

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING DR. RALPH D. FEIGIN  
FOR BEING APPOINTED TO THE  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

**HON. KEN BENTSEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 16, 2000*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Dr. Ralph D. Feigin, for being appointed to the Board of Governors at the National Institutes of Health and Warren Grant Magnuson Clinical Center. This appointment acknowledges Dr. Feigin's outstanding contributions in pediatric medicine for more than three decades.

Indeed this is an honor for the internationally renowned expert in pediatric infectious disease, who has published over 400 articles in chapters and books. The function of the board is a very important one, to advise, consult, and make recommendations to the Director of the NIH and the Director of the Clinical Center on matters of policy including the approval and development of a strategic plan and the annual budget. Members of the Board of Governors are chosen for their knowledge and expertise in health care governance and management, operational aspects of academic health care centers, and clinical research. Dr. Feigin has served since 1977, as the J.S. Abercrombie Professor of Pediatrics and Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics at the Baylor College of Medicine. While sharing knowledge with residents and cultivating their performances, he is still dedicated to his patients and to his daily work at Texas Children's Hospital.

A native of New York City, Dr. Feigin graduated from Columbia College with a B.A. in 1958. He received his Medical Degree from Boston University School of Medicine in 1962. Dr. Feigin completed his Pediatric Internship at the Boston City Hospital in 1963.

Dr. Feigin is known throughout the Texas Medical Center Community as a remarkable doctor and dedicated leader, who views his students as extended family. Each month he invites students celebrating birthdays to his home for a seated dinner and birthday cake baked by his wife Judith. Although his administrative duties consume much of his time, he starts each morning making rounds with residents, reviewing material, and sharing his knowledge of pediatric medicine that has earned him a distinguished reputation. From 1987 to 1989 he served as Executive Vice President of Texas Children's Hospital. In addition, he is Physician-in-Chief Pediatric Services, Ben Taub General Hospital and Chief of the Pediatric Service, The Methodist Hospital, also of my district.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Dr. Feigin on this appointment and his many years of dedication to pediatric medicine. His achievements are an inspiration to us all.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4205,  
FLOYD D. SPENCE NATIONAL DEFENSE  
AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR  
FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 11, 2000*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the conference report to accompany H.R. 4205, the National Defense Authorization Act.

As a conferee, I first would like to thank the Speaker for appointing me and to thank both Chairman SPENCE, and Ranking Member SKELTON, for affording me many opportunities to influence the conference deliberations and shape a number of provisions. It was an enlightening experience and I look forward to future opportunities to work with them and my other colleagues to provide for a strong national defense.

Mr. Speaker, of particular note are the quality of life improvements the conference report makes for both active duty and military retirees. Representing a large community on and around Travis Air Force Base, I know that many of these improvements are long overdue. The improvements in health care, especially access for retirees, will provide needed reassurance to those who serve our Nation in uniform.

Mr. SKELTON dubbed this year as the "year of military health care." I ask my colleagues to note the significant improvements to the TRICARE health care system for our active duty, retirees and their families. The conference report eliminates co-payments for active duty family members in TRICARE PRIME, so those active duty family members are treated fairly and equitably. It allows family members to participate in TRICARE Prime Remote, so that those who live far from a military base, including significant numbers in northern California, have the same access to health care. It authorizes reimbursement for travel expenses when families must travel long distances to see a specialist. It reduces unnecessary referral requirements to improve access to care. And, it establishes a permanent chiropractic benefit for our active duty personnel.

As I mentioned, the conference report honors the commitment to our military retirees and their families and restores access to lifetime military health care. It establishes a pharmacy benefit that allows retirees and their dependents to obtain drugs through the National Mail Order Pharmacy, a network pharmacy or a non-network pharmacy. No matter where you live access to pharmaceuticals will no longer be an issue.

The conference report also reduces the catastrophic cap for out-of-pocket expenses from \$7,500 to \$3,000. It adopts the House-passed provision extending the TRICARE Senior Prime Program, more commonly known as Medicare Subvention. As a result, military re-

tirees will have one of the best health care programs in the country.

The conference report includes a number of initiatives to improve the quality of life for our service members and help the Services in their recruitment and retention efforts. It provides a 3.7 percent pay raise for all military personnel and includes a targeted pay raise for mid-grade enlisted personnel.

