

foundation a promise of fair and equal treatment by our government and that promise extends into the halls of Congress where fair and equal treatment demands that the Northern Marianas be represented by a Delegate.

The bill I introduce today mirrors the legislation which granted Guam and the United States Virgin Islands representation in 1972 and the legislation which granted American Samoa representation in 1980. The Northern Marianas will join the ranks of Delegates representing these islands, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia, and the Northern Marianas will add its voice to those who represent American citizens who do not reside in the fifty states, but who reside in a diverse group of American communities on American soil.

As a Delegate, I know the difficulties attached to the kind of office I hold. There are real limitations to what I can do here. But I have the freedom to speak, to argue, to introduce legislation, to participate in debate, to make friends for the people who sent me here. The fate of my island rises and falls with my ability to represent my constituents. How unfair, how unkind, how un-American it is to keep any American from having the same privilege.

I hope that the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate will act on this legislation and I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor the Northern Marianas Delegate Act.

For the record, I am attaching a statement from CNMI Resident Representative Juan Babauta.

THE NORTHERN MARIANAS DELEGATE ACT,  
AUGUST 6, 1998

Statement of the Honorable Juan N. Babauta, Resident Representative to the United States, from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

The people of the Northern Marianas voted overwhelmingly in 1975 to join the United States of America. After three centuries of colonial rule we longed to be citizens of a democratic republic, free to participate in our own governance.

Twenty-three years later, we still wait, governed from afar, the only people within the United States without a voice in Congress.

In negotiating our entry into the American political system we were advised that our small population (about 14,000 in the early 1970s) did not warrant representation in Congress. We accepted that explanation knowing that Congress had recently provided representation in the House of Representatives for Guam, the Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia and confident that once we, too, became United States citizens we would be accorded representation in our national government.

When, in 1978, Congress provided representation for the US nationals of American Samoa, a population of approximately 27,000, we in the Northern Marianas were further encouraged to believe that as a growing population of US citizens, we, too, would soon have a voice in shaping the laws which now governed us.

Our hopes rose again in 1986 when the Commission on Federal Laws appointed by President Ronald Reagan recommended to Congress that the people of the Northern Marianas be provided a Delegate in the US House of Representatives. The Reagan Commission reasoned that:

Every other area within the American political system with a permanent population is represented in Congress;

Northern Marianas representation in Congress is in keeping with American traditions

of participatory democracy and would dispel any lingering taint of American colonialism over the islands; and

A Northern Marianas Delegate would effectively represent the needs and interests of the islands, relieving other Members of this responsibility.

Although legislation was introduced supporting the Reagan Commission recommendation, the House took no action on it.

When, in 1989, I first ran for the office of Resident Representative to the United States from the Northern Mariana Islands, I pledged to make representation in Congress a priority. Despite joint resolutions from the Northern Marianas Legislature and the support of Governor Lorenzo I. DeLeon Guerrero, it was not until 1994 that a bill, HR 4927, was finally introduced. It was Robert Underwood, joined by co-sponsors Mr. Murphy, Mr. Flaeomavaega, Ms. Norton, Mr. Romero-Barceló, and Mr. de Lugo, who made that important first step on our behalf.

Their effort was followed in 1996 by the introduction of legislation by Mr. Gallegly, co-sponsored by Chairman Young, Mr. Faleomavaega, Mr. Underwood, Mr. Abercrombie, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Romero-Barceló, Mr. Frazer, Mr. Kim, and Mr. Rahall. The Northern Marianas Delegate bill was reported favorably by the Resources Committee. Opponents, however, were able to discourage floor consideration of the measure in the waning days of the 104th Congress.

In opposition to the Gallegly/Young bills, both in committee and after the bill was reported favorably, it was argued that, although the people of the Northern Marianas are US citizens, they have no inherent "right" to participate in our Nation's governance. This argument is technically correct. The Constitution makes no provision for representation in Congress for US citizens not residents of the several States. However, since the very first days of our Republic, this Congress has acknowledged that US citizens, even outside the States, should in justice have a voice in Congress. And, over the last two hundred years, Congress has so provided, giving representation in the US House to Tennessee, Oklahoma, and Michigan—together some 30 territories ranging in population from 5,000 to 250,000.

At times, though, Congress has delayed in granting this representation—in the case of Alaska because of its remoteness and its population's racial and ethnic composition. But we live in modern times, when concerns about distance and homogeneity have been superseded by technology and a more enlightened sense of justice and civil rights.

It was further argued that representation in Congress is a "privilege" and that the people of the Northern Marianas are unworthy—because of the abuse of foreign laborers which has occurred in the islands—to have the same privileges as other people living in the United States. But the privilege—if privilege it be—has been denied the people of the Northern Marianas for twenty-three years, since long before the issue of foreign labor abuse arose.

