

member of the Manhattan Volunteer Fire Department for several years. He still enjoys active memberships with both the Will County Police Chief Association and the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is fitting and appropriate to honor the lifetime of service Mr. Harris has given to his community. Undoubtedly, there are many families in Will County who are thankful each day for the service Bill Harris has done for Manhattan. The Village of Manhattan is a quiet and safe community, and its residents can point to Chief Harris' good work as the reason for this.

I wish Chief Harris, his wife Mary Jane, and their children and grandchildren all the best life can offer in the coming years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN N. HOSTETTLER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 1999

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Vote No. 35, I was unavoidably detained in my congressional district due to weather constraints. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on this vote to pass H.R. 540.

TRIBUTE TO WTOP RADIO ON ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 1999

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following statement about WTOP Radio to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

It is with great pleasure that I note that today is the 30th anniversary of WTOP Radio in Washington, D.C. This organization plays a vital part in our city by being a prime source of information on major news events. Over the past 30 years, WTOP has offered extensive, up-to-the-minute coverage of all the important happenings in the nation's capital and around the world.

On this occasion of WTOP's 30th anniversary, it is with great honor that I wish the entire organization a hearty congratulations on its many accomplishments. From detailing the weather to helping our children know how to dress for school each morning to providing the latest sports scores, WTOP has provided comprehensive reporting.

Through my personal experience of being interviewed by WTOP's congressional correspondent Dave McConnell, I know that WTOP—and Dave—always provide fair, balanced and accurate reporting. It's always been a pleasure to work with Dave and WTOP.

To all the hard-working staffers of WTOP, I offer my sincere congratulations. I look forward to hearing news from you for the next 30 years!

TRIBUTE TO JERRY REGAN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 1999

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, March 9, 1999, the Jersey Shore area lost one

of its leading citizens with the passing of Jeremiah F. Regan of Oceanport, NJ. Jerry Regan was one of those individuals who could find time for a seemingly endless list of professional, community, political and religious activities, and yet still devote himself to his family and friends. His contributions will continue to be felt across the community, particularly by our young people to whom he devoted so much time and heartfelt concern.

Mr. Speaker, Jerry Regan's influence was felt throughout New Jersey, as well as here in our nation's capital. Jerry served as campaign director and comptroller for the late Rep. James J. Howard, a Member of this body for nearly a quarter of a century. He had a long-standing involvement in education issues, including his service as New Jersey delegate to the National School Boards Association and represented school boards in New Jersey's Sixth Congressional District on the Federal Relations Network, a public school advocacy effort. He was a member of the Oceanport Board of Education, and adjunct professor at Monmouth College, and an active leader in the Monmouth County and New Jersey school boards associations. He was President of the Executive Board of the New Jersey School Boards Association from 1988 to 1990, and held other senior posts with the Association.

An Army veteran of World War II, Jerry had a long and highly decorated career at Fort Monmouth. He was promoted to the highest civilian level in the Department of Defense. He also served with me and several of my Congressional colleagues past and present on the Save Our Fort Committee.

Jerry also served on the Diocesan Education Advisory Council of the Diocese of Trenton. He was a communicant of St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church in Long Branch, NJ, and was active in the St. Vincent DePaul Society. He was a Scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 58 in Oceanport for 12 years. Jerry was also a member of the Oceanport Senior Citizens and the Oceanport Division of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and he served on the Public Employees Relations Commission.

Born in Skibbereen in County Cork, Ireland, Jerry came to the U.S. in 1932. He became an American citizen while serving in Germany with the Army. Throughout his life, Jerry maintained a strong devotion to both America and Ireland.

My heart goes out to Jerry's wife Marilyn (Pinky) Regan, who has for many years done an absolutely superb job in my campaign office. I also extend my heartfelt condolences to their two sons and three daughters, six grandchildren and other relatives on both sides of the Atlantic.

Mr. Speaker, even if I didn't know Jerry Regan personally, I would be proud to pay tribute to such an outstanding citizen. But, besides working with him on public policy matters, I was proud to call Jerry a friend. His passing leaves a big void in all of our lives, but the memory of his hard work, his generous spirit and his wonderful sense of humor will continue to be an inspiration for me and everyone lucky enough to know Jerry Regan.

A TRIBUTE TO ROBERT OZUNA

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 1999

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Robert Ozuna, a businessman, philanthropist, and friend, who truly lived the American dream. The son of Mexican-American parents, Mr. Ozuna was a self-made success story. He worked his way through school, and started New Bedford Panoramex, a firm that has become an important regional employer and leading supplier of advanced electronics equipment to the FAA and other agencies. Through his career Mr. Ozuna came to be respected by many as a leading entrepreneur, and a supporter of charitable causes through Southern California. Mr. Ozuna's passing on Saturday is a major loss to the community, and he will be missed.

