

plains and northwest. Among his many accomplishments, was a detailed map he provided the U.S. Department of the Interior indicating the location of various Indian tribes. Other famous Jesuits include Fr. Peter Verhaegen who became president of St. Louis University, and Fr. John Elet, who also served as president of St. Louis University and was the founder of Xavier University in Cincinnati.

Countless other Jesuits of the Missouri Province have made a lasting impact in this region by serving as missionaries and founding a number of parishes in the lower Missouri River Valley. Little did that small group of Jesuits realize that their arrival in 1823, would lead to the expansion of the Jesuit presence throughout the Midwest.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in congratulating the Jesuits of the Missouri Province on their 175th anniversary in St. Louis. I also ask that you join me in thanking them for their countless contributions to this region. Their efforts are truly an inspiration and source of pride for all residents of Missouri.

MR. RONALD A. BELFIGLIO'S
RETIREMENT FROM CITIBANK

HON. THOMAS J. MANTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 20, 1998

Mr. MANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the vital contributions to New York City made by Mr. Ronald A. Belfiglio throughout his distinguished career with Citibank. Mr. Belfiglio is today celebrating his retirement from the position of Division Executive for Citibank's Corporate Realty Services.

As the head of the Corporate Realty Services Division, Mr. Belfiglio was responsible for 2,500 office and branch locations in 33 countries, in-house architectural, engineering and construction supervision, acquisition and divestiture of space, long range space planning, oversight of 900 employees, and an operations and capital budget totaling over \$3.5 billion.

It is through Ronald Belfiglio's vision and leadership that Citibank continues to be a model corporate citizen. The budget of the Corporate Realty Services Division allowed for all the amenities and services provided to the community in the eight years since Citibank's Court Square headquarters has been in existence. These amenities include the construction of a Public Library in Citibank's Court Square building, art exhibition space, as well as providing a welcoming environment at Citibank for the Queens community.

Further, because of Mr. Belfiglio's concern for Court Square's neighbors, Citibank has provided generous grants to various community and civic organizations. In fact, since 1989, over \$500,000 in grants has been given to neighborhood organizations within my Congressional District's local Community Planning Board #2.

It is with gratitude that I rise today to recognize Mr. Belfiglio's distinguished career and indispensable contributions to the Queens' community. His leadership and awareness have ensured that Citibank's Court Square is not simply an impersonal corporate center, but a vital part of and generous contributor to the surrounding community.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Ronald Belfiglio on his outstanding achievements and wishing him well on his retirement.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEE CHILD CARE
AFFORDABILITY ACT

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 20, 1998

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation to allow agencies to use their salary and expense accounts to help federal employees pay for child care. Balancing work and family has become increasingly difficult for families, and federal employees are no exception.

My legislation will provide opportunities for federal agencies to help provide quality child care for their employees' children. The legislation I am introducing today will be marked up in the Civil Service subcommittee, on which I serve, on Tuesday, July 21, and in the Government Reform and Oversight Committee on Thursday, July 23.

I have worked with the Office of Personnel Management to develop this legislation. Several agencies, including the Social Security Administration, Department of Justice, Department of Defense, and the Office of Personnel Management, have requested such authority from OPM. OPM cannot grant this authority; we must legislate this simple change.

This legislation does not require any additional appropriations. It would be up to individual agencies to determine whether or not to use funds from their salary and expense appropriations to help provide child care. Agencies—not employees—would make payments to child care providers to help lower-income federal employees pay for their child care.

Such child care benefits are already being provided to military employees—with a separate line item, which is more than my legislation would provide. The Department of Defense, one of the agencies seeking such the authority to help its employees with child care costs, has pointed out that they can provide child care benefits to their military employees but not the civil servants working side by side.

Many federal employees are caught in a serious child care crunch. A recent study showed that one-quarter of all federal workers had children under the age of six needing care at some time during the work day. During a recent hearing in Congressman Steve Horn's subcommittee, testimony revealed that some federal child care facilities charge up to \$10,000 or more per child per year. Many federal employees simply cannot afford quality child care. By allowing agencies the flexibility to help their workers meet their child care needs, we will be encouraging family-friendly workplaces and higher productivity. I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation to help federal employees and agencies meet their child care needs.

