

their families. During this time, Easter Seals of Southeastern Michigan has remained committed to treating every person it serves with equality, dignity and independence.

Guided by these principles, Easter Seals of Southeastern Michigan seeks to provide creative solutions that assist the thousands of families it provides with therapy and support services each year. Nationwide, Easter Seals serves 1 million people annually.

For eight decades, Easter Seals of Southeastern Michigan has served children and adults with disabilities. While September 9, 2000, commemorates these efforts, it is also a day of high hopes and expectations. September 9, 2000, marks the official unveiling of the new Easter Seals facility in Southfield, Michigan. I am confident that this facility will enable Easter Seals of Southeastern Michigan to complete their mission for another 80 years and beyond.

Mr. President, I know my colleagues join me in offering congratulations and best wishes for continuing success to the Easter Seals of Southeastern Michigan, as they celebrate 80 years of service to disabled individuals and their families.●

TRIBUTE TO DOLORES HUERTA

● Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President. I come here to pay tribute to the remarkable career of one of our nation's most influential labor and civil rights leaders, Dolores Huerta, who has retired as Secretary-Treasurer of the United Farm Workers of America.

Dolores Huerta is a true national treasure. For half a century, the great victories for farm workers, the advances for these hardworking and proud families, would not have been possible without the able leadership and vision of Dolores Huerta. When farm workers marched, Dolores led the way. When farm workers struck for better wages and working conditions, Dolores was at the front of the line. In all of the great boycotts for better jobs for farm workers and their families, it was Dolores who pulled it all together.

Farm workers are her family. And all of us in public life soon learned that if something was wrong with her brother and sisters in the field, Dolores would be knocking on doors to set things right. Her activism was ignited when as a teacher, many of her students came to school suffering from hunger and without adequate clothing. Frustrated by the plight of these children, Dolores decided that she could best serve her community by working as a grass roots advocate and refocused her life to the economic empowerment of the parents of her students—the farm workers.

In 1955, she founded the Stockton, California chapter of the Community Service Organization. There, she began to develop her leadership skills through the organization's advocacy work to end segregation and police bru-

ality, promoting voter registration, and improving public services for the disenfranchised.

The plight of migrant farm workers always remained a central part of her public service. She soon met her kindred spirit in the cause for farm worker rights, Cesar Chavez. Dolores and Cesar embarked on a new path to bring the plight of farm workers in our national consciousness. In 1962, they founded the National Farm Workers Association, the predecessor to the United Farm Workers. Never before did farm workers have a voice in the political process. Under her leadership as Political Director, farm workers began to understand that they could achieve social justice by organizing strikes, boycotts, and voter registration drives. Through Dolores' leadership, once invisible farm workers were now given a human face and became an integral part of the struggle to gain civil rights and equal justice for people of all colors and economic backgrounds.

Dolores will always hold a special place in the hearts of the Kennedy family. Dolores and Cesar Chavez developed a special relationship with my brother Bobby for John F. Kennedy's 1960 presidential campaign. Together, they established the "Viva Kennedy" voter registration drive for Hispanic voters in California. That effort was revived in 1968 for Bobby's presidential campaign. I will always remember how her dedication and hard work were instrumental to my brother's California primary victory. Dolores made it possible for Bobby to reach out to Mexican-Americans and convey the message of a common vision for equal justice. She encouraged those who believed that they were disenfranchised to come to the polls for the first time to join in the fight for civil rights and human dignity. My family will always remember and respect Dolores for her strong and skillful efforts as well as her commitment to the great goals that we share.

1973 was yet another turning point for the farm worker movement. When grape growers decided to discontinue the collective bargaining agreements with the United Farm Workers, Dolores organized a national boycott and public education campaign to inform consumers of the poor working conditions and unfair wages that farm workers endured from the agricultural industry. The striking farm workers were subjected to severe harassment and violence. Many of them lost their lives in the struggle. But they would not give up until justice was won. In the end, the California legislature enacted the Agricultural Labor Relations Act. For the first time, farm workers were granted the right to collectively organize and bargain for better wages and working conditions.

Cesar Chavez passed on seven years ago, but the struggle of the farm workers continues. At a time in which most people settle into the slower pace of their golden years, Dolores keeps on

fighting the battles that have not yet been won. I am delighted to hear that she will still be on the ramparts and in the trenches for workers in need of her help. Dolores continues to do all she can to empower future generations of Americans to carry the torch that she let so brightly shine over these challenging years. She will also continue her efforts to increase Latino voter participation and develop strong leadership opportunities for Hispanic women around the country, and advocate for the rights of immigrants and working people, speak on behalf of working people across America.

Millions of Americans enjoy a higher quality of life because of her skillful efforts. No one has fought harder for civil rights of people of color, for worker's rights, for environmental rights, for women's and children's rights, for quality education and health care, and for economic empowerment for the poor. The Kennedy family is proud to consider Dolores a friend.

Dolores Huerta is a living legend and a true American hero. Her vision, compassion, and tireless commitment to all Americans is never ending. Nothing we can say or do can truly repay her for all she has done to make our country the strong and more just nation that it is today. From all of us who love and respect her, we say, "Job well done!"●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting five treaties which were referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 1999, the Secretary of the Senate, on July 28, 2000, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House has passed the following bill:

S. 2869. An act to protect religious liberty, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution:

S. Con. Res. 132. A concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3519) to provide for negotiations for the creation of a trust fund to be administered by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development or the