

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE INTERNET GUN TRAFFICKING ACT OF 1999

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Internet Gun Trafficking Act of 1999. Currently, unlicensed individuals are able to sell and unlicensed buyers are able to buy firearms over the Internet. Moreover, web site operators, who are not licensed gun dealers, facilitate firearms transactions between buyers and sellers. Web site operators run web sites which provide space for unlicensed individuals to post guns for sale. The web sites give names, phone numbers and/or e-mail addresses of sellers, to allow potential buyers the opportunity to contact the sellers directly for the purchase of firearms. These transactions, while facilitated by the web site operator are not monitored by the web site operator, thus occurring out of anyone's eyesight, including law enforcement. As a result, many individuals, including children and felons are able to purchase firearms illegally and evade the law.

My bill will end the unlicensed selling of guns over the Internet. Web site operators who offer firearms for sale or otherwise facilitate the sale of firearms listed or posted over the Internet, must become federally licensed firearm manufacturers, importers or dealers. Additionally, as an aid to law enforcement, licensed firearm dealers-web site operators are required to notify the Secretary of the Treasury of their web site address, as would any individual who operates a web site which offers for sale or otherwise facilitates the sale of firearms.

Furthermore, to ensure legal firearm transactions over the Internet, individuals who on behalf of other persons, lists or posts firearms for sale over the Internet will have to establish themselves as "middlemen." All guns sold from the "middleman's" web site, must be shipped directly to the "middleman." The "middleman" is then required to transfer the firearms to the buyer in accordance with federal firearm laws, including laws which require that firearms are shipped directly to a licensed dealer in the unlicensed buyer's state. The "middleman" is prohibited from providing any information which would facilitate direct contact between the seller and the buyer. Finally, unlicensed individuals who offer firearms for sale over the Internet may only transfer those firearms directly to the web site operator.

I hope that my introduction of the Internet Gun Trafficking Act of 1999 will call attention to the need to regulate gun sales in this new era of Internet firearm transactions.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 1998 NEW MEXICO PARENTS OF THE YEAR

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to your attention the recipients of the 1998 New Mexico Parents of the Year award. This award is administered by the New Mexico Parent's Day Coalition. As we recognize these parents, I thank them for the role they play in strengthening and restoring the foundation of our country—the family.

Jerry and Debbie Dixon, Albuquerque
Joe and Lori Chavez, Santa Fe
Dr. Oscar and June Marquardt, Alamogordo
Carl and Donna Londene, Albuquerque
John and Belina Ortiz, Bosque Farms
Charles and Karen Cooper, Albuquerque
Nemesio and Marylou Martinez, Los Lunas
Arthur and Lou Jauriqui, Albuquerque
Glenn and Oma Warwick, Las Cruces
Pastor Ira and Diane Shelton, Albuquerque
Duc Vu and Nghi Nguyen-Vu, Albuquerque
Please join me in thanking these parents for their dedication to raising good citizens and their contribution to New Mexico's future.

TRIBUTE TO JIM HLAFFKA

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to congratulate the Bunker Hill basketball coach, Jim Hlafka for attaining his 700th career win this past February 23rd.

Jim Hlafka, who is 65 years old, has been the Bunker Hill basketball coach for 40 years now. By coaching 700 games to victory, he became a member of an elite group of only 10 other coaches from Illinois who have attained this goal. Not only did Hlafka attain his own goal that evening, he coached the Bunker Hill Minutemen to victory in the 80th annual Macoupin County Boys Tournament.

Corey Elliot, a member of the team that won the County Championship, said that "[i]t's an honor to play for him." It is also an honor for me and all of Bunker Hill to be represented by one of the best high school coaches in the state of Illinois.

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON SCHOOL OF MEDICINE RANKED NATION'S TOP PRIMARY-CARE MEDICAL SCHOOL

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to announce that US News and World Report re-

cently ranked the University of Washington's School of Medicine as number one in primary care.

Many teaching programs at the University's School of Medicine were also ranked in the top five, including a number one rank in rural medicine, number one in family medicine, number four in women's health, and number five in AIDS instruction. Overall, the University of Washington's medical school was ranked ninth in the country.

The most exciting and creative research is taking place at the University of Washington. In fact, only two other medical schools receive more funding from the National Institutes of Health. I can safely assert that the best primary care doctors of the 21st Century are the current students at the University of Washington.

Congratulations to the outstanding students, teachers, researchers, and faculty of the University of Washington's School of Medicine. Your commitment to excellence is second to none.

HONORING SUSAN GLASER

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following statement which was delivered to the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom when they honored Ms. Susan Glaser of West Palm Beach, Florida.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, March 18, 1999.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE
AND FREEDOM,
West Palm Beach, Florida

It is my great pleasure to join with you in honoring Susan Glaser. During the time Susan was employed in my office, she worked tirelessly on behalf of people in need of Social Security benefits, Medicare and federal housing assistance. She was particularly effective at helping first generation Americans adjust to the complexities of life in this country. Widely known as a concerned, compassionate person, Susan always presented a positive image for me when representing me at public events.

I congratulate WILPF for giving Susan the recognition she deserves. She has spent a lifetime fighting for all the things we truly care about. She has always been an effective organizer, drawing the attention of her fellow citizens to the need for refugee aid and food and shelter for the homeless. Susan has also been noted for her history on the front lines of the Civil Rights movement and for speaking out against the injustices perpetrated on the peoples of Central America.

I am glad to add my voice to the many others who are singing Susan's praises today. She is a wonderful person who truly deserves the many accolades she receives. Congratulations, Susan! I am very, very proud of you!

In Peace,

ALCEE L. HASTINGS,

Member of Congress.

• 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.

MEDICARE REFORM CUT OFF AT THE KNEES BY CLINTON AND DEMOCRATS

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member highly commends this March 20, 1999, editorial from the Omaha World Herald regarding President Clinton's actions on Medicare Reform. Because of the imminent crisis that Medicare faces in the near future, I am very disappointed that the President has chosen to play politics with such an important issue instead of finding real solutions to preserving Medicare.

[From the Omaha World-Herald, Mar. 20, 1999]

CUT OFF AT THE KNEES

When President Clinton torpedoed the recommendation of a majority of the members of his bipartisan commission on Medicare reform, his action raised the question of whether he ever intended the commission to succeed.

Clinton has been demagoguing the Medicare issue ever since before the 1996 election, when Republicans in Congress proposed slowing the growth of Medicare spending from 10 percent a year to 7 percent. The President won re-election, in part, by persuading some voters that the Republicans wanted to destroy Medicare and forsake the elderly.

After the election, the GOP insisted that Clinton must take the lead if he wanted Republican help in repairing the program, which is headed for bankruptcy as the cost of providing doctor and hospital care for retirees outraces available revenues. Clinton responded with the classic bureaucratic evasion. He named a commission to study the problem.

The need for reform is indisputable. Medicare is funded by payroll taxes and income taxes. The worker-to-beneficiary ratio was 4-to-1 when the program was enacted in 1965. That ratio will be cut in half by 2030, when aging baby boomers will swell the ranks of Medicare recipients. By then nearly 80 million people will be eligible for Medicare. That's double today's number.

Meanwhile, medical care has become more sophisticated and expensive. Medicare is projected to go bankrupt in 2008—and that's before the impact of baby boomer retirements is felt.

Spokesmen for the elderly have been pressuring government to expand the benefits, adding coverage for prescription drugs. What started out as providing doctor's services and hospitalization would become a full-service health program, not only covering catastrophic care but also paying for routine services that people used to assume were their own responsibility.

The bipartisan commission recommended changes that have been ordered by some congressional leaders, among them Sen. Bob Kerrey, D-Neb. Changes include raising the eligibility age in small steps to age 67 over the next quarter of a century. The commission also said that people ought to be able to receive Medicare coverage through private plans, nearly 90 percent of which would be subsidized by Medicare dollars. Such changes could save \$500 billion by 2030, the commission said.

Clinton rejected the plan, although he said some parts of it had promise. He characterized it as a reduction in benefits, which he said is not permissible. Ten members of the

commission had supported the recommendation, with 11 votes needed. The 10 consisted of eight Republicans and two Democrats, Kerrey and Sen. John Breaux of Louisiana, who co-chaired the commission.

Instead of savings \$500 billion, Clinton said, the government needs to spend an additional \$700 billion through 2020. "Medicare cannot provide for the baby boom generation without substantial new revenues," Clinton said.

Taxpayers ought to cringe at the prospect. Clinton said the new money will be provided by future budget surpluses. By siphoning 15 percent of projected surpluses, Clinton said, the government can fund his proposed expansion of Medicare.

That is based on an implied assumption that the economy is recession-proof, which has no basis in fact or history. When the spending in a program is accelerating out of control, government should at least question the assumptions that are behind the growth. Clinton's solution is to find more money. He is confident that it will be there. Yet neither he nor anyone else, a year or two ago, saw the revenue tide coming. And even if payroll and income taxes could generate enough revenue to cover the rising cost of Medicare, that does not mean it is right to let the program's budget spiral upward indiscriminately.

Health care for the elderly is a legitimate concern of government. But it is not evil for politicians to decide that government may have to be more efficient in subsidizing such care. Neither is it evil to suggest that a major expansion in benefits isn't affordable at the very time a big increase in recipients is projected.

At one point, with senators like Kerrey and Breaux taking the political risks of looking for an actuarially defensible solution, it seemed that a genuine, compassionate, affordable and bipartisan plan of action could be arrived at. Now that Clinton and their fellow Democrats on the commission have cut Kerrey and Breaux off at the knees, that possibility, regrettably, has become less likely.

THE ELDRED HOUSE

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to applaud the efforts of the Illinois Valley Cultural Heritage Association to place the famous James J. Eldred stone house in Eldred, IL in the National Register of Historic Places.

Built 138 years ago, this three-story house was made from natural bluff limestone by James J. Eldred who is a descendent of a historic English family. The Eldred house is the largest of nine area limestone houses and was known for the elaborate parties that took place there. Soon this house will be renovated and used as a museum of American Indian and farm history.

I wish the Illinois Valley Cultural Heritage Association the best in their efforts to secure the Eldred House's rightful place in history.

DAVID HORSEY WINS BERRYMAN CARTOONIST OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to announce that one of my constituents, Mr. David Horsey, recently won the Berryman Cartoonist of the Year Award from the National Press Foundation.

American newspapers have traditionally carried political cartoons, much to the delight of their readers. While it usually takes political pundits hundreds of words to express an idea or assert an opinion, political cartoonists have the difficult task of capturing timely political issues in just a few deft strokes of the pen. One of the masters of this art form is Mr. David Horsey.

Mr. Horsey, a Seattle native, has worked at the Seattle Post-Intelligence's since 1979. Many readers turn to his drawings first thing in the morning, in order to enjoy his pungent and unique interpretation of the political scene. His cartoons never fail to show, literally, the affairs of the day with his own flair and style.

I am so pleased that Mr. Horsey's work was honored by the National Press Foundation. I look forward to many more years of brilliant commentary in his cartoons. Since Mr. Horsey is dedicated to the truth, we can only hope that his caricatures of politicians become more forgiving.

JUDGE HENRY E. HUDSON TAKES THE BENCH IN FAIRFAX COUNTY

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, on March 19, 1999, Henry E. Hudson was sworn to a bench in Fairfax County Circuit Court during an investiture ceremony. He was assisted in the enrobing by his son, Kevin.

Judge Hudson brings a lifetime of wisdom and legal experience to his new task. He has previously served in Virginia as a deputy sheriff, assistant commonwealth's attorney, commonwealth's attorney, assistant U.S. attorney, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia and as director of the U.S. Marshals Service. He also practiced law in the private sector for a number of years and served on important federal and state boards and commissions.

A lifelong Virginian and member of the Arlington County Volunteer Fire Department, Judge Hudson continues a proud tradition of service to the people and respect for the rule of law. The judge, his wife, Tara, and their son Kevin make their home in northern Virginia.

We in Virginia and in America are fortunate to have people of Judge Hudson's capabilities serving on the bench.

178TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREEK
INDEPENDENCE DAY**HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and profound admiration that I rise today to pay tribute to Greece on the occasion of its 178th anniversary of independence. Greece is a country rich in history and culture which has not only dramatically influenced its own people but people throughout the world.

March 25th is a date that will forever live in the hearts and minds of Greeks and Greek-Americans. After suffering more than 400 years of oppression under the Ottoman Empire, the people of Greece commenced a revolt on this day in 1821. Many dedicated, patriotic Greeks lost their lives in the struggle which lasted over 7 years. Ultimately, the freedom Greeks aspired to was courageously achieved, and the modern day Greece was born.

Greece has influenced our society in many ways. Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, and our Founding Fathers found inspiration in the writings and ideals of Greek philosophers Plato and Aristotle. The Founding Fathers searched antiquity for an appropriate model for democracy, and found it in ancient Athens. No doubt, without Greece's influence, the United States would be a completely different country today.

Historically, Greece has been a dedicated United States ally. A fierce supporter during World War II, Greek soldiers fought beside Americans to preserve democracy and independence. For almost half a century, Greece has stood beside the United States as an active and important member to NATO. Greece has consistently proved to be a valuable player in preserving security in the Mediterranean. Just recently, Greece held a significant role in negotiations between the Republic of Cyprus and Turkey to deter deploying Russian missiles on the Cypriot island, thereby thwarting an international incident.

One could not live in the United States for too long without experiencing first hand the impact Greece has had on American society. Greek-Americans have significantly contributed to American culture and economy. Nearly 7,000 people in the Eighth Congressional District of Massachusetts are of Greek descent. Throughout the neighborhoods in Boston, Waverlytown, Cambridge, Chelsea, Belmont and my hometown of Somerville, Greek-Americans are one of the most active groups in politics and community service. The Hellenic Cultural Center, the Greek Orthodox Church and other Greek-American organizations in the district are working to improve education, healthcare, and the environment.

The Greek people also take pride in their heritage. In my district alone several events will take place to commemorate Greek Independence Day. From the grand parade in Boston to the small town festivities, Greek-Americans will be celebrating their freedom.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I hope the United States will continue to cultivate relationships both culturally and economically with our Greek neighbors, and I again offer my congratulations to all Greeks as they celebrate Greek Independence Day.

HONORING COLORADO GIRLS
STATE BASKETBALL A CHAMPIONS—CHERAW HIGH SCHOOL**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my heartiest congratulations to the Cheraw High School girls basketball team on their impressive Colorado State A Championship. The victory, a 58-45 win over Prairie High School, was a superb contest between two talented and deserving teams. In championship competition, though, one team must emerge victorious, and Cheraw proved themselves the best in their class—truly second to none.

The State A Championship is the highest achievement in high school basketball. This coveted trophy symbolizes more than just the team and its coach, Charles Phillips, as it also represents the staunch support of the players' families, fellow students, school personnel and the community. From now on, these people can point to the 1998-1999 girls basketball team with pride, and know they were part of a remarkable athletic endeavor. Indeed, visitors to this town and school will see a sign proclaiming the Girls State A Championship, and know something special had taken place here.

The Cheraw basketball squad is a testament to the old adage that the team wins games, not individuals. The combined talents of these players coalesced into a dynamic and dominant basketball force. Each team member also deserves to be proud of her own role. These individuals are the kind of people who lead by example and serve as role-models. With the increasing popularity of sports among young people, local athletes are heroes to the youth in their home towns. I admire the discipline and dedication these high schoolers have shown in successfully pursuing their dream.

The memories of this storied year will last a lifetime. I encourage all involved, but especially the Cheraw players, to build on this experience by dreaming bigger dreams and achieving greater successes. I offer my best wishes to this team as they move forward from their State A Championship to future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF THE LATE CHARLIE
PARKER**HON. KAREN MCCARTHY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Charlie "Yardbird" Parker as the Charlie Parker Memorial Site is dedicated at 17th Terrace and Vine Street in my hometown of Kansas City, Missouri. Charlie Parker was a bebop innovator. He not only shaped the sound of modern jazz in the 1940s, but he has also served as an inspiration to all jazz musicians since that time. His alto sax virtuosity marked the zenith of the jazz age and set a standard for other musicians to aspire to.

Charlie Parker's family settled in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1927, when Parker was only 7 years old. While growing up there, he pursued his musical education on the stages of Kansas City. By 1936, when Charlie Parker turned 16, Kansas City music had begun to influence the national jazz scene. Parker was a big part of this explosion, having obtained his union card at the age of 14. He spent a few years idolizing and studying Lester Young's saxophone playing, and then continued his studies under Buster Smith, one of the early stars of County Basie's Reno Club band and Walter Page's Blue Devils. By 1938, Parker was playing in the Jay McShann band, the last great band to play in Kansas City, as the principal soloist. The McShann band's national success after 1944 meant that Parker would no longer play in Kansas City.