SONNY BONO MEMORIAL SALTON
SEA RECLAMATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, I fully support the restoration of the Salton Sea and have worked with my colleagues for some time in furtherance of that goal. I am a co-sponsor of this bill, the Sonny Bono Salton Sea Reclamation Act, and when it was introduced I had hoped that we could proceed quickly in a bipartisan effort to produce a bill that all Members of the House could support. The introduced bill had provisions I was not happy with, but in the spirit of compromise I went along, believing that it could be improved as it moved through the Resources Committee. Obviously, that has not happened. In fact, the bill has picked up more contention, leaving us with much work to do to resolve the differences of opinion about how we should proceed to restore this unique and valuable ecosystem.

I would like to highlight the fact that despite the differences that have been discussed, there is much we agree upon. At the start of this Congress, there were few Members who had ever heard of the Salton Sea. Now, thanks to the efforts of our departed colleague, Representative Sonny Bono, and the other Members of the Salton Sea Task Force, Congress is aware, not only of its location, but of its catastrophic problems.

I believe we have a unanimous bipartisan commitment to address the Salton Sea's problems. We all went to see the Salton Sea restored and maintained as a viable ecosystem which enhances the quality of life for the residents of southern California and which supports a diversity of economic activity in this region. Our challenge is to work together to achieve that goal.

The Salton Sea is a valuable national and international resource. It is an important resting and feeding area for birds migrating along the Pacific flyway. It once supported a vibrant recreational economy. It is, can be, and should be much more than a receptacle for agricultural runoff and for polluted New and Alamo River water.

While there are those who have been aware for some time that the Sea was in trouble, there has been a failure to act. The death of migratory birds and repeated fish-kills has brought national attention to this issue. If we continue our present policy of no action, I fear the bird and fish deaths will be but a few of the negative environmental consequences that will become apparent to all of us.

One of those negative consequences, in a slightly longer time frame, will result from the export of conserved agricultural water to urban users, and the treatment and re-use by Mexico of water now flowing across the U.S.-Mexico border which may cause the Salton Sea to shrink by as much as one quarter. This will expose a hundred square miles or more of highly polluted sea bottom to blowing winds, as has already happened in the very similar case of Owen's Lake. The cost of mitigating the environmental damage resulting from such decrease in area of the sea could easily reach 100 million dollars per year, far more than the

cost of stabilizing the level of the sea at an elevation close to its present elevation.

Now with all of the agreement on the need for rapid environmental mitigation, I am deeply disappointed in the bill produced by the Resources Committee and the manager's amendment which was adopted last Wednesday. A number of provisions in the reported bill and the amendment cause problems: the inappropriate authorization of EPA funds; the Clean Water Act permit exemption; the broad liability exemption for local water district activities; the complex and probably unconstitutional provisions for triggering a construction authorization for a not yet defined, or designed, technological fix. These provisions are all inappropriate. They have drawn severe criticism from the environmental community and the Administration and that criticism is warranted.

Some of what my colleagues may view as my abandonment of this bill is due to my naïve faith that the problems which I have described would be corrected. It was not apparent to me until I reviewed a copy of the substitute amendment early last week that such was not the case. Some of the fault is mine and I regret that I was not clearer in emphasizing the failings of the reported bill to my fellow members of the Task Force. However, I would point out that these issues had been raised to us and in the Resources Committee by the Administration and the environmental community for some time prior to this bill's coming to the floor.

Last week I found myself in the unfortunate situation of seeking to fix a bill on the floor that should have been fixed by the manager's amendment. Although the substitute that Mr. Miller and I offered failed, I reluctantly supported the bill, fully aware that it has no real opportunity to be enacted into law and still having major concerns with its provisions. I realize that my fellow Task Force Members are disappointed that I cosponsored a substitute amendment, but I felt I had to take the last opportunity I had in the House to produce a bill that could proceed beyond House passage; a bill that would have a chance to gain broad, bipartisan support; a bill that would gain the endorsement, and not the wrath, of the environmental community; a bill that would be rapidly moved through the Senate and enthusiastically received by the Administration. In short, a bill that could become a law.

As an original co-sponsor of this legislation, I feel an obligation to move the process forward in this Congress. It is my hope that we can find a clear bipartisan solution in the Senate. I supported the bill last week on final passage with great reluctance, hoping that the Senate will perfect the bill. However, should the remaining legislative work on this bill in the Senate return a Conference Report that has not removed the provisions I have mentioned or return the existing bill, I will oppose enactment of the legislation.

