

"Chinese Missiles Menace Taiwan." Throughout my tenure in Congress, I have fought hard to ensure the safety of Taiwan, and this report and others are evidence that Congress must be vigilant in reinforcing its commitment to this tiny island state.

According to a Pentagon report, Beijing now has 150–200 ballistic missiles aimed at Taiwan and has plans to increase that number to 650. It is clear that this threat is a challenge to Taiwan's increased democracy and independence—as evidenced most recently by its successful elections.

We all remember the last time this happened. In March, 1996, China reacted to Taiwan's imminent first democratic presidential elections by testing missiles in the waters just miles off the coast of Taiwan's largest harbor, Kaohsiung. The United States responded swiftly and effectively, by dispatching aircraft carriers to the Taiwan Straits to show the Chinese government our strong opposition to its actions.

Our response in 1996 was based on the provisions of the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act, which stipulated that the United States consider "any effort to determine the future of Taiwan by other than peaceful means . . . of grave concern to the United States." Our response now should be based on this same principle.

1999 marks the 20th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act—the cornerstone of U.S. commitment to Taiwan's safety and security. We must commemorate this anniversary by sending a clear message to Beijing that their acts of aggression and intimidation against Taiwan need to cease. Beijing must understand that, as we have in the past, we will come to the aid of Taiwan in case of a Chinese threat.

I am proud to be a co-sponsor of H. Con. Res. 22 which concludes that "the United States should help Taiwan defend itself in case of threats or a military attack by the People's Republic of China against Taiwan." This resolution repeats the provisions of one I introduced in 1997, which was passed by the House of Representatives later that year.

Mr. Speaker, let us pass H. Con. Res. 22 now, and let us send a strong message to Beijing that we will not stand idly by while our friends on Taiwan are bullied into submission by Chinese military might.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 931

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 1999

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill important to all workers, H.R. 931.

We no longer live in an era of one-company careers. Workers today change jobs with frequency. Oftentimes, these job changes are because of the worker's own choosing, however, just as often, they are not. In this era of downsizing and mergers, no one is safe from unemployment. Fortunately, Congress established the unemployment compensation system to provide temporary financial relief to workers who have lost their jobs. And it is a good thing it did. Last year, unemployment compensation was estimated to have helped 8.6 million workers who lost their jobs.

H.R. 931 takes this important program and goes a step further to improve it. It allows individuals who left their jobs because of sexual harassment or the loss of child care to collect unemployment compensation.

Sexual harassment is a widespread phenomenon. 42% of women and 15% of men have encountered some sort of sexual harassment in occupational settings. Despite the pervasive nature of this problem, only 1%–7% of victims file formal complaints. Oftentimes, sexual harassment results in low productivity and absenteeism. Although some victims may escape the problem simply by leaving their jobs, this option is not available for everyone. Unless one has money saved or another job lined up, it is hard to give up a steady pay check.

My bill addresses this economic obstacle by giving victims of sexual harassment the option to leave their jobs and to collect unemployment compensation if they can show "facts sufficient to establish a prima facie case" that they were victimized by sexual harassment.

In addition, H.R. 931 helps workers who leave employment because of the loss of child care by allowing them to collect unemployment compensation.

The need for child care is a daily reality for millions of America's working families. As real wages have stagnated over the last decade, many families have adapted by having two wage earners per family. Also, over this same period, the number of children living in mother-only families has increased. As a result, more women with children are working. In 1997, 65% of women with children under the age of 6 were working compared to only 39% in 1975. Child care is critical for these millions of working families.

If a working parent loses this child care, he or she has little choice but to stop working until new child care can be found. H.R. 931 would help those parents by allowing them to collect unemployment compensation if they left their jobs because of the loss of adequate child care for a dependent child under the age of 12.

The loss of child care places a tremendous strain on working parents. Although H.R. 931 does not relieve the stress over this loss, it does ease the financial strain placed on parents in this situation.

I am proud to introduce H.R. 931 and I urge my fellow Members of Congress to join me in support of this bill. We must seize the opportunity to help workers trapped in these unfortunate situations.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HENRY A. GOMEZ

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 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 and my high school football coach, Henry Gomez. Coach Gomez passed away on January 13th after leading a long and distinguished life of service to his community and commitment to the enrichment of young minds.

Henry Gomez devoted his professional and private life to serving his home state of Texas.

After graduating from Jeff Davis High School in Houston, he entered the Navy to bravely fight for his country during World War II, where he served in the Seabees as a special undersea diver in the Philippine Islands.

