

SALUTE TO BEVERLY ANN KING
2000 MINORITY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT REGIONAL MINORITY ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to salute my constituent and my friend, Beverly Ann King, who is being singled out for her enormous contributions to minority entrepreneurs with the National Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week Award, which will be presented to her in Washington, DC, on Wednesday, September 27, 2000. Each year, the President of the United States designates one week as Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week to honor outstanding members of the business sector. I am proud to note that in addition to being a recipient of the national Award, Beverly also received the Region IX MEDWeek Award at a luncheon in her honor on Thursday, August 31, 2000, and on Wednesday, October 18, 2000, will be honored with the local Los Angeles MED Week Award, at a luncheon in her honor at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

President and Chief Executive Officer of BAK Management, Beverly King is recognized nationally for her expertise in the conceptualization and implementation of programs benefitting minority, women, and disadvantaged business (MBE/WBE/DBE) owners. She has been a much sought after advocate for minority entrepreneurs for nearly two decades, as she has worked to ensure participation and parity for MBE/WBE/DBE enterprises in government and business contracting opportunities. As an expert in the field of MBE/WBE/DBE programs, she is a frequent lecturer and conducts seminars and training programs into the concepts and skills necessary for a successful minority business program.

Ms. King founded Beverly A. King (BAK) Management Consulting in July 1986. Her numerous clients have included the City of Los Angeles, Bunker Hill Tower, the Southern California Gas Company (now SEMPRA Energy), and Turner Construction. She continues to represent Turner Construction, serving as the company's Community Affairs Director and MBE/WBE/EEO Administrator.

Prior to establishing BAK Management Consulting, Beverly served six years as Equal Opportunity Manager for the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) in Los Angeles. Her duties included overseeing all civil rights/EEO activities associated with the construction of Los Angeles' Century Freeway project, and serving as the FHA's representative on the Century Freeway Affirmative Action Committee.

During the early years of her career, Beverly worked in our nation's capital for Senator Ralph Yarborough of Texas and Congresswoman Yvonne Brathwaite Burke of Los Angeles. She attended Prairie View A&M College in Texas, Howard University in Washington, DC, and earned undergraduate and graduate degrees from Pepperdine University in Los Angeles.

The recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the President's Award presented by the Black Business Association of Los Angeles, in August 1992 she was named by

Speaker Thomas Foley to a four year term as a member of the United States Glass Ceiling Commission.

She is on the Corporate Advisory Board and a member of the Black Business Association; the Asian Business Association; the National Association of Minority Contractors of Southern California; and Women Construction Executives of Los Angeles. In addition, she has served on the Advisory Board of the UCLA Graduate School of Business. Furthermore, she is chair of the Legislative Task Force of Black Women's Forum and serves on the Board of Black Women of Achievement.

Mr. Speaker, Beverly A. King is indeed a woman of achievement. The fruits of her labors bear witness through the growth of the many successful MBE/WBE/DBE's engaged today in businesses throughout the Los Angeles community. It is a pleasure to publicly commend her, and to extend heartfelt congratulations to her on the high honors she is so deservedly receiving at this time. On behalf of the residents of the 32nd Congressional District of Los Angeles, I thank her and wish her continued success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE RICHARD
D. ROMERO

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with regret and deep sadness that I announce the passing of Inland Empire businessman, philanthropist, and community leader Richard Romero, at the age of 64.

Richard demonstrated vision and entrepreneurial spirit in the Inland Empire for over 30 years, opening his first dealership, Pomona Valley Datsun, in 1970. Today his business interests include 8 automobile franchises, a wholesale auto auction and a real estate company.

Throughout the years, Richard had a large presence in the Inland Empire, both as a businessman and community leader. He believed that what makes this country great is our individual commitments to philanthropies.

Richard and his wife of 38 years, Val, sponsored and supported many service organizations and programs for children including: an annual Christmas Choral Competition which awards monetary grants to 5 area high schools, a Christmas Program which provides gifts for over 300 foster children, Assistance League of Pomona Valley, Kiwanis, Ontario Chamber of Commerce and National Charity League.

Richard was born in rural Socorro, New Mexico, September 4, 1935, son of Clara and James Romero. He began working at age 9 washing cars and working in a service station. He earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration, and for 6 years served our country in the Army Reserve Tank Corps. He then worked as assistant auditor for the state of New Mexico.

He moved to Los Angeles to work as an auditor for 20th Century Fox, at which time he also began his career in the retail auto business when he bought a small gas station from which he began refurbishing and selling used cars.

Richard was Chairman of the Board of Empire Nissan, Romero Motors Corporation, Jeep/Chrysler/Plymouth of Ontario, Toyota of Glendale and J. McCullough Corporation. He had served as a board member of the California Motor Car Dealers Association and the Chairman of the Board and CEO of Acquirecorp's Norwalk Auto Auction, Oremor Management & Investment Company and Oremor Development L.L.C.

Richard received several awards within the industry, including Chrysler Corporation's "Five Star Award for Excellence" and Nissan's President Inner Circle Award. In 1987, he was honored as the only Californian to receive the Import Car Dealer of Distinction Award. He was also the winner of the Time Magazine's Quality Dealer Award and named Mr. Hispanic Business Man of the Year, 1985.

In addition to being listed in "Who's Who in California", he was also named 1987 Humanitarian of the Year by the Alliance of Latino Business Association. He served with the Deukmejian administration as a California Transportation Commissioner. He also served on the Board of Governors of Opportunity Funding Corporation, a nonprofit, Washington, D.C. based organization, which helps minority members start and/or expand small businesses. Additionally, he worked closely with King Juan Carlos of Spain when he served on the Board of Governors for Expo '92 in Seville.

Richard was the founder and former chairman of the board of directors of Empire Bank and also served for over 20 years on the Board of Trustees for the University of La Verne, which chose him for their 1998 President's Award. Additionally, he served on the Board of Governors for the Rose Institute of Claremont McKenna College. The Romeros had the honor of meeting and hosting several dignitaries and celebrities in their home including Chief of Staff Howard Baker under President Ronald Reagan, Former Governor Pete Wilson, Lord Roger Keyes, Sir Julien and Lady Ridsdale, and heavy weight champion George Foreman. He had also met and conferred with Presidents Reagan, Bush, Ford and Carter.

Richard is survived by his wife Val; son R.J.; two daughters Valerie and Christina; and four grandchildren with one on the way.

Richard will be missed by family and friends alike. He touched us all with his kind deeds and leadership in our community.

U.S. SHOULD SHOW SOLIDARITY
WITH IRANIAN RESISTANCE

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, Mohammad Khatami, the president of Iran, is scheduled to speak at the United Nations' Millennium Summit in New York today. More than 10,000 Iranian-Americans protested yesterday in front of the United Nations saying that Khatami does not represent the Iranian people, and should not be speaking at this summit.

Unfortunately I was not able to join U.S. Senator ROBERT TORRICELLI, and my colleagues in the House, CAROLYN MALONEY, GARY ACKERMAN, and GREGORY MEEKS at this impressive rally. But, Mr. Speaker, I want to