

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE COURTS THWART THE EPA'S POWER GRAB

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, many of us voiced serious concern when the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approved strict new NAAQS standards affecting ozone and particulate matter levels. We warned that EPA was not basing the standards on good science, and indeed questioned whether the agency was running amok. This issue was of particular importance in my home state of Ohio, which faced billions of dollars in compliance costs with little prospect of any real benefit to human health and the environment. In a vindication, these rules have now been overturned by an appeals court. I commend the following Wall Street Journal article to the attention of my colleagues.

THE COURTS THWART THE EPA'S POWER GRAB
(By C. Boyden Gray and Alan Charles Raul)

Last week a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia threw out the Environmental Protection Agency's sweeping ozone and particulate-matter rules. Citing a doctrine known as "nondelegation," the judges held that the EPA was exercising too much power, effectively making rather than enforcing the law. The decision could have far-reaching implications for all government rulemaking, but it should not have come as a shock. The EPA's usurpation of legislative power has provoked significant controversy in recent years, and the only surprise is how long it took for the courts to bring it under control.

Contrary to much prevailing opinion among both journalists and lawyers, the nondelegation doctrine is not some arcane, obscure and benighted legal relic of the pre-New Deal era. The doctrine has been alive and well, serving primarily as a canon of judicial construction to save otherwise overly broad statutory grants or agency claims of legislative authority from being held unconstitutional.

The most important regulatory example of the doctrine's use was in the Supreme Court's 1980 decision *Industrial Union Department v. American Petroleum Institute*, which involved the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's regulation of benzene. The court was faced with a claim that OSHA has untrammelled discretion to choose any regulatory policy in the spectrum between not regulating at all and imposing rules so stringent that they take an industry to the brink of economic ruin. The justices used the nondelegation doctrine essentially to rewrite the statute, limiting OSHA to regulation of "significant" risks. A decade later, the D.C. Circuit, in the so-called "lock-out, tag-out" decisions written by Judge Stephen Williams (who wrote last week's EPA decision as well), invoked the doctrine and the benzene decision to place additional limits on OSHA.

An accident of timing allowed the EPA to escape these constraints for nearly two decades and retain its license to choose between

doing nothing at all and shutting down an industry. The governing case (*Lead Industries Association v. EPA*) gave the EPA this broad power because it was issued by the D.C. Circuit five days before the Supreme Court's benzene decision, and thus was unaffected by the latter ruling. But it was only a matter of time before the EPA's power would collide with the Supreme Court's limitations.

For those subject to the EPA's unchecked authority, the day of reckoning came none too soon. EPA issued these rules in July 1997 despite:

Its science advisory board's admonition that the new ozone rule did not deal with any new significant risk not already addressed by the rule it replaced.

The board's inability to identify any proper level of fine particulate matter to regulate.

Universal recognition that extensive research was necessary to develop any implementing regulations for particulate matter.

Unrebutted evidence that the ozone rule could cause more public health harm than good.

Unconstrained by any coherent principle, the rules were the ultimate example of legislative horse trading. The EPA declared that in order to defuse some political opposition, it was going to exempt or favor its political allies, such as farmers, certain small business, and that section of the country (the Northeast) that provided political support for the rules. "The new rules do not reflect the inescapable result of the available science, but simply the judgment of a political appointee," said Rep. John Dingell (D., Mich.), one of the principal architects of the Clean Air Act.

The D.C. Circuit's decision to overturn these rules is not inherently anti-environmental. It leaves the EPA with considerable power to decide how much environmental protection the country needs. The court simply said the EPA is not omnipotent. Its power must be limited by "intelligible principles" that Congress incorporated into the Clean Air Act. The representatives who face the voters' music must call the agency's tune.

This decision does nothing to impair the EPA's implementation of Congress's explicit directives in the 1990 amendments to the Clean Air Act, such as its recent auto and gasoline rules. The real question is whether future policy will be set by Congress or the unelected managers of the EPA. At present, EPA has presented no reason for going beyond the provisions of the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments, which the agency has not yet fully implemented. EPA's backdoor efforts to regulate green-house gases will also come in for closer constitutional scrutiny. Without express congressional authorization to address "global warming," the agency should not be deciding for itself how to do so.

The dissenting opinion in the D.C. Circuit decision closed with the observation that if the states had difficulty implementing the new EPA standards, they could go back to Congress and ask for repeal. But this formulation turns the Constitution on its head. It's not Congress's job to review EPA initiatives, but rather the EPA's job to carry out congressional initiatives. And it's the courts' role to keep the other players honest.

CONGRATULATING THE MEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM OF BYU

HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, on May 8, 1999 in Los Angeles, Brigham Young University won its first-ever NCAA men's volleyball title in their first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance. They finished the season with a record of 30-1, suffering their only loss to Long Beach State whom they beat in the finals. Joining Penn State, BYU became the second non-California team to win the Championship.

BYU men's volleyball program began NCAA competition in 1990, headed by current coach Carl McGown. Initially struggling through some difficult seasons, they quickly rose to ardently compete with traditionally strong California teams. They deftly handled big name schools like UCLA, USC, Pepperdine, and UCSB.

I congratulate the fine athletes, coaches, and trainers who comprise the BYU men's volleyball program. Their dedication, endurance, and commitment are examples to all who seek lofty, worthwhile goals.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT OF OTTAWA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer congratulations to the Music Department of Ottawa Township High School of Ottawa, IL, for the remarkable achievement of winning the Illinois State Championship in Music competition for the third consecutive year.

For nearly the past two decades, the Ottawa Township High School Music Department has dominated the Illinois High School Association music competition by finishing in the top three places fourteen times and never lower than ninth place. On only four occasions in the history of the music competition have schools compiled more than 1,000 points. Two of these four 1,000-plus point finishes belong to Ottawa Township High School. The Ottawa Township High School Music Department also holds the State record for most points earned in the Illinois High School Association Solo and Ensemble contest.

Clearly, Ottawa Township High School offers its students and community many outstanding music education opportunities. Currently, 270 students take advantage of these opportunities by participating in Concert Choir, Treble Choir, Freshman Girls Choir, Symphonic Band, Jazz Choir, and Jazz Band.

Special congratulations must be offered to Mr. Roger Amm, Vocal Music Director, and to Ms. Sarah Reckmeyer, Director of Bands.

• 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.

Their hard work, commitment, and leadership have undoubtedly played a major role in building the statewide dominance of Ottawa Township High School's Music Department.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I am proud and pleased to be able to offer to my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives the example of Ottawa Township High School as an educational institution where excellence in the fine arts is strongly encouraged. From its outstanding music program to its incredible, multi-million-dollar collection of artwork on display throughout the school building to its vibrant 25 year old annual music festival, Ottawa Township High School provides its fortunate students with an all too rare appreciation of the fine arts.

REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS OF OUR SELECTED RESERVISTS

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, the activation and deployment of uniformed service members to the Balkans area has generated numerous inquiries about the reemployment rights of members of the National Guard and Reserves who are required to leave a position of employment to answer a call to duty.

I hope the following explanation will provide all of my colleagues some basic information on the law that provides these rights and guidance on what a constituent who might contact you concerning this issue can do to receive more information and assistance.

The job entitlements of our citizen-soldiers are provided by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) of 1994, at 38 U.S. Code, Section 4310-4333. The Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) of the Department of Labor administers and enforces USERRA.

USERRA provides that a person be promptly reemployed following completion of qualifying military service. The position to which the person is entitled is essentially the position he or she would have attained had the military absence not occurred. To be eligible for reemployment rights, the person must generally give the employer prior notice of the military duty and the employee must have received a discharge from the military that is not punitive in nature. For example, an honorable discharge would qualify, but not a dishonorable or bad conduct discharge. There is a cumulative 5-year limit of military service after which an employer is not obliged to reemploy a returning service member. There are important exceptions to the 5-year limit, including voluntary duty in support of an emergency situation or war, involuntary callups for operational missions or contingencies, and required training of National Guard and Reserve members.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Labor's Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS) maintains a website on the Internet that contains USERRA information designed to help protected persons and employers understand the law. The "USERRA Advisor" can be found on the VETS home page at www.dol.gov/dol/vets. VETS also has offices in each of the States that can provide information and assistance for your constituents as

well as your District office staff members. VETS offices are listed in the Blue Pages of local telephone directories under the U.S. Department of Labor.

CONGRATULATING THE ANNAPOLIS (MD) CAPITAL FOR BEING NAMED "NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR"

HON. WAYNE T. GILCREST

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. GILCREST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of Maryland's finest newspapers, the Annapolis Capital. The Capital was recently named "Newspaper of the Year" by the Maryland-Delaware-D.C. Press Association. This prestigious award goes to the newspaper which has received the most awards for any newspaper in its category, and this year, Mr. Speaker, the Capital was honored with 22 separate awards for outstanding work.

Under the leadership of their executive editor, Edward D. Casey, the staff at the Capital collected 21 awards for photos, articles, page designs, and graphics published in 1998. These awards are given by their peers, Mr. Speaker, and the message this year was loud and clear: The Capital consistently delivers a quality product with outstanding coverage of its community.

Among the award winners was Eric Smith, the Capital's own talented editorial cartoonist. He won first place for an editorial cartoon which I am happy to report, Mr. Speaker, was not about me. Mr. Smith spent a day with me in Washington several years ago to find out what members of Congress do on a daily basis, and I'm happy to report, has not given up his day job yet. Mr. Smith also won second place for a column he wrote.

David Brown won first place for spot news for a story he wrote on a Navy flier from Annapolis who was killed on an aircraft carrier. Nicole Gaudiano won second place for spot news for a story on a shooting death. Christopher Munsey captured second place for general news for his story on a body police could not identify.

The staff as a whole won second place for continuing coverage on the Whitbread Race, the prestigious yacht race which came to Annapolis last year. Staff members that shared that award included: Bill Wagner, Jeff Nelson, Scott Haring, Christopher Munsey, Denise Murray, Kristin Hussey, Gerry Jackson, David Trozza, George N. Lundskow, Bob Gilbert, Mark M. Odell, and Christopher B. Corder.

Reporter Jeff Nelson won first place for investigative reporting for his story on bonuses given to county employees. Sara Marsh won second place in this category for her probe of the legal problems of an election candidate.

Mary Allen won first place in state government reporting for her story on the law that allowed the marriage of a 13-year-old girl. Theresa Winslow won second place in the public service category for her consumer story on the cost of funerals.

In the photography category, the Capital has consistently delivered its readers some of the most beautiful photographs capturing incredible joy sorrow and every moment in between.

Bob Gilbert won second place for a photo series of a heart transplant operation. David Trozzo won first place for general news photo with a photo depicting a tribute to a shooting victim. Christopher B. Corder won first place for sports photo with a photo of a baseball play.

John McNamara won second place for a sports column, and Mary Grace Gallagher won first place for a medical/science story on a heart transplant. She also captured second place for business/economic news for a story on choosing new employees.

The staff won first place for Page One design for a Sunday Capital layout of a heart transplant patient. That award was shared by Scott and Loretta Haring, Denise Murray, Bob Gilbert, and Mary Grace Gallagher. Scott Haring also won first place for feature/news page design for his layout of the Naval Academy graduation.

Andra Baumgardt won second place for feature/news page design for her layout of an Entertainment cover featuring the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra. And Denise Murray won second place for information graphics/general for her graphic on Inner West Street.

And finally, Mr. Speaker, The Capital was awarded the first-ever "Freedom of Information Award" by the Maryland-Delaware-D.C. Press Association. This award was given to the newspaper for its diligence and persistence in seeking the truth. The Capital, with the leadership of Managing Editor Tom Marquardt, has a long history of holding public officials accountable to the voters they represent, and it's a tradition I respect. Newspapers have an obligation to inform the public of the activities of their public officials, and I'm glad the Capital takes its obligation seriously.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent the great city of Annapolis in Congress, and I am equally proud that my Congressional District is served so well by an outstanding newspaper that has received overdue recognition from its peers. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating The Annapolis Capital on being named the 1998 Newspaper of the Year by the Maryland-Delaware-D.C. Press Association.

THE 1999 POLICE UNITY TOUR, COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY TO WASHINGTON, DC

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the participants of the 1999 Policy Unity Tour on the successful completion of their tour and for their donation of close to \$54,000 to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial this year.

On Saturday, May 8th I had the pleasure of participating in the ceremonies to send off the 55 participants as they began the long bicycle journey from Madison, New Jersey to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC in an effort to raise funds for the memorial. The memorial was established by an Act of Congress in October, 1984.

The Police Unity Tour was the brainchild of two Madison and Florham Park police officers who organized the first bike tour three years

ago: Frank Wulff and Patrick Montuore. Mr. Speaker, I would like to list each of the participants for the official record.

Frank Wulff	Michael Francis
Ed Lincoln	Dave Barber
Jane Recktenwald	Pat Montuore
Paul Kosakowski	Brian Rabbitt
Steve Carpenter	Carmine DeCaro
Charlie Bryant	Lenny George
Jerry Mantone	Mark Meehan
Constantine Sedares	Dave Tyms
Bill Yirce	Rich Schultz
Steve Ambrose	Mark Stallone
Steve Donnelly	Phil Crosson
Lenny Gigantino	Paul Bogert
Paul Boegershausen	Bill Pollock
Paul Kay	Fred Freeman
Rick Staeger	John Sria
John Carter	Bob Barr
Hernandez Thomas	Harry Phillips
Tom Barbella	Ed Mitchko
Tommy Downs	Debbie Baker
Karen Sullivan	Brian Markt
Emma Swearingen	Lou DeMeo
Paul Fortunato	Marc Hecht
Bob Cimino	Jimmy Waldron
Lee Scarano	Scott Smarsh
Pete Egan	Robert Fortunato
Pete Nienstadt	Bobby Montuore

Two support drivers, Patti Wulff and Jennifer Montuore assisted these riders.

I was present at the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial on Tuesday, May 11, when the participants reached their destination and were greeted by friends and family. Participants hailed from police forces in Madison, Chatham, Millburn, Livingston, Fair Lawn, West Orange, Union, Woodbridge, Maplewood, Denville, Margate, Florham Park, Morristown, Berkeley Heights, Franklin Township, Newark, Caldwell, NJIT, the NJ State Police, and the Essex County Prosecutors Office.

Mr. Speaker, over the last three years, the Police Unity Tour has raised over \$122,000 for the memorial, making it the top sponsor in the Nation. The effort of these men and women who rode their bikes from New Jersey to Washington, DC to raise money for the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial pays tribute to those who put their lives on the line everyday—and those who have paid with their lives—so that our streets are safer, and our families more secure. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on their dedication and in wishing them success for many years to come.

A WORRIED GRANDFATHER

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I recently had the pleasure of introducing one of my constituents, Dr. Fred Mathews, at a hearing of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations. Dr. Mathews had been invited to speak on behalf of the Neurofibromatosis Foundation in support of increased funding for this often devastating disease.