After the War, he returned to his hometown of Houston to continue his education at the University of Houston. Henry was an outstanding athlete on the first University of Houston football team. His love of the game was so great that, upon graduation in 1948, he began coaching the Aldine School District football team. His true enjoyment of working with young players and enthusiasm for football soon made him a respected figure at the school. After a 7-year tenure at Aldine, Henry moved to Jackson Jr. High and later to our alma mater, Jeff Davis High School.

It was during his 14-year career at Jeff Davis High School that I came to know Coach Gomez. While a young player on his teams, I learned the true importance of teamwork and cooperation that remains with me today. At Jeff Davis, his influence reached beyond the football field as he worked as counselor and ultimately Vice Principal of the school. He was a leader who drew much admiration from his students, players and colleagues.

Hoping to expand his involvement with the young people of his community, Mr. Gomez transferred to James Deady Middle School where he began another 14-year career as Assistant Principal. He was lovingly known during his tenure as the "Sheriff of Deady," whose firm yet kind demeanor and dedication to the enrichment of young minds drew respect and love from all who knew him.

Upon retirement from his long career in education, Henry Gomez maintained close ties with the Texas school system, where he was involved in both the Houston and Pasadena Area Retired Teacher's Association.

The death of Henry Gomez is a blow to all who loved and respected him. His years of working with students and his devotion to his community touched a countless number of lives, including my own. Those of us who were fortunate enough to have known him will never forget his kind spirit, his leadership in the community, and his dedication to coaching and teaching. He has left a legacy that will never be forgotten.

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

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING THE "MEDICAL INNOVATION TAX CREDIT"

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 1999

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, Congressman SANDER LEVIN and I have introduced legislation, H.R.—that will establish a new "Medical Innovation Tax Credit." Last year, we introduced similar legislation with strong, bipartisan support. This bill is designed to provide incentives for companies to utilize our Nation's medical schools and teaching hospitals to conduct important clinical testing research. These institutions have led the world on the development of medical advances, including cures for small pox, treatments for diabetes, cancer, and leukemia as well as the

irradiation of polio. It is important that we make every effort to insure that American teaching hospitals and medical schools remain leaders in the fight against disease.

Medical schools and teaching hospitals are the training grounds for our nation's health care professionals. They are centers for development of innovative medical technologies and treatments, as well as the backbone for innovation in American medicine. They are able to develop life saving drugs, medical devices and surgical techniques due to their unique position to link research, medical training and patient care. Unfortunately, medical schools and teaching hospitals face serious financial challenges due to profound changes in the health care marketplace. As funding shrinks, so does the vital, life saving medical research they perform.

The Medical Innovation Tax Credit is a response to this alarming decline in utilization of the Country's superior medical facilities for clinical trials. Under the credit, companies would be eligible for an incremental 20% tax credit for expenditures on human clinical trials performed by: (1) non-profit or public medical schools; (2) teaching hospitals owned by or affiliated with an institution of higher learning; (3) a medical research organization affiliated with a medical school or teaching hospital; or (4) non-profit research hospitals that are designated as cancer centers by the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health. The credit requires that research be performed in the United States, encouraging companies to retain and expand their clinical research projects, rather than relocating such activities abroad.

I urge my colleagues to join with me in the establishment of the Medical Innovation Tax Credit. A tax credit that is truly a "credit for life."

TRIBUTE TO DANIEL GANZ AND
BEVERLEE KAUFMAN FOR THEIR
50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. STEVE R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 1999

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Daniel M. Ganz and Beverlee Kaufman, who will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of their wedding on March 27, 1999. It is fitting that they are celebrating this anniversary with their two children (David and Sandy), their friends, and the rest of their family.

For many years, Beverlee and Danny Ganz lived in Rockville Centre, Long Island, where they raised their family and were active in community affairs. Dan, in particular, was very involved with the Recreation Department as a volunteer working with both table-tennis and court-tennis.

They sent their children to the Rockville Centre public school system. David then went off to Georgetown University, in Washington, D.C., and Sandy to Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts.

David became a lawyer, practicing in New York City and New Jersey, later served as the volunteer president of the American Numismatic Association, and currently presides as

the Mayor of Fair Lawn, New Jersey. He has just written his 14th book-length work.

Sandy went on to earn a Masters degree in physical therapy, and to find employment as the Associate Director of Physical Therapy at the Manhattan Hospital for Special Therapy. She then became director for the Amsterdam Nursing Home division, and has authored several works on physical therapy treatments.