It was in New York that Charlie Parker got his nickname of "Yardbird" because he loved to eat fried chicken. From the time he arrived in New York until he passed away on March 12, 1955, his success escalated. As the news of his passing spread, "Bird Lives" began to appear all over New York and the nation because his fans refused to let him die. Although he is buried in Lincoln Cemetery in Kansas City, he lives on in the hearts of jazz lovers everywhere. From March 25th through the 27th the nation's ears will focus on Kansas City, where some of Charlie Parker's contemporaries will gather to remember the great jazz legend at the American Jazz Museum in the 18th and Vine Historic Jazz District. Max Roach, Dr. Billy Taylor, Jay McShann, Milt Jackson, Claude "The Fiddler" Williams, and Ernie Andrews are a few of the internationally acclaimed artists who are participating in the Symposium and Concert celebration.

This weekend's dedication of the new Charlie Parker Memorial will remind us all of this great musician and inspire the jazz musician in all of us to hum a little bebop: "Hello, Little Girl, don't you remember me? I mean, been so long, but I had a break you see." (from "Hootie Blue," recorded for Decca Records by the Jay McShann Orchestra, April 30, 1941, Parker's first commercial recording session).

HONORING HENRIETTA PRESALL

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize the accomplishments of Mrs. Henrietta Presnall, of Flint, Michigan. On Friday, March 26, friends and family will gather to honor the career of this remarkable woman, who is retiring from Sears Corporation after 23 years of dedicated service.

A native of Chattanooga, Tennessee, Henrietta moved to Flint and married James Presnall in 1968. She attended Charles Stewart Mott Community College and graduated in 1973 with an Associates Degree in Nursing. Upon graduation, she joined Heritage Manor Nursing Home as a Nurses' Aide. On July 26, 1976 she joined Sears and Roebuck Corporation as a part-time salesperson. Henrietta received numerous recognitions for outstanding work ethics and customer service, from her superiors as well as her customers. Henrietta was promoted to the position of Sears Service

and Product Maintenance Agreement Lead Person, then she was later promoted to Technician Secretary for the Sears Service Center, leading to her current position as Cashier Accountant.

Henrietta is often found using her personal skills in the community as well. She is involved with groups such as Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Flint, The Fair Winds Girl Scout Council, Zeta Phi Beta Amica Sorority, and the Michigan Women's National Bowling Association. In 1971, Henrietta became a member of the Foss Avenue Baptist Church, where she faithfully serves as a member of the Senior Usher Board, Foss Avenue Catering Committee, and the MLA fellowship Sunday School class.

I know that Henrietta would want to point out that the love and support of her family have contributed greatly to her success. She is very proud of her children, Veronica and Lucetia, grandsons Demetrice and Trevino, granddaughter Elexus, and of course, her husband, James Presnall.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed a privilege for me to rise today before my colleagues in the 106th Congress to join me in congratulating Henrietta Presnall on her retirement. I wish her continued success in all her endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MATH AND SCIENCE PROFICIENCY PARTNERSHIP ACT

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Mathematics and Science Proficiency Partnership Act. The purpose of this legislation is to improve mathematics and science education for students in kindergarten through 12th grade as well as to train mathematics and science teachers.

My legislation, which has 52 cosponsors, accomplishes its objective by forging a unique partnership between students, parents, teachers and the business people in their communities.

In years past, America's schools served as unilateral learning centers where students studied, graduated and then entered the workforce. The demands of the information age and the global economy now compel U.S. educators and business people to band together in the national interest. Schools and businesses need to be partners to educate our children. Otherwise, our nation will see its preeminence in information technology implode as other nations expand their high-tech driven economies.

Already there are alarming trends. When it comes to mathematics and science education U.S. high school seniors need to be better prepared. Compared to their international peers, American high school seniors ranked near the bottom of the Third International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) that was released last year. This poor performance holds true for both mathematics and science as well as for moderate-level and top-level students.

Mathematics and science are the disciplines that have created the Internet and have driven

the Information Age. Two of the fastest growing job areas, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, are computer technology and health services. Both fields demand a strong background in mathematics and science.

As the Subcommittee on Basic Research's Ranking Member, I have had several discussions with representatives from the information technology community. These business people in the high-tech field have expressed their frustration in not being able to find qualified job applicants. In fact, one in ten positions in information technology is currently unfilled, according to the Information Technology Association of America. One in three job applicants tested by U.S. companies lacks the reading or mathematics skills for the job as reported by the American Management Association.

The Mathematics and Science Proficiency Partnership Act will help reverse the trends of poor test performance by U.S. students and empower businesses to enrich the pool of job applicants.

The purpose of this legislation is to improve math and science education in urban and rural areas by establishing partnerships between participating schools and businesses. My bill authorizes the National Science Foundation (NSF) to award 10 partnership grants through its Urban and Rural Systemic Initiative programs. The NSF Director will make five grants to urban areas and five grants to rural areas. Each grant will not exceed \$300,000 and the total amount authorized is \$3 million.

The purpose of these partnership grants is to train teachers and to improve teaching for students in math, science and information technology. The grants will be awarded to schools that have established partnerships with businesses.

Eligibility of the partnership grants will be based on how well the participating schools and businesses have forged their partnerships. Ways that businesses can participate with schools include: setting up college scholarships for promising math and science students, establishing jobsite mentoring and internships programs and donating computer software and hardware to their participating schools.

The legislation directs the NSF Director to conduct a long-range study on the students who have participated in the partnership grant scholarship program and their ability to land and to retain jobs in the fields of mathematics, science and information technology.

Mr. Speaker, I am gratified by the support the Mathematics and Science Proficiency Partnership Act has already received and urge all Members to cosponsor this important legislation that will help prepare today's American students for tomorrow's workplace.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JERRY BELL

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to your attention the works of Jerry Bell, an outstanding volunteer for Noon Day Ministry in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Jerry Bell volunteers her time to the homeless at Noon Day Ministry. Noon Day Ministry

serves approximately 300 homeless men, women and children four days a week. Jerry's commitment to volunteer work comes from a strong family support system that instilled the value of helping others. By those who work with Jerry she is described as the organizer, the person who really keeps the place in shape. By those she serves, Jerry is known for providing more than lunch. She offers hugs, a pat on the shoulder and a kiss on the cheek—the sincere message of caring for another.

Please join me in thanking Jerry Bell for her caring contributions to individuals, families and our community of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

LITTLE BOSTON BRANCH OF THE KITSAP REGIONAL LIBRARY WINS BEST SMALL LIBRARY AWARD

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to announce that The Little Boston branch of the Kitsap Regional Library system is the best small library in America.

Little Boston recently won the 1998 Service Award for Excellence from the National Public Library Association. This library is unique because it is located on the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe's reservation and is frequented by patrons who live both on and off the reservation.

Public libraries are the great equalizer in our society as they ensure free and unlimited access to invaluable educational resources for anyone who simply has the desire to learn. Libraries enhance the knowledge of not only ourselves, but also the world around us. Great libraries, like Little Boston, deserve our utmost praise and recognition. Employees continually go above and beyond the call of duty with their exceptional service to its patrons and commitment to provide enriching and informative information to everyone in the community.

Congratulations, again, to The Little Boston Library for your commitment to excellence.

THE PARENT HELP LINE

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Parent Help Line of Springfield, Illinois for their extraordinary contributions to their community.

This volunteer organization's primary function is to help parents become better parents by providing advice, support, and referrals to various community agencies. The Parent Help Line is funded by several different sources including St. John's Hospital Foundation, Ronald McDonald Charities of Central Illinois and Ameritech.

Currently, the Parent Help Line consists of 25 volunteers who respond to about 100 calls per month. While these numbers may not seem significant, each one of those hundred

calls has helped a parent and child come closer together through the support of their community. Recognizing the utmost importance that parents play in the development of not only their children, but of the future of our great country, the Parent Help Line helps parents meet parenting challenges head on.

Again, I would like to thank the volunteers and contributors of the Parent Help Line for the outstanding devotion they have shown towards our nation's greatest asset—our children.

TO DIRECT THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL CEMETERY FOR VETERANS IN THE ATLANTA, GEORGIA METROPOLITAN AREA

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of a very important piece of legislation which is vital to all veterans in the state of Georgia. Through the bill I am introducing today, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs will develop a national cemetery for veterans in the Atlanta, Georgia metropolitan area. This bill is co-sponsored by the entire Georgia Delegation, and Senators CLELAND and COVERDELL have introduced a companion bill in the Senate.

I want to thank the other Members of the Georgia delegation for their support of our efforts. Congressmen COLLINS, NORWOOD, KINGSTON, LINDER, CHAMBLISS, DEAL, LEWIS, ISAKSON, BISHOP, and Congresswoman MCKINNEY realize the importance of this issue to Georgia's veterans.

I urge my colleagues in the House to support this effort not just on behalf of the veterans in Georgia but veterans across our nation.

Our nation has a sacred obligation to fulfill the promises we made to our veterans when they agreed to risk and, in many cases, give their lives to protect the freedoms we all enjoy. One of those promises was a military burial in a national cemetery.

In 1994, the Department of Veterans Affairs released its "Report on the National Cemetery System." The Atlanta area was listed within the top 10 areas in the country with the greatest need for burial space. This need has only increased significantly in the past few years. Establishing a national cemetery in Georgia would provide veterans and their families accessibility and the recognition they deserve.

Georgia currently has only one national cemetery, located in Marietta. However, this cemetery has been full since the 1970s. The nearest national cemeteries accepting burials are located in Alabama and Tennessee. In addition to meeting the needs of veterans living in Georgia, placing a new national cemetery in the Atlanta area will alleviate the increasing demands on the cemeteries in Tennessee and Alabama.

Neither of these sites in Tennessee and Alabama is reasonably accessible to most of the more than 700,000 veterans living in Georgia, including some 450,000 veterans in the Atlanta metropolitan area.

This legislation is supported by Pete Wheeler, Commissioner of the Georgia Veteran's Association, and by the Georgia Disabled

American Veterans, the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and other veterans' groups. I ask all veterans groups to support this legislation because it is only appropriate for Georgia's heroes to be allowed to be laid to rest in their home state.

This has been a long awaited process for Georgia veterans. These men and women deserve a proper resting place. The legislation we are introducing today is an important first step in creating a new national veterans cemetery.

LEGISLATION TO PROMOTE FAIR COMPETITION IN ELECTRICITY MARKETS

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, today, I am reintroducing legislation I sponsored last year that would promote fair competition in electricity markets. Many states have passed or are considering plans to allow customers to choose among competing providers of electricity. Although action on certain aspects of competition should be left to states, the federal government needs to address competition issues as they relate to the Internal Revenue Code.

The use of tax-exempt bonds and other tax exemptions granted to government-owned utilities are a significant problem in integrating them into the competitive marketplace. Such exemptions, in the context of competition, subsidize the costs of a competitor, giving it an unfair advantage against all private, tax-paying participants. I believe that if government-owned utilities want to compete in the open marketplace, then they must be restricted in issuing tax-exempt bonds and should give up income tax exemptions on sales outside their traditional service territory. Tax-free financing and exemption from federal income taxes pose no problem to electric competition if, and only if, government-owned utilities limit the use of these subsidies to serving their traditional service areas.

My legislation, The Private Sector Enhancement and Taxpayer Protection Act of 1999, addresses these concerns by prohibiting tax-free bonds from being used to finance generation and transmission by government-owned utilities if such utilities choose to compete in open electricity markets. If such utilities elect to do so, any sales outside of their traditional service area should be, like other commercial operations, subject to federal income tax.

This legislation will not affect government-owned utilities that do not elect to sell generation or provide transmission in the new competitive marketplace. Since the vast majority of municipal utilities, of which there are more than 2,000, do not generate electricity, this bill will not affect them. This bill does not affect rural electric cooperatives or federal government utilities. My bill attempts to address the issue of large government-owned utilities that want to act like, and compete with, taxpaying entities in the electric marketplace. In a somewhat similar approach, the Administration has addressed the issue in their FY2000 budget proposal.

I believe my legislation is a balanced, fair approach to establishing a level playing field for all power companies with none enjoying any special tax or financial advantages. I look

forward to working with the Administration and my colleagues on this important issue.

COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF FR. GILBERT G. ARCISZEWSKI'S PRIESTLY ORDINATION

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Fr. Gilbert G. Arciszewski, pastor of Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church on the 40th anniversary of his priestly ordination.

Fr. Arciszewski is representative of the high caliber of priests from the Milwaukee Archdiocese. He is a lifelong resident of the community and has served in leadership positions of various churches in the Milwaukee area since his ordination.

Fr. Arciszewski is a product of Milwaukee's near South Side. He is proud of his Polish-American heritage. He and his predecessor, the late Msgr. Alphonse Popek, traveled many of the same paths to Queen of Peace church, growing up in the same neighborhoods, and going to the same schools, beginning with St. Adalbert's elementary. The Popek and Arciszewski families lived only a few blocks from each other.

Fr. Arciszewski studied canon law at St. Francis Seminary and was ordained May 30, 1959 at St. John Cathedral by Archbishop William E. Cousins. He served as associate pastor of St. Helen, Milwaukee, June 1959 to July, 1966, and St. Alexander, Milwaukee, July, 1966 to March, 1975, when he became pastor of St. Casimir.

By coincidence, the celebration of his 25th anniversary of ordination in 1984 coincided with the 500th anniversary of the death of St. Casimir.

In February of 1987, Fr. Arciszewski was assigned pastor of Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church where he has served since. Among the many milestones observed at Our Lady Queen of Peace was the marriage of Frankie Yankovic, the polka legend, to his wife Ida.

Mr. Speaker, on this the 40th anniversary of his ordination, I would like to recognize the contributions and commitment to the church and community demonstrated by Fr. Arciszewski.

TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA LOGOLUSO

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Patricia ("Patty") Logoluso on the occasion of her retirement from the Madera County Board of Supervisors. Patty has a long standing record of dedicated involvement in Madera County.

Patty Logoluso was born and raised in Madera. Patty along with her two older brothers and two sisters lived on the family farm in

southern Madera. Her mother and father, Ben and Esther Bishel, taught their children the values of thrift and hard work. By the age of 12, Patty was already playing an active role in the daily operation of the farm.

Despite her responsibilities on the farm, Patty made time to participate in school sports such as volleyball, basketball, baseball and track. In 1963 she became a finalist at the Junior Olympics. Patty was also a member of the California Association of American Athletes. She showed an early interest in government becoming involved in Student Council, and held various offices throughout her elementary years. Patty's high school years were even more active, and with the support of her parents, she ran for Freshman Class vice-president, she later became president the following year. Additionally she was a member of the North Yosemite League of Student Councils, Commissioner of Awards, and Student Court Reporter. She was also a member of the California Scholarship Federation and was named Soroptimist Girl of the Month.

Patty's dedication to her family and community has always been evident. Since 1973, she has been a member of the Madera County Farm Bureau and in 1985, became a member of the Raisin Bargaining Association, the Italo American Club, Inc., and the Statue of Liberty Ellis Island Foundation. From 1978 to 1992 she served on numerous school site councils involved with principal selection committees and the Evaluation Committee for the High School State Report.

In January of 1996, Patty was honored by Governor Pete Wilson, when he appointed her to fill an unexpired term of the Board of Supervisors, District 1. In November of 1996, Patty was elected as County Supervisor of District 1 on her own merit. In her time as Supervisor she has served on the Fresno Madera Area Agency on Aging, Interagency Children and Youth Services Council, CSAC Policy Committee for Agriculture and Natural Resources. Economic Development Commission and the Foreign Trade Zone Advisory Board.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Patty Logoluso on the occasion of her retirement from the Madera County Board of Supervisors. For the past six years Patty has been a valuable asset to the public. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in wishing Patty best wishes for a bright future and continued success.

REMEMBERING THE MASSACRE AT HALABJA

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a horrifying event in our world's recent history. Eleven years ago, Saddam Hussein bombed the Kurdish town of Halabja with chemical weapons. Clouds of poison gas including mustard gas and sarin were rained down on Saddam's own people, merely because they were Kurds.

This heinous act resulted in the death of over 5,000 innocent civilians and injury to approximately 10,000 others. However, Halabja was neither the first nor the last of the chemical warfare attacks Saddam Hussein un-

leashed against the Iraqi Kurds. Throughout 1988, Saddam's brutal regime continued to use chemical weapons against its own people. In only 6 months, over 200 Kurdish villages were attacked and 25,000 people were killed by chemical weapons during the vicious Anfal Campaign. This campaign ultimately led to the destruction of 4,500 Kurdish villages and the death of 500,000 Kurdish people. More than 200,000 Kurds remain missing and 500,000 have been internally displaced.

Although the people of Halabja undoubtedly suffered beyond words when this horrifying event occurred 11 years ago, their children and their children's children will feel the effects of this one action of Saddam Hussein for generations to come. For, 11 years hence, the Halabja attack has not really ended. Many people in the region continue to suffer from respiratory problems, eye conditions, neurological disorders, skin problems, and cancers. All of these effects are attributable to long-term damage to DNA caused by the chemicals used by Saddam in the attack.