In approving the Covenant of political union with the United States, the people of the Northern Marianas elected to live under federal law. We do not fear it. We seek its protection for ourselves and for all persons living in the Northern Marianas. What we want is to have a voice in making those federal laws which govern us.

The Supreme Court of the United States opined in 1964. "[n]o right is more precious in a free country than that of having a voice in the election of those who make the laws under which, as good citizens, we must live." It is with respect for that fundamental prin-

ciple that we ask for passage of the Northern Marianas Delegate Act.

HONORING GREG GOODMAN FOR HIS PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Greg Goodman, a valued constituent of the Fifth Congressional District of Tennessee.

Greg Goodman has taken top origination honors for the State of Tennessee for the third year in a row. Greg is a vice president of Sun Trust Bank in Nashville and has been with the bank since graduating from David Lipscomb College in 1991.

Greg has closed over \$240 million in residential loans since 1991. Greg is not only number one in the State of Tennessee, but also has the honor of being one of the top originators in the southeastern United States. Greg has completed Course I at the School of Mortgage Banking at Charleston University and is one of the top marketers in the United States.

Greg's secret is based on the utilization and building of relationships. In his words: "My commitment starts with relationships. Relationship selling is focused on the customer. Exceeding expectations is the single most powerful way our team has of building credibility." Greg is a strong advocate of under-promising and over-delivering.

Greg is an active social person, married to the former Alethea Barker, a member of the Church of Christ, and he celebrates his 30th birthday on August 14, 1998. Greg is destined to continue breaking records in selling. I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

HEFLEY AMENDMENT

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, last night I voted against the Hefley Amendment. As Ranking member of the Subcommittee on Civil Service, I strongly opposed the Hefley amendment because I believe that no employee, federal or otherwise, should be subjected to employment discrimination.

Executive Order 13087, signed by President Clinton on May 28th, creates no new rights, it merely codifies existing non-discrimination policies already in force in every Federal department and agency throughout the executive branch. The Executive Order simply says that supervisors in the Federal government may not consider race, religion, gender or sexual orientation, in hiring, firing or promotion decisions. It states a fair and reasonable policy with which no true believer in our nation's founding principle of equal justice under law could disagree.

The Hefley Amendment would prohibit the expenditure of funds to implement the Executive Order. By doing so, it sends the wrong

message. It signals that it is permissible to discriminate based on sexual orientation. I find this particularly inappropriate for the Federal government which should be doing everything possible to discourage all forms of discrimination.

Last fall, at my request, the Subcommittee on Civil Service held a series of hearings on employment discrimination in the Federal workplace. During these hearings, the current evidence of discriminatory conduct in the Federal workplace was overwhelming. I asked the General Accounting Office (GAO) to look into this matter, and in a report issued last month GAO found that the number of Federal employee discrimination complaints has risen sharply over the past few years. Clearly, more must be done to stamp out discrimination. What the Helfey amendment does is promote it.

#### RECOGNITION OF LEESBURG STUDENTS IN AAA "NATIONAL AUTO SKILLS" CONTEST

##### HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 6, 1998*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to recognize two young students. They are Jason Kmak, age 17, and Gregory J. Welch, age 19. These two students represented Virginia and placed second in this year's American Automobile Association (AAA) "National Auto Skills Contest." Jason and Gregory competed as a team from the C.S. Monroe Technical Center in Leesburg, Virginia, against 49 other teams across the nation and represented AAA Potomac.

The annual competition pits the best high school auto repair teams in the nation against each other. Nationwide, more than 5,000 students competed in the competition. Over \$8 million in scholarship money is awarded in the contest. The competition is based on written exams and a timed challenge for teams to find and fix bugs deliberated created in an automobile. Only the team from Oregon placed better than Virginia's team.

Mr. Speaker, today's automobiles have more computer processing power than the first Apollo spacecraft. According to AAA, a 1998 Ford automobile has about 84 percent its functions controlled by computers, compared with 14 percent for 1990 models. The skills needed to repair automobiles today are complex and highly technical. These students displayed amazing talent by placing second in the competition. As second place winners, they will be awarded scholarships worth thousands of dollars. The team's efforts have also earned their Leesburg school a Ford vehicle for use in the school's automotive training program.

Mr. Speaker, more students should be encouraged to learn computer and advanced technology skills because it is the way of the future. From automobiles to television sets to the Internet, students must learn these skills if our nation is to remain globally competitive. I commend Jason and Gregory on their hard work and achievement, encourage them to continue to build on this success, and wish them all the very best in their future endeavors.