Most important for many of the active duty service men and women who live off-base, the conference report eliminates the cap and reduces the out-of-pocket housing costs for our members to 14.5 percent. To improve the quality of life for our junior enlisted families the conference report increases housing standards and authorizes \$157 million more than requested for family housing, including the construction of 64 family housing units at Travis Air Force Base.

These are several of the initiatives I am pleased to have played a role in fashioning and I would like to thank my subcommittee chairmen, STEVE BUYER and JOEL HEFLEY, for the opportunity to work with them and the other conferees on these personnel and military construction issues.

In fashioning this House-Senate compromise, there are, of course, disappointments. I regret conferees did not accept the provision I authored to require the Department of Defense to collect and analyze the DNA of violent offenders and to provide those analyses to the Department of Justice CODIS database. While I don't disagree with their view that such a requirement should be government-wide, the bill the House passed imposing this requirement is likely to stall in the Senate. As a result, we will have lost as much as a year of using this DNA in criminal investigations.

I also regret that the Senate-passed hate crimes measure was dropped from the conference report.

I am also disappointed with a Senate-passed provision directing the Departments of Defense and Energy to study ways to "defeat hardened and deeply buried targets." Though slightly modified from the original, the language still permits limited research and development, which could lead to a new low-yield nuclear weapon with earth-penetrating capabilities.

As I expressed to other conferees, my concern with developing such a weapon is that it is likely to encourage military and political leaders to think more readily about using nuclear weapons. In my view, we should not lower this threshold or make nuclear weapons a more acceptable choice in war. In addition, development of such a weapon is contrary to our Nation's goals of reducing and eventually eliminating nuclear weapons. To begin development and stockpiling of a new nuclear weapon would reverse the difficult achievements the United States has made to slow the proliferation of nuclear material and weapons.

Undoubtedly, reconsideration of this issue will occur next year and I look forward to debating it with a new Administration.

• 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.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I believe the increased authorizations for national missile defense are unnecessary and unwarranted. Rather than accelerating program elements, I believe we should have a renewed debate, not only about the technological components of NMD, but also about the strategic and foreign policy questions it raises. Until those questions are fully debated before the American people, it is, in my view, unwise to increase NMD authorization levels.

Mr. Speaker, the conference report before us makes significant improvements to our Nation's defense. It takes significant steps to address issues associated with operations tempo and aging equipment. And, as important, it gives the members of our uniformed services not only the weapons, training, and equipment they need to prepare for the next war, but also the peace of mind that comes from a home and work environment reflective of the important role they perform for America and all Americans.

I urge adoption of the conference report.

#### MODIFYING RATES RELATING TO REDUCED RATE MAIL MATTER

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHAKA FATTAH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 11, 2000*

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, as the Ranking member of the Subcommittee on the Postal Service, I am pleased to join Chairman MCHUGH in the consideration of S. 2686, legislation introduced in the Senate, S. 2686, on June 7, 2000, by Senator THAD COCHRAN, the Chairman, and Senator DANIEL K. AKAKA, the Ranking Minority Member of the Senate Subcommittee on International Security Proliferation and Federal Services. This measure will provide much needed postage rate relief for nonprofit mailers and address serious shortcomings in the current United States Postal Service (USPS) rate case proposal that is now before the Postal Rate Commission (PRC).

On Friday, October 6, the United States Senate approved passage of S. 2686, legislation drafted by the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers, the Postal Service, and others that is designed to protect preferred postal rates for nonprofit mailers.

S. 2686, which will protect nonprofit or preferred mailers from double-digit rate increases, is identical to H.R. 4636, legislation I introduced on June 12, 2000. I was joined in the introduction of this bill by Congressman STENY H. HOYER, Ranking Minority Member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service and General Government, and Congressman DANNY K. DAVIS and Congressman MAJOR R. OWENS, both members of the Subcommittee on the Postal Service. To date a number of members have co-sponsored my bill.

The practice of designating certain types of mail for preferred rates was initiated by the Congress more than 50 years ago. In 1993, deficit reduction legislation eliminated federal financial support for nonprofit mailers, but mandated that nonprofit rates be lower than rates for commercial mailers.

