

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PUT THE DECENNIAL CENSUS BACK ON TRACK

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today in opposition to the plan of the Census Bureau to use sampling techniques in the Decennial Census.

The situation is clear: we must abide by the Constitution as we have in every census for over 200 years. As we all know, Article I Section II says that "an actual enumeration" must be done every 10 years. Now, for the first time in our history, this is not good enough. Some feel that counting part of the population and guesstimating the rest is better than actually counting the population head by head, as the Constitution requires.

The Director of the Census Bureau, Kenneth Prewitt, said last Wednesday he would abide by the Supreme Court ruling by using two sets of numbers in the Decennial Census. Recognizing part of the Court's decision, Prewitt plans to use enumeration for apportionment. However, the Census Bureau plans to create a second set of numbers, using sampling techniques, for redrawing House districts. Although they were not asked to rule on the constitutionality of sampling, four Justices said that using sampling for a census is illegal. But, the Administration continues to include sampling techniques in the Decennial Census, despite the contradictory rulings of several courts.

Mr. Speaker, this plan will only create more problems. Holding two censuses, which is exactly what the Bureau is doing by creating two figures, will double costs, lead to an increase in litigation with discrepancies over figures, and increase the chance that the census will not be done in a timely fashion. For the past six years, the Census Bureau was against a two-figure census for the very same reasons. This dual-track census is wrong, and they know it.

We in Congress have the responsibility to stand up for the American people. They do not want two versions of how many people live in our nation, and have to deal with the resulting confusion for ten years. I encourage my colleagues to consider this dual-track census plan as we consider releasing funding for the Commerce, State, and Justice Departments that is set to expire on June 15. This may be the last opportunity to put the Decennial Census back on track.

INTRODUCING THE EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT TAX CUT ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Education Improvement Tax Cut Act of

1999. This act, a companion to my Family Education Freedom Act, takes a further step toward returning control over education resources to private citizens by providing a \$3,000 tax credit for donations to scholarship funds to enable low-income children to attend private schools. It also encourages private citizens to devote more of their resources to helping public schools, by providing a \$3,000 tax credit for cash or in-kind donations to public schools to support academic or extra-curricular programs.

I need not remind my colleagues that education is one of, if not the top priority of the American people. After all, many members of Congress have proposed education reforms and a great deal of their time is spent debating these proposals. However, most of these proposals either expand federal control over education or engage in the pseudo-federalism of block grants. I propose we go in a different direction by embracing true federalism by returning control over the education dollar to the American people.

One of the major problems with centralized control over education funding is that spending priorities set by Washington-based Representatives, staffers, and bureaucrats do not necessarily match the needs of individual communities. In fact, it would be a miracle if spending priorities determined by the wishes of certain politically powerful Representatives or the theories of Education Department functionaries match the priorities of every community in a country as large and diverse as America. Block grants do not solve this problem as they simply allow states and localities to choose the means to reach federally-determined ends.

Returning control over the education dollar for tax credits for parents and for other concerned citizens returns control over the ends of education policy to local communities. People in one community may use this credit to purchase computers, while children in another community may, at last, have access to a quality music program because of community leaders who took advantage of the tax credit contained in this bill.

Children in some communities may benefit most from the opportunity to attend private, parochial, or other religious schools. One of the most encouraging trends in education has been the establishment of private scholarship programs. These scholarship funds use voluntary contributions to open the doors of quality private schools to low-income children. By providing a tax credit for donations to these programs, Congress can widen the educational opportunities and increase the quality of education for all children. Furthermore, privately-funded scholarships raise none of the concerns of state entanglement raised by publicly-funded vouchers.

There is no doubt that Americans will always spend generously on education, the question is, "who should control the education dollar—politicians and bureaucrats or the American people?" Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in placing control of edu-

cation back in the hands of citizens and local communities by sponsoring the Education Improvement Tax Cut Act of 1999.

INTRODUCING THE GRATON RANCHERIA RESTORATION ACT

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to introduce legislation that would restore federal recognition for the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, which is primarily composed of the Coast Miwok and Southern Pomo tribal members. This is a matter of simple justice, because in 1966 the United States government terminated the tribe's status under the California Rancheria Act of 1958.

My bill, the Graton Rancheria Restoration Act, restores all federal rights and privileges to the tribal members. It reinstates their political status and makes them eligible for benefits now available to other federally recognized tribes, such as Native American health, education, and housing services. The bill also specifically prohibits gambling on tribal lands affected by the bill.

The earliest historical account of the Coast Miwok peoples, whose traditional homelands include Bodega, Tomales, Marshall in Marin County and Sebastopol in Sonoma County, dates back to 1579. Today there are 355 members of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria.

Legislation passed by Congress in 1992 and later amended in 1996, established an Advisory Council in California to study and report on the special circumstances facing tribes whose status had been terminated. The Council's final report, which was submitted to Congress in September 1997, recommended the restoration of the Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria.

Mr. Speaker, the tribes of the Graton Rancheria are a rich part of the North Bay's cultural heritage. Terminating their status was wrong then, and it would be wrong now for us to continue to deny them the recognition that they deserve.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JUDGE ED J. HARRIS

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, my colleague (Mr. LAMPSON) and I ask all of our colleagues in Congress to join us in paying tribute to an outstanding individual, Judge Ed J. Harris. Ed passed away on February 10th

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

after leading a long and distinguished life of public service and civic duty.

Ed Harris devoted his professional and private life to serving his home state of Texas. After graduating from Southwestern University in 1941, Ed entered the United States Navy to bravely fight for his country for six years during World War II.

After devoting his energy towards completion of both his law degree and master's degree, Ed joined the law firm of Martin, Carmona, Cruse, Micks & Dunten in 1956. Ed was admired by his colleagues for his devotion to the law and constant strive for excellence, and within two years he became senior partner. He distinguished himself as a respected leader and accomplished attorney for the next 21 years.

Ed spent thirty-three years of his extraordinary professional career as an elected public official, which in of itself is a testament of his outstanding leadership capacity and desire to serve the community he loved. He won the first of his 17 successful elections in 1961 when he was elected as Galveston City Councilman, where he served for three years. In 1962, Ed's devotion to service led to his election to the Texas Legislature as a State Representative, where he honorably served for fourteen years.

After Ed completed his tenure as State Representative, he became State District Judge, where he presided over the administrative, civil, and criminal dockets until his 1993 retirement. Ed is remembered by all he encountered for his kindness and his dedication to the law.

Ed lead a rich and active civic life that enhanced the lives of the people in his community. He was a devoted parishioner of Moody Memorial First United Methodist Church in Galveston and was a board member of McMahan's Chapel, the oldest protestant church in Texas. He continued his long dedication to the law through his activity in many county and state bar associations and in the American Judges Association. Ed also maintained his Navy ties through his participation in the Retired Officers association and VFW. Ed's desire to help those less fortunate than he was a constant force in the community. In fact, in 1986 and 1987, Ed rode in the 175 mile, two-day Houston Muscular Dystrophy Bike Tour, where he earned \$14,000 in pledges for this cause. In 1991, Ed received the 1st Annual Independence Award from North Galveston County Democrats for his lifetime of devotion to this community.

The death of Ed Harris is a blow to all that loved and respected him. His years of public service and devotion to his community touched thousands of lives. Those who were fortunate enough to have known Ed will never forget his kind spirit, his leadership in the community, and his dedication and understanding of the law. He has left a legacy that will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, please join us in paying tribute to the life of Ed Harris. Those of us fortunate enough to have known him are truly blessed.

HONORING OUR NATION'S BEST
AND BRIGHTEST

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate four outstanding high school students from my Congressional District, who were recently named as finalists in the Intel Science Talent Search. The talent search has given each of these students an opportunity to demonstrate their unique talents and capacity for innovation. The students will be honored this week in Washington with the thirty-six other finalists. Indeed, it is both humbling and inspirational to listen to the accomplishments of these dynamic individuals.

Trevor Bass, of Great Neck, used a genetic algorithm to analyze the theory of evolution. At Great Neck South High School, Trevor is the coach of the math team and has won several awards in math, computer science and physics. He hopes to attend Harvard University in the fall.

Lauren Cooper, of Roslyn, studied how gender based language influences our perceptions of Presidential candidates. At Roslyn High School, Lauren is active in student government and president of the math club. Lauren plans to attend Duke University in the fall.

Lisa Schwartz, of Roslyn, examined patterns in two-way sequences of positive integers for her project. At Roslyn High School, Lisa is the captain of her forensics team and the editor in chief of both her yearbook and newspaper. She is currently ranked first in her class of 221 students and hopes to attend Harvard University in the fall.

Eric Stern, of Great Neck, has studied the nature of Alzheimer's disease. At Great Neck South High School, Eric has led the marching band and science club and has won many music, math, and science awards. Next year, David hopes to attend Yale University.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the schools in the Fifth Congressional District of New York. These students' achievements underscore our community's commitment to excellence in education. These four scholars truly embody the ideals of innovation, perseverance, and leadership. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in honoring and congratulating these young men and women, on their many accomplishments, and extending to them our best wishes for continued success in what appears to be a very bright future.

TRIBUTE TO BOB LIVINGSTON,
REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE
FIRST DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, Today I would like to extend my best wishes and prayers to BOB LIVINGSTON and his family as he retires from the House of Representatives. I know he has put the best interests of the family ahead of politics and I respect him deeply for that.

Chairman LIVINGSTON'S leadership skills and productive energy will be sorely missed on appropriations and in the House. I know that others have praised BOB for his humor and his intellect. I want to echo those words while I add that BOB LIVINGSTON is also a very good friend.

Since I came to Congress, he has been a mentor and much more. He has provided campaign support when I needed it, but more importantly he has assisted me with professional guidance as I learned the ropes in the Appropriations Committee.

The House of Representatives has been affected positively by the work of our colleague BOB LIVINGSTON. I know his future endeavors will be equally successful. I hope he will remember us as fellow combatants in a fight to cut government waste and return control to the American people. It is a great honor to have served during this period with BOB LIVINGSTON and I know his work will be a testament to his dedication to public service for many, many years to come.

INTRODUCING THE FAMILY
EDUCATION FREEDOM ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Family Education Freedom Act of 1999, a bill to empower millions of working- and middle-class Americans to choose a non-public education for their children, as well as making it easier for parents to actively participate in improving public schools. The Family Education Freedom Act accomplishes its goals by allowing American parents a tax credit of up to \$3,000 for the expenses incurred in sending their child to private, public, parochial, other religious school, or for home schooling their children.

The Family Education Freedom Act returns the fundamental principal of a truly free economy to America's education system: what the great economist Ludwig von Mises called "consumer sovereignty." Consumer sovereignty simply means consumers decide who succeeds or fails in the market. Businesses that best satisfy consumer demand will be the most successful. Consumer sovereignty is the means by which the free market maximizes human happiness.

Currently, consumers are less than sovereign in the education "market." Funding decisions are increasingly controlled by the federal government. Because "he who pays the piper calls the tune," public, and even private schools, are paying greater attention to the dictates of federal "educrats" while ignoring the wishes of the parents to an ever-greater degree. As such, the lack of consumer sovereignty in education is destroying parental control of education and replacing it with state control.

Loss of control is a key reason why so many of America's parents express dissatisfaction with the educational system. According to a recent study by The Polling Company, over 70% of all Americans support education tax credits! This is just one of numerous studies and public opinion polls showing that Americans want Congress to get the federal

bureaucracy out of the schoolroom and give parents more control over their children's education.

Today, Congress can fulfill the wishes of the American people for greater control over their children's education by simply allowing parents to keep more of their hard-earned money to spend on education rather than force them to send it to Washington to support education programs reflective only of the values and priorities of Congress and the federal bureaucracy.

The \$3,000 tax credit will make a better education affordable for millions of parents. Mr. Speaker, many parents who would choose to send their children to private, religious, or parochial schools are unable to afford the tuition, in large part because of the enormous tax burden imposed on the American family by Washington.

The Family Education Freedom Act also benefits parents who choose to send their children to public schools. Although public schools are traditionally financed through local taxes, increasingly, parents who wish their children to receive a quality education may wish to use their credit to improve their schools by helping financing the purchase of educational tools such as computers or extra-curricular activities such as music programs. Parents of public school students may also wish to use the credit to pay for special services for their children.

Greater parental support and involvement is surely a better way to improve public schools than funneling more federal tax dollars, followed by greater federal control, into the public schools. Furthermore, a greater reliance on parental expenditures rather than government tax dollars will help make the public schools into true community schools that reflect the wishes of parents and the interests of the students.

The Family Education Freedom Act will also aid those parents who choose to educate their children at home. Home schooling has become an increasingly popular, and successful method, of educating children. According to recent studies, home schooled children outperform their public school peers by 30 to 37 percentile points across all subjects on nationally standardized achievement exams. Home schooling parents spend thousands of dollars annually, in addition to the wages forgone by the spouse who forgoes outside employment, in order to educate their children in the loving environment of the home.

Ultimately, Mr. Speaker, this bill is about freedom. Parental control of child rearing, especially education, is one of the bulwarks of liberty. No nation can remain free when the state has greater influence over the knowledge and values transmitted to children than the family.

By moving to restore the primacy of parents to education, the Family Education Freedom Act will not only improve America's education, it will restore a parent's right to choose how best to educate one's own child, a fundamental freedom that has been eroded by the increase in federal education expenditures and the corresponding decrease in the ability of parents to provide for their children's education out of their own pockets. I call on all my colleagues to join me in allowing parents to devote more of their resources to their children's education and less to feed the wasteful Washington bureaucracy by supporting the Family Education Freedom Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for rollcall vote No. 28 on February 25, 1999, I would have voted "yea" on final passage of the Wireless Privacy Enhancement Act.