It is a privilege to know Dr. Mathews and count him as a friend. In addition to his 47 years of practicing optometry in Dowagiac, MI, he has devoted his talents and energy to improving the quality of life in his community and expanding education opportunities and excel-

lence in our state. When he learned that his lovely young granddaughter, Allison, was afflicted with neurofibromatosis, he took on the most important fight of his life—the fight for a cure for this disease for Allison and for the at least 100,000 others who have this neurological disorder. His testimony before the subcommittee was eloquent, and I would like today to submit it to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD so that others may see the urgency of the need to find a cure. Dr. Mathews' testimony follows:

A WORRIED GRANDFATHER

Thank you Congressman Upton and thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the committee for allowing me to testify. I am Fred Mathews, a constituent of Congressman Upton from Southwestern Michigan.

I am here today because my beautiful granddaughter Allison has Neurofibromatosis, a not so rare and devastating genetic disorder. In 1994 Allison was four years old when I first asked her parents about some spots on her skin. I had assumed these were simple birthmarks. This was the first time her parents shared with me that she had Neurofibromatosis, or abbreviated called NF. Up until then we had been shielded from the terrible truth.

I am an optometrist in a small town in southwest Michigan. I have practiced there for 47 years. Even though I am not a medical doctor I have better than a layman's knowledge of general medical problems. However, I had never heard of NF.

Immediately I began to research NF. I called research centers. I called the National Institutes of Health. I linked up with the National Neurofibromatosis Foundation. My testimony today has the blessing of that fine organization.

There is no way to describe the despair and hopelessness that families experience when faced with the fact that a child or grandchild has an incurable disease. My research left my wife and me panic-stricken. Here is a short version of what my research revealed.

NF is the most common neurological disorder caused by a single gene. At least 100,000 Americans have NF. This makes NF more prevalent than Cystic Fibrosis, hereditary muscular dystrophy, Huntington's Disease and Tay Sachs combined.

NF causes tumors to grow anywhere on or in the body. NF can lead to disfigurement, blindness, deafness, skeletal abnormalities, dermal, brain and spinal tumors, loss of limbs, malignancies and learning disabilities. The terrible disfigurement is why NF has erroneously been confused with the so called "elephant man" disease.

NF affects both genders, all races and ethnic groups equally. NF research in 1994 (when I first learned of my granddaughter's problem) had begun about 9 years earlier by the National NF Foundation. The gene causing NF had just been discovered.

My personal research did reveal some good news for my family and me. My granddaughter has the NF1 gene rather than the NF2 gene. With the NF2 gene the tumors and other bizarre disorders can start soon after birth. NF1 however, which my granddaughter has, sometimes does not manifest serious problems until puberty or beyond.

I also learned from Peter Bellermann, President of the National NF Foundation, and the world's greatest crusader to find a cure for NF, that researchers were hopeful of finding a cure in 10-15 years. Simple mathematics told me that this might be too late for my granddaughter and thousands of kids like her who were living with this time bomb.

I also learned that researchers believed that the projected time for a cure could pos-

sibly be cut in half if more research dollars were available.

I am grateful that this Committee and the Congress did respond to our plea and did appropriate significant new funds for NF research. In 1995 Chairman Porter also added language to the Appropriations Bill which expressed to NIH the commitment of this Committee for accelerated NF research.

Because of this Committee, the Congress, the NIH, the National NF Foundation and many dedicated researchers, our Allison who is now 9 years old, has a chance to avoid the ravages of NF. We are thankful and hopeful but still very apprehensive. The time clock is still running rapidly. Research has been extremely successful but has a long way to go to find a cure.

The National NF Foundation and I urge that the language which has been in the Appropriations Bill for the past four years, expressing this Committee's commitment to NF research, be in the FY 2000 bill.

I am grateful for the courtesy members of this committee and other members of congress and their staffs have shown Peter Bellermann and me these past few years. Some of you have my granddaughter's picture in your office.

In my opinion, no expenditure by the Federal Government is more rewarding, more needed, and more appropriate than research for dread diseases including NF. As a grandfather of a little girl with one of these dread diseases, I feel anxiety, frustration but also hope knowing that the timetable for a cure of NF and other diseases is almost solely dependent on the willingness of the Congress to recognize medical research as its #1 priority. That is why Mr. Chairman we strongly support a significant increase in funding for the National Institutes of Health medical research. With the NIH as the quarterback, the greatest hope we have for finding a cure for NF and all other dread diseases, lies with this Committee and the NIH.

Since my allotted time is up Mr. Chairman, I respectfully request permission to extend my remarks in the written testimony I will leave with the Committee.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, on behalf of the National Neurofibromatosis Foundation, as well as the thousands of children and adults with NF, I thank you and my Allison thanks you.

EXTENDED TESTIMONY OF DR. FRED L.

MATHEWS

APRIL 29, 1999

I am pleased and proud that NF research has been pointed out to be a model for "Managing Science." It represents an effective partnership between public agencies, most notably the U.S. Congress and the National Institutes of Health, private organizations and the National Neurofibromatosis Foundation and scientists and clinical researchers in the field who have achieved their progress by consensus and by collaborating to a remarkable degree. To use the vernacular, NF research has given a "good bang for the buck" to all who have invested in it.

NF research has significant potential for other very large patient populations. Since the NF genes have been implicated in the signaling process that determines cell growth and cell differentiation, NF research also has great promise for the tens of millions of Americans with malignancies.

NF also causes learning disabilities at about five to six times the frequency found in the general population. Work in that aspect of NF research therefore has considerable potential for the estimated 30 million Americans who are learning disabled.

Given the wide variety of symptoms of NF, I understand that you Mr. Chairman and the

Committee have urged those involved in NF research to foster collaborative efforts between and among the various initiatives at the NIH under whose purview these manifestations fall. Peter Bellermann, President of the National NF Foundation has informed me that these efforts are taking place and that "Cross-Institute" activities are a reality.

NF has the attention at the highest level of the NIH beginning with the Director Dr. Varmus. It extends to the Institute heads, especially Dr. Gerald Fischbach at NINDS and to Dr. Richard Klausner at the National Cancer Institute. These progressive officers work at continuing the cross-institute efforts, participate in scientific meetings of NF, and advise other funding agencies to avoid duplication of funding.

NF has been a success story for research for all who have invested in it. True success will, however, come only when a cure is found and real people like my granddaughter can look forward to happy lives, free of NF's terrible consequences. We now have to go the next hard miles. Researchers now stand ready to translate basic scientific knowledge into clinical application. The next agenda includes continued work in basic research, starting comprehensive natural history studies for NF and beginning the all important process of clinical trials with innovative approaches. We all pray that this will lead to an effective treatment for NF.

In closing, I would be remiss if I did not thank my Congressman Fred Upton and his staff person Jane Williams for their very special help and support. We are also very appreciative of the longtime support Congressman Murtha has given NF funding. And a special thanks to you, Chairman Porter, who in 1995 took time from your busy schedule to meet personally with Peter Bellermann and me so that we could tell you of the urgent need for accelerated NF funding. Your ongoing support since then has been tremendously helpful. To the members of this Committee who have supported us in this critical effort, we also offer another thank you.

COMMENDING BRIGHAM YOUNG
UNIVERSITY

HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the efforts of Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, in their unending journey to better relations around the world. Brigham Young University in Provo, UT sends various groups from their Performing Arts department throughout the world to better the University's ties, which in turn improves U.S. foreign relations.

On May 18th, BYU's Young Ambassadors, Ballroom Dance team, and Folk Dance Ensemble returned from a tour of the South Pacific commemorating the 20th anniversary of their first visit to China.

Throughout the past twenty years, BYU has established a name for itself in China and is currently very well regarded by its people. I am very proud to represent the students and faculty members of BYU. They are a model to us all as we work to create a global society of culture, heritage and peace.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PUBLIC
APPEALS PARITY ACT

HON. JAMES V. HANSEN

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to introduce the Public Appeals Parity Act of 1999. This Act is needed so that the general public, who have legitimate interests in federal land management decisions, has an avenue to appeal certain decisions made by the National Park Service and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Currently, no such appeals system exists within these two federal agencies and the public's only recourse for relief is through the court system.

The idea of an internal agency appeal system is not new. Right now, two other primary federal land management agencies, the United States Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management have an administrative process whereby the public can appeal certain decisions in regard to land management decisions made by these agencies. This Act would initiate a similar administrative appeal process for the public in regard to decisions made by the National Park Service and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. The Secretary of the Interior would be directed to establish procedures for an appeals process for the Park Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service which will afford the public, prior to the implementation of the project, activity, or plan, an opportunity to appeal decisions made by these agencies in regard to land and resource management decisions which occur in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

The regulations developed by the Secretary of the Interior per this Act would mirror those already established for the U.S. Forest Service and would include such things as the type of decisions that may be appealed, who may appeal decisions, the procedures that apply to appealing the decision, and other important steps which the public could follow.

This Act is fair, is not precedent setting, and levels the playing field so that the public has an avenue to appeal decisions made by federal agencies rather than to take them to court. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and support the Public Appeals Parity Act of 1999.

BRETT SHARPE NAMED ALL-
AMERICAN SCHOLAR AND
UNITED STATES NATIONAL
AWARD IN LEADERSHIP AND
SERVICE

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commend an outstanding Colorado high school student and leader. This Spring, Brett Sharpe of Haxtun High School in Haxtun, Colorado, was named an All-American Scholar and a United States National Award in Leadership and Service.

The United States Achievement Academy presents the All-American Scholar Award to those students demonstrating exceptional aca-

demic discipline. Scholars must receive a grade-point average of 3.3 or higher and be selected by a school instructor or counselor.

The National Award in Leadership and Service is presented only to a select group of students nationwide. Recipients must demonstrate outstanding scholastics, leadership and student service throughout their high school years.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to congratulate Brett Sharpe for his truly remarkable scholastic, service, and leadership abilities. With confidence, I look forward to his future contributions in America.

A TRIBUTE TO MEMBERS OF THE
GREENPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT
FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in this hallowed chamber to pay tribute to three members of the Star Hose Co. #3 of the Greenport Fire Department and to join the volunteer firefighters, emergency medical personnel and grateful people of this Long Island community as they celebrate these brave men for their 50 years of volunteer service.

I would like to tell my colleagues about Greenport, a special place where neighbors look out for neighbors and every resident possesses a special pride in their hometown. In a service that exemplifies selfless heroism, the men and women of the Greenport Fire Department perform above and beyond the call of duty each and every day. Compensated only by the satisfaction that their efforts save lives and protect property, these volunteers have answered every alarm for over 50 years. I am proud and honored to count these brave firefighters among my friends and neighbors.

Moreover, I am proud to join with the Greenport Fire Department in honoring these members for their faithful service. These men have answered the siren's call whenever a fire or other peril threatened a member of the Greenport community. Henry Clarke, Jr. has served for 58 years as 2nd Lt., 1st Lt. and Captain from April 1952 to March 1952. Nelson Beebe has served for 52 years as 2nd Lt., 1st Lt. and Captain from April 1978 to March 1980. Jake Sherwood has served for 50 years as 2nd Lt., 1st Lt. and Captain from April 1958 to March 1960. Time and again these brave men joined their comrades as they hastened to the scene, placing themselves in harm's way to aid another human being in danger, regardless of whether it be a friend, neighbor or stranger.

Demonstrating that true heroes are created over a lifetime of selfless acts and service to their God, family and country, these brave men of the Greenport Fire Department are perfect role models for every volunteer firefighter who will come after them. They truly reflect the outstanding work of the Greenport Fire Department and its commitment to training and service that keep their neighbors, friends and even their own children safe and secure. That is why, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in saluting the courageous, devoted volunteers of the Greenport Fire Department.

May God keep them safe as they have worked to keep safe the Greenport community.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRING MICHIGAN
STATE TROOPER CHARLIE GROSS

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I like to pay special tribute today to Detective Sergeant Charlie Gross, who is retiring after a career of law enforcement with the Michigan State Police.

As you may know, Mr. Speaker, I served as a law enforcement officer. In point of fact, I served with Charlie in a variety of posts, while our careers seem to follow a parallel track.

In one sense, my own law enforcement career ended when I was injured in the line of duty and retired in 1984. In a deeper sense, I however, the friendships that form among law enforcement officers are bonds that survive changes in careers and changes in address. In that regard, when I founded the Law Enforcement Caucus in my freshman year in Congress, I was not only giving my many comrades in law enforcement a voice in Washington, but I was also giving myself a professional reason to maintain these strong ties to many good friends and providing myself with an opportunity to forge new friendships with dedicated people in law enforcement.

Now, one of these old friends is retiring after a 27 year career. The unit D/Sgt. Gross will actually leave is a Michigan State Police tactical drug unit, the Upper Peninsula Substance Enforcement Team, known as UPSET.

Charlie was one of the first troopers I met on the road in 1974, and we seemed to stay on the same career road. When I was transferred to Lansing, Charlie was in Lansing. When I went back to the Upper Peninsula, Charlie went to the Upper Peninsula. As he gained knowledge and experience, Charlie demonstrated a wide array of skills, including sharing his knowledge with other troopers by teaching traffic safety, the proper use of the Breathalyzer, and other investigative subjects.

Last week here in Washington we spotlighted U.S. law enforcement in a number of ways. We paid special tribute to fallen officers, and we celebrated funding 100,000 new police officers under the Community Policing program.

This Saturday, the co-workers of Charlie Gross will celebrate one man's career in law enforcement. I ask you and my House colleagues to join me in wishing the best in retirement for this dedicated public servant.

THE KOSOVO EMERGENCY
SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address last night's vote on the so-called "emergency" supplemental appropriations bill, H.R. 1141.

As a member of the budget committee, and concerned member of this body, I am appalled

not only at the amount of pork crammed into the bill, but especially by the anti-environmental riders placed on the bill.

One of these riders is specifically targeted at helping the mining industry and will delay strengthening of regulations that would safeguard against mining companies walking away from the cleanup costs associated with mining.

Yet another special interest rider prevents the Minerals Management Service from issuing rules on the value of crude oil.

This will allow major oil companies to underpay royalties from drilling on public lands—estimated to cost taxpayers between \$66 to \$100 million per year.

Yet another rider would weaken the already egregious 1872 mining law, allowing a previously denied waiver for the development of the "Crown Jewel" mine in my neighboring state of Washington.

For these reasons, I encourage the President to veto this environmentally destructive bill, sending a message to this body and the American people that our precious natural resources will not take a back seat to pork and special interests groups.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOSEPH R.
QUINN

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, on May 20, 1999, family and friends will gather to honor and pay tribute to Joseph R. Quinn, who served as the Chairman of the Smithtown Democratic Committee for 22 years, until his retirement last September.

Joe Quinn, known for his wit, incredible memory for names, love of Irish music, his wonderful family and loyalty to friends, has distinguished himself throughout his private and political life.

In 1959, the then-younger, dark-haired, father of five, Joseph R. Quinn, joined the Suffolk County Democratic Committee and began his sojourn into local politics. At the same time, this Iona College graduate began his career as a teacher in the Middle Country School District, where he went on to become the principal of the unique school without walls, New Lane Elementary School. Joe retired from the Middle Country School District in 1988 after 28 years of outstanding career in education.

