

HUMAN SERVICES
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 1998

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise in support of the bipartisan Community Opportunities and Educational Services Act, which reauthorizes and strengthens some of our most important programs to help needy families: Head Start, LIHEAP, and the Community Services Block Grant.

I am pleased that the Committee has chosen to drop counterproductive, controversial amendments that would have undermined the quality of Head Start programs, and instead has emphasized efforts to improve the quality of services the program offers. I am particularly pleased that the Early Head Start 0–3 program is being expanded, although I would urge the conferees to adopt the 0–3 set-asides in the Senate bill. Recent scientific discoveries have highlighted the importance of the highest possible quality care in the early years of life. Under the Senate legislation, only one in every 25 eligible babies would be served by the Head Start program; the House bill provides \$185 million less over five years than the Senate-passed legislation.

I am also pleased that the Committee is reauthorizing the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, which has assisted so many needy families in my home state of Connecticut and throughout the country. Too many seniors and families with children are forced to go without food or prescription drugs during the winters' coldest days because they do not have enough money to pay their heating bills and other necessities. And who can forget the deaths in the midwest last year caused by the heat. Seniors who owned air conditioners but were too afraid of the bills to turn them on suffered heat-related illnesses and even died simply because they didn't have the money to pay their energy bills. As we reauthorized the LIHEAP program at \$1.1 billion, I call on the House to reject the Labor-HHS appropriations bill which eliminates funding for LIHEAP for next year, and provide full funding for this important program.

The Community Services Block Grant also provides vital services to low income families, including child care, weatherization assistance, home delivery of meals to seniors, and other vital programs. This block grant, which is administered by community groups throughout the country, helps to create a safety net for our most vulnerable citizens.

I commend the Committee for its bipartisan legislation, and urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING ROSANN WISMAN

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 1998

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, the District of Columbia is fortunate to have many good people who dedicate their lives to improving the common good. One such person is Ms.

Rosann Wisman who, for the past 14 years has served as president and chief executive officer of Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan Washington. During Ms. Wisman's 23 years of experience in family planning management, she has built a local and national reputation for her commitment to the highest standards in reproductive health care.

Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan Washington grew significantly during Ms. Wisman's tenure—both in number of people served and programs offered. Today, over 20,000 women, men, adolescents—more than three-quarters of whom are very poor with little or no access to other medical care—rely on this non-profit's seven family planning clinics. The three Planned Parenthood clinics in the District are located at 2811 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE; 2513 Alabama Avenue, SE; and 1108 16th Street, NW.

Ms. Wisman expanded clinical services to include abortion, the diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV testing and counseling, and primary care. Today, Planned Parenthood, now in its 62 year, is the largest provider of family services to Washington area low-income women and the District's largest provider of first-trimester abortion services.

Since 1990, as a result of a bilingual outreach program spearheaded by Ms. Wisman, Planned Parenthood has also become a major provider of bilingual, culturally-sensitive family planning services to Latino women and families in Washington and the surrounding area. And, in 1992 under her leadership, Planned Parenthood established a partnership with African-American churches in the District to help reduce unplanned teen pregnancies. This partnership effort led to the opening of a Planned Parenthood family planning clinic at the Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church in Southeast Washington.

Rosann Wisman's commitment to access to reproductive health care services springs from her belief that every child should be a wanted child. Toward that goal, Ms. Wisman advocates freedom of choice—that no woman should be pressured to continue a pregnancy against her will by the government, religion or society. Ms. Wisman has testified frequently on allowing the District of Columbia the freedom to use its local revenue to fund abortions for the city's poor women, and on other birth control and reproductive rights issues before Congressional and local legislative committees.

Throughout Ms. Wisman's 14 years of leadership at Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan Washington, she has helped demonstrate that access to family planning medical services and birth control education reduces the need for abortion, lower infant and maternal deaths, and combats the cycle of poverty and teen childbearing.

Rosann is leaving Washington to move with her family to Japan. It is with special pride that I salute Rosann Wisman and wish her farewell. She will be missed.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SISTER
ALICE ANNE LANE

HON. ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 1998

Mr. BLAGOJEVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Sister Alice Ann Lane, who will be celebrating her 70th Jubilee as a member of the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Sister Alice Ann has devoted 57 of her 86 years to guiding and educating America's youth. She taught in Iowa for 32 years, before sharing her knowledge and wisdom with the children in Northwest Chicago for 25 years. Today, even in her retirement, this vibrant and loving woman dedicates her time to volunteering for the Department of Aging and tutoring students in need of her help.

