

1987). She began her public service in 1976 when she was elected to the Millbrae City Council. She served on the City Council for 13 years, and was twice elected as mayor (1980, 1984).

In March of 1987, Mary Griffin was elected to the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County. She was re-elected to a full term in 1988, and then was reelected for two additional terms in 1992 and 1996. Mary served as President of the Board of Supervisors in 1989, 1993, and 1999. She served as President of the Association of Bay Area Governments (1991–1992) and as Vice Chair of the Bay Area Economic Forum (1995).

Mr. Speaker, during nearly thirteen years of leadership on the Board of Supervisors, Mary has demonstrated her outstanding leadership and commitment to dealing with issues of critical importance in maintaining the quality of life on the Peninsula. She has worked to deal with serious transportation problems in our area. She served on the Transportation Authority Board and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (1989–1998), where she made important contributions to improving Peninsula transportation in a period of intense economic growth in our area. Reflecting her concern with issues involving the San Francisco International Airport, which is a critical transportation hub contributing to the economic vitality of our entire region, she made important contributions as a member of the Airport Land Use Committee, the Regional Airport Planning Committee, and the Airport Community Roundtable.

Mary has been in the forefront in protecting our fragile environment. In her first year as County Supervisor, Mary took the lead in county recycling efforts as the first and only chair of the County Recycling Task Force. She served on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, as a member of the Congestion Management and Air Quality Committee, and Joint Air Quality Policy Committee.

The needs of children are at the top of Mary Griffin's agenda, and she has frequently emphasized that how we care for our children's needs today will determine our nation's tomorrow. As a child of a widow who worked for the minimum wage, Mary still remembers those hard times, and she has focused on helping families and children make a better future. She has established or taken a leading role in a number of programs to help children—the "Share-a-Bear Program" for abused and neglected children in San Mateo County, the Children's Dental Program to assure that impoverished children with severe dental needs are cared for, and the Children's Executive Council to improve communication and cooperation among children's programs throughout the county.

Mr. Speaker, Mary Griffin has received numerous awards recognizing her commitment and contribution to our community—a PTA Honorary Life Service Award, Woman of the Year of the California Federation of Women's Clubs, Woman of Distinction of the Soroptimist International of Millbrae-San Bruno, Directors Award of the State Department of Social Services, and many, many others.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in extending our warmest congratulations to Mary Griffin on the occasion of her retirement as a member of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors. Her commitment to public service is an inspiration and an example to

all of us. We wish her well now that she will have more time to spend with her family: her husband, Walter Ramseur, her three children—John, Mary and Zachary—and her five grandchildren.

IN HONOR OF JERRY HAYES FOR  
HIS REMARKABLE RECORD OF  
PUBLIC SERVICE AND COURAGEOUS  
ADVOCACY FOR PEOPLE  
WITH DISABILITIES

**HON. JIM RAMSTAD**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise sadly to salute a courageous public servant from my district who passed away recently, a man who changed my life as well as the lives of numerous people with disabilities.

Thomas G. (Jerry) Hayes of Excelsior, Minnesota, was confined to a wheelchair since 1976 because of a mysterious virus which left him paralyzed from the waist down.

But when it came to issues of importance to people with disabilities, Jerry's mobility and spirit knew no bounds. He was a powerful, articulate and highly effective advocate for people with disabilities right up to his death earlier this month. His son, Tom, called Jerry a "professional volunteer."

Jerry was a highly successful business leader as head of Jersey Ice Cream and a food sales company. He viewed his disability not with regret or bitterness, but as an opportunity, an opportunity to help other people with disabilities and the poor.

I was a young State Senator when I first met Jerry Hayes, who quickly became one of my role models and a key member of my Disabilities Advisory Committee. Issues important to people with disabilities have been among my highest priorities since entering public service, and Jerry is one of the principal reasons why.

Jerry was well liked by everyone he met and his well-researched, heartfelt positions moved many lawmakers to change their thinking when it came to critical issues affecting people with disabilities.

Jerry used the very same assets that made him so successful in business—his dynamic personality, boundless energy and tremendous leadership skills—to increase public awareness of the daunting obstacles faced by people with disabilities as they tried to lead more independent lifestyles.

Jerry Hayes changed minds, softened hearts and, literally, moved buildings.

His relentless hard work led to buildings becoming more accessible for people with disabilities, just one of his many accomplishments. He was particularly interested in making churches more accessible.

When then President Bush signed the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act, Jerry Hayes received a personal invitation from the President to attend the event.

His life's work and volunteerism on behalf of people with disabilities read like a "Who's Who" of Twin Cities organizations which are there to help. Touched by his vision, energy and work ethic were the world famous Courage Center, where he was a member of the board, United Handicapped Federation, Qual-

ity Transit Coalition, Regional Transit Board, Catholic Charities, where he was also a board member, Special Olympics, Minnesota Board on Aging, Minnesota Governor's Planning Council on Physical Disabilities and others.

Jerry Hayes was also a veteran of the Army. A grateful nation owes him a tremendous debt of gratitude for his dedication to freedom for the people of the world and all Americans with disabilities.

I will always be grateful to Jerry Hayes for his exceptional leadership, visionary guidance and treasured friendship through the years. My thoughts and prayers are with his wonderful family: Mary, his wife of 46 years; son Joe and daughters Jean, Molly and Abbie; his eight grandchildren; his sister Mary and brother John.

A TRIBUTE TO THE SEVENTH  
ANNUAL KIDS DAY AMERICA

**HON. JAY INSLEE**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the seventh annual Kids Day America. This weekend youngsters will gather in Silverdale, Washington to commemorate this day by learning about health, safety and environmental issues. Local law enforcement officers, doctors, dentists, lawyers, and community leaders will volunteer their time to help children develop healthy habits and an awareness of their environment.

I am heartened by this special event for several reasons. Kids Day America pools the collective resources of many talented adults for the common cause of passing knowledge to our children. Through this exercise we strengthen the bonds of our community—and it is this more than anything that will guide our children toward healthy and full lives. As we in Congress work to make our communities safe and beautiful with clean air and clear water, it is inspiring to know that children across the country are learning to protect these natural assets. Furthermore, as we struggle with health care costs for our elderly, it is vital that the habits of a healthy lifestyle are taught to our children.

Mr. Speaker, I commend all who have helped organize this important day. Their dedication and leadership truly distinguishes my Congressional District.

TRIBUTE TO THE HUNGER  
PROJECT

**HON. KAREN MCCARTHY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of an outstanding group called the Hunger Project. The Hunger Project is a strategic organization and worldwide endeavor focused on ending hunger throughout the world. The Hunger Project strives for a more permanent, wide reaching solution to assure that all of us, including the citizens of underdeveloped societies in Africa, Asia and Latin America will one day know a world without hunger.