

[In millions of dollars]

Committee	Direct spending jurisdiction		Entitlements funded in annual appropriations acts	
	Budget authority	Outlays	Budget authority	Outlays
Energy and Natural Resources	2,185	2,163	40	39
Environmental and Public Works	28,591	1,365	0	0
Finance	694,516	688,064	146,033	146,926
Foreign Relations	10,908	12,141	0	0
Governmental Affairs	58,113	57,036	0	0
Judiciary	4,954	4,528	231	232
Labor and Human Resources	8,000	7,525	1,328	1,328
Rules and Administration	93	56	0	0
Veterans' Affairs	1,204	1,428	22,629	22,536
Indian Affairs	492	485	0	0
Small Business	0	(220)	0	0
Unassigned to Committee	(303,086)	(294,966)	0	0
Total	1,452,512	1,411,334	188,216	180,922

RECOGNITION OF KAREN MIKOLASY—WASHINGTON STATE TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, "Teacher"—Webster's defines a teacher as one who "imparts knowledge of or skill in" a particular subject matter. Teaching, of course, extends far beyond that clinical definition. Many teachers bring passion and dedication to their work that often reaches outside the classroom as teachers serve as mentors, coaches, advisors and friends to their students. Each of us can remember a teacher who inspired us, motivated us, even changed our lives.

The students at Shorecrest High School in Washington state have just such a teacher. Karen Mikolasy has taught for 28 years with passion for her students and for her work. She emphasizes consistency and standards. In Mrs. Mikolasy's class homework is handed in on time and papers are rewritten until they earn at least a B. That consistency in expectations also carries over to consistent positive reinforcement to her students—she tells them daily that it is a privilege to be their teacher. She says that in 28 years, not one day has gone by which she hasn't wanted to be in the classroom with her students.

I was honored to meet Mrs. Mikolasy a few weeks ago in my office while she was in DC to be recognized as the Washington State Teacher of the Year. In the few minutes I met with her, I understood why she won this honor. Her passion and commitment to educating and inspiring young people was clear. The words of her students however, are probably the best tribute.

One student characterized Mrs. Mikolasy this way: "... she teased, she nagged, fumed, roared, tested and laughed. She turned us into real readers. She led us through worlds both familiar and foreign. There are still rumors that hint at her unwavering stance in class, but one legend should not be overlooked for forgotten. Mrs. Mikolasy is and always will be a masterful teacher."

Mrs. Mikolasy also tells a story about a package she received one day from a former student who is now a lawyer. The package, in which was a Mont Blanc pen, also included a note:

"Dear teacher, big case, won lots of bucks! Won case because of writing. You taught writing: you get pen. I did writing: I get money. Spend money. Money gone? Do more writing, get more money. Writing not work, maybe I come get another writing lesson." It is said that while most Americans spend their living building careers, teachers spend their careers building lives. That certainly seems to be the case with Karen Mikolasy.

So today I recognize Karen Mikolasy with the Innovation in Education Award. This is an award I give out each week to recognize people who make a difference in our local communities. It is based on the common-sense idea, that it is parents and educators who look our children in the eyes every day who know best how to educate them. Karen Mikolasy is most deserving of this award.

Last night another experience made clear to me the impact teachers can have on their students. I attended an awards dinner for the "We the People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution" program. The program encourages junior high and high school students to study the constitution by developing competitive teams at each school. Each team has a teacher as a coach. Last night each teacher was recognized. There were no fewer than 1200 students giving their teachers standing ovations and cheering in appreciation of their efforts.

I also like to recognize all of the teachers in Washington state, who demonstrate their passion for teaching and for kids every day in the classroom. Today and the balance of this week is set aside to honor and celebrate teachers. I know that all of my colleagues will join me in recognizing our wonderful teachers across the nation.

RECOGNITION OF THE WASHINGTON STATE CHAMPIONS OF THE "WE THE PEOPLE . . . THE CITIZEN'S AND THE CONSTITUTION" COMPETITION

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, this week's Innovation in Education Award recipient is an award winning class from Tahoma High School in Maple

Valley, Washington. Earlier this year 29 exceptional students from Tahoma High School in Washington state won Washington state's competition testing their knowledge of the Constitution. As a result of that victory, this past weekend they were in Washington, D.C. to participate in the national finals of the "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" program.

The "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" program, administered by the Center for Civic Education, provides our elementary and secondary students a strong foundation in the history and philosophical underpinnings of the Constitution. That foundation ultimately promotes a sense of civic responsibility in these students and provides them with the means to act effectively within a democratic society.

The final activity in this program, which took place April 30-May 3, is a simulated congressional hearing in which students "testify" before a panel of judges. Students demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of constitutional principles and have opportunities to evaluate, take, and defend positions on relevant historical and contemporary issues. I am happy to announce that I attended last night's award ceremony which the Tahoma High team won a regional award.

I am proud of the achievement of these students and am happy to recognize them. They are Adam Baldrige, Mary Basinger, Josh Bodily, Sydney Brumbach, Katie Carder, Erica Chavez, Elizabeth Dauenhauer, Steven Dekoker, Meaghan Denney, Nathan Dill, Marisa Dorazio, Jesse Duncan, Jayson Hart, Jon Hallstrom, Carolyn Hott, Daniel Linder, Casey Lineberger, Clark Lundberg, Karrie Pilgrim, Michael Pirog, David Rosales, Jason Shinn, Jeremy Sloan, Justin Sly, Donny Trieu, Orianna Tucker, Jessica Walker, Raymond Williams, and Elizabeth Zaleski. I also recognize Kathy Hand, the Washington state coordinator for the "We the People . . ." program, and Kristy Ulrich, the district coordinator.

Finally, I applaud Mark Oglesby and his assistant Stephanie Galloway, the teachers who have led their Tahoma High School class to this national competition, and have taught the past four