The Iraqi regime has never expressed remorse for Halabja, nor have Saddam Hussein and his thugs ever been called to account for these crimes they have committed against their own citizens. We do know that whether in attacks on Iraqis or neighboring states, inhumanity is precisely the common element of Saddam Hussein's policies. We must never forget the innocent people who died and those who continue to suffer from Saddam's ruthlessness.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BORDER IMPROVEMENT AND IMMIGRATION ACT OF 1999

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, in the 105th Congress, I introduced legislation to amend section 110 of the Immigration Reform Act of 1996 that mandated an automated entry-exit border control system by October 1, 1998. My bill, H.R. 2955, not only sought to correct the problems at the northern and southern borders that would have been created by hasty implementation of section 110, but also took a deliberate approach to analyzing the problem and determining the best solutions.

Today, I am reintroducing an updated version of that bill for consideration during the 106th Congress. Much has happened since last session's introduction of H.R. 2955, but the need for this legislation has not waned. My intent in introducing this bill is not only to correct a flaw, but to reignite debate and discussion as we work toward a final resolution of this critical problem. The response and enthusiastic support for this effort last year—culminating in delay of section 110's implementation until March 2001—demonstrates unmistakably that Congress views this as a serious problem that needs a permanent fix. My bill will accomplish that.

First, the bill would allow an entry-exit system to be implemented only at airports. INS has created an automated system now in use at several airports. But, the expense and lengthy set-up phase for that system highlighted the need to delay the deadline for im-

plementation at other airports to give the Attorney General enough time to effectively integrate the system at every airport where aliens enter the United States. Further, it specifically excludes land borders or sea ports from the system created by section 110. In effect, it repeals section 110 with respect to land borders and sea ports. Finally, it contains an exception for any alien for whom documentation requirements at airports have been waived under the Immigration and Nationality Act, primarily Canadians.

Second, the bill requires the Attorney General to submit a report to Congress one year after enactment on the difficulties of developing and implementing an automated entry-exit control system as presently prescribed in section 110, including arrivals and departures at land borders and sea ports. The study must assess the total cost and practical feasibility of various means of operating such an entry-exit system.

Third, the bill increases the number of INS border inspectors in each fiscal year, 2000–2002, by not less than 300 full-time persons each year. These new INS inspectors must be equally assigned to the northern and southern borders. Similarly, Customs inspectors must also be increased at the land borders by not less than 150 full-time persons in each fiscal year, 2000–2002, and the Customs inspectors in each year must be evenly assigned to the northern and southern borders.

Section 110 of the 1996 Immigration Reform Act mandated that an automated entry-exit system be established that would allow INS officers to match the entrance date with exit dates of legally admitted aliens. Congress included this section at the last minute during the House-Senate conference with the intent of solving the problem of overstaying visa holders—aliens who enter the United States legally but overstay their allotted time. Because the U.S. does not have a departure management system to track who leaves the United States, a new entry-exit system was thought to be the best vehicle to solve the problem.

In the rush to complete the bill before the end of the fiscal year on September 30, 1996, conferees did not have time to give this provision the scrutiny it deserves. Any attempt to install a documentation system will bring intolerable chaos and congestion to a system already strained.

As representative of the 29th district of New York, I have a particular interest in the problem of delays and congestion at our northern border crossings. My district, which includes Buffalo and Niagara Falls, has more crossings than any other district along the border. In a relatively small area, we boast four highway bridges and two railroad bridges. I know from personal experience the problems that delays and congestion can cause at these crossings.

Last year, more than 116 million people entered the United States by land from Canada. Of these, more than 76 million were Canadian nationals or United States permanent residents. And more than \$1 billion in goods and services trade crossed our border daily. To implement section 110 as it now stands would not only impede this traffic flow, it would contravene the United States-Canada Shared Border Accord which was intended to facilitate increased crossings of people and goods between our two countries.

Moreover, it is important to recognize the sense of borderless community that those living on the United States and Canadian sides of the border experience on a daily basis. Friends, family, and business associates travel easily, indeed seamlessly, across this invisible border to shop, enjoy theater and restaurants, athletic events, and other recreational opportunities. And, during last year's long struggle over this issue, I learned that many of my southern border colleagues represent districts that have similar experiences and stories about interrelated cross-border communities that otherwise would be injured by section 110.

Mr. Speaker, I believe my bill comprehensively addresses the problematic issues that are found in section 110. It is critical that section 110 as it currently stands be amended in order to avoid unnecessary chaos at both the northern and southern land borders and sea ports and give INS the necessary time to implement in an effective and affordable manner the current automated system at all airports. An automated entry-exit system elsewhere must not be implemented without careful consideration of the many issues involved. The Border Improvement and Immigration Act of 1999 will provide us with the necessary time and information for making a reasoned decision on whether to go forward with such a system.

ON THE "Zzzzz's" TO "A's" ACT

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the "Zzzz's to A's Act" and to draw attention to an important issue for high school students across the United States.

Those of us who have teenagers know how tough it is to get them out of bed early in the morning. My 14-year-old and 17-year-old are bright, eager students. But you would never know it when they have to wake up at the crack of dawn. They feel wiped out instead of raring to go.

I knew there had to be an explanation, other than laziness or rebellion. My answer came a year ago, when I read about scientific findings confirming that puberty changes the body's sleep cycle in such a way that makes it difficult—if not impossible—for most teens to fall asleep before 10 p.m. and to awaken early in the morning. Scientists also report that teens need more sleep than they will ever need again in life—at least 8 to 10 hours a night.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist—or a sleep scientist, in this case—to put these two facts together and realize that when high schools start before 8 a.m., kids are in class when they are sleepy. This sleep deprivation has harmful effects on learning abilities. It can lead to academic, behavioral, and psychological problems. Sleep deprivation also puts teens at risk for accidents and injuries, especially when driving.

There's a simple solution: adjust high school hours to be in sync with teenagers' body clocks. As a mother I saw the need for change, and, as a Member of Congress I thought I could help. Today, I am reintroducing legislation to put teens in school during their most alert hours.

My bill, called the "Zzzzz's to A's Act", could do more for improving education and reducing teen crime than many other more expensive initiatives. It encourages school districts to consider pushing back starting times—not shortening the school day. My bill would make it easier for districts to do so by providing a federal grant up to \$25,000 to help cover administrative and operating costs associated with changing hours.

A number of school districts across the country are looking at adjusting their hours, and handful already have. The districts in Minnesota, Arizona, and Kentucky that now start classes later have seen grades improve and student aggression decline.

In addition to boosting academic performance, adjusting school hours helps mitigate the problem of juvenile crime. It keeps teens off the streets during the late afternoon hours when they are most likely to commit or be the victim of crime. FBI data shows that almost half of all violent juvenile crime occurs between 2 p.m., and 8 p.m., when many adolescents are without supervision.

My "Zzzzz's to A's" legislation has been endorsed by the nation's leading sleep researchers and by organizations from the National Sleep Foundation to Kids Safe Education Foundation and Rock the Vote.

Teens are paying a heavy price for following the old adage "Early to bed, early to rise." It's time for high schools to synchronize their clocks with their students' body clocks so the teens can go from "Zzzzz's" to "A's."

THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
NORTHSHORE SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, this year the Northshore School districts celebrates its 40th Anniversary. I am honored to commemorate such a wonderful event.

The Northshore School District is responsible for over 20,000 students in King and Snohomish Counties, and is the eighth largest school district in Washington State. It's current board members, Jean Fowler, Tim Barclay, Sue Paro, Kirby Larson, and B.Z. Davis, devote countless hours of selfless service to the most valuable resource in this country—our children. Through their involvement, board members ensure that Northshore students have the knowledge and skills to be successful and productive citizens in the 21st Century.

Thank you, Northshore School District Board, for your commitment to education and congratulations, again, on your 40th Anniversary.

COMMON SENSE APPROACH TO
SANCTIONS

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased to join with so many of my colleagues on a bipartisan basis in reintroducing legisla-

tion, the "Enhancement of Trade, Security, and Human Rights through Sanctions Reform Act," intended to establish a common sense procedural framework for consideration of future U.S. unilateral sanctions.

Sanctions reform is necessary because the proliferation of unilateral economic sanctions is causing lasting damage to America's reputation as a reliable supplier in the global marketplace. It is estimated that U.S. sanctions cost \$15 to \$19 billion annually in lost U.S. exports and over 200,000 high-wage U.S. jobs.

Moreover, experience has shown us that unilateral sanctions don't work. A wide variety of leading U.S. foreign policy experts, think tanks, and government studies have concluded that unilateral sanctions are costly and counter-productive, particularly in a global economy, where technology, capital equipment, financing, and farm commodities are freely available from U.S. competitors.

Last year, the Glenn Amendment, which required the President to impose sanctions in response to India and Pakistan's nuclear tests, showed the weakness of relying on unilateral sanctions as an all-purpose foreign policy tool. The threat of sanctions, which were U.S. law prior to the testing, failed to deter India or Pakistan from conducting their tests, but would have cost the United States a major wheat sale if Congress had not intervened last year to grant the President waiver authority.

The legislation I am introducing today seeks responsible reform of the decision making process associated with U.S. unilateral sanctions. The bill's primary goal is to ensure that Congress and the Administration have better information for more informed decision-making on sanctions bills and initiatives.

Before imposing a unilateral sanction, the bill requires Congress and the President to request relevant information and address certain common-sense questions. Among them are the following: Is the proposed unilateral sanction likely to be effective? Is the sanction aimed at a clearly-defined and realistic objective? What are the economic costs for American industry and agriculture? Will the sanction undermine other U.S. security, foreign policy, and humanitarian objectives, such as relations with our key U.S. allies? Have potential alternatives, such as multilateral sanctions or diplomatic initiatives, been tried and failed?

My colleagues and I who are sponsoring this legislation today intend to work quickly to move the legislation through the legislative process. Without the information that this bill would provide us about future sanctions, we risk taking action that is not in our interest and has a very small chance of success. This bill is about establishing effective procedures that will lead to effective results in the way we respond to behavior by nations with which we have concerns. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

TRIBUTE TO BURLINGTON COUNTY
FIRST ASSISTANT PROSECUTOR
MICHAEL E. RILEY

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, on February 19, 1999, the County of Burlington in New Jersey

lost a dedicated public servant. Someone who has tirelessly fought for justice, the rights of victims, and heightened the awareness of domestic violence, Michael E. Riley will truly be missed.

After 19 years of public service to Burlington County, Mike Riley has stepped down as First Assistant Prosecutor to enter private practice. During his tenure, Mike became well known as one of New Jersey's most respected trial attorneys. Described as the most experienced prosecutor in New Jersey, Mike successfully prosecuted nine capital murder cases, never losing a single homicide case, the most in Burlington County history.

Outside of the courtroom, Mike was involved with many important civic groups. Mike was Co-Chair of the first Domestic Violence Working Group and was the first Director of the Burlington County Narcotic Task Force. Additionally, Mike shared his experience and expertise with others. He served as an adjunct professor at Widener Law School for 10 years and has served on the faculty of Monmouth College and Burlington County College.

Many accolades can be bestowed upon Michael E. Riley, but I think the most honored one was summed up by a colleague when he stated that Mike "can't be replaced." This truly demonstrates the respect that Mike has among his peers.

On behalf of the people of Burlington county, I thank Michael E. Riley for his dedicated service to the County of Burlington and wish him well in his future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO JUDY KENNEDY

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to your attention the dedicated service of Judy Kennedy who recently retired after 18 years of service at the Juvenile Detention Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Judy Kennedy was a teacher and Education Director at the Juvenile Detention Center. Ms. Kennedy's career has many milestones including American Correctional Association certification, expansion of classrooms, additions for special education services, drug and alcohol education just to name a few. She worked to establish the Continuation School for kids who cannot return to regular schools due to their history of suspension or expulsion. Ms. Kennedy recognized that these kids are part of our community, and that we need to give them a chance to be contributing members of our community. She worked with kids that others would consider "throwaways."

Ms. Kennedy touched the lives of many children. It has been sighted in many articles about at-risk kids, "one of the most important factors in changing their lives is a caring adult." Judy Kennedy is that caring adult.

TRIBUTE TO ALFRED GINSBURG

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Alfred "Al" Ginsburg on

his retirement from the Madera County Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Ginsburg has served the Board of Supervisors for 24 years.

Al Ginsburg is a native Californian born in Tulare County. The Ginsburg family then moved on to Chowchilla where Al attended Chowchilla elementary schools and Chowchilla High School. Al then graduated from Fresno State College, now known as California State University, Fresno, with a degree in business administration. From 1948 to 1950 Al owned and operated a family shoe store, but in 1950 he became a full time farmer, this was before his interest in government brought him into the political arena.

Al Ginsburg has served the people of Madera County in many capacities, serving as an elected leader and devoting his time to community service. Al served as a member of the Chowchilla city council for 16 years, several times during the 16 years, he held the position of Mayor. He also served on the Chowchilla High School Board for 10 years and served as a member of the Madera County Civil Service Commission for 12 years. Al was also a member of the Local Agency Formation Commission and the Local Transportation Commission and Authority.

During his time on the Madera County Board of Supervisors, Al has taken on numerous tasks. Al served as a member of the County Supervisors Association of California, CSAC, and presently serves as a member of the Board of Directors. Al is a current member of the CSAC Public Finance and Operations Policy Committee. He has also been a member of the Regional Council of Rural Counties Board of Directors. A resident of Madera County for 67 years, Al Ginsburg is in his sixth term as a Member of the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Al Ginsburg on the occasion of his retirement from the Madera County Board of Supervisors. Al Ginsburg leaves behind a proud legacy of community service. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Al Ginsburg many years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO BAY VIEW HIGH SCHOOL DEBATE TEAM

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, it is with immense pride and pleasure that I rise to congratulate the students, parents, teachers and faculty who contributed to the championship season recorded by the Bay View High School (BVHS) debate team in the Wisconsin High School Forensic Association's (WHSFA) annual State Debate Tournament held at UW-Oshkosh on January 28th and 29th.

I applaud the efforts of affirmatives Kimberly Malak and Robert Croston, and negatives Benita Anderson and Corey Scott for their wonderful individual and team accomplishments.

Additionally, the affirmative team shares the honor of an undefeated record with the affirmative team from Cedarburg. Both finished with 7-0 records. Bay View's winning score was 12 wins and two losses. Other Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) teams participating at the tour-

namment were Rufus King High School, which placed 4th overall, and Juneau Business High School.

The 1998-99 season for the Bay View High School debate team was historic. The varsity team won an invitational tournament held at Sheboygan South High School for the first time since 1995. The team also successfully defended its 1997 City Championship First Place Trophy on December 11, 1998. After qualifying at the district debates for participating in the WHSFA State Tournament earlier in January, the Bay View team was matched against others from across the state in what many consider the premier debate tournament of the year.

The team has been coached by Mr. Ray Lane since the 1995-96 season. Mr. Daemien Morscher, a 1993 BVHS graduate, National Merit Scholar, and former member of the debate team, is serving as assistant coach. Other members of the team include Daniel Brandt, Kenneth Dunbeck, Steven Finch, Matt Hickling, Leonard Wilson, Robert Woodliff, and Winston Woods. Ben Silver also participated in some tournaments.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to salute the talent and commitment of the Bay View High School debate team on its outstanding season, which I bring before you in commendation.

SOCIAL SECURITY

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call your attention to an article printed in the March edition of the Labor Party Press.

[From the Labor Party Press, Mar. 1999]

DON'T BLOW AWAY SOCIAL SECURITY

SOCIAL SECURITY BASICS

Under Social Security, workers contribute a certain amount of their pay into the system through their work life. They then earn entitlement to family benefits when they retire, become disabled, or die.

Social Security is funded through payroll taxes (FICA, or Federal Insurance Contribution Act) on both the employee and employer. Currently each pays 6.2 percent on all wages and salaries up to a maximum of \$68,400 in income. The payroll taxes we pay today finance the benefits for today's retirees. From the money we contribute, the government writes Social Security checks and mails them to beneficiaries.

Any extra money collected through payroll taxes goes into a Social Security Trust Fund. Until the 1990s, the Social Security Trust Fund was relatively small. However, it has ballooned in size in the past decade—and in fact has helped create the much celebrated "balanced budget."

Some 44 million Americans receive benefits from Social Security. Thirty million of these are the elderly and their dependents, 6 million are the disabled and their dependents, and 7 million are the survivors of deceased workers.

About 92 percent of people over 65 receive Social Security benefits. Since 1935, when the labor movement helped force passage of Social Security, the program has dramatically reduced poverty among the elderly and disabled. Unfortunately, though, some people who really need it—like farmworkers—still aren't entitled to Social Security.

WHAT'S GOOD ABOUT SOCIAL SECURITY

Social Security has dramatically cut poverty among the elderly and disabled. While about 12 percent of seniors currently live in poverty, without Social Security, 42 percent would be poor. About two-thirds of the elderly rely on Social Security to provide over half their retirement income. Social Security is especially essential since the U.S. does not require employers to provide pensions.

