

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## TIME FOR A NATIONAL DIALOGUE ON THE GROWTH OF GAMBLING

**HON. TIM ROEMER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, after two years of research and public hearings, the National Gambling Impact Study Commission has just completed its report and findings on the growth of gambling in America.

It is an eye-opening report which I hope every Federal, State, local and tribal government which sponsors gambling activities will take the time to read and consider.

At the same time, I hope this report will serve as the starting point for a national dialogue on gambling, so we can begin to make some informed decisions about gambling and its impact on people.

The NGISC made a number of major recommendations in its report. Perhaps most important of all, the commissioners unanimously recommended a "pause," or moratorium, on the growth of new gambling activities, to give governments further time to research and assess the impact of gambling on society.

Mr. Speaker, this is an extraordinary recommendation. It reflects the genuine concern among the Commission members—many of whom work in the gambling industry itself—about the dangerous and unpredictable consequences of the explosive growth of gambling we have experienced in recent years.

Here are some of the Commission's other major findings:

(1) The Commission determined that unregulated growth of the gambling industry is seen as a "dangerous course of action";

(2) They determined that the more Americans are presented with opportunities to gamble, the more concern there is about problem and pathological gambling, and that the social, legal and financial consequences of gambling addiction are severe;

(3) They determined that technology is revolutionizing the gambling industry, and that the internet in particular poses serious legal, economic and social concerns which the nation is not prepared to deal with; and

(4) They concluded that many policy makers have been forced to make decisions about expanding gambling with virtually no credible studies to rely on and, at best, only an assessment of the perceived social impacts.

Mr. Speaker, it is not hard to find anecdotal evidence about the risks associated with gambling. In Indiana, a recent report by the Governor's Study Commission on Gambling showed that average losses among gamblers have increased by 20% in the three years since riverboat gambling was first introduced. Gambling losses now make up nearly one percent of what Indiana residents spend each year.

If National averages hold true, a disproportionate amount of these losses are coming from low-income households, the elderly and

young people—those Americans most vulnerable. Clearly, we need to be concerned about this growing problem.

Just this week, the Gallup Poll surveyed Americans' views about gambling. Among the major findings, 56% of adults believe that casinos have a negative impact on family and community life in the cities in which they operate. Another two-thirds of both the adults and teens surveyed believe that betting on sports events leads to cheating or fixing of games, while 57% of adults oppose legalized betting on sports events as a way to raise state revenue.

Overall, 76% of Americans surveyed expressed the view that gambling should either stay at current levels or be reduced or banned. Clearly, the vast majority of Americans support the Commission's call for a moratorium on new gambling activities.

The NGISC has made a number of positive recommendations in its report, including:

(1) That Congress authorize a general research strategy to build a knowledge of gambling behavior, including research on the social and economic impacts of gambling, and the impacts on crime and property values;

(2) That Governors and State legislatures fund objective studies on the prevalence of problem and pathological gamblers, and undertake research, education and treatment programs for problem gamblers;

(3) That enforceable advertising guidelines be adopted for the gambling industry, particularly as they relate to youths and low-income neighborhoods; and

(4) That a strategy be developed to prohibit internet gambling within the United States;

These are just a few of the major recommendations which the commission made.

In response to this report, Congressmen FRANK WOLF, JOHN LAFALCE and I have just introduced a resolution which encourages Federal, State, local and tribal governments to review the findings of the National Gambling Impact Study Commission, and to consider the implementation of its recommendations.

The NGISC has delivered a powerful warning about the dangers of the unregulated growth of gambling. It is time now to build on this report, and develop a strategy to respond to the many concerns brought about by the rapid acceleration of gambling in our society.

## LISTING MOUNTAIN PLOVER AS "THREATENED"

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, Colorado's farmers, ranchers, and water and property owners are under assault by the federal government. They face devastatingly low commodity prices, high equipment costs, onerous federal regulations and endangered species policy driven by Boulder-based, special-

interest environmental lawsuits. My response to the proposed listing of the mountain plover as "threatened" under the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 is as follows.

After reviewing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS) proposal to list the mountain plover as threatened, I adamantly oppose this listing because it is scientifically flawed, would devastate the eastern plains economy, fails to adequately consider reasonable alternatives, and contradicts other federal programs benefiting the plains environment.

First, the science used to support the listing is highly suspect and lacks the degree of certainty necessary to proceed with a comprehensive, intrusive and restrictive regulatory regime. The inadequacy of the cited population data is unacceptable. Throughout the listing, extrapolated estimates are relied upon for population numbers, which lays an insufficient scientific foundation. Even if the estimates referenced had a statistical basis, we are told, "The estimates of abundance provided for each state or area are usually from different researchers, from different times, and using different techniques. Therefore, the estimates should not be considered comparable to one another or necessarily additive." (64 FR 7591) Because the FWS population research methods were not compatible, the FWS relied upon dissimilar estimates. Federal regulations, especially those as pervasive as the ESA's, should never be based on approximations.

Furthermore, almost no population data from private lands is referenced. Since most of the land in the identified plover habitat range for Colorado is privately owned, and approximately 75 percent of all wildlife is found on private property, the total number of mountain plovers is certain to be significantly higher. The absence of private land surveys is also concerning because plovers prefer to nest on prairie dog colonies, at least 90 percent of which currently exist on private lands. It is beyond doubt a large number of additional plovers would be found if private land surveys were conducted. Clearly, the FWS does not have definitive evidence of the bird's actual numbers within Colorado, in other states, or as an aggregate across its range.

The FWS was involved in a similar situation with the swift fox. A federal ESA listing was proposed before comprehensive population surveys were completed, an effort abandoned after thorough surveys were conducted. The same situation could occur with the plover. The FWS must not proceed with this listing until an accurate, scientifically-based survey is conducted on both public and private lands through voluntary and confidential participation.

While the population questions are significant, there are other issues undermining the scientific basis of the listing. According to FWS biologists, drought threatens the plover. However, wet years also endanger the bird due to higher rates of grass growth. In fact, FWS biologists admit, "The long-term effect of such naturally occurring catastrophes on

• 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.

mountain plover viability is not known." (64 FR 7596) In addition, the Service admits to no correlation between increasing numbers of coyotes and foxes, predators of the plover, and declining bird numbers. While predators are discussed, the only conclusion offered is, "A high rate of nest predation by swift fox . . . is not believed to be a factor in the long-term decline of the mountain plover population." (64 FR 7595) Yet, no hard evidence is given to support this claim.

Moreover, the effects of pesticides, especially in California, are not completely known. And, no significant data exists from wintering areas in Mexico or nesting regions in Canada. The only conclusion possible is that neither the current scientific and field research, nor the information presented in this listing, supports federal ESA protection of the bird.

Second, very little thought is given to the impacts of this listing on farmers, ranchers and private property owners. Significant hardship will be borne by landowners, and I have seen almost no attempt to address the devastating results a plover listing would inflict on traditional agricultural and non-agricultural practices on the eastern Colorado plains. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) wrote that the plover listing "may adversely impact a number of common agricultural practices in the short-grass prairie region of the United States." [Letter attached for the record.]

For example, the inability of farmers to plant their crops in early summer would be devastating. Most planting on the eastern plains of Colorado occurs in late April through mid-May, which coincides with the plover's nesting. According to the FWS, normal farming practices on cultivated lands would not result in an ESA section 9 violation if they took place between August 10 and April 1. (64 FR 7599) Obviously, producers must be allowed to plant during this time, or the eastern plains economy, already weakened by a national agriculture crisis, would collapse due to devalued land, unemployment, and relocation.

In addition, the listing states the decline of the bird is due, in part, to the tilling of fields between April and June, even though "the long-term effect of tilling on mountain plover productivity and abundance is not known." (64 FR 7593) The land is worked during this time for a number of reasons, including weed and erosion control. While "no-till" and "minimum-till" methods are being used more often, turning the ground is usually the only option for a producer. Chemical options also exist, but they are prohibitively expensive and could impair the plover and its habitat. Consequently, this petition would reduce the value of private lands by banning land management tilling, and/or encourage an increased use of pesticides.

The FWS claims to be working on developing land use recommendations to benefit both plovers and landowners. Since I have yet to see any such suggestions, I must ask how planting during this critical time could possibly be changed, except to stop all planting and tilling? Also, how would these changes be beneficial to farmers and ranchers?

Further evidence of the listing's flawed logic is evident in the following statement: "Grassland conversion may be considered a threat to mountain plover conservation whether or not the grasslands are presently suitable breeding

habitat." (64 FR 7593) This contradictory conclusion is advanced because the conversion of grasslands to productive agricultural lands creates locally acceptable plover habitat. (64 FR 7593) In other words, if an area where the plover doesn't exist is developed by a farmer, and the bird subsequently nests on the newly cultivated land, then the FWS will impose regulations on the farmer and his land to protect this habitat, which was not plover habitat in the first place. So, the farmer's initiative to create new, productive farmland from non-plover grassland is rewarded by regulation, limitation and ultimately, ruination. Consequently, this listing will likely result in two unfavorable outcomes: (1) Farmers will choose not to convert grassland into productive farmland, thus limiting the bird's habitat and the farmer's prosperity, reducing food production, and hurting Colorado's economy; (2) Farmers will attempt to farm, but stop due to onerous mitigation measures, thereby causing the land to revert to non-plover habitat, limiting the farmer's prosperity, reducing food production, and hurting Colorado's economy. In other words, this listing, whether intended or not, would suppress the development of new farmland, stifle current agricultural activity, and actually reduce potential plover habitat.

Further, oil and gas development would suffer if the plover is listed as threatened. Leasing and extraction of these natural resources exists over its entire breeding range. However, since the "development of oil and gas resources could adversely affect mountain plover habitat or cause the death of individuals," such activities would be heavily regulated. (64 FR 7595)

In the end, all landowners on Colorado's eastern plains stand to lose if the plover is listed. Their land will lose value due to ESA regulations prohibiting the "taking" of endangered species, which would restrict and/or modify how the land could be used. In fact, they will be forced to sustain plover habitat, which will substantially interfere with farming, ranching, building and/or developing natural resources.

Eastern Coloradans have successfully used, enhanced and protected the eastern Colorado plains by providing millions of dollars in agriculture products and improving water quality, soil erosion and wildlife habitat. Priority has to be given to coordination with landowners on reasonable conservation measures. Farmers and ranchers are the best stewards of the land and a friend to the plover; they should be trusted, included in the process, given incentive to collaborate, and flexibility to mitigate.

Third, states, local governments and communities have successfully demonstrated the viability of collaborative on-the-ground solutions in place of command-and-control dictates from Washington. There are a number of partnerships to preserve species, including the High Plains Partnership for Species at Risk, the Western Governor's Association Enlira doctrine for Environmental Management, and the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, to name a few. The FWS would get better cooperation and results from states and localities if it pursued non-regulatory solutions, and I strongly advise the FWS to pursue this option if the plover is indeed threatened.

Another example of a cooperative partnership is the Memorandum of Agreement, Concerning Programs to Manage Colorado's Declining Native Species, between the state of

Colorado and the U.S. Department of the Interior, which was signed on November 29, 1995. This agreement, also known as the Colorado Conservation Agreement, attempts to facilitate collaboration in conserving fish and wildlife species and habitat within Colorado, including the mountain plover. Even though the FWS listing mentions this ground-breaking partnership, there are no facts given to support either its continuation or elimination. (64 FR 7599)

Many efforts are underway to benefit this species in Colorado and throughout its range. Such endeavors ought to be allowed to produce results before they are bypassed because they could preempt the need for significant federal intervention. Therefore, I strongly disagree with the FWS conclusion that the only way to protect the plover is an ESA listing.

Fourth, a number of federal agencies and programs will have to be drastically altered to accommodate the listing. Such counter-productive, conflicting interagency relationships indicate systemic flaws in the proposal and waste the American taxpayer's hard-earned money.

The listing would impact the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) assistance to producers in eastern Colorado. Affected programs could include the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Wildlife Habitat Incentives (WHIP), and/or the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). These conservation programs would have to be reviewed in consultation with the FWS under section 7 of the ESA. Thousands of producers in eastern Colorado receive technical assistance from NRCS programs. A significant amount of time, money and manpower would be required to review each case for ESA compliance, which would delay the implementation of conservation practices and hurt the species and habitats currently prospering under these programs.

The USDA Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), widely considered to benefit both agriculture and the environment, encourages tall grasses for wildlife habitat and ecosystem health. The FWS asserts the plover requires habitat with little grass and/or bare ground. Should the bird be listed, it could thwart conservation efforts designed to help other species and the environment. Is one species to be saved at the expense of another? Moreover, to what extent are these and other conflicting policies contributing to the decline of the plover? The FWS should proactively address these programs, in conjunction with farmers, ranchers and other landowners, before a listing is finalized. Has, or will, the FWS take such a common-sense, initial step before listing the plover? Voluntary, collaborative arrangements would net much better results than coercive, punitive regulations.

I urge the FWS to suspend any further listing action until a comprehensive, scientifically rigorous, locally inclusive research project can be completed on the status of the mountain plover population and ecosystem. Further, the FWS must be cautious during this listing process unless the good accomplished by the people of eastern Colorado is undone and their lives irreparably harmed. Additionally, the state of Colorado and local communities ought to be given the lead role in conserving the species. Other federal agencies must also be consulted prior to listing the mountain plover to clarify contradictory land use policies. Finally, the

FWS must ensure all available information is reviewed by an objective scientific panel per the July 1, 1994 FWS Notice of Policy for ESA Peer Review and the Colorado Conservation Agreement before a determination is made.