I met Dan and Bev at David's inauguration as Mayor this past January 1st, and I am glad to know such a devoted couple, who are also two remarkable individuals.

It is rare today that any couple can spend a half century in wedded bliss, but they are two people who have managed it. Dan turns 80 this October and Bev will be 75 in just a few weeks, but they are both still active in their new home in Boca Raton, Florida, playing tennis, golf, and exploring the Internet.

Recently, Dan, who is a World War II veteran with 26 missions in the Triangle "A" squadron in England, used the Internet to reunite with his Captain and navigator, whom he had not seen in 54 years. Last year, he met up with the remainder of his crew. Some of his combat photos, including the Bridge of the Remagen, were included in the wartime exhibit shown at the National Archives in Washington.

He has not stopped giving to his community. In Boca Raton, he has been performing magic—which he has done professionally for nearly 70 years—at hospitals for youngsters with terminal diseases such as AIDS, and for seniors. Bev is now frequently his assistant at these events.

They have three grandchildren (Scott, Elyse, and Pam), daughter-in-law Kathy, and a host of friends and relatives who are joining them and their children in celebration of their first 50 years of marriage. I wish them well and congratulate them on this wonderful achievement.

CONSERVATIVES SUPPORT
UNLOCKING AVIATION TRUST
FUND

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 1999

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, unlocking the Aviation Trust Fund is a tax fairness issue. Republicans should unanimously support this effort, because it restores honesty to the budget process. A part of the budget surplus comes from aviation user fees that the traveling public pays on a promise from Congress to ensure a safe and efficient transportation system. In ten years, under current aviation investment patterns, it will be neither safe nor efficient.

Moreover, investment in assets for America is a Republican concept and sound transportation infrastructure is the foundation of commerce and our economy. We can credit Theodore Roosevelt with the vision to build the Panama Canal, and Dwight Eisenhower for the Interstate Highway System. Republicans have historically been the party of builders and we should continue to advocate sound federal programs that enrich our nation and our quality of life.

I am submitting for the record a letter from Paul Weyrich, National Chairman of the Coali-

tion for Americans, supporting our efforts to unlock the Aviation Trust Fund and make much-needed investment in our airports and air traffic control system.

Let it not be under our watch that the nation's aviation system falls into such disrepair that Americans are imperiled when they take to the skies. I urge my conservative colleagues to support protecting the Aviation Trust Fund by cosponsoring H.R. 111, the "Truth in Budgeting Act," and supporting a Budget Resolution that reflects this critical priority.

COALITIONS FOR AMERICA,
Washington, DC, March 8, 1999.

Hon. BUD SHUSTER,
Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SHUSTER: I am writing to congratulate you for introducing AIR-21, a bill to ensure adequate funding for the national air transportation system. Your proposal to require that federal aviation user taxes be used for their intended purposes—particularly development of airports and the air traffic system—is commendable. The needs of the aviation system are so massive that all available funds must be spent. The health of our economy depends to a very significant extent on a vibrant air transportation system.

I also applaud your inclusion in AIR-21 of a provision to lift the federally imposed restriction on the local airport funding option known as the passenger facility charge (PFC). As I stated in my letter of February 8, whenever there is an opportunity for the federal government to provide more autonomy to local governments, it should do so. Your bill does that. While it would be preferable to remove the PFC cap entirely, easing the federal restriction on local government funding prerogatives by doubling the amount of funds that airports can raise through this means is a constructive step. I urge you to continue to pursue the goal of eliminating the federal cap on PFC's, but in the meantime, I support the provision in your bill. I urge your colleagues in the House and Senate to support it as well.

It is also critical to ensure that airports have the ability to spend the PFC to meet the needs that exist at their particular facilities. For some airports, the needs are greatest on the airside—runways, taxiways, and aprons. At other airports, gates and related facilities throughout the terminal are needed to expand capacity or enhance competition. At still other airports, groundside access is the biggest problem. Given that PFCs are collected from the passenger, any project that makes the passenger's trip to or through the airport more efficient and less susceptible to congestion and delays—whether airside, in the terminal, or groundside—should be allowed.

I know that you are particularly concerned about protecting the interests of passengers. Ensuring that airports have the flexibility to use PFCs to fund projects that ease the burdens encountered by the traveling public any where at the airport will certainly be in the passengers' interest.

Again, I applaud your commitment to promote the development of the national air transportation system, for the benefit of our national and regional economies and the passengers and shippers who use the system.

Sincerely,

PAUL M. WEYRICH,
National Chairman.