

HONORING YWCA OF YONKERS
WEEK WITHOUT VIOLENCE**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 20, 1998

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a laudable program of the YWCA of Yonkers in which a week-long series of events will highlight the struggle against violence.

This is the fourth year in a row in which the 'Y' is sponsoring a "Week Without Violence" program to inspire people to consider alternatives to violence by demonstrating that people from all communities can live together without violence in their homes, schools and neighborhoods.

From October 18 through October 24 the 'Y' is sponsoring a series of programs and remembrances with the support of the Police Department, the Public Schools, the Martin Luther King, Jr., Commission for Nonviolence, My Sister's Place, and Cluster's Conflict Resolution Program.

The series includes a public education campaign to identify and activate practical alternatives to violence. It also includes a day of remembrance in memory of Yonkers residents who lost their lives to violence, most especially the Biller family and Frederick Pagliara.

The week includes programs which treat violence against women as well as violence against men and the scourge of race and hate crimes.

The 'Y' program, by spotlighting violence and the harm it does to all of us, and by offering alternatives, such as conflict resolution, gives positive recommendations to help the community. It is part of a nationwide 'Y' program we all should join to reduce the epidemic of violence in America and make our country secure for all.

DIVORCING THE MARRIAGE
PENALTY**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 20, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding the elimination of the marriage penalty. This reform is long-overdue, and I am pleased to hear the consistent, overwhelming support of many constituents in Colorado's Fourth Congressional District.

As every married couple knows all too well, the marriage penalty is the amount of combined tax a couple pays in excess of the amount they would have paid had they filed as "single." For instance, suppose a husband and wife each earned \$30,500, resulting in a combined income of \$61,000. They would pay \$8,563 in federal taxes. However, if they were to file as "single," each would owe \$3,592, for a combined total of \$7,184. By filing together, this couple is unfairly hit with a \$1,379 marriage penalty.

Government should encourage the strengthening of the American family, not undermine it with ill-conceived taxing schemes. According to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), 42 percent of married couples—numbering 21

million couples—were subjected to the penalty in 1996. Per couple, they paid approximately \$1,400 more in taxes due solely to the fact they were married. This is clearly wrong.

I support a number of approaches to solve this problem. The first is the 1999 federal budget recently passed by the House. As an alternative to the \$128 billion in new taxes and spending in the President's proposed budget, House Republicans crafted a plan that will decrease government growth by 1 percent. The savings are set aside to eliminate the marriage penalty. I supported this reasonable approach, and voted for the measure when it passed the House by a vote of 216–204 on June 5, 1998.

Another approach is a bill I cosponsored, H.R. 3734, which will change the tax code to assure the rates of taxation for married and single people are equitable. I strongly support this excellent proposal and will actively work to see its passage in the next session of Congress.

Recently, Chairman BILL ARCHER (TX) introduced H.R. 4579, the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1998, which would reduce taxes by an estimated \$80 billion over 5 years. I strongly supported this bill and voted with the full House to approve it on September 26. Specifically, the proposal reduces the marriage tax penalty by expanding the standard deduction for a married couple to twice the amount a single taxpayer can deduct.

Unfortunately, President Clinton has shown little support for our efforts. Once again, Republicans must fight the liberal legacy of tax-and-spend, anti-family policies. Through many different schemes, Democrats have consistently demonstrated an aversion to the fundamental institutions of this great country: religion, morality, family and life.

Even though we were unable to include marriage penalty relief in the Omnibus Appropriations bill this week, eliminating the marriage penalty will continue to be a major priority for me, and I will continue to pursue every opportunity to repeal this unfair tax on the American family.

WORLD POPULATION AWARENESS
WEEK 1998**HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 20, 1998

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call World Population Awareness Week 1998 to the attention of my colleagues. October 24–31 marks the 13th annual celebration of World Population Awareness Week. More than 300 family planning, environmental, educational, community and service organizations in 61 countries are co-sponsoring the week in an effort to raise awareness of the need for universal voluntary family planning.

I call Governor Don Sundquist's proclamation to the attention of my colleagues and ask that it be submitted for the RECORD.

THE STATE OF TENNESSEE PROCLAMATION

Whereas, more than half of the world's population will live in urban agglomerations by the turn of the century; and

Whereas, the growth of cities provides opportunities, but also portends risks that could intensify poverty, pollution, disease,

social disintegration, violence and human misery; and

Whereas, urban poverty is already as high as 60 percent in some metropolitan areas, more than one-third of the urban population has substandard housing, and 40 percent lack access to safe drinking water of adequate sanitation; and

Whereas, in all regions of the world—north and south, rich and poor—rabid urbanization has spawned a number of common problems including unemployment, a shortage of adequate housing, traffic congestion, declining infrastructure, and lack of funds to provide for basic services; and

Whereas, urban crises, stemming from high population density and activity is expected to be among the major challenges of the 21st century.

Now therefore, I Don Sundquist, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of October 24–31, 1998, as World Population Awareness Week in Tennessee and urge all citizens to join me in recognizing this worthy observance.

TRIBUTE TO ALBERTINA SISULU
OF SOUTH AFRICA**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 20, 1998

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great woman who has earned a place in history, Mrs. Albertina Sisulu of South Africa, who was elected as a member of Parliament in 1994.

Born in the Transkei, she lived in Johannesburg when the African National Congress Youth League became active in 1944. It was an eventful year for her. She joined the League, qualified as a nurse and midwife, and married Walter Sisulu, the political leader and friend of Nelson Mandela who shared his passion for freedom and justice.

Together, the Sisulus fought oppression and endured enormous anguish as Welter, who was then the general secretary of the ANC, was imprisoned eight times between 1953 and 1964. Mrs. Sisulu joined the ANC Women's League and became an executive member of the Federation of South African Women. She played an active role in the 1952 Defiance Campaign and in the protest against the Bantu Education Act. In 1956, she was prominent in the historic national demonstration in Pretoria when 20,000 women protested against the extension of passes to African women. In 1959, she was elected treasurer of the ANC Women's League.

Mrs. Sisulu showed tremendous courage in continuing her anti-apartheid activities after her husband was sent to Robben Island and she herself was placed under banning orders for nineteen years, ten of them under house arrest. In August of 1983, she was charged with furthering the aims of the ANC. Six months later she was found guilty and sentenced to four years' imprisonment, but her conviction was overturned. While she was in custody awaiting trial, she was elected as the Transvaal President of the newly-formed United Democratic Front. She also became National President of the South African Federation of Women. In 1988, she was again banned and her freedom to travel was restricted. Undaunted, she joined other prominent Soweto citizens who negotiated with the