Given these factors, the FWS must thoroughly consider whether the proposal "presents substantial scientific and commercial information to demonstrate the petitioned action may be warranted." (16 USC 1531) Nothing in this listing supports the conclusion that the plover is threatened by extinction in the near future. As a result, the only decision the FWS can reach is to decline listing the mountain plover as threatened under the federal ESA. I therefore restate my opposition to this listing.

CONSEQUENCES FOR JUVENILE  
OFFENDERS ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

**HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 1999*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1501) to provide grants to ensure increased accountability for juvenile offenders:

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Mr. Chairman, I am very disappointed that many of my colleagues voted for the McCollum amendment yesterday. However, we can right this wrong by supporting the Conyers-Scott substitute.

This substitute is fundamentally right because juvenile delinquents will not be jailed with adult criminals. In fact, when you compare New York youth who were prosecuted in adult court with youth with similar charges and prior records in New Jersey who were prosecuted in juvenile court—convictions were no more likely in adult court, punishment was imposed less swiftly, incarceration was less likely, and sentences were nearly identical.

This substitute is fundamentally right because it requires states to address the issue of minority confinement. Minority children are 1/3 of the youth population, but 2/3 of the children in long-term facilities. Studies indicate that minority youth receive tougher sentences and are more likely to be put in jail than non-minority youth for the same offenses.

The substitute is fundamentally right because it would place 20,000 crisis prevention counselors in schools and fund crisis prevention programs—which brings me to an issue that goes hand-in-hand with juvenile justice—the need for educational programs to make sure our children are not getting involved in criminal behavior in the first place.

Research has demonstrated that aggressive prevention programs and alternatives to incarceration are most effective in reducing crime.

In fact, when asked to rank the long-term effectiveness of possible crime fighting approaches, a majority of police chiefs picked "increasing investments in programs that help all children and youth get a good start" as "most effective"—nearly four times as often as "trying juveniles as adults."

Children in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters mentoring programs showed that children par-

ticipating in the program were 46% less likely to initiate drug use.

Cincinnati's violence prevention programs resulted in a 24% drop in crime.

A similar gang-reduction program in Ft. Worth, Texas, resulted in a 26% drop in gang-related crime.

We need to fight crime by putting more monies into education and crime prevention programs like the ones I mentioned and—after-school programs.

The majority of juvenile crimes take place between 3 pm to 6 pm. We need to have enough educational activities after-school to keep our youth mentally busy.

We need more after-school jobs for our youth. I would like to see the President and Congress develop AmeriCorps' programs for high school students throughout the year.

We need to invest in our youth's present so they can have a bright future—without ever facing the juvenile justice system.

CONGRATULATING THERESA SUTTON AS ILLINOIS POSTMASTER OF THE YEAR

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I take this time to congratulate Theresa Sutton from Brighton, Illinois for the National Association of Postmasters of the United States naming her Postmaster of the Year for the state of Illinois.

The small community postmaster responded to the award, "I have some dedicated employees that really work hard. That makes my job a lot easier." Theresa Sutton will meet in Washington, D.C. along with award recipients from other states in order to meet with Representatives and Senators about postal issues.

I commend her dedication and service to the United States Postal Service. With the necessity for efficient postal services, I am comforted that the 20th District has quality postmasters like Theresa Sutton.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY  
RECOGNIZES DR. ROBERT ANGELO

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the accomplishments of Dr. Robert Angelo and his contributions to the community. Over the course of the last twenty-five years, Dr. Angelo has worked as a consultant, teacher, advisor, and advocate.

Dr. Angelo served for eight years as the International Director of the AFSCME International Union, the largest public employee organization in the AFL-CIO. As director, he worked throughout the United States organizing campaigns, negotiations, and public events. Dr. Angelo continues to work as a labor arbitrator for the New Jersey State Board of Mediation, and is called upon by pri-

vate and public sector management to adjudicate disputes arising from collective bargaining agreements.

An educator with a long and commendable career, Dr. Angelo received his B.A. in Economics from Colgate University, an MBA from Drexel University, and has been recently conferred with a doctorate from Rutgers University in Education. He began his career as a college administrator at Middlesex County College in central New Jersey where he was responsible for directing the nationally recognized Occupational Safety and Health training project. At Thomas Edison State College, Dr. Angelo served as a mentor and consultant in the Labor Studies and Organizational Behavior departments. He later was a lecturer and extension faculty member in the School of Management and Labor Relations at Rutgers University, where he taught graduate and undergraduate-level classes.

In 1993, Dr. Angelo founded Capitol Ideas, a multi-service consulting organization dedicated to organizational advocacy and promotion. Capitol Ideas works with a variety of private, public, and non-profit groups to design and implement political, educational, and promotional programs.

Dr. Angelo lives with his wife, Meryle, in East Brunswick, New Jersey. He currently represents SEIU State Council, SEIU Local 510, and IFPTE 195, and continues to work as the CEO of Capitol Ideas and a Professor of Labor Studies at Rutgers University.

Dr. Robert Angelo has demonstrated dedication to his goals and to the community. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Angelo's accomplishments.

HONORING THE SPECIAL GRADUATES OF MIDDLE SCHOOL 88

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, It is with great pride that I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating special graduates of the 12th Congressional District of New York. I am certain that this day marks the culmination of much effort and hard work which has led and will lead them to continued success. In these times of uncertainty, limited resources, and random violence in our communities and schools, it is encouraging to know that they have overcome these obstacles and succeeded.

These students have learned that education is priceless. They understand that education is the tool to new opportunities and greater endeavors. Their success is not only a tribute to their strength but also to the support they have received from their parents and loved ones.

In closing, I encourage all my colleagues to support the education of the youth of America. With a solid education, today's youth will be tomorrow's leaders. And as we approach the new millennium, it is our responsibility to pave the road for this great Nation's future. Members of the U.S. House of Representatives I ask you to join me in congratulating the following Academic Achievement Award Recipients: Marilyn Li and Daniel Ortiz.

## HOUSE CHAPLAIN SEARCH

**HON. TOM BLILEY**

OF VIRGINIA

**EARL POMEROY**

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, as co-chairs of the chaplain search committee we are announcing to Members that we have begun our initial stages of the search. We encourage Members to recommend qualified candidates to the search committee. They may do so by forwarding applicant materials to the Speaker's office, H-232 Capitol, House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515, Attention: House Chaplain Search Committee. Applicant materials should include a cover letter and resume.

As you know, the House Chaplain prepares and delivers the daily prayer in the House of Representatives; coordinates the use of the Prayer Room; speaks to visiting groups and gives invocations at events; assists Members in contacts with religious groups; conducts wedding ceremonies, visits hospitals and conducts memorial services; and is available at all times for pastoral counseling to Members and staff.

The chaplain is one of five elected officers of the House of Representatives. The chaplain is paid \$132,100 per year.

The other members of the search committee are: LOIS CAPPS, HELEN CHENOWETH, JAY DICKEY, CAL DOOLEY, ANNA ESHOO, STEVE LARGENT, JOHN LEWIS, JOE PITTS, RALPH REGULA, CIRO RODRIQUEZ, ROBERT SCOTT, JOHN SHIMKUS, TED STRICKLAND, ZACH WAMP, HENRY WAXMAN, and DAVE WELDON.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 212, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING THE LIFE OF  
GOVERNOR BOB BULLOCK**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

**HON. JIM TURNER**

OF TEXAS

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

**HON. CHET EDWARDS**

OF TEXAS

**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

**HON. LLOYD DOGGETT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, my colleagues and I and the State of Texas

lost a legend. Lt. Governor Bob Bullock passed away at the age of 69.

Before coming to Congress, we served with Governor Bullock as members of the Texas State Senate. No Texan stood taller than Bob Bullock in his knowledge of Texas Government, his influence over the affairs of Texas and his deep commitment to our State.

His love for our state was legendary. Each time he spoke of Texas, the feeling of his pride was very clear. He always said, "I have no agenda but what's good for Texas. And I have no love, but Texas."

Governor Bullock was born in Hillsboro, Texas on July 10, 1929. He was elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1956 and was reelected in 1958. While still in the Texas Legislature, Governor Bullock enrolled in law school. He earned a law degree from Baylor University as well as a bachelor's degree from Texas Tech University. He was also a graduate of Hill College in his hometown.

Governor Bullock also served as an assistant attorney general, heading up the first anti-trust and consumer protection division in that office. He won several historic cases including a multi-million dollar recovery from five large drug companies that conspired to fix prices. Bob Bullock held other positions in Texas State government, serving on the Texas Historical Commission, on the staff of former Governor Preston Smith, and as the Texas Secretary of State.

In 1974, Bullock was elected Comptroller of Public Accounts. He would serve four terms as the state's chief tax collector. His tenure as Comptroller was marked by innovation and efficiency. He became the first elected state official to adopt an equal employment opportunity program. He was among the first elected officials to use computer technology in state government to cut costs and improve productivity. He developed a Taxpayer Bill of Rights to guarantee that Texas taxpayers were treated with fairness, courtesy and common sense.

In 1990, Bob Bullock was elected Lieutenant Governor, a job considered the most powerful in the State of Texas. In this position, he presided over the Texas Senate, made committee appointments, sat on key government boards, and controlled the flow of legislation in the Senate.

As the presiding officer of the Texas Senate, Governor Bullock overhauled the ethics laws in an effort to restore public confidence in state government. He created the Texas Performance Review to analyze spending at state agencies and recommend cost-saving alternatives. He pushed through a constitutional amendment requiring voter approval before a state personal income tax could be enacted and if the voters approved the tax, requiring the money be earmarked for education.

Governor Bullock is survived by his wife, Jan; a son, Robert D. (Bobby) Bullock, Jr. of Austin; a daughter and her husband, Lindy and Phil Ward of Austin; a grandson, Grant Bullock Robinson of Austin; a stepdaughter and her husband, Kimberly and Jeff Ader of Houston; and a brother and his wife, Tom and Jane Bullock of Brenham. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews. Two sisters, Sara Read and Louisa Bond preceded him in death. We would like to offer our sincere condolences to Jan and the rest of his family.

Governor Bullock's accomplishments were shaped by his desire to make Texas the best state in the union. Governor Bob Bullock al-

ways ended his speeches with, "God bless Texas." Today, we would like to add, "God bless Bob Bullock."

TRIBUTE TO DR. J. DANIEL  
STEWART**HON. JOE SCARBOROUGH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has dedicated 25 years of his life to protecting the people of this great nation and ensuring the American way of life. This gentleman has distinguished himself as a community leader, a dedicated family man, and a decorated civil servant in the United States Air Force. The man I speak about today is Dr. J. Daniel Stewart, Executive Director, Air Force Development Test Center at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

I could praise Dr. Stewart for his many successes as an engineer, an innovative manager and leader, or his demonstrated commitment to doing what it takes to get our warfighters the weapon systems they need. I could mention his many academic accomplishments earning multiple advanced degrees from some of our most prestigious institutions. Or I could applaud his decorations including the Presidential Rank Award ranking him in the top one per cent of civil servants in recognition to his contributions to National Defense. But I'm sure Dr. Stewart would say that those accomplishments were just part of his duty.

Mr. Speaker, these accomplishments only begin to describe the caliber of a man like Dr. Stewart. Ralph Waldo Emerson once said that what people say about you behind your back is the true measure of your character. The words said about Dr. Stewart behind his back include: honest, loyal, dedicated, courageous, honorable, hard working, and a true gentleman. From the time he entered federal service at the Air Force Rocket Propulsion Laboratory at Edwards Air Force Base in 1974 until today, when he leaves Eglin AFB to assume his new responsibilities as Executive Director of the Air Force Material Command, Dr. Stewart has shown a standard of excellence and dedication to duty that made him stand out as a man of intellect, skill, and integrity.

Dr. Stewart's dedication to his country serves as a model in the lives of the hundreds of civil servants, Air Force officers and enlisted personnel he has trained, supervised, and encouraged. The legacy Dr. Stewart leaves behind at Eglin Air Force Base as Executive Director, Air Force Development Test Center, will remain an inspiration to the men and women that were fortunate enough to serve under his leadership.

TRIBUTE TO WEST POINT  
GRADUATE RALPH WARE**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize a young man dedicated to excellence in the service of his country. On May 29,

1999, Cadet Captain Ralph Ware of Aurora, Colorado, graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

The United States Military Academy is among the most prestigious military academies in all the world. The Academy selects only the best and brightest young people of our nation to serve and study at West Point for four years. Once admitted, the cadet must endure the most rigorous training, testing his mind, body and spirit on a daily basis. As the cadet meets each challenge, he is transformed into a new, multifaceted person, capable of serving his country in the face of any obstacle. This transformation culminates in graduation, where each cadet celebrates the achievements of the past and the possibilities of the future.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to congratulate Cadet Captain Ralph Ware and all of the West Point graduates. With confidence, I look forward to their leadership in America.

#### MANDATORY GUN SHOW BACKGROUND CHECK ACT

SPEECH OF

#### HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 1999*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2122) to require background checks at gun shows, and for other purposes:

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Mr. Chairman, I support the McCarthy amendment because I believe that gun shows should come under the same laws as gun stores. When individuals buy a gun from a gun store, they must undergo a background check—we must have the same background check for gun shows.