HONORING FIRE MARSHAL J.J. PRUITT

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues in Congress to join me in paying tribute to an outstanding individual, Fire Marshal J.J. Pruitt. J.J. will retire after nearly a half-century of fighting and investigating fires.

J.J. began his career in 1950 when he entered the Houston Fire Department. He soon distinguished himself among his colleagues and all who encountered him through his selflessness, courage, and quick thinking in the most serious of circumstances.

J.J.'s years of distinguished service lead him to a position of responsibility and leadership at the head of Harris County's Fire Marshal's Office. As Marshal, J.J. oversaw a \$1.3 million annual budget, seventeen employees, and 29 full-time volunteer departments. He led his office in planning and coordination of fire prevention and control services in the unincorporated areas of Harris County and investigated arson.

J.J.'s decision to retire is definitely a blow to the Harris County community. His almost fifty years of dedicated service will leave a legacy for future fire marshals. Those people who have had the opportunity to work with J.J. are very fortunate to have benefitted from his leadership and courageous devotion to saving lives.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Fire Marshal J.J. Pruitt for his service to Harris County. Those of us who know J.J. are truly grateful for his leadership and wish him well in all his future endeavors.

STERNBERG MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the dedication of Dr. Edward H. Hammond on the occasion of the opening to the new Sternberg Museum of Natural History on the Fort Hays State University Campus in Hays, Kansas.

In the early 1990's, Fort Hays State University President Edward H. Hammond made the commitment to raise the funds necessary to move the impressive Sternberg fossil collection to an equally impressive facility. After

eight years and \$11 million dollars, his vision has been realized. The collection's new home is a state of the art 100,000 square foot dome and adjoining facility which will not only house the artifacts but provide a realistic journey through the world of prehistoric flora and fauna.

The Sternberg Collection has long been one of the premier collections of fossils in the world. It holds the largest collection of fossil grasses; it has the third largest collection of flying reptiles, and it's mammal collection ranks in the top 20 in North America. The Collection's volume of more than 3,750,000 artifacts and specimens ranks it the world's largest at a small university.

Dr. George M. Sternberg, an army surgeon began the collection in 1866. His sons developed a love for fossil hunting, and his son George F. eventually established his paleontology headquarters in 1927 at Kansas State Teachers College of Hays, now Fort Hays State University. George was made Curator of Geology and Paleontology and continued to manage and add to the Sternberg Collection until his retirement in 1961. In 1994, the Sternberg Collection was combined with the Museum of the High Plains under one director, Dr. Jerry Choate.

The completion of this project marks a major achievement for Fort Hays State University and the community of Hays. The new facility promises to draw scholars and curious travelers from around the globe and provide them with an exciting experience in prehistoric times. I commend University President Edward H. Hammond and Museum Director Dr. Jerry Choate for their creativity and tenacity in envisioning and completing this project. It is truly a landmark accomplishment.

H. CON. RES. 38, PAUL ROBESON COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMP

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to join with several of my colleagues in introducing a Concurrent Resolution urging the U.S. Postal Service's Citizen Stamp Advisory Committee to issue a commemorative postage stamp honoring Paul Leroy Robeson.

This bill marks an important step in recognizing the many contributions Paul Robeson made to America, especially to the African-American community. Paul Robeson was a well known African-American athlete, singer, actor, and advocate for the civil rights of people.

In the midst of segregation, Paul Robeson managed to attend Rutgers University and Columbia law school where he rose to academic prominence. Unfortunately, discrimination in the legal field forced Paul Robeson to leave the practice of law. However, he was able to use his artistic talents in the theater and music to promote African-American history and culture.

Paul Robeson is revered around the world for his artistic talents. Robeson became even more celebrated because of his role as a world famous singer and actor with exquisite performances that included Shakespeare's

Othello and Showboat. Armed with the knowledge of twenty-five languages Robeson was able to sing for peace and justice throughout the world.

Last year marked the 100th birthday of Paul Robeson. It is only fitting that we celebrate Robeson's legacy by issuing a commemorative postage stamp in his honor.

HONOR AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY WITH A MUSEUM ON THE MALL

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to establish an African-American Museum on the mall, in Washington, D.C., as part of the Smithsonian Institution.

The story of black people in America has yet to be told in its entirety. African-American history is an integral part of our country, yet the richness and variety of that history is little-known and little-understood. As tourists from all over the world come to visit our Nation's Capital, they will not be able to learn the full history of black people in America. This museum represents a great opportunity—to showcase our history in its diversity and breadth, and to make the understanding of American history more complete.

Did you know that Dr. Daniel Hale Williams was a pioneering heart surgeon that played a vital role in the discovery of open-heart surgery? And that Ernest Everett Just, Percy Julian and George Washington Carver were all outstanding scientists? Educators such as W.E.B. DuBois and Benjamin E. Mays left an indelible mark on this country. The Harlem Renaissance produced poets, writers and musicians like Countee Cullen, Langston Hughes and Duke Ellington. The civil rights movement changed the face of this country and inspired movements toward democracy and justice all over the world—producing great leaders like Martin Luther King, Jr., and Whitney Young. Too few people know that Benjamin Banneker, an outstanding mathematician, along with Pierre L'Enfant, designed the District of Columbia. There are many more and their stories must be told.

Until we understand the African-American story in its fullness and complexity, we cannot understand ourselves and our nation. We must know who we are and where we have come from so that we may move forward together. And we recognize the importance of all our people and all of our history. The establishment of the museum would be one important step toward achieving greater understanding as a nation and as a people.

It is my hope and prayer that as we preserve these important moments in history, we will inspire future generations to dream, to write, to march and to teach. As they are able to look back at all that has been accomplished, they will be able to look forward and believe in the future of our great country.

I am pleased and delighted that many of my colleagues have joined me in cosponsoring this bill. I urge all my colleagues of the 106th Congress to support this worthwhile and important legislation.

INTRODUCING THE TEACHER TAX CUT ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Teacher Tax Cut Act. This bill provides every teacher in America with a \$1,000 tax credit, thus raising every teacher's take-home pay without increasing federal spending. Passage of this bill is a major first step toward treating those who have dedicated their lives to educating America's children with the respect they deserve. Compared to other professionals teachers are underappreciated and underpaid. This must change if America is to have the finest education system in the world!

Quality education is impossible without quality teaching. If we want to ensure that the teaching profession attracts the very best people possible we must make sure that teachers receive the compensation they deserve. For too long now, we have seen partisan battles and displays of heightened rhetoric about who wants to provide the most assistance to education distract us from our important work of removing government-imposed barriers to educational excellence.

Since America's teachers are underpaid because they are overtaxed, the best way to raise teacher take-home pay is to reduce their taxes. Simply by raising teacher's take-home pay via a \$1,000 tax credit we can accomplish a number of important things. First, we show a true commitment to education. We also let America's teachers know that the American people and the Congress respect their work. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, by raising teacher take-home pay, the Teacher Tax Cut Act encourages high-quality professionals to enter, and remain in, the teaching profession.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I once again ask my colleagues to put aside partisan bickering and unite around the idea of helping educators by supporting the Teacher Tax Cut Act.

INTRODUCTION OF CIVIC PARTICIPATION AND REHABILITATION ACT OF 1999

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to today introduce, along with 27 cosponsors, the Civil Participation and Rehabilitation Act of 1999. This legislation grants persons who have been released from incarceration the right to vote in Federal elections. At a time when our Nation faces record low voter participation, this legislation represents an historic means of both expanding voting rights while helping to reintegrate former felons into our democratic society.

The practice of many states denying voting rights to former felons represents a vestige from a time when suffrage was denied to whole classes of our population based on race, sex, and property. However, over the past two centuries, these restrictions, along

with post-Civil War exclusions such as the poll tax and literacy requirements, have been eliminated. Unfortunately, the United States continues to stand alone among the major industrialized nations in permitting an entire category of citizens—former felons—to be cut off from the democratic process.

Denial of suffrage to these individuals is no small matter. A recent study by the Sentencing Project and Human Rights Watch reveals that some 3.9 million Americans, or one in 50 adults, is either currently or permanently disenfranchised as a result of state felony voting laws. This includes an estimated 1.4 million African American men, or 13 percent of the total population of black adult men. In two states (Alabama and Florida) almost one in three black men is permanently disenfranchised, while in five other states (Iowa, Mississippi, New Mexico, Virginia, and Wyoming), one in four black men is barred from voting in elections. Hispanic citizens are also disproportionately disenfranchised.

In addition to diminishing the legitimacy of our democratic process, denying voting rights to ex-offenders is inconsistent with the goal of rehabilitation. Instead of reintegrating such individuals into society, felony voting restrictions only serve to reaffirm their feelings of alienation and isolation. As the National Advisory Commission on Criminal Justice Standards and Goals has concluded, "if correction is to reintegrate an offender into free society, the offender must retain all attributes of citizenship." Clearly this includes voting—the most basic constitutive act of citizenship.

The legislation I am today introducing constitutes a narrowly crafted effort to expand voting rights for ex-felons, while protecting state prerogatives to generally establish voting qualifications. The legislation would only apply to persons who have been released from prison, and it would only apply to federal elections. As such, my bill is fully consistent with constitutional requirements established by the Supreme Court in a series of decisions upholding federal voting rights laws. The legislation is supported by a broad coalition of groups interested in voting and civil rights, including the NAACP, ACLU, the National Council of Churches (National and Washington Office), the National Urban League, the Human Rights Watch and the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights, among many others.

CONGRATULATING THE MERINO HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Merino High School boys basketball team on their Class A District 4 Championship.

The Merino players, led by Coach Dave Kautz, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams

not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Merino High School boys basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 4 Championship.

CONGRATULATING THE KIM HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Kim High School boys basketball team on their Class A District 3 Championship.

The Kim players, led by coach Gary Page, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Kim High School boys basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 3 Championship.

CONGRATULATING THE GRANADA HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Granada High School boys basketball team on their Class A District 2 Championship.

The Granada players, led by Coach Manuel Gonzales, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Granada High School boys basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 2 Championship.

CONGRATULATING THE SWINK HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Swink High School girls basketball team on their Class 2A District 4 Championship.

The Swink players, led by Coach DeDe Shiplet, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs, and their shot at the Colorado State 2A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Swink High School girls basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado 2A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 4 Championship.

CONGRATULATING THE FOWLER HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Fowler High School girls basketball team on their Class 2A District 6 Championship.

The Fowler players, led by Coach Greg Fruhwirth, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State 2A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Fowler High School girls basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado 2A State

Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 6 Championship.

CONGRATULATING THE STRASBURG HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Strasburg High School girls basketball team on their Class 2A District 8 Championship.

The Strasburg players, led by Coach Merci Ames, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State 2A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Strasburg High School girls basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado 2A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 8 Championship.

CONGRATULATING THE HOEHNE HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Hoehne High School boys basketball team on their Class 2A District 6 Championship.

The Hoehne players, led by Coach Chuck Pugnetti, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State 2A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Hoehne High School boys basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado 2A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 6 Championship.

CONGRATULATING THE PLATTE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Platte Valley High School boys basketball team on their Class 3A District 3 Championship.

The Platte Valley players, led by Coach Dave Mekelburg, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State 3A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Platte Valley High School boys basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado 3A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 3 Championship.

CONGRATULATING THE WELD CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Weld Central High School boys basketball team on their Class 3A District 2 Championship.

The Weld Central players, led by Coach Gary Stone, will not advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State 3A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Weld Central High School boys basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado 3A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 2 Championship.

CONGRATULATING THE EATON HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Eaton High School girls basketball team on their Class 3A District 3 Championship.

The Eaton players, led by coach Bob Ervin, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State 3A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Eaton High School girls basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado 3A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 3 Championship.

A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE CHARLES HARNESS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Honorable Charles Harness on the occasion of his retirement from the Tulare County Board of Supervisors. The people of the Fourth District have been well served by Charles Harness for the past 8 years.

Charles Harness was first elected to the Board of Supervisors in 1990, and was re-elected without opposition in 1994. In 1998, Supervisor Harness served as chairman of the board. As the Board's legislative advocate, Supervisor Harness successfully worked with State legislators to upgrade county services and promote innovative programs to better serve the people of Tulare County.

In addition to his Board responsibilities, Supervisor Harness was a leader in numerous State and regional intergovernmental organizations. From 1993 to 1997, he was a member of the Governing Board of San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District, and in 1996, he served as its chairman. Supervisor Harness also served on the Governor's Williamson Act Advisory Task Force. He is a member of the Government and Finance Operations Committee for the California State Association of Counties, while remaining active in the Tulare County Association of Governments.

A native Californian, Supervisor Harness is married with two children and four grandchildren. He served in the United States Air Force from 1957 to 1961. He attended college

at Mount San Antonio, CA State University Fresno, and the University of Nevada at Las Vegas. Supervisor Harness is a retired farmer, building contractor, and land developer. He is a life member of the Alta District Historical Society, a member of the Cutler-Orosi Lions Club, past chairman of the board for the Dinuba Christian Church, and a former director of the Alta Hospital Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Honorable Charles Harness on the occasion of his retirement. Charles Harness has served the people of the Fourth District for more than 8 years. I urge all my colleagues to join me in congratulating Charles on a job well done and to wish him many years of continued happiness and success.