Joe Quinn's dedication and loyalty to the Democratic Party is unsurpassed. Joe often boasts of the 22 officials that were elected under his leadership, "one for every year as leader." He should take pride in that accomplishment, as those victories symbolized his commitment to the ideals of the Democratic Party and of our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, on May 20, the Suffolk County Democratic Committee will honor and pay tribute to Joseph Quinn at a gala dinner. I call on all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me now as we recognize and acclaim Joseph R. Quinn for his outstanding leadership and commitment to the Smithtown Democratic Committee, and to the people of Smithtown, of Suffolk County, and of New York State.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HOUSE RESOLUTION

HON. JAMES V. HANSEN

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to introduce this House resolution which will effectively help our National Park System and all those who visit and enjoy these parks. Over the past few years the National Park Service has repeatedly reported a backlog of projects necessary to maintain structures, roads, and infrastructure in many of our national parks. In fact, the National Park Service has asserted that the cost of these projects will be about 6 billion dollars. This resolution would urge the National Park Service to take advantage of support services offered by the Department of Defense, which has the authority to provide support and services to Federal entities, including the National Park Service.

A program called the Civil-Military Department of Defense Innovative Readiness Training Program offers real world training opportunities to meet the readiness requirements of military units and individuals while benefiting local communities. This service, provided by the Department of Defense, includes equipment and other assistance which has the potential to greatly reduce the backlog of projects identified by the National Park Service. In short, this resolution will direct one federal department to help another and will benefit the American taxpayer who has been picking up the tab.

This is a good idea and a worthy resolution and I urge all my colleagues to support this House resolution.

TRIBUTE TO NATIONAL PRINCIPAL
LEADERSHIP AWARD WINNER

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commend an outstanding Colorado high school student and leader. This Spring, Leah Nein of Julesburg High School, in Julesburg, Colorado, received the National Principal Leadership Award.

Each year, the National Association of Secondary School Principals and Herff Jones Inc. presents the National Principal Leadership Award to 150 students nationwide. Recipients must demonstrate outstanding scholastics, leadership and student service throughout their high school years. As an added bonus, a \$1,000 college scholarship is provided to help these students achieve their higher education goals.

Among some of her accomplishments, Leah was class president three out of her four high school years, captained the volleyball team, and a Girls State Delegate. She has also received the Colorado School of Mines "Medal of Accomplishment in Math and Science" and the University of Colorado "Outstanding Junior Award." This Fall, Leah plans to attend Colorado State University and major in Accounting.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to congratulate Leah Nein and all Principal Leadership

Award winners. With confidence, I look forward to their leadership in America.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRING MICHIGAN STATE TROOPER ROBERT KRAFFT

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I like to pay special tribute today to 1st Lieutenant Robert Krafft, who is retiring after a career of law enforcement with Michigan State Police.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, I served as a law enforcement officer. In point of fact, I first served with Bob Krafft early in my own career with the Michigan State Police.

In one sense, my own law enforcement career ended when I was injured in the line of duty and retired in 1984. In a deeper sense, however, the friendships that form among law enforcement officers are bonds that survive changes in careers and changes in address. In that regard, when I founded the Law Enforcement Caucus in my freshman year in Congress, I was not only giving my many comrades in law enforcement a voice in Washington, but I was also giving myself a professional reason to maintain these strong ties to many good friends and providing myself with an opportunity to forge new friendships with dedicated people in law enforcement.

Now, one of these old friends, Bob Krafft, is retiring after a 26-year career.

I recall moving into this neighborhood, where he took me under his wing. My recollections of those first years of our friendship remain vivid, as he took me deer hunting, as I met his wife Sue and watched their daughter grow. Even though our law enforcement work carried us in different directions, the bond we formed as friends, neighbors and law enforcement officers has always dissolved the distance that geography put between us.

Last week here in Washington we spotlighted U.S. law enforcement in a number of ways. We paid special tribute to fallen officers, and we celebrated funding 100,000 new police officers under the Community Policing program.

This Friday, May 21, the co-workers of Bob Krafft will celebrate one man's career in law enforcement. I ask you and my House colleagues to join me in wishing the best in retirement for this dedicated public servant.

A TRIBUTE TO THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE HELP OF RETARDED CHILDREN ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Suffolk Association for the Help of Retarded Children, Suffolk County's largest voluntary agency celebrating its 50th anniversary of service to our community. For the past half century the Association for the Help of Retarded Children has lived up to the spirit of community by providing various educational,

vocational training, and habilitative services for residents of Eastern Long Island with special needs.

Through the chapter's Vocational Education Program, adults mature, achieve self-fulfillment and self esteem. Major Long Island corporations use this program's participants for packaging and assembling jobs. These contracts offer 800 clients opportunities to learn vocational skills that can ultimately lead to competitive employment. In the Supported Work Program, individuals successfully make the transition to the job market with the help of job coaches who provide on the job training at the employer's work site, including follow along care.

The Association for the Help of Retarded Children's Sagtikos Education Center is a very special school. More than 100 infants, preschoolers and school-age children through age 21 receive Individualized Education Plans that foster their mental and physical development. School age children attend this school because their disabilities are so severe that they cannot be accommodated within the special education programs of the local school districts. This service allows a parent more free time to maintain both emotional and economic family stability. Other children attend the school's Early Intervention and pre-school programs. These services often diminish, if not eliminate, the need for costly special services for a lifetime.

For lower functioning adults, the Association for the Help of Retarded Children offers a Day Treatment Program that provides habilitative training that fosters greater independence through the acquisition of daily living skills. Their Senior Day Hab Program offers habilitative training through age appropriate activities for senior citizens. Sixteen community residences located throughout Suffolk are each home to up to 10 adults, operating as a family unit under the guidance of a house parenting team. Residents interact with their communities as any typical family does: shopping, banking, visiting the library and even going to work.

After 50 years of operation, the Suffolk chapter is known for its fiscal integrity. It is so well managed by a voluntary Board of Directors and its Executive Director that it consistently rates "exceptional" in Federal, State and County adults, and is granted three year operating certificates rather than the usual one year.

That is why I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in saluting the Association for the Help of Retarded Children on its 50th anniversary. For half a century, the Association for the Help of Retarded Children has done more than just help neighbors who need it, or provide opportunities for their children. The Association for the Help of Retarded Children has also provided our community the opportunity to express their strong love for their community by getting involved and by helping their neighbors.

IN MEMORIAM: DEDICATION OF THE GARDEN GROVE POLICE DEPARTMENT "CALL TO DUTY" POLICE MEMORIAL, MAY 20, 1999

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the officers of the Garden Grove Police Department who died in the line of duty and who will be commemorated in the dedication of the Garden Grove Police Memorial, "Call To Duty" on this twentieth day of May, 1999.

There are few words that adequately express the deep sorrow and grief of a family whose loved one has been killed in the line of duty. We can remember their bravery and courage through dedication and memorial. President Abraham Lincoln perhaps described the terrible emptiness and regret that we, the living, feel for those who have given their lives to protect others. In the famous Gettysburg address, Lincoln summarizes these feelings in a most profound way:

It is for the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain . . ."

Let us pay tribute to the five brave men who gave their "last full measure of devotion" to the community that they were protecting: Myron Trapp, October 6, 1959; Andy Reese, May 30, 1970; Donald Reed, June 7, 1980; Michael Rainford, November 7, 1980; and Howard Dallies, Jr., March 9, 1993. Let us not forget their heroism, their loyalty, and their dedication to duty.

COLUMBIA DEERING HOSPITAL CELEBRATES SENIOR FRIENDS AND FITNESS DAY

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, senior citizens have always served as the cornerstone of our country's population and as America's aging generation continues to rapidly increase, the health and well being of our nation's elderly becomes more and more important.

The Senior Friends Chapter at Columbia Deering Hospital has recognized the importance of fitness among the senior population and are taking the initiative of spearheading Senior Health and Fitness Day in Miami-Dade County, Florida.

Exercise has been clinically proven to help fight many ailments that affect seniors, such

as osteoporosis, heart disease, and arthritis, and is highly recommended to improve the overall quality of life at any age. On May 26, the Senior Friends Chapter at Deering Hospital will host activities such as fitness walks, exercise demonstrations, health screenings, and health information workshops to educate Miami's seniors about the many benefits of fitness and to encourage their participation in a more active lifestyle.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to The Senior Friends Chapter for their focus on senior's health.

DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY
CENTER TO BE DISESTABLISHED

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce that the Defense Industrial Supply Center (DISC) in my district will be disestablished in a fitting ceremony on July 2, 1999. In accordance with the Base Realignment and Closure Commission, DISC and its hard working employees will continue their mission as a part of a new organization, the Defense Supply Center Philadelphia.

Established as a field activity of the Defense Logistics Agency on April 1, 1962, DISC has for over three decades combined professional personnel talent with modern management techniques to provide its military customers throughout the world with responsive logistic support.

DISC items were used by all the services in support of their multimillion dollar weapon systems, such as, the Trident, Patriot and Minuteman III missiles; the Black Hawk and Apache helicopters; the Abrams tank; the Eagle, Hornet and Harrier aircraft; the *Ohio* and *Los Angeles* Class submarines; the AEGIS Class cruisers; and the *Nimitz* Class aircraft carriers, as well as certain NASA space programs. In addition to supplying vital parts to our Armed Forces, DISC also provided emergency support in times of disaster.

From its headquarters in Northeast Philadelphia, DISC military and civilian personnel maintained a constant flow of critical items 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to satisfy the supply needs of the military services. The Center was responsible for the wholesale support of industrial and commercial type items to the military services. These items included plumbing, wood products, material handling and facilities maintenance supplies, marine safety and fire fighting equipment, food service equipment, imaging and information supplies, as well as bearings, rope, cable and fittings, fasteners, hardware, packing and gasket materials, springs and rings, metal bars, sheets and shapes, electrical wire and cable, as well as certain ores, minerals and precious metals.

Active in Philadelphia community affairs, DISC employees participated in numerous civic activities in and around the Delaware Valley. Many employees have earned wide recognition for their volunteer work in personal one-to-one relationships with the young, the old, and the needy through such programs as Project Reachout and Project Give. The employees are also key members and leaders in a host of other community groups and asso-

ciations, such as Boy and Girl Scouts; Little League; United Way; and in church, veterans and civic organizations where they participate in many activities of benefit to the greater Philadelphia area.

DISC has earned the privilege to fly the Minuteman flag each year of its existence through U.S. Saving Bonds participation. This is a unique record unequaled by any other major Federal Activity.

As the Defense Industrial Supply Center Colors are lowered for the last time, I personally extend my sincere praise and appreciation to Nicholas J. Ranalli, DISC's Administrator, and to all military and civilian employees, past and present, who have been providing dedicated service to our military personnel around the world since 1962.

The people of Philadelphia and the Nation can take justifiable pride in a fine job well done and to look forward to the continuation of DISC's vital role in the defense efforts of our country when the mission of the Defense Industrial Supply Center conjoins its operation with the Defense Supply Center Philadelphia.

TRIBUTE TO BEN TOM ROBERTS

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a friend and an important constituent from the First District of Alabama who will be in my office Thursday on the occasion of his 50th birthday.

Ben Tom Roberts is the current president of the Alabama Association of Realtors (AAR). In addition, he is a principle in Roberts Brothers, Inc., a family-owned business that for more than 53 years has been serving the real estate needs of generations of south Alabamians.

Ben Tom's motivation and inherent knowledge of the real estate industry has propelled him to one of the foremost leaders in his field. Not only is he co-owner of Mobile's largest real estate firm, he has also served as president of the Mobile Area Association of Realtors as well as state president of the Real Estate Securities and Syndication Institute. Clearly, real estate is in Ben Tom's blood and the real estate industry in Alabama is truly benefitting from his leadership, as well as his considerable experiences.

In addition to Ben Tom's service to the industry, he is actively involved in the life of our community. From the American Cancer Society to the United Way, Ben Tom's philanthropy has truly spanned the alphabet. It is fair to say he has given generously of his time and talents in the service of his fellow man.

In recent years, Ben Tom has held numerous leadership posts, serving as vice chairman of the Mobile Chamber of Commerce and past president of the Country Club of Mobile, the Chandler YMCA and the Metropolitan YMCA. In addition, he serves on many boards, including Southtrust Bank, the Old Overton Club and the Alabama Golf Association.

Ben Tom, and his lovely wife Gale, are active members of St. Ignatius Catholic Church in Mobile, where he is serving as chairman of the Stephen Ministries. Mr. Speaker, as 50 candles light Ben Tom's birthday cake, I ask

you to join me in congratulating him on his outstanding achievements in the real estate arena, and his support of charitable causes and community organizations in Mobile and throughout the state of Alabama.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PUBLIC
HEARING STANDARDIZATION ACT

HON. JAMES V. HANSEN

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I am introducing the Public Hearing Standardization Act of 1999. This Act is needed so that the general public can meaningfully contribute to the process used by federal agencies to obtain public input. Currently, public hearings provide a process to the general public so that their comments and input can become part of the official record. However, because many of the public's questions remain unanswered by federal agencies, this process has been disappointing for many who attend these hearings. Public hearings should also provide a forum for the public to ask questions of the federal agencies and for the public to receive from the federal agencies meaningful responses to questions as part of the official record.

Presently, public hearings conducted by federal agencies do not have any standard format nor parameters as to how they are conducted. As a result, federal agencies have total discretion in setting rules for public hearings. Unfortunately, these rules frequently do not require the federal agencies to respond to legitimate questions asked by the public. This bill intends, therefore, to standardize the procedures used by federal agencies for public hearings so that the public understands the rules in conducting such public hearings and can respond appropriately. It will also give the public a chance to ask relevant questions and also a reasonable expectation of receiving an honest answer from federal agencies.

This is a long-overdue bill which will give the public beneficial information in regard to federal agency land management. The public deserves to have questions answered by federal agencies in a public forum and this bill, among other things, will make sure that the public has this chance. I urge all my colleagues to support and co-sponsor the Public Hearing Standardization Act of 1999.

HONORING THE VICTORIA HIGH
SCHOOL VICTORIADORES, VIC-
TORIA, TX

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay honor to the best drill team in the nation and in the world: the Victoria High School Victoriadores from Victoria, Texas. Under the exemplary leadership of D.J. Jaynes, Victoriadore Director, assisted by Laura Klimist, Choreographer, this outstanding group of ladies and gentlemen won many national honors at the marching Auxiliaries/Seaworld

National Championship Competition. Their awards include the Choreography Award for all dances—jazz, high kick, military, lyrical and show production; Winner's Circle (all dances scored 95 or above from all judges); named Best in Class for having the highest overall scores in the competition; and the National Champion Jacket Winners for earning the highest score from all categories and all dances.

After this impressive victory, the Victoriadores aimed for the championship at the Miss Dance/Drill Team USA Pageant and Competition. They easily took first place in military, high kick and show production and second place in lyrical, and they earned the Producers Award for the best overall presentation.

The taste of victory was so sweet, the Victoriadores decided to take the International Championship, competing against Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Channel Islands, Mexico and South America. The team won first and second place in Military and High Kick, with New Zealand placing third.

