slowed by the obstructionist tactics of the IBT, including the refusal to allow interviews of relevant witnesses. The Subcommittee and the Chairman of the full Committee have been forced to issue subpoenas for documents to fourteen organizations, most of whom refused to voluntarily provide information to the Subcommittee at the direction of the IBT. Subpoenas have also been issued to seven witnesses to secure their testimony at the Subcommittee's public hearings. Furthermore, the IBT has steadfastly refused, on numerous occasions over the last four months, to allow Subcommittee investigators to interview current IBT employees and employees of its actuarial and accounting firms. The IBT has even objected to the Subcommittee interviewing former IBT employees.

To thoroughly and professionally investigate outstanding issues, the investigation needs the authority to have designated staff conduct depositions. There are up to three dozen witnesses whose testimony would substantially further the investigation and who may have to be deposed. Much of this would be lengthy, detailed questioning, which is not possible in a committee hearing. Some of it would also be very technical. Some of the depositions may have to be conducted after Congress adjourns for the year. All of it is needed if the investigation is to continue to make progress.

I want to assure my colleagues that the authority granted through this resolution has safeguards to ensure that it is used appropriately. First, the authority is granted to the Chairman of the Full Committee, and it may be used only in connection with the Teamsters Investigation. Second, information obtained under deposition authority is considered as having been taken in executive session by the Subcommittee. That makes the information confidential and subject to the protocol under which the investigation is being conducted.

Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Education and the Workforce will also adopt rules to ensure proper use of deposition authority. We will provide for bipartisan participation in depositions. The Ranking Minority member will receive three business days written notice before any deposition is taken, and all Members will receive three business days written notice that a deposition has been scheduled. Finally, our proposed committee rules provide for various rights for witnesses, including the right to counsel.

This resolution is well planned and will be implemented with care. Deposition authority is a tool that will enable the Teamsters investigation to unravel the improprieties associated with the 1996 IBT election so they do not recur. It will also help shed light on mismanagement and financial improprieties so that the International Brotherhood of Teamsters can become more responsive to its members.

AFFIRMING UNITED STATES COMMITMENT TO TAIWAN

SPEECH OF

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 20, 1998

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the resolution introduced by Mr. DELAY affirming the United States commitment to Taiwan. I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of the legislation and I would like to thank Mr. DELAY for his willingness to consider my suggestions for improving the legislation. Mr. DELAY and his staff person, Tim Berry, worked in a cooperative and bipartisan manner to fashion a resolution which I urge all my colleagues to support.

This resolution expresses the United States continued commitment to the people of Taiwan and our interest in ensuring that the future status of Taiwan be resolved by peaceful means. It also affirms our strong support for membership for Taiwan in international financial institutions where appropriate.

In 1994 in response to the profound economic and political changes that had taken place both in China and in Taiwan, the Clinton Administration approved adjustments in our relationship with Taiwan. Among the changes approved were permission for high-level visitors, including cabinet officers; provision for Taiwan's president and premier to transit American territory, and active support for Taiwan's membership in international organizations accepting non-states as members. These were important changes in our policy which were responsive to Taiwan's emergence as a democratic country. Nor were they out of character with past behavior toward Taiwan. As a recent article in the Washington Post by Ambassador Harvey Feldman points out, even after being expelled from the United Nations in 1971, Taiwan remained a member of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund until 1980.

It is important to note that our policy towards Taiwan has not been immutable. It has changed in response to developments in Taiwan as long as those changes remain consistent with our overall objective of promoting peace in the region. Our relations with Taiwan and our policy has been governed by the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979 (P.L. 96–8), further articulated in three U.S.-China communiques of 1972, 1979, and 1982, and clarified at the request of Taiwan in the so-called ''Six Assurances'' in 1982. In 1982 the Reagan Administration was asked by Taiwanese officials to accept as guidelines concerning our policy towards Taiwan six points: (1) the United States would not set a date for termination of arms sales to Taiwan; (2) the United States would not alter the terms of the Taiwan Relations Act; (3) the United States would not engage in advance consultations with Beijing before deciding on U.S. weapons transfers to Taiwan; (4) the United States would not serve as mediator between Taiwan and the mainland; (5) the United States would not alter its position regarding sovereignty of Taiwan and we would not pressure Taiwan to engage in negotiations with the mainland, and (6) the United States would not formally recognize China's sovereignty over Taiwan. We accepted those points and they have conditioned our role between Taiwan and China ever since. This resolution, by reaffirming our interests in resolving the status of Taiwan through peaceful means, reinforces our continued adherence to the six assurances of 1982.