LEGISLATION REGARDING INDIA AND PAKISTAN

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing H. Res. 84, legislation recognizing the recent achievements of the Republic of India and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in fostering peaceful relations between the two nations.

This past week, Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee of India courageously crossed the long tense Punjabi border to visit his Pakistani host and counterpart, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. This visit, the first by an Indian premier to Pakistan in ten years, was only the third such visit since Partition in 1947. Prime Minister Vajpayee refused to cancel his trip despite a recent horrific and despicable terrorist attack in Jammu killing 20 civilians.

During their summit, the two leaders signed the "Lahore Declaration," which commits India and Pakistan to reaching universal nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and reaffirms their commitment not to conduct future nuclear tests. In this agreement, the parties have also agreed to engage in bilateral consultations on security, disarmament, and non-proliferation issues and have issued a condemnation of terrorism.

Since Partition, India and Pakistan, together the home of more than one-fifth of the world's population, have fought three wars against each other. The conflict in Kashmir has cost 30,000 to 50,000 civilian lives.

H. Res. 84 praises this positive step taken by the leadership of India and Pakistan in resolving the differences of these two neighboring countries, sharing so much history and culture, through diplomacy and celebrates this small victory for dialogue. Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 84. I request the full text of H. Res. 84, be printed in the RECORD at this point.

H. RES.—

Whereas on February 22, 1999, the Prime Minister of India and the Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan signed the "Lahore Declaration" to develop and secure a durable peace and to develop harmonious relations and friendly cooperation between the two nations;

Whereas the Lahore Declaration states and affirms the commitment of the Republic of India and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the objective of universal nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

Whereas the Republic of India and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan have reaffirmed their commitment to continue to abide by their respective unilateral moratorium on conducting further nuclear test explosions;

Whereas the Republic of India and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan have agreed to take immediate steps to reduce the risk of accidental or unauthorized use of nuclear weapons;

Whereas the Republic of India and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan have agreed to commence bilateral consultations on security, disarmament and non-proliferation issues within the context of negotiations on these issues in multilateral form; and

Whereas the Republic of India and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan have reaffirmed their condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and their determination to combat this menace: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the significance and importance of the Lahore Declaration as a step toward durable peace and the development of harmonious relations and friendly cooperation between the Republic of India and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; and

(2) supports the commitment of the Republic of India and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to universal nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation, and peaceful regional relations.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER MICHIGAN STATE REPRESENTATIVE BEVERLEY A. BODEM

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute today to Beverly Bodem, a former representative to the Michigan House of Representatives from the 106th Representative District, which is comprised of four counties in my congressional district.

First elected to the House in 1990, Bev Bodem has just concluded her service in that body because of the Michigan term limits law. This law was enacted at the will of the voters of Michigan, but I have to confess that in this case I believe the law has turned a hard-working and well-respected public servant out of office.

Bev Bodem was known especially for her constituent service and for paying attention to the people in her northern Michigan district. These efforts cut across party lines, and Bev was willing to work arm and arm with me on issues that affected the people she was elected to serve.

One of the issues which she successfully tackled was the problem faced by resort operators and other tourism-based industries in her district, a district which straddles the northern tip of Lower Michigan to touch both Lake Michigan and Lake Huron. Because the state's school year began before Labor Day, resorts, restaurants and other tourism businesses lost much of the summer help. Students themselves had to leave good summer jobs before the official end of the tourist season. Bev worked hard to adjust the school year to begin after Labor Day, benefitting employers, employees, and the many guests and visitors to our beautiful state.

Bev Bodem has been involved in her district and her community in many ways outside of her elected office. Such organizations as the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Alpena, the Thunder Bay Arts Council, the Alpena Lions Club, the Alpena General Hospital Auxiliary and the League of Women Voters have benefited from her willingness to serve and work for the betterment of her community.

Bev, her husband Dennis and daughter Jennifer, a school teacher, always presented a living picture of a warm, friendly and proud family of public service to all northern Michigan. Bev always demonstrated the "best" of politics by working hard for all the people of her district, and she did so with a warm, friendly smile on her face. It was obvious she enjoyed her legislative career, and her constituents, enjoyed having her as their representative.

The people of northern Michigan will miss Bev Bodem as the state representative, and I will miss working with her.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 628

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation I introduced on February 8, 1999, which would authorize the deployment of U.S. troops to assist law enforcement in patrolling U.S. borders. I urge all Members to cosponsor this important piece of legislation.

Our current program to stop drugs from coming into America is a joke. Eighty percent of the cocaine and heroin smuggled into America is transited across the U.S.-Mexico border. We are losing the war on drugs. If hundreds of thousands of U.S. soldiers can be sent all over the world to protect other countries, certainly a few thousand can be redeployed here in the U.S. to help protect America from the scourge of drugs.

My bill, H.R. 628, authorizes the Department of Defense to assign U.S. troops to assist federal law enforcement in monitoring and patrolling U.S. borders, and inspecting cargo, vehicles and aircraft at points of entry into the U.S. Under the bill such assistance could be provided only at the express request of the U.S. Attorney General or Secretary of the Treasury. The bill also mandates special law enforcement training for troops deployed to border areas, requires all U.S. troops patrolling the border to be accompanied by federal law enforcement agents, bars soldiers from making arrests, and requires the federal government to notify state and local government officials of any deployment of U.S. troops. Last year the House overwhelmingly approved a similar provision that I sponsored as an amendment to the FY 1999 DoD bill. The amendment, however, was dropped during a House-Senate conference.

Make no mistake about it, the Border Patrol, INS and Customs Service desperately need the help our military could provide. For example, only three out of every 100 trucks coming into the U.S. from Mexico are inspected. In addition, recent news reports reveal that the INS is considering releasing thousands of dangerous illegal aliens currently being held in detention centers because of funding and man-

power shortages. And finally, in just the last year, federal agents in one border sector alone seized 132 tons of marijuana and more than 3 tons of cocaine worth a total of \$408 million.

I recently cosigned a letter with a number of my colleagues imploring the President to fill a backlog of vacant Border Patrol positions. But clearly this is not enough. By the time those positions are filled with qualified candidates, who knows how many more illegal drugs will hit our streets and reach our children?

Mr. Speaker, it's time to put a stranglehold on our borders once and for all. I urge all members to cosponsor H.R. 628.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE NAVY LT. COMMANDER KURT BARICH

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to your attention the service to our country of Navy Lt. Commander Kurt Barich. Lt. Commander Barich recently died in service to our country in an aircraft accident aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. *Enterprise*.

Kurt Barich moved to Albuquerque, NM, with his family in 1970, going to school at Sandia High School and the University of New Mexico before joining the Navy. Kurt was a member of the squadron VAQ-130, the "Zappers," based at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, WA.

Lt. Commander Kurt Barich flew 39 combat missions in the Gulf War in A-6 Intruder ground attack jets off the carrier U.S.S. *Kennedy*. After the Navy retired the A-6, Kurt Barich began flying the Prowler, an electronic warfare variant designed to jam enemy radar and destroy radar sights. He served his country honorably and with distinction receiving numerous medals and decorations in his 13 years in the Navy, including four Air Medals, three Navy Commendations and four Navy Achievement Medals.

Kurt Barich was aboard the U.S.S. *Enterprise* on his last mission as it sailed for Norfolk, VA, and then on to the Middle East to protect vital American interests. Join me today as we honor Lt. Commander Kurt Barich for his service to our country. We will only remain a free country as long as there are men and women ready to protect our freedoms. Let us also send our thanks and our sympathies to his family for their support for his service in the Navy.

TRIBUTE TO DALE JACOBS

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dale Jacobs in celebration of his dedication to community service and volunteering.

As Dale is being honored this week by the Tarzana Chamber of Commerce, it seems an appropriate time to acknowledge his distinguished career and extraordinary contributions

to the development of our community and our country.

Since becoming a resident of the Valley, over 20 years ago, Dale has continually strived to make his home and community a better place to live. He sacrifices his personal time, energy, and money so that others may benefit. At one point he was involved with 22 local organizations simultaneously.

His children Joel and Angela have been a tremendous inspiration to him giving him the desire to ensure that their lives, and the lives of other children, can be as fulfilling as possible. He is an active member of A.Y.S.O. as a Division Manager, Treasurer, coach, and even referee. In addition, he has also taken an active role in their education, having served as past President of the Portola Middle School Booster Club, Vice-President of the Wilbur Avenue Elementary School Booster Club, President of the Reseda High School PTSA, and Treasurer of Parents for Public Schools.

Dale has also played an active role in the business community. A certified public accountant, Dale has been a partner with Sandler, Powell, Jacobs & Berlin since 1988. A member of the Tarzana Chamber for many years Dale has been serving as their President since 1997 where he has focused on expanding membership, encouraging activism, and serving the community. We are fortunate that he is being reinstated as President of the Tarzana chamber for yet another year.

When he does have free time Dale enjoys Civil War Reenacting with his wife Bobbe, of 27 years, and the rest of his family. He is Treasurer of the Fort Tejon Historical Association and spent last summer participating in a reenactment of the Battle of Gettysburg at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

Mohandas Gandhi once said that "You find yourself by losing yourself in service to your fellow man, your God and country." I cannot think of a more fitting tribute to Dale. Thanks to his leadership, courage, and dedication, our community is an ideal place to raise a family, start a business, or become involved in community activities.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring Dale Jacobs for all of his contributions to our community.

A TRIBUTE TO VAHAN TEKEYAN
AND TO THE TEKEYAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Vahan Tekeyan on the 120th anniversary of his birth and to the Tekeyan Cultural Association.

Vahan Tekeyan was born in Constantinople, Turkey in 1878. He gained prominence as one of the most celebrated poets in Armenian history. Tekeyan is credited with contributing to saving the Armenian language through his vast writings. It is said that he gave poetry a melody all its own. Tekeyan is recognized both as a poet of the people and as a poet's poet. He courageously met and conquered numerous challenges during his lifetime. Vahan Tekeyan died in Cairo, Egypt at the age of 67.

The Tekeyan Cultural Association was founded in Beirut, Lebanon in 1947 by Profes-

sor Parounag Thomasian, Kersan Aharonian and Harchia Setrakian, Esq. The association is headquartered in Watertown, MA and has chapters throughout the United States as well as in Armenia, Canada, France, Egypt, Argentina, Belgium and Greece. During the Armenian genocide of 1915–1923, the Fresno Chapter of the Tekeyan Cultural Association significantly contributed to the welfare and support of orphans.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to Vahan Tekeyan on the 120th anniversary of his birth and to the Tekeyan Cultural Association Fresno Chapter. Their dedication to preserving Armenian heritage and their significant support of numerous noble causes is to be commended. I invite my colleagues to join me in this recognition.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER MICHIGAN
STATE REPRESENTATIVE ALLEN
L. LOWE

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute today to Allen Lowe, a former representative to the Michigan House of Representatives from the 105th Representative District, which includes five counties in my congressional district.

First elected to the House in 1992, Allen Lowe has just concluded his service in that body because of the Michigan term limits law. This law was enacted at the will of the voters of Michigan, but I have to confess that in this case I believe the law has turned our office a dedicated public servant who was deeply concerned about the welfare of his constituents.

I know that Allen traveled extensively throughout his district, because I pride myself on returning to my district each week to participate in community events, and many times I found Allen attending the same events.

Allen Lowe was a legislator with deep convictions, and although I did not always agree with his position on issues, I have always had the greatest respect for the way in which he presented and defended these convictions. Like myself, Allen was a graduate of Cooley Law School. Like myself, he was a pro-life legislator. And like myself, he was not afraid to challenge Michigan's governor on issues that he believed would be detrimental to his northern Michigan constituents, despite that fact that Allen and the governor were members of the same political party.

Allen brought to his job a broad involvement in community issues. He has been a teacher and school administrator, and he involved himself in activities and organizations that served his Michigan district, including the Michigan Farm Bureau, the Camp Grayling Conservation Club, and the Friends of Hartwick Pines.

I will miss doing parades with him, debating issues, and, as always, working with him on issues of importance to his state representative district.

I believe the people of the 105th Representative District were well-served by Allen Lowe.

IN MEMORY OF MARY COOPER
STRINGER

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable lady, and constituent of mine from the Third District, Mrs. Mary Cooper Stringer, who passed away on Friday January 15, 1999, in Forest, Mississippi, following a short illness. The Mississippi State Senate adjourned January 18, 1999, in her honor.

Mrs. Stringer, along with her husband Robert P. "Bob" Stringer, lived in the Forest community for the past 40 years and was actively involved in community and local affairs. She was a graduate of Mississippi State College for Women, a member of the Eastern Star, and worked for the Pentagon after graduating from college.

When not doting on her husband, Mrs. Stringer was cheering and backing her favorite team, the Mississippi State Bulldogs and striving to make her hometown the best it could be. Mrs. Stringer's first love was her husband Bob, their two daughters, Jean and Anne and their two sons, Robert and Johnny, along with their 13 grandchildren and one great grandson.

Mrs. Stringer was a very astute businesswoman and a close friend of my predecessor Congressman G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery. She was very helpful and active in the planning of the Annual Montgomery Hunters Stew which Bob hosted for Congressman Montgomery each January, for the past 22 years. Mr. Stringer served on the Forest Board of Alderman for four terms before his retirement in June 1997.

The legacy that Mrs. Stringer leaves behind will be very hard to emulate. She was a much admired lady. I extend my sympathy to her husband "Bob", and other family members while expressing my appreciation and that of every citizen of the 3rd District for her life of service.