This group of students deserves the honors it has earned. I commend each one of them to you:

Brooke Adams	Hilary Koenig
Chelsea Akin	Emily Loeb
Andrea Alvarez	Amanda Lott
Jennifer Alvarez	Aimee Lovik
Pia Arifiles	Waverly Lynch
Iza Arifiles	Tara Martak
Rachel Barber	Kelly Martin
Samantha Bernal	Ashley Martin
April Blackwell	Erin Martin
Liz Boldt	Nina Martinez
Meredyth Bryant	Stacy McCants
Lisa Buckler	Sarah McKay
Monica Canchola	Taysha McKibbin
Misty Cavazos	Tyler Meador
Stephanie Cernosek	Valerie Medina
Krysta Chacon	Corie Meinke
Melissa Chavez	Garrett Middleton
Cody Cole	James Miller
Kyra Coleman	Lori Monclova
Cari Collett	Tammy Newbern
Kristin Creech	Jamie O'Quinn
Carrie Dahlstrom	Jennifer Padilla
Nichol Dally	Dusty Patek
Katie Dayoc	Aaron Pearson
D'Lisa DeLuna	Matina Pflaum
Joey Dominquez	Sara Quitta
Cash Donahoe	Melissa Ragsdale
Wendy Dry	Katie Reimann
Carly Dunnam	Natalie Ricks
Jamie Dybala	Brandi Roth
Dyann Erwin	Jennifer Salinas
Bianca Estrada	Brianne Schmidt
Nicole Garcia	Penny Schumacher
Michelle Garcia	Sara Schweke
Mandy Gaskamp	Jamie Sedlacek
Clarisa Gonzales	Tenille Shafer
Valarie Gonzales	Loren Shafer
Amber Grunewald	Heather Shannon
Lacey Hall	Justin Sheppard
Erin Hanzelka	Brett Shoemaker
Megan Hearn	Amanda Stewart
Theresa Hernandez	Stacey Talley
Brandy Hill	Juli Teeters
Blair Hunt	Bianca Tilley
Amy Innocenti	Amanda Trevino
Melissa Jecker	Lauren Tuso
Laura Jecker	Elane Urbano
Eric Jentsch	Pam Urbish
Ida Jimenez	Jessica Vaughan
Kelly Johnson	Whitney Wilkinson
Allison Jones	Lindsey Williams
Morgan Kallus	Laura Windwehen
Jill Kauffman	Melanie Winston
Lindsey Klein	

D.J. Jaynes, Victoriadore Director/
Choreographer
Laura Klimist, Choreographer

I am proud to have these national and international championships in the 14th Congressional District of Texas. I am proud of the commitment to excellence and perseverance shown by each student which was necessary to reach these goals. I am proud of the support shown by the parents and guardians of these students which helped them reach their goals.

I trust all my colleagues join me in congratulating the Victoria High School Victoriadores on these impressive achievements.

HONORING THE "BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS" OF CALIFORNIA'S 51ST DISTRICT

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize that three schools in my 51st Congressional District of California are now being honored as National Blue Ribbon Schools for 1999.

In alphabetical order, these schools are:

La Costa Heights Elementary School, Carlsbad, California. The principal is Deborah Blow, and the superintendent of the Encinitas Union School District is Douglas DeVore.

Magnolia Elementary School, Carlsbad, California. The principal is James Boone, and the superintendent of the Carlsbad School District is Cheryl Ernst.

Solana Vista School, Solana Beach, California. The principal is Stephen Ludwiczak, and the superintendent of the Solana Beach School District is Ellie Topolovac.

Just this morning, I was honored to call each of these superintendents myself, to give them the good news and send my warmest congratulations.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools program evaluates schools based upon their effectiveness in meeting local, state and national educational goals. In 1999, 266 elementary schools are recognized as National Blue Ribbon Schools, including the three above in California's 51st District, five in San Diego County, and 41 in the State of California. Blue Ribbon status is awarded to schools that have strong leadership, clear vision and mission, excellent teaching and curriculum, policies and practices that keep the schools safe for learning, expanded involvement of families, evidence that the school helps all students achieve high standards, and a commitment to share best practices with other schools.

I am immensely proud of the men and women whose outstanding and tireless work in the interest of better education has now been recognized through the National Blue Ribbon Schools program. This is particularly close to my heart, because, as a former teacher and coach, and as a father, one of my passions is improving education so that every American can have a fighting chance to achieve the American Dream.

And while these three schools in my district have now been recognized as National Blue Ribbon Schools, the real winners are all of the children, parents, teachers and citizens who

have all been challenged through this recognition to successfully improve education in all of their local communities.

As part of the National Blue Ribbon Schools honor, representatives from each of these schools will be invited to awards events in Washington, D.C., this October.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the permanent RECORD of the Congress of the United States note the excellence of these three Blue Ribbon Schools in California's 51st District, by including summaries of these three schools' superior work for my colleagues and all of America to read and review.

LA COSTA HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

La Costa Heights Elementary School located in Carlsbad, California, is a school community committed to our motto, "La Costa Heights Where Learning Reaches New Heights." Our mission is to foster confident students who celebrate learning as a lifelong experience. Through the collaborative efforts of our many parents, community members, and teachers we prepare successful decision makers for a diverse, every-changing world. The students at La Costa Heights are educated in a positive and caring environment that promotes the achievement of their personal best, both academically and socially.

Our primary goal for the students of La Costa Heights is to prepare them to be lifelong learners and productive members of society. They are provided a curriculum, which encourages collaboration, problem solving, and responsibility for individual learning. The entire staff and parent community are involved and committed to providing a learning environment that will allow each student to achieve these goals.

It is the vision of our school community that we be a school that puts children first. As a school community of teacher leaders, we are well on our way to achieving this vision. All staff members take responsibility for meeting the needs to every child. We focus on enhancing each student's learning and giving them the skills to problem solve and make choices. Our students learn to appreciate diversity in people through the instruction of life skills incorporating honesty, teamwork, perservance, and self-reliance.

Our school staff is composed of teachers with expertise in a variety of areas. These professional willingly share their knowledge and experiences with all members of our staff creating a challenging, yet nurturing environment for our students. As leaders, the staff has worked together over the past several years as strong grade level teams, drawing upon each other's strengths to create programs that challenge yet nurture all students. Teachers at La Costa Heights are very helping and welcoming. They are eager to share ideas, materials, and endearing moments, because they believe that our strength comes from our collaboration.

Located in Carlsbad, California, La Costa Heights School is part of the Encinitas Union School District which serves students kindergarten through 6th grade. Opened in April 1987, it currently supports approximately 720 students. The school's strong reputation for providing a nurturing yet challenging learning environment draws new families into the community. Due to this reputation, the school draws several families from outside our immediate attendance area on inter and intra district transfers. The school serves a commuter community of middle to upper class families in the northern coastal region of San Diego County. Families from several ethnic backgrounds make up a portion of our community although only 2% of our population represents English Language Learners. La Costa Heights is also home to a regional special day class for severely handicapped students. Due to the stability of the

community and school enrollment, the majority of our students attend our school from kindergarten through sixth grade. Since the school's opening in 1987, we have experienced slow, but steady growth. In the past year, this growth has accelerated due to new housing developments in the area. As a school that was prepared for this growth, we have been able to provide a very welcoming atmosphere for our new families, allowing them to quickly assimilate into our school family.

Boasting a strong tradition of volunteerism, one cannot enter the school without finding several parent and community volunteers working in some capacity to assist in student learning. A spirit of collaboration and innovation pervades the school as teachers and parents work together to create solutions to challenges and to create programs and instruction that have been replicated at other schools in the district.

La Costa Heights Elementary School serves as the hub of the community in which it resides. It is a school truly dedicated to its community and its students. Having formed several business partnerships, we work together to both provide for our students, and in turn teach our students to give back to their community. Service learning is a major focus of our curriculum. Teaching an integrated curriculum that also provides a service to the community has become a strength at our school. We work as a community to use our existing resources and respond quickly to new challenges in support of the families and residents of our community. The most powerful example of this occurred when a fire struck the La Costa community in October 1996. The school became the gathering place for the community as a luncheon was served by staff members. From this tragedy grew a tremendous service learning project which was begun just one month after the fire. Utilizing our business partners and working closely with the city of Carlsbad, a local park was restored and an educational native plant trail created. From this beginning, several other service learning projects have evolved as students experience their curriculum in a "hands on" environment which is relevant to their lives.

In preparing our students for the future, La Costa Heights has placed a strong emphasis on bringing technology into our classrooms. The staff is aggressive about utilizing existing technologies while finding ways to acquire new hardware and software applications. We have tapped a variety of resources to update our existing computers and acquire new ones. Students can be found using technology applications in meaningful ways on a daily basis at our school.

The students at La Costa Heights are our stars. Through the many experiential learning activities in which they have participated, they have learned to give back to their community. Our students have also developed a strong sense of compassion due to their work with the special needs students. This is a unique opportunity which we have embraced.

La Costa Heights' staff and parents believe that our collaborative spirit is our greatest strength. We all work together to create an environment for each child where his/her learning can reach new heights.

MAGNOLIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Magnolia Elementary School in Carlsbad, California is one of seven elementary schools in the Carlsbad Unified School District, and is in its 42nd year of operation. We are a K-6 grade school with a current population of 701 students including 56 students enrolled in our regional program for the Deaf and Hard

of Hearing. (We provide the Deaf and Hard of Hearing program for 14 school districts comprising the North Coastal Consortium for Special Education.) Also located at Magnolia are two District Special Day classes providing individualized services for special needs students within Carlsbad Unified School District. All special needs students at Magnolia have full access to regular education programs and are mainstreamed in regular education classes, in some cases, for the entire day. Our growing Hispanic population (155) is taught to speak and read English with the assistance of our ESL teacher. It's exciting to see non-English speaking students become fully bilingual in a three or 4 year span. Many of our Spanish speaking students are tri-lingual by 6th grade. They have mastered English and become fluent in sign language as well. Parents of students at Magnolia range from unskilled field laborers, to highly skilled professionals (physicians, attorneys, dentists, biomedical research, scientists, etc.)

Magnolia's parents and teachers hold the common belief that challenge in education is important and essential. Our parents want to see their children challenged and achieve. They demonstrate their commitment to education by supporting our highly active and involved PTA with volunteer time and donated money to support our arts and physical education programs that augment our academic curriculum. Our teachers work diligently to provide students with a variety of educational experiences thoughtfully designed, implemented and evaluated to ensure skill acquisition in all subjects and the opportunity to demonstrate those skills through problem solving activities involving application and synthesis of acquired knowledge.

Our single story facility is located on a 10.53 acre parcel of land adjacent to Valley Middle School and one block away from Carlsbad High School. Fourteen (14) relocatable classrooms have been added to our facility over the last 12 years to provide space for two District special day classes, a computer lab, and to accommodate class size reduction in grades 1 through 3. There are 47 certificated and 27 support personnel at Magnolia.

A large athletic field, basketball, volleyball, handball and tetherball courts are available for physical education and recreational use. A 5000 square foot garden with 32 raised planting beds and a butterfly enclosure is also located on our campus for instructional use. The Strategic Planning process we have incorporated has helped to focus our instructional program through the development of a comprehensive School Site Plan. Parents, teachers, students, and administrators developed the 5 year plan (1995-2000) designed to meet the educational needs of our diverse student population.

Magnolia Elementary School's MISSION STATEMENT was developed in the Spring of 1995 by a team of 19 individuals representing parents, teachers, students, classified employees, and the school administration. Our Mission reflects the vision we hold for every student enrolled at Magnolia and we ensure its implementation by always being our own best critic.

SOLANA VISTA SCHOOL

Solana Vista is located in Solana Beach, California. As the only K-3 school of five elementary schools in the Solana Beach School District, we focus on meeting the developmental needs of children aged five to eight. Our diverse population of 400 students includes English speaking students, English learners of Hispanic, Asian and European background, and a high percentage of special

needs students. The academic, social, and economic needs of our students were considered when we developed our Mission Statement to express our commitment to developing successful, creative, inquisitive, respectful and responsible students. We accomplish this through student-centered instruction, ongoing assessment, support programs, parent involvement, and community partnerships. Solana Vista was recognized as a Blue Ribbon School in 1990 and as a California Distinguished School in 1998. Our current school self-assessment shows how our educational programs and effectiveness as a primary school have evolved and improved dramatically since our last Blue Ribbon award, nearly ten years ago.

At Solana Vista, student-centered instruction is exemplified by effective teaching practices and ongoing, multiple assessment measures. All 21 classrooms participate in California's 20:1 student-teacher class size reduction program, which allows our teachers to focus closely on each student's specific behavioral, emotional and academic needs. Professional development and growth is a priority. Teachers remain abreast of the latest research by participating in conferences and workshops each year. We have created heterogeneous, balanced classes with small clusters of children receiving resource services in certain classes. Teachers use differential instruction and flexible-skills groupings to meet all students' needs. Students targeted for the gifted and talented program benefit from our Talents Unlimited curriculum, used with all students to foster critical thinking skills. Last year, our Gifted and Talented Education Program was rated exemplary. Approximately 60% of our school staff are bilingual and provide students alternative instructional delivery systems, such as Specially Designed Academic Instruction in English (SDAIE) and sheltered English instruction.

Our comprehensive curriculum and assessment are aligned with rigorous District and State Content Standards. Curriculum is integrated, using hands-on, investigative learning activities to increase student motivation and engage students in the exploration of new concepts. Technology such as CD-ROMs and laser disks support our curriculum. We employ a four-year cycle for curriculum renewal, spearheaded by our School Site Council. Committees within the District are involved when the District adopts new, state-approved materials. Selected teachers pilot new programs, read current educational research, and review feedback provided by teachers, administrators and parents to assist them in the decision-making process.

Students' academic needs are assessed regularly to ensure the teaching practices used in the classroom are effective. Assessment is achieved through a balance of authentic and standardized data that includes district math and language arts tests, student work samples, anecdotal notes, standardized test results, and running records. Our Student Success Team identifies and assists students who are not successful within the regular classroom structure. In addition, the bilingual resource teacher tracks oral language development among English Learners and conducts Student Appraisal Team (SAT) meetings involving the principal, resource and classroom teachers, parents, and support service personnel to discuss students' progress.

Support programs are in place to provide for children's physical, emotional and academic needs. We have a counseling program maintained by our bilingual school psychologist and guidance counselor. The psychologist works with interns from a local college to create individual behavior modification plans, while the guidance counselor works

with small clusters of students on social skills and conflict resolution. Our behavior program called PALS—Positive Attitude toward Learning and School—gives students a consistent school-wide behavior plan that focuses on rewards and recognition while de-emphasizing negative consequences. Reading intervention programs include our new Miller Unruh Reading Specialist who works with small groups of children with reading difficulties, and the Rolling Readers Program that utilizes community volunteers to tutor children one-on-one. Our Study Buddy Program pairs students with high school buddies to assist them with schoolwork, and provide friendship, and positive role models.

Our parents demonstrate a commitment to meeting the needs of our school through donations and active participation. Over 10,300 volunteer hours were logged at our school last year, including volunteers assisting with programs such as the Rolling Readers, Books & Beyond, and Super Star Math. Parents also serve as decisionmakers with representatives sitting on the Solana Beach Board of Education, School Site Council, District Advisory Forum, and the Foundation for Learning.