Social Security is progressive. Those who have been paid high salaries throughout their lives will get a much smaller percentage of their salary replaced by Social Security than those who have worked all their lives in low-wage jobs. An average wage-earner retiring in 1997 will get back about 44 percent of his or her earnings from Social Security. A high wage-earner gets back about 25 percent. And a low wage-earner gets about 80 percent.

Social Security benefits just about everyone. About 92 percent of people over 65 get Social Security. It's a program that working-class, middle-class, and poor people can all get behind.

Social Security is efficient. Because it is run entirely by the federal government, puts all the money into one pool and invests it in one place. Social Security only spends about one percent of benefits on administration.

WHAT OTHER COUNTRIES DO BETTER

All seven major industrialized countries (Japan, Canada, United Kingdom, U.S., Germany, France, and Italy) have systems that are, like ours, pay-as-you-go. Today's workers support today's retirees.

Italy, Germany, and France spend 12-14 percent of their gross domestic product to support retirees. The U.S. spends 6.9 percent. Japan, Canada, and the UK pay slightly less than us.

In the U.S., the average-earning worker can expect to get 42-44 percent of his or her income replaced on retirement. In Germany, France, and Italy the rate is 50 percent.

In the U.S., Germany, and Japan, retirement age is now 65. It's lower in France, Italy, and Canada. In the U.K., it's 65 for men and 60 for women. (The U.S. retirement age is slated to go up to 67 for people born after 1960.)

All the industrialized countries have programs to cover the healthcare costs of retirees, but American retirees have to pay more out of their pockets than seniors in the other six countries. Today, U.S. seniors pay a third of their medical costs themselves.

WHAT WE SHOULD DO ABOUT SOCIAL SECURITY

The Social Security system is quite sound, and with only minor modifications, it should stay that way. We don't have to institute privatization, raise the retirement age, cut benefits, reformulate the cost-of-living index, or increase the payroll tax on workers to "save" Social Security.

One modest and relatively painless change to Social Security would wipe out a big chunk of the shortfall that some are projecting: Eliminate the payroll-tax earning cap. Currently, the Social Security payroll tax is not paid on wages in excess of \$68,400. Since the ranks of the very rich, have been growing, this has resulted in something of a drain on Social Security. In the early 1980s, 90 percent of all wages fell under the threshold. Now it's 87 percent, and it's expected to drop to 85 percent. Why not make it 100 percent?

Says economist Dean Baker: "If you eliminate the cap altogether, it would wipe out about three-quarters of the projected Social Security shortfall. The amount that will be paid out in Social Security benefits won't be that much more than before, because it's a

progressive pay-out structure. Someone who earned a million or two in their lifetime might only get an annual Social Security payment of \$50,000, say."

Another proposal the Labor Party has suggested: raise the payroll tax on employers—but not workers. Workers have seen a net drain on their incomes for the past couple of decades, and this would be one way to begin to tip the balance in the other direction.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO INCREASE PENALTIES FOR
FALSE REPORTING AND INAC-
CURATE ROYALTY PAYMENTS
ON FEDERAL OIL AND GAS
LEASES

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, American taxpayers are being systematically cheated out of hundreds of millions of dollars by oil companies that do not pay the correct amount of royalties on the oil and gas they produce from public lands.

We can see evidence of this fraudulent behavior in several Congressional investigations, the Department of Justice litigation and a Clinton Administration Interagency Task Force report. Additionally, the Justice Department intervened in 8 of 19 qui tam cases filed by private individuals alleging hundreds of millions of dollars underpaid to the federal government. One company (Mobil) has settled with the federal government for \$45 million. In addition, States (including Alaska, California, Alabama, Louisiana and Texas) have brought similar lawsuits that have been settled for almost \$3 billion. The Interior Department is collecting more than \$275 million on underpayments.

To correct the underlying problem, the Department of the Interior has tried—unsuccessfully—for the past three years to revise its rules to make it more difficult for oil producers to avoid paying accurate royalties. The proposed regulations would clarify long standing legal requirements requiring the industry's responsibility to pay the cost of marketing the public's oil and gas. But some oil producers have been systematically deducting those costs from the amounts they owe taxpayers. Under the new rules, these producers would be required to pay the correct amount—based on real-market sales—to the American people who own the oil and gas.

Instead of supporting this necessary corrective action, however, Congress has enacted legislative riders preventing the implementation of the new rules at a cost of more than \$60 million a year, most of which would go to fund public education. The Senate is poised to extend this travesty on the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations bill, and the House is expected to go along in Conference Committee. Taxpayers should be distressed that Congress would rather side with industry rather than assure fair market value on the public's natural resources.

This larceny has gone on too long. It is time for the Congress to consider legislation that will assure prompt and accurate payment of royalties instead of providing cover to that portion of the industry that wants to shortchange taxpayers on their resources we all own.

That is why I am introducing legislation today that will impose a penalty of treble damages on any producer who chronically undervalues royalty payments. If industry will not pay the correct amount voluntarily and fights efforts to issue legitimate rules to safeguard the public, then industry must know that abusers, when caught, will be punished.

For those in the industry who abide by the rules and pay the correct amount, this legislation has no effect. But on those who deceive and delay, this legislation will mean serious punishment.

This bill will require under payors to pay three times the amount they should have paid plus a \$25,000 civil penalty for each violation. In addition, lessees found guilty of chronic repeated failure to pay correctly would be subject to an additional civil penalty three times the amount owed for a single violation. Finally, the bill would require the federal government to share such sums collected under the penalty provisions with the State in which the violation occurred, as happens with royalty payments overall.

This bill will not affect responsible companies in the oil and gas sector. Nevertheless, we must draw a bright line for companies that deliberately and repeatedly withhold revenues to the taxpaying public. Unfortunately, there is a history of underpayments in this field that requires a strong legislative response. I would hope the Congress ends its practice of ignoring these underpayments and instead takes actions on this legislation to assure that taxpayers receive the royalties they are due.

TRIBUTE TO BRIDGET MEYER

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bridget Meyer, an extraordinary high school student who is being honored as a Young Woman of Excellence by the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

Bridget Meyer has been described by her teacher as someone who always gives one hundred percent and puts the feelings and concerns of others first. Bridget is a special young woman who, through difficulties with her family and finances, has worked every day after school to pay her rent. This alone is remarkable. However, when one considers that she's been doing this while maintaining a 4.0 grade point average and serving as Senior Class Vice President, the achievements of her young life are all the more amazing.

Bridget is a young woman who leads by example. Whether she is volunteering at Habitat for Humanity, Safe Rides or AIDS Awareness, Bridget is constantly giving of herself to make our community better.

Mr. Speaker, Bridget Meyer is an outstanding young woman who serves as a role model to her classmates, her family and her community. To those who say we live in a time when we lack heroes, they haven't met Bridget Meyers. I salute Bridget for her remarkable contributions and commitment to her community. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her on being named a Young Woman of Excellence by the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

KNOW YOUR CUSTOMER

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to applaud the efforts of citizens in my district and across the country. Thanks to their unending efforts, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) recently retracted their proposed "Know Your Customer" rule. This proposal would have required banks to monitor their customers and snoop out information for federal government files.

According to the FDIC, the intent of the "Know Your Customer" rule was to ensure that banks and savings institutions have policies and procedures for screening transactions tied to criminal activities, such as money laundering or drug trafficking. In reality, this legislation would have created an Orwellian system of government. Our constituents recognized this and voiced their strong opposition to it.

We should not forget that Americans have the right to expect privacy protections. The fact is, under the "Know Your Customer" rule, banks would have been required to track money sources and report all "out-of-the-ordinary" transactions to the federal government. In other words, this would have allowed the banks and our government the right to snoop in our personal information. That is wrong! Good business practices should already allow banks to know their customers.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank American citizens for strengthening our democratic system of government by loudly voicing their opposition to this rule. "Know Your Customer" would have been a clear invasion of privacy of all citizens and I am pleased it has been retracted.

JOHN LEE SULLIVAN MAKES HIS
MARK ON THE WORLD**HON. BOB ETHERIDGE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Caroline and Richard Sullivan of Charlotte, North Carolina. On March 7, 1999 at Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte, they welcomed into the world their first child, John Lee Sullivan. There is nothing more wonderful and joyous than watching a child grow and I know that they will treasure every new day with their son. Faye joins me in wishing the Sullivans great happiness during this very special time of their lives.

CONSUMER CREDIT REPORT ACCU-
RACY AND PRIVACY ACT OF 1999**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join eleven of my colleagues in introducing the Consumer Credit Report Accuracy and Privacy Act of 1999. My bill gives

every American the right to examine and correct their credit reports free of charge.

The credit reporting industry affects the lives of virtually every working American. Information used in a credit report can affect the ability to obtain a job, credit card, insurance policy, or even a place to live. For this reason, it is imperative that the credit industry maintain accurate records on American consumers.

In spite of the fact that the reporting of false delinquencies, errors in personal demographic information, and missing credit accounts all have the potential to result in the denial of credit, only six states (Colorado, Georgia, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Jersey and Vermont) offer consumers free credit reports on request. For the rest of the nation, most consumers cannot obtain a free credit report until after they have already been denied credit or suspect they are a victim of fraud.

The fact that the three largest credit bureaus have 450 million files on individual consumers and process over 2 billion pieces of data every month presents a daunting challenge to maintain the most accurate records possible. Given these figures, the chance of acquiring inaccurate information is highly likely. In fact, some studies have shown that up to one third of credit reports could contain serious mistakes.

It is important to note that the credit reporting industry gathers its information without the direct consent of American consumers, and in turn, uses this information for its own profit through the sales of reports to credit grantors, employers, insurance companies, and landlords. Consumers should have the right to know what is being said about them, especially if the information will affect their overall credit standing.

My bill will also help to address the growing problem of identify theft. Increasingly, criminals are able to obtain personal credit reports and assume a consumer's credit identity. In the process, they are able to run up huge debts while ruining the unsuspecting victim's credit records. We could minimize this problem if consumers more regularly audited their own credit reports to find out who else has been looking at them.

This bill has the endorsement of the nation's key consumer advocacy organizations, including U.S. Public Interest Research Group, Consumer Action, Community Reinvestment Committee, Consumer Federation of America, Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now, and the National Community Reinvestment Coalition.

In closing, the Consumer Credit Report Accuracy and Privacy Act encourages consumers to be pro-active in reviewing and protecting their personal credit history from possible mistakes and fraud. My bill simply gives consumers the right to know what credit bureaus are saying about them without having to pay a fee for the privilege.

SIKHS WILL CELEBRATE 300TH AN-
NIVERSARY—AMERICA SHOULD
SUPPORT SIKH FREEDOM**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, this April marks a very significant occasion, the 300th anniversary

of the Sikh Nation. The occasion will be celebrated with a big march in Washington, with prayers, and in many other ways. Let us join with the Sikhs on this auspicious occasion and pray that they will soon enjoy the same freedom in their homeland, Punjab, Khalistan, that we enjoy here in America.

I would like to congratulate the Sikh Nation on this major milestone, which was brought to my attention by Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan. Many of us have been made aware of the brutal oppression of the Sikhs by the Indian government due to Dr. Aulakh's tireless efforts. I am pleased to note that Dr. Aulakh's office is organizing the march.

There are half of a million Sikhs in the United States. They have added to the richness of American life in many aspects of life and work. They have been productive, proud, law-abiding Americans. The Sikhs came to this country to enjoy the freedom that has made America the great country that it is. On this very special occasion for the Sikh Nation, let us honor those fine Americans by taking steps to help their Sikh brothers and sisters in Punjab, Khalistan enjoy the same freedom. That is the best way to prevent another Bosnia or Kosovo in South Asia.

Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, there is no freedom for Sikhs, Christians, Muslims, Dalits, or other minorities in India today. The Indian government continues to practice a brutal oppression that has taken tens of thousands of Sikh, Christian, Muslim, and other human lives. Yet this brutal country continues to be among the top five recipients of U.S. aid.

Why are we using tax dollars to support this repressive government? Even with our budget surplus, this is a bad use of taxpayers' money. We should cut off this aid and declare our support for self-determination in the Indian subcontinent. The Sikhs of Khalistan, the Muslims of Kashmir, the Christians of Nagaland, and others seek only to decide their futures in the democratic way, by voting. As the beacon of freedom in the world, it is our moral duty to support this struggle for freedom. Let us take the occasion of the Sikh Nation's 300th anniversary to commit ourselves to full support for freedom for all people, starting with these few simple measures.

TRIBUTE TO BESSIE BAUGHN

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bessie Baughn, an exceptional citizen of San Mateo County, California, who will be inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame on Friday, March 26, 1999.

Bessie Baughn's motto is: "If there's a need, I fill it." This explains the amazing list of boards and organizations which Bessie currently is an integral part of. She has been named the Volunteer of the Year twice, the Woman of Distinction, and the Woman of the Year.

Several of Bessie Baughn's achievements include founding the San Bruno Volunteer Services and Operation Video which provides videos to the residents of nursing homes. Bessie not only puts in time and energy, but also

her own resources to help start and sustain these important programs and services. Bessie Baughn not only practices volunteerism, she preaches it as well. She writes a weekly column in the Independent where she encourages community work and volunteerism.

Mr. Speaker, Bessie Baughn is an outstanding woman and I salute her for her remarkable contributions and commitment to our community. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her on being inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

INTRODUCING THE FAIR PAY ACT
OF 1999

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, Senator TOM HARKIN and I are introducing the Fair Pay Act of 1999, a bill that would require employers to pay equal wages to women and men performing comparable jobs in an effort to remedy the pay inequities that women continue to endure. We introduce this bill simultaneously in both Houses as an indication of the preeminent importance many American families attach to equal pay today.

At 76 percent of a men's wage, women's wages and the wage gap remain totally unacceptable. The continuing disparity is especially untenable considering that a significant part of the narrowing of the gap since 1963 is because of a decline in men's wages over the decades. The Equal Pay Act (EPA) was passed in 1963, and by focusing on pay disparities where men and women were doing the same (or similar) jobs, has helped narrow the wage gap between men and women. The Fair Pay Act takes the Equal Pay Act an important step further and seeks to confront the pay disparity problem of the 1990's the way the EPA confronted the equal pay problem in the 1960's.

Why has equal pay, once considered a women's issue, gone to the top of the polls for American families today? American families are becoming deeply dependent on women's wages today. Even in two-parent families, 66% of the women work, and the number of female-headed households has more than doubled since 1970.

Although most American families today must rely heavily on women's wages, women continue to earn less than their male counterparts with comparable qualifications and duties. Women complete more schooling than men but still have not caught up with men in earnings. Much of what progress has been made can be traced to the earnings of a small group of professional or highly skilled women. The average woman—the woman who works in a historically underpaid traditionally female occupation—has seen little progress. Over her lifetime, a woman loses over \$420,000 because of pay inequity, and collectively, women and their families lose more than \$100 billion in wages each year because of wage discrimination.

The FPA recognizes that if men and women are doing comparable work, they should be paid a comparable wage. If a woman is an emergency services operator, a female-dominated profession, for example, she should be

paid no less than a fire dispatcher, a male-dominated profession, simply because each of these jobs has been dominated by one sex. If a woman is a social worker, a traditionally female occupation, she should earn no less than a probation officer, a traditionally male job, simply because of the gender associated with each of these jobs.

The FPA, like the EPA, will not tamper with the market system. As with the EPA, the burden will be on the plaintiff to prove discrimination. She must show that the reason for the disparity is sex or race discrimination, not legitimate market factors.

As women's employment has become an increasingly significant factor in the real dollar income of American families, fair pay between the sexes has escalated in importance. There are remaining Equal Pay Act problems in our society, but the greatest barrier to pay fairness for women and their families today is a line drawn in the workplace between men and women doing work of comparable value. I ask for your support of the Fair Pay Act to pay women what they are worth so that their families may get what they need and deserve.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. FAY MARTIN
JOHNSTON

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a remarkable lady, Mrs. Fay Martin Johnston. Mrs. Johnston was one of my constituents from Forest, Mississippi. She passed away on February 27, 1999.

Mrs. Johnston was born in Edwards, Mississippi and was a resident of Forest since 1941. Mrs. Johnston was the wife of the late Eric E. Johnston, Jr. He was the former editor and publisher of the Scott County Times newspaper, Mayor of Forest, and noted author of books related to Mississippi politics.

During World War II, Mrs. Johnston assumed publication of the Scott County Times newspaper when her husband was called into the Army. She literally "did it all"—writing, editing, and operating the printing press in order to get the paper published. Mrs. Johnston was a charter member of the Scott County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and was actively involved in the Forest Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. Johnston's pride and joy was her family that included daughters Carol (Mrs. Bob Lindley), and Lynn (Mrs. Ben Catalina) and their families, her son Erle "Bubby" Johnston III, and his wife.