A TRIBUTE TO FRED STARRH

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I want to join my friends in Kern County who share a mutual goal of improving educational opportunities in our schools, as we honor one of our finest friends, Fred Starrh, a man devoted to helping his neighbors, a man always willing to do the hard work, a man who pride in his country is visible to everyone he meets. Tonight we honor one aspect of this man's accomplishment—his achievements and commitment to thousands of Kern County high school students during his tenure as a trustee of the Kern High School District.

As a trustee and Past President, Fred Starrh has devoted a tremendous amount of time and effort to preparing Kern County's children for their future. Those who have worked with Fred know he puts his all into every project he takes on. His service on the

Board of Trustees is a testament to his character and devotion to all the families in Kern County who have sent their children to Kern high schools. Fred Starrh served us all well by watching over the myriad issues that come before those entrusted with the management of the education provided to our kids during the critically important four years of high school study.

I know people from all over the United States who rely on Fred Starrh's advice and counsel. Fred has friends everywhere, and years of working together make me honored to be included among them. Few people are as dedicated and as much fun to work with as we all know Fred Starrh to be.

RECOGNITION OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize national and local efforts in vocational education and career preparation training. I commend the American Vocational Association for designating February 14–20, as Vocational Education Week. The over 14 million students and 26,000 institutions that are dedicated to betterment through career education deserve our recognition and support throughout the year.

Regional occupation programs in my district and throughout the country provide students with stronger skills and increased learning opportunities. They enhance both the education and employment prospects of our young people and help build a strong, well-trained workforce.

Vocational education makes a proven difference in lives of students who might not otherwise have access to targeted education and skills training. It opens doors to opportunities for productive futures. I am proud of the work done in my community, and I would like to recognize the hard-working students and dedicated staff in the Inland Empire who make vocational education a success. They are to be commended for their role in strengthening both individual lives and our community as a whole.

SALINAS VALLEY MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM—HELP- ING TO LEAD CHINA TO BETTER HEALTH CARE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform you and all our House colleagues of the magnificent contributions to international health care by the Salinas Valley Memorial Health Care System (SVMH). Through the efforts of SVMH, two cities in China, Kunming in the Province of Yunnan, and Chengdu in the Province of Sichuan, will receive the best in advanced medical training services and the best high-tech equipment to better serve the Health care needs of the Chinese people.

SVMH has long been on the cutting edge of technology in Health care services. Located in Salinas in my Central California Coast district, SVMH has developed state-of-the-art heart and cardiac health services. It works in tandem with NASA in using high-resolution equipment to uncover the secrets of the human health system. It also has established a long-term Health care facility for senior care that scores high marks by the health care industry.

Because of SVMH's expertise and experience, it has reached out to the international community to help. China, with the largest population on earth and yet some of the most remote and underserved populations, was a key target for assistance. Partnering with Assist International Rotary International Marquette Medical Services, SVMH will send a team of doctors and professional staff to Chengdu, China and Kunming, China today. This international team of hope will—

Donate and install \$1 million worth of high-tech medical equipment in the Yunnan Red Cross Hospital in Kunming and The First Medical School, The First University Hospital, West China University of Medical Sciences in Chengdu;

Educate and train the medical staff of both hospitals on the latest technologies and practices utilized by our physicians in the treatment of heart-related illnesses and procedures;

Interact with the citizenry of the community in order to demonstrate American willingness to share high tech medical information and technology.

This partnership, Mr. Speaker, is important for a number of reasons. First, it is critical to recognize that despite all other political machinations between the U.S. and China, there is one very important issue upon which leaders of both countries agree: that Health care is essential to quality of life. In that regard, SVMH, the Rotary International, Assist International and Marquette Medical Services have served as ambassadors extraordinaire to unify our two countries.

Second, this partnership is important because through the efforts of SVMH and others, we are establishing a firm working relationship with our Chinese counterparts—one that will indirectly benefit the relationship between the U.S. and China, but that will also directly benefit the Chinese people through the delivery of more and better Health care services. In this regard, the Yunnan Red Cross Hospital and the West China University of Medical Sciences deserve special recognition and praise for their commitment to improve Health care practices and their dedication to the pursuit of new knowledge in the field of medicine.

Mr. Speaker, and Members of the House, I urge you today to stand in honor of the Salinas Valley Memorial Health Care System and their partners in international Health care, the Yunnan Red Cross Hospital, the West China University of Medical Sciences, Assist International, Rotary International and Marquette Medical Services. They deserve our praise, they deserve our support and most of all, they deserve the chance to make this partnership a success so people can live well.

TRIBUTE TO BOB LIVINGSTON, REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE FIRST DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to pay tribute to a colleague who has built a fine legacy of accomplishment as an adept and effective legislator—and leader—of this institution in which we all are honored to serve. BOB LIVINGSTON's leaving leaves a void that is not easily filled, as his colleagues from Louisiana have attested tonight. I wish BOB and Bonnie all the best as they embark on their new life, and am certain that BOB will continue to contribute to the public interest in the future.

BOB, you will definitely be missed here, and as you leave Congress, you should take pride in your record of accomplishment for the State of Louisiana and the Nation. Good luck to you.

LACKAWANNA VALLEY HERITAGE AREA ACT

HON. DON SHERWOOD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SHERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Lackawanna Valley Heritage Area Act. By designating the Lackawanna Valley of Pennsylvania as a National Heritage Area, this important legislation would ensure the conservation of its significant natural, historic and cultural resources. The Lackawanna Valley was the first heritage area designated by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and is a nationally significant historic area as documented in the U.S. Department of Interior's Register of Historic Places, Multiple Property Documentation Submittal of the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission (1996).

For every federal dollar provided over the last decade, the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority—which oversees the Valley's historical and cultural resources—has leveraged ten dollars in State, local and private sector funds to finance preservation activities. The Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority would continue to foster these important relationships with all levels of government, the private sector and local communities.

The Valley represents the development of anthracite coal, one of North America's greatest natural resources. From early in the 19th century, Pennsylvania's coal provided an extraordinary source of energy which fueled America's economic growth for over a hundred years. At the center of the world's most productive anthracite field, the Lackawanna Valley witnessed the inception, spectacular growth and eventual deterioration of an industry which led us to unparalleled prosperity.

The Valley's current mix of ethnicity, its combination of dense urban areas and isolated settlements, and the desolate remains of coal mines surrounded by beautiful countryside are a microcosm of our legacy from the industrial revolution. As these contrasts illustrate, the industrial era was not without human

and environmental costs. Thousands of immigrants worked in deep mines under horrible conditions. Death and injury were commonplace, with no survivor benefits or disability compensation to withstand these calamities. Anthracite miners created the nation's first labor unions and they fought for the implementation of child labor laws, workplace safety, pension security and fair labor standards.

The new Americans who populated the Lackawanna Valley established strong communities where ethnic ties were reinforced by churches and fraternal societies that created a sense of security noticeably absent in the mines. The Valley's remaining ethnic neighborhoods are a testament to a pattern of urban growth once common in U.S. cities, but now disappearing.

The landscape of the Valley conveys the story of the industrial revolution most clearly. Miles of track and hundreds of industrial sites and abandoned mines are daily reminders of the importance of the region to industry. Heritage sites like Pennsylvania's Anthracite Heritage Museum, the Scranton Iron Furnace Historic Site, the Lackawanna County Coal Mine and the Steamtown National Historic Site help to commemorate this struggle. These sites provide the framework for historic preservation which will be cemented by my proposed legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the designation of the Lackawanna Valley as a National Heritage Area will enable all Americans for years to come to witness and learn the story of anthracite mining, the labor movement, and the industrialization of our great nation. I urge my colleagues to support the Lackawanna Valley Heritage Act.

THE SPANISH PEAKS WILDERNESS
ACT OF 1999

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to give permanent protection as wilderness to the heart of the Spanish Peaks area in Colorado.

The bill is cosponsored by several of my colleagues from Colorado, including Mr. SCHAFER, whose district includes the portion of the Spanish Peaks within Las Animas county. I am also pleased to be joined by Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. TANCREDO, and Mr. MARK UDALL of Colorado. I greatly appreciate their assistance and support.

Today, across the Capitol, Senator ALLARD is introducing an identical companion bill. I would like to extend my appreciation to the Senator for his active support of this worthwhile legislation.

Finally, I would offer a note of appreciation and thanks to the former Members of Congress whose efforts made today's legislation possible. First, approximately 20 years ago, Senator William Armstrong of Colorado began this worthwhile process by proposing wilderness in Colorado, and in 1986 Senator Armstrong proposed protected status and management for the Spanish Peaks. His efforts set in place the foundation upon which today's bill is built. Second, I would like to thank the former Congressman from the Second District, Mr. Skaggs. Together, he and I introduced this

legislation in the 105th Congress, which passed the House but due to time constraints did not pass the Senate. The efforts by both of these individual legislators helped make this bill possible.

The mountains known as the Spanish Peaks are two volcanic peaks in Las Animas and Huerfano Counties whose Native American name is Wayatoya. The eastern peak rises to 12,683 feet above sea level, while the summit of the western peak reaches 13,626 feet. The two served as landmarks not only for Native Americans but also for some of Colorado's other early settlers and for travelers along the trail between Bent's Old Fort on the Arkansas River and Taos, New Mexico.

With this history, it's not surprising that the Spanish Peaks portion of the San Isabel National Forest was included in 1977 on the National Registry of Natural Landmarks. The Spanish Peaks area has outstanding scenic, geologic, and wilderness values, including a spectacular system of over 250 free standing dikes and ramps of volcanic materials radiating from the peaks. The State of Colorado has designated the Spanish Peaks as a natural area, and they are a popular destination for hikers seeking an opportunity to enjoy an unmatched vista of southeastern Colorado's mountains and plains.

The Forest Service reviewed the Spanish Peaks area for possible wilderness designation as part of its second roadless area review and evaluation—known as RARE II—and in 1979 recommended designation as wilderness of 19,570 acres. Concerns about private land inholdings in the area prompted Congress, in the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1980, to instead provide for its continued management as a wilderness study area.

A decade later, the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1993 included provisions for long-term management of all the other wilderness study areas in our State's national forests, but meanwhile questions about the land-ownership pattern in the Spanish Peaks area had prompted the Forest Service to change its mind about designating it as wilderness. That, in turn, led to inclusion in the 1993 wilderness bill of a requirement for its continued management of that area as a wilderness study area for 3 years—until August 13, 1996. The 1993 bill also required the Forest Service to report to Congress concerning the extent of non-Federal holdings in the likelihood of acquisition of those holdings by the United States with the owner's consent.

The required report was submitted in 1995. It indicated that within the wilderness study area, there were about 825 acres where the United States owned neither the surface nor the mineral rights, and about 440 acres more where the United States owned the surface but not the minerals. Since then, through voluntary sales, the United States has acquired most of the inholdings. Today only 166 acres of inholdings remain, and the Forest Service is in the process of or making efforts to acquire 134 of those acres. So the way is now clear for Congress to finish the job of protecting this outstanding area by designating it as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The bill I am introducing today would designate as wilderness about 18,000 acres of the San Isabel National Forest, including both of the Spanish Peaks as well as the slopes below and between them. This includes most of the lands originally recommended for wil-

derness by the Forest Service, but with boundary revision that will exclude some private lands. I would like to note that Senator ALLARD and I have made significant efforts to address local concerns about the wilderness designation, including: (1) adjusting the boundary slightly to exclude certain lands that are likely to have the capacity for mineral production; and (2) excluding from the wilderness a road that locals use for access to the beauty of the Spanish Peaks.

The lands covered by this bill are not only striking for their beauty and value but also for recreation. They fully merit the protection that will come from their designation as wilderness. The bill itself is very simple. It would just add the Spanish Peaks area to the list of areas designated as wilderness by the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1993. As a result, all the provisions of the act—including the provisions related to water—would apply to the Spanish Peaks area just as they do to the other areas on that list. Like all the areas now on that list, the Spanish Peaks area covered by this bill is a headwaters area, which for all practical purposes eliminates the possibility of water conflicts. There are no water diversions within the area.

Mr. Speaker, enactment of this Spanish Peaks bill will not be the last step in protecting the Federal lands in Colorado. As this bill demonstrates, when an area is appropriate for wilderness designation and when all the outstanding issues have been satisfactorily addressed, the Colorado delegation will respond with appropriate legislation. I would also note that other protection short of the absolute wilderness designation may be appropriate in certain cases, and I would encourage Coloradans, the counties, local users and interests who would be impacted to consider this possibility when discussing how to best utilize public lands within Colorado.

I will continue to work to achieve appropriate levels of protection for the pristine and beautiful areas within Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I close by urging the Congress to act without delay to pass this important measure for the Spanish Peaks area of Colorado.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED
CAREER OF JUDGE JOHN JUSTIN
MALIK, JR. UPON HIS RETIRE-
MENT

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Judge John Justin Malik, Jr. has spent his life serving the people. His career began in 1958 when he served as the City Solicitor for the city of Bellaire, Ohio. He then became the Belmont County Prosecuting Attorney and later a Belmont County Commissioner.

As Commissioner, Judge Malik was appointed to serve on the Ohio Jail Advisory Board and continues to serve on that Board as Judge. He also participated in the acquisition of the land on State Route 331 where Fox Shannon Industrial Park was formed. This industrial park is now the site of several agencies and businesses, including Sargus Juvenile Detention Center, the Department of Human Services, and the new Belmont County jail.