In a time when education is at the forefront of Congress' agenda, Sister Alice Ann provides what we as legislators already know—that a strong education, including dedicated teachers like Sister Alice Ann, is the cornerstone of a strong democracy and a strong America.

On behalf of the constituents of the 5th district of Illinois, I would like to thank Sister Alice Ann for her devotion and commitment to teaching, to helping others and to touching the lives of so many.

TRIBUTE TO ANGELO R. MUSTO
JR.

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 1998

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of East Boston's most beloved and dedicated public servants. Angelo R. Musto Jr., who died on July 4, 1998, left an inspiring legacy of bettering the lives of all he knew throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In more than eight decades on earth, there was no arena of community life neglected by Angelo Musto. Politics, social services, business development, youth programs—wherever there was a need, Angelo filled it. In his professional career, Angelo demonstrated the same spirit of selfless service, particularly in steering troubled youngsters towards a brighter future.

He began his career in the depths of the Great Depression with the National Youth Administration. He later became a counselor with the East Boston Camps and joined the Goodwill House in Jeffries Point, eventually rising to executive director in charge of a wide array of social, educational, and recreational services.

In recognition of his expertise, the late Governor John A. Volpe made Angelo a special assistant in the Boston Municipal Court in 1957 and later appointed him to the Massachusetts Advisory Committee on Corrections to help the criminal justice system mend broken lives more effectively. He was later appointed to the Suffolk County Courthouse Commission. In 1965, Angelo was appointed Deputy Commissioner of Probations and 13 years later rose to become First Deputy Commissioner.

Angelo actively worked with the East Boston Chamber of Commerce for over 40 years and received its Man of the Year Award in 1973. He also served on the boards of the United Fund, the Kiwanis, the Mental Health Area Board, the East Boston Savings Bank and the East Boston Social Centers. Among his many accomplishments, perhaps the most notable was the creation of the Goodwill House Day Program in Jeffries Point, which to this day serves as a national model for urban day camps.

Throughout his years of service, Angelo remained firmly committed to improving the lives of our youth. His work as the general director of the East Boston Camps and as a member of the East Boston Athletic Board helped give city kids a reprieve from the streets and taught them the values he embraced—discipline, compassion and strength of body and mind. By the time I launched my first campaign for Congress in 1986, Angelo Musto had already cultivated the talents of three generations of East Boston's youth and drew on those far-reaching ties to create a formidable political presence in East Boston.

During that first campaign, he drew extensively on his detailed knowledge of the history of the community, reaching back to the arrival of the Kennedys in East Boston. Angelo knew the history, but most importantly he knew the people and the issues they cared about—quality health care, good schools, decent housing, access to college, and protection from outside forces that have long sought to sacrifice East Boston's quality of life to the airline industry.

The eager volunteers that fanned out across East Boston in 1986 quickly learned the rules of politics as taught by Angelo. I recall one incident in which one of the higher-profile members of my campaign team upbraided a volunteer in our East Boston headquarters. Angelo stepped in, and with the persuasive skill he had acquired through years of politicking, calmed the rising tension, gently rebuked the bigwig and at the same time made it clear that the Kennedy team in East Boston would never be a house divided.

Throughout the years that followed, Angelo Musto remained an invaluable member of my Congressional team. As my East Boston District Representative and 8th District Coordinator for Seniors from 1987 until his retirement in 1992, he served as a vital link to the community—attending meetings, fielding constituent calls, and working to fund worthy projects. His dedication to the comfort of East Boston's senior citizens resulted in such accomplishments as securing federal support to renovate the Don Orione Nursing Home.

With Angelo's passing, my heart goes out to his daughter Faith, his brothers Louis and Vincent, his sisters Lucille, Emma, and Theresa, and to his grandchildren George and Lisa.

The truth is, we were all a part of Angelo Musto's extended family, which reached across lines of age and party and profession to include the great sweep of those whose lives he touched and served.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS DAY IN NEW BEDFORD

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 1998

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, as the Representative of New Bedford, Massachusetts for nearly six years, I am always pleased to have the opportunity to discuss the city's remarkable history. Indeed, New Bedford's marvelous heritage has been recognized by the U.S. Congress with the passage in 1996 of the legislation establishing a National Park in the city to commemorate its role as an international whaling center. A lesser known, but also important, element of New Bedford's history is its role as a way station on the Underground Railroad. That legacy will be celebrated in the city on Thursday, September 17, the 160th anniversary of the arrival in New Bedford of Frederick Douglass and his wife. As part of that celebration, New Bedford Mayor Frederick Kalisz, Jr. has issued a proclamation designating September 17 as "Frederick Douglass Day" in the city.