Mr. Sid Salter, current editor and publisher of the Scott County Times said, "Fay Johnston was a great lady and matriarch of a great newspaper family in Mississippi. She and Erle dedicated their lives to this community and were good stewards of the newspaper. In return they had the respect of the community and many, many friends here. The Johnston family has left a great mark on this city and country."

The legacy Mrs. Johnston leaves behind may best be described as love of God, love of family, love of Mississippi and country, and certainly love of Scott County and the town of Forest. I wish to extend my sympathy to her

family, while at the same time, express my appreciation for her life of service.

SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY: A CENTURY OF OPPORTUNITY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleague to join me in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the founding of San Francisco State University. The university was established on March 22, 1899. For three decades I had the privilege of serving as a professor of economics at this august educational institution, possibly the most ethnically diverse university in America. Then, as now, it had a commitment to provide a first-rate education to those who could not easily achieve one elsewhere—first and second generation immigrants and the working class.

My colleagues on the faculty of San Francisco State University are outstanding. They have received innumerable honors and awards over the years, including the Pulitzer Prize and the prestigious MacArthur "genius" grant. The all-round excellence of the faculty has created a curriculum renowned for its diversity. The creative writing, poetry, performing arts, film, and journalism departments are all nationally acclaimed. The masters program in biology was ranked first in the nation by the National Science Foundation for graduates who went on to earn doctorates. In the astronomy department, Professor Goeff Marcy and Paul Butler discovered two planets orbiting stars beyond our solar system in 1996, and they have discovered 10 more planets since then.

Though the faculty's academic strengths and excellent research are obvious, at San Francisco State teaching comes first. This school, which began as a teacher's college, retains its dedication to educating its students. Academic appointments are competitive, and as a result San Francisco State has been able to hire the best. Professors are hired for their teaching ability and dedication, generally carrying a course load of four classes.

Assigning teaching the number one priority has paid off in the classroom. Robert Corrigan, the excellent president of San Francisco State, says of the student experience: "Students get a better education here. They are in a classroom with someone with a doctoral degree and 20 years of teaching experience, and there might be only 25 students in the class."

During its century of service to the Bay Area, San Francisco State University has awarded 185,020 degrees. Its students have gone on to successful careers in every conceivable field, and even our current Mayor of San Francisco is a former student of the university. Graduates and faculty of San Francisco State have also served with us here in the Congress.

For the past hundred years San Francisco State University has educated and enriched the Bay area, the state of California, and our nation. I am honored to have contributed to this outstanding educational institution, Mr.

Speaker, and I am delighted on this auspicious anniversary to pay tribute to its tradition of diversity and excellence. San Francisco State is truly American in the best possible sense of the word—it provides the opportunity for anyone to excel. As an educator, as a member of the San Francisco State community, and as a Californian, I congratulate San Francisco State University on its first century.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. FATEMEH
AZODANLOO

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to my colleagues attention the attached remarks on the condolences to the Rajavi and Azodanloo families, particularly to Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, Iran's President-elect, at their loss.

With great regret, I learned of the death of Mrs. Fatemeh Azodanloo at the age of 75. I offer my condolences to the Rajavi and Azodanloo families, particularly to Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, Iran's President-elect, at their loss. For the past 25 years, Mrs. Azodanloo was a comrade in arms in her daughter's struggle for human rights and democracy.

During both the shah and Khomeini eras, Mrs. Azodanloo was a firm supporter of the Resistance to establish democracy and human rights in Iran. She and her family were subjected to constant abuse by the shah's officers and the theocratic mullahs. In the early 70s, her son Mahmood was arrested for cooperating with the Mojahedin by Savak—the vicious secrete police of the shah. Until the overthrow of the shah, she was harassed and her house raided by Savak and its notorious officers on many occasions.

She came to know other Mojahedin family members during her visits to Mahmood in the shah's prisons. Along with them, she began to expose the violation of human rights by the shah and to raise money for the families of political prisoners. During this period, her daughter Nargess, was arrested and later on executed by Savak. In the early 1970s, her daughter Maryam along with her other children made contact with the Mojahedin and began working for their democratic, humanitarian goals and ideals. During this period Mrs. Azodanloo helped her daughter Maryam, who had become a leader of the anti-shah student movement and a women's rights activist.

After the downfall of the shah in February 1979, the Azodanloo family home became known in Tehran as a center for exposing Khomeini's religious dictatorship. Mrs. Azodanloo expanded her efforts to spread the Mojahedin's ideas in defense of human rights and democracy. She took every opportunity to expose Khomeini and his despotism under the name of Islam. She was also active during her daughter Maryam's candidacy in the first parliamentary elections, in which she received 250,000 votes despite rampant rigging.

On June 20, 1981, in response to the Mojahedin's call, half a million people demonstrated in Tehran. The protest against violations of democratic rights was turned into a blood bath on Khomeini's order. From that night, the massacre of members and supporters of the democratic forces, particularly the Mojahedin, began. It was absolutely clear that the era of political activity had

ended, and resistance was the only option. From then on, Mrs. Azodanloo, despite nearly 60, embraced an underground life. Despite the repressive atmosphere in Tehran, she lived in the Resistance's bases, obtaining necessary supplies and drawing up security plans.

At this time, her youngest daughter, Massoumeh, was wounded in an armed attack by Revolutionary Guards, who ambushed her house in order to arrest her and her husband. She was pregnant when arrested. She was brutally tortured, and at the age of 23 in September 1982, died under torture. Her husband, Massoud Izadkhan, was executed.

Despite her sorrow, Mrs. Azodanloo never gave up, and persisted in her resistance, encouraging the Mojahedin in their struggle. She remained among the movement's staunchest supporters, throughout the most difficult of times.

Mrs. Fatemeh Azodanloo escaped from Iran in 1985. She remained active on behalf of the Resistance outside Iran, and always held dear the resistance forces inside Iran and in the National Liberation Army on the Iran-Iraq border. At her request, a few months prior to her death, she left Paris for one of the NLA's bases on the Iran-Iraq border, where she died in the company of her children and grandchildren.

TRIBUTE TO MARION JOSEPH

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marion Joseph, an extraordinary citizen of San Mateo County, California, who will be inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame on Friday, March 26, 1999.

Marion Joseph has devoted more than 38 years as a volunteer and a professional to improve the lives of California's youth. Marion has focused specifically on disadvantaged and special education students. In the early 1960's she designed and implemented a program that served more than 700 children a week and involved over 300 tutors in centers throughout the poorest sections of Sacramento.

During the 1970's she served on the Senior Executive Staff of the State Department of Education where she was a key architect of the California Master Plan for Education. Marion was critical to the School Improvement Plan, a plan which helped parents become more active in their child's education.

Marion is currently serving her second term on the State Board of Education and is affectionately called the "Paul Revere of Reading." Marion Joseph came out of retirement to find a solution to the problem of failing reading scores in California and the result of her extraordinary work was The Reading Lions Project.

Mr. Speaker, Marion Joseph is an outstanding woman. I salute her for her remarkable contributions and commitment to our community and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her on being inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

HONORING THE INDIANA
NATIONAL GUARD

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the recent visit of French President Jacques Chirac to the Nation's Capital included the presentation of the Legion of Honor, an award created by Napoleon Bonaparte, to three veterans of the First World War. This serves to remind us that eighty years ago, in the Spring of 1919, thousands of "doughboys" of the American Expeditionary Forces in France were returning to the United States following the first major appearance of U.S. military forces on the stage of world affairs.

A weather-beaten newspaper clipping hails the arrival in New York City Harbor of a Navy transport ship, the *Leviathan*, carrying the 150th Field Artillery Regiment. ("Indiana Boys of Rainbow Welcomed Home," New York Times, April 23, 1919). They came back to U.S. soil after engaging in combat operations and then occupation duty with the famed 42d (Rainbow) Division. The Hoosier gunners, members of the old 1st Indiana Field Artillery, Indiana National Guard, landed in New York after having served in five major campaigns in France. These Hoosiers were among the first to arrive and among the last to leave before the occupation of postwar Germany became the responsibility of the Regular Army.

Today, more than 14,000 dedicated men and women are currently serving in units of the Indiana Army National Guard and Air National Guard. They continue the tradition of patriotism and selfless service of World War I's "Rainbow Hoosiers." They hold down full-time civilian employment; they maintain families; they are active in community life—and they devote whatever time is mandated to fulfill Federal standards in order to maintain the military skills that have a distinct impact on our National security. Their trained capabilities have helped make it possible for the United States to sustain its awesome global responsibilities. However, we cannot forget that the National Guard is also a community enterprise. The chances are excellent that almost any Hoosier has some relative or knows someone who is serving, or who has served, in the Indiana National Guard. More than 70,000 Hoosiers are National Guard family members.

The Indiana National Guard has a rock solid foundation. During the realignment and readjustment of military forces in the post-Cold War era, we have witnessed the high regard which the Indiana National Guard enjoys in the missions it has been called upon to perform, and the special tasks which it has assumed, as a consequence of increased reliance on National Guard and Reserve forces by the Department of Defense.

As examples, Mr. Speaker, let me share just some of the things the Indiana National Guard is doing: Both the Army and Air Guard units have been designated to receive advanced readiness training in order to be prepared for possible deployment at the leading edge of U.S. commitments throughout the world. Along with stepped-up homeland defense, and anti-terrorism and anti-drug missions, these are assignments which require serious and dedicated training. The Indiana Guard is involved

in ongoing assistance missions, and over the last twelve months Hoosier Guard soldiers and airmen have lent a helping hand in Haiti, Hungary, Kuwait, Slovakia, and South Korea. The extraordinary range of military service being performed by the men and women of the Indiana National Guard is strong testimony to the reliance that is placed on them.

We should never forget that while the Indiana National Guard is responsive to its Federal mission, it also stands ready to respond to the call of our Governor for service in support and protection of the citizens of Indiana. The Indiana Guard was also in the forefront of the special National Guard task force organized to help provide security for the Atlanta Olympic Games in 1996.

The fighting men and women, the soldiers and airmen of today's Indiana National Guard, are worthy of those who, 80 years ago, proudly returned carrying the honors earned on European battlefields. As President Chirac reminds us by his public commendations, we should take time to remember and honor the soldiers of that era. Equally, we should pause as we approach the new millennium, to recognize today's successors to those "Hoosier Gunners" who served so bravely and honorably on the battlefields of France at the beginning of this century.

EXPOSING RACISM

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, in my continuing efforts to document and expose racism in America, I submit the following articles into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From the *Virginian-Pilot*]

CONFEDERATE GROUP BATTLES FOR ITS FLAG

(By Linda McNatt)

In May 1997, two members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans confronted Ku Klux Klansmen in front of the Pensacola, Fla., judicial building.

Sworn to conduct themselves as Southern gentlemen, the SCV members asked the hooded Klansmen to put down what they believe is their Confederate battle flag.

"There were 20 of them, maybe," said Robert A. Young, who belongs to the Sons of Confederate Veterans. "This group of fellas came over from Louisiana. They were dressed up like ghosts. We didn't want the connection, and we told 'em so."

The peaceful confrontation made national news. The Klansmen didn't back down, but the SCV had made its point.

It wasn't the first time that the Sons of Confederate Veterans have defended the bright red flag with its blue cross and white stars.

And it's not likely to be the last. The flag, the SCV says, symbolizes the bravery of their ancestors who followed it through the smoke of battle.

But the same flag has been used by the Klan and other hate groups. For some African Americans, the Confederate flag represents terrorism, prejudice and hate.

That's why the Virginia General Assembly two weeks ago said "no flag" when it voted to allow the group, which has 6,000 Virginia members, to have a special state license plate.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans aren't happy. Members have said they might try to re-introduce the flag image. Bills have been changed before, they say, although they won't say how they plan to do it.

Or—if the Senate fails to consider anything but the blank plate with the name of the organization on it—the SCV may take the issue to court.

They're ready for a gentlemanly battle, they say. The Sons of Confederate Veterans was organized in 1896 as an offshoot of the United Confederate Veterans. Today, the mission of the group is to "preserve the history and the legacy" of the "citizen soldiers" who fought for the Confederacy in the War Between the States, from 1861 to 1865.

Proof of kinship to a Confederate soldier is required. The SCV allows blacks to join; in fact, they say, race has never been a question on their membership application. And they do claim black members, although no one at the national headquarters—an antebellum mansion in Columbia, Tenn.—can say how many of their 27,000 members worldwide are black.

Neither can Patrick J. Griffin III, SCV national commander and chief, of Darnestown, Md.

"We do not have a block on our application that asks for race," Griffin said. "I've never seen anything in this organization that questions race or religion. You either have an honorable Confederate ancestor or you don't."

The SCV, with 700 camps in 36 states, Europe and South America, accepts members as young as 12.

"We're trying to preserve an accurate view of Southern American history, to make sure the names of our ancestors are not sullied," Griffin said.

The group dedicates itself to preservation, to marking confederate soldiers' graves, to historical re-enactments. It holds regular meetings to discuss the military and political history of the Civil War. It publishes a bimonthly magazine, and it hands out two scholarships and a medical research grant each year.

Executive director Maitland Westbrook III said that the SCV is not "statistically oriented," so he can't say how many African Americans have benefited from SCV scholarships.

The organization has five full-time employees at national headquarters. None of them, currently, are black, Westbrook said, although the SCV has employed blacks in the past.

The SCV also spends a lot of time defending its heritage—including its symbol—the Confederate battle flag.

Collin Pulley Jr. of Courtland is national chief of heritage defense. In the last several months, he's complained about "anti-Southern" TV shows and objected to a rap CD that depicts a burning Confederate flag on its cover.

Since Wal-Mart quit carrying the flags after some customers complained, he's led a SCV campaign—unsuccessful so far—to persuade the discount chain to re-stock small Confederate flags his group uses on graves.

"It has been our position for the last two years not to carry the Confederate flag because, here at Wal-Mart, we do not stand for what that flag represents," said Marvin Deshommes, a buyer at the Bentonville, Ark., headquarters.

What the flag represents, the SVC says, is heritage, not hate. And the group is determined to reclaim its glory.

It succeeded in Maryland and, more recently, in North Carolina. Both states, and several others, allow SCV members to display the flag on license plates.

A federal judge ruled in Maryland in February 1997 that "The Confederate battle flag on special Maryland license plates is protected by the First Amendment and cannot be banned."

The SCV got a similar ruling in North Carolina last December. There, the protest was less about the flag and more about whether the organization was actually a "civic group." The SCV took it to court and won.

In Virginia, said Brag Bowling of Richmond, legislative liaison for the SCV, "We're exploring all options. We're deeply disappointed they took the flag off the license plate. We got nailed in the House. We want to see how it goes in the Senate."

It was likely the impassioned plea of Del. Jerrauld C. Jones, D-Norfolk, that swayed the House. Jones said the flag, often connected with hate and terrorism by many African Americans, had reminded him throughout his life of fear, anger and claims of racial supremacy.

The special license plate legislation passed, but without the flag. SCV members vow they have never used the flag for such purposes as Jones claimed.

But the flag is sometimes used as a symbol of "oppression, violence and brutality," said Janis V. Sanchez, professor of psychology at Old Dominion University.

"The argument is that the flag was appropriated by the KKK," Sanchez said. "But that doesn't change the fact that it is associated with the Klan and with slavery. The Civil War was about slavery, and that's what the Confederate flag stands for. It has been used by many people to send a signal to African Americans."

"I know the Sons of Confederate Veterans are saying that it represents their heritage, but they cannot separate the meanings."

The SCV claims that the Civil War wasn't about slavery; rather, it was about states' rights. More than 95 percent of the soldiers who fought for the South weren't even slave owners, they maintain.

More like 85 percent, said Dr. Harold D. Wilson, an ODU history professor.

At the time of the Civil War, there were 9 million people in the Southern states, Wilson said; 4 million of those were slaves. Of the remaining 5 million, 330,000—mostly white males—were slave owners. Wilson said he believes about 85 percent of the soldiers didn't own slaves.

Some blacks, he pointed out, did serve with the South. "In the North, blacks participated fully in the war; in the South, they were mostly servants or laborers," Wilson said. "There were great debates over whether blacks should fight for the Confederacy, and they were conducted mostly in a very private, sensitive manner."

What caused the Civil War? "In the upper Southern states, it probably was states' rights," Wilson said. "In the lower South, with its large plantations, it was more about slavery."

"What in the world does the battle flag represent? It was the military flag of the Confederacy. It represented the might of the Confederate government. To that part of the Confederacy where there were few slave owners, it may have represented something entirely different."

And that part of the Confederacy may well represent Virginia, Wilson admitted. The Confederate battle flag was first used by the Army of Northern Virginia, where there were few large slave owners compared to the deep South.

Should the Sons of Confederate Veterans be allowed to use the flag on its license plate?

The group has an ally it likely doesn't even know about. The Rev. Jeff Berry, national imperial wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, said he believes it is their right.

Like the SCV, the Klan uses the flag to represent "heritage, not hate," said Berry, whose group was started by Confederate Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest.