In January of this year, the Postal Service Board of Governors proposed postage rate increases for all classes of mail. The USPS formally filed the rate request which is pending before the PRC. The proposed postal rate increase for all classes of mail is designed to raise \$3.7 billion in new revenues—beginning in 2001. Under the current rate request, rates for nonprofits will surpass rates for corresponding commercial mail. The USPS attributed the increase to inaccurate cost data and have suggested that the “average” increase for mailers is approximately 6.4%. Unfortunately, for nonprofits and magazine industry, the hit is double-plus the average increase.

To its credit, the Postal Service requested and proposed legislation to fix the nonprofit rate anomaly. The legislative fix was drafted by the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers with the assistance of the Magazine Publishers of America, National Federation of Nonprofits, Direct Marketing Association, and others. These organizations worked with the postal service to craft an acceptable legislative solution to the nonprofit rate problem in the current rate case before the PRC. You are all to be commended. Without the legislation, the nonprofit periodical preferred rate will disappear.

How does S. 2686 correct the rate anomaly? The bill would “lock-in” the rate relationship between nonprofit and commercial Standard A and Periodical rates, which would prevent nonprofit mail from current and future “rate shock” by doing the following:

Set nonprofit Periodical rates at 95% of the commercial counterpart rate. Excluding the advertising portion, nonprofit mailers would receive a 5% discount off the commercial rate.

Set the revenue per piece for nonprofit Standard A mail to reflect a 40% discount over the revenue per piece received by commercial Standard A mail.

Set Library rates at 95% of the rates for the Special subclass of Standard B mail.

Passage of the bill is necessary before the Postal Rate Commission completes deliberations on the current rate case.

Mr. Speaker, before I close I would like to thank Chairman MCHUGH and his staff, Robert Taub and Heea Vazirani-Fales, for their hard work in ensuring a compromise on this matter, PRC Chairman Ed Gleiman for his efforts to keep Congress focused on fixing the problem, Neal Denton of the Alliance for keeping the coalition together and on track even in the face of last minute challenges, the Postal Service for being proactive and Nanci Langley, Deputy Minority Staff Director for the Senate Subcommittee on International Security Proliferation and Federal Services and Dan Blair, Senior Counsel, Senate Governmental Affairs Committee for all of their help and support. I must also commend and thank the Government Reform Committee Chairman, Congressman DAN BURTON for keeping all the parties together for the good of the nonprofit community. I close by thanking the Ranking Government Reform member, Congressman HENRY A. WAXMAN for his support, hard work, and co-sponsorship of H.R. 4636, and for bringing the bill to the attention of the Corrections Day Group.

And so, on behalf of local charities, hospitals, churches, educators, arts organizations, nonprofit publications, and a host of others including Girard College, the Center for Science

in the Public Interest, the National Association of Independent Schools, and Chicago WILDERNESS Magazine, and the cosponsors of H.R. 4636, I ask that my colleagues support S. 2686 and urge its swift adoption.

#### RECOGNIZING CELANESE CHEMICALS, CLEAR LAKE PLANT AS A LA PORTE-BAYSHORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HONOREE

**HON. KEN BENTSEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 16, 2000*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate Celanese Chemicals Clear Lake Plant Site for being honored as the La Porte-Bayshore 2000 Industry of the Year. Celanese's commitment to building a better future for the LaPorte/Bayshore community has made it an example that all industry can follow.

Since 1967, Celanese Chemicals and its employees have been responsible members of the Clear Lake, Deer Park, La Porte-Bayshore, and Pasadena areas, all in my district. Celanese Chemicals, Clear Lake Plant Site, is a world leader in the production of organic materials and production of bulk commodity chemicals. Located on 1,000 acres, the plant's continuous program of innovation and improvement has increased the original plant's capacity to more than five billion pounds annually.

The Clear Lake Plant is specifically engineered for synergistic production. The synergy increases efficiency, minimizes waste and helps ensure quality. Products are shipped worldwide via pipeline, oceangoing tankers, barges, rail, and highway tank trucks. Celanese provides products to other petrochemical companies, specialty chemical companies, and consumer products companies around the world.

Dedication to worker safety and environmental performance has also been a hallmark of this company. Its proactive environmental and safety programs have received recognition from many organizations, including the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, the Chemical Manufacturers Association, and the Texas Chemical Council. In addition to being an integral part of the area economy, the company contributes greatly to the community. As a participant in Chemical Manufacturers Association's Responsible Care program, the plant takes part in community advisory panels, which creates dialogue with plant leadership and the local community. The plant is also a member of several community chambers of commerce and community service organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Celanese Chemicals, on being named the La Porte-Bayshore Chamber of Commerce 2000 Industry of the Year. This is well deserved for their hard work in expanding business, producing products vital to our lives, their commitment to environmental protection and worker safety, and their many contributions to the community.