Judge Malik was a partner in a law firm started by his father in the 1930's. Upon graduation from Notre Dame, Judge Malik joined his father in this practice and practiced law while also serving as City Solicitor for Belaire and as Belmont County Commissioner. Since becoming Juvenile and Probate Judge in February 1991, Judge Malik has continued to work for the benefit of Belmont County. He recently has been instrumental in the donation of land to Belmont County. This area is set to be the new location of the Belmont County Fairgrounds. Additionally, Judge Malik works diligently to work with juvenile delinquents and unruly children in Belmont County.

In addition to all of these efforts, Judge Malik continues to own and operate a garden center and gift shop and serve on the Board of Directors for several organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the career of Judge Malik. His lifelong service and commitment to Belmont County is to be commended.

TRIBUTE TO JESSICA MOORE

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and honor a young Kentucky student from my district who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in her community. Jessica Moore of Louisville has just been named one of my state's top honorees in the 1999 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive volunteers in each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Ms. Moore, 17, is a senior at Sacred Heart Academy. She has raised close to \$20,000 for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation (JDF) to help find a cure for the disease which her mother has had since she was 5 years old. "After attending the 1997 kick-off luncheon for JDF with my mother, I was inspired to take on this major fundraising project to help find a cure," Jessica said. "As I sat at the luncheon and saw mothers holding their infants, I began to envision what lay ahead for their futures." For the past two years, Jessica has spent countless hours raising money and an awareness of diabetes throughout her school and local community by conducting a letter-writing campaign, coordinating educational programs and organizing fund-raising walks. She plans to continue her fight against diabetes until her dream of a cure becomes a reality.

In light of numerous statistics that indicate Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, it is vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contribution this young citizen has made. Young volunteers like Ms. Moore are inspiring examples to all of us and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

Ms. Moore should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of dedicated volunteers. I heartily applaud Ms. Moore for her initiative in seeking to make her community a better place to live and for the positive impact she has had on the lives of others. She has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world and de-

serves our sincere admiration and respect. Her actions show that young Americans can, and do, play important roles in our communities and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.

CHRISTIANS ATTACKED IN INDIA

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, James Madison, the primary author of the U.S. Constitution, warned about "the tyranny of the majority." The modern state of India is an example of what Madison warned us about. Between Christmas and New Year, several Christian churches, prayer halls, and missionary schools were attacked by extremist Hindu mobs affiliated with the parent organization of India's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

The Washington Post reported on January 1 that ten such attacks occurred the week between Christmas and New Year's Day. Six people were injured in one of these attacks. The Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), or World Hindu Council, appears to be responsible for the attacks. The BJP is the political wing of the VHP.

The Hindu militants are apparently upset that Christians are converting low-caste Hindus. Their frustration does not justify acts of violence.

Christian activists report that there were more than 60 recorded cases of church and Bible-burning, rape, and other attacks in 1998 alone, including the recent rape of four nuns. The VHP called the rapists "patriotic youth."

In 1997 and 1998, four priests were murdered. In the fall of 1997, a Christian festival was stopped when the police opened fire. Clearly, there is a pattern here. However, Christians are not the only victims of India's tyrannical "democracy."

Muslims have seen their most revered mosques destroyed; Sikhs have seen their most sacred shrine, the Golden Temple in Amritsar, attacked and remain under occupation by plainclothes police. Their spiritual leader, the Jathedar of the Akal Takht, Gurdev Singh Kaunke, was tortured and killed in police custody. Although there is a witness to this murder, no action has been taken against those responsible. Is this the secular democracy that India is so proud of?

The United States is the beacon of freedom to the world. As such, we cannot sit idly by and watch India trample on the religious freedom of its minorities. We should put this Congress on record in support of peaceful, democratic freedom movements in South Asia and throughout the world.

The United States recently allowed Puerto Rico to vote on its status; our Canadian neighbors held a similar referendum in Quebec. When do the Sikhs of Khalistan, the Muslims of Kashmir, and the other peoples living under Indian rule get their chance to exercise this basic democratic right? Will we support democratic freedom for the people of South Asia, or will we look away while the tyranny of the majority continues to suppress fundamental rights like freedom of religion?

INTRODUCTION OF THE LIBERTY DOLLAR BILL ACT

HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I had the privilege of attending Patrick Henry High School in Ashland, Virginia and participating in their presentation of the Liberty Dollar Bill Act. This is the finest presentation I have ever witnessed by a group of high school and middle school students.

The Liberty Dollar Bill Act would redesign the one dollar note and place an abbreviated version of the Constitution on its reverse side. It is a real tragedy that an overwhelming majority of Americans cannot name the liberties granted them in the Constitution. The Liberty Dollar Bill is important because it would teach Americans the framework of American Government and the liberties of freedom found in the Constitution. It would spread the ideals of representative democracy around the world and allow U.S. soldiers stationed abroad to read, show, and teach the ideal for which they are willing to give their lives. The Liberty Dollar Bill would ensure that we leave our government in good condition for our posterity and honor the Constitution as an American symbol.

Therefore, it is with great pleasure that I reintroduce the Liberty Dollar Bill Act today on behalf of the students at Patrick Henry High School, Liberty Middle School, their teacher Randy Wright, and forty Members of Congress.

MT. RAINIER NATIONAL PARK CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. JENNIFER DUNN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, today I come before the House of Representatives to wish a happy 100th birthday to Mt. Rainier National Park in the 8th Congressional District in the state of Washington. Like many others from Washington, I am tempted to say "my mountain" because that's how we all feel about Mt. Rainier—it belongs to each of us. It also gives the 8th district distinction as the most beautiful district in the nation.

Mt. Rainier National Park was established March 2, 1899 as our fifth national park. The park itself encompasses 378 square miles. At its highest point, the mountain is 14,411 feet, so it's not surprising that more than 2 million people visit the park each year to enjoy its moist rainforest, giant old growth forests, sub-alpine meadows, and glaciers.

But Rainier is more than just a national park. It is an integral part of the network of communities that surround its boundaries and form a gateway that visitors pass through when visiting the area. These communities support the park and the park supports them.

It would be hard to imagine many people in Washington who can't go through their personal or family photo albums and find pictures of themselves with friends or family during a visit to the mountain. And every one of those

photos tells a story. It is so with my family. Our family and friends all grew up in the shadow of "our" mountain spending time in a cabin near Greenwater and venturing into the park many times during every season.

It was always amazing to me that for all the trails we hiked, streams we crossed, picnics we enjoyed, glaciers we climbed, it was new and different every time. We never tired of "our" mountain. I can't imagine I ever will. As a Member of Congress, I have been given the opportunity to see the park and mountain from a different vantage point. Rather than just a visitor, I am now an active partner in helping to maintain the park and protect it for future generations.

The theme of the centennial celebration is "A Century of Resource Stewardship." To underscore this theme, the park has undertaken a series of signature projects. These include the Sunrise Ecological Restoration Project, rehabilitation of the White River Patrol Cabin, and completion of the last mile of the Wonderland Trail.

In February, Northwest Airlines began airing a special video about the Mt. Rainier Centennial that airs on international flights landing at Sea Tac Airport. Today, the celebration begins with a birthday cake and a ceremony to announce a collectible cancelled stamp at Longmire in the park. I am honored to participate in this ceremony kicking off the official celebration.

Throughout this year the centennial committee has planned exciting projects and activities to celebrate the park's 100th birthday. For instance, the Tacoma/Pierce County Visitor and Convention Bureau and the gateway communities have joined together to host several special weekends of festivals and activities, and renowned mountain climber, Lou Whitaker, is leading a special "Centennial Climb" to the summit of Mt. Rainier. Lou's climbing group will include international mountain climbers as well as celebrities who have climbed with Lou in the past.

My colleagues, if you haven't made vacation plans or visited Mt. Rainier National Park before, this is surely the time to come to Washington and join us in our celebration. And, perhaps on your way up to the park or while you're enjoying a latte somewhere in Seattle, you will have that special experience that separates us in Washington from the rest of the world. You or someone you're with may look South to the horizon and say, "Look! The mountain is out today!"

IRA EXPANSION NEEDED

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, the current tax system has many problems, but one of its main defects is its bias against personal saving. Personal saving is taxed once out of income, and then the return to saving is taxed once again. This multiple taxation penalizes personal saving, a major source of economic growth. So it is no surprise that America has one of the lowest personal savings rates in the world.

This bias can be addressed by increasing the tax deduction for IRA contributions, cur-

rently set at \$2,000 annually. Today I am introducing legislation to boost IRA deduction limits \$500 per year over several years. When fully phased in, a middle class family could deduct up to \$7,000 for an annual IRA contribution. I strongly urge that an increase in IRA deductions be a part of any tax relief plan offered in this Congress.

An increase in IRA deductions would help middle class families save for the future, become more financially independent, and become better able to deal with unexpected events. Expanded IRAs would also give middle class families a greater stake in the U.S. economic system. It is a tax incentive that average Americans would understand and strongly support.

An increase in IRA deductions would increase personal saving, a major source of investment and economic growth. This would help firms to supply their workers with the best and most advanced tools, thus increasing their productivity and income. The current treatment of saving in our tax code is literally counterproductive. This is hampering our economy over the long term and reducing the American standard of living relative to what it would otherwise be.

Many in Washington bemoan the low savings rate, but if we want personal saving to increase, we should increase IRA deductions for middle class taxpayers. A tax code that penalizes saving and investment makes no sense. Middle class taxpayers need a means of addressing their responsibilities to save for retirement, higher education, medical expenses and long term care, and unemployment. My legislation provides for penalty-free withdrawals for these purposes. Federal tax policy should not discriminate against taxpayers willing and able to take on these responsibilities but are prevented from doing so by the destructive impact of the current tax system. Let's limit the tax discrimination against personal saving.

LEGISLATION THAT ALLOWS COMMERCIAL AND SUBSISTENCE FISHING TO CONTINUE IN GLACIER BAY NATIONAL PARK

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation, along with identical legislation being introduced in the Senate by Senators MURKOWSKI and STEVENS, to allow commercial and subsistence fishing to continue in Glacier Bay National Park.

In 1978, the National Park Service made a determination that commercial fishing activities were incompatible with National Park Service resources and would be permitted only when specifically authorized by law. Because of this broad determination, the National Park Service developed a rule outlawing commercial and subsistence fishing within the waters of Glacier Bay National Park in 1997.

This broad determination by the National Park Service ignores the fact that commercial fishing has taken place in the waters of Glacier Bay even before the National Park Service took control of the Bay in 1925. Alaskan Natives have fished in this Bay since the 1700's. Non-Native commercial fishing began

in the 1880's. In addition, under the Glacier Bay National Park General Management Plan, put into place in 1984, commercial fishing was allowed. Why has the Park Service suddenly now determined that there is some threat to Park resources?

Both the salmon and crab fisheries found off the coast of Alaska and in Glacier Bay National Park, even in Federal waters, are managed by the State of Alaska not the Federal government. There is no resource problem in these fisheries or within the boundaries of the Park. The halibut resource in this area is managed through an international treaty and scientists with both the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and the International Halibut Commission have found that there is no problem with the halibut resource in this area. In 1990, the Alaska Wildlife Alliance sued the National Park Service claiming that commercial fishing was statutorily prohibited within the Park. In March 1997, the Federal appeals court (U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals) ruled that commercial fishing was not statutorily prohibited in the Park, except for in wilderness areas. If there is no resource problem within the Glacier Bay National Park boundaries, then commercial and subsistence fishing activities should not be prohibited by broad National Park Service policies drafted in Washington, D.C.

The determination banning commercial and subsistence fishing within Glacier Bay National Park made no sense and was a political decision that will take away the livelihood of a large number of fishermen and will affect the well being of a number of communities which rely on the fishing industry. A ban on commercial fishing will affect not only fishermen, but will also have a huge effect on processing companies including a Native owned and operated processing plant in Kake, which buys much of its seafood from vessels which fish in Glacier Bay. A ban on commercial fishing in Glacier Bay will affect 416 crew and permit holders from Gustavus, Elfin Cove, Hoonah, and Pelican and affect employment opportunities for 613 employed in the seafood industry in these four towns alone. This ban will have a huge economic effect on this region. All of the fishing operations in the Park boundaries are small businesses—there are no large fishing vessels fishing in the Park and no factory trawlers fish here.

Last year, a group of stakeholders including commercial fishing industry representatives, Alaskan Natives, local processing companies, local and national environmental representatives, the State of Alaska, and Park Service personnel met to work out details of an agreement which would allow commercial fishing to continue. The stakeholders had not come to a resolution and because there was no resolution, language was put in the Interior Appropriations legislation to prevent the National Park Service from publishing final rules until the stakeholder group could reach an agreement; however, the National Park Service and national environmental groups made this a national environmental priority and prevented the stakeholder process from concluding.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation will reverse this unjust and unscientific National Park Service policy and allow commercial and subsistence fishing to continue in the non-wilderness waters of Glacier Bay National Park. It clarifies that the State of Alaska will continue to manage marine fishery resources within the Park's

boundaries. It will also provide compensation to those who have been displaced by any closures within the Park or by actions of any Federal agency which interferes with any person legally fishing in Park waters.

Even with commercial fisheries operating in the Park, Glacier Bay National Park was the number one destination in the National Park Service system last year. Commercial fishing poses no threat to the "park experience" and in fact many visitors consider seeing fishing vessels as a positive experience in the Park.

Mr. Speaker, there is no fishery resource problem in the Park and there is no justification for a complete closure of Glacier Bay National Park to commercial or subsistence fishing. This legislation will right a wrong and continue to allow these practices to continue in Glacier Bay National Park in a well managed and sustainable manner.

PRITCHETT HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS
BASKETBALL TEAM HONORED

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Pritchett High School girls basketball team on their Class A District 3 Championship.