Unlike the SCV, non-whites are not allowed in the Klan. The two groups have no connection, Berry said. But the Klan, which says it believes first in the U.S. Constitution, says the SCV ought to be able to display the Confederate flag.

"If it isn't OK to fly the Confederate flag in the U.S., why is it OK for blacks to fly the African flag?" Berry said. "We would defend the right of the SCV to fly its flag. Nobody should be able to take that right away."

CHRISTIAN VILLAGE BURNED BY HINDUS—WAVE OF SECULAR VIOLENCE GOES BACK TO CHRISTMAS DAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I was very distressed to see an article in the March 19 issue of the New York Times reporting that in the village of Ranaloi in India, a mob chanting "Victory to Lord Ram" burned down 157 of 250 homes of Christians. I thank my good friend Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh for calling my attention to this atrocity, which unfortunately is not an isolated incident but part of a wave of anti-Christian violence that began on Christmas Day.

Since Christmas, several Christian churches, prayer halls, and religious missions were destroyed by Hindu extremists affiliated with the Bajrang Dal, a part of the VHP, a militant Hindu organization that belongs to the same family of organizations as the ruling BJP. The VHP also praised the Hindus who raped four nuns, calling them "patriotic youth" and denouncing the nuns as "antinational elements." In January a missionary and his two very young sons were burned to death in their jeep by a gang of Hindus chanting "Victory to Hannuman," then another nun was raped. In early February the bodies of two more Christians have been found in the state of Orissa. At least four priests have been murdered. In 1997, police broke up a Christian religious festival with gunfire. A country that engages in such practices should be declared a religious oppressor and perhaps a terrorist state.

This latest incident took place during the period of Lent, leading up to Easter. With Easter coming in April, followed soon after by the 300th anniversary of the Sikh Nation, we may now have the best opportunity to raise the consciousness of the world to the religious tyranny that exists just under the veneer of Indian democracy.

Although India has democratic elections, for Christians, Sikhs, Muslims, Dalits, and so many others, there is no democracy. No matter who they elect, the result is more killing and more oppression. Is this true democracy? As I have said before, this is not democracy. It is merely the opportunity to choose one's oppressors.

The only solution is freedom for all the people of South Asia. As the world's only superpower and the beacon of freedom for the world, the United States must do whatever it can to extend the blessings of liberty to all

people living under tyrannical, intolerant leaders, even if they claim to be democratic. We should stop funding this repressive government with American aid, impose economic sanctions as we did against the apartheid regime in South Africa, and go on record urging India to allow a plebiscite—a free, democratic vote—in Punjab, Khalistan, in Kashmir, in Christian Nagaland, and throughout their polyglot state to decide the future political status of these regions. This is the only way to end the genocide, settle the differences, and finally bring lasting peace to this troubled tinderbox known as South Asia.

Freedom is not only America's founding principle, it is our mission. Let us carry that mission to the deserving peoples and nations of the subcontinent. We look forward to the day when the glow of freedom shines on all the people of South Asia and the world.

[From The New York Times, Mar. 19, 1999]

157 HOMES BURNED IN RELIGIOUS CLASH IN INDIA

(By Celia W. Dugger)

BHUBANESWAR, INDIA, MARCH 18.—Less than two months after a Hindu mob killed a Christian missionary from Australia and his two young sons here in the eastern state of Orissa, Hindus and Christians clashed in a village this week, and 157 of the 250 Christian homes were burned down, state officials say.

The officials said they presumed that Hindus set the fires on Tuesday, but have no solid evidence. Christian villagers interviewed by television reporters blamed Hindus, who they said shouted "Victory to Lord Ram," a Hindu god, as they set the fires. Thirteen people were wounded, three by gunfire, and the police have arrested more than 40 people, officials said.

The tensions in the village—Ranaloi, in southern Orissa—developed after someone painted a trident, symbol of the Hindu god Shiva, over a Christian cross on a boulder about a mile outside the village.

The violence is part of a growing number of attacks on Christians in India in the last year. Church officials and opposition political parties say the problem has worsened since the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party became the head of a national coalition Government a year ago. Party leaders say they oppose the violence.

It is not clear who was responsible for the violence in Orissa, which is governed by the Congress Party. The state's Chief Minister, J.B. Patnaik, resigned after the killing of the missionary, Graham Staines, and his sons, Timothy, 10, and Philip, 6.

D.P. Wadhwa, the Indian Supreme Court Justice who was named by the Government to head an inquiry into the Staines killings, harshly criticized the central Government for failing to provide resources to investigate. The commission of inquiry, which was set up six weeks ago, is due to issue its findings in two weeks but has yet to field a team of independent investigators or to be given functional offices to work from.

The state police blamed a mob that they said was led by a man from the Bajrang Dal, a Hindu nationalist youth group that belongs to the same family of Hindu nationalist organizations as the Bharatiya Janata Party.

Leaders of the Bajrang Dal denied involvement, and said the violence was a backlash against what they called the Christians' deceitful efforts to convert impoverished, illiterate Indians.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 1214—DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS VETERANS' CLAIMS ADJUDICATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1999

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, for years our Nation's veterans who submitted a claim to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for benefits associated with their military service, particularly service-connected disability compensation, have been forced to contend with a VA claims adjudication process which has been both too slow and too inaccurate. Too often the adjudication of a veterans' claim has taken not days, not weeks, not months, but years.

Recent information suggests that after waiting years for a decision, one out of three veterans may find that the decision made by VA was wrong. Untimely and inaccurate decision-making by the VA, and particularly the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), have been twin problems which have plagued veterans, veterans service organizations and Members of Congress who have sought to assist their veterans constituents.

While experience clearly indicated otherwise, VBA consistently reported that the quality of its work was nearly error free as measured by VBA. Between 1993 and 1997, VA was reporting an accuracy rate of 97%. This was unfortunately like the fox not only guarding the hen house, but also keeping the inventory of hens.

To his credit, the Under Secretary of Veterans Benefits, Mr. Joe Thompson instituted, on a trial basis, a new system for measuring the quality of the claims adjudication work performed by VBA. This new quality measure, the Strategic Technical Accuracy Review (STAR) was tested and used operationally in 1998.

STAR use has been focused on claims submitted by veterans which require the VA to rate the claim, make a determination as to whether a medical disability is service-connected or non-service-connected and determine the degree of disability manifest. Using the STAR methodology, the accuracy of various actions taken during the adjudication process are used to determine if the case was correctly or incorrectly decided. A case is either all right or all wrong. Using STAR, the accuracy rate was 64%—less than two out of three claims were correctly decided.

While STAR has provided a more realistic assessment of the quality of VA claims adjudication, STAR does not currently meet generally accepted governmental standards for independence and separation of duties. Reviews of regional office decisions are made by persons who are also decision makers. There is not sufficient staff provided for reviewing enough cases to make statistically valid accuracy determinations at the regional office level. In order to pinpoint errors, it is important to be able to identify regional offices which have specific high or low accuracy rates and to ascertain the reasons for discrepancies between regional offices.

In addition to the problems documented by the STAR report, VBA is facing the impending

retirement of experienced senior staff and several years of staff reductions which have impeded VBA's ability to resolve increasingly complex cases in a timely and accurate manner.

One measure of quality, the percentage of decisions appealed to the Board of Veterans Appeals (the Board) which are either reversed or remanded back to the regional offices for further work, is particularly disturbing. During fiscal year 1998, 17.2% of the appealed decisions were reversed outright by the Board. An additional 41.2% of the appeals were remanded for further action by the regional offices. Another measure of accuracy is the integrity of data relied upon by the VBA. During 1998, the VA Inspector General issued a report finding that data entered into the VBA computer system was being manipulated to make it appear that claims were processed more efficiently than was actually occurring.

Problems are not confined to the Compensation and Pension Service. In reviewing VA's compliance with statutory financial requirements, the General Accounting Office (GAO) noted that VA's home loan program was unable to perform routine accounting functions and had lost control over a number of loans which were transferred to an outside loan company for continued loan servicing. VA was not able to obtain an unqualified audit opinion as a result of these deficiencies. On February 24, 1999, VA's Inspector General reported that the \$400 million vocational rehabilitation program was placed at high risk after the Quality Assurance Program for that service was discontinued in 1995.

Because of the fundamental importance of accurate and effective claims processing and adjudication by VA regional offices, and the need for effective oversight of regional office claims processing and adjudication by the Veterans' Benefits Administration, in July of 1997, I requested the GAO to review the quality assurance policies and practices of the VBA. On March 1, 1999, GAO issued its report which determined that further improvement is needed in claims-processing accuracy. In particular, GAO has determined that VBA's quality assurance activities do not meet the standards for independence and internal control.

To assure that VBA's internal quality assurance activities meet the recognized appropriate governmental standards for independence, I have introduced H.R. 1214, which provides for the establishment within VBA of a quality assurance division which comports with generally accepted government standards for performance audits. In addition, my Additional and Dissenting Views and Estimates submitted to the Budget Committee for VA's fiscal year 2000 budget requests additional funding for 250 full time employees for VBA. It is my intention that if additional staff funding is provided, some of the additional staff be used to adequately staff this program.

While VBA has made some improvements by developing an accuracy measurement which focuses on VA's core benefit work—rating claims for benefits—further improvements are needed in claims processing. Currently, there is no formal division within VBA devoted to providing the policy and program oversight necessary to assure quality and accuracy of claims processing. The possible consequences of this for both veterans and taxpayers is troubling.

In fiscal year 2000, the VA will pay over \$22 billion dollars in monetary benefits to veterans.

Yet only nine full-time employees are allocated to STAR to oversee the quality of the claims adjudication process. Without a mandated program of quality assurance, which meets generally accepted governmental auditing standards for program performance audits, impartial and independent oversight of the quality of claims adjudication decisions will not be assured.

With the establishment of independent oversight of the quality of claims adjudication decisions, veterans can have more confidence in the decisions made by VA and the number of claims which are remanded because of the poor quality of claims adjudication will be reduced. With better initial decisions and fewer remands for re-adjudication, veterans will receive a quicker and a more accurate response. More claims will be adjudicated correctly the first time. This will not occur overnight, but without an independent oversight of the quality of claims adjudication decisions it may never exist.

The "Veterans' Claims Adjudication Improvement Act of 1999", H.R. 1214, will help address these problems. It changes the way decisions concerning claims for compensation and pension, education, vocational rehabilitation and counseling, home loan and insurance benefits will be reviewed and evaluated. Employees who are independent of decision makers will be devoted to identifying problems in the decision-making process. By identifying the kinds of errors made by VA personnel, VBA managers will be able to take appropriate action. Hopefully, remand rates can be significantly reduced and veterans will find that VA makes the right decision the first time the claim is presented.

We cannot expect any improvement in the timeliness of claims adjudication unless the barriers to quality decision making are identified and addressed in a systemic fashion. Our nation's veterans deserve to have their claims for VA benefits decided right the first time. By enacting H.R. 1214, Congress can help put the VA claims adjudication process on the right track. Our veterans deserve no less. I strongly urge my colleagues to support the "Veterans' Claims Adjudication Improvement Act of 1999" and for Congress to give this measure quick and favorable consideration.

SEARCHING FOR SANITY ON SANCTIONS

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I have been urging a solution to the Iraqi crisis which does not depend on the suffering of thousands of vulnerable and innocent people. To this end I support the easing of the economic sanctions on Iraq while simultaneously tightening the military embargo. The cost of our containment policy does not have to be the death of 5000 children a month, and in fact the American role in the embargo that causes such devastation undermines any containment we hope to achieve.

I would like to enter into the RECORD an excellent article from The Nation magazine which provides a fresh look at our Iraq policy. The article by Joy Gordon, "Sanctions as

Siege Warfare," presents a critique of the recent escalation in the use of sanctions to solve diplomatic crises. By detailing the latest statistics regarding suffering in Iraq, it contends that the imposition of sanctions conflicts with the United Nation's historic mission to alleviate worldwide suffering. It presents the case that the "Iraqi experiment" has in fact failed and that such a comprehensive sanctions regime is both unviable and beyond the administrative capabilities of the UN. The unwieldy, inefficient and inconsistent bureaucracy of the Oil-for-Food program has ensured that the UN can not even fulfill its own acknowledged prerogative to deliver urgent humanitarian aid. The program was intended as a transition, emergency operation, not a sustained effort to feed 23 million people over decades. This program is in addition to restrictions placed on "dual use goods" (a label which includes pencils and other items needed for schools), which the nation needs to rebuild its sanitation, health and agricultural infrastructures. Even after some limited reform, Oil-for-Food is still unable to meet the most basic needs of the people of Iraq. Some in Congress disagree with that, but I ask them where is their evidence? The World Health Organization, the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization, UNICEF, and the Secretary General of the UN have all found otherwise.

The horror of this situation was brought to my attention most eloquently by Denis Halliday, who recently quit his job as the Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations and the director of Humanitarian Affairs in Iraq over this precise issue. The work that Halliday has undertaken along with Phyllis Bennis of the Institute for Policy Studies, has made an important contribution to bringing the indescribable human crisis in Iraq to America's attention. (I single out the United States because much of the world already knew how bad the situation in Iraq was.)

Gordon's article describes the centrality of the United States' role in perpetuating sanctions, and most significantly, the misguided justifications which underpin US policy. The US, in its self-declared role as "world policeman," is turning increasingly to sanctions as a "non-violent" alternative to bombing campaigns. We should not allow starvation to become an alternative to diplomacy. In the long term, the implications for the general populace can be devastating. In Iraq, the interior had already been destroyed by nine years of conflict (nineteen, if one counts the Iran-Iraq war). The weak and young have suffered the most whilst those in power continue to live comfortably.

The supreme aim in Iraq, to remove Saddam Hussein, is itself unviable whilst the dictator remains bolstered by such powerful cadres and the people remain divided, mutually hostile and depoliticized. Gordon's article alludes to the fact that sanctions can only help achieve political objectives when tangible opposition movements and the apparatus for dissent already exist. This is why sanctions against South Africa were an effective tool for ending Apartheid; the African national Congress was an organized, credible, internal, popular democratic opposition. When such institutions do not exist, sanctions can be counter-productive as they have been in Iraq, perpetuating the state of crisis upon which dictatorships depend and fostering a legacy of bitterness towards the west.

It has often been said that you cannot achieve democracy by undemocratic means. I

would add as a corollary that you also cannot inspire respect for human rights by undermining them. The article below shows how the sanctions on Iraq have been as war-like as war itself, and I hope it helps to establish new criteria that will make our policy both more humane and more effective.

[From the Nation, Mar. 22, 1999]

SANCTIONS AS SIEGE WARFARE

(By Joy Gordon)

As the case of Iraq has shown, there's more than one way to destroy a nation.

The continuing American bombing of Iraq has drawn attention away from the international debate over economic sanctions against Baghdad and their toll on the Iraqi people. yet the crisis these policies have engendered in Iraq raises crucial questions about the United Nations' growing reliance on sanctions as a device of international governance. Can this modern-day equivalent of siege warfare be justified in ethical or political terms? It is a question that goes to the very heart of the UN's dual commitment to both peacekeeping and humanitarian principles.

The role of the UN in the Iraqi sanctions regime has been convoluted and contradictory from the start. Articles 41 and 42 of the UN Charter empower the Security Council to use economic tactics to keep international peace (although before sanctions were imposed on Iraq in 1990, the UN had imposed them only twice, against South Africa and Rhodesia). At the same time, the UN has an explicit commitment to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to the many other documents that espouse the right of every person to health, food, drinking water, education, shelter and safety. Indeed, the UN has a decades-long history of humanitarian work by its many agencies—the World Health Organization, UNICEF, UNESCO, the Food and Agriculture Organization, HABITAT and others. Thus the UN has found itself in the awkward position of authorizing a sanctions regime that is causing massive human suffering among those least responsible for Iraqi policy, while at the same time trying to meet humanitarian needs and protect those populations most harmed by sanctions—women, children, the poor, the elderly and the sick.

Although there is controversy over the precise extent of human damage, all sources agree that it is severe. Voices in the Wilderness, an antisandictions activist group based in Chicago, has used the figure of 1 million children dead from the sanctions; the Iraqi government claims 4,000-5,000 deaths per month of children under 5. Even US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright does not contest how great the human damage has been, but has said, "It's worth the price." Richard Garfield, an epidemiologist at Columbia University who analyzes the health consequences of economic embargoes, calculates that 225,000 Iraqi children under 5 have died since 1990 because of these policies—a figure based on the best data available from UN agencies and other international sources. The Red Cross World Disasters Report says underweight births have gone from 4 percent in 1990 to 25 percent in 1998. While it is harder to calculate the impact of the economic devastation on adults, it is quite acute, particularly for women. In 1997 the Food and Agriculture Organization estimated that chronic malnutrition in the general Iraqi population was as high as 27 percent, with 16 percent of adult women under 26 undernourished and 70 percent of women anemic.