It is important that, as we attempt to build a more constructive relationship with China, we not do so at the cost of the people of Taiwan. This resolution makes clear our desire to maintain strong, productive and peaceful relations with both China and Taiwan. In his recent trip to China, President Clinton emphasized this point when he said ''a key to Asia's stability is a peaceful and prosperous relationship with the People's Republic of China and Taiwan.'' As the President noted, peace and prosperity ''has allowed democracy to flourish in Taiwan.'' I hope that the peace and prosperity which China now enjoys will lead as well to democracy in that great land.

IN HONOR OF CAPTAIN RICHARD WYSSBROD

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 21, 1998

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a courageous man.

As an officer of the Helena Police Department, Capt. Richard Wyssbrod went to work each day to protect the people of Helena, Arkansas. On Tuesday, June 30, Capt. Wyssbrod was responding to a 911 call from a victim of domestic abuse when he was shot and killed.

Capt. Wyssbrod would have celebrated his 12th year with the Helena Police Department on July 1. He began his career with the Marvell Police Department where he served four years before being hired at Helena. He is being remembered as a model police officer by his peers—an honest man who enforced the law with a firm, yet fair, hand. Capt. Wyssbrod worked to establish neighborhood and community watch programs in Helena. He was actively involved in youth programs, speaking to children about the dangers of illegal drugs.

Capt. Wyssbrod will forever be remembered as a law enforcement veteran, but it is fitting that he also be remembered for the life he led when he was off-duty. Capt. Wyssbrod was a loving father and devoted grandfather. He was a kind man who was a friend to an entire town.

Capt. Wyssbrod is the first police officer to be killed in the line of duty in Helena. His name will soon be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial here in Washington, D.C., but it is important that we remember our fallen police officers not as names on a wall, but for the lives they led as human beings. As an inscription on the wall states, ''It is not how these men died that made them heroes. It is how they lived.''

Mr. Speaker, with those words in mind, I ask that we remember Capt. Richard Wyssbrod not only as a police officer from Helena, Arkansas, but as one of America's heroes.

THE PATIENT PRIVACY ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 21, 1998

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Patient Privacy Act, which repeals those sections of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 authorizing the establishment of a ''standard unique health care identifier'' for all Americans. This identifier

would then be used to create a national database containing the medical history of all Americans. Establishment of such an identifier would allow federal bureaucrats to track every citizen's medical history from cradle to grave. Furthermore, it is possible that every medical professional, hospital, and Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) in the country would be able to access an individual citizens' record simply by entering the patient's identifier into the national database.

As an OB/GYN with more than 30 years experience in private practice, I know better than most the importance of preserving the sanctity of the physician-patient relationship. Oftentimes, effective treatment depends on a patient's ability to place absolute trust in his or her doctor. What will happen to that trust when patients know that any and all information given their doctor will be placed in a data base accessible by anyone who knows the patient's ''unique personal identifier?''

I ask my colleagues, how comfortable would you be confiding any emotional problem, or even an embarrassing physical problem like impotence, to your doctor if you knew that this information could be easily accessed by friend, foe, possible employers, coworkers, HMOs, and government agents?

Mr. Speaker, the Clinton administration has even come out in favor of allowing law enforcement officials access to health care information, in complete disregard of the fifth amendment. It is bitterly ironic that the same administration that has proven so inventive at protecting its privacy has so little respect for physician-patient confidentiality.

Many of my colleagues will admit that the American people have good reason to fear a government-mandated health ID card, but they will claim such problems can be ''fixed'' by additional legislation restricting the use of the identifier and forbidding all but certain designated persons to access those records.

This argument has two flaws. First of all, history has shown that attempts to protect the privacy of information collected by, or at the command, of the government are ineffective at protecting citizens from the prying eyes of government officials. I ask my colleagues to think of the numerous cases of IRS abuses that were brought to our attention in the past few months, the history of abuse of FBI files, and the case of a Medicaid clerk in Maryland who accessed a computerized database and sold patient names to an HMO. These are just some of many examples that show that the only effective way to protect privacy is to forbid the government from assigning a unique number to any citizen.

The second, and most important reason, legislation ''protecting'' the unique health identifier is insufficient is that the federal government lacks any constitutional authority to force citizens to adopt a universal health identifier, regardless of any attached ''privacy protections.'' Any federal action that oversteps constitutional limitations violates liberty for it ratifies the principle that the federal government, not the Constitution, is the ultimate arbitrator of its own jurisdiction over the people. The only effective protection of the rights of citizens is for Congress and the American people to follow Thomas Jefferson's advice and ''bind (the federal government) down with the chains of the Constitution.''