I want my colleagues to know what a painful situation this puts me in. I grew up in the Salton Sea basin, in the Imperial Valley. I feel some sense of history and personal responsibility in cleaning up the Salton Sea and in finishing the work in which our former colleague, Sonny Bono, was so deeply involved. But I cannot stand by and let this effort be endangered by legislation that has failed to meet the standard that Sonny would have set, namely to be meritorious enough to gain easy

bipartisan and bicameral support. It is my hope that we can accomplish that goal in the near future.

RECOGNIZING CHARLES B.
ALLISON UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ED BRYANT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 20, 1998

Mr. BRYANT. Mr. Speaker, it is always an honor to recognize outstanding citizens out of my own 7th district of Tennessee. Today, it is indeed an honor and a privilege for me to recognize one such citizen.

Charles B. Allison was born on December 12, 1942, in Austinville, Virginia. He graduated with an accounting degree from Ben Franklin University in Washington, D.C. while being employed by the Bureau in a clerical capacity, having entered on duty June 19, 1961. Chuck's first duty assignment as a Special Agent was in 1968 in Louisville, Kentucky, where he also served several months in the Richmond Resident Agency.

He thereafter was transferred to Newark, New Jersey, in 1969 and served in the Newark Division until June of 1977. He was then transferred to the Memphis, TN, FBI Office where he is currently serving as a Supervisory Special Agent of the Organized Crime and Drug Squad. Mr. Allison is retiring on July 31, 1998 after 37 years of dedicated service to the FBI.

Mr. Allison and his wife, Janet, have two children, Jill and Greg. Jill, a registered nurse, is married to Dr. Camp Newton and they are both employed at Baxter County Regional Hospital in Mountain Home, Arkansas. Greg is a graduate of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and is currently employed by the C.H. Robinson Company in Nashville, TN.

I would like to thank the Chair for this time to recognize this exceptional American citizen.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 20, 1998

Mr. ADAM SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on June 22 this House voted to approve H. Res. 452, expressing the sense of the House that the Postal Service should not raise its rates. My vote was mistakenly recorded as "No." I would like to express my support for the H. Res. 452 and emphasize that I do not believe the Postal Service should raise its rates at this time.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 20, 1998

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, due to an illness I was absent on Friday, July 17, 1998. Had I been present, I would have voted "Nay" on rollcall vote No. 295 and "Aye" on rollcall vote No. 296.

TRIBUTE TO THE BETANCES CADETS FOR ITS FIRST GRADUATION CEREMONY

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 20, 1998

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Betances Cadets, an invaluable Bronx institution, which celebrated its First Graduation Ceremony on Saturday, July 18, 1998.

Six months ago, under the leadership of "General" Carlos Quintana and his staff, the Betances Cadets was established. The program takes kids off the street and prepares them for real-life experience through a military-style program. It gives them the opportunity to apply academic lessons as they experience real-life situations, bring real-life lessons back to the classroom, become problem solvers, understand the need for responsibility, and develop leadership ability. Today, the program has 64 students and 9 staff members.

Three cadets, Amanda Perez, Jose Barreto and Tanairis Noriega were recognized for academic achievement during the graduation.

Mr. Speaker, I have the privilege of representing the 16th district of New York where the Betances Cadets is located and I am delighted by its early success. I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the Betances Cadets, to the staff and parents, and to the students, whose ambition and hard work will make this great institution a tremendous source of pride and success for years to come.

CELEBRATING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF DOWAGIAC, MI

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 20, 1998

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, it is a great pleasure for me to rise today to mark the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the City of Dowagiac, Michigan. On February 16, 1848, the city's founding fathers received official recognition, giving birth to a dynamic community that has been thriving ever since.

Over the past century and a half, Dowagiac has served as a focal point for southwest Michigan's progress and development. Many industries have found Dowagiac a great place to do business. They know that if you want the job done right, you get it done in Dowagiac. Home to the campus of Southwest Michigan College and a great school district, Dowagiac is helping the next generation chart a course to the future.

Dowagiac has seen a lot of change during the years. But in times of war and peace, prosperity and tough-times, there is one thing that remains constant. The people of Dowagiac have always cared for each other as neighbors and as a community. We realize that we cannot move forward until we move together. The city was founded in this spirit—it has allowed our town to thrive and will ensure its continued success for many years to come.