This amendment will require under the Brady Law, the instant background check of up to 3 business days on all gun show transactions. This is fair. We should have no exceptions to the rule.

Imagine no background checks. According to the National Association of Arms Shows, over 5 million people attend nearly 5,200 gun shows each year in the U.S. No background checks or record keeping was done at these events.

According to Deputy Attorney General Eric Holder, if the 72-consecutive-hour rule had been in effect over the past 6 months for regular retail store purchases—more than 9,000 felons and other prohibited purchasers would have been able to buy guns because their background checks would not have been completed in time.

Now, if this could happen at gun stores—imagine if we do not have this 3 day period when purchasing a gun at a gun show? Why should we make it easier for potential criminals to purchase a gun? An increasing number of criminals—who couldn't pass a background check at a gun store—are finding gun shows to be an easy source of guns. Imagine all the people that have died—because someone bought a gun without a background check.

And let me remind you that under Mr. DINGELL'S amendment proposing a 24-hour background check—17,000 prohibited persons would have slipped through the system.

We do not want any more crimes to occur. We do not want any more children in jail. We do not want to go to any more funerals.

Let's regulate gun show sales the same way as gun store sales. Support the McCarthy amendment like the: National Alliance of Stocking Gun Dealers, American Bar Association, The Police Foundation, National Association of Black Law Enforcement Officers, and the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

#### RECOGNIZING CROSSROADS COMMUNITY HOSPITAL AND HILLSBORO AREA HOSPITAL

#### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take one moment to recognize Crossroads Community Hospital in Mount Vernon and Hillsboro Area Hospital in Hillsboro for being mentioned in HCIA's "100 Top Hospitals: Benchmark for Success—1998."

It is comforting for me and the citizens of the 20th district of Illinois to know that we are receiving some of the best health care treatment provided in the Nation today. Health Care in America today is a vital issue. The successes of these Hospitals show that Illinois has given the issue the attention it deserves.

I am proud of the quality of medical care that these hospitals have provided to my district. The excellent service provided by Crossroads Community and Hillsboro Area Hospitals are symbols of the excellence in aiding and saving the beloved residents of the 20th district.

#### RECOGNIZING PROJECT '99 AT SHORE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

#### HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Project '99 at Shore Regional High School, which serves West Long Branch, Sea Bright, Oceanport, and Monmouth Beach, New Jersey. Project '99 is an innovative 4-day pre-graduation program that combines public service events with seminars on self-improvement.

The schedule contains activities that will be held throughout the community from June 21–24, 1999. To be eligible to participate in Project '99, students must maintain exemplary discipline and academic records, and also be involved in the planning and development of two different events.

The first three days of the project focus specifically on community service. Participants engage in dune grass planting, school beautification, and mural painting projects. In addition, students host a senior citizen breakfast, organize and run a field day at the Monmouth School for Children, and work with Habitat for Humanity.

On the final day of the program, students turn their attention towards preparation for life after high school. Events include classes in self-defense, personal finance and car maintenance, and a special health and fitness ses-

sion. Project '99 concludes with a motivational speaker and a barbecue send-off.

At a time when most seniors are involved only with celebrations and awards ceremonies, it is admirable that these students are choosing to take time and rededicate themselves to helping others. The personal qualities of compassion, awareness, and a commitment to public service emphasized by the Project '99 program are essential for the next stage of the students' lives.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in honoring the creativity of the students, teachers, administrators, and parents at Shore Regional High School who are finding ways to make even the last days of high school a valuable educational experience.

#### HONORING THE OUTSTANDING GRADUATES OF JOHN J. PERSHING INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 220

#### HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating special graduates of the 12th Congressional District of New York. I am certain that this day marks the culmination of much effort and hard work which has led and will lead them to continued success. In these times of uncertainty, limited resources, and random violence in our communities and schools, it is encouraging to know that they have overcome these obstacles and succeeded.

These students have learned that education is priceless. They understand that education is the tool to new opportunities and greater endeavors. Their success is not only a tribute to their strength but also to the support they have received from their parents and loved ones.

In closing, I encourage all my colleagues to support the education of the youth of America. With a solid education, today's youth will be tomorrow's leaders. And as we approach the new millennium, it is our responsibility to pave the road for this great Nation's future. Members of the U.S. House of Representatives I ask you to join me in congratulating the following students from IS 220: Salutatorian, Weva Kalidahanova; Valedictorian, Carol Chan.

#### FAMILIES FIRST ACT

#### HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, in time for Father's Day, I have introduced the Families First Act with Representatives JAMES OBERSTAR, DAVE CAMP, BOBBY SCOTT, DAN BURTON, EARL POMEROY, and JIM DEMINT. This bill that would make adoptions more affordable and provide children with loving homes. Sadly, many families wanting to open their homes and provide love to children are unable to do so because of the extremely high costs of adoption, which

range from \$8,000 to \$25,000. We want to alleviate these costs so that all children are given the chance to belong to a family.

The bill would allow penalty-free withdrawals of up to \$5,000 from IRAs for adoption expenses. In recent years, Congress has allowed penalty-free withdrawals for home expenses and college education. The Families First Act would allow people to save the penalty money from early IRA withdrawal and put it toward their children's education. Our bill would enable families to borrow money from themselves to start a family, as opposed to taking out a second mortgage or depleting their savings accounts.

It would also repeal the December 31, 2001 sunset for Employer-Supported Adoption benefits and make it permanent law. The Families First Act would exclude, for taxation purposes, any adoption benefits people have received from their employer. It is imperative that employers are supportive when employees decide to give a child a home, whether through adoption or birth. Many businesses provide adoption benefits to their employees, and we should do all we can to further promote these benefits.

The Families First Act is a bipartisan bill that emphasizes the importance of placing families first. When it comes to providing a child with a loving home, families must come first—not the IRS. By increasing the options for parents struggling to afford the high costs of adoption, the Families First Act will increase the number of children who will finally have a place to call home next Father's Day.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 213, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

#### HONORING DR. ROCCO MARTINO ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 70TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to my good friend and colleague, Dr. Rocco Leonard Martino, on the occasion of his 70th birthday. Dr. Martino is a pioneer and international authority in the planning and use of computers, as well as a member of the board of Rome's prestigious Gregorian University.

Highlights of Dr. Martino's career include graduating Summa Cum Laude from the University of Toronto in Mathematics and Finance, earning a Ph.D. from the Institute of Aerospace Studies for work in the re-entry of Space Vehicle and receiving an honorary doctorate from Neuman College in 1993 for his contributions in Information Technology. Dr. Martino served as a Professor of Mathematics and Engineering at the University of Waterloo and at New York University, is the founder

and Chairman of the Board of CyberNet Group, Inc. and recently completed 25 years of service as Chairman and CEO of XRT, Inc. In his role as a board Member on Rome's Gregorian University he serves as a consultant in the designing of one of the most advanced academic computer systems in the world. A devout Catholic, Dr. Martino is a leader in his local parish, St. Katherine of Siena in Wayne, PA and was formerly president of the Fathers' Club at both St. Aloysius Academy and St. Joe's Prep. Dr. Martino has managed to find a balance between two of his passions, theology and technology, and has contributed enormously to both fields.

Dr. Martino is nothing less than a visionary whose inventions and ideas are bringing computer technology into the next millennium. Yet, even though his scholarly title abbreviations run the alphabet in length (literally 26 letters long,) Dr. Martino will be the first to tell you that the most important thing in his life is not his inventions or titles, but his family. He is the embodiment of hard work, integrity and vision and I applaud his dedication to both his work and his family. I am proud to have Dr. Martino as my constituent, but I am even more honored to have him as my friend.

#### HONORING MRS. MARIE CRUMP

### HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary woman, Mrs. Marie Crump, as she celebrates a birthday and as the community celebrates her years of leadership and service to Prince George's County.

Mrs. Crump began her service to Prince George's County in the 1950s when she became active in the 14th District Democratic Club and was elected treasurer. She also became quite active with the Young Democrats and soon distinguished herself as an invaluable resource of effort and knowledge.

In addition to volunteering for campaigns, Mrs. Crump also volunteered her time in service to Prince George's County's nonprofit community. She served as the local chair for the Red Cross, The Community Chest and the March of Dimes. In 1962, Mrs. Crump was selected as the Mother's March Chair for Birth Defects of Prince George's County and served in that capacity for 5 years.

As she retired in 1979 from an illustrious career with the County Treasurer's Office, she joined the Board of Directors for the Prince George's Civic Opera and has since devoted countless hours to its development for the enrichment and enjoyment of all Prince Georgians.

Mrs. Crump has spent over 40 years working to improve Prince George's County for all her citizens. She has made a profound impact on all those with whom she has worked and her life has been an example of the noblest of ideals—that of service to others.

Today, on behalf of the citizens of Prince George's County, I offer our thanks and our deepest gratitude for Mrs. Crump's lifelong work and I wish her the best as we recognize the magnitude of the difference she has made and as she celebrates her birthday with family and friends.

#### TAIWAN AID INITIATIVE TO HELP KOSOVAR REFUGEES

### HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, the President of the Republic of China recently made a statement which I believe would be of interest to my colleagues. On June 7th, President Lee Teng-hui announced that the Republic of China will donate US \$300 million to help Kosovar refugees rebuild their homes.

More than 782,000 ethnic Albanians have been forced to leave Kosovo since Yugoslav troops began ethnic cleansing in the region. Among them, 443,000 refugees fled to Albania and some 247,000 swarmed to Macedonia. The aid package will include emergency supplies for Kosovar refugees and contributions to long-term reconstruction efforts by the international community in Kosovo now that a peace plan has been accepted. Moreover, it also offers to arrange for Kosovar refugees to receive short-term technical training in Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Republic of China as a member of the world community for their continued commitment to protecting and promoting human rights. The announcement was both timely and insightful, fully demonstrating the ROC's concern for peace in the world. I submit the text of President Lee Teng-hui's statement to be printed in the RECORD.

#### PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT REGARDING ASSISTANCE TO KOSOVAR REFUGEES

The huge numbers of Kosovar casualties and refugees from the Kosovo area resulting from the NATO-Yugoslavia conflict in the Balkans have capture close world-wide attention. From the very outset, the government of the ROC has been deeply concerned and we are carefully monitoring the situation's development.

We in the Republic of China were pleased to learn last week that Yugoslavia President Slobodan Milosevic has accepted the peace plan for the Kosovo crisis proposed by the Group of Eight countries, for which specific peace agreements are being worked out.

The Republic of China wholeheartedly looks forward to the dawning of peace on the Balkans. For more than two months, we have been concerned about the plight of the hundreds of thousands of Kosovar refugees who were forced to flee to other countries, particularly from the vantage point of our emphasis on protecting human rights. We thereby organized a Republic of China aid mission to Kosovo. Carrying essential relief items, the mission made a special trip to the refugee camps in Macedonia to lend a helping hand.

Today, as we anticipate a critical moment of forth-coming peace, I hereby make the following statement to the international community on behalf of all the nationals of the Republic of China:

As a member of the world community committed to protecting and promoting human rights, the Republic of China would like to develop further the spirit of humanitarian concern for the Kosovar refugees living in exile as well as for the war-torn areas in dire need of reconstruction. We will provide a grant aid equivalent to about US \$300 million. The aid will consist of the following:

1. Emergency support for food, shelters, medical care, and education, etc for the Kosovar refugees, living in exile in neighboring countries.

2. Short-term accommodations for some of the refugees in Taiwan, with opportunities of job training in order for them to be better equipped for the restoration of their homeland upon their return.

3. Furthermore, support the rehabilitation of the Kosovo area in coordination with international long-term recovery programs when the peace plan is implemented.

We earnestly hope that the above-mentioned aid will contribute to the promotion of the peace plan for Kosovo. I wish all the refugees an early return to their safe and peaceful Kosovo homes.

HONORING THE YOUTH AWARD  
WINNERS OF THE HISPANIC  
YOUNG PEOPLES ALTERNATIVE

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Youth Award Winners who are being honored by the Hispanic Young Peoples Alternative (HYPA). These young people are being recognized this day for the effort and hard work which has led and will lead them to continued success. In these times of uncertainty, limited resources, and random violence in our communities and schools, it is encouraging to know that they have overcome these obstacles and succeeded. And they have succeeded not only for themselves, but for their community as well.

These students have learned that community service is an important part of their education. They have exhibited great maturity and responsibility by taking on the personal challenge of working to make the community a better place. Their contributions are priceless. They understand that—along with education—community service is an important part of gaining new opportunities and going on to greater endeavors. Their success is not only a tribute to their strength but also to the support they have received from their parents and loved ones.

In closing, I encourage all my colleagues to join me in congratulating the young people of HYPA and all of the youth of America who are engaged in community service. These young people we honor today will be the leaders of tomorrow. And as we approach the new millennium, it is our responsibility to pave the road for this great Nation's future. Members of the U.S. House of Representatives I ask you to join me in recognizing the following Youth Award winners: Rosalie Nuñez, Peter J. Ramos, Emanuel Hernández, Peter M. Ramos, George Lozado, Steven Amenula, Thomas Nuñez, Paticio Cacho Jr., and Jessica Garcia.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 214, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

H.R. 1070, BREAST AND CERVICAL  
CANCER TREATMENT ACT

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the bipartisan Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Act, H.R. 1070. This important legislation will help women beat back the ravages of breast and cervical cancer and save lives.

