

than ever. In 1946, Columbia offered Frankie a recording contract with a two year option. That contract lasted for 26 years. In December of 1947, Yankovic heard a song called "Just Because" which he felt could be a hit, but Columbia would not record it, until Frankie offered to buy the first 10,000 records himself. That song bridged the barrier between popular music and polka and launched Yankovic into the national spotlight. And there he stayed, with hits like "Blue Skirt Waltz" and "Just Because", which both became gold records. Frank won the first Grammy ever given for polka music, and was one of the first men inducted into the "International Polka Hall of Fame" in Chicago. But through it all, Frankie Yankovic has remained dedicated to his fans, and his enthusiasm for entertaining has never waned.

Frankie Yankovic is and always will be, "America's Polka King."

BANKRUPTCY REFORM ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3150) to amend title 11 of the United States Code, and for other purposes:

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank my colleague Dr. PAUL for introducing his amendment at this time. Dr. PAUL is one of the foremost scholars on the issue of credit. His amendment emphasizes the heavy burden which federal taxation places on American families. Dr. PAUL, certainly is correct in pointing out that, together with credit expansion, gambling, health care costs, etc., the federal burden is a contributing factor to bankruptcies and his foresight in bringing up this important topic is to be commended. I believe we should indeed focus further study on these concerns and make sure that future legislation in this area is mindful of this important fact.

Moreover, I want to thank Dr. PAUL for being east to work with and for his understanding of our concerns in ensuring that this landmark legislation is passed, and for his actions to that end. However, I am currently opposed to this amendment due to time constraints and the fact that I am not sure of its implications. I look forward to working with you in the future on this language and on other issues concerning taxes and bankruptcy.

TRIBUTE TO DICK CABLE

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 1998

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Dick Cable, a friend to all and a fixture on the local broadcasting scene for over 30 years. This month, the Sacramento Safety Center, a group of community organizations, is honoring Dick for his efforts on behalf of a number of children's charities.

Dick Cable, a professional broadcaster since 1958, has been with KXTV-10 since

January, 1969. He spent his first 8 years in radio, in Colorado, Wyoming and Idaho. He made the transition to television in Boise, Idaho, 1966 and in 1968 was named "Outstanding Young Man of the Year" by the Boise Jaycees.

Since joining KXTV-10, Dick has become the first-ever Sacramento newscaster to win an Emmy. This award winning piece was in 1973 for a special on the problems of female alcoholics. In 1988, his piece "Drop-puts: We All Pay the Price" was named Best News Series by the California School Boards Association. Dick Cable has been KXTV's "For Kids Sake" spokesperson since the station launched the project in 1992. In this capacity, Dick is the primary on-air personality for "For Kids Sake" messages which promote child and family issues such as self-esteem, parenting, and education.

Dick is very active in community events such as "Coats for Kids Sake," "Walk America For Kids Sake," "Sacramento Reads," and countless others. He is also Honorary Mayor of Safetyville, U.S.A. Dick is a frequent guest in classrooms throughout the area. He loves to read to children, and also participates in other self-esteem building projects. He serves on the board of Child Abuse Prevention Council of Sacramento, and is a board member of the Greater Sacramento Area United Way including it's citizen committee on funding for Children-At-Risk programs. Dick is a frequent speaker to community organizations throughout the Central Valley of California. His speechless focus primarily in support of child and family issues such as decision making and the need to get involved in our children's lives.

Dick and his wife Berta live in the Sacramento area. Dick has five children and eight grandchildren.

For 30 years, Dick has been an outstanding representative of his profession. He's been a paragon of honest and fair reporting and his professional ethics will serve as a model for future broadcast journalist.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Dick Cable and I personally extend my sincere appreciation for all he has done for the community of Sacramento during his many years of dedicated service.

COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS OF RELATIONS BETWEEN PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES AND PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES

SPEECH OF

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 1998

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I support H. Res. 404, which commemorates the friendship which the United States and the Philippines have shared over the last century. I am proud that the San Francisco district I represent has a large Filipino-American community which has contributed greatly to the city's diversity. The friendship of the United States and the Philippines will only continue to grow as we move into the 21st century.

One century ago, the Philippine's gained its independence from Spain, which had ruled

over the Filipino people ever since Magellan claimed the islands for Spain in 1541. That day in 1898 was truly historic, for it marked the beginning of the close and wonderful relationship between the Philippines and the United States.

Our relationship has always been mutually beneficially. During World War II, as the Japanese were conquering much of Asia, the Philippines became an historic turning point in the Pacific theater. History remembers General MacArthur's promise of "I will return" upon surrendering the Philippines to the Japanese only to keep that promise and retake the Philippines in one of the defining moments of the relationship both countries share.

Soon after the war, the Philippines gained full independence from the United States and became a key strategic ally throughout the cold war.

Today, the Philippines is one of the few true democracy's in Asia. In 1986, the world was captivated when Corazon Aquino's "People Power" revolution brought her into office. And just last month, the Philippines held peaceful elections resulting in their country's third democratically elected president in 12 years.

As we enter the next century, we must work together to address new challenges. In moving forward though, we must embrace and reconcile past discrepancies. I therefore urge my colleagues to rectify a broken promise made during World War II. Fighting under the flag of the United States, many Filipino soldiers were promised full veterans benefits by the United States only to see that promise withdrawn after the war was won.

I ask my colleagues, what better tribute to our relationship with the Philippines than to honor this promise as we end the 20th century. We must demonstrate, as General MacArthur did, the importance of keeping promises. Then we can work closely to address the problems of the next century.

TRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL PUERTO RICAN PARADE: 41 YEARS OF HISTORY

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 1998

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great joy that I rise today to pay tribute to the National Puerto Rican Parade on its 41 years of history. The parade, which was held on June 14 in New York City, is the largest celebration of Puerto Rican culture in the United States.

Throughout its history, the parade has grown into a national event under the leadership of its President, Ramón S. Vélez. The event attracts thousands of Puerto Ricans from across the nation and from Puerto Rico, as well as many other individuals, their families and children, from all ethnic backgrounds.

As a Puerto Rican, a New Yorker, and a Member of Congress, every year it is an honor to participate in this national event, in which thousands of individuals march along Fifth Avenue, in Manhattan, in celebration of our Puerto Rican heritage and our achievements in this nation. This year I had the honor to march with members of the "Sociedad Cultural Mayagüezana, Inc." and other representatives from my birth town of Mayagüez, Puerto Rico.