laborers from India. The Chinese came in 1853. In 1953 elections were held for the first time under the system of universal adult suffrage. The People's Progressive (PPP) won this election but was removed after 133 days from office by the British.

The PPP was reelected in 1957 and again in 1961. During these two terms under the system of internal self rule, the colony of the then British Guiana experienced significant social and economic growth in spite of political disturbances especially in the early 60's. In 1964, an unpopular government was brought to power through external influences. It remained in power until 1992 through constant rigging of national elections. In 1966, Guyana became an independent nation and in 1970 it obtained republican status.

On October 5th, 1992 the first free and fair elections were held since 1964. This election supervised by a team of international observers led by former U.S. President Carter brought the PPP-Civic government under the Presidency of Dr. Cheddi Jagan to office. Over 50 percent of Guyana's population consist of East Indians, whose ancestors came to Guyana from India. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I would also like to applaud the New Jersey Arya Samaj Mandir, Inc. for their support of Hindu culture and serving the educational, cultural, and religious needs of the Hindu immigrant population that lives in New Jersey.

IRS REGULATIONS HARM ELECTRIC COMPETITION

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern with new IRS regulations that undermine competition in the evolving electricity market. The regulations, which became effective in February of this year, greatly expand the role of government-owned utilities as provider in the electricity marketplace. These regulations harm competition and reduce federal, state and local tax revenues.

In response to these new regulations, I am introducing legislation today to help remedy this situation. I am joined in this effort by my colleagues, Rep. WILLIAM JEFFERSON and Rep. PHIL CRANE, both distinguished Members of the House Ways and Means Committee.

This legislation would stipulate that government-owned utilities that choose to sell beyond their service territory will be denied the use of tax-exempt debt and their general income tax exemption to support their electricity sales. In an era of evolving competition, there is no place for such government subsidies which not only harm the federal treasury but displace state and local tax revenues as well.

To deal with the dilemma that has arisen with respect to this issue, I want to clarify what my legislation will do as well as what it will not do. First, the legislation deals only with government-owned utilities that are selling excess electric generation outside of their service area. To put that in context, there are approximately 2,200 utilities in this nation that are owned by state or local governments. My bill will impact less than 30 of these government-owned utilities, those with excess generation capacity who chose to sell to persons other than their historic customers.

My legislation will help level the playing field between government-owned electric utilities and all other electricity suppliers in the new competitive marketplace. The legislation, however, will not affect the vast majority of government-owned utilities. As I mentioned earlier, less than 30 large, aggressive utilities that want to sell electric generation outside of their service territory will be affected.

My bill will not affect federally-owned utilities such as the Bonneville Power Administration nor rural electric cooperatives. Most importantly, it will not affect the vast majority of bonds issued by local municipalities which serve legitimate governmental purposes (such as police, fire, hospitals and other services) which benefit persons who reside in the service territory.

If a government-owned utility wants to compete in the open electricity marketplace, then they must give up their use of tax-exempt bonds and give up their income tax exemptions on sales outside of their historic service territory. Mr. Speaker, let me note that my bill will in no way affect the ability of a municipality to annex new service territory and engage in growth consistent with state rules and regulations. And finally, let me state that my bill will in no way affect existing tax-exempt bonds or current bond holders.