

MAOF has played a pivotal role in the lives of many Mexican Americans and Mr. Morales' contributions have not gone unnoticed. In addition to the many honors and board memberships bestowed upon him, Los Angeles County showed its appreciation to Mr. Morales and MAOF by dedicating "Dionicio Morales Plaza" at Belvedere Park in Los Angeles.

Mr. Speaker, as Mr. Morales embarks upon the next chapter of his life in retirement, it gives me great honor to join those who are honoring him tonight at MAOF's 33rd Annual Aztec Awards Gala in Los Angeles. It is with great pride that I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting this exceptional American.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I was unfortunately absent for the rollcall vote on passage of H.R. 3244, the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act Conference Report. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."