The Pritchett players, led by Coach Tom Gooden, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Pritchett High School girls basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 3 Championship.

12TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
HIGH SCHOOLS HONORED BY U.S.
NEWS AND WORLD REPORT

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor five high schools within my Congressional district that have been identified as Outstanding High Schools by U.S. News and World Report . . . De La Salle Collegiate in Warren, Henry Ford II in Sterling Heights, Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic in Warren, Troy High School and Troy Athens High School in Troy.

U.S. News & World Report, in conjunction with the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago, reviewed 1,053 high schools in six major metropolitan

areas and singled out examples that can serve as models of excellence for communities across the nation. Ninety six schools were cited as examples of outstanding institutions where students progress steadily toward high academic standards and where every student matters.

The five schools that were honored shared several key traits including high academic standards, a core curriculum, highly qualified teachers, strong mentoring for new teachers, partnerships between parents and schools, administrators and teachers who know each child and high attendance rates.

Each school also demonstrated high academic achievement as defined by the NORC. The NORC's "value-added approach" measured each school's performance only after taking its students' family circumstances into account, thus identifying schools that do an outstanding job with the students they have, regardless of their socio-economic background.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these five schools, De La Salle Collegiate, Henry Ford II, Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic, Troy High School and Troy Athens High School and to congratulate their administrators, faculty, students and parents for their dedication and hard work. I wish them continued success as they continue to take care of our nation's greatest asset, our young people.

TRIBUTE TO HARRY ORR

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow that I inform my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives of the passing of my dear friend, Harry Orr. As I have mentioned in the past, Harry Orr was a dedicated and tireless volunteer of the Democratic Party, a committed union activist of United Auto Workers Local 651, and a proud member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4087 in Davison, Michigan. Due to his unceasing efforts in all three of these forums, our community is a much better place in which to live. He touched many people with his dedication, his humor, and his tenderness.

Mr. Speaker, my feelings, and the feelings of many people who knew Harry, are perhaps best summarized in the letter I have sent his loving wife, Maxine. Due to the press of legislative business, I am unable to attend Harry's funeral, but my letter will be read at the service.

DEAR MAXINE: I would like to express my sincerest sympathy to you and your family. I am so very sorry that I am not able to join you today, but extremely important legislative business involving my own committee requires that I be in Washington, D.C.

I wanted to express my thoughts about a loyal friend, a tireless volunteer, and a great man who has been taken from this Earth. It has been said that "death ends a life, not a relationship," and this is certainly the case for those who have ever come in contact with Harry. Harry's desire was to help people in any way possible and do whatever he could to ensure that a positive environment existed throughout the community. Harry's ability to make a difference was a trait that

you share, Maxine. Harry was not just a constituent or a campaign volunteer, but my very good friend. It is with a heavy heart that I write this letter today, however, it is also with great pride that I do so. We are all inspired by people like Harry, who make it their life's work to improve the quality and dignity of life for all. I will miss Harry a great deal.

Maxine, your love for Harry was so tender and caring, and it was an inspiration to us all. You enriched his life and kept him with us for many years he might never have had were it not for your loving care.

Maxine, please know that I am with you today in spirit and prayer.

Sincerely,

DALE E. KILDEE, M.C.

Mr. Speaker, I and our community will sorely miss my dear friend, Harry Orr. But his spirit lives on through his loving wife, Maxine, and his son, Harry, Jr. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

EAST ASIA AND MISSILE DEFENSE
SYSTEMS

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, during this Member visit to several East Asian countries in January, considerable Japanese interest in developing a missile defense system was mentioned in the region's news media as a result of the North Korean missile launch over Japanese territory on its course to the Pacific. Also noted was very substantial public discussion and media coverage of the possibility of a missile defense system in Taiwan because of the Chinese missile firings in the run-up to the last Taiwanese presidential elections and because of the Chinese mainland missile build-up in the Taiwan Strait region.

The following editorial from the February 20, 1999, edition of *The Economist* magazine notes not only the impact on Japan of the North Korean's provocative action and demonstrated advancement of their missile development program, it also suggests that "[w]ith its missile, North Korea was thumbing its nose as much at China as at Japan and America." This Member has long felt that China's influence on North Korea is generally over-estimated, but certainly it has more influence on the isolated, paranoid North Korean regime than any other country. *The Economist* editorial notes what is almost certainly true, that "North Korea felt it could take such missile liberties in part because China has stoutly opposed all international pressure on North Korea to curb its nuclear and missile activities." China is complaining loudly and threateningly against the possible deployment of missile defense systems in Japan, Korea, and Taiwan rather than examining its own culpability in increasing its missile threat against Taiwan and ignoring, to its own danger, the destabilizing missile and nuclear development programs of North Korea. The United States, threatened itself by the North Korean missiles under development, cannot ignore their threat to our allies, the Republic of Korea and Japan, nor its commitment that Taiwan not be forcibly placed under the control of Beijing. As *The Economist* concludes, China "has mostly itself to blame" for any new tilt in East Asia's uneasy balance of power may have been

caused by more Potent missile forces and the resultant urgent interest in American assistance for missile defense systems.

This Member urges his colleagues to read the entire *Economist* editorial on this important set of related developments.

[From the Economist, Feb. 20, 1999]

CAUSING OFFENCE

TALK ABOUT MISSILE DEFENCES IS A SYMPTOM OF EAST ASIA'S TENSIONS, NOT THE CAUSE

Are America and China heading for another bust-up? The "strategic dialogue" inaugurated by Presidents Bill Clinton and Jiang Zemin has been shrilly interrupted, this time by Chinese concern about America's discussions with Japan and others of possible missile defences in East Asia, and by American worries about Chinese missiles pointed at Taiwan (see page 37). The row threatens to sour preparations for the visit to America in April of China's prime minister, Zhu Rongji. Handled sensibly, the missile tiff need not produce a crisis. Yet it goes to the heart of what divides China from America and most of its Asian neighbours: China's pursuit of power by at times reckless means.

China may never be a global power to rival America. It is, however, an increasingly potent regional power, with territorial scores to settle. It makes plain that it intends to recover sovereignty over Taiwan, to extend jurisdiction over almost all the rocks and reefs of the South China Sea, and ultimately to displace America as East Asia's most influential power.

Until recently, events had seemed to be moving China's way. Recognising China's extreme sensitivity on the Taiwan issue, on a visit to China last year Mr. Clinton made clear that America did not support independence for the island, despite the protective arm America throws round it at times of military tension with the mainland. Meanwhile China had skilfully used the region's economic turmoil to reinforce its claims in the South China Sea, blame rival Japan for not doing enough to aid regional economic recovery and play on sharp economic differences between America and Japan. Hence China's fury that the question of missiles and missile defences could blow a hole in these stratagems.

The launch of a North Korean rocket over Japan last August reminded the Japanese of the importance of their alliance with America, and persuaded the government to set aside China's objections and start discussions on missile defences. Without such defences in a dangerous neighbourhood, America had worried and China had calculated that pressure would eventually grow in Congress to pull back the 100,000 or so American troops in Japan and South Korea. China's reaction has been all the shriller for knowing that any missile defences eventually deployed to protect America's troops and close allies from rogue North Korean missiles could be used to help protect Taiwan from China.

With its missile, North Korea was thumbing its nose as much at China as at Japan and America. Yet the success of its engineers owes at least something to past Chinese collusion. North Korea felt it could take such missile liberties in part because China has stoutly opposed all international pressure on North Korea to curb its nuclear and missile activities.

The Taiwanese had their reminder of the potential value of missile defences three years ago, when it was China lobbying missiles, these ones falling near the island's shipping lanes in a crude effort to intimidate voters before Taiwan's first democratic presidential election. China now has snazzier

missiles. Its belligerence drove Taiwan to seek better defences, not, as China would have it, the other way around.

There is still time to calm tensions over Taiwan, and still time for the regional powers to talk over the problems raised by any future (limited) missile defences. Yet these issues give a new tilt to East Asia's uneasy balance of power. If this tilt upsets China, it has mostly itself to blame.

INDIA-UNITED STATES
MULTILATERAL TALKS

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank and congratulate United States Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbot and Indian Minister of External Affairs Jaswant Singh for their efforts in the most recent phase of bilateral talks between India and the United States. Though the full details of the talks remain undisclosed, as they should, all reports are that much progress is being made in strengthening relations of the two countries.

I fully acknowledge and support the United States' foreign policy principle of opposing nuclear proliferation, but I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize that exceptions to that principle may occasionally be warranted. Such exceptions should be based on the security needs of a nation, the entirety of that nation's relationship—economic, cultural, and diplomatic—with the United States, and the nation's willingness to participate in international arms control efforts.

Based on such criteria, I assert that India is a good candidate for such an exception to United States non-proliferation policy and would like to voice my hope that Mr. Talbot is working hard to lift remaining multilateral sanctions against India, especially the remaining World Bank lending sanctions. Again, I would like to express my thanks to Mr. Talbot and Mr. Singh for their hard work in this vital arena, congratulate them on their success thus far, and wish them the best in the future negotiations.

SUPPORT FOR THE DISASTER
MITIGATION COORDINATION ACT

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am joining with Chairman TALENT, Ranking Member VELÁZQUEZ and the Small Business Committee in support of the Disaster Mitigation Coordination Act. This legislation is a sensible, smart addition to the disaster loan program.

The Disaster Mitigation Coordination Act will add a valuable pro-active measure to the Small Business Association's Disaster Loan program. If enacted, this legislation will save money for taxpayers, communities and small businesses.

By adding the availability of pre-disaster mitigation loans to small businesses located in FEMA's "Project Impact" zones, we will be allowing small businesses to avoid or at least

reduce the damages they suffer from unpredictable natural disasters. By helping these businesses to prepare for and react to disasters better, we are also ensuring they are able to continue providing needed goods and services to the communities that depend on them.

Given the unpredictability of their frequency and the severity of natural disasters, this approach seems more than reasonable. A 5 year pilot program authorizing up to \$15 million a year in mitigation loans will permit the Small Business Administration to evaluate this approach to see if it is a less costly way of mitigating disasters than other fully subsidized federal disaster relief.

This legislation makes sense. By making available low interest, long term pre-disaster mitigation loans that will be paid back to the treasury, we will be reducing the amount of emergency grants necessary to respond to disasters. Furthermore, by offering pre-disaster assistance, we will be supporting the efforts of small businesses that want to act responsibly and pro-actively. Pre-disaster assistance means saving taxpayer money, secure small business communities and a healthy economy.

Mr. Speaker, this will surely be a welcome alternative to small businesses in our state of Illinois which has received the fifth highest amount of disaster loan money nation wide since 1989. I thank my colleagues for their consideration and urge them to support this valuable piece of legislation.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHARLES
C. BUTT, 1999 BORDER TEXAN OF
THE YEAR

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege for me to rise today to recognize an accomplished individual who is the deserving recipient of this year's Border Texan of the Year Award, Mr. Charles C. Butt, Chairman & CEO of the H.E.B. Grocery Company.

This award is given to individuals whose efforts have improved the quality of life for residents in South Texas. Recipients of this award serve as role models for all Texans. They are an inspiration to others, and they exhibit character as well as display a high standard of ethics.

Charles Butt has been selected by the BorderFest Border Texan of the Year Committee because his contributions to South Texas in the area of employment and economic development are unsurpassed. HEB today stands as one of the nation's largest independently owned food retailing companies. It is the largest private employer in the state of Texas with 45,000 employees, or "partners," and operates 250 stores across Texas, Louisiana, and Mexico. HEB generated sales of approximately \$7 billion in 1998. In 1971, Mr. Butt became HEB's Chairman and CEO. At that time 4,500 individuals were employed, and revenues were approximately \$250 million.

These facts and figures merit mention because they reflect the strengths of someone who is a true leader, someone whose vision and work ethic has made a successful company even more dynamic.

Moreover, HEB has always had a practice of reaching out to the community. Never just a policy, but always a tradition, the practice of helping those in need has only become stronger under the leadership of Charles Butt. Time and time again, he has been there to help communities in need. When flood-waters ravaged the small city of Del Rio, Texas in August, HEB was there. Within hours of this tragedy, HEB tankers carrying 5,500 gallons of water were stationed at the Del Rio stores around the clock, and construction experts with the company were on site helping this city to rebuild. Charles Butt personally was on the scene to assist in whatever way he could.

The spirit of HEB can be seen not only in times of crises, but in everyday programs that reflect the company's desire to feed the hungry. HEB has revolutionized the food banking efforts with its support of twenty food banks—eighteen in Texas and two in Mexico. Since 1983 HEB supported food banks have shared more than 150 million pounds of donated food and merchandise with some 6,000 organizations. The list of charitable works goes on and on.

Again, I want to say how delighted I am that Charles C. Butt has been selected to receive this recognition. He is a man who represents the best in our country—a personal devotion to service, a professional commitment to excellence, and a visionary grasp of the opportunities open to all Americans.

Thank you for all your contributions, and I am glad to have this opportunity to add my accolades to this well-deserved honor. Congratulations, Mr. Border Texan!

THE GIFT OF LIFE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL ACT OF 1999

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I are proud to introduce the "Gift of Life Congressional Medal Act of 1999." This legislation creates a commemorative medal to honor organ donors and their survivors.