Every year, Cervical cancer kills 4,400 women and breast cancer kills over 46,000 women and is the leading cause of death among women between 40 and 45. This bill builds on a current program which covers screening services, but does not cover treatment for women who are detected with cancer. The bipartisan Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Act takes the vital next step to offer lifesaving treatment to cancer victims.

The medical community has the technology to detect and treat breast and cervical cancer. This bill will strengthen the existing ad hoc patchwork of providers, volunteers, and local programs that often results in unpredictable, delayed, or incomplete. The bill will offer consistent, reliable method of treatment for uninsured and underinsured women fighting breast or cervical cancer.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to say that H.R. 1070 has 248 co-sponsors. I want to compliment Representative ESHOO on her work on this issue. However, I am not pleased with the Republican leadership which has given inadequate attention to this bill. The Republican controlled House has not even held a Committee hearing on the "Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Act". This bill has enough co-sponsors to pass. We should pass this legislation and help save the lives of women.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM KOLBE**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, on June 17, 1999 the House debated the Consequences for Juvenile Offenders Act (H.R. 1501). Following the vote, I was dismayed to see that I was listed as not voting on rollcall vote No. 223. I was on the floor and am positive I put my card in the voting device. Had my vote been recorded, it would have been "nay."

H.R. 2015

**HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I introduced H.R. 2015 on June 7, 1999. This legislation would reauthorize the Welfare to Work Tax Credit and the Work Opportunity Tax Credit programs for five years. Both of these tax credits are set to expire on June 30th of this year.

Mr. Speaker, for the last seven years America has experienced an historic level of eco-

nomie growth. The unemployment rate is at a 29 year low, and over 18 million jobs have been created. But, despite this spectacular success there still are many pockets of poverty and of unemployment or underemployment in our country. Mr. Speaker, the Welfare to Work tax credit and the Work Opportunity Tax Credits are specifically targeted to increasing employment amongst the hardest to hire worker groups in this country. These credits reward work, and their tax benefits accrue to the private firms that hire from these at-risk groups. If we are serious about moving millions of welfare recipients as well as unemployed and underemployed Americans into full time jobs in the private sector, Congress must act now to fully reauthorize the Welfare to Work and Work Opportunity Tax Credits.

The Welfare to Work Tax Credit was established as part of the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997. This tax credit is intended for long term Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients. A private firm that hires a member of a family that has received TANF benefits for at least 18 consecutive months can apply for the credit. The Welfare to Work Tax Credit counts against a firm's federal income tax liability for an amount up to 35% of the first \$10,000 earned during the individual's first year of employment, and 50% for the first \$10,000 earned during the second year of employment. An employer must retain eligible workers for at least 400 hours or 180 days in order to receive the credit. In the first two quarters of FY 1999, over 47,000 Welfare to Work certifications were issued.

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit was initially authorized as part of the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996. This tax credit is intended for several hard to hire groups other than long term welfare recipients. Groups eligible for the Work Opportunity Tax Credit are: Members of families receiving TANF benefits for any 9 months during the 18 month period before starting employment; 18 to 24 year-olds whose principal place of abode in an empowerment zone or an enterprise community; 18 to 24 year-olds who are members of families receiving food stamp benefits for the 6-month period ending on the hiring date; 16 to 17 year-olds hired for summer work for any 90 day period between May 1 and September 15 whose principal place of abode is an empowerment zone or an enterprise community.

Veterans who are members of families that have received food stamps for at least a 3 month period during the 15 month period ending on the hiring date.

Individuals with physical or mental disabilities that have been referred by their state's vocational rehabilitation program.

Economically disadvantaged ex-felons.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients.

For eligible hires who remain on a firm's payroll at least 400 hours, an employer can apply a Work Opportunity Tax credit against the firm's federal income tax for an amount equal to up to 40 percent of the first \$6,000 in wages paid during the worker's first year of employment. For eligible hires who remain employed from 120 hours to 399 hours the Work Opportunity Tax Credit rate is 25 percent for the first \$6,000 in wages. With regards to summer youth employees, the Work Opportunity Tax Credit is applied against the first \$3,000 earned in any 90 day period between May 1 and September 15. During Fiscal

Year 1998, 285,322 Work Opportunity Tax Credit certifications were issued. For the first two quarters of FY 1999, 157,850 such certifications were issued.

Both the Welfare to Work and Work Opportunity Tax Credits are set to expire this year on June 30th. H.R. 2015 would reauthorize both credits for five years. Mr. Speaker, I believe it is important that this Congress take a firm stand in favor of economic development and reduce the remaining pockets of unemployment and underemployment in this country by fully reauthorizing both the Welfare to Work and the Work Opportunity Tax Credits for 5 years. Both these credits have minimal impact on the federal budget. The Joint Committee of Taxation estimated that currently issued credit certifications for the Work Opportunity Tax Credit would cost \$445 million between fiscal year 1999 and fiscal year 2004, and Welfare to Work credits would cost \$25 million for the same period. We cannot afford to put these programs at risk each year during the annual budget process. We need to reauthorize them for at least a full 5 year period. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in support of H.R. 2015.

HONORING THE SPECIAL GRADUATES OF MIDDLE SCHOOL 136

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating special graduates of the 12th Congressional District of New York. I am certain that this day marks the culmination of much effort and hard work which has led and will lead them to continued success. In these times of uncertainty, limited resources, and random violence in our communities and schools, it is encouraging to know that they have overcome these obstacles and succeeded.

These students have learned that education is priceless. They understand that education is the tool to new opportunities and greater endeavors. Their success is not only a tribute to their strength but also to the support they have received from their parents and loved ones.

In closing, I encourage all my colleagues to support the education of the youth of America. With a solid education, today's youth will be tomorrow's leaders. And as we approach the new millennium, it is our responsibility to pave the road for this great Nation's future. Members of the U.S. House of Representatives I ask you to join me in congratulating the following Academic Achievement Award Recipients: Andrew Caceres and Fi Lan Ho.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 215, had I been present, I would have voted "aye".

IN SUPPORT OF AMERICAN AGRICULTURE

**HON. RONNIE SHOWS**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, today I stand before my colleagues and the American people to discuss the American farmer. I have done so before and am more than happy to stand up for the American Farm Family again.

My district, in Mississippi, is largely supported by agriculture. Family farmers, and I was once a farmer, are our neighbors, friends and community leaders. They provide a foundation of sound American values and a strong work ethic to communities all across our nation. When you get right down to it, they are good people who work hard to make a living and raise their families.

There's more, much more, to say about our farmers, though. The American family farmer is the most successful and efficient farmer in the world. Our agricultural industry feeds and clothes more people than any other system of agriculture on the planet. The American farmer is one of America's greatest success stories. They have excelled through the best and worst of times.

Our farmers fed a hungry nation during the Great Depression, sustained our great army during World War II. And, when the soldiers came home, our farmers went to work with new and dynamic technologies and machinery. They have helped feed, clothe, fuel and grow our economy without ever looking back.

We cannot turn our backs on our farmers when they need our help. We cannot afford to.

Our farmers and ranchers are feeling financial and emotional stress. Prices of commodities have been spiraling downward over the past year. Many of our farm families have seen prices for their hard work hit decade lows over the recent months. We must continue to act in support of our American farm families.

Let's fight for the farmers as they work to meet the demands of the EPA. Let's give them the time and support they need in the Farm Quality Protection Act.

Let's continue supporting the Conservation Reserve Program. Mississippi's very own Jamie Whitten realized this monumental piece of legislation that has added millions of acres in needed pine trees. This program needs our continued support. Dairy Farmers in Mississippi and across America need the USDA to enact Option 1A. Let me say that again. America's Dairy Farmers need option 1A and I urge the USDA to do the right thing.

Let's support our farmers because they support us everyday.

TRIBUTE TO STOCKTON MORRIS, PENNSYLVANIA DELEGATE TO THE FIRST JUVENILE DIABETES CONGRESS IN WASHINGTON, DC

**HON. CURT WELDON**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Stockton Morris,

a 9 year old student at the Coopertown Elementary School who has just completed the third grade. On Sunday, June 20, Stockton will be traveling to Washington, DC as a Pennsylvania delegate to the First Juvenile Diabetes Congress to raise the awareness of the Congress and the country about diabetes.

Diabetes is a devastating disease which affects over 16 million Americans. Even though 1,700 people are diagnosed with diabetes each day, half of those who have this disease do not even know it. Unlike many other chronic and potentially deadly diseases, there is so much more that we can do to tackle diabetes—much of it simply through education and awareness. Most important, however, is the need for increased funding for diabetes research at NIH and CDC so that we may someday discover a cure to eradicate this disease.

I have heard from many of Stockton's friends and teachers. All of them applaud him for his character and courage. Susan Mingey, a teacher in Stockton's school, wrote to me saying, "As a teacher in Stockton's school, I have watched him for almost four years carry himself with dignity and honor as he accepts the day to day routine of 'highs and lows' with needles. I have listened to him explain his disease to peers, teachers, and Coopertown's youngest students with the knowledge and authority of one who is in control of his disease." Karen Brimer, Stockton's Learning Support Teacher, wrote to say, "I have seen Stockton grow into such a wonderful young person. He is full of knowledge, wisdom, and zest for life. I often look at him as my teacher when it comes to learning about diabetes."

Stockton has worked patiently, quietly, and courageously to raise the awareness of his schoolmates regarding this disease. He has even raised money for research to find a cure. On Sunday, Stockton will be taking his efforts to a new level, traveling to Washington, DC to raise the awareness of the country and the Congress about the need for increased research dollars.

Three years ago, I myself was diagnosed with adult-onset diabetes, a disease in which the body does not produce or properly use insulin—a hormone which breaks down sugar and converts it to energy. I was diagnosed after I underwent a diabetes screening test after former Speaker Newt Gingrich urged me and my colleagues to become more involved with fighting diabetes. I have type II diabetes, the most common form, and can easily treat and control my condition through medication, exercise, and diet. Since then I have worked as a leading Member of the House diabetes caucus to do what Stockton has been so successful at—teach others about the disease, and raise awareness about the need for increased research dollars.

In April of this year, I introduced legislation that will help us to fight this deadly disease by raising public awareness and provide increased funding for research. This innovative legislation, called the Stamp Out Diabetes Act, would create a new first-class postage stamp to raise funds for diabetes research. Under my legislation, supporters of diabetes research would voluntarily pay between 34 cents and 41 cents for the special stamp. The additional penny to eight cents would be earmarked for diabetes research at the National Institutes of Health, after the administrative costs incurred by the postal service are subtracted.

My hope is that Americans will realize the importance of funding this type of research and will show their support by paying a few extra pennies to mail a letter. With millions of Americans taking part in this program, it is my hope that we can raise as much as \$10 million in additional funding for diabetes research. As we struggle to balance the budget and reduce the national debt, we have to come up with new and innovative ways to fund research in critical areas like diabetes. By allowing individuals to voluntarily help the cause of diabetes research, my legislation will help to fund this life-saving research.

Not only will the stamp help to raise much-needed funding for diabetes research—at no expense to taxpayers—but it will also help to raise the public's awareness about the disease. Perhaps it will even prompt some individuals to undergo diabetes screenings and catch the disease in its early stages. With innovative projects such as the diabetes stamp, combined with the work and support of young leaders like Stockton Morris, we will indeed be able to find a cure for diabetes as we enter the new Millennium.

And so I rise today to applaud this extraordinary young man. He is a tribute to his family, his school, and his community. His continuing advocacy on behalf of the diabetes community is an immeasurable benefit to our common cause—finding a cure for diabetes. In conclusion, I would like to thank Stockton for all of his work on behalf of the diabetes community. I would also like to thank the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation for holding this important event. The work that they have done has indeed made a difference.

IN MEMORY OF ROD AND BRAD  
BURNSIDE, JIM AYRE, AND HOWARD SWIFT

**HON. DAVE CAMP**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor and remember three men and one young boy who lost their lives in a tragic accident.

On November 11, 1995, after setting out for a duck hunt, Rod Burnside, his son Brad, Jim Ayre and Howard Swift were swept up by inclement weather. I know them well. Their presence is missed not only by their families and friends, but by the whole Midland County community as well.

While no one could have foreseen the tragedy that took these gentle souls from their loved ones, the community came together in the spirit of fellowship to help the family and friends through these difficult times.

The community has united to build a tribute to their departed friends. On June 24, 1999, a ceremony will be held to dedicate the memorial. It will stand near the Pere Marquette Rail Trail and will serve as a testament to the honor in which each man lived his life and it will be a solemn monument for their loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, I know you will join me and my colleagues in a moment of silence to honor those for whom this memorial is being dedicated.

MANDATORY GUN SHOW  
BACKGROUND CHECK ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 1999*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration this bill (H.R. 2122) to require background checks at gun shows, and for other purposes;

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Chairman, it is a travesty that our society tolerates the death of 13 children every single day by guns.

I just don't understand why we aren't outraged and ashamed.

The gun violence provisions purposed by the Republican leadership prove they don't "gets it."

One of my local communities 3,000 miles away "gets it." They recognizes that "a mere reduction in the availability of guns and ammunition would decrease the lethality and injury associated with violence."

The Senate "gets it." They passed some modest gun safety measures: to require mandatory background checks of buyers at gun shows to prohibit juveniles from privately purchasing assault weapons banning the importation of large ammunition clips requiring the sale of a gun lock or storage box with each gun restricting unlicensed sales at gun shows.