We offer parents support to meet their children's needs. On-site before- and after-school childcare is available. Scholarships are available for all after-school enrichment activities. Newsletters and Web sites involve parents with classroom learning and homework assignments. We give extended opportunities for learning such as the Books & Beyond, and Math, Science and Beyond programs. The bilingual resource teacher, community liaison, and school nurse make home visits as needed for our Spanish-speaking families. Parent education sessions are held for Spanish-speaking parents on such topics as "Reading with Your Child" and "Child Nutrition."

Our community partnerships include businesses, community volunteers, and surrounding educational institutions. We collaborate to create a facility that will meet the community's needs. For six years, Mission Federal Credit Union has provided funds for earthquake preparedness, our garden project, and our weather station. Their employees dedicate many volunteer hours as reading tutors. Local restaurants and stores provide student awards for the Books & Beyond recreational reading program. The Solana Beach Foundation for Learning, a group of parent and community volunteers, are committed to raising funds for enrichment programs. Their Annual Pledge Drive raises thousands of dollars each year. We work closely with local high schools, colleges and universities to strengthen our students' educational experience, and to provide our teachers with support and continuing professional development.

The Solana Vista School facility was built in 1971 and has grown from the eleven original classrooms to the current 21, reflecting the growth in the community. We have a technology center, science laboratory and on-site childcare center. Traditions such as our third grade play, art fair, monthly school sings and community/town meetings are held in the popular Kiva meeting center that adjoins the media center/library. The community uses our extensive grass fields seven days a week for recreation. We have collaborative agreements with the Solana Beach Little League, Solana Beach Soccer Association, and the City of Solana Beach. The minimal rate of vandalism and maximum community use speaks highly of the respect our community has for the facility and programs offered at Solana Vista.

The journey to academic excellence begins at Solana Vista for our K-3 students. Their educational progression continues at the

Blue Ribbon Schools of Skyline Elementary for grades 4-6, Earl Warren Junior High School and Torrey Pines High School (honored in 1988, 1992, and 1987, 93, and 98 respectively). Solana Vista and its counterparts consistently demonstrate quality service to children and their families that results in superior education, recognition of individual efforts and a 97% college attendance rate for current high school graduates.

IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE
JOSE T. QUINATA

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great sense of sadness that I acknowledge the passing of one of Guam's great municipal leaders. The Honorable Jose T. Quinata, former mayor of the historical southern village of Humatac, passed away on April 29, 1999, at the age of seventy one.

Born on February 16, 1928, to Antonio and Anastacia Quinata, J.T. or Tun Jose, as he was popularly known, was committed to serve and protect the village of Humatac and the island of Guam. Barely in his teens during the Japanese occupation of Guam, Tun Jose enlisted in the Guam Militia and later in the Guam Combat Patrol. Having been part of the defense of the island against Japanese occupiers in 1941, he assisted the United States Marine Corps in seeking out Japanese soldiers immediately after the liberation of Guam in 1944.

In 1949, Tun Jose gained employment in the Naval Government's Police Department as a guard. This began a law enforcement career that spanned twenty-six years. As a police officer, he earned the respect of colleagues and community members for his strength, fortitude, and compassion. Upon his retirement from the police force, his love for the land and southern traditions carried over through his success as a farmer. All this time, Tun Jose was deeply dedicated to the Catholic faith having served as a parish council member for many years. He also contributed his time and efforts to worthwhile civic, community and religious organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America, the Humatac Parksh Council, the Parents-Teachers Association and the Holy Name Society.

To be of further service to the village he so loved, Tun Jose ran, was elected and served as mayor of Humatac from 1992 to 1996. He worked tirelessly towards projects and activities that improved upon the quality of lives for the people of Humatac. During his tenure, Tun Jose used the annual festival commemorating Ferdinand Magellan's landing on Guam in 1521 to foster goodwill between his village and the various U.S. military commands under the Sister Village/Command Program. As mayor, he was often sought after to give guidance and leadership to villagers. Known for his amicability, he commanded great respect—often being called upon to work as the intermediary between political parties.

Tun Jose was a close personal friend of mine. He and his lovely wife Tan Ana were always there to be of service to the people of Humatac and to demonstrate that village's hospitality. I will miss him. The people of Humatac will miss him. Adios Tun Jose.

HONORING JAMES J. DRADDY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, there are people who accomplish so much that even when viewed over the course of a lifetime, it seems larger than life.

Jim Draddy is such a person. He left Manhattan College in 1942 and joined the war effort, serving in the Army Signal Corps doing cryptanalysis on German and Japanese codes.

He left the service in 1946 and went into the music business at Columbia Records. There, in 1954, he rose to become National Director of Promotion. Between 1956 and 1975 he served as Sales Manager for Philco, Magnavox, Motorola and Packard Bell and for the next six years he was Vice President of Liberty Music.

He then moved from bringing music to people's ears to using his golden tongue as Director of Public Relations for the New York Medical School from 1981 to 1984 and then brought his talent to Our Lady of Mercy Medical Center as Director of Public Affairs from 1984 to 1996. He then served for two more years as Consultant for Public Affairs.

But Jim did not limit himself to mere work. He was Chairman of the Board of Directors of Daytop Village, a member of the Bronx Chamber of Commerce, a member of Community Board #12, a Board Member of the Dominican Sisters in Ossining, and, of course, a member of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Westchester.

He and his wife Patricia have seven children and nine grandchildren. Jim has been a great and dear friend of mine for many years. A retirement party is usually joyous, but for me, and all Jim's colleagues, our joy in knowing him is tempered by his leaving. We can only wish him well.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1141,
1999 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the true emergency spending contained in this conference agreement: Adequate funding for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) military actions in Kosovo; support for operating loans for America's farms and farm workers, who are trying to provide food for our tables without going bankrupt; relief for our Central American neighbors who were devastated by Hurricanes Mitch and Georges; and relief for our Oklahoma and Kansas residents who were the victims of terrible tornadoes. These are emergencies that I believe Congress should be acting on in an expeditious manner.

But Mr. Speaker, I cannot support the \$15 billion funding package proposed in this Conference Agreement for H.R. 1141, because of the non-emergency items that are attached to

it. There were plenty of non-emergency items attached by the House; and there were plenty of non-emergency items attached by the other body; but finally, there were even more non-emergency items attached by the conferees we sent to the conference table.

For example, the President asked for \$6 billion in emergency funding for Kosovo-related military and humanitarian needs; the House doubled that amount to \$12 billion; and our conferees somehow wrestled that up to \$15 billion. It's almost as if we think the longer we wait the more "late penalties" we have to pay. Given even more delay, I'm afraid this Conference Agreement would become the supplemental that ate the surplus.

Were our colleagues saving their so-called emergencies for a rainy day? On this rainy day, Mr. Speaker, it's raining money, which this provision is siphoning out of the Social Security trust fund. And I cannot support that misuse of power and abuse of the public's trust.

EQUAL ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to report to my colleagues the actions of the House Armed Services Committee. I want to commend the committee for the important step it has made toward providing equal access to reproductive health care for U.S. servicewomen and dependents.

During the committee's debate of the FY 2000 Department of Defense Authorization bill, I was proud to continue the work of my friend and our former colleague Congresswoman Jane Harman. I know my fellow Members join me in recognition of her efforts in this area.

The bill endorsed today by the committee safeguards abortion services for those whose pregnancies are due to rape and incest. This is good news for American soldiers and dependents, and it's good news for our armed forces.

I am disappointed that the committee chose to reverse the Personnel Subcommittee's bipartisan endorsement of my amendment to reverse the ban on privately funded abortions at U.S. military facilities overseas. Nevertheless, our fighting men and women—and their families—will benefit from the committee's decision today.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on the house floor to ensure that we make life safer and healthier for our military women and dependents, because that makes for a better prepared, more able fighting force. This is indeed a major victory for our servicewomen and military families.

HONORING GORDON SOUTH

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a gifted and compassionate

constituent of mine, Gordon South. Gordon has made a difference by volunteering his time and efforts to help protect and support the environment.

Throughout his life, Gordon has demonstrated his unswerving dedication to the earth and its inhabitants. Since the time he was eight years old, Gordon has committed his summers to helping Dr. Laura de Ghetaldi with her orphaned fawn and injured deer rehabilitation program south of Boulder. This has not always been an easy task. He has bottle fed injured deer, tracked down poachers who have shot re-released deer, and he has grieved when some of the deer died after valiant attempts to save their lives. Such was the case this year when a black bear mauled and killed all of the fawns and adult deer in the rehabilitation program.

In addition to his rehabilitation work, Gordon has participated in the Boulder County Junior Ranger Program committing long hours to repairing and building trailheads. He also volunteers in the surgical unit and the Foster Program at the Humane Society of Boulder County.

On top of his volunteerism, Gordon is a solid student at Fairview High School where he competes on the track and cross-country teams. After graduation this year, he plans to attend Colorado State University and one day become a veterinarian.

Mr. Speaker, as our nation is engaged in a dialogue about our youth and the causes of youth violence, we must not forget about those youngsters who are making worthy contributions to our communities. I take great pride in honoring Gordon South and his achievements, his passion for the earth its wildlife, and his future endeavors. His is a lesson we all can learn from.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT MITCHELL LOWE

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend, business associate, mentor, and father-in-law, Mr. Robert Mitchell Lowe.

Mr. Bob, as he was known in his home town of Gillett, AR, was born, raised, and lived the life of a gentleman by any and all definitions. He was a superb father and incomparable grandfather, caring and adoring husband. He defined southern gentleman.

He taught by example, he loved unselfishly, and he was never envious of others.

He loved his family unconditionally, just because they were his. His great joy in life was doing for his family, especially his grandchildren. He established a place in Gillett, AR that will be known to his family forever as "home." A safe haven, where you are always welcome, loved, cared for and safe.

I took care of Mr. Bob's business for almost thirty-five years, and made some monumental mistakes, but he never once criticized me or offered a critical word.

His great love for his church, farm, friends and neighbors is what makes rural America the great place it is. He was never boastful, proud, rude, or self-seeking. He was not easily

angered, kept no record of wrongs, always protected, trusted, hoped, and persevered. He was happiest on festive occasions, with holiday meals and a lap full of adoring grandchildren. He ended all his visits with his grandchildren with "grand daddy loves you" and none ever doubted that he did.

If as some say, that your children are a true measure of a man, then Mr. Bob was very successful. His daughters Carolyn and Martha and grandchildren Ann, Rebecca, Mitchell and Catherine would make any man proud, and are a true legacy.

The world is a better place for his having lived. All who knew him are enriched by his kind ways and charm. I was privileged to have been associated with Mr. Bob.

BEST WISHES TO PRESIDENT LEE TENG-HUI

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the Republic of China on Taiwan is a modern country led by President Lee Teng-hui, who believes that Taiwan's future lies in a strong democracy with a free enterprise system. Taiwan's democracy is highly renowned in much of the developing world. Three years ago, Taiwan citizens freely elected Mr. Lee as their president. This was the first democratically-held election for the people of Taiwan. Moreover, Taiwan's free enterprise system has produced a strong and vibrant economy in addition to a high standard of living for its people.

On the third anniversary of Taiwan's free elections, it is important to realize that Taiwan appreciates its relationship with the United States. I wish to pay tribute to President Lee Teng-hui, Vice President Lien Chan, and Foreign Minister Jason Hu for their outstanding leadership. Their leadership has assured that Taiwan fulfills its potential to become a full-fledged developed economy. The United States values their friendship and stands in support of their work. May their continued leadership allow Taiwan to forever shine as a beacon of freedom in the Far East. Our very best to you President Lee Teng-hui, Vice President Lien Chan, and Foreign Minister Jason Hu.

HONORING EDNA SKEETE MITCHELL

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Edna Skeete Mitchell, a marvelous lady from Barbados, who is celebrating her 100th birthday.

She was born October 10, 1898, the second of seven children born to Gertrude and Charles Skeete. She came to the United States in 1922 and soon after met and married K. Claude Mitchell. They had two children, both of whom have enjoyed professional success.

Mrs. Mitchell acquired from her grandmother a recognition that a good education is a necessity. She and her siblings were all educated and her children continued that fine tradition here in the United States. Her son Claude, Jr. received his MSW from City University and her daughter Joan is active in the Alumnae chapter of Delta Sigma Theta.

After her husband died, she raised her children while working at New York Cornell Hospital as a dietitian assistant.

At her family birthday party in October of last year, family members came from as far away as Barbados, Canada, Massachusetts and Virginia as well as the tri-state area to celebrate her centenary. One nephew from Barbados, who is Consul to Sweden, brought her a gold heart as a symbol of the kind heartedness she showed him and others of the family. Another, a Dean at Howard University, served as emcee.

Mrs. Mitchell still is a member of St. Ambrose Episcopal Church. She epitomizes what immigrants have done for America. Giving all and raising children who, with every generation, contribute still more. We are fortunate that she came to us and I congratulate her on this special birthday.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INTER-STATE CLASS ACTION JURISDICTION ACT

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise on behalf of my colleagues Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. BRYANT and Mr. MORAN of Virginia to introduce important bipartisan legislation to correct a serious flaw in our federal jurisdiction statutes. In recent years, the number of class action filings has risen dramatically and the large majority of these cases are brought in state courts. A 1999 survey indicates that the number of state court class actions pending against surveyed companies has increased by 1,042 percent over the ten-year period 1988–1998. This increase in class action filings has been accompanied by a number of abuses of our judicial system.

Interstate class actions are flooding into certain state courts because those courts tend to favor local lawyers in cases against out-of-state companies; however, state courts are often ill-equipped to handle such cases. Many state courts don't have either the support staff and other resources or the complex litigation experience to handle interstate class actions, which often involve thousands (and sometimes millions) of purported class members.

In addition to forum-shopping, lawyers frequently exploit major loopholes in federal jurisdiction statutes to block the removal of class actions that belong in federal court. For example, plaintiffs' counsel may name parties that are not really relevant to the class claims in an effort to destroy diversity. In other cases, counsel may waive federal law claims or shave the amount of damages claimed to ensure that the action will remain in state court.

Some state courts use very lax class certification criteria, making virtually any controversy subject to class action treatment and allowing state courts to hear purely interstate class ac-

tions. The result is that state courts are increasingly deciding out-of-state residents' claims against out-of-state companies under other states' laws. When state courts preside over class actions involving claims of residents of more than one state (especially nationwide class actions), they end up dictating the substantive laws of other states, sometimes over the protests of those other states.

At present, our federal diversity jurisdiction statutes essentially provide that interstate disputes involving significant sums of money may be heard in a federal court. But because class actions (as we now know them) did not exist when those statutes were initially framed, class actions were omitted, leading to outrageous results. For example, under current law, a citizen of one state usually may bring in a federal court a simple \$75,001 slip-and-fall action against a party from another state. But if a class of 25 million product owners living in all 50 states bring claims collectively worth \$15 billion against the product manufacturer, that lawsuit usually must be heard in a state court.

Our legislation offers a solution to class action abuse by making it easier for plaintiff class members and defendants to remove class actions to federal court, where cases involving multiple state laws are more appropriately heard.