The Iraqi crisis shows how peculiarly unsuited the UN is to manage a sanctions regime. This is partly because it had imposed

sanctions so rarely before and partly because of its longstanding commitment to alleviating poverty rather than causing it. The fact that the sanctions against Iraq are so extensive and so novel has forced the UN to generate from scratch an extraordinarily elaborate set of mechanisms to manage them, through which it attempts to reconcile its conflicting commitments.

From the beginning, the UN both predicted an impending humanitarian disaster and made moves to alleviate it. The UN began assessing the human damage immediately after the Persian Gulf War, when it made an initial, ill-fated proposal to allow Iraq to sell oil for food. The Security Council formed the "661 committee," consisting of representatives of each nation in the Security Council, to monitor the sanctions against Iraq established in SC Resolution 661. At the same time, the committee was also responsible for granting humanitarian exemptions to the sanctions. The result was that it put in place procedures that in fact functioned as obstacles to any smooth influx of food and medicine. A cumbersome sanctions bureaucracy scrutinized and approved or denied every contract, the proposed quantity of goods, their price and their intended use.

To sell humanitarian goods to Iraq, a company would submit an application to its national mission at the UN, which would then turn it over to the 661 committee. But the 661 committee did not publish any criteria for approval, and its meetings were closed sessions at which neither Iraq nor the vendors were allowed to have representatives present to answer questions or offer information in support of the contract. The application process typically took months, sometimes as long as two years. And the committee's rulings were inconsistent—the same goods sold by the same company might on one occasion be deemed permissible humanitarian goods and on another be flatly denied without explanation.

In addition, during this period all fifteen members of the committee had to approve exemptions by consensus; thus any nation could effectively exercise veto power or cause repeated delays of weeks or months simply by asking for more information. As a result, it was expensive and exasperating even to apply to sell food and medicine to Iraq. On small British company that sold medical supplies described the process: First, to talk to an Iraqi buyer, public or private, the seller had to apply for a license to negotiate, which could take three to four weeks. Once buyer and seller came to an agreement, the seller had to apply for a supply license, which could take up to twenty weeks. In the meantime, Iraq's currency would have devalued substantially, so the buyer might not be able to afford quantity of goods or might need more time to raise the additional hard currency. But that would require a change in the terms of the application, and any change in the application meant the whole process began again. Thus the red tape undermined Iraq's ability to import even those urgent humanitarian goods permitted under the sanctions.

While food and medicine were theoretically permitted during this time, "dual use" goods were flatly prohibited. Under the terms of the sanctions, "dual use" items are those that have civilian uses but also may be used by the military or more generally to rebuild the Iraqi economy. Dual-use goods include pesticides and fertilizer, spare part for crop-dusting helicopters, chlorine for water purification, computers, trucks, telecommunications equipment and equipment to rebuild the electrical grid. Anything that might go toward rebuilding the infrastructure, or toward economic poverty generally, is labeled "dual use." Yet Iraq's infrastructure had

been devastated by massive bombing during the Gulf War, which destroyed or caused extensive damage to water treatment plants, dams, generators and power plants, pipes and electrical systems for irrigation and desalinization of agricultural land, textile factories, silos, flour mills, bakeries and countless other buildings and resources. While Iraq was in principle allowed to import food and medical supplies, it was prohibited from buying the "dual use" equipment needed to grow and distribute food, to treat and distribute potable water, and to generate and distribute electricity for irrigating crops, refrigerating food and operating hospital equipment. The damage to water treatment plants and water distribution networks caused, among other things, a cholera epidemic and increases in waterborne diseases, infant diarrhea, dehydration and infant mortality.

Although bureaucratic obstacles effectively prevented much humanitarian material from reaching Iraq, the UN did grant humanitarian exemptions and heeded some criticisms based on humanitarian concerns. At the urging of the UN Secretary General, the 661 committee streamlined many of its procedures. But the basic policies remained intact—humanitarian goods required prior approval, and the ban on dual-use goods remained in place. And when the UN's interest in security and humanitarian concerns came into conflict, the interest in security still trumped.

In 1996 the Security Council and Iraq agreed to an Oil for Food program (OFF), which provides a mechanism for the purchase of goods except where the 661 committee has a specific objection, and then monitors their distribution and use. Under OFF, Iraq was initially authorized to sell \$2 billion of oil in any six-month period (the limit was later increased to \$5.3 billion). The extensive presence of UN humanitarian agencies in Iraq (as well as UNSCOM) is funded by the oil sales themselves. There are more than 400 international UN staff in Iraq and another 1,300 Iraqis on the UN staff. In the northern sector of the country the UN has taken over an entire range of governmental functions on behalf of (and with the agreement of) the Iraqi government—including food distribution, agriculture, nutrition programs, distribution of medical supplies, dam repair, renovation of schools, installation of water pumps and the provision of printing equipment for school textbooks.

In the central and southern governorates, the mandate of the UN agencies is only to assist and monitor the government in such functions. Even so, UN staff determine whether resources are adequate to meet "essential needs" in a given area, and they document and confirm the equitable distribution of food, distribution and storage of medical supplies, and the use of water and sanitation supplies. Iraq submits proposals for every purchase with oil funds—every gear, pipe, chemical, valve, piece of plywood, steel bar and rubber tube, for a country of 22 million people, on which it proposes to spend the \$2.9 billion expected to come from the current phase of Oil for Food. For each of these items, Iraq is required to specify not only the exact use but the particular end user—which grain silo will be using each of the conveyor belts Iraq wishes to purchase. Although the UN bureaucracy now processes these contracts quickly, there are still substantial delays when the seller fails to provide enough details in the application or when its nation's UN mission is slow to submit the paperwork.

The intricacy of the process for obtaining purchase and contract approval pales in comparison to the thoroughness with which each item is observed and documented once it arrives in Iraq. At the border, inspection

agents under contract to the UN document the arrival of every item, verify quantity and quality, and conduct lab tests to confirm that the goods conform to the contract. Once the goods have crossed the borders, UN observers then confirm the transit of all goods, their storage and equitable distribution, and they document the end use. Finally, UN staff review the documentation of the hundreds of UN observers. All this is paid for by 2.2 percent of the Iraqi oil sales—as of November 1998, \$207 million. Precisely because the system of verification is so thorough, the Security Council has been willing to grant permission for some dual-use goods to enter the country. The 661 committee has allowed purchases, for example, of chlorine gas for water purification and spare parts for crop-dusting helicopters because UN personnel were in Iraq to verify the location and use of each canister of chlorine and the installation of each helicopter part and the destruction of the old parts.

Relative to other UN programs around the world, those in Iraq are highly elaborate and expensive. Yet they do not come close to meeting the country's needs, according to the Secretary General's report of last fall. Although the quantity of chlorinated water is greater now, the water distribution system has deteriorated so much that by the time it arrives in people's homes, the water is not consistently potable. The emergency parts for electrical generators that do arrive merely slow down the deterioration of the electrical system, the power cuts are expected to be worse next year than this year. There are 210 million square meters of minefields, and the UN's three mine-detector dog teams (a total of six dogs) can barely make a dent.

It does not seem that the structure of the UN sanctions on Iraq could be duplicated in other situations. The expense of an elaborate bureaucracy, which closely monitors virtually all the goods Iraq has been permitted to purchase, is possible only because Iraq is paying for it. And that, in turn, is possible only because Iraq's wealth is so vast, and so easily converted to cash. Were it not for Iraq's wealth and the Security Council's success in tapping it, monitoring the sanctions regime and its humanitarian exemptions would cost far more than the UN could ever afford. Since most sanctioned countries—Yugoslavia, for example—don't have resources that can be tapped in the way Iraqi oil has been, it is hard to imagine that there could be many more sanctions-and-exemptions regimes of this scale.

While the sanctions against Iraq are in many ways anomalous, they nevertheless provide a graphic demonstration of how such extreme sanctions are implemented and justified. Just as the Gulf War offered a testing ground for new alliances and new weapons in the post-cold war world, the sanctions against Iraq have been an experiment in non-military devices of international governance. Both the United States and the UN are exhibiting a growing reliance on economic sanctions to achieve their aims around the world, even if in areas outside Iraq the sanctions regimes are somewhat less ambitious.

Although the UN had imposed sanctions only twice between 1945 and 1990, it has done so eleven times since then. But even this is very little in comparison with the frequency of US sanctions. Between 1945 and 1990 sanctions were imposed worldwide in 104 instances; in two-thirds of these, the United States was either a key player or the sanctions were unilateral actions by the United States with no participation from other countries. Since 1990 the United States' use of sanctions has increased by an order of magnitude. As of 1998, it imposed economic sanctions against more than twenty countries.

Even as it has been using sanctions on its own behalf, the United States has spearheaded many of the Security Council's recent sanctions efforts. While it would be incorrect to treat the Security Council as simply a naked tool of US hegemony (as much as Jesse Helms would like that to happen), the United States does have disproportionate influence both because of the veto power it holds as one of the five permanent members and because of its economic influence globally. And its leverage has only increased in recent years as Russia's willingness to exercise its veto power has been tempered by its dependence on the West for massive capital investment.

In 1990, sanctions appeared to be a nearly ideal device for international governance. They seemed to entail inconvenience and some political disruption but not casualties. Unlike the situation in Somalia, sanctions in Iraq did not involve troops. Because sanctions seemed to incur less human damage than bombing campaigns, peace and human rights movements found them attractive as well. Indeed, many of those opposing the Gulf War in 1990 urged the use of sanctions instead.

But what Iraq shows us is that it is now possible for sanctions to cause far more than inconvenience or international embarrassment. In the absence of a Soviet bloc as an alternative source of trade, it is now possible to construct a comprehensive sanctions regime that can absolutely break the back of any nation with a weak or import-dependent economy. Iraq has also demonstrated, quite graphically, that sanctions can cause fully as much human suffering as even a massive bombing campaign. Iraqi casualties from the Gulf War were in the range of 10,000 to 50,000. Casualties attributed to sanctions are anywhere from ten to thirty times that—and that's only counting the deaths of young children.

This ought to raise serious ethical concerns, since sanctions (like their low-tech predecessor, siege warfare) historically have caused the most extreme and direct suffering to those who are the weakest, the most vulnerable and the least political. At the same time, those who are affected last and least are the military and political leadership, who are generally insulated from anything except inconvenience and the discomfort of seeing "the fearful spectacle of the civilian dead," to use Michael Walzer's phrase. However devastating their effects on the economy and the civilian population may be, sanctions are rarely successful in achieving changes in governmental policy or conduct. Sanctions, like siege warfare, have generally been perceived by civilian populations as the hostile and damaging act of a foreign power. Sanctions, like siege warfare, have generally resulted in a renewed sense of national cohesion, not domestic pressure for political change. The most generous scholarship on this issue holds that in the twentieth century, sanctions achieved their stated political goals only about one-third of the time. But even that figure is disputed by those who point out that in most of these cases there were other factors as well; a more critical estimate places the success rate at less than 5 percent. In the other "success" cases—such as South Africa, which is often cited to show that "sanctions can work"—there were major factors other than sanctions. Many have suggested that the end of apartheid was due to internal political movements as much as to international sanctions. South Africa was also atypical in that those most affected by the sanctions also supported them. If not sanctions, then what? Is bombing preferable to sanctions as a device to "punish rogues" and enforce international law? Without the sanctions option, it is sometimes argued, the

militarists will just say there is no longer an alternative to bombing. But the Iraq situation demonstrates that sanctions are not merely a "problematic" or "less than ideal" form of political pressure. Rather, they are an indirect form of warfare. Not only are they politically counterproductive, but sanctions directed toward the economy generally (as opposed to, say, seizing personal assets of leaders) are inherently antihumanitarian.

Denis Halliday, the former Assistant Secretary General of the UN, resigned in protest last fall, saying that he no longer wished "to be identified with a United Nations that is . . . maintaining a sanctions programme . . . which kills and maims people through chronic malnutrition . . . and continues this programme knowingly." His conclusion seems very like US Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun's position on the death penalty in his 1994 dissent in *Callins v. Collins*: For the death penalty to be constitutional, it must be applied equally in like cases; but at the same time, the sentencing judge must have the option of granting mercy based upon the circumstances. These two requirements, Blackmun reasoned, are irreconcilable, and no amount of "tinkering" will somehow make the contradiction dissolve. Likewise, no amount of tinkering will make sanctions anything other than a violent and inhumane form of international governance. It is hard to articulate any greater good that can justify the deliberate, systematic imposition of measures that are known to increase chronic malnutrition, infant mortality and the many varieties of human damage that impoverishment inflicts.

SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS IN CUBA

SPEECH OF

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 1999

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my support for H. Res. 99. If you follow Cuban policy at all, I know you will agree with me that it is disappointing to see this Administration yield to this hemisphere's last remaining dictator, Fidel Castro. Not long ago, President Clinton announced a new proposal to loosen the trade embargo on the Government of Cuba. The embargo was codified because of the murder of unarmed American citizens. I believe that Castro has done nothing to warrant any reevaluation of the sanctions imposed on his regime. Now, almost three years later, the President has taken steps that not only breathe new life into the brutal Castro dictatorship, but he is trying to circumvent U.S. law.

Now, we learn that the Clinton Administration has decided to hold our American pastime hostage. If the President gets his way, the Baltimore Orioles will face a Cuban National team in Havana on March 28th of this year. It is appalling to me that the President is using baseball to push friendly relations with the Cuban dictatorship. This will be the first Major League Baseball visit to Havana since 1959, and it couldn't come at a worse time. A Cuban court has just convicted the island's four top opposition leaders for sedition.

Vladimiro Roca Antunez, Martha Beatriz Roque Cabello, Felix Bonne Carcases, and Rene Gomez Manzano were arrested in 1997 after petitioning the regime for immediate reforms and publishing a pamphlet entitled "The

Homeland Belongs to Us All." In this pamphlet, they describe their hopes for a free and democratic Cuba. They were convicted for nothing more than expressing their opinions and speaking the truth. They are the Lech Walensas & Vaclav Havels of Cuba. Their trial and conviction came two weeks after Castro handed down his new Sedition Law to severely punish those who dare speak to foreign journalists or publicly criticize his revolution.

Under the new Sedition Law, they were arrested for holding news conferences with foreign journalists and diplomats, urging voters to boycott Cuba's one-party elections, warning foreigners that their investments would contribute to Cuban suffering, condemning Castro's grip on power, and criticizing Communist Party propaganda. Mr. Speaker, this sounds to me like a return to the gulags of Soviet communism and the horror of European fascism.

They were apprehended and jailed 1½ years ago for their "crimes". On top of the imprisonment and physical and mental mistreatment they endured for more than 600 days, the four freedom fighters were also forced to endure a Stalinist show trial. As a recent wire report observed, in keeping with the closed, totalitarian nature of the Castro regime, "Few Cubans and even fewer foreigners are allowed inside a Cuban courtroom. Trials tend to be closed and proceedings are rarely reported by the government-controlled media." But Castro eagerly allowed the cameras to roll during the trial of these four dissidents to send a message to the rest of the island: Anyone who threatens his regime will be punished severely. Cuban reporters are terrified of the new Sedition Law; it has empowered Castro's secret police to intensify their harassment of Cuba's already-stifled press.

The dissidents received prison sentences ranging from 3½ to 5 years. The independent Cuban Commission on Human Rights and National Reconciliation said that since Feb. 26, 1999, authorities had rounded up nearly 40 other dissidents and warned an additional 35 to remain at home during the March 1st trial. Officials from the U.S. Interest Section in Havana were denied access to the trial.

The State Department recently released this statement regarding the trial: "We strongly denounce these actions by the Cuban government, which reveal its utter disregard of the concerns of the international community." Yet, neither the president nor the secretary of state has taken any action to put muscle behind those words. In fact, underscoring its perverse misunderstanding of the situation, the State Department believes the trial and conviction of these four voices of freedom is the very reason we need more people-to-people contacts with Havana. The only thing more people-to-people contacts will do is further prop-up Castro's regime.

Finally, it should be noted that the Sedition Law was approved by Castro just weeks after the president's January announcement that he was easing the embargo.

Mr. Speaker, I must also report even more disturbing news to my colleagues. I believe we have an administration that is so hellbent on normalizing relations with Cuba that it is willing to overlook allegations of drug-trafficking.

On December 3, 1998, the Colombian National Police seized 7.5 tons of cocaine headed for Cuba, and eventually likely the United States and elsewhere. I have sent investigators down there who were able to put together

the pieces of the puzzle in three days which our government, the ONDCP, DEA, CIA, and White House have either not been willing to do, or worse do not want to put together.

I have a letter from Barry McCaffrey which says there is no evidence that the Castro government is involved in drug-trafficking, ignoring the fact that Castro's brother, Raul, has been under indictment in Miami since the early 1990's for drug-trafficking and racketeering. Also, Ileana de la Guardia, the daughter of executed Cuban Colonel Tony de la Guardia, is currently involved in a court case in France where she alleges that drug trafficking reaches the "highest echelons" of the Cuban government.