One of my local sheriffs "gets it." He said yesterday, "There needs to be tangible change around the issues of gun use and ownership. In my opinion the Senate language is not unreasonable."

But instead of encouraging responsible gun safety measures, the House leadership has proposed weakening the Senate provisions by watering down the background checks at gun shows.

In 1997 an ATF study traced firearms used in youth crimes in one of my communities and found that most of the weapons were bought from gun traffickers and small dealers.

Without adequate background checks, we can't prevent guns from getting into the hands of gun traffickers and being sold to juvenile offenders.

While I recognize the rights of law abiding citizens to purchase guns for hunting and collecting, as a parent I have to ask myself "how many more children have to die because of gun violence before "enough is enough."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 216, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I was granted a leave of absence for today, Friday, June 18,

1999 after 12 noon. At that time, I received word of a family emergency at home in New Jersey and immediately left Washington D.C. Following are the votes I missed and how I would have voted:

Representatives Sessions and Frost amendment (No. 8) to H.R. 2122, the Mandatory Gun Show Background Check Act: On rollcall No. 239, I would have voted "nay".

Representative Goode Amendment (No. 9) to H.R. 2122, the Mandatory Gun Show Background Check Act: On rollcall No. 240, I would have voted "nay".

Representative Hunter Amendment (No. 10) to H.R. 2111, the Mandatory Gun Show Background Check Act: On rollcall No. 241, I would have voted "nay".

Representative Rogan Amendment (No. 11) to H.R. 2122, the Mandatory Gun Show Background Check Act: On rollcall No. 242, I would have voted "yea".

Representatives Conyers and Campbell Amendment (No. 12) to H.R. 2122, the Mandatory Gun Show Background Act: On rollcall No. 243, I would have voted "yea".

On Passage of H.R. 2122: On rollcall vote No. 234, I would have voted "nay".

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JULIA CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent on Thursday, June 17, 1999, missing rollcall votes 220 through 235. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall 220, "no" on rollcall 221, "yes" on rollcall 222, "no" on rollcall 223, "no" on rollcall 224, "yes" on rollcall 225, "yes" on rollcall 226, "no" on rollcall 227, "yes" on rollcall 228, "yes" on rollcall 229, "yes" on rollcall 230, "no" on rollcall 231, "yes" on rollcall 232, "no" on rollcall 233, "no" on rollcall 234, and "yes" on rollcall 235.

TRIBUTE TO AKA'S BETA ALPHA  
OMEGA CHAPTER

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring your attention to an organization that has made quite an impact on its surrounding community. I speak of the Beta Alpha Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is the oldest Greek-letter organization for African American women. Founded on the Howard University campus in Washington, DC on January 15, 1908, it has grown from a membership of 9 to over 150,000.

New Jersey's oldest chapter is Beta Alpha Omega. It was chartered on January 30, 1934 in Newark. For the past 65 years this chapter has continuously provided invaluable community services in the City of Newark and surrounding area. As a result of their unwavering dedication to the improvement of their community, the Beta Alpha Omega Chapter will be honored by the Kappa Alpha Sorority on Saturday, June 19, 1999.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that we too join in honoring this fine organization; an organization rich in both history and service. Once again, I extend my praises to the Beta Alpha Omega, and wish them another 65 years of continued success.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 217, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

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FIGHTING HUNGER FOR A QUARTER OF A CENTURY: COMMEMORATING BREAD FOR THE WORLD'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. TONY P. HALL**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute and congratulate Bread for the World on their 25th anniversary, and welcome Bread for the World members from across the country as they convene in Washington, D.C. for their National Gathering, Silver Anniversary Celebration, and Annual Lobby Day.

For 25 years, Bread for the World has worked to end hunger and seek justice for the poor, the hurting, and the oppressed. When people of faith come together around the common conviction that hunger can be defeated, great things happen. And great things have happened over the years, as Bread for the World has won many victories, large and small, on behalf of the hungry and voiceless. It has been my privilege to work with Bread for the World on many issues over the years, and I've often drawn inspiration from the energy, dedication, and tenacity of Bread for the World Members and staff. This organization represents our finest traditions of living faith and civic duty, and its efforts have never been more important.

Despite a booming economy, hunger is on the rise, and millions of low-income Americans are having trouble putting food on the table. Rosy economic statistics are masking real hardship and a deepening of poverty for many working people and others. Across the nation, the number of people turning to food banks and soup kitchens for help is up substantially. And here in the richest nation on earth, we still have a disgracefully high child poverty rate, with one in five of our children living in poverty.

And despite tremendous progress in this fight over the past 25 years, hunger still threatens 800 million of the world's people. Large populations in Africa's Great Lakes Region, Angola, Liberia, Somalia, Sudan, the former Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Iraq, and North Korea require assistance to survive. World estimates of people requiring emergency food aid to escape hunger now exceed 26 million.

We know that debt relief is hunger relief, and that is why Bread for the World's Debt

Relief for Poverty Reduction initiative is so timely. This year, Bread for the World joined together with hundreds of other organizations working internationally to ease crippling debt burdens that keep poor nations from investing in the well-being of their citizens. Payments on past debt are, on average, twice the amount that many poor countries receive in aid. In sub-Saharan Africa, nations are making payments of \$12 billion each year on old debt—six times the amount it would take to school all African children. That is wrong, and I am pleased to join with Bread for the World in seeking to change it.

I give thanks for Bread for the World and its members and staff for their contributions to fighting hunger in the United States and overseas, and wish them continued blessings in the years ahead, as they seek justice and an end to hunger.

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TRIBUTE TO DISCOVER CARD SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS OF SOUTH CAROLINA

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the recipients of the Discover Card Tribute Award scholarships. The winners were selected from over 10,000 applications nationwide.

The Discover Card Tribute Award program honors outstanding high school juniors across the United States and overseas. The Tribute Award program not only recognizes the students' scholastic achievement, but also their community service, leadership skills, unique talents, and goal attainment. The winners may use their scholarships for any form of post high school education, including trade schools and two year colleges.

The scholarships are awarded in three categories of study: Arts and Humanities, Trade and Technical or Science, Business and Technology. Students can receive a gold (2,500), silver (1,750), bronze (1,250), and merit (1,000) Tribute Award scholarship.

The winners from South Carolina are: Melanie Almonte, Goose Creek—bronze; Shawnta Bolden, North Charleston—bronze; Reis Coggins, Fort Mill—silver; Kojillita Griffin, Charleston—silver; Kiti Kajana, Columbia—gold; Anisa Kintz, Conway—silver; Courtney Sandifer, Barnwell—gold; Snehil Sarvate, Charleston—bronze; Krista Shirley, Gilbert—gold; and Mellisa Tanner, North Charleston—silver.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the young scholarship winners from the Palmetto State, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these students for their current achievements, and encourage them to continue their contributions as our nation's young leaders.

HILLSBORO HIGH SCHOOL TEAM WINS REGION FOUR (SOUTHEASTERN STATES) IN WE THE PEOPLE . . . THE CITIZEN AND THE CONSTITUTION PROGRAM

**HON. BOB CLEMENT**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my alma mater, Hillsboro High School, for their victory in Region Four (Southeastern States) of the We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program. On May 1-3, 1999, more than 1,200 students from across the United States came to Washington, D.C. to compete in the national finals of this program. Through their hard work and diligence, and led by teacher Mary Catherine Bradshaw, State Coordinator Judy Cannizzaro, and District Coordinator Holly West Brewer, these young scholars gained a profound knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles of our constitutional democracy.

The We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about both the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The three-day national competition was modeled after hearings in the U.S. Congress, consisting of oral presentations by the students before a panel of adult judges. The students testified as constitutional experts, and their testimony was followed by a period of questioning during which the judges probed the students for both the depth of their understanding and the ability to apply their knowledge to constitutional dilemmas.

Twenty-seven students from Hillsboro competed in the competition, including Suchie Brattacharyya, Rachel Bloomekatz, Kate Caldwell, Tua Chaudahari, Lauren Collett, Doug Conway, Rion C. Taylor, Cara Doidge, Sarah Ettinger, Carmen Germino, Lee Griggs, Emma Groce, Kyle Hatridge, Sarah Henn, Rebecca Hunter, Emeili Leiserson, Meredith Lorber, Ana Mallett, Judson Merrell, Carley O'Shea, Rachel Roberts, J.P. Schuffman, Ashley Smiley, Ashley Thompson, Ayne Wallace-Swiggart, and Mary Williams.

Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We the People . . . program has provided curricular materials at upper elementary, middle, and high school levels for more than 26.5 million students nationwide. A 1994 evaluation of the program found it successful in promoting both the toleration of dissenting views and active participation in our political system. I commend the students from Hillsboro High School, as well as their teachers and administrators, for their impressive performance and wish them the best of luck in their efforts to reach the 2000 national finals.

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EXPANDED NUTRITION PROGRAM

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in observing the 30th

anniversary of the Expanded Nutrition Program. On Monday, I will be with the Expanded Nutrition Program of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service at Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi to celebrate this all-important anniversary.

We are all fortunate enough to know how very important, how very fundamental, nutrition is to each of us. Each one of us, for better or worse, is a product of what we began to eat when we were younger. I am so very proud of the work South Texans have done to learn more about nutrition.

I am so grateful for the vision in association with the Expanded Nutrition Program (ENP) in Texas. ENP has been providing nutrition education to poor families and children since 1968, and it is easily one of our most productive programs.

ENP teaches an assortment of things all of us need in order to be productive, healthy citizens: life skills, self-sufficiency, better health and nutrition, careful budgeting, commitment, responsibility and personal success. All in all, ENP leads the way to a healthier way of life. Better still, ENP saves us money; each dollar spent on ENP is \$10 saved on health care costs.

ENP teaches lessons about food and nutrition in a supportive environment. The "Kids in the Kitchen" program provides leadership development for young people who need esteem or leadership skills. Young people who help prepare family meals learn valuable lessons about sharing workload and responsibility.

Through the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texans have learned about basic nutrition, managing a food budget, food safety and food preparation. Women who are returning to work can learn to prepare quick and easy, yet nutritious, meals to ease the family's adjustment to the change. Positive, productive activities may reduce the chance of risky behavior.

I want to ask all my colleagues to join me today in observing the 30th anniversary of the Expanded Nutrition Program.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 218 had I been present, I would have voted "no."

#### SAN ANTONIO WATER SYSTEM RECYCLING PROJECT

### HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce legislation to promote water conservation and recycling in San Antonio, Texas. This legislation enjoys the bipartisan support of the other members of the San Antonio congressional delegation who join as original co-sponsors.

Like many places across the Nation, San Antonio and the entire central Texas region

faces the challenge of providing adequate supplies of water for human consumption, agriculture, industry, and recreation. Unlike other areas, San Antonio depends on a sole source for its drinking water—the Edwards Aquifer.

This legislation would authorize the San Antonio Water System (SAWS) Water Recycling Project Phase III. SAWS has embarked on an ambitious project to recycle water that can then be used for a host of industrial and non-potable uses. Upon completion of the project, SAWS expects to save 35,000 acre feet of water, roughly equivalent to 31.2 million gallons per day. As a result, more than 11 billion gallons a year of aquifer water will be available for potable use. This saving will free up an amount equal to approximately twenty percent of the City of San Antonio's current withdrawals from the Edwards Aquifer.

The SAWS recycling project meets federal goals for Bureau of Reclamation water projects under Title XVI of the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act of 1992, as amended (PL 102-575). Specifically, the San Antonio Recycled Water Project will: reduce demand on and use of the Edwards Aquifer water supply and will help protect federally-protected endangered species dependent on spring flows originating in the Edwards Aquifer; reduce and postpone San Antonio's need to develop new water resources; foster a region-wide perspective in addressing usage issues across the Edwards Aquifer area, as well as the San Antonio and Guadalupe Rivers watersheds; and provide economic benefits to a community with significantly economically disadvantaged sectors. Phase III is expected to cost approximately \$20 million, and the federal share would be \$5 million.

The FY 1998 Energy and Water Appropriation Bill contained a \$200,000 "earmark" for the Bureau to conduct a review of San Antonio's environmental assessment and feasibility study of the reuse program. Staff of the Bureau of Reclamation are currently working in coordination with staff of the San Antonio Water System to perform this review. The SAWS project authorization was included in S. 901 in the 104th Congress, a bill reported favorably by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Unfortunately, that version of the bill did not become law.

We face a continuing challenge to use our natural resources more efficiently so that we can meet our communal obligation to provide high quality drinking water to all of our neighborhoods and to maintain a supply of water for economic growth and expansion. In San Antonio, our five military installations will benefit from the recycling project, reducing their need to rely on Edwards Aquifer water. Other large water consumers will also switch to recycled water for non-potable uses, helping us better manage our water supply. SAWS has stepped up to the plate to find long-term solutions, and this recycling project is part of that plan. I am honored to join with my colleagues from San Antonio, Congressman LAMAR SMITH, Congressman HENRY BONILLA, and Congressman CHARLES GONZALEZ, as original co-sponsors of this legislation.

BETHESDA FALCONS WIN RECORD  
SEVENTH MARYLAND SOCCER  
TITLE

### HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to congratulate the Bethesda Soccer Club Falcons for their victory in the U-16 girls Maryland State Cup championship. Their defeat of the Soccer Club of Baltimore Force on Saturday, June 5, by the score of 11-0, marked the Falcon's seventh consecutive title, a Maryland record. The Falcons have won the title each year since they have been eligible to compete for the State Cup. The team will travel to Rhode Island next month to compete in the U.S. Youth Soccer Association Eastern Regional Championships.

