

This resolution is a sign of support by the Congress for the Administration's efforts to encourage a dialogue between the Dalai Lama and Chinese leaders and a signal to Beijing that a positive response from President Jiang to the Administration's proposal would be welcomed by the Congress. It is appropriate that the Congress which has been in the forefront of support for the Tibetan people should go on the record in support of the Administration's summit agenda in regard to Tibet. Positive action by the Chinese would go far to demonstrate to the Congress that a policy of engagement with China is productive and important.

Finally, I would like to draw the House's attention to the continuing detention of Gendun Choekyi Nyima. Three years ago this month, the Dalai Lama announced the recognition of this young boy, then only six, as the Panchen Lama of Tibet. Within days, this child disappeared from his home. It was not until a year later that the Chinese Ambassador to Geneva admitted to a meeting of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child that Gendun Choekyi Nyima was under the "protection" of the Chinese government. Repeated requests from governments and private humanitarian organizations to meet with the boy have been denied. No one knows where he is nor the conditions under which he lives. It is unconscionable that in today's world a young child, now nine years old, has apparently become a pawn in Beijing's political efforts to control Tibet.

I urge my colleagues to join me in introducing this resolution which calls for the release of Gendun Choekyi Nyima, the 11th Panchen Lama of Tibet, and for a dialogue between the Dalai Lama and Chinese authorities.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
BROOKS SCHOOL

**HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 22, 1998*

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Brooks School in Medford, Massachusetts in the celebration of its 100th Anniversary. During its century-long presence in the Medford community, The Brooks School has set innovative standards in excellence and diversity in public education through its programs of intellectual, physical, and social development of children.

On May 30, 1998, The Brooks School will be holding a public celebration to honor its rich history of instruction and service to the young people of Medford. The undying commitment of The Brooks School to excellence in diverse public education should serve as an inspiration to us all.

I congratulate the students, alumni, and faculty of The Brooks School for perpetuating effective education in the Medford community, and I wish them continued success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO OUR VETERANS

**HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 22, 1998*

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the many Veterans who live in north Alabama, and of the many men and women who are currently serving in the armed forces.

I am honored to be a guest Saturday of The Gadsden-Etowah Patriots Association, who are currently raising funds for a new outdoor museum. This museum will be a valuable addition, a way of celebrating the American way of life and the blessings of being part of a community. It is also a means of teaching young people that the freedom we enjoy has come at a price.

I commend the President of the association, Andy Chaffin, and the members whose teamwork is making this memorial a reality.

Memorial Day brings to mind the opportunity to lay flowers at monuments and at graves. It is also, however, an opportunity to thank veterans who are still with us, such as General Clarence Rhea, Congressional Medal of Honor winner Olan Mize, and State of Alabama Veterans Association Representative Rick Vaughn.

Although the date and location of the first Memorial Day is disputed, I am just grateful each year for the opportunity to pause and reflect on the gift of freedom bestowed upon us by our veterans.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HUMAN  
SERVICES AMENDMENTS OF 1998

**HON. MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 22, 1998*

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Speaker, on May 14, I introduced the Human Services Amendments of 1998. This legislation will reauthorize and strengthen the Head Start, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) and Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) programs. When Congress last reauthorized these programs in 1994 it was the product of true bipartisan negotiations. I strongly believe that this bill is one which can capture the same bipartisan spirit.

The last reauthorization cycle produced major successful structural changes in these programs, eliminating the current need for an expansive rewrite of each statute. Presently these programs are working well and do not need significant modification. Instead of implementing wholesale change, this legislation builds upon the positive changes made in 1994 allowing the good work presently being done to continue.

Title I of the bill amends the Head Start Program. This legislation will refine Head Start's focus in two major areas—improving the transition of children from Head Start programs to school by strengthening the coordination between Head Start programs and schools and increasing the financial resources available and access to Early Head Start programs. The bill would increase the setaside for Early Head Start to 10%, with the stipulation that funds not be taken from current Head Start programs. The legislation would also allow expan-

sion grants to be used by existing Head Start grantees to expand service to the Early Head Start population. Significant research has shown the importance of brain development in young children and an increased focus on intervening in a young child's life during the most sensitive of years is vitally important.

In improving the transition of children from Head Start programs to school, the bill would also require Head Start programs to coordinate services with the educational services of the local education agency projected to serve the children enrolled in their programs. The legislation would also require that the Secretary, in considering the expansion of Head Start programs, to consider the extent to which Head Start programs will coordinate services with local education agencies. Both of these provisions will ensure that the educational experiences and cognitive development gained by children in Head Start programs are not lost when they progress through school.

In addition, the bill improves the access of children with disabilities to quality programs and ensures that Head start programs maximize their enrollment and resources and increase flexibility to deal with the transition of families from welfare to work by allowing the Secretary to permit up to 25% of enrollees in a Head Start program to be from families with incomes above the poverty line.

Title II of the bill amends LIHEAP. This legislation will maintain LIHEAP's focus on serving low-income individuals with the highest proportion of energy expenses. In addition, this bill reinforces that weatherization and energy-related home repair should be directed to low-income households, particularly those households with the lowest incomes and the highest proportion of household income for home energy. With this increased targeted emphasis on the poorest of our poor, the weatherization portion of LIHEAP will truly help those most in need.

Title III of the bill amends CSBG. Similar to the other two programs, a significant rewrite is not necessary, but the legislation does make several changes designed to improve the program. The bill raises the authorization level of the program by over \$100 million to \$650 million in FY 1999 and such sums in FYs 2000–2002. This will ensure that the significant increases in appropriations which this program has received in the last few years can be repeated. Also, the bill would give preference to private, non-profit organizations should an existing entity running a local program authorized under the statute terminate. In addition, this legislation would provide that CSBG carry-over funds are reprogrammed at the local level. For each of the last three years similar language has been attached to the Labor-HHS Appropriations bill requiring this provision. Lastly, the measure would allow local community action agencies to offer services to improve literacy in the community. This would be a new activity for local community action agencies to address the illiteracy—one of the most pressing problems and indicators of poverty in our nation today.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to stress that I believe this legislation is the beginning of another historic bipartisan effort to reauthorize and strengthen these programs. I urge all members of Congress to join me in supporting this legislation and to support the bill which will be the eventual product of our joint bipartisan discussions.