Frederick Douglass (who took that surname after arriving in New Bedford), is of course known to history as one of the prominent escaped slaves and abolitionists. However, he also lived and raised a family for four years in New Bedford before his personal and political journeys took him elsewhere. Though we are today many decades removed from both his arrival in New Bedford and from the terrible period in our history when slavery existed in this nation, the issue of race relations remains a major problem in this country. And I believe it is important for us to keep the memory of that time alive for several reasons. Obviously, we must never forget either the absolute violation of every conceivable notion of human rights that slavery represented or the stirring achievements of those who traveled on, or helped other travel on, the Underground Railroad, at an extraordinary risk to their lives. But is also important for us to focus on the past because the lessons of that period in our history are still with us today, and as we attempt to alleviate the racial inequities which still exist in our society, we must not forget what came before.

For these reasons, I am very pleased that, as part of the ongoing work of the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, the National Park Service has been helping improve our understanding of the city's role in the Underground Railroad. This effort will be supplemented in many valuable ways now that the President has signed into law the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Act, a bill I cosponsored and strongly supported. These two initiatives, along with the continued fine work of the many residents of New Bedford who have done so much to keep the Underground Railroad legacy alive for years without federal assistance, will ensure that this important history is preserved for future generations. Though I regret that I am unable to join in the celebration in person because the House will be in session on the 17th, I am especially pleased that New Bedford will be taking the time to publicly celebrate the 160th anniversary of this important date in the city's and our country's history, and I ask that the Mayor's proclamation on Frederick Douglass Day be reprinted here.

PROCLAMATION

FREDERICK DOUGLASS DAY

Whereas: New Bedford was an important station on the "underground railroad" and

Whereas: Frederick and Anna Johnson arrived in New Bedford on September 17, 1838 via the underground railroad and

Whereas: Frederick and Anna Johnson were given refuge by Nathan and Mary Johnson at their 21 Seventh Street residence and

Whereas: Nathan Johnson was responsible for giving Frederick his last name of DOUGLASS and

Whereas: Frederick received one of his first jobs as a freeman, on the wharves of New Bedford and

Whereas: Three of the Douglass children were born in New Bedford, Rosetta, Lewis, and Frederick Jr. and

Whereas: Frederick Douglass gave his first speech in New Bedford, at the Third Christian Church and

Whereas: The Douglass family resided in New Bedford until 1842 and

Whereas: September 17, 1998, marks the 160th anniversary of the escape of Frederick Douglass from slavery to New Bedford.

Therefore, I, Mayor Frederick M. Kalisz Jr., hereby proclaim Thursday September 17, 1998, as FREDERICK DOUGLASS DAY and urge all its citizens to appropriately commemorate this day.

THE PASSING OF BERNICE GLASS

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my sad duty to inform our colleagues of the passing of a truly remarkable resident of my 20th Congressional District of New York.

Bernice Glass was only 75 years young, but she not only witnessed the incredible civil rights revolution which took place during her lifetime, she immensely contributed to it.

Born in Virginia, the granddaughter of slaves, Bernice moved with her family to Nyack, NY, at the age of two. She heard from her parents and grandparents of the injustice and inhumanity of Jim Crow, and vowed that future generations would not have to endure such indignities.

Accordingly, Bernice founded the Racial Equality Movement in Rockland County in the 1950's, at a time when Americans were only beginning to become conscious of the need for civil rights for all. She became the first Afro American woman to serve as a police matron, in 1960. She was active in the NAACP, and witnessed the historic contributions made by Rosa Parks, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the other giants who courageously fought for civil rights.

In the 1970s, she became the first Afro American Court Officer in the County Clerks office, and was appointed to represent the County Legislature on the Rockland Community Action Council. She also became active with the Housing Authority of the Village of Nyack, and became known as that Village's "unofficial Mayor."

Ms. Glass founded the O'Grady-Brown Memorial Scholarship Fund in 1981, in honor of the two law enforcement officers slain during the infamous Brink's Robbery in her home community earlier that year. This scholarship is awarded to promising students desiring to pursue a career in law enforcement.