The Force battled throughout the game and never relented, but the Falcons' stout defense, anchored by defenders Caitlin Curtis, Amy Salomon, Alison West, and goalies Anna Halse-Strumberg, and Kerry York, limited the Force to just a handful of shots. On offense, the Falcons were led by three goal performances from Audra Poulin and Jenny Potter. Jenna Linden contributed two goals with Christi Bird, Stephanie Sybert, and Allison Dooley tallying the remaining scores. The Falcon midfielders, Beth Hendricks, Tara Quinn, Jennifer Fields, Susannah Empson, and Tanya Hahnel, played a key role in transition between offense and defense. The Falcon defense did not allow a goal in the five games of the 1999 State Cup tournament while the offense recorded 29 goals. On Sunday, the Falcons ended their regular season with a first place finish in the Washington Area Girls Soccer Association U-17 Premier Division. The team was guided by coach Richie Burke.

#### MANDATORY GUN SHOW BACKGROUND CHECK ACT

SPEECH OF

### HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 1999*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2122) to require background checks at gun shows, and for other purposes:

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Dingell, Oberstar, Stenholm, Tanner, Cramer, John amendment.

The amendment addresses several concerns that are important to my constituents in the Fifth District of Michigan. H.R. 2122, as written would allow a 72-hour delay at Gun Shows if the instant check is not approved. In my district, many of my constituents purchase their firearms at Gun Shows because of the rural nature of this area and access to firearms for hunting or self-protection is not readily available. The Dingell Amendment would not strike the instant check at gun shows, but would lower the 72-hour delay to 24 hours. In many cases, a gun show is only in an area for 2 days. The three-day delay would prevent many law-abiding citizens from purchasing

legal firearms. With more than 92 percent of the delays approved, this would be a severe restriction for those law-abiding citizens who want to exercise their Second Amendment Rights. Under current law, in a majority of cases, if the purchaser of the firearm is later to be found in violation of state or federal law, the police were able to recover the firearm with little difficulty.

I strongly believe that we should support every effort to protect the rights of law-abiding citizens and punish those who ignore the law—particularly those who use a firearm and injure or kill their victim. This Amendment increases the penalty for criminals who use a banned assault weapon in conjunction with a crime.

A 72-hour check is a back door effort to stop otherwise legal gun sales. We can do it instantly with today's technology. If you want to ban gun sales then say so. If you want reasonable safety check, then a 24-hour delay is enough. I urge adoption of the Dingell Amendment.

#### LEGISLATION TO PROTECT SENSITIVE CALIFORNIA LANDS

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give notice to my colleagues that I am introducing three pieces of legislation to help protect sensitive California lands. The first bill is the California Coastal Rocks and Islands Wilderness Act of 1999. I am pleased to be able to offer this bill with bipartisan support and want to thank my colleagues, Messrs. GALLEGLY, WAXMAN, CAMPBELL, STARK, BILBRAY, Ms. ESHOO and Mrs. CAPPS for joining me in this effort.

Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to recognize the ecological significance of the tens of thousands of small rocks, islands and pinnacles off the California coast, by designating them as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. These small islands and rocks provide important resting sites for California sea lions, Steller's sea lions, elephant seals and harbor seals, as well as providing a narrow flight lane in the Pacific Flyway.

An estimated 200,000 breeding seabirds of 13 different species use these rocks and islands for feeding, perching, nesting and shelter. Birds that use these areas include three threatened and endangered species: the brown pelican, the least tern and the peregrine falcon.

The Wilderness designation afforded by this act would apply to all rocks, islands and pinnacles off the California coast from the Oregon border to the U.S. Mexico border, which are currently under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). This includes nearly all of the federally-owned lands above the mean high tide and within three geographical miles off the coast.

The designation would afford the highest protected status and highlight the ecological importance of all of the small rocks, islands and pinnacles off the California coast, which together comprise approximately 7,000 square acres. Adding these areas would also further the Wilderness Act's goal of including unique,

ecologically representative areas to the System.

Rocks and islands which are already patented or reserved for marine navigational aids, National Monuments, or state parks will not be affected by the legislation.

I am pleased to be able to introduce this bill and look forward to its swift passage, so that these unique areas of California's ecosystem can be preserved and protected for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, the second piece of legislation that I am introducing today is the "Pinnacles National Monument Boundary Adjustment Act of 1999". This legislation transfers land that is currently under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management to the National Park Service at the Pinnacles National Monument in California.

This "no cost" land exchange will also designate the additional land acquired by the National Park Service as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System. I would like to point out that this will not change the current management practices that have been conducted by the Bureau of Land Management.

Finally, this legislation authorizes the Secretary to acquire additional lands depicted on the map through purchase, donation, or a combination thereof.

Mr. Speaker, the third piece of legislation that I am introducing will require the National Park Service to conduct a feasibility study regarding options for the protection and expanded visitor enjoyment of nationally significant natural and cultural resources at Fort Hunter Liggett, California.

Under BRAC several historic buildings are now being transferred to the National Park Service from the United States Army. In addition, other cultural sites, cultural landscapes, buildings, and the natural resources of the entire 165,000 acre fort area merit evaluation for future protection and visitor enjoyment, either in concern with military activities or in the event of future military downsizing.

Fort Hunter Liggett and the surrounding areas have a deep and storied history. Serving as hunting grounds, for more than 10,000 years, archaeologists have found artifacts throughout the San Antonio Valley and the Santa Lucia Mountains. In 1771, construction began on Mission San Antonio, the third mission established in California which is a working inhaling that can still be visited.

To quote Wendell Berry "To cherish what remains of the Earth and to foster its renewal is our only legitimate hope of survival," Mr. Speaker, I urge you and our colleagues to join me in supporting these three pieces of legislation that will help to protect our coasts, lands and history. If we lose this opportunity we will not get another chance once damage has occurred.

#### A TRIBUTE TO THE HISTORIC ANDERSON COTTAGE—SUMMER WHITE HOUSE TO THREE PRESIDENTS

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, on the grounds of the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home

(USSAH) in Northwest Washington, D.C., sits one of our country's most historic buildings, the Anderson Cottage. Rarely visited and virtually unknown, it was the summer White House of three U.S. presidents: Chester Arthur, Rutherford B. Hayes, and, most notably, Abraham Lincoln. President Lincoln spent a quarter of his presidency living at the Soldiers' Home and it was in Anderson Cottage where he wrote the last draft of the Emancipation Proclamation.

The building is in need of restoration, and the USSAH has been working with the National Trust for Historic Preservation to find funding to restore the building and open it up as an historic site. Anderson Cottage also is listed as one of the First Lady's "Save America's Treasures" sites. The following article illustrates the importance of this home, as well as the equally historic Soldiers' and Airmen's Home on which it sits.

[From the Washington Times, March 18, 1999]

LIVING LINK TO LINCOLN HIDDEN IN PLAIN  
SIGHT

(By Catherine Watson)

I went to Washington recently to look for links to one of the country's heroes. I wanted to explore the city that Abraham Lincoln knew, the Washington of the Civil War.

Because I had only a few days, I thought I should choose the big names. But the highlight was a place I had never heard of—one of the least-visited of Lincoln sites and arguably the most important: Anderson Cottage. (See? I didn't think you had heard of it.)

The cottage lies off North Capitol Street, on the grounds of what Lincoln knew as the Soldiers' Home, now the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home, a handsome, 320-acre campus on high ground in the Northwest quadrant of the city. About 1,100 retired enlisted personnel live there, veterans from World War II through Vietnam.

I parked near the house, walked up the wooden porch steps and entered a large room that would be familiar instantly to anyone who knows military posts. There was that same smell of governmental dust, the same kind of linoleum alternating with Veterans Affairs gray paint on the floor, even the same sickly pale green on some of the walls. I liked it.

But there didn't seem to be much to see. Just how important is it historically?

Very, said Kerri Childress, public affairs director for the home, whose office is in Anderson Cottage. This is where Lincoln finished the Emancipation Proclamation.

Ms. Childress, a tall, slim woman with bright blond, short-cropped hair, has a contagious enthusiasm for the Soldiers' Home, its residents and Anderson Cottage.

"This really is a well-kept secret," she said. "Even the Lincoln buffs are sometimes surprised."

More surprising is how rarely it's visited: At most, 100 tourists a year find their way to the cottage.

"If this building were any place else, it would be a national shrine," Ms. Childress said. "We make such a big deal out of Ford's Theater. Nothing happened there except that he died. This was where he lived. This was where he created. This was where he became Abraham Lincoln."

Like many presidents, Lincoln had a summer White House, though I had never associated that plain man with such a luxury. This was it—a getaway that may have been the only place in Washington where he and his family had a semblance of normal life or anything approaching happiness.

It's still fresh and countrylike, but now the Soldiers' Home is an island awash in city

streets. During Lincoln's summers, it was well outside of smelly, muddy, crowded, insect-ridden Washington—a genuine country estate built for a local banker in 1840.

The government purchased the property in 1850 to create one of the nation's first homes for veterans. The cottage was renamed at the start of the Civil War to honor Maj. Robert Anderson, the Union Commander of Fort Sumter, the bastion off the South Carolina coast where the first official shots were fired.

Anderson Cottage was the first infirmary at the Soldiers' Home, the first guest house and, in 1954, the first dormitory for female veterans, Ms. Childress said.

The gray-stucco cottage also served as summer White House for presidents Rutherford B. Hayes and Chester A. Arthur. President James Buchanan had his summer residence across the street.

But it's the Lincoln connection that matters most.

"Secretary of War Edwin Stanton did not want Lincoln up here," Ms. Childress said. "He felt they could not protect him out here." Stanton probably was right.

From late June to early November, starting in 1862, Lincoln commuted virtually daily by horseback between the cottage and the White House, accompanied by 20 to 30 cavalymen with their swords drawn. He didn't much care for the escort.

Even so, Ms. Childress said, one night he arrived at the cottage without his stovepipe hat. It had been shot off his head.

Anderson Cottage also is where John Wilkes Booth's first plot against the president was supposed to have been carried out. It was a kidnapping plan that later was abandoned in favor of a bullet.

There, too, Mary Todd Lincoln held seances, trying to connect with the spirit of her son, Willie, who had died in the White House just three months before the Lincolns first came to Anderson Cottage.

This also is where Mrs. Lincoln spent two months recuperating from an 1863 carriage accident. Some historians believe the carriage had been tampered with in an attempt on Lincoln's life, Ms. Childress said.

Mrs. Lincoln refused to be taken to the White House after the accident. "There was an open-door policy at the White House" during the war, Ms. Childress said. "I can only imagine the chaos."

Besides, "Mrs. Lincoln wasn't set up to be a politician's wife, especially a president's wife. What comforted her was this place."

At Anderson Cottage, "Lincoln did not entertain and did as little business as possible," Ms. Childress said. "There is very little doubt in my mind that some of Lincoln's greatest thoughts and greatest writings took place in this house. This is the only place he would have had the solace and the quietude to do that."

As the afternoon deepened into the winter twilight, Ms. Childress walked me across the drive to an ancient copper beech, a gigantic tree with a knobby trunk and a ring of low branches touching the ground. Where each touched, a young tree had sprung up.

"In summer," Ms. Childress said, "it is like a big canopy."

Lincoln took refuge in there, she said. When aides couldn't find him anywhere else, they would look for him under the swooping branches, where he often went to read.

Sometimes he even played there. He climbed this tree a couple of times, she noted—once with his son Tad, another time with Stanton's children.

I was awed. This tree knew Abe Lincoln—it's one of the few living things in this world that did.

Back inside, I saw that the cottage was bigger than it looked—it's a "cottage" only

if you compare it with a mansion such as the White House. The style is Gothic revival, and it still has its lacy white trim, big front porch and heavy interior moldings.

Except for modern furniture and a few partitions, the layout of the house is about the way it was when the Lincolns knew it. The White marble mantelpieces are original. So is the simple wooden banister leading up the stairs from the entry hall. And the shutters folded into the window frames. And the sliding pocket doors on the ground floor—painted shut now, but still there.

I wandered upstairs on my own and easily found the large second-floor room at the front of the house that had been Lincoln's bedfront. This was where he wrote the final draft of the Emancipation Proclamation.

The room is sparsely furnished—a Victorian dresser, a contemporary dining-room table ringed with modern chairs. But its appeal lies in its silence, not its furniture. It was dead quiet there the day I visited—genuinely peaceful. The only sound from outside was a plaintive bugle call as veterans lowered the flag for the day.

I could imagine the tall, gaunt president leaning against the fireplace mantel or looking out the windows at the green lawn that still surrounds the cottage. He probably even looked through the same panes of glass.

It hit me then: This place has more to do with Lincoln the president than any other shrine. More than his well-preserved home in Springfield, ILL. More than the frontier hamlet of New Salem, ILL. More than the White House itself.

Here he was not only commander in chief, but also husband, father and human being. No wonder he would take risks to ride out here every chance he got.

The house is structurally sound—always has been and always will be, Ms. Childress said: "We will always take care of it." It's not restored, so it's not pretty, but it could be.