CONGRATULATING PAINT BRANCH HIGH SCHOOL ON BEING DESIGNATED A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE AND A NEW AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 16, 2000*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, today I honor and congratulate the students, parents, and faculty of Paint Branch High School on receiving a Blue Ribbon School Award from the United States Department of Education. Achieving this honor demonstrates the commitment that both the faculty and administrators of Paint Branch have made to their students.

Paint Branch High School is continuously dedicated to excellence and committed to success. As Chair of the House Technology Subcommittee, I am especially proud of the science and media signature program. This program combines educational opportunities with three area high schools. Each school has its own signature program based on staff strengths and student interest. Additionally, Paint Branch High School is one of few in the county to offer three special education programs to help our students with special needs.

This weekend, Paint Branch High School will celebrate their great achievements. On October 13th Paint Branch students will hold a pep rally to share enthusiasm of this award and for the school's homecoming. In addition, the community celebration will bring together faculty, students, local business and community leaders. The National Blue Ribbon flag will be unveiled on Homecoming day, which will conclude the celebration. I congratulate the faculty, students and their supporters in organizing these events.

As a former educator in the Montgomery County's public school system, I am proud to recognize Paint Branch High School for its outstanding educational and extracurricular programs. I congratulate the school's students, faculty, supportive parents, and dedicated administrators. In addition, I thank Principal Fred Lowenbach whose leadership brought Paint Branch to its current reward. I wish Paint Branch High School continued success in achieving excellence in education.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF JOHN C. MCMEEKIN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS UPCOMING RETIREMENT FROM THE CROZER-KEYSTONE HEALTH SYSTEM

**HON. CURT WELDON**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 16, 2000*

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege and an honor to have this opportunity to pay tribute to one of the truly outstanding individuals from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Mr. John C. McMeekin. Early next year John McMeekin will retire from his position as President and Chief Executive Officer of Crozer-Keystone Health System where he has served since 1990. The health care in-

dustry will lose a trailblazing leader when Jack steps down.

John McMeekin has been a leader in the health care field for over thirty-five years and his service is truly commendable. The Crozer-Keystone Health System consists of five hospitals with a licensed capacity of over 1200 beds, four long term care facilities totaling 800 licensed beds, a licensed HMO managed care organization and a network of salaried primary care and specialty physicians. System revenues totaled more than \$500 million in fiscal year 2000. Before joining Crozer-Chester Medical Center in 1983, Mr. McMeekin was a senior officer of Philadelphia Blue Cross and began his health career at Pennsylvania Hospital in 1965. He and his family reside in Philadelphia.

Mr. McMeekin is past Chairman of the Hospital & Health System Association of Pennsylvania and Chairman of their holding company, Health Alliance of Pennsylvania. In addition, he serves on the Board of VHA, the Board of Executive Committee of the American Hospital Association and chairs the AHA Regional Policy Group II. He also served on the Executive Committee and Board of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce and was a trustee of Elwyn Institute. For twelve years Mr. McMeekin served as Public Governor on the Board of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange. He is a graduate of Penn State University and holds a Masters degree from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

In September 1996 Crozer-Keystone opened their 200,000 square-foot, \$40 million Healthplex, a combination of a 40-bed acute care hospital and emergency service which includes 35,000 square feet of physician offices, four ambulatory surgical suites, a comprehensive rehabilitation facility and a large Sports and Fitness Club. Membership at the end of fiscal year 2000 was approximately 7,000.

Under Mr. McMeekin's able leadership, Crozer-Keystone served as an Action Learning Lab for AHA in November 1996 and has been cited for his work in measuring and monitoring the health status of its county of 550,000 people and for its investment in Information Systems. In February 1997 they began marketing their MedCarePlus directly to Medicare beneficiaries as one of the eight provider-sponsored HCFA Medicare Choices demonstration sites. Crozer-Keystone is a major teaching affiliate of Temple University in Philadelphia and a member of the Council of Teaching Hospital and the National Chronic Care Consortium.