What is the problem with this administration when it comes to Fidel Castro? Why does the White House continue to ignore the grim and brutal realities of Castro's dictatorship? I don't know the answer, but I believe it goes beyond a simple disagreement on policy. How we can turn a blind eye to Castro's behavior and even reward him is truly beyond me.

What is obvious is the fact that this White House will do anything to normalize relations with the last dictator in the Western Hemisphere. The White House wants to dilute and then eliminate the Burton-Helms Embargo; the White House is flouting the law, ignoring the will of the American people, and tossing aside four decades of bipartisan agreement on Castro. It is left to us in Congress to do what is right.

Mr. Speaker, I join my fellow cosponsors in support of H. Res. 99. Let's do everything we can to keep the heat on Castro and his gulags. As a Houston Chronicle editorial recently observed, "This is no time to play ball with Fidel Castro."

TRIBUTE TO KATHY ADAMSON

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kathy Adamson, an extraordinary citizen of San Mateo County, California, who will be inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame on Friday, March 26, 1999.

A native of Redwood City, Kathy Adamson has been a foster parent to more than four hundred children ranging in age from newborn to sixteen. Children in her temporary care have included drug exposed infants, shaken babies, toddlers, children with Attention Deficit Disorders, and adolescent girls. Kathy's home became a hospice for terminally ill infants, many of whom died in her loving arms. Since 1995 she has worked with San Mateo County Mental Health as an independent contractor, providing a variety of programs designed to help support parents and children in need. In recognition of her professionalism, her exceptional work and her compassion, Kathy was elected President of the San Mateo County Foster Care Association.

Mr. Speaker, Kathy Adamson is an outstanding woman and I salute her for her remarkable contributions and commitment to our community. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her on being inducted into the San Mateo County Woman's Hall of Fame.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT "PETERBO" BANKHEAD

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to pay tribute in memory of Mr. Robert "Peterbo" Bankhead, who recently passed. He was not only a County Supervisor in my district, the 2nd Congressional District, but also a personal and dear friend to me. It is very hard to effectively portray in a short amount of time to you the true heart, spirit, and countless deeds of Mr. Robert "Peterbo" Bankhead.

Mr. Robert "Peterbo" Bankhead was born on August 30, 1999. He attended Humphreys County High School in Belzoni, Mississippi where he was a member of the first class to graduate from Humphreys County High School. He graduated from Mississippi Valley State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice in 1977. Additionally, he graduated from MATC (Milwaukee Area Technical College) with a degree in the Culinary Arts. He opened Peterbo's Restaurant in 1974 in Isola, Mississippi where it remains today. During the life of Robert Bankhead, he received several social and community awards for his countless hours, and dedication. He was life-time member of Mississippi Valley State Alumni, the Mississippi Restaurant's Association, and served as Beat 1 Supervisor for Humphrey County for two consecutive terms.

Robert will always be remembered as a person willing to go the extra mile. In closing, Mr. Speaker I would like to say that Robert has made a tremendous contribution to the future of America. His work was pivotal and instrumental in the overall success of my 1996 and 1998 campaign. My prayers go out to his family and his contributions will be remembered in Mississippi, specifically the 2nd Congressional District for years to come.

A BLOOMIN' GOOD FAMILY AND THEIR BLOOMIN' GOOD BUSINESS

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, all around Washington the crocuses and forsythia are starting to bloom, and for some it is a daily ritual to see whether or not the famed cherry blossoms have started to hail the true start of spring. The people of Saginaw, Michigan, may not have the same early blooms or the Tidal Basin ritual, but they have something better—McDonald's Nursery which is celebrating its 70th anniversary this week.

Seventy years ago, Dr. Francis J. McDonald, a dentist with a vision for the beauty of nature, started McDonald's Nursery as a hobby. He bought five acres of land off Seidel Road with a 400-year old beech tree on it. He dug a well that to this day supplies water to the nursery, and with his children, Joe, Jim, Mary, Catherine and Tom, he planted trees. Today those trees provide a forty foot tall memorial to his legacy. With his wife Mary, he

moved the family to what would become one of the most famous nurseries in this part of Michigan.

Nursery products were sold out of the front yard at the beginning. During World War II, while sons Joe and Jim served in the military, he expanded the nursery buying more property with an eye towards the growing suburban area. When Joe returned home, a landscape division was started, and then in 1946 a garden store. The seasonal nursery business turned into a Christmas business in 1955, so that it is now a year-round operation with its biggest months in December and May.

Today, McDonald's Nursery has 112 employees and sales of nearly \$4 million. It has gone through thirteen expansions, and now covers 210 acres in Thomas Township, with an 18-acre lake providing irrigation. The McDonald family has made its mark on the Saginaw business community as leaders to be admired and emulated.

Starting from Francis McDonald's hobby, to Tom McDonald telling friends at a Chamber of Commerce dinner that they sell "every bloomin' thing"—a phrase which became the nursery's hallmark, this is a business that we are privileged to have in the Saginaw community. Mr. Speaker, I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in congratulating McDonald's Nursery on its 70th anniversary, and in wishing that their new slogan, "McDonald's Nursery 70 Years and Growing" holds as much promise as the first bloom of spring.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS MERGERS

HON. TOM DeLAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the antitrust division of the Department of Justice for approving the SBC-Ameritech merger. As the telecommunications industry continues to evolve in the aftermath of the Telecommunications Reform Act of 1996, the promise of that act can be fulfilled only if regulatory agencies remove the eye shades of New Deal regulation and begin to view the competitive landscape of tomorrow with a fresh look. This is precisely what the Department has done this week.

However, I was not pleased to learn that, unlike mergers in other competitive industries, telecommunications mergers such as the SBC-Ameritech venture must jump through several hoops before the deal is done. Not only does the Department of Justice conduct its traditional antitrust review, these mergers often must receive the blessing of multiple local and state agencies as well as the Federal Communications Commission. A reasonable person might assume that once the Department of Justice has issued a clean bill of antitrust health for a proposed merger, that venture has passed the smell test. I hope that same reasonable person would share the concern that I have after reading this week that the FCC may hold this merger, and others like it, hostage under some ransom-guided interpretation of the so-called "public interest" standard.

Mr. Speaker, the underlying premise of the Telecommunications Reform Act we passed in the 104th Congress was to break down the ar-

tificial barriers of regulation so that the marketplace would choose the winners and losers in this vital industry. We appear to be a long way from the realization of that promise when regulatory bodies handcuff the invisible hand of our free market system.

I would strongly urge the FCC to follow the lead of the DOJ and quickly approve this merger.

JEROME JANCZAK 1999 PAL JOEY AWARD WINNER

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Jerome "Jerry" Janczak, of Milwaukee, the recipient of the 1999 Pal Joey Award from the St. Joseph Foundation, Incorporated.

Jerry Janczak, a true product of Milwaukee's south side, is the youngest of eleven children born to his Polish immigrant parents. He attended Catholic grade school and high school, where he was an accomplished athlete. Shortly after graduating from high school, Jerry enlisted in the United States Air Force, where he served until 1955. While stationed in Florida, he met his future wife, Grace. They were married in 1954.

Jerry worked for many years as an employee of Milwaukee County, with the House of Corrections, the Sheriff Department and the Probate Court where he remained until his retirement in 1988.

That same year, Jerry was honored by the South Side Business Club as their "Man of the Year" and was given the "Special Award" by the St. Joseph Foundation.

Jerry and Grace have two children, Michael and Thomas, and six grandchildren. Jerry's love of sports and competition, which he passed down to his children, led him to develop a part-time trophy and awards business in 1972, which still operates today. Besides his family and business, Jerry's hobbies include golf, bowling, sheephead and traveling throughout his home state, Wisconsin.

He is active in many civic and religious organizations, including his parish, St. Mary Magdalen, the South Side Business Club, St. Joseph Foundation, the Milwaukee Society Polish National Alliance, Polish Festivals, Inc., and the secret International Mushroom Pickers Society (IMPS.)

Jerry has given valuable time, energy and resources to make Milwaukee's south side and the Polish community stronger and has set a fine example for all to follow. For these reasons, he is truly deserving of the 1999 Pal Joey Award.

Congratulations, Jerry and Grace. Keep up the excellent work. May God continue to bless you and yours.

COMMENDING DR. W.C. WIEDERHOLT

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, For more than a century the Chamorros on Guam have

suffered by Lytico and Bodig. There is hardly a family on the island who has not had a relative die of one of these terrible diseases. During the past 40 years, many researchers have come to Guam to investigate the diseases, and to try and find the cause and subsequent treatment for Lytico and Bodig. One of these researchers is Dr. W.C. Wiederholt who first came to Guam in 1994 at the invitation of Dr. Kurland of the Mayo Clinic. His mission was to complete the mandated functions of the University of Guam/Mayo Grant and to evaluate the possibilities of writing a five-year grant. The University of Guam/Mayo grant activities had gone awry for many reasons, and it appeared as if the research on Lytico and Bodig would once again come to a halt. However, Dr. Wiederholt pressed on undaunted despite the obstacles. He took a sabbatical leave from the University of California at San Diego and remained in Guam for almost six months. He brought the project back on track and provided much needed neurology services. Dr. Wiederholt also conducted some pilot studies to gather data for the new grant application.

Under Dr. Wiederholt's leadership, and with the collaborative efforts of a group of world-renowned neuroscientists, the University of Guam and the University of California at San Diego were awarded a \$10.8 million grant in 1996 to study "Age-related neurodegenerative disease in Micronesia." The project employs nine local people, and provides practical sites for social work and nursing students, as well as internship opportunities for Guam medical students. In addition, the project provides support to students at all grade levels preparing theses or dissertations about Guam's neurodegenerative diseases, aging concerns and caregiver issues.

Under Dr. Wiederholt's guidance, the project has moved into a new dimension and is exploring, among many potential causes, how familial predisposition or susceptibility might interact with environmental factors in causing the disease. It is hoped that through Dr. Wiederholt's research, more effective methods for detection, treatment and ultimately the prevention of this disease will be developed for the benefit of the people of Guam.

Guam has become Dr. Wiederholt's home for at least seven months out of the year. Not only does he make initial diagnoses of neurological diseases and furnishes follow-up services to all patients, he also provides courtesy consultations to Guam's community physicians and the Veterans Affairs Center.

Dr. Wiederholt's dedication to the people of Guam is highly admirable and deserves our sincerest gratitude. On behalf of the people of Guam, I say to you Dr. Weiderholt, Si Yu'os Ma'ase.

IN HONOR OF PAULINE "POLLY" HAMMACK

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I now take this moment to recognize the life and contributions of Pauline "Polly" Hammack. Sadly, Colorado lost this leading citizen earlier this year. While family

and friends remember Polly's remarkable life, I, too, would like to pay tribute to this great American citizen and friend.

Born on June 22, 1919 in Vine, Tennessee, Polly spent most of her professional life as an employee of Denver Dry Goods beginning in the fall of 1966. She would retire as an Assistant Store Manager and Personnel Director 20 years later.

In addition to her distinguished service with Denver Dry Goods, Polly long played an active and leading role in Colorado politics. For many years, Polly has been a familiar and energetic presence on various political campaigns. Most significantly, she was instrumental in President George Bush's presidential campaign efforts both in 1988 and 1996. She also served on the State Board of Republican Women for an extended period of time. In spite of being afflicted by severe illness during the last election cycle, Polly maintained an active role in Colorado politics by way of the telephone. Her commitment to America, even in times of personal ailment, is truly admirable and deeply commendable.

As friends and family remember Polly's remarkable life, I am confident that the pain they feel at her passing will subside. Although all who have had the privilege to know Polly are worse off in her absence, I am hopeful that each will take solace in the knowledge that they are a better person for having known her.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you to Polly for her dedication to America. I am hopeful that her husband Wayne, her children Wayne and Barbara, her grandsons Richard and Douglas, her sister Mildred, and her daughter-in-law Mary will find comfort in this difficult time.

INTRODUCING THE STOCKPILE
STEWARDSHIP RESOLUTION

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution to express the Sense of Congress regarding the direction of the U.S. program to maintain the safety and reliability of the nuclear weapons stockpile in the post-Cold War era.

The Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, which President Clinton signed in 1996, bans all nuclear explosions in order to promote nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation "by constraining the development and qualitative improvement of nuclear weapons and ending the development of advanced new types of nuclear weapons." The treaty requires us to maintain the safety and reliability of our nuclear weapons without explosive tests. It does not require us to spend \$60 million for new submarine warhead designs. It does not require us to spend \$198 million on underground "subcritical" nuclear tests and preparing for banned explosive tests at the Nevada Test Site. It does not require us to spend \$466 million on fusion explosion experiments that could lead to hydrogen bombs that don't need uranium or plutonium, which would be a non-proliferation nightmare. And it certainly does not require us to spend \$5.5 million for a new National Atomic Museum, collocated with the Anderson-Abruzzo International Balloon Museum.

These and other projects are an expensive jobs program for nuclear scientists, in the guise of keeping unneeded weapons design,

testing, and manufacturing capability. They are inconsistent with our commitment to nuclear disarmament in the Nonproliferation Treaty and with the purposes of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Faced with our massive investment in nuclear weapons research, other nations are slowing arms reductions and keeping their own nuclear weapons development programs, thus putting our real security at risk.

The safety and reliability of the nuclear weapons stockpile can be maintained with a more modest program of surveillance of the warheads and occasional remanufacturing when necessary. The resolution I am introducing today expresses support for such a custodianship program that protects our national security without wasting money or providing cover for new nuclear weapons programs that will prolong the Cold War and undermine the unsteady international nuclear non-proliferation regime. The resolution expresses the Sense of Congress that the nuclear weapons stockpile can be maintained with a program that is far smaller, less expensive, and does not require facilities or experiments that are likely to be used for warhead design or development. The resolution thus urges the Secretary of Energy to redirect the program for custodianship of the nuclear weapons arsenal toward less costly and less provocative methods that are consistent with United States treaty obligations.

I hope this resolution will serve as a useful vehicle for educating the Congress and the public about the nature of the current stockpile stewardship program and for promoting consideration of less costly and less destabilizing alternatives. I urge my colleagues to join in co-sponsoring this resolution, and moving towards a more sound nuclear policy.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the Congressional Record on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 25, 1999 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 14

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the published scandals plaguing the Olympics.
SR-253

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on the implementation of welfare reform for Indians.
SR-485

2 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 415, to protect the permanent trust funds of the State of Arizona from erosion due to inflation and modify the basis on which distributions are made from those funds; and S. 607, reauthorize and amend the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992.
SD-366

APRIL 20

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings on S. 25, to provide Coastal Impact Assistance to State and local governments, to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act Amendments of 1978, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act, and the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (commonly referred to as the Pittman-Robertson Act) to establish a fund to meet the outdoor conservation and recreation needs of the American people; S. 446, to provide for the permanent protection of the resources of the United States in the year 2000 and beyond; and S. 532, to provide increased funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Pro-

grams, to resume the funding of the State grants program of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and to provide for the acquisition and development of conservation and recreation facilities and programs in urban areas.
SD-366

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on the implementation of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.
SR-485

APRIL 21

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on S. 401, to provide for business development and trade promotion for native Americans, and for other purposes.
SR-485

Armed Services

Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee

To hold hearings on the readiness of the United States Navy and Marines operating forces.
SR-222

2 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings to review the Memorandum of Understanding signed by multiple agencies regarding the Lewis and Clark bicentennial celebration.
SD-366

APRIL 27

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To resume hearings on S. 25, to provide Coastal Impact Assistance to State and local governments, to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act Amendments of 1978, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act, and the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (commonly referred to as the Pittman-Robertson Act) to establish a fund to meet the outdoor conservation and recreation needs of the American people; S. 446, to provide for the permanent protection of the resources of the United States in the year 2000 and beyond; and S. 532, to provide increased funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Programs, to resume the funding of the State grants program of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and to provide for the acquisition and development of conservation and recreation facilities and programs in urban areas.
SD-366

APRIL 28

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on Bureau of Indian Affairs capacity and mission.
SR-485

MAY 4

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To resume hearings on S. 25, to provide Coastal Impact Assistance to State and local governments, to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act Amendments of 1978, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act, and the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (commonly referred to as the Pittman-Robertson Act) to establish a fund to meet the outdoor conservation and recreation needs of the American people; S. 446, to provide for the permanent protection of the resources of the United States in the year 2000 and beyond; and S. 532, to provide increased funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Programs, to resume the funding of the State grants program of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and to provide for the acquisition and development of conservation and recreation facilities and programs in urban areas.
SD-366

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on Census 2000, implementation in Indian Country.
SR-485

MAY 5

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on Tribal Priority Allocations and Contract Support Costs Report.
SR-485

MAY 6

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the results of the December 1998 plebiscite on Puerto Rico.
SH-216

MAY 12

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on HUBzones implementation.
SR-485

MAY 19

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on S. 614, to provide for regulatory reform in order to encourage investment, business, and economic development with respect to activities conducted on Indian lands.
SR-485

SEPTEMBER 28

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the American Legion.
345 Cannon Building