There is a serious shortage of available and suitable organ donors. Over 50,000 people are currently waiting for an organ transplant. Because of low donor rates, over 4,000 people die each year for lack of a suitable organ. Some patients also wait significantly longer for a transplant depending on where they live. In some parts of the country, the typical wait for an organ transplant is close to 100 days. In other parts of the country, the wait is closer to 1,000 days. We need to use every possible option to increase the number of donated organs for all Americans. The Gift of Life Congressional Medal Act draws attention to this life-saving issue, and sends a clear message that donating one's organs is a self-less act that should receive the profound respect of the Nation.

The legislation allows the Health and Human Service's Organ Procurement Organization (OPO) and the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network to establish a non-profit fund to design, produce, and distribute the medals. Funding would come solely from charitable donations. The donor or family member would have the option of receiving

the Congressional Gift of Life Medal. Families would also request that a Member of Congress, state or local official, or community leader award the medal to the donor or donor's survivors.

According to the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS), an average of 5300 donations per year were made between 1994 and 1996. Research points to a clear need for incentive programs and public education on organ donation. These efforts can increase the number of organ donations by more than 80 percent.

Physicians can now transplant kidneys, lungs, pancreas, liver, and heart with considerable success. The demand for organs will continue to grow with the improvement of medical technologies. Without expanded efforts to increase the supply of organ donation, the supply of suitable organs will continue to lag behind the need.

This is a non-controversial, non-partisan legislation to increase organ donation. I ask that our colleagues help bring an end to transplant waiting lists and recognize the enormous faith and courage displayed by organ donors and their families.

A copy of the legislation follows.

H.R. —

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Gift of Life Congressional Medal Act of 1999".

SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL

The Secretary of the Treasury shall design and strike a bronze medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, to commemorate organ donors and their families.

SEC. 3 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Any organ donor, or the family of any organ donor, shall be eligible for a medal described in section 2.

(b) DOCUMENTATION.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall direct the entity holding the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (hereafter in this Act referred to as "OPTN") to contract to—

(1) establish an application procedure requiring the relevant organ procurement organization, as described in section 371(b)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 273(b)(1)), through which an individual or their family made an organ donation, to submit to the OPTN contractor documentation supporting the eligibility of that individual or their family to receive a medal described in section 2; and

(2) determine, through the documentation provided, and, if necessary, independent investigation, whether the individual or family is eligible to receive a medal described in section 2.

SEC. 4 PRESENTATION.

(a) DELIVERY TO THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall deliver medals struck pursuant to this Act to the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

(b) DELIVERY TO ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall direct the OPTN contractor to arrange for the presentation to the relevant organ procurement organization all medals struck pursuant to this Act to individuals or families that, in accordance with section 3, the OPTN contractor has determined to be eligible to receive medals under this Act.

(c) LIMITATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), only 1 medal may be presented to a family under subsection (b). Such medal shall be presented to the donating family member, or in the case of a deceased donor, the family member who signed the consent form authorizing, or who otherwise authorized, the donation of the organ involved.

(2) EXCEPTION.—In the case of a family in which more than 1 member is an organ donor, the OPTN contractor may present an additional medal to each such organ donor or their family.

SEC. 5. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services or the OPTN contractor may provide duplicates of the medal described in section 2 to any recipient of a medal under section 4(b), under such regulations as the Secretary of Health and Human Services may issue.

(b) LIMITATION.—The price of a duplicate medal shall be sufficient to cover the cost of such duplicates.

SEC. 6. NATIONAL MEDALS.

The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national medals for purposes of section 5111 of title 31, United States Code.

SEC. 7. GENERAL WAIVER OR PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS.

No provision of law governing procurement or public contracts shall be applicable to the procurement of goods or services necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 8. SOLICITATION OF DONATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury may enter into an agreement with the OPTN contractor to collect funds to offset expenditures relating to the issuance of medals authorized under this Act.

(b) PAYMENT OF FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), all funds received by the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network under subsection (a) shall be promptly paid by the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network to the Secretary of the Treasury.

(2) LIMITATION.—Not more than 5 percent of the any funds received under subsection (a) shall be used to pay administrative costs incurred by the OPTN contractor as a result of an agreement established under this section.

(c) NUMISMATIC PUBLIC ENTERPRISE FUND.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law—

(1) all amounts received by the Secretary of the Treasury under subsection (b)(1) shall be deposited in the Numismatic Public Enterprise Fund, as described in section 5134 of title 31, United States Code; and

(2) the Secretary of the Treasury shall charge such fund with all expenditures relating to the issuance of medals authorized under this Act.

(d) START-UP COSTS.—A 1-time amount not to exceed \$55,000 shall be provided to the OPTN contractor to cover initial start-up costs. The amount will be paid back in full within 3 years of the date of the enactment of this Act from funds received under subsection (a).

(e) NO NET COST TO THE GOVERNMENT.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall take all actions necessary to ensure that the issuance of medals authorized under section 2 results in no net cost to the Government.

SEC. 9. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act—

(1) the term "organ" means the human kidney, liver, heart, lung, pancreas, and any other human organ (other than corneas and eyes) specified by regulation of the Secretary of Health and Human Services or the OPTN contractor; and

(2) the term "Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network" means the Organ

Procurement and Transplantation Network established under section 372 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274).

SEC. 10. SUNSET PROVISION.

This Act shall be effective during the 5-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

THE SPRAWLING OF AMERICA

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, people from across the nation are talking about ways they can make their communities more livable. Improving livability means better schools, safer neighborhoods, affordable housing and more choices in transportation. Improving livability also means preserving what makes each community unique, be it the farmlands in Oregon or the desert in Arizona. It is my pleasure to share with my colleagues the comments of Richard Moe, the president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, on this important and timely topic.

THE SPRAWLING OF AMERICA: FEDERAL POLICY IS PART OF THE PROBLEM; CAN IT BE PART OF THE SOLUTION?

(An address by Richard Moe, president, National Trust for Historic Preservation at the National Press Club in Washington, DC on January 22, 1999)

America today is engaged in a great national debate. It's a debate about sprawl. The central question in the debate is this: Will we continue to allow haphazard growth to consume more countryside in ways that drain the vitality out of our cities while eroding the quality of life virtually everywhere? Or will we choose instead to use our land more sensibly and to revitalize our older neighborhoods and downtowns, thereby enhancing the quality of life for everyone?

The debate touches every aspect of our lives—the quality of the natural and built environments, how we feel about the places where we live and work and play, how much time we have for our family and civil life, how rooted we are in our communities. I believe that this debate will frame one of the most important political issues of the first decade of the 21st century. Ultimately, its outcome will determine whether the American dream will become a reality for future generations.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, which I am privileged to serve, works to revitalize America's communities by preserving our heritage—the buildings, neighborhoods, downtowns and landscapes that link us with our past and define us as Americans. Our mission is summed up in a short phrase: "Protecting the Irreplaceable." Sprawl destroys the irreplaceable, which is why the National Trust is concerned about sprawl—and why I want to address the subject today.

Preservation is in the business of saving special places and the quality of life they support, and sprawl destroys both. It devours historic landscapes. It makes the strip malls and subdivisions on the edge of Washington look like those on the edge of Albuquerque or Birmingham or any other American city. It drains the life out of older communities, stops their economic pulse and often puts them in intensive care—or sometimes even the morgue.

Sprawl reminds me of Justice Stewart's remark about pornography: It's hard to define,

but you know it when you see it. In simple terms, sprawl is the poorly planned, low-density, auto-oriented development that spreads out from the edges of communities. But it is best defined by the way it affects us in our daily lives.

Winston Churchill said, "We shape our buildings, and then our buildings shape us." The same holds true for communities: The way we shape them has a huge impact on the way we feel, the way we interact with one another, the way we live. By harming our communities, sprawl touches us all—and one way or another, we all pay for it.

We pay in open space and farmland lost. Since 1950, the State of Pennsylvania has lost more than 4 million acres of farmland; that's an area larger than Connecticut and Rhode Island combined. Metropolitan Phoenix now covers an area the size of Delaware. It's estimated that over the next 45 years, sprawl in the Central Valley of California will affect more than 3.6 million acres of America's most productive farmland.

We pay in time lost. A study last year reported that each of us here in Washington spends about 59 hours a year—the equivalent of a week and a half of work—stuck in traffic. The price tag for time and fuel wasted is roughly \$860 annually for every man, woman and child in the Washington area. In Los Angeles, the average speed on the freeway is expected to drop to 11 miles per hour by 2010. A new term "road rage" has been coined to describe drivers' frustration over traffic.

We pay in higher taxes. Over the decades, we've handed over our tax dollars to pay for infrastructure and services—things like police and fire protection, water and sewer lines, schools and streetlights—in our communities. Now we're being asked to pay higher taxes to duplicate those services in sprawling new developments, while the infrastructure we've already paid for lies abandoned or underused in our older city center and suburbs. Even worse, local governments use our tax dollars to offer incentives and write-offs to sprawl developers—in effect, rewarding them for consuming our landscape and weakening our older communities.

Finally, we pay in the steady erosion of our quality of life. Inner cities have become enclaves of poverty. Long, frustrating commutes leave us less time with our families. Tranquil neighborhoods are destroyed by road-widening. Historic landmarks get demolished and carted off to the landfill. Everyplace winds up looking more and more like Noplace. These signs point to an inescapable fact: Sprawl and its byproducts represent the number-one threat to community livability in America today. And in a competitive global marketplace, livability is the factor that will determine which communities thrive and which ones wither. Nobel Prize-winning economist Robert Solow puts it this way: "Livability is not some middle-class luxury. It is an economic imperative."

Sprawl is finally getting the attention it deserves. It was the subject of major initiatives announced by the President and the Vice President in recent back-to-back speeches. Bipartisan caucuses focusing on smart growth and community livability have been formed in both the House and Senate. Governors across the political spectrum have announced programs to control sprawl and encourage smart growth. The Urban Land Institute, the American Institute of Architects, the National Governors Association, and foundations and nonprofit organizations of every stripe hold seminars and workshops on sprawl. Last November, voters from Cape Cod to California overwhelmingly approved some 200 ballot initiatives related to growth management and urban revitalization.

All this attention is welcome. Sprawl is a national problem, and it needs a national de-

bate. But the debate shouldn't focus on finding a national solution, because there isn't one. There are two essential elements in any effective program to combat sprawl: sensible land-use planning and the revitalization of existing communities. These are issues traditionally and best handled at the state and local levels—and that, in the end, is where the fight against sprawl will be won or lost. But—and here's the main point I want to make today—the federal government also has a crucial role to play in the process.

There are obviously many factors such as crime, drugs and bad schools and public services that have helped propel the exodus of people and jobs from our central cities, but that exodus has been greatly facilitated—even accelerated—by the effects of federal policies. Sometimes these effects have been intended and sometimes they have been inadvertent, but in most cases they have been profound. Because the federal government has contributed so heavily to the problem, it has a clear duty to help find solutions.

It can—and should—do so in four ways:

First, it should correct policies that encourage or reward sprawl.

Sprawl-friendly policies and practices exist in almost every federal agency. I'll mention only a few examples.

Nearly 17 million people work directly or indirectly for the federal government. With a workforce that size, decisions about where the government locates its offices can have a huge impact on a community's economic health. A 1996 Executive Order directs federal agencies to give first consideration to locating their facilities in downtown historic districts instead of out on the suburban fringe—but two years after it was issued, compliance is spotty. Right now, for example, in the small, economically-depressed town of Glasgow, Montana, the U.S. Department of Agriculture is putting its county office in a new building that will be constructed in pastureland on the edge of town. A suitable downtown building was available, but USDA rejected it because the parking lot is a block away instead of right next door.

Relocating post offices to suburban sites can also deal a body blow to a small-town Main Street—and put historic buildings at risk as well. Because post offices serve an important role in the social and business life of many towns, the U.S. Postal Service needs to give communities more say in where these essential facilities are to be located.

The federal tax code, in all its complexity, is heavily tilted toward new development and the consumption of open space. It needs to put at least as much emphasis on promoting opportunities for revitalization and stabilization of older communities. It needs to provide incentives—which are currently lacking—for middle-class and moderate-income households to become urban homeowners.

Federal water and sewer grants were originally intended as a means of providing clean water and safe waste-treatment facilities in rural areas. In practice, however, the ready availability of this funding virtually invites development further and further into countryside.

The list goes on and on, but the biggest offender of all is federal transportation policy, which can be summed up in a short phrase: "feed the car, starve the alternative." As Jessica Mathews wrote a while ago in the Washington Post, "Americans are not irrationally car-crazed. We seem wedded to the automobile because policy after . . . policy . . . encourages us to be." Transportation officials generally try to "solve" problems by building more roads—an approach which is often like trying to cure obesity by loosening your belt.

People need transportation choices and communities need balanced transportation

systems. Federal policy hasn't done a good job of offering them—but that may be changing. The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, or TEA-21, enacted last year, encourages planning that looks beyond irrelevant political boundaries and allows for greater citizen and local government participation in making transportation investment decisions. That's welcome news, certainly, but TEA-21 is a promissory note that will be redeemed only through hard work at the state and local levels. It offers a great opportunity for the federal Department of Transportation to take a leadership role in urging the states to take full advantage of this landmark legislation.

Within the next few months, the General Accounting Office will release its study on the extent to which federal policies encourage sprawl, and I hope the report will prompt a serious examination of these policies.

Second, the federal government should reward states and communities that promote smart growth and help revitalize existing communities.

Being anti-sprawl is not being anti-growth. The question is not whether our communities should grow, but rather how they will grow. More and more people—private citizens and public officials alike—are realizing that the answer to that question lies in sensible land-use planning.