Mr. McMeekin's distinguished career includes service on numerous boards and associations including American College of Healthcare Executives, American Hospital Association, Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania, and the Union League of Philadelphia. His efforts have not gone unrecognized. Included among the awards he has received are: Distinguished Performance in Management Award (Widener University, 1995); Health Care Hero's Award (Philadelphia Business Journal, 1996); First Carl E. Moore Award for Health Care Leadership (Philadelphia Health Management Corporation, 1998) and First Health System Innovations and Development Award (National Health Strategies, 1998).

Mr. Speaker, the distinguished career of John C. McMeekin places him in the first rank of outstanding health care leaders of our time. His service to his profession and his fellow

man serves as benchmark for us all. I know Jack personally. He is a good friend, a dedicated family man, and a patriotic citizen. It has been a pleasure to work closely with him, and an honor to be his friend.

At this time, I would ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to John C. McMeekin. On the occasion of his retirement as President and Chief Executive Officer of Crozer-Keystone Health System, we thank him for his dedicated service and we wish him all the best for the future.

IN MEMORY OF ZOE ANN ORR  
MARCUS

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 16, 2000*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the life of Zoe Ann Orr Marcus of Watsonville, California. Ms. Marcus, an integral part of the Pajaro Valley communities, died on Thursday, September 28, 2000.

Zoe was born in 1913 in Berkeley, California, but soon moved south to San Jose with her parents. She graduated from Stanford University with a degree in biological sciences, and received her master's degree in marine biology from Hopkins Marine Station in Pacific Grove. She later returned to Stanford to earn her teaching credentials. It was at Stanford that she met her future husband, Frank Fletcher Orr, and they were married in 1941. At that time, Mr. Orr was the managing editor of the Watsonville Register Pajaronian, but he was to later serve with the U.S. Army in the European Theater during World War II. While he served as chief of still-picture operations, Ms. Marcus taught at Woods Hole Marine Institute in Massachusetts.

After the war, the couple returned to Watsonville, and in 1949 Mr. Orr was named editor of the Pajaronian. It was at this time that Mr. Orr purchased his family homestead on what is now East Beach Street in Watsonville. This Victorian farmhouse was built in 1868 by Mr. Orr's great-grandfather, Godfrey Bockius. Bockius was one of the original organizers of the town of Watsonville, and was eventually elected as a county judge and a state assemblyman. Zoe and Frank restored this house together, adding a wing and modernizing many features of the original building. It was in this house that the Orr's entertained members of the Pajaronian staff, local community members, and the heads of local arts groups. Zoe's reputation as the pre-eminent hostess was well known throughout Santa Cruz County and the Pajaro Valley.

Frank Orr passed away in 1985, and in 1989 Zoe and long-time family friend Gerald Marcus were married. It was in these years that Ms. Marcus was most active in her community. Perhaps one of her most enduring legacies was her donation of the Bockius-Orr house and its lands to the Pajaro Valley Historical Association in 1991. The Association uses this house as an office and a museum open to the public. Zoe was also active in the Girl Scouts, the Santa Cruz Symphony, the Cabrillo Music Festival, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, the Cabrillo Foundation, the Greater Santa Cruz County Community Foundation and the American Association of University

Women. She was honored for her volunteer work by both the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors and the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Mr. Speaker, as you can see, Zoe Ann Orr Marcus was an important part of many different aspects of life in Santa Cruz County and beyond, and will be sorely missed by her stepdaughter Mary Marcus of Capitola; stepson John Marcus of Watsonville; and cousin Betty Ann Chandler of San Jose. Her familiar presence will also be missed by the many people who have been touched by her energy and passion for life.

HONORING DR. JAMES T. WILLERSON BEING NAMED INTERIM PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT HOUSTON

### HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 16, 2000*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Dr. James T. Willerson for being named Interim President of the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, one of the two world class medical schools in my district.

An internationally distinguished cardiologist and medical educator, Dr. Willerson has served since 1989 as the Edward Randall III Professor and Chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine at the University of Texas Medical School at Houston. Dr. Willerson's dedication to research in cardiology has made him highly respected by his peers, students, and community.