Robert Ozuna was born in Miami, Arizona, the oldest of four children, and he lost his father when he was only about ten years old. After his father's death, Mr. Ozuna's family moved to East Los Angeles, where he began working to help support his mother, brother, and two sisters. Through his years on the job he acquired important business experience, and he both supported himself and paid for his education in electrical engineering.

In 1966 Mr. Ozuna founded New Bedford Panoramex. Under his leadership as CEO for the last 33 years, NBP has grown into a thriving electronics-manufacturing business, a leader in the development and manufacture of electronic communications systems and remote monitoring systems. For his work Mr. Ozuna earned the Air Traffic Control Association Chairman's Citation of Merit Award, and was twice honored with the Department of Transportation's Minority Business Enterprise Award.

Over the years Mr. Ozuna ensured that his community benefitted from his success. He sponsored many philanthropic activities, and was a founding director in the East Los Angeles Sheriff's Youth Athletic Association.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Ozuna will be missed. I want to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt condolences to his mother Amelia Ozuna, his sons Steve Ozuna and Jeff Dominelli, his daughters Nancy DeSilva and Lisa Jarrett, his sisters Lillian Gomez and Vera Venegas, his brother Tony Ozuna, and his eight grandchildren.

UPLAND ENTREPRENEUR OZUNA DIES AT 69

(By Joan Kite)

UPLAND.—Robert L. Ozuna, a Mexican-American entrepreneur who turned a garage-based electronics manufacturing business into one of the largest companies in Upland, selling instrument landing systems to the American government, died Saturday. He was 69.

Mr. Ozuna, president and CEO of New Bedford Panoramex Corp., died of cancer at Queen of the Valley Hospital in West Covina, months after his wife died of leukemia, said Mr. Ozuna's daughter-in-law, Gina Ozuna.

"He was a real fighter. He was only given two months to live, but he lasted six months," Gina Ozuna said. "He worked up until the day before he went into the hospital."

That was two weeks ago.

Mr. Ozuna was born to Mexican-American parents in Miami, Ariz.

In 1940, his father died of cancer, and Mr. Ozuna assumed much of the responsibility for his brother and two sisters while his mother worked.

Taking out a second mortgage on his Whittier home, Mr. Ozuna used that money to start his business in 1966. He built that business up and attended community college to learn about electronics engineering.

The business took off. Mr. Ozuna's most important customer was the American government. He flew back and forth from Washington, D.C., hobnobbing with politicians.

At the peak of the company's growth, Mr. Ozuna had about 500 employees working for him at 1037 W. Ninth St.

Mr. Ozuna was married twice. His first wife, Yolanda, died of cancer when Mr. Ozuna's son, Steve, was 8.

Gina Ozuna's husband, Steve, will now take over New Bedford Panoramex Corp.

A humanitarian as well, Mr. Ozuna founded the East Los Angeles Sheriff's Youth Athletic Association, which promotes healthy living and smart choices for about 60,000 young people.

Mr. Ozuna is survived by his mother, Amelia Ozuna; sons Steven Ozuna and Jeff Dominelli; daughters Nancy DeSilva and Lisa Jarrett; sisters Lillian Gomez and Vera Venegas; brother Tony Ozuna; and eight grandchildren.

A memorial service will be noon Friday at St. Gregory's Church, 13935 E. Telegraph Road, Whittier. Interment will follow at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Rowland heights.

The family requests donations to Make a Wish Foundation, Rancho de Los Niños Orphanage and City of Hope.

NURSING HOME PROTECTION
AMENDMENTS OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 1999

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 540, The Nursing Home Resident Protection Amendments. I am an original co-sponsor of this legislation and want to thank Chairman BILIRAKIS and Chairman BILEY for their support of this measure. In addition, I want to thank Mr. DAVIS of Florida for his hard work as well as the Democratic Ranking Members Mr. DINGELL and Mr. BROWN.

Mr. Speaker, for senior citizens a nursing home is a home. Our Nation's elderly or disabled should not have to worry that they will be evicted from their nursing homes, merely because they are on Medicaid.

This bill will prevent incidents, like the one in Florida, where a nursing home lied to the residents and their families about undertaking renovations as a pretext for evicting their Medicaid residents.

Some of my colleagues have voiced concerns during the markup in committee that since we repealed the Boren amendment, States could readjust their payments to pay nursing homes less than the cost of service. I would be very concerned if this would occur, because the Governors lobbied Congress to repeal the Boren amendment, based on a promise they would not lower rates below reasonable payments. However, I agree with my colleagues that we need to be vigilant in watching whether States lower their Medicaid payments to unreasonable levels and believe we should take action if that occurs. I urge my colleagues to vote for this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN N. HOSTETTLER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 1999

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 34, I was unavoidably detained in my congressional district due to weather constraints. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on this Journal vote.