

THE DAIRY COMPACT—WHY WE  
NEED IT**HON. AMO HOUGHTON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 1999*

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of H.R. 1604, a bill which would allow New York State farmers to join the New England Dairy Compact. The compact is not a panacea for dairy problems, but it is a start.

There are those who argue against it—too restrictive, anti-competitive, will increase milk prices. Despite the nay-sayers, there are many reasons to support this compact, and I support it. There are cultural reasons, economic reasons, and an overriding consideration: our own farmers want it.

The current compact in New England was established about two years ago. It provides dairy farmers with a steady, predictable floor price for their milk. And that is important. Dairy farmers for the most part live so close to the line that mild gyrations in the price they receive can be lethal.

How would anyone like to run a business where the price of your product in one day can drop 40% and you have no control over it. Your product, your quality, your service is better than ever. Through non-economic sources beyond your control your whole business stands on the brink of destitution. 5,600 New York dairy farms went that route in the last ten years.

There are three groups opposed to this life-saving compact.

First, the large Midwestern producers who in effect control through government orders the floor price of liquid milk and cheese.

Second, the big city political powers who claim that a compact to stabilize prices will at the same time increase prices to the poor. This has been disproved over and over again.

Third, the middle men—those who handle, package and distribute the raw milk before it reaches retail consumers. While the farmer receives the same price for his milk on average as he did 20 years ago—this guy has jacked up the price to the consumer in this same period by 35%.

Everyone has a right to fight for his or her economic interests, but not using the government as an accomplice, and not at the expense of those who milk the cows and produce the basic product. Something is terribly wrong when downstream interests enrich only themselves and prey on the vulnerability of smaller family farms. These plus others hold in their hands the ability to drive an important part of our heritage as well as our food supply to the wall.

If government is for anything it is to protect those who can't protect themselves. This is why I, along with others, am fighting for a multi-state Dairy Compact.

The dairy business could soon be dominated by mega-farms whose only claimed advantage is an economy of scale. That's not sufficient reason to muscle out others of lesser size whose costs are similar, but whose deep pockets are not. If the federal government is going to be in the dairy business at all, it better try to serve the many, not the few.

Is a compact the answer to all the problems in our dairy industry? Of course not. But it will help preserve our family producers until a more permanent solution can evolve.

So, the way I see it, a compact benefits farmers and consumers. That's why I will fight for its passage.

## HONORING CECILE HERSHON

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 1999*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize and honor the accomplishments of a truly remarkable woman. On May 5, members of the Flint, Michigan, Northern High School Alumni Association will gather to honor five Distinguished Fellows, members of their alumni community who have contributed to legacy and rich history of Northern High School, and of Flint. One Distinguished Fellow to be honored is the late Ms. Cecile Hershon.

Born in Lansing, Michigan in 1920, Cecile Hershon and her family eventually moved to Flint, where she graduated from Northern High School in 1938. In 1944, Cecile was recruited by the United States Army and began her long military career as a civilian clerk in Arlington, Virginia. From there she went on to become a part of the newly merged Army and Navy Signal Services, first known as the Armed Forces Security Agency as is currently what we know as the National Security Agency.

Cecile began to further her career with the National Security Agency, becoming adept as intelligence research, analysis, and reporting, and soon became an exceptional cryptographer. She later accepted an overseas position where she continued to perfect her skills, allowing her to function in a variety of supervisory and management positions. Throughout her career, which spanned an incomparable 42 years, Cecile received numerous honors and commendations, including one of the agency's highest honors, the National Meritorious Civilian Service Award in 1986. Cecile also became involved in WIN—Women in NSA, an organization dedicated to increasing personal growth and development among both men and women within the NSA. As a member of WIN, Cecile was honored with their President's Award on two separate occasions. She was also the first recipient of WIN's Dorothy T. Blum Award for excellence in personal and professional development.

In addition to being a model employee, Cecile was an ardent humanitarian as well. She was constantly found extending a helping hand to friends, colleagues, and sometimes mere acquaintances, sometimes at her own personal or professional expense, and with no thought of personal gain. Countless members of the NSA and the military attribute their success to Cecile's support and encouragement. There have been many accounts of people who were convinced by Cecile to remain in the NSA, complete their education, and honor familial obligations. Indeed, many of our military are better soldiers due to the influence of Cecile Hershon.

Mr. Speaker, Cecile Hershon lived her life in a truly selfless and benevolent manner, and it goes without saying that her influence extends even to this day. Her life's work, serving her country for so long as a civilian, is commanding of the highest respect.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO HONOR WORLD WAR II'S FIRST HERO, CAPTAIN COLIN P. KELLY, JR.

**HON. ALLEN BOYD**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 1999*

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced a bill to honor World War II's first hero, and fellow Floridian, by designating the post office building in Madison, Florida the Captain Colin P. Kelly, Jr. Post Office.

Colin Kelly was born in Monticello, Florida on July 11, 1915. Raised in Madison, Florida he attended Madison High School until his graduation in 1932. In the summer of 1933, Kelly entered West Point, and after graduation in 1937 he was assigned to flight school and a B-17 group.

At the outbreak of WWII, Capt. Kelly, along with other B-17 crews, was ordered to Clark Field, the Philippines. Shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Capt. Kelly and his crew were ordered on a bombing mission to attack the Japanese fleet. After completing their bombing run, Capt. Kelly's plane was attacked by two Japanese fighters while returning to Clark Field. Kelly gave the order to abandon the aircraft but remained at the controls to maintain the plane's elevation so his crew could safely bail out. He did not have time to make his escape and was killed in the line of duty on December 10, 1941.

According to Major Kenneth Gantz in a memo for General William Hall dated November 21, 1945, "Kelly became a hero by circumstances at the time when his country desperately needed a hero." Indeed, Kelly was featured in many popular publications of the day and is often considered America's first hero of WWII. In addition, President Roosevelt awarded Capt. Kelly the Distinguished Service Cross posthumously for his actions.

The designation of the post office in his hometown of Madison as the Capt. Colin P. Kelly, Jr. Post Office seems a fitting tribute to this patriot, his family, and his legacy. I am proud to honor this American hero.

HONORING TEACHERS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE RONALD W. POPLAU

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 1999*

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of my constituents to honor Ronald W. Poplau, a sociology teacher at Shawnee Mission Northwest High School in Shawnee, KS, and one of only five teachers in the nation to be inducted this year into the National Teachers Hall of Fame.

Students and administrators who have worked with Ron Poplau have known for many years that he is one of the finest the field of professional education has to offer. For over 35 years, Ron Poplau has dedicated himself to giving students the tools they need not only to find their way in civil society, but to thrive.

Like many Americans, Ron Poplau has drawn inspiration from his family. Ron's father