#### TRIBUTE TO THOMAS S. CHAN

##### HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 6, 1998*

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and to honor the memory of the late Thomas S. Chan of Sacramento, CA. As Mr. Chan is memorialized today he will be remembered by his many friends and family members as an intelligent businessman and dedicated community leader.

Mr. Chan was a true Sacramentan. Born on July 17, 1919 he was raised in Sacramento and has always called Sacramento home. He graduated from Sacramento High School in 1937. In 1942, he met Mae Chuck and the two were wed in 1947.

Tom Chan devoted much of energy into helping his family's produce business flourish. Begun by his father, Mr. Chan assumed management of General Produce Co. during the 1950s. Yet the produce business was not the only field in which Tom Chan excelled. He went on to establish himself as one of Sacramento's most innovative retailers and custom home developers. He was also an immensely talented furniture craftsman as well as an avid sportsman. General Produce Co., South Land Park Terrace, and Riverside Estates will endure as Thomas Chan's lasting legacy in Sacramento.

But like his father, Tom also leaves behind a wonderful family, friends, and a community of people who are better for having known him.

The Chan family will always hold a special place in my memories. When my family and I returned to Sacramento after the incarceration of Japanese Americans, we had few possessions, little money, and no income. Moreover, because of the internment, there was a presumption of guilt and a suspicion of Americans of Japanese ancestry throughout California.

But amidst such indignities, there were families like the Chans who reached out to my family and others like us.

My father, who was forced to give up his own produce business when the internment order came, was hired by Tom's father to work at General Produce, where he worked with and for Tom Chan for more than 30 years.

There are scores of people and families who have been similarly influenced by Tom Chan and his family. It is they who will feel the great loss in our community and remember him as an admired leader.

Mr. Speaker, as Thomas S. Chan is laid to rest today in Sacramento, I respectfully ask all of my colleagues to join me in commemorating his dual legacies as a successful businessman and beloved family figure. Our thoughts are with Mae Chan, Tom's four children, and two grandchildren during their most difficult time.

#### HONORING BAISAKHI-1999

##### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 6, 1998*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor BAISAKHI-1999, which is the Tercentenary Celebration of the birth of Khalsa.

BAISAKHI-1999 is where Indian-Americans, the government of Punjab, and the people of India will celebrate the rich Khalsa heritage of the last three hundred years. It will offer everyone an opportunity to reflect on Sikh values and traditions.

Punjab, India, is the land where the soul of Kabir found its resonance in the inspirational hymns of Guru Nanak, and the grandeur of Guru Gobind Singh's spirit inspired countless people. Punjab has always been known for the rich heritage of Sikh culture.

BAISAKHI-1999 represents the culmination of extensive planning, and has come about only through the remarkable efforts of devoted people whose commitment to the project should be commended. I would like to personally recognize the Chief Minister of Punjab Prakash Singh Badal and his council of ministers; members of the Legislative Assembly; Members of the Parliament; Serv Shri Surjeet Singh Barnala, Union Minister of India; Sukhbir Singh Badal; Jathedar Bhai Ranjit Singh; Jathedar Bhai Gurucharan Singh Tohra, M.P.; Bhajendra Singh Haumard, M.P.; Didar Singh Bhens; and the founder president of the Ambedkar International Mission U.S.A., Hardyal Singh.

To further mark this auspicious occasion, the Honorable Chief Minister of the State of Punjab, Mr. Prakash Singh Badal, has proposed the development of Anandpar Sahib, a city in Punjab to reflect the rich heritage of Sikh culture. Included in the proposal is the Khalsa Heritage Memorial Complex, the Khalsa Memorial Academic Institute, a gallery of paintings, and a Sikh military museum among other things. Also planned is a Khalsa heritage memorial which will be three hundred feet high to mark this Tercentenary Celebration.

Once again, I would like to send my best wishes for this event, and my personal congratulations on this joyous occasion.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE CAPITAL GAINS TAX SIMPLIFICATION ACT OF 1998

##### HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 6, 1998*

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, on April 1 of this year, several of my colleagues and I introduced H.R. 3623, the "Capital Gains Tax Simplification Act of 1998," which would simplify the computation of capital gains taxes for all individual taxpayers. The bill would also provide modest capital gains tax reductions for millions of Americans.

At the time of introduction, I stated that we would modify the legislation if the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) determined upon reviewing the bill that there would be a revenue loss. Since then, I have learned from the JCT that this bill as originally introduced would lose revenue. With this concern in mind, I have decided to modify and reintroduce this capital gains legislation. The bill would now raise \$600 million over a ten-year period.

Based upon revenue considerations, we have modified the Capital Gains Tax Simplification Act of 1998 in several areas, none of which would affect the basic goal of substantially simplifying the taxation of capital