Unfortunately, the Soldiers' Home doesn't have the money to do it. The home has been funded from its beginning by small deductions from enlisted men's pay—now 50 cents a month, plus any fines and forfeitures from disciplinary actions. It has never been supported by taxpayer dollars.

But with the downsizing of the military, less money is coming in because there are fewer soldiers to fund the deductions. The effect has been "devastating," Ms. Childress said, "just devastating."

A rescuer may be coming, however. The United States Soldiers' and Airmen's Home is negotiating with the National Trust for Historic Preservation to have the trust take care of the cottage.

Rather than having it become just another Victorian house with antique furniture, Ms. Childress said she hopes it can be used as a learning center for an array of related topics: the Civil War, the effects of the Emancipation Proclamation, Lincoln himself. But all that, she said, is still a long way off.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 219, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

CONSEQUENCES FOR JUVENILE OFFENDERS ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

**HON. RICK HILL**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 1999*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1501) to provide grants to ensure increased accountability for juvenile offenders:

Mr. HILL of Montana. Mr. Chairman, people own guns for many reasons. They use them for hunting. They use them for recreational shooting. And they use them for self defense.

About 2 million times a year, people use guns to defend themselves, their families and businesses.

So what does this have to do with trigger locks?

It requires that guns be sold with trigger locks. That doesn't seem unreasonable. In fact about 80% of guns sold today are sold with trigger locks. That seems pretty reasonable.

What's wrong with the amendment is that it requires gun owners to keep a trigger lock on their guns.

It accomplishes this by saying that gun owners are liable for the criminal use of a stolen gun that was stored without a trigger lock.

Someone breaks into your home, steals your gun, robs or kills with it, and you are held responsible.

Mr. Chairman, I hold here a trigger lock. In the small print it says "don't use on a loaded gun."

So what the practical implications of this amendment are:

You can no longer keep a loaded gun in your night stand to defend your family.

When the armed intruder enters your home, here is what you will have to do

Find the key. Unlock the trigger. Remove the trigger lock. Load the gun.

If that crook is armed, you have no chance of defending yourself.

Mr. Chairman, there are two groups who really support this amendment:

Crooks who would invade our homes and harm our families and trial lawyers who would be enriched.

The losers are honest, law abiding citizens who want to defend themselves.

Mr. Chairman, I urge the defeat of this amendment.

COMMEMORATING THE SERVICE OF SANDRA K. HOGAN

**HON. RICHARD W. POMBO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and pay tribute to Ms. Sandra K. Hogan, Director of the Legislative and Regulatory Review Office of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS). Ms. Hogan will retire, July 3rd after 37 years of service to AMS. For 33 of those years, she has not only served 13 AMS Administrators, but has also been a valuable asset to Congress in her role as the Congressional Liaison for AMS.

Ms. Hogan's breadth of knowledge about the extensive programs which AMS administrators and her professionalism have always been greatly appreciated by all who have worked with her. You always knew that when you needed to get a clear explanation about a complicated AMS issue or quick assistance in drafting legislation, Ms. Hogan would be able to handle the job. AMS issues certainly do not make that job easy. Ms. Hogan has had to be proficient in issues from Federal Milk Marketing Orders, commodity grading, plant patents, agricultural transportation concerns, commodity purchases for the federal feeding programs, the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (PACA), Organic Certification, and the ever increasing number of commodity checkoff programs, to name a few. To illustrate the breadth of her career, about the same time Ms. Hogan started in the job of Congressional Liaison, Congress passed the first industry funded commodity checkoff legislation for the cotton industry, the Cotton Research and Promotion Act. Ms. Hogan has since supervised the enactment of 19 individual checkoff statutes and the most recently enacted "generic statute."

Ms. Hogan is an exceptional breed of public servant who has always put customer service first and luckily for us, she considered Congress to be one of her most important customers. Ms. Hogan's graciousness, professionalism and extensive knowledge of the multitude of AMS programs and history will be sorely missed. I commend her on her distinctive career and wish her well as she returns to her native West Virginia.

#### MANDATORY GUN SHOW BACKGROUND CHECK ACT

SPEECH OF

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 1999*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2122) to require background checks at gun shows, and for other purposes:

Ms. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Chairman, guns are out of control.

Tonight, this House should not turn a deaf ear to the families and victims of Littleton, Colorado.

This Congress should strengthen the bipartisan Brady Bill by passing the McCarthy amendment to expand background checks to gun shows.

Five and a half years ago, this body debated the Brady Bill.

The gun lobby and its supporters in this body said it wouldn't work. It wouldn't work, they said, because criminals didn't buy their guns in stores.

Well, they were wrong.

Since that time, over 400,000 illegal gun sales were prevented.

Thanks to the Brady Bill, 400,000 fewer guns are on our streets and in the hands of criminals.

Thankfully, we will never know how many lives would have been lost if those guns had been sold. We will never know how many children would have died if this Congress have failed to take action and pass the Brady Bill.

Mr. Chairman, some have suggested that the waiting period should be changed from three business days to only 24 or 72 hours. But the vast majority of gun buyers complete their checks in a few hours. It is only those who are convicted of felony charges, or have a record of domestic violence or drug abuse who are denied their guns, and we need those extra days to conduct a thorough check.

So now, when the NRA comes back to Congress to argue that we shouldn't close the gun-show loophole, that we shouldn't subject gun buyers at gun shows to the same background check as gun buyers in stores, I urge my colleagues not to be swayed by their deception.

If we accomplish nothing else in the name of gun safety, we must close the gun-show loophole.

I applaud my colleague from New York for her courage and her determination, and I urge my colleagues to support the McCarthy amendment, and Mr. CONYERS' substitute.

#### A TRIBUTE TO JOYCE GAINES

#### HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Joyce Gaines and her family, from Vallejo, California in my congressional district. Joyce is an amazing mother who believes higher education is a necessity for her children. In order to pay for the enormous expense of her daughter Tiaesha's college education, she worked 3 jobs and commuted 200 miles a day, despite the chronic pain of five ruptured disks in her back from a previous work related injury. Due to her mother's tremendous sacrifices, Tiaesha is the first in her family to receive a college education, with a degree in sociology from Grambling State University. Congratulations to Joyce and Tiaesha Gaines for all your accomplishments.

I have the highest respect for this single mother of four, who put the needs of her daughter and her education ahead of her own. She is a role model for her children and for young people everywhere. It is unfortunate, however, that she had to make such tremendous sacrifices just to pay the price of her child's education. We must do more to make higher education accessible and affordable to all who choose it.

I am not the only one to praise this amazing woman. President Clinton paid tribute to Joyce Gaines in his commencement speech at Grambling State University in Louisiana. I am submitting the following article which appeared in the Vallejo Times-Herald so all of my colleagues can read this inspiring story.

[From the Vallejo Times-Herald, June 3, 1999]

PRESIDENTIAL PRAISE

(By Mary M. Leahy)

For five years, Tiaesha Gaines of Vallejo prayed daily that she and her mother would be recognized at her college graduation for the sacrifices they'd made.

Gaines had no idea God would use the leader of the Free World to answer her.

At her graduation from Grambling State University in Louisiana last week, President

Clinton, in a commencement address, asked 22-year-old Gaines to stand. He then acclaimed her as "a tribute to her mother's love and sacrifice."

"Listen to this," Clinton told the crowd. "Even through the pain of five ruptured disks in her back, Joyce Gaines (Tiaesha's mother) worked three jobs and commuted 200 miles a day to put her daughter, Tiaesha, through Grambling."

Clinton, who used the address to promote a broader pro-family agenda, continued, "Stories like this remind us what people can achieve when they set their minds to it, but they also remind us of how hard it can be to raise a child right, especially today in our very busy society with its very demanding economy."

Tiaesha was videotaping the president from the second row of graduates when she heard him say her name.

"I was thinking, 'That's me! That's me!'" she said. "I was astonished, amazed. I didn't even know he knew who I was. When he said 'five ruptured disks' I knew automatically, 'That's my mom.' When he pointed at me, I got so excited, I jumped up and screamed, 'I love you Mom.' I guess I got in the way of the camera because someone saw it on CNN."

Vallejoan Joyce Gaines was sitting in the stands surrounded by family when she heard Clinton mention her.

"Chills went up and down my spine," she said. "It was so phenomenal having my name mentioned by the President of the United States."

Joyce Gaines had been interviewed three days earlier by a Grambling official, who had heard about the sacrifices she made for her daughter. Although she was told the president might use the information in his speech, she was also told many other parents were interviewed. She put it out of her mind. Surely someone else would be chosen, she thought.

"Exciting things like that never happen to me," she said. "I'm a quiet person who's usually in the background. I didn't tell my daughter because I didn't want her to be disappointed when he didn't mention me."

Joyce Gaines is a single mother of four who endured much to send Tiaesha to Grambling. Tiaesha is the first in her family to get a college education.

Twenty years ago, Joyce Gaines injured her neck and back while pulling cable lines for PG&E. Despite permanent spinal problems, she gave up part of her disability benefits so she could work around the clock and pay Tiaesha's college expenses.

One of Joyce's three jobs required driving 200 miles a day to the outskirts of Sacramento and back. She worked the graveyard shift at a residence facility for Alzheimer's patients. Another job included cleaning up after exotic birds.

"There were a lot of nights I sat up spraying anesthetic spray on my neck to numb the pain. I took anti-inflammatory medication and pain pills. I gave up buying clothes for myself to send her money," she recalled.

When Joyce and Tiaesha talk about it, they inevitably end up crying.

"I knew I'd been through a lot and my mother had been through a lot", Tiaesha said. "When you graduate, you get cards and the dinner and everybody says you did a great job. But nobody really recognizes the nights you stayed up all night typing papers or the nights you couldn't eat because you were waiting on the Western Union to come through."

"Grambling barely has a post office," Tiaesha said. "So if you miss getting the mail Friday, you miss eating on the weekend. You go through so much being away from your family, hoping everybody's thinking about you as much as you're thinking about them."

For Joyce Gaines, just seeing Clinton was "a dream come true," let alone becoming the recipient of his praise.

"It was like a mirage having the President there. I was so excited just to be in his presence. He's such a fantastic President, the best the United States has ever had. He's done so much for the country," Joyce said.

If Clinton's speech wasn't divinely inspired, Tiaeasha doesn't know what is.

"Sometimes you pray and pray and wonder, 'Is this a sign or is that a sign?'" Tiaeasha said.

"But that was a clear, Tiaeasha Gaines, here you go. Do what you were put here, what you were destined to do," said Tiaeasha, who plans to one day open the home for abused children she's dreamed of since age 11.

"You can be something, no matter where you come from," she said.

## CONSEQUENCES FOR JUVENILE OFFENDERS ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOHN B. SHADEGG**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 1999*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1501) to provide grants to ensure increased accountability for juvenile offenders:

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Chairman, first, I want to thank my colleagues from Florida, Mr. GOSS and Mr. MCCOLLUM for bringing this important issue before the House today. I strongly support the amendment to H.R. 1501, Consequences for Juvenile Offenders Act, to increase the number of District Court judges for Arizona, Florida, and Nevada.

The need for additional judgeships for the U.S. District Court of Arizona can be best demonstrated by a letter sent from District of Arizona Chief Justice Robert C. Broomfield to the Honorable Proctor Hug, Jr., Chief Justice of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. In this letter, Chief Justice Broomfield mentions that in the same week as the letter was dictated, one of the eight senior judges died and two more were hospitalized, leaving the District of Arizona courts literally paralyzed under an unmanageable caseload with only five justices able to hear cases.

This issue is of particular interest to citizens of Arizona due to the dramatic increase in drug-related crimes in our state and the tremendous burden currently facing the sitting judges of the U.S. District Court for Arizona. Over the last several months, Arizona has been plagued with a series of massive drug seizures totaling hundreds of pounds of marijuana, methamphetamine, and cocaine, and millions of dollars in drug money.

Most recently, on May 13th, federal and state law enforcement officials in Phoenix confiscated \$3 million worth of drugs and seized 9 kilograms of cocaine, 11.25 kilograms of methamphetamine, 636 grams of heroin and 36 kilograms of marijuana, along with illegal firearms and stolen vehicles. All those arrested were indicted in federal district court on charges that include distribution of controlled substances, possession of controlled substances with the intent to distribute, possession of firearms, and money laundering.

In February of this year, authorities seized 22 pounds of marijuana and 3 pounds of methamphetamine, and five weapons from a suspected drug dealer in Arizona. Furthermore, Border Patrol Agents assigned to the Tucson Border Sector of the U.S./Mexico border have found in recent months several intricate systems of tunnels used to smuggle illegal drugs into Arizona.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has identified 28 drug trafficking groups believed to be major drug trafficking organizations within Arizona. Large quantities of drug money, over \$2 million in 1998, have been seized by the Phoenix Police Department Commercial Interdiction Unit.

Arizona law enforcement reports that powder and crack cocaine are readily available in the region's metropolitan areas. Arizona is a primary drug shipment corridor for movement of drugs from Mexico to the many areas of the United States. The more sophisticated, modern highway system of metropolitan Phoenix and the convenience of Phoenix's Sky Harbor International Airport make Phoenix an ideal drug transport city to other major cities around the country.

In an effort to battle the ever-increasing presence of drugs in our community, Arizona has been designated as a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, or "HIDTA". This designation has provided law enforcement the ability to commit resources to respond to the drug trafficking problems in Arizona. Law enforcement agencies including the Phoenix and Tucson Police Departments, the Maricopa and Pinal County Sheriff's Departments, and the Arizona Department of Public Safety work in conjunction with the FBI, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and the U.S. Customs Service to coordinate interdiction efforts.

