

In addition to their success at business, James and Hellen Mellos raised three wonderful children. Their oldest son, James D. Mellos, III, has become a successful attorney and has opened up his own law office in Mission Hills. Their middle child, Peter L. Mellos, is completing his masters in Forensic Science and is anticipating attending law school with the goal of working in the San Diego District Attorney's office. Their youngest child, Stella K. Mellos, is currently a hard-working successful paralegal for the downtown San Diego Law Firm of Jeffrey E. Estes & Associates. Like her brothers, she plans to attend law school and become a practicing attorney in San Diego.

Since their children all found success in the field of law, Mr. and Mrs. Mellos decided to sell their store upon retirement and start new traditions. After much searching, Mr. and Mrs. Mellos found another family to take over the business who will continue the Mellos traditions of hard work and excellent service. On Monday, July 6, 1998, the Palomar Market opened under new ownership, bringing the era of the Mellos family business to a bittersweet end.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I hereby declare that hereafter, July 6th will be known to San Diegans as "Palomar Market Day" to commemorate this great piece of San Diego's history.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4276, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, FY 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 1998

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on the rule which will govern how we proceed on H.R. 4276, the Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations bill. I am grateful to the Rules Committee for allowing the Mollohan amendment to be considered which would restore full funding for a fair and accurate census. The subject of the Census was addressed in Article I Section 2 of the Constitution of the United States as it states, "The actual Enumeration shall be made within three years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of Ten Years." With that goal in mind the Bureau of the Census conducted the first National Census in 1790. The census also places our population in a particular location as of census day so Congress can be reapportioned and the state and local governments redistricted while federal monies can be apportioned.

The ability to use sampling during the 2000 Census will insure that any undercounting which may occur in this census because of sparsely populated regions of states like Texas or hard to count urban populated areas like Houston, can be held to a minimum. Undercounting the results of the 2000 Census would negatively impact Texas' share of federal funds for block grants, housing, education, health, transportation and numerous other federally funded programs.

In 1990, the City of Houston was undercounted by 3.9 percent in that year's Census using the current "head count" method which only recorded 1,630,553 residents. Based on the sampling that was prepared for that Census, but never used it is estimated that over 66,000 Houstonians were missed by the 1990 Census.

African-Americans, Hispanics, Asians, and American Indians were missed at a much greater rate than whites. The 1990 Census undercounted approximately 4 Million people, about the same number who were counted all together in the first census 200 years ago. Even more troubling, this last census was, for the first time in history, less accurate than its predecessor. The undercount was 33 percent greater than the undercount in the 1980 census.

Mr. Chairman, I will be offering some amendments to this bill.

One of these amendments will increase funding to the Community Relations Service of The Department of Justice. As many of you may be aware, CRS is a Federal agency under the Department of Justice that helps local communities prevent and assuage community racial conflict and violence. CRS worked hard in my homestate of Texas during the aftermath of the recent tragic and brutal murder of Mr. James Byrd, Jr. in Jasper, and CRS was crucial in helping the community to begin healing during the Jasper aftermath and CRS has also been with us during recent rallies opposing the Ku Klux Klan. In fact, when racial conflict threatens peaceful community relations, CRS services are sought by mayors, police chiefs, school superintendents and civic leaders throughout our country.

During 1996 and 1997, more than 500 churches in 13 Southern States were burned or desecrated. CRS has been an integral partner in working with state and local officials in more than 190 communities throughout Texas and the south.

Unfortunately, due to the rise of racial conflict and hate crimes in our country, CRS was forced to decline more than 40% of the requests for assistance made during this year. Because of CRS' lack of adequate resources, CRS cannot respond to some communities who face even the most serious racial conflict and violence.

Currently, CRS operates its entire program with just 41 staff and a budget of just 5.3 million. Between 1992 and 1997, CRS' budget declined more than 80% and its staffing by two thirds, an all time low. My amendment will increase funding to CRS by 2.2 million dollars and will allow CRS to further assist all of our communities in working towards eliminating racial intolerance and conflict throughout America.

The other amendment, that I may offer, is to protect our children from the dangers of handguns by requiring every handgun purchased in this country to have a child protective lock device.

It is a great tragedy that children are accidentally hurt and killed across our country, simply because their parents guns are accessible to their curious hands.

The addition of a handgun lock will allow responsible citizens to obtain guns, however it will not allow those guns to be accidentally fired by a family or neighborhood child who discovers the weapon.

LEGACY OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

HON. JOHN M. SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 1998

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, on August 3, 1846, Abraham Lincoln was elected to the United States House of Representatives from Illinois' 13th Congressional District winning eight of the eleven counties in his district and capturing 56% of the vote against candidates from the Democrat and Liberty parties.

Today, my honorable colleague RAY LAHOOD and I share what was the Lincoln district. Ray has nine of the counties and I have two including the city of Springfield where Mr. Lincoln lived and was subsequently buried.

Ray and I have a friendly struggle about possession of the Lincoln District. In essence it doesn't really belong to either of us but rather to the people we represent. But the legacy of Abraham Lincoln belongs to us all.

DISAPPROVING EXTENSION OF WAIVER AUTHORITY WITH RESPECT TO VIETNAM

SPEECH OF

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 1998

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.J. Res. 120, a resolution to disapprove the President's request for a waiver of Jackson-Vanik for Vietnam. The purpose of this Presidential waiver is to allow U.S. companies to receive U.S. government support for trade and investment in Vietnam.

I have the highest regard for Ambassador Pete Peterson and am confident that he will be a force for improving human rights in Vietnam. I have supported the normalization of relations with Vietnam and am blessed to have a strong Vietnamese-American community in my district. This community is not unanimous whether or not Jackson-Vanik should be waived. They are unanimous, however, about concerns regarding the continuing lack of freedom of emigration from Vietnam or about continuing human rights abuses there.

If the Vietnamese government allowed freedom of emigration, the President would not have needed to request a waiver of the Jackson-Vanik law in the first place. Some progress in freedom of emigration is reportedly being made, but serious problems remain.

The Vietnamese government has made some progress with people in the U.S. refugee program, Resettlement Opportunities for Vietnamese Refugees (ROVR), clearing 12,000 ROVR applicants—about 3000 per month for four months—immediately before President Clinton granted the waiver in March. Unfortunately, as soon as the waiver was granted, the approvals slowed back to a trickle—about 300 per month. There are reportedly still 4000 people we haven't been given permission to interview, including some of the most compelling cases. And, while Hanoi recently eliminated an important obstacle to U.S. access to people in ROVR, deeming that ROVR applicants will no longer need "exit permits" from local security police in order to be interviewed by U.S. refugee officers, the U.S. is unfortunately still forbidden to interview anyone whose name is not