Three states have recently launched different efforts to manage sprawl. Last May, Tennessee passed a law that requires counties and municipalities to adopt "growth plans" which, among other things, set firm boundaries for new development and public services. Closer to home, Governor Glendening's Smart Growth initiative in Maryland is one of the most innovative—and potentially one of the most significant—in the country. Under Governor Whitman's leadership, residents of New Jersey have approved up to \$98 million in tax revenue annually for conservation and historic preservation; over 10 years this measure will protect a million acres of land—a marvelous gift to future generations.

We should encourage efforts like these in other states. I suggest that we design a federal "smart growth scorecard"—a system that favors sensible, sustainable growth and evaluates the effectiveness with which states and communities meet that test. States that amend their building codes to make them more "rehab-friendly" or that remove their constitutional ban against the use of state gas tax revenues for mass transit projects, for example, are taking positive steps to fight sprawl and restore communities. They ought to be rewarded. The federal scorecard would give states credit for initiatives such as these and would give smart-growth projects an edge in the competition for federal funds.

Third, the federal government should promote regional cooperation as a key to effective control of sprawl.

Metropolitan areas now contain close to 80% of the total U.S. population. Half the people in this country now live in just 39 metropolitan areas. But governmental structures in no way reflect this reality.

Urban decline and sprawl are practically guaranteed wherever there is a balkanized system of local jurisdictions. There's a perfect example right here in Washington, where our metropolitan area is a patchwork quilt comprising two states, the District of Columbia, a dozen counties and a score of municipalities—each with its own budget, each following its own agenda.

When it comes to sprawl, city limits and county lines are often meaningless marks on a map. Limited jurisdiction makes it hard for local government to deal with an issue of this magnitude, and efforts to control sprawl

in a limited area often just shift the problem from one community to another. It's like trying to stop a flood with a picket fence.

States need to encourage local governments in the same region to better coordinate their land-use and transportation plans, and the federal government can help a great deal by simply providing basic information that regions need. Much of this information—dealing with things such as the geographic mismatch between workers and jobs and the extent of outmigration from cities to suburbs—already exists, but it is difficult and expensive for localities to obtain. That's a fairly easy problem to fix, and the federal government ought to do it.

While regionalism by itself does not curb sprawl, it can moderate one of the engines of sprawl: the costly bidding wars between neighboring jurisdictions for sprawl-type development that holds out the hope for new tax revenues. Admittedly, the performance of some regional governments has been lackluster, but in other areas—Portland, Oregon, for examples—regionalism is making a difference in addressing the problems of sprawl and poorly managed growth. Encouraging and assisting similar efforts all over the country should be a cornerstone of federal policy.

Happily, the current Administration is taking an important step in that direction. The "Livability Agenda" recently announced by Vice President Gore proposes a major initiative to reduce barriers to regional governance and to fund local partnerships that pursue smart-growth strategies across jurisdictional lines. This will be the first flexible source of funding provided by the federal government to promote smarter metropolitan growth. It's a very welcome initiative.

Controlling sprawl is only half the battle, which brings me to the fourth thing the federal government should do: provide incentives for reinvestment in existing communities.

Discussions about the plight of the cities often overlook a simple fact: When people leave the city it's not necessarily because they love sprawl or hate urban life, but because leaving is the rational thing to do. More than anything else, urban flight is an indictment of bad schools, crime and poor public services. As if this "push" weren't enough, people are "pulled" out of the city by policies and practices that make homes and infrastructure in the suburbs less expensive and easier to build.

In place of this "push-pull" combination, we need public policy that favors existing communities. Fifty years ago the government began to offer economic inducements to families that wanted to flee to the suburbs; it's time to offer those same kinds of inducements to entice middle-class residents to return to, or stay in, the city.

It all comes down to choosing where to make investments. If the federal government chooses to pour funding into more outer beltways and more suburban infrastructure, sprawl will continue to spread like an epidemic. But if the government makes a commitment to existing communities, it can have an enormous, positive impact on the critical need to keep people in urban neighborhoods and give others a reason to move back to the city.

This is the missing piece of the administration's Livability Agenda, which includes a heavy focus on the preservation of open space. There's no question that we need to speed up our efforts to protect open space and farmland through land trusts, easements, the purchase of development rights and other means. Saving greenspace is a very good thing, but it's not enough by itself. We could buy all the open land in the country and still not solve the problem of sprawl. We

also need to focus energies and resources on reclaiming the streets and neighborhoods where people live—the towns, inner cities and older suburbs that we've neglected so badly for the past half-century. We must develop housing policies and programs that advance the goal of economic integration of our communities and lessen the concentration of poor households in inner-city areas. We must attract middle-income families back to the towns and cities, and we must improve the quality of housing for lower-income people.

One way to do this is by enacting the Historic Homeownership Assistance Act. This legislation, which has broad bipartisan support in both houses of Congress, would extend federal tax credits to homeowners who renovate their historic homes, giving residents of older neighborhoods incentives to stay and invest in their community's future, and providing an incentive for others to move back into the city. By offering a way to put deteriorated property back on the tax rolls while making homeownership more affordable for lower-income residents, this law could greatly benefit communities all over the country. Obviously, this one act won't solve America's urban problems—but it can help, and a step in the right direction is better than standing still.

In fighting sprawl, we're dealing with an issue that undermines many of the national goals and values that we've embraced over the years. The provision of affordable housing, improved mobility, a clean environment, the transition from welfare to work, the livability and economic health of our communities—all of these are undermined by sprawl. In fact, there is scarcely a single national problem that is not exacerbated by sprawl or that would not be alleviated if sprawl were better contained.

We can continue turning much of our nation into a tragic patchwork of ruined cities and spoiled countryside, or we can insist on sensible federal policies that strengthen communities instead of scattering them randomly across the landscape.

We can keep on accepting the kind of communities we get, or we can summon the national will to demand the kind of communities we want and need and deserve.

The choice is ours, and the time to make that choice is now.

FIGHT DIABETES

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of my Colleagues to the following letter I received from a young Vermonter. Philip Burgin-Young is nine years old, and likes to play soccer, as well as study math and science. At the same time, Philip has to regularly check his blood sugar, take three insulin shots a day, and closely watch what he eats, because he is diabetic. Like Philip, I believe that our government must do more for the 16 million Americans suffering from diabetes by investing in a cure to the disease.

I call the attention of my colleagues to this moving letter and submit the letter for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for their benefit. FEBRUARY 21, 1999.

Hon. BERNIE SANDERS,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE SANDERS: My name is Philip Burgin-Young, and I am nine years

old. I have had diabetes almost four years. I love to play soccer, study math, and experiment with science. To be able to do these things, I have to work real hard to take care of my diabetes. That means that I check my blood sugar at least six times a day (but usually closer to ten times), have at least three shots of insulin a day (in my stomach, arms, legs, and buttocks), count every gram of carbohydrate and fat that I eat, and make sure that I exercise a lot to keep my blood sugar balanced. My parents also check my blood sugar in the middle of the night while I am sleeping. But even doing these things, it is impossible to keep my blood sugar in the normal range all of the time. Diabetes is a very complex thing.

It is not easy to describe what it is like living with diabetes. But I have two stories that can describe it a little. The first story is about something my sister said to me. One day my sister said that if she had diabetes and then a cure was discovered, she would go out and eat a dozen donuts. She asked me what I would do. I said, "I wouldn't go out and eat a dozen donuts. I WOULD JUST BE SO RELIEVED!" I could tell that she couldn't really understand what it feels like to live with diabetes every minute of every day, even though she does help me with my diabetes. The second story is about something that happens all of the time, because I play soccer on a couple of teams. Before I go on the field I always check my blood sugar to make sure that I'm not too high or too low. If I'm too high, I can't play and I need to have a shot of insulin. Even though I do everything I am supposed to do to take care of my diabetes, this does happen and I missed the beginning of our playoffs because I was too high. If I'm too low, I also can't play and have to wait about 15 minutes for the food that I eat to get into my system. Then, during half time I do the same thing—I recheck my blood sugar. At the end of the game I check again to make sure I'm not too low or too high.

I want a cure for diabetes so that I can do what I want with my life—I want to be healthy and I want to help other people by being a scientist who helps to find cures for diseases. I also want a cure for all of the other people who have diabetes. As hard as it is for me with diabetes, at least I am lucky because my mom and dad and sister help me try to take real good care of myself. Some kids aren't so lucky and they end up in the hospital often.

Will you please vote for more money for research, to try to find a cure for diabetes? I know that with more money scientists will be able to find a cure more easily. There are so many areas that are being researched and if they don't have enough money they can't do the research. PLEASE HELP!

Sincerely,

PHILIP BURGIN-YOUNG.

CONGRATULATING THE STERLING
HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKET-
BALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Sterling High School girls basketball team on the Class 4A District 4 Championship.

The Sterling players, led by Coach Darrell Parker, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State 4A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Sterling High School girls basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado 4A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 4 Championship.

CONGRATULATING THE CALICHE
HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKET-
BALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Caliche High School boys basketball team on their Class 2A District 2 Championship.

The Caliche players, led by Coach Rocky Samber, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State 2A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Caliche High School boys basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado 2A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 2 Championship.

CONGRATULATING THE SWINK
HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKET-
BALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Swink High School boys basketball team on their Class 2A District 4 Championship.

The Swink players, led by Coach Tim Jordan, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State 2A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the con-

fidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Swink High School boys basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado 2A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 4 Championship.

CONGRATULATING THE CHERAW
HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKET-
BALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Cheraw High School girls basketball team on their Class A District 2 Championship.

The Cheraw players, led by Coach Charles Phillips, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Cheraw High School girls basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 2 Championship.

TRUE COMMUNITY SERVICE: IN
HONOR OF SISTER MARY ALICE
MURPHY

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sister Mary Alice Murphy. September 1, 1999 marks the end of an era defined by community service as Sister Murphy will step down as executive director of Community Affordable Residences Enterprises. Known as CARE, the organization builds affordable housing for low-income residents in Fort Collins.

A Roman Catholic nun, Sister Murphy came to Fort Collins in 1983 to lead Catholic Charities Northern where she recognized the need for affordable housing in my hometown. Keep in mind, before 1993, affordable housing was not even on City Council's policy agenda. She had the foresight to point out a problem 16 years ago that today has become one of the most crucial issues in Fort Collins. Sister Mary Alice could have stopped there like most critics do, just pointing out a problem, but she

acted and led the leaders. She developed a plan for low income residents in Fort Collins which resulted in the construction of the Mission homeless shelter in 1989.

Again acting with foresight, Sister Mary Alice knew the Mission shelter was only temporary, and shelter residents would eventually need a more permanent place. CARE wanted to build new homes for low-income residents because renovation of existing homes in Fort Collins was not the optimum solution. Sister Mary Alice shepherded CARE's construction of the 40-unit Greenbriar complex in 1995, the first of three new housing units for low-income families.

Now in 1999, after almost two decades of service to low-income families in Fort Collins, CARE, under Sister Mary Alice's direction, has built three affordable housing complexes with 116 new housing units in Fort Collins and plans are in the making for a fourth project. When Sister Mary Alice steps down in September, I am proud to say she will still be involved with affordable housing in Fort Collins by assuming an advisory role in CARE's board of directors.

Mr. Speaker, today I am honored to pay tribute to a woman who exemplifies community service, service to humanity and faith in God. Sister Mary Alice Murphy is the person who identified the need for affordable housing in Fort Collins and followed through by shepherding the construction of it. We need more citizens like Sister Mary Alice who see problems and fixes them.

CONGRATULATING THE GENOA-HUGO HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Genoa-Hugo High School boys basketball team on their Class A District 7 Championship.

The Genoa-Hugo players, led by Coach Casey Moats, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Genoa-Hugo High School boys basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 7 Championship.

CONGRATULATING THE DEER TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Deer Trail High School girls basketball team on their Class A District 8 Championship.

The Deer Trail players, led by Coach Robert Kelley, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Deer Trail High School girls basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 8 Championship.

CONGRATULATING THE IDALIA HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Idalia High School boys basketball team on their Class A District 5 Championship.

The Idalia players, led by Coach Dave Eastin, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Idalia High School boys basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 5 Championship.

CONGRATULATING THE IDALIA HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Idalia High School girls basketball team on their Class A District 5 Championship.

The Idalia players, led by Coach Mike Waitman, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Idalia High School girls basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 5 Championship.

CONGRATULATING THE PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Prairie High School girls basketball team on their Class A District 4 Championship.

The Prairie players, led by Coach Maggie Kilmer, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Prairie High School girls basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 4 Championship.

CONGRATULATING THE TRINIDAD
HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKET-
BALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Trinidad High School girls basketball team on their Class A District 6 Championship.

The Trinidad players, led by coach Mike Vecellio, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships.

Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Trinidad High School girls basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 6 Championship.

CONGRATULATING THE FLAGLER
HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKET-
BALL TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Flagler High School girls basket-

ball team on their Class A District 7 Championship.

The Flagler players, led by Coach Mike Campbell, will now advance to the next level in the state basketball playoffs and their shot at the Colorado State A Championship.

All teams, no matter what the sport, continually strive to find that special and unique combination of teamwork, leadership, skill and effort which unlocks the door to success. Under careful tutelage, hard-working teams not only win games, but also build the confidence necessary to win championships. Clearly, these dedicated hoopsters have found this winning formula and attained the next rung of sporting success.

Greater challenges remain, however, and I wish the Flagler High School girls basketball team the best of luck in the Colorado A State Championship. No matter what the outcome of the next game, this team has proven it has the heart of a champion, and can take pride in the District 7 Championship.