This legislation does not limit the ability of anyone to file a class action lawsuit. It does not change anybody's rights to recovery. It merely closes the loophole, allowing federal courts to hear big lawsuits involving truly interstate issues, while ensuring that purely local controversies remain in state courts. This is exactly what the framers of the Constitution had in mind when they established federal diversity jurisdiction.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

RECOGNIZING STUDENTS WHO CARE

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, it is often said that the youth of America are indifferent. We hear that they simply do not care about the issues at all, except those narrow issues that affect them personally. With so many repeating this view, I am pleased to highlight the efforts of young people in Illinois' 10th District that contradict this stereotype.

I recently received a package of letters from David Hirsch, a teacher in the Deerfield High School English Department. His sophomore English class had used the issues in my annual constituent survey for a policy debate unit, and as part of this unit, each student wrote a letter to me detailing their opinions on some of these issues. The 56 letters that I received from these young constituents were not only impressive in that they were well-thought out and well-written, but equally impressive in the genuine concern that these young men and women showed for issues ranging from the protection of the Earth from pollution to the protection of children from guns. These students also expressed concern about people in other nations, and our relationships with other

countries like Russia and Iraq. Clearly, these young people are interested in more than just their personal agendas. Sophomores, they may be, but they are hardly sophomoric.

If I may, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to enter into the record the names of these students to recognize their efforts. They are: Josh Baker, Katherine Bolton, Jon Chester, Greg Cole, Jenny Eck, Julie Fiocchi, Jay Gustafson, Lexi Hayes, Janna Hoffman, Sari Hirsch, Bridgette Jung, Sandi Kaplan, Nancy Keene, Chris Krakowski, Stephanie Laouras, Kerry Lee, Elliott Levy, Elaine London, Andrew Mast, Steve Meisinger, Muhammed Mekki, Rob Pantle, Mary Patchell, Michael Posternack, Jeanette Schaller, Jeremy Silver, James Sinkovitz, Matthew Spraker, Melissa Spreckman, Jori Swift, Karli Tracey, Tracy Watson, Zachary Weiner, Lara Weinstein, and Mara Weisman. I want to commend all of them for showing interest in the issues that affect our district, country, and our world, and I am very happy to represent them in the Congress.

COMMEMORATING THE 19TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WISCONSIN INSTITUTE FOR TORAH STUDY

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a nationally acclaimed Jewish residential high school, the Wisconsin Institute for Torah Study, on its 19th anniversary.

The school, or Yeshiva, was founded in 1980 to provide a unique high school and post-high school experience. Its programs attract students from major cities across the country. The high school program offers a comprehensive Torah study curriculum and, simultaneously, an intensive college-preparatory general studies program. The Bais Medrash is the advanced, post high school program.

As a testament to its growth and strength, the institute will expand due to steadily increasing enrollment. When completed, the expanded facility will house a new Bais Medrash, labs and classrooms.

The Wisconsin Institute for Torah Study also honors this year its twin pillars of strength in the community: Armin and Hollie Nankin. Armin, past president of the Jewish Community Center and former board member of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation, and his wife Hollie have seen the school through some very difficult moments, and have served humbly and with dignity as a beacon of light and a source of strength. They have been actively involved with many other organizations, including Hillel Academy and Congregations Beth Israel and Lake Park Synagogue. They are the single most generous donors to the expansion campaign of the Wisconsin Institute for Torah Study, and through their encouragement have caused others to lend support.

The involvement of Armin and Hollie Nankin is summed up in three phrases: Quick minds, for their keen insight to the community's needs. Strong feelings, for their deep concern for the people in their lives and the community. And, deep impacts for an array of causes and institutions which are better today for their involvement.

In Hebrew, Torah literally means teachings or learning. By their involvement the Nankins have taught us the meaning of devotion and generosity.

Mr. Speaker it is with immense pride and gratitude that I commend Armin and Hollie Nankin for their service to the community, and it is with great happiness and best wishes for continued success that I congratulate the Wisconsin Institute for Torah Study on its 19th anniversary.

HONORING BERNARD CEDARBAUM

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, the Scarsdale Bowl Award, Scarsdale's highest civic honor, has been given annually since 1943 to honor "one who has given unselfishly of time, energy, and effort to serve the civic welfare of the community." Today, I would like to recognize a resident of my district who, through nearly three decades of tireless community service, perfectly embodies the spirit of this award.

Since moving to Scarsdale 28 years ago, Bernard Cedarbaum has chaired or served on no fewer than ten of Scarsdale's boards, councils and committees. He is one of a very small group of residents to have served on both the board of education (1979–85) and the village board of trustees (1993–98). A natural leader and common sense decision-maker, Mr. Cedarbaum has presided over the Town Club, Scarsdale Foundation, Environmental Advisory Council and Greenacres Association. Those who have served with Mr. Cedarbaum admire his intelligence, sense of fairness, reasonable approach to problem-solving, and his quick sense of humor.

Mr. Cedarbaum's commitment to a successful professional career has always been balanced with an unyielding dedication to volunteerism. Remarkably, Mr. Cedarbaum dedicated countless hours to the town of Scarsdale while he worked as a partner at the law firm of Carter, Ledyard & Milburn, presided over the New York State Bar Association's Corporation and Business Law Section, and participated on various committees of the New York City Association of the Bar.

The Scarsdale Bowl Award marks Mr. Cedarbaum's fulfillment of his goal, to make a valuable contribution to the community in which he lives. I join with the residents of Scarsdale in applauding Mr. Cedarbaum's commitment to our community and I am proud to officially recognize this remarkable civic leader for his many years of service.

HONORING GUAM SUPREME COURT
JUSTICE JANET HEALY WEEKS

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, "Justice" is often represented by a blindfolded lady

bearing scales on one hand and a sword and book on the other. The blindfold symbolizes equality for all under the law; the scales—balance; the sword—strength; and the book—intellect.

In my opinion, Guam Supreme Court Justice Janet Healy Weeks is the absolute personification of this mythical figure. After having been personally acquainted with this dynamic lady for so many years, I have to give her my deepest respect and admiration. As Micronesia's first woman lawyer and first woman judge, Justice Weeks' niche in the annals of the Guam judicial system had long been secured.

A native of Quincy, Massachusetts, Justice Weeks received a degree in Chemistry from Emmanuel College in Boston in 1955. She holds an L.L.D. from Boston College Law School and an honorary L.L.D. from the University of Guam. Upon her graduation from law school in 1958, she was selected for the Attorney General's Honor Graduate Program. She served under that capacity with the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., until 1961. Having been admitted to practice law in the District Court of Guam, the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, the U.S. Court of Military Appeals, the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and the Supreme Court of the United States, Justice Weeks became an associate in the law firm of Trapp and Gayle in 1971. In 1973, she was made a partner in the law firm of Trapp, Gayle, Teker, Weeks & Friedman.

Appointed to the Superior Court of Guam in 1975, she went on to serve as a Superior Court Judge until 1996 when she was appointed to the newly created Supreme Court of Guam. She also sat in the Supreme Court of the Federated States of Micronesia from 1982 through 1988. From 1977 to 1993 and again from 1996 until April of this year, Justice Weeks was designated a judge at the U.S. District Court of Guam. In 1993, she was appointed Associate Justice in the Supreme Court of the Republic of Palau, a position she holds to this day.

Justice Weeks holds memberships with the American Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association, the Guam Bar Association, the American Trial Lawyers Association, the American Judges Association and the National Association of Women Judges. In addition, she has also been involved with the Guam Law Revision Commission, the National Conference of Trial Judges, the Territorial Law Library and the Territorial Crime Commission, Task Force on Courts, Prosecution and Defense. In 1973, she was a member of the Catholic School Board of Guam.

As a jurist, Justice Weeks is beyond reproach. While on the bench, she always endeavored to dispense equal justice to all. Favoritism and preferential treatment has no place in her courtroom. This fact is the source of my undying respect for her.

Justice Weeks' devotion to the island of Guam, its people, and the judicial system is her utmost legacy. While on Guam, Justice Weeks lived through some personal misfortunes enough to overcome and embitter the best among us. For over a quarter of a century, she has chosen to stay on Guam and weather every storm that came her way. Through it all she maintained her grace and

dignity—another reason why I have looked up to her all these years.

Last April, Justice Weeks has decided to step down and retire from the bench. Although a welcome boon to family and friends, her retirement has surely left a great void within the island's judiciary. The decades of service she dedicated to the people of Guam has truly earned her a place in our hearts. Her husband, retired Navy Commander George H. Weeks, and their children, Susan and George, certainly have every right to celebrate and be proud of this esteemed lady, dedicated jurist, and fellow public servant. On behalf of the people of Guam, I say, "Si Yu'os Ma'ase" to a distinguished community leader for having been such an exemplary role model and for her invaluable services to the island of Guam.

HONORING JOHN PETER CALVELLI

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, just over forty years ago a young man came to our country who, like so many before him, was seeking a better life. And like so many before him, he not only found that better life but made our country better for his coming here. John Peter Calvelli is one of those individuals.

John was born in Vico, Aprigliano in the province of Cosenza, Italy. On January 24th, 1958 he married his wife Rose and they were blessed with two children, Louis and John. Upon his arrival in the United States in August of 1958, John began working for G.A.L., an elevator company currently located in the Bronx and in 1971 joined the New York City Transit Authority as a car inspector, where he received many commendations for his job performance. During his spare time he devoted many hours to the betterment of our local community through his active involvement in many worthwhile charitable organizations. He is an active member and Past President of the San Fili Fraternity Club, an organization dedicated to promoting the Italian heritage organization as well as providing needed funds to students to help defray the increasing cost of higher education. His active participation as a lay leader for the Salesian Cooperators has served as a source of religious, spiritual and financial support for the students and faculty of Salesian High School. This spirit of community concern is manifested in his children: Louis serves as the Vice President for Development of Salesian High School and John serves as my Administrative Assistant.

On the evening of Friday, May 14, 1999 members and friends of the NYC Transit Authority will be hosting a dinner to celebrate a new chapter in John's life: his retirement. I am confident that he will spend the coming years to continue his work on behalf of our community and spend time with his new grandchild, John Domenico. I salute him and thank him for his work on behalf of the entire community and look forward to sharing many special events in the coming years with him and the entire Calvelli family.

BUSINESS MEAL DEDUCTION
LEGISLATION

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation which provides much needed tax relief to working Americans who travel extensively for a living and are subject to the hours of service limitations of the Department of Transportation. The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 included a provision which phased in over ten years an increase in the deductibility of business meal expenses from 50 percent to 80 percent for these individuals. However, that phase in is simply too long. My legislation is very straightforward. It will accelerate the timetable and make the 80 percent deduction effective for tax years beginning after December 31, 1999. Like current law, the acceleration is applicable to individuals subject to Department of Transportation hours of service limitations.

This measure is important because the Federal government requires thousands of workers to spend many nights away from home. As a result, these individuals spend funds on meals that would otherwise not be expended. These expenses are not made on elaborate, expensive business meals. These purchases are more typically made at roadside facilities when travelers must stop for the night in order to comply with Federal regulations. However, the consistency of these required purchases ensure even frugal meal purchases add up to significant amounts annually.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in the effort to provide a modest tax reduction for the working men and women of this country who travel the highways for a living.

COMMENDING THE GARY, INDIANA
NAACP

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to commend the members of the Gary, Indiana, branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). On Friday, May 21, 1999, the Gary NAACP will hold its 36th Annual Life Membership Banquet and Scholarship Dinner at the St. Timothy Community Church in Gary, Indiana.

This annual event is a major fundraiser for the Gary branch of the NAACP. The funds generated through this activity, and others like it, go directly to the organization's needed programs and advocacy efforts. In addition, the dinner serves to update and keep the community aware of the activities, accomplishments, and accolades of the local and national chapters of the NAACP on an annual basis.

The featured speaker at this gala event will be South Carolina's Congressman James E. Clyburn. Representative Clyburn represents the 6th Congressional District of South Carolina and was first elected to Congress in November of 1992. He currently serves as the

Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus and is a Life Member of the NAACP.

This year the Gary NAACP will honor five outstanding leaders for their efforts to further equality in society. Joining more than five hundred outstanding civil, community, and religious leaders of the region, the following distinguished individuals will be inducted as life members of the Gary NAACP: Louise Lee, Foster Stephens, and Father Pat Gaza of Gary, Indiana; James Sudlek of Hammond, Indiana; and Joyce Washington of Calumet City, Illinois.

The Gary NAACP was organized in 1915 by a group of residents that felt there was a need for an organization that would monitor and defend the rights of African-Americans in Northwest Indiana. The national organization, of which the Gary branch is a member, focuses on providing better and more positive ways of addressing the important issues facing minorities in social and job-related settings. Like the national organization, the Gary branch of the NAACP serves its community by combating injustice, discrimination, and unfair treatment in our society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Louise Lee, Foster Stephens, James Sudlek, Father Pat Gaza, and Joyce Washington, as well as the other members of the Gary NAACP for the efforts, activities, and leadership that these outstanding men and women have utilized to improve the quality of life for all residents of Indiana's First Congressional District.

INTRODUCTION OF THE STALKING
PREVENTION AND VICTIM PROTECTION
ACT OF 1999

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the purpose of introducing the Stalking Prevention and Victim Protection Act of 1999. This legislation addresses a problem of increasing prevalence in our nation. While stalking is perhaps most popularly regarded as a crime only to be dealt with by celebrities with bodyguards and fortress-like estates, this is simply not the case. According to statistics released by the Justice Department, over 1,000,000 women and 370,000 men are victimized by stalkers every year. These estimates greatly exceed previous estimates, and clearly indicate a need for legislative redress. For this reason, I am reintroducing legislation that will provide greater protection to stalking victims.

This legislation builds on an important anti-stalking law enacted in 1996. The Interstate Stalking Punishment and Prevention Act, which was introduced by my colleague Congressman Royce, marked a significant stride in the effort to stop and prevent stalking, as it established for the first time federal penalties for interstate stalking. My bill seeks to enhance the ability of law enforcement to arrest and prosecute stalkers by broadening the definition of stalking to include interstate communications such as mail and e-mail. Furthermore, by criminalizing "threatening behavior" as opposed to "the demonstration of specific

threats," this bill closes a loophole commonly used by accused stalkers to avoid conviction. The bill also include bail restrictions and enhanced sentencing provisions for repeat-offenders, along with the requirement that a mandatory protection order be issued for the victim.

I've seen first-hand the horrible effects wrought on the lives of innocent people by stalkers. I've met people who face each day with an overwhelming fear for their safety, people whose spirits have been worn down by a undaunted menace. Congress must do more to protect these people, and I see this legislation as an important step in that direction. I certainly hope that my colleagues will agree with me.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 1835,
NORTH KOREA THREAT REDUC-
TION ACT OF 1999

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce the introduction of the North Korea Threat Reduction Act of 1999, H.R. 1835. I am joined in introducing this legislation by a very distinguished bipartisan list of cosponsors, including Congressmen SHERROD BROWN and MARK SANFORD of our Committee on International Relations, CHRIS COX, chairman of our House Republican Policy Committee, JOHN KASICH, chairman of our Committee on the Budget, JOE KNOLLENBERG of our Committee on Appropriations, and DAVID MCINTOSH of our Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

This legislation seeks to improve U.S. policy toward North Korea by weaving together the various elements of our policy into a comprehensive whole, and redirecting our policy in ways that will better advance our national interest.