These efforts have resulted in a 429% increase in methamphetamine arrests and a 52% increase in cocaine arrests in the last decade. Since 1992 alone, arrests for possession of dangerous drugs have doubled while arrests for the sale or manufacture of methamphetamine have increased 251%.

As evidenced by these figures, attempts to crack down on organized drug trafficking groups have been successful. Unfortunately, the increased attention on law enforcement has not been accompanied with an increased focus on our federal court system and the judges needed to prosecute and convict these drug offenders.

Arizona's justice system has continued to grow through the years while the number of judgeship appointments have remained the same. The last time the District of Arizona was granted additional permanent judgeships was 1978—twenty-one years ago! Chief Justice Broomfield has cited several factors to justify the need for an increase in permanent judgeships, including:

The large increase in criminal cases filed is permanent in nature. There has been an increase of 764 permanent federal law enforcement officers in Arizona, leading to a significant increase in caseloads and filings.

Since 1994 Arizona has added an additional 600 new border patrol agents which also have made a significant increase in caseloads and filings.

The U.S. Attorney's Office in Arizona (which contributes a major portion of the District Court caseload) continues to expand. Since 1978 the U.S. Attorney's Office has grown

from 30 attorneys to 103, an increase of 243%. That office is now the 13th largest among the 94 districts; yet with the current complement of 8 judges, the Arizona District Court ranks 29th.

There has been a substantial population shift to the West and the Southwest in the last several decades. For example, the City of Phoenix is now the sixth largest city in the country, having grown from 106,818 in 1950 to 1,205,285 in 1997.

The District of Arizona criminal felony filings have increased by 10 percent since 1993. Currently, Arizona is ranked third in the nation for criminal felony filings. These filings range from possession of drugs with the intent to sell to violent criminal acts such as assault with a deadly weapon, and murder.

Along with the increase of criminal felony filings District of Arizona judges are burdened with a sharp increase in the number of cases. Each judge currently assigned to the District of Arizona has a caseload of roughly 834 cases, the fourth highest among the nation's 94 districts.

Arizona is a state which is growing significantly and it does not have the judicial system to keep up with its growth. Without a strong judicial system we will continue to have the imbalance that our judges are currently experiencing today.

For these reasons, I believe the three additional judgeships for the District of Arizona created by Mr. GOSS's amendment to H.R. 1501 are desperately needed to effectively address the abundant caseload, and more importantly the high number of criminal felony filings in Arizona.

PERSONAL STATEMENT TO JACQUELYN ISABEL SPINELLO ANDREWS AND JOSEPHINE CAROLYN ANDREWS

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, there are times in our public careers when the obligations of office require us to forego the immediate interests and needs of those whom we love most. Because it is my duty to attend to our business here in the Capitol, I am unable to attend a special Father's Day celebration with my oldest daughter, Jacquelyn Isabel Spinello Andrews, at her kindergarten class (Mrs. Esler's class) at the Atlantic Avenue School in Haddon Heights, New Jersey. Six year olds do not readily understand the absence of their fathers at important events.

The pain of separation is further compounded by the fact that a voting session last week required me to miss an end of the year celebration for my youngest daughter, Josephine Carolyn Andrews, age 4, at the Beechwood School's pre-kindergarten class (Mrs. Rutkowski and Mrs. Provans). I hope that my children will understand that the exercise of duty does not negate the intense love I feel for them and pride my wife Camille and I draw from their lives and progress.

In the instance of Jacquelyn's Father's Day celebration, duty took on a special meaning, because we were debating proposals to protect her and all children from school violence

like the nightmare parents around this country have felt too often in the last few years. My absence was necessary for me to support a cause in which I believe. But my absence should not confuse the fact that my beautiful children—God's greatest gift to me ever—are more important than any cause. I hope, Mr. Speaker, that my children and the children of all who serve in public life will understand that our motivation is to provide our children and all children with a loving and supportive community free of violence. Although no gift can replace our presence with those we love, I hope that our legislative efforts produce the gifts of a community worthy of the sweetness and innocence of our children.

I thank my family for understanding that I must perform these duties and I reaffirm my love for Jacquelyn and Josie and their mother, in gratitude for the sacrifices they make.

A TRIBUTE TO PASTOR WALTER J. KEISKER, OF CAPE GIRARDEAU COUNTY, MISSOURI, IN CELEBRATION OF A CENTURY OF BLESSINGS

### HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, on July 9, 1999, Reverend Walter J. Keisker will celebrate his 100th birthday. As an active member of his community, Reverend Keisker is as well known in Cape Girardeau County, Missouri as many of the founding fathers of the towns of Jackson and Cape Girardeau.

Pastor Keisker started his life in 1899 on a farm four miles outside of Hillsboro, Missouri where his father ran a small creamery and, later, raised dairy herd and hogs. To this day, the Reverend remembers the words to "A Surrey With the Fringe on Top" because his family actually traveled in one.

The Reverend attended high school and junior college at St. Paul College in St. Louis, graduating in 1919. He then continued his education at Concordia Lutheran Seminary from which he graduated in 1923. He led his first parish at Trinity Church in Flat River, now Park Hills, Missouri where he devoted 15 years of service. In the fall of 1938 Pastor Keisker took on a new parish at the St. Paul Lutheran Church in Jackson, Missouri. He gave his parish his full attention for the next 30 years. As Pastor Keisker eased into retirement, he continued serving St. Paul Lutheran Church as a pastoral assistant from 1968 until 1984. The Reverend continued to be actively involved in the church until 1993 when he moved to the Lutheran Home in Cape Girardeau.

Reverend Keisker and the former Mae Fikuart of Farmington, Missouri, married and had two daughters, Ruth Illers of Jackson, Missouri, and Virginia Goodwin of Cape Girardeau, Missouri. The Reverend and Mrs. Keisker had seven grandchildren and as of this spring, Pastor Keisker has ten great grandchildren. Mrs. Keisker passed away in 1992.

Because he believes that a pastor should be active in their communities as well as over his congregation, Pastor Keisker remains active today. He continues to be a member of

the Cape Girardeau Historical Society and the Jackson Chamber of Commerce, and he attends Circuit meetings and other events in his community.

When asked about his secret for longevity, Pastor Keisker gives the following pieces of advice: "I think the Lord intended for us to enjoy life, so keep yourself occupied; Don't go out with the owls at night. They don't keep the right kind of company anyway; always be grateful for what you have; Be yourself and don't try to imitate someone you think is doing a good job. Try to do the job yourself, but please don't mimic.

These are sage words of advice from a centenarian who has lived a life devoted to God, family, and community, who has seen and reflected on a century of change in our nation and the world, and who has selflessly given of himself to all he has known. I would like to extend a heart-felt thank you to Pastor Keisker for all that he has done and continues to do for our communities. He is truly an inspiration to us all.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I requested a leave of absence for June 22 and 23, 1999. As ranking member on the House Coast Guard Subcommittee, I have been invited to participate in a global shipping conference in the Netherlands to discuss shipping safety issues.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. HOWARD P. (BUCK) McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 221, I was present, but was not recorded as voting. I should have been recorded as voting "yea."

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, on June 14, 1999, due to a line of powerful, late afternoon thunderstorms that knocked out power to almost 40,000 homes in northern Virginia and caused the closure of Reagan National Airport runways, the airplane on which I was traveling was diverted to Richmond, Virginia, for refueling. As a result, my arrival in Washington, D.C., was delayed by over two hours and I missed rollcall vote #204 on the Bond Price Competition Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

### PARENTING IS KEY

#### HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, recently the Birmingham News published an article by three faculty members from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. This article, written by Bill Crunk, associate professor of counseling, and by Solange Ribeiro and Julie Russell, who are both counselors at UAB's Office of Professional Services, is insightful and worthy of attention. That's why I want to share it now with my colleagues in Congress and place it in the RECORD. Their research confirms that parenting is the key to raising good children. Additionally, they have found four common components necessary to raise a child in today's often violent environment: Spirituality, Ability, Fairness and Encouragement.

There have been several high profile tragedies involving children recently, and we read so many of the headlines in today's newspapers and ask, "Why?" Many are quick to fix the blame for these tragedies on guns or on the media. The hard truth is that parenting is the core of a child's moral and social development. That is the point of the article written by these three members of UAB's faculty and it is one we should remember, again and again. I thank Professor Crunk and Counselors Ribeiro and Russell for their work and for their perceptive article, which I now place in the RECORD in its entirety.

[From The Birmingham News, May 2, 1999]

AFTER THE MOURNING—ARE WE REALLY COMMITTED TO WHAT IT TAKES TO IMPROVE PARENTING SKILLS FOR RAISING BETTER CHILDREN?

(By Bill Crunk, Solange Ribeiro and Julie Russell)

Far too frequently, headlines give accounts of children in trouble. Potentially delinquent behavior appears at earlier and earlier ages. Judges demand that parents get their children off the streets at night but fail to point out how to do it. Nationwide research in juvenile delinquency brings forth volumes of papers but few indications for possible solutions.

There is something deeper that is wrong. Underneath it all is the fact that we don't know what to do with our children, because the traditional methods of child-raising no longer work and we have not learned new methods which can take their place.—Rudolf Dreikurs, noted psychiatrist and author of *Children: The Challenge*, in 1984.

Parents today are faced with the challenge of raising a capable child in a violent society. With the tragic events in Colorado, the news media, educators, religious groups and other social institutions are all looking to find answers to the perplexing question, "How did this happen?"

Blame is being placed on the media, guns and schools, however, the fact remains that parenting is at the core of a child's moral and social development.

Research has shown that a child's behavior is a reflection of the home. Unfortunately, all too many families create an atmosphere in which a child has a strong belief of entitlement and a weak sense of responsibility.

Our research in the Birmingham community found that parents overwhelmingly feel a lack of communication between parents and children contribute to violence. We found that parents feel that an inability to

set limits, failure to teach empathy and compassion, failure to connect consequences to behavior, and a lack of moral education were all indicators of poor parenting.

Interestingly, parents realize that exposure to media violence desensitizes other children to violence but felt that their children could distinguish make-believe from real violence. Parents felt that they could help prevent exposure to violence but on the other hand were overwhelmed with raising children in today's society. All agreed that better parenting skills were needed, yet only half of the parents felt they should spend more time with their children.

On the other hand, our experiences in working with parents indicates that parents have given their parenting responsibilities to schools, day cares, government programs and others. Unbridled TV watching and computer use have put distance between the parent and his/her child. Parents are confused and worried, particularly when children seem to defy rules and mistake license to do whatever they please for freedom. They have a sense of losing control of their children. Dreikurs talked about this in 1964. More than 30 years have passed and we are still dealing with the same issues. Why?

Parenting takes time, effort and an understanding of children. Four components necessary in raising a capable child in today's environment are spirituality, ability, fairness and encouragement. These are the foundation of our SAFE parenting program.

#### SENSE OF EMPATHY

Spirituality, the most important task, is where a child learns values, empathy, purpose and morality. One consistent finding is that children who commit acts of violence lack a sense of empathy, respect and compassion for others.

The parent's task is to create a home environment that fosters belonging and a connection to the community through our sense of spirituality. If we avoid this parenting

task then we raise a child with a "self-centered me behavior."

Children also need to know that they have the ability to make decisions, and that along with these decisions come responsibilities. If parents fail to teach their children what freedom really means (choice, responsibility and consequence), then we foster children who take no responsibility for their actions and tend to blame others for their circumstances.

Fairness in the home creates a respect for order and cooperation. If children fail to learn fairness they develop a license to behave without respect for others.

Our fourth component of effective parenting, encouragement, teaches parents how to better communicate to their children that they have worth and ability to master life's challenges. Parents tend to lack skills in communication with their children. From our experience we know parents agree that communication with their children. From our experience we know parents agree that communication is extremely important in raising capable children.

Unfortunately, most communication is discouraging and directed at correcting or pointing out, a child's inability to meet expectations. Without encouragement, children become discouraged and find life tasks hopeless.

Dreikurs said it back in 1964: "Far too frequently, headlines give accounts of children in trouble." Are we, as a community, even interested in making an effort to reach parents? How many corporations are serious about their employees' families and the community that they support?

#### PARENTING CLASSES

Aon, a Chicago-based consulting firm, found that the most loyal employees worked for employers that encouraged a balance between family and job demands. How many places of business offer parenting classes during the workday? Government and school

systems say they want to do more, but do they?

How many school counselors are allowed to offer parenting classes at school or in the community as part of their duties? Shouldn't parents whose child is in trouble with family court or at school be required to take parenting classes to pay back to the community for having to take over the parents' responsibilities?

If we care about the child's welfare, why are divorcing parents not made to go to classes to understand the impact of such a decision on the child and how to develop parenting skills to offset some of the trauma?

How many churches require parents to participate in parenting courses? If we are all so concerned, how could parents refuse? Print and TV media have made millions off the tragedy in Colorado. Have you read or seen any sponsorship of efforts to improve parenting by the media?

And we ask the question, why? Will we be asking these questions 30 years from now? Hopefully these violent situations don't have to continue, but our responsibilities as parents do. We have a responsibility to our children to be good parents, and blaming the media, guns and schools won't accomplish what only we as parents can.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 220, had I been present, I would have voted "no."