A native of Texas, Willerson grew up in San Antonio, where both of his parents were physicians. He graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a B.A. in 1961. He received his Medical Degree from Baylor College of Medicine in 1965. Dr. Willerson completed his internship and residency at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Dr. Willerson is known throughout the Texas Medical Center community as a fine physician, scientist, teacher, and administrator. Before joining the University of Texas Medical School at Houston, Dr. Willerson was a Professor of Medicine and Director of the Cardiology Division at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas and Director and Principal Investigator of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute's Specialized Center of Research under a major grant from the NIH.

He has received numerous national and international awards, including the "James B. Herrick Award" from the American Heart Association in 1993 and named the American College of Cardiology's Distinguished Scientist for 2000. He was also elected a Fellow in the Royal Society of Medicine of the United Kingdom and made Honorary Member of the Society of Cardiology in Peru in 1994, and in Spain in 1996. Also, Dr. Willerson is a past President of the Paul Dudley White Cardiology Society at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital.

Throughout his career, Dr. Willerson has distinguished himself as a caring doctor and gifted teacher who demands the best. I congratulate Dr. James T. Willerson on being

named Interim President of the University of Texas Health Science Center.

### TRIBUTE TO LA RESURRECCION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### HON. JOSE E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 16, 2000*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with joy and pride that I pay tribute to La Resurreccion United Methodist Church which, this past Sunday, moved to a new home in the Melrose Community of the Bronx at the historic Methodist building, which was built in 1878 by German Methodists.

La Resurreccion has initiated effective ministries to address the needs of the community, such as creating one of the only church-sponsored Harm Reduction/Needle Exchange programs. This program targets single room occupancy hotels in New York City, serving over twenty five hundred participants and employing fifteen to twenty people. La Resurreccion has created an Immigration Clinic with the assistance of lawyers who provide their services free of charge to assist undocumented immigrants with legal advice. La Resurreccion has also opened an after-school tutoring program called Creando Horizontes, designed and directed by educational professionals to target and enhance the reading and math skills children from the first to the eight grades.

Mr. Speaker, in collaboration with various community agencies, public officials and community leaders, La Resurreccion works to address the needs of our community. Among their prophetic ministries are: Educating and Empowering the Community, Advocating for Gay and Lesbian Rights, Advocating for the release of the Puerto Rican Political Prisoners, Advocating for Peace in Vieques, and Denouncing both Police Brutality and Anti-Immigration Laws. Presently, they are working with various agencies to create entrepreneurial opportunities for our young people.

It is a privilege for me to represent the 16th district of New York, where the new home of La Resurreccion United Methodist Church is located. I am delighted by the church's success. I have witnessed first-hand the exemplary work they are doing for our community and I am deeply impressed. I applaud the commitment and the efforts of La Resurreccion United Methodist Church's staff, under the leadership of Reverend Eddie Lopez, Jr., in the assistance they provide to our community, as well as in facilitating educational opportunities for our youth.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing La Resurreccion United Methodist Church and its staff and in wishing them continued success in their new building.

### SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY SELF-DETERMINATION ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

### HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2000*

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2389. Stabilizing county

payments has been my top legislative priority for the past several years. Enactment of this legislation has been a long time coming. Almost exactly a year ago, I argued for the passage of H.R. 2389 on the floor of the House. Today, I am asking my colleagues in Congress to again support H.R. 2389. This bill is a significant improvement over what the House approved last November and is a product of long and difficult negotiations with the Senate and Administration.

Counties in my district are suffering from declining federal timber payments. As a result, county governments are being forced to cut critical county services; work camps, juvenile justice programs, rural deputies and other essential county funded programs. The reduction in Forest Service receipts has also impacted rural road and school funding.

Throughout most of the 20th Century, Western Oregon served as the timber basket for the United States. Oregon's fourth congressional district, for many years, had the highest public timber harvest of any congressional district. Its lumber and wood products industry was also the most public timber dependent in the nation. Many rural community economies revolved totally around forestry, lumber, and wood products.

Today, timber output on public lands is at an all-time low. The costs to my district from changing public land management include lost high wage jobs, loss of economic infrastructure, and substantially reduced county budgets. I appreciate, and have worked with Members concerned with public land management. I believe a vote in favor of this legislation is a vote of support for better management of Federal forests because you are taking care of the communities which are most impacted.