For those who claim that the Patient Privacy Act would interfere with the plans to ''simplify'' and ''streamline'' the health care system, under the Constitution, the rights of people should never take a backseat to the convenience of the government or politically powerful industries like HMOs.

Mr. Speaker, the federal government has no authority to endanger the privacy of personal medical information by forcing all citizens to adopt a uniform health identifier for use in a national data base. A uniform health ID endangers the constitutional liberties, threatens the doctor-patient relationships, and could allow federal officials access to deeply personal medical information. There can be no justification for risking the rights of private citizens. I therefore urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Patient Privacy Act.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GENO SACCOMANNO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 21, 1998

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize an individual, who for the past 50 years, has donated his life to the ongoing fight against cancer. Dr. Geno Saccomanno, a cytologist from Grand Junction, CO, is a simple, dedicated man with a personal history that rivals most in accomplishment and commitment. Some of his most notable achievements both professionally and philanthropically, include his groundbreaking and world-renowned cancer research methods, his two popular cytology texts, his scholarship fund for underprivileged high school graduates, his St. Mary's Saccomanno Education Center, and the Catholic school and church that will be built on land he recently donated near his home. As you can see, Dr. Saccomanno is a man who works for the good of all people, in every area of his life.

When Dr. Saccomanno arrived in Grand Junction as a pathologist in 1948, he was the first to pay appropriate attention to the most pressing local cancer issue. As he had noticed in some of his doctoral studies at St. Louis University, Dr. Saccomanno saw correlations between cancer incidence and the coal mines working in Western Colorado and Eastern Utah. His analysis of this issue set the stage for a long life in lung cancer research and diagnosis.

Considered today by colleagues and professionals worldwide as one of the world's foremost pioneers and prophets in lung cancer research, Saccomanno's research techniques are considered a standard in laboratories around the world. His first method of cell separation to detect mutation utilized his wife Ginny's blender and a few simple medical tools. Through the years, his techniques have grown and developed with the aid of technology so much that his research methods are widely praised and world renowned. In fact, the American Cancer Institute is currently attempting to duplicate his processes with a computer.

Dr. Saccomanno has won several well-deserved awards and published a myriad of medical reports during his 50-year career, all that have led to a considerable reputation among a wide range of people. He is revered by everyone, from his colleagues at St. Mary's to VIP's at the Department of Energy to his friends at the National Cancer Institute.

Today, the 82-year-old Dr. Saccomanno continues his work in the field he has grown to love. Each morning he makes the daily trek from his home to the lab where he continues to look at his vast collection of tissue samples, lung X-rays, and secretions searching for a clue that would someday lead to a cure for cancer. Dr. Saccomanno's obvious dedication to his life's work and the medical field is something that is admired by all.

I would like to take a moment today to thank Dr. Saccomanno for both his efforts in finding a cure for cancer, as well as for all that he has done for his community. He is an excellent example of how important dedication and perseverance are in one's personal and professional life. He sets a standard that we should all strive to emulate. It is an honor for me to count Dr. Saccomanno as one of my constituents and to represent him in Congress.

HONORING DOUGLAS M. BARRETT

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 21, 1998

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of a resident of Nashua, New Hampshire, Mr. Douglas M. Barrett, on the occasion of his retirement from Sanders, a Lockheed Martin Company. Mr. Barrett's 41 years of dedication to improving our Nation's security, and his devotion to his community, set a standard of commitment and excellence for which we should all strive.

Since beginning his employment at Sanders Associates in 1957, Mr. Barrett has been an integral part of the development and fielding of intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance systems that have been critical to keeping the peace when possible and prevailing at war when necessary. His devotion to getting the best possible technical solutions into the hands of our soldiers, sailors and airmen in the shortest periods of time, and at the best value to the government is to be greatly commended.

As the Vice President and General Manager of the Surveillance Systems Business Area of Sanders since 1982, Mr. Barrett has been instrumental to the growth and stability of the economy in and around Nashua through the creation of jobs. He has also played a major role in providing educational opportunities for the citizens of the greater Nashua area as a board member and past president of the Adult Learning Center.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join with me in recognizing the unwavering commitment and total dedication of Mr. Douglas M. Barrett to his company, community and country.

''LET'S GET TOUGH ON DRUGS''

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 21, 1998

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask if the Clinton Administration has any defined position on casual drug use and any