It has long been obvious that U.S. policy toward North Korea is in need of an overhaul. That is why the Administration agreed last year to appoint a Special Policy Coordinator for North Korea, Dr. William Perry, to review the policy and make recommendations for restructuring it.

The legislation that we are introducing today is designed to complement and reinforce Dr. Perry's efforts to rationalize U.S. policy toward North Korea. Our new policy must be: comprehensive; integrated and coordinated with our Japanese and South Korean allies; backed by strengthened conventional military deterrence and theater missile defense; engender a willingness to undertake tough measures in the name of national security; and be founded on a step-by-step program of conditional reciprocity.

There remains a great deal of skepticism in the Congress about the 1994 Agreed Framework between the United States and North Korea, under which North Korea has become the largest recipient of U.S. foreign assistance in East Asia. The underground facility at Kumchang-ri may indicate that North Korea continues to pursue a nuclear weapons program notwithstanding the Agreed Framework. Other press reports suggest that North Korea may be building a parallel, uranium-based nuclear program.

Despite the skepticism of many of us in Congress, H.R. 1835 does not seek to terminate U.S. support for the Agreed Framework. To the contrary, our legislation would, for the first time ever, authorize the Administration's full request for U.S. assistance to the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization in FY 2000. The Administration's request of \$55 million includes a \$20 million increase over this year's funding level, and we have not taken issue with this increase.

We have, however, insisted on strict adherence by North Korea to its obligations under the Agreed Framework before these funds can be released. Our conditions are, with one exception, based on those contained in current law, and therefore should be acceptable to the Administration.

The one exception is a new requirement we have added for a certification by the President that North Korea is not seeking to develop or acquire the capability to enrich uranium. This requirement is intended to draw attention to the fact that it would make no sense for the United States to proceed with the Agreed Framework—which fundamentally is intended to deny North Korea plutonium that it could use to build nuclear bombs—if North Korea is developing the capability to enrich uranium as an alternative source of fissile material.

Our legislation also insists on strict compliance by North Korea with its obligations under the Agreed Framework before key U.S. nuclear components can be transferred to North Korea in connection with the construction there of two light water nuclear reactors. The Agreed Framework's most important requirements in this respect are that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) must be fully satisfied that North Korea is not cheating on its obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, and that North Korea must allow the IAEA to carry out whatever inspections it deems necessary to verify that North Korea is not cheating. Under our legislation, key U.S. nuclear reactor components cannot be transferred to North Korea unless the President certifies that these requirements of the Agreed Framework have been met, and Congress has approved legislation concurring in the President's certification.

Our legislation addresses the North Korean missile threat by conditioning any relaxation of the current U.S. trade embargo of North Korea on progress in eliminating that threat. Specifically, our legislation requires North Korea to accept the Administration's current demands that North Korea institute a total ban on missile exports, and terminate its long-range missile program.

Finally, our legislation addresses a number of other elements of our North Korea policy. The legislation requires effective monitoring of U.S. food shipments to North Korea to ensure that the assistance is not being diverted to the North Korean military. It authorizes \$10 million to begin to set up a joint early warning system in the Asia-Pacific region to continuously share information on missile launches detected by governments participating in the system. It authorizes \$30 million to assist North Korean refugees in China and to support the resettlement of such refugees in South Korea and other neighboring countries.

We do not anticipate moving H.R. 1835 forward through the legislative process until we have received Dr. Perry's recommendations regarding U.S. policy toward North Korea. As

Dr. Perry completes his final deliberations later this month, it is imperative that his policy recommendations address the issues identified in H.R. 1835 if the Administration hopes to garner the support of Congress and the American people. We are confident that Dr. Perry's recommendations will address these issues, and that the upshot will be a convergence between Congress and the Administration over policy toward North Korea.

H.R. 1835

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "North Korea Threat Reduction Act of 1999".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Under the Agreed Framework of October 21, 1994, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) committed to freeze and eventually dismantle its nuclear program, in exchange for annual deliveries of 500,000 tons of heavy fuel oil, and the construction of two 1,000 megawatt light water nuclear power reactors costing approximately \$5,000,000,000.

(2) The discovery of an apparent underground nuclear-related facility at Kumchang-ri, North Korea brought into question North Korea's commitment to abide by the conditions of the 1994 Geneva Agreed Framework.

(3) North Korea's ongoing development, production, testing, deployment, and proliferation of ballistic missiles presents a clear and present danger to forward-deployed United States Armed Forces in Asia, United States friends and allies, and the United States.

(4) North Korea has become the largest recipient of United States foreign assistance in East Asia, valued at over \$225,000,000 in 1998 alone.

(5) North Korea is a major producer of opium and increasingly is involved in illicit narcotics trafficking.

SEC. 3. ASSISTANCE FOR THE KOREAN PENINSULA ENERGY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2000 \$55,000,000 for assistance to the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO).

(2) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT.—Assistance under paragraph (1) may be provided notwithstanding any other provision of law (other than subsections (b), (c), (d), and (e) of this section).

(b) PROHIBITION ON ASSISTANCE TO NUCLEAR REACTOR CONSTRUCTION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds authorized to be appropriated by subsection (a), or made available under any other provision of law, may be used to assist the construction of nuclear reactors in North Korea.

(c) CONDITIONS FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds authorized to be appropriated by subsection (a), or made available under any other provision of law, may be made available to KEDO, or for assistance to North Korea for purposes related to the Agreed Framework, until the President determines and reports to the Committees on International Relations and Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Foreign Relations and Appropriations of the Senate that—

(1) the parties to the Agreed Framework have taken and continue to take demonstrable steps to implement the Joint Declaration on Denuclearization in which the

Government of North Korea has committed not to test, manufacture, produce, receive, possess, store, deploy, or use nuclear weapons, and not to possess nuclear reprocessing or uranium enrichment facilities;

(2) the parties to the Agreed Framework have taken and continue to take demonstrable steps to pursue the North-South dialogue;

(3) North Korea is complying with all provisions of the Agreed Framework;

(4) the effort to can and safely store all spent fuel from North Korea's graphite-moderated nuclear reactors has been successfully concluded;

(5) North Korea has not diverted assistance provided by the United States for purposes for which it was not intended;

(6) the United States has reached agreement with North Korea satisfying United States concerns regarding suspect underground construction, and North Korea has complied with its obligations under that agreement;

(7) North Korea is not seeking to develop or acquire the capability to enrich uranium, or any additional capability to reprocess spent nuclear fuel; and

(8) the United States has made and is continuing to make significant progress on eliminating the North Korean ballistic missile threat, including its ballistic missile exports.

(d) WITHHOLDING OF FUNDS PENDING SOLICITATION OF ALL POTENTIAL DONOR GOVERNMENTS TO KEDO.—Amounts appropriated in excess of \$35,000,000 pursuant to the authorization of appropriations under subsection (a) may not be made available to KEDO until the President determines and reports to the Committees on International Relations and Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Foreign Relations and Appropriations of the Senate that—

(1) the United States has asked all potential donor governments, including Taiwan, to contribute to KEDO;

(2) no contributions offered unconditionally by such governments to KEDO have been declined; and

(3) even after such contributions are received, KEDO will have financial requirements in fiscal year 2000 that can only be met by the provision of more than \$35,000,000 in assistance from the United States.

(e) LIMITATION ON USE OF SPECIAL AUTHORITIES.—The authority of section 614 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2364) may not be used to authorize the provision of assistance that cannot be provided due to any prohibition, restriction, or condition on release of funds that is contained in subsection (b), (c), or (d).

SEC. 4. FOOD ASSISTANCE TO NORTH KOREA.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds authorized to be appropriated by section 3(a), or made available under any other provision of law, may be made available for food assistance for North Korea until the President determines and reports to the Committees on International Relations and Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Foreign Relations and Appropriations of the Senate that—

(1) the Government of the Republic of Korea concurs in the delivery and procedures for delivery of United States food assistance to North Korea;

(2) previous United States food assistance to North Korea has not been significantly diverted to military use;

(3) North Korean military stocks have been expended to respond to unmet food aid needs in North Korea.

(4) the United Nations World Food Program or other private voluntary organizations registered with the United States

Agency for International Development have been permitted to take and have taken all reasonable steps to ensure that food deliveries will not be diverted from intended recipients, including unannounced, unscheduled, and unsupervised visits to recipient institutions and farmers' markets by Korean-speaking monitors affiliated with the United Nations World Food Program or other private voluntary organizations registered with the United States Agency for International Development; and

(5) the United States Government has directly, and indirectly through appropriate international organizations, encouraged North Korea to initiate fundamental structural reforms of its agricultural sector.

SEC. 5. RESTRICTIONS ON NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH NORTH KOREA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law or any international agreement, no agreement for cooperation (as defined in sec. 11 b. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2014 b.)) between the United States and North Korea may become effective, no license may be issued for export directly or indirectly to North Korea of any nuclear material, facilities, components, or other goods, services, or technology that would be subject to such agreement, and no approval may be given for the transfer or re-transfer directly or indirectly to North Korea of any nuclear material, facilities, components, or other goods, services, or technology that would be subject to such agreement, until—

(1) the President determines and reports to the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate that—

(A) North Korea has come into full compliance with its safeguards agreement with the IAEA (INFCIRC/403), and has taken all steps that have been deemed necessary by the IAEA in this regard;

(B) North Korea has permitted the IAEA full access to all additional sites and all information (including historical records) deemed necessary by the IAEA to verify the accuracy and completeness of North Korea's initial report of May 4, 1992, to the IAEA on all nuclear sites and material in North Korea.

(C) North Korea is in full compliance with its obligations under the Agreed Framework;

(D) North Korea is in full compliance with its obligations under the Joint Declaration on Denuclearization;

(E) North Korea does not have the capability to enrich uranium, and is not seeking to acquire or develop such capability, or any additional capability to reprocess spent nuclear fuel;

(F) North Korea has terminated its nuclear weapons program, including all efforts to acquire, develop, test, produce, or deploy such weapons; and

(G) the transfer to North Korea of key nuclear components, under the proposed agreement for cooperation with North Korea and in accordance with the Agreed Framework, is in the national interest of the United States; and

(2) there is enacted a joint resolution stating in substance that the Congress concurs in the determination and report of the President submitted pursuant to paragraph (1).

(b) CONSTRUCTION.—The restrictions contained in subsection (a) shall apply in addition to all other applicable procedures, requirements, and restrictions contained in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 and other laws.

SEC. 6. CONTINUATION OF RESTRICTIONS ON TRANSACTIONS WITH NORTH KOREA PENDING PROGRESS ON BALLISTIC MISSILE ISSUES.

(a) CONTINUATION OF RESTRICTIONS.—

(1) CONTINUATION OF RESTRICTIONS.—All prohibitions and restrictions on transactions and activities with North Korea imposed under section 5(b) of the Trading with the Enemy Act (as in effect on July 1, 1977), as set forth in part 500 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations as in effect on April 1, 1999, shall remain in effect until the President submits the determination and report described in subsection (b), and—

(A) the authority of section 501.803 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations (relating to the authority to modify chapter V of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations) and other provisions of law may not be used to modify such prohibitions and restrictions, as in effect on such date, and

(B) no prohibition or restriction on transactions or activities set forth in subpart B of part 500 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on April 1, 1999, may be authorized after that date, other than those transactions and activities specifically authorized under subpart E of such part,

until such determination and report are so submitted.

(2) REVOCATION OF PRIOR MODIFICATIONS AND AUTHORIZATIONS.—Any modification otherwise prohibited under paragraph (1)(A) that is made after April 1, 1999, and before the date of enactment of this Act, and any authorization granted after April 1, 1999, and before the date of enactment of this Act, for a transaction or activity otherwise prohibited under paragraph (1)(B), shall be revoked as of such date of enactment.

(b) TERMINATION OF RESTRICTIONS.—The determination and report referred to in subsection (a) is a determination by the President, reported to the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, that—

(1) North Korea has agreed to institute a total ban on exports of missiles, missile components, and missile technology;

(2) there is no credible evidence that North Korea has, during the 1-year period prior to the date of the President's determination, exported missiles, missile components, or missile technology;

(3) North Korea has terminated its long-range missile program, including all efforts to acquire, develop, test, produce, or deploy such missiles;

(4) North Korea is in full compliance with its obligations under the Agreed Framework;

(5) North Korea is in full compliance with its obligations under the Joint Declaration on Denuclearization;

(6) North Korea does not have the capability to enrich uranium, and is not seeking to acquire or develop such capability, or any additional capability to reprocess spent nuclear fuel; and

(7) North Korea has terminated its nuclear weapons program, including all efforts to acquire, develop, test, produce, or deploy such weapons; and

(c) REIMPOSITION OF RESTRICTIONS.—Should the President become aware of information establishing that North Korea—

(1) has exported missiles, missile components, or missile technology,

(2) is seeking to acquire, develop, test, produce, or deploy long-range missiles,

(3) is not in full compliance with its obligations under the Agreed Framework or the Joint Declaration on Denuclearization,

(4) has the capability to enrich uranium or is seeking to acquire or develop such capability or additional capability to reprocess spent nuclear fuel, or

(5) is seeking to acquire, develop, test, produce, or deploy nuclear weapons,

then the requirements of subsection (a) shall be reimposed notwithstanding any deter-

mination and report submitted under subsection (b).

SEC. 7. BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION.

(a) POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES.—It shall be the policy of the United States to work with friendly governments in the Asia-Pacific region to develop and deploy ballistic missile defense capable of countering ballistic missile threats in the region.

(b) JOINT EARLY WARNING SYSTEM.—Of the funds appropriated to carry out the provisions of section 23 of the Arms Export Control for fiscal year 2000, up to \$10,000,000 is authorized to be made available to support the establishment of a joint early warning system in the Asia-Pacific region. Such system shall have as its purpose the continuous sharing of information on missile launches detected by the governments participating in the system, and may include the establishment by such governments of a joint early warning center.

SEC. 8. REFUGEES FROM NORTH KOREA.

(a) POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES.—It shall be the policy of the United States to oppose the involuntary return of the North Korean refugees to North Korea, to support the provision of international assistance to such refugees in the People's Republic of China and other countries of asylum, and to facilitate the resettlement of such refugees in South Korea and other neighboring countries.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF ASSISTANCE FOR REFUGEES FROM NORTH KOREA.—Of the funds appropriated for "Migration and Refugee Assistance" for fiscal year 2000, up to \$30,000,000 is authorized to be made available for assistance to North Korean refugees in the People's Republic of China and other countries of asylum, and to support the resettlement of such refugees in South Korea and other neighboring countries.

SEC. 9. REPORT TO CONGRESS ON THE AGREED FRAMEWORK.

Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the Committees on International Relations and Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Foreign Relations and Appropriations of the Senate a report on the following:

(1) The projected total cost of the two 1000 MW(e) light water nuclear reactors that are to be constructed in North Korea pursuant to the Agreed Framework, the portion of this total cost that South Korea and Japan have committed to pay, the potential sources of funding for the portion of this total cost that South Korea and Japan have not committed to pay, and the maximum portion of this total cost, if any, that the President anticipates will be paid by the United States.

(2) Of the projected total cost identified in response to paragraph (1), the portion of this cost that North Korea will be obligated to repay, the likely terms upon which such repayment will be required, and the possible sources of revenue from which such repayment will be made.

(3) The degree to which North Korea's electrical power distribution network will have to be upgraded in order to distribute the electrical power that will be generated by the two 1000 MW(e) light water nuclear reactors that are to be constructed in North Korea pursuant to the Agreed Framework, the projected cost of such upgrades, and the possible sources of funding for such upgrades.

(4) The advantages to North Korea of building non-nuclear power plants rather than light water nuclear power plants, including—

(A) the cost saving that could be realized by building non-nuclear electric power plants with a total generation capacity of

2000 MW(e) rather than two light water nuclear power plants with that same capacity;

(B) the projected date by which non-nuclear electric power plants with a total generation capacity of 2000 MW(e) could be completed, compared with the projected date by which two light water nuclear power plants with that same capacity will be completed; and

(C) the advantages for electric power distribution that could be realized by building a number of non-nuclear electric power plants with a total generation capacity of 2000 MW(e) rather than two light water nuclear power plants with that same capacity.

SEC. 10. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) AGREED FRAMEWORK.—The term "Agreed Framework" means the "Agreed Framework Between the United States of America and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea", signed in Geneva on October 21, 1994, and the Confidential Minute to that Agreement.

(2) IAEA.—The term "IAEA" means the International Atomic Energy Agency.

(3) KEDO.—The term "KEDO" means the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization.

(4) NORTH KOREA.—The term "North Korea" means the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

(5) LONG RANGE MISSILE.—The term "long range missile" means a missile with a range of 1000 kilometers or more.

(6) JOINT DECLARATION ON DENUCLEARIZATION.—The term "Joint Declaration on Denuclearization" means the Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, signed by the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on January 1, 1992.

SENIORS SAFETY ACT OF 1999

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, crimes and abuses against seniors have become an increasing problem in America. From physical assault to health care fraud and telemarketing scams, which cost Americans approximately \$40 billion per year, our seniors are being abused physically and financially. Such abuses take place intentionally, but also in the form of neglect. For example, seniors in nursing homes often fail to receive the care and medications they need—an alarming occurrence considering that some experts estimate that over 40 percent of seniors will need some form of nursing care.

This is why I, along with Representatives UDALL and HOEFFEL, am introducing the Seniors Safety Act of 1999. This bill represents a comprehensive solution to the problems I've just described. It takes a two-pronged approach—prevention and punishment—to crimes against seniors, including health care fraud, injury, telemarketing scams, nursing home neglect.

In addressing prevention, the bill directs the Attorney General to conduct a study of what crimes are committed, what the risk factors are, and what strategies can prevent future occurrences. From that information, we can create real solutions to this ever-increasing problem. The bill also directs the Sentencing Commission to determine whether enhanced

punishments would deter such crimes from recurring.

We are facing a crisis in this country—a crisis of abuse and neglect of America's seniors. With this legislation, we can work in a bipartisan manner with our colleagues in the House and Senate to ensure that they are not taken advantage of anymore.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
PRESIDENT OF TAIWAN, THE
HONORABLE LEE TENG-HUI

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of our colleagues in the United States Congress and our great Nation, I want to take this opportunity to extend to the President of Taiwan, the Honorable Lee Teng-Hui, our deepest congratulations on his third anniversary in office, which shall be celebrated tomorrow, May 20th.

Mr. Speaker, President Lee is to be commended for his astute leadership of the affairs of Taiwan, which is reflected by Taiwan's enviable position of prosperity and stability as it prepared to enter the 21st century.

While much of the Asia-Pacific region is still mired in the turbulent winds of the Asian financial crisis, Taiwan's economy has weathered the storm remarkably well. In the last three years, President Lee's policies have directly contributed to steady economic growth in Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, President Lee is to be further commended for expending Taiwan's substantive relations with countries in the international community. Taiwan is too important of an economic force to be relegated into political isolation. To that effect, President Lee must be credited with recently establishing diplomatic ties with the nation of Macedonia.

I am also encouraged, Mr. Speaker, that President Lee has acknowledged the critical importance of Maintaining positive relations with the People's Republic of China. In recognition of that vital goal, President Lee has strongly supported continuing the Cross-Strait Dialogue with the PRC. This dialogue is crucial for resolving misunderstandings between Beijing and Taipei and Washington, and is of fundamental importance in maintaining peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait and for all of Asia.

Mr. Speaker, the people of the United States have been and will always be close friends of the good people of Taiwan. At this auspicious time celebrating the third anniversary of President Lee's tenure in office, let us all join in wishing President Lee and the people of Taiwan continued good health, peace and prosperity in the years ahead.

INDIAN DEFENSE MINISTER'S
STATEMENT SHOWS THAT INDIA
IS ANTI-AMERICAN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, we knew that India was a repressive tyranny. Now they

have shown us how anti-American they are. I was offended by an article in the May 18 issue of the Indian Express, which Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, shared with me. In the article, the Indian Defense Minister, a man named George Fernandes, describes the United States as "vulgarily arrogant" and accused the United States and NATO of "aggression against Yugoslavia."

The meeting he was addressing, which was called by India, was also attended by representatives from China, Cuba, Yugoslavia, Russia, Libya, and Iraq, which leads me to wonder where the North Koreans were. They belong in this motley collection of America-bashers as much as any of these other countries.

The article says that everyone at the meeting agreed that "We have to stop the U.S. It started with Iraq, now Yugoslavia. We don't know who's next." The Russian Ambassador asked "India and China to join us in stopping U.S. attempts to dominate the world."

I would like to remind my colleagues that India is one of the largest recipients of American foreign aid. Does this sound to you like a country we should be supporting with the tax dollars of the American people? It doesn't sound like that kind of country to me.

Remember that it was India that started the nuclear arms race in South Asia by setting off five nuclear devices. It is India that refuses to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. India has attacked Pakistan twice and invaded Sri Lanka once.

Whether or not one agrees with President Clinton's policy in Kosovo, we went there to stop the "ethnic cleansing" of the Kosovars by the Serbian government. Yet we have averted our glance from a similar campaign throughout India, a situation the Indian Supreme Court described as "worse than a genocide." This ethnic cleansing has taken the lives of over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, over 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, over 60,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988, and thousands upon thousands of Dalits, Assamese, Manipuris, Tamils, and other minority peoples. India claims that it is democratic, but there is not democracy for these and other minorities. Currently, there are 17 independence movements in the nations under Indian control. Now India is joining with some of the world's most tyrannical police states in a joint effort to "stop the U.S." Not only that, but the so-called "world's largest democracy" organized the meeting.

We must stop funneling American money to countries that are repressive and are conspiring with our enemies against this country. We should place stringent economic sanctions on India to stop the repression and the anti-American activities, and we should apply every kind of peaceful pressure that we can to secure for the minority peoples and nations of South Asia the right to determine their own futures democratically in a free and fair vote, not by the force of Indian bayonets. This is our duty to the people of the world. We must begin today.

I would like my colleagues to read the Indian Express article, which is alarming, so I would like to submit it for the RECORD.

GEORGE LEADS ENVOYS IN BASHING 'A
VULGARLY ARROGANT US'

New Delhi, May 17: Yugoslavia, Iraq, Cuba, Libya, Russia, China—and India. That these

countries produce the world's finest boxers probably had something to do with a session of US-bashing inside stuffy, old Sapru House in Delhi today. And also that each one of them have had a diplomatic disagreement with the US some time or the other. Defence Minister George Fernandes' Samata Party had organised the meeting "to denounce the US-led NATO's aggression on Yugoslavia". Fernandes, typically led from the front against a "much stronger and a vulgarly arrogant United States" since the days of the Vietnam war. Envoys from the other six countries to India added a long list of adjectives in the same vein.

"We have to stop the US," agreed everyone, "It started with Iraq, now Yugoslavia. We don't know who's next." In their anxiety, and in their furious speeches, there were subtle messages being put across. Like Yugoslav Ambassador Cedomir Strbac's statement that Belgrade was ready to "guarantee all Kosovars substantial autonomy" in accordance with international standards.

"But only if NATO stops its air strikes and a political dialogue is initiated in accordance with Gandhian principles. We are ready to accept a solution which respects our

freedom, sovereignty and territorial integrity," he said.

Others said the Cold War may be over, and the USSR may have disintegrated, but watch out for a new world order. "They (the US) are showing Russia and others what they can do. We want India and China to join us in stopping US attempts to dominate the world. The equation is: To be, or not to be," said Russian Ambassador Albert S. Tchernshyev.

"The forthcoming 21st century should not witness a unipolar world," added China's political counsellor Liu Jenfeng, venting China's anger over NATO's bombing the Chinese embassy in Belgrade which left three dead and 20 injured.

The ambassadors from Cuba, Libya and Iraq narrated their stories to express support for "Yugoslavia's resilience". "How can they pretend to solve a conflict by using destructive weapons themselves. For 38 years, they have held us to ransom with embargos," said Cuban Ambassador Olga Chamero Trias. "We have been called terrorists and law-breakers all these years. Now who is breaking the law?" said Libyan Ambassador Nuri Al-Fituri El-Madani. "People in Kosovo are becoming refugees because they are fleeing

from the bombing, not because there is ethnic cleansing. We in Iraq know what it means to live in the middle of bombs exploding all around," said Iraqi ambassador Salah Al-Mukhtar.

George Fernandes agreed, and summarised. He said the US has run away from all norms set by the United Nations. "The UN hardly has a say these days, America merely wished its way to doing what it's doing. Therefore, we (referring to Russia, China, India, Libya, Cuba, Iraq and Libya) who represent more than half the world's population must get together to stop the US-led NATO hegemony."

He pointed out that the new doctrine adopted by NATO on its 50th anniversary on April 23, when Yugoslav towns were being bombed, made it clear that the military alliance was free to attack any sovereign country if it "thought that country was doing or was likely to do anything against the interests of any NATO country". Fernandes added: "That the United States is the author of this doctrine does not need to be emphasised here."

At the end of it all, inside the stuffy, old auditorium, an emotional Yugoslav ambassador Strbac stood up and said "Jai Hind".

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, May 20, 1999 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 24

1 p.m.
Aging
To hold hearings to examine Health Care Financing Administration assessment's of home health care access. SD-366

1:30 p.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
Business meeting to markup proposed legislation making appropriations for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Defense. SD-192

MAY 25

9:30 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings on S.798, to promote electronic commerce by encouraging and facilitating the use of encryption in interstate commerce consistent with the protection of national security. SR-253

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider the Health Information Confidentiality Act; S.Con.Res.28, urging the Congress and the President to increase funding for the Pell Grant Program and existing Campus-Based Aid Programs; the nomination of James Roger Angel, of Arizona, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation; and the nomination of Zalmay Khalilzad, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States Institute of Peace. SD-628

Year 2000 Technology Problem
To hold hearings to explore individual and community Y2K preparedness, and the media's role in providing Y2K information. SH-216

Energy and Natural Resources
To hold oversight hearings on state progress in retail electricity competition. SD-366

10 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Liability, and Compensation Act of 1980 (Superfund). SD-406

Foreign Relations
Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Subcommittee
To hold hearings on political and military developments in India. SD-562

Finance
To resume oversight hearings on the enforcement activities of the United States Customs Service, focusing on commercial operations. SD-215

Judiciary
To hold hearings to review the Library of Congress' Copyright Office report on distance education in the digital environment. SD-226

Small Business
To hold hearings relating to education and business success. SR-428A

2:15 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Aviation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for research and development programs for the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation. SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S.140, to establish the Thomas Cole National Historic Site in the State of New York as an affiliated area of the National Park System; S.734, entitled the "National Discovery Trails Act of 1999"; S.762, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study on the inclusion of the Miami Circle in Biscayne National Park; S.938, to eliminate restrictions on the acquisition of certain land contiguous to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park; S.939, to correct spelling errors in the statutory designations of Hawaiian National Parks; S.946, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to transfer administrative jurisdiction over land within the boundaries of the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site to the Archivist of the United States for the construction of a visitor center; and S.955, to allow the National Park Service to acquire certain land for addition to the Wilderness Battlefield in Virginia, as previously authorized by law, by purchase or exchange as well as by donation. SD-366

MAY 26

9:30 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Liability, and Compensation Act of 1980 (Superfund). SD-406

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Employment, Safety and Training Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine mine safety and health issues. SD-628

Indian Affairs
To hold oversight hearings on Native American Youth Activities and Initiatives. SR-485

10 a.m.
Judiciary
Immigration Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine immigrant contributions to the United States Armed Forces. SD-226

Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine a protocol to reconstitute the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty with four new partners. SD-562

2 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold oversight hearings on activities of the Federal Communications Commission. SR-253

Intelligence
To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters. SH-219

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S.510, to preserve the sovereignty of the United States over public lands and acquired lands owned by the United States, and to preserve State sovereignty and private property rights in non-Federal lands surrounding those public lands and acquired lands. SD-366

MAY 27

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings on the nomination of David L. Goldwyn, of the District of Columbia to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (International Affairs). SD-366

10 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings on S.761, to regulate interstate commerce by electronic means by permitting and encouraging the continued expansion of electronic commerce through the operation of free market forces. SR-253

Foreign Relations
East Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the Chinese Embassy bombing and its effects on United States-China relations. SD-562

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for the National Endowment for the Arts. SD-628

2 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Water and Power Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S.623, to amend Public Law 89-108 to increase authorization levels for State and Indian tribal, municipal, rural, and industrial water supplies, to meet current and future water quantity and quality needs of the Red River Valley, to deauthorize certain project features and irrigation service areas, to enhance natural resources and fish and wildlife habitat; S.244, to authorize the construction of the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System and to authorize assistance to the Lewis and

Clark Rural Water System, Inc., a non-profit corporation, for the planning and construction of the water supply system; S.769, to provide a final settlement on certain debt owed by the city of Dickinson, North Dakota, for the construction of the bascule gates on the Dickinson Dam; and S.1027, to reauthorize the participation of the Bureau of Reclamation in the Deschutes Resources Conservancy.

SD-366

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings on the nomination of David B. Sandalow, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs.

SD-562

2:30 p.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Aging Subcommittee

To resume hearings on issues relating to the Older Americans Act.

SD-628

JUNE 9

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee

To resume hearings on the implementation of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st century.

SD-406

2 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on the process to determine the future of the four lower Snake River dams and conduct oversight on the Northwest Power Planning Council's Framework Process.

SD-366

JUNE 17

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings on mergers and consolidations in the communications industry.

SR-253

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings on S.533, to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to authorize local governments and Governors to restrict receipt of out-of-State municipal solid waste; and S.872, to impose certain limits on the receipt of out-of-State municipal solid waste, to authorize State and local controls over the flow of municipal solid waste.

SD-406

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