Last year many Democrats had concerns with the environmental impacts of H.R. 2389. I want to directly address those concerns. This revised bill has absolutely no incentive for increased logging. The difficult negotiations over this bill resulted in compromise legislation affording counties increased flexibility for expending guaranteed payments. What was once a potentially controversial set-aside for forest management projects is now expanded to fund salmon restoration work, road decommissioning, forest-related educational training, after-school programs, and critical emergency response activities, search and rescue, and forest work camps.

Secondly, the revised legislation has been modified so that any proceeds from a county-funded timber sale are returned to the United States Treasury instead of back to the Forest Service region. While I supported the original House-passed version of H.R. 2389, the revisions address some outstanding concerns expressed by the environmental community and the Administration. Counties in my district have produced a list of non-controversial projects which will fund important activities such as salmon restoration.

Finally, I want to thank the staff on both sides of the aisle and in both chambers who have put such long hours and hard work into this legislation. Penny Dodge, Kathie Eastman, my former staffer Jeff Stier, Amelia Jenkins, Chris Schloesser, Erica Rosenberg, Tom Pyle, Doug Crandall, Bill O'Conner, Troy Tidwell, Lindsay Slater, Dave Tenny, Sarah Bittleman, Mark Rey, Sara Barth, Kira Finkler, Brian Kuehl, and Eric Washburn. In addition, I want to thank staff from the Administration

who worked in ensuring we could craft a bill President Clinton would feel proud of signing. Thanks to Anne Keys, Chris Wood, and Tom Tidwell. In closing, I want to commend my colleagues in the House and Senate—Representatives BOYD, WALDEN, HOOLEY and GOODLATTE and Senators WYDEN and CRAIG—who worked extremely hard. I truly appreciate their efforts.

HONORING 20 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE PROVIDED BY TOBY MYERS

**HON. KEN BENTSEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 16, 2000*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor Toby Myers for her twenty years of dedicated service to battered women and their families in the Houston area. I understand that Ms. Myers has worked tirelessly to ensure the women in domestic violence situations get the services and help they need to leave dangerous situations which may threaten both their personal and their children's lives.

The statistics about domestic abuse are alarming. As we all know, women are more likely than men to be victims of domestic abuse. A 1996 Lieberman Advertising research project found that more than one quarter of all American women or 26 percent of

women have been physically abused by a husband or a boyfriend during their lives. An even higher percentage of Americans, some 30 percent, know of someone who has been physically abused during the past year. Regrettably, domestic violence is one of the leading causes of injury among American women. In 1994, 37% of women who sought treatment in emergency rooms were violence-related injuries according to the U.S. Department of Justice report. In 1998, 106 women in Texas were killed by their intimate partner. Clearly we need to do more to combat this domestic abuse.

Toby Myers is a long-time advocate on behalf of these women. Beginning in 1980, she helped to found the Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse (AVDA) in conjunction with the National Council of Jewish Women and Greater Houston Section. As a trained educator, Ms. Myers volunteered her time and talent by providing counseling for those abusive men who sought help through her private practice called the PIVOT Group. Through her volunteer work at the AVDA, Ms. Myers helped to establish the innovative intervention program called the PIVOT Project. This Project creates a psycho-educational counseling group for men who are abusive in their intimate relationships. After the initial success with one group of abusive men, Ms. Myers helped to expand the scope of the PIVOT Project to serve more families. Since 1991, the PIVOT Project has served families in Pasadena, Katy, Rosenberg, Texas City, Baytown, Webster, Northwest Houston,

Conroe and Bay City. In 1995, the PIVOT Project was selected as one of four sites for participation in a national research project funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This longitudinal study continued to track those men who participated in the program in 1995.

During her twenty year career, Ms. Myers has worked on both a local and national level to share her expertise on domestic violence. She has served on the Board of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence and has chaired the Family Advisory Committee for the Texas Department of Human Services. She was also selected as one of the 150 appointees by Surgeon General C. Everett Koop to help develop a national policy group on Violence and Public Health.

She also shared her knowledge as a teacher and mentor. She is currently serving as an adjunct professor at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston. She has also held faculty positions at both the University of Houston—Clear Lake and Texas Women's University. Her graduate level courses in family violence are renowned for being well attended and sought after by students interested in combating domestic violence.

I want to congratulate Ms. Myers on her twenty years of services and wish her well in her retirement. I know that many women in Houston and the surrounding area will thank her for her personal involvement in their lives to make this world a more livable place.