

and the United States Senate. For his service to the party and the American people, I would now like to pay tribute to a great American and friend.

When Chairman Nicholson began as RNC chairman, the committee was \$10 million in debt. But under Chairman Nicholson's able leadership, that debt was abolished. When Jim left the RNC, it was \$15 million in the black. Along with balancing the RNC's book, Chairman Nicholson also boldly led the RNC into the Internet age, incorporating technological advances in the day-to-day affairs of the organization. The RNC collected 975,000 e-mail addresses from Republican activists during Jim's tenure, up from just 17,000 at the start of 2000.

Much of the electoral success that the GOP experienced under Jim's tutelage was due to the massive get out the vote effort created at Jim's initiative. He triggered the largest communications action in RNC history during the 2000 election cycle, in which the Party mailed over 100 million pieces of direct mail and made 60 million phone calls. This coordinated effort to get out the GOP's message was a major, if leading, cause of the Party's success in November 2000.

More importantly, the RNC also made meaningful strides under Jim's supervision in reaching out to minority communities. Due in large measure to Jim's efforts in this critical area, President Bush earned the highest percentage of Hispanic votes of any Republican Presidential candidate in history. Jim's success in this regard leaves a solid foundation for the Party to build on in the coming weeks, months and years. This is a legacy that Jim can, and should take great pride in!

As has been well documented, Jim's yeoman's work as Chairman of the Republican Party was the continuation of a life-long commitment to serving his country. As you know, Mr. Speaker, Jim fought bravely and with great distinction during the Vietnam War, earning numerous awards and commendations.

Throughout his life, Jim has devoted himself to the cause of his country. In doing so, he has distinguished himself mightily. As Jim leaves the GOP Chairmanship and moves on to new pursuits, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank him for his remarkable work. In my opinion, Jim will long be remembered as one of the most skilled, most effective and most accomplished leaders in the storied history of the GOP. For this service, we are all grateful.

REPEAL THE NATIONAL VOTER  
REGISTRATION ACT

**HON. BOB STUMP**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2001*

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, on the First day of the 107th Congress, I introduced legislation, H.R. 189, to repeal the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, the "motor voter" bill.

The motor voter law, which was championed by the Clinton Administration, took effect in most states on January 1, 1995. It requires states to allow citizens to register to vote by mail, when applying for a driver's license and at certain public assistance agencies. Although motor voter's supporters touted the measure as a way to increase voter turn-

out by simplifying voter registration, the law has done very little to invigorate election interest. To the contrary, it has devalued voter registration and given citizens good reason to question the integrity of their vote.

It is interesting to note that in 1992, President Bush vetoed motor voter legislation stating it amounted to an "open invitation to fraud and corruption." His words could not have been more prophetic. Since the law's implementation, numerous incidents of illegal voting have surfaced. In fact, motor voter could be responsible for inviting millions of non-citizens and illegal aliens to register to vote.

Motor voter has also created numerous administrative headaches for local election officials and has made the process of purging inactive voters for more cumbersome. It inhibits their ability to remove "dead wood" from their rolls by requiring them to keep registrants who fail to vote or who are unresponsive to voter registration correspondence to be maintained on the voter rolls for years. Motor voter is also responsible for numerous election-related glitches. In many jurisdictions, voters who thought they registered to vote when applying for a driver's license, found they were not registered when they went to the polls to cast their ballots. As noteworthy, in Durham county, North Carolina, the law created an odd statistical glitch. In 1999, the number of registration voters in the county surpassed the number of residents old enough to vote.

Mr. Speaker, motor voter is unreasonable and overzealous. There is no need for this unyielding federal presence in voter registration. The states carry the responsibility for administering all elections and should be able to do so unfettered by unnecessary and burdensome federal intervention.

Mr. Speaker, previous efforts to repeal motor voter has been unsuccessful, largely because of President Clinton's position. Under the Bush Administration, I believe we not have an opportunity to move forward with this important reform and reinstate confidence and integrity in our electoral system. I respectfully urge my colleagues to join me in re-establishing the rights of the states and local jurisdictions to administer voting programs that work best for them by cosponsoring H.R. 189.

THE FEDERAL EMPLOYEES CHILD  
CARE ACT, H.R. 251

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2001*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Federal Employees Child Care Act, H.R. 251 which will improve the quality of federal child care facilities throughout the country.

I was first introduced to the horrors of inadequate day care by former constituents, Mark and Julie Fiedelholz of Pembroke Pines, Florida. Mr. Fiedelholz asked for my help after the tragic death of his 3 month old son, Jeremy. Left at a day care center for merely two hours, little Jeremy died as a result of deplorable conditions, unqualified personnel and the blatant lack of respect for the laws intended to protect our children. Although this horrifying situation did not take place in a federal center, the need for clean, safe and quality conditions for our children has to be ensured in every child care center throughout our Nation.

Because many of these child care facilities are housed in federal buildings, state and local authorities have little or no jurisdiction regarding health, fire and safety codes. This Act requires all federal centers to be responsible for maintaining these basic regulations. With over one thousand federally owned or operated child care centers in the United States capable of accommodating 200,000 children, this legislation is essential.

After conferring with representatives from various federal agencies, I learned that many federal centers, such as the facilities operated by GSA, follow their own standards which in most instances are higher than most states. I want to stress that it is not the intention of this bill to lower any federal agency standards, should they be greater than the state or local regulations. Instead, we are looking to raise the standards of those federal centers across the country whose standards fall below state and local codes and hold them accountable for failure to do so. This bill does not allow state or local law enforcement officials to enter federal facilities to perform checks of any kind unless GSA agrees to it. This option is left entirely up to the discretion of GSA and is not mandated by this bill.

This legislation includes language which will help GSA in its quest to provide a more comprehensive day care plan, by allowing GSA to expand its child care services to more children allowing its centers to join into a consortium of private businesses and health care providers. This provision will enable agencies to partner with external organizations, to conduct pilot programs and to search for new methods of providing child care assistance to federal employees.

Our children are so important and the care they receive during their first 5 years of development are essential to raising intelligent and productive members of society. This legislation can be a great first step in ensuring the positive development and growth of our children. Accordingly, I look forward to working with my colleagues on additional child care measures.

IN MEMORY OF CLARENCE  
"SONNY" KENNER

**HON. KAREN MCCARTHY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2001*

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to pay tribute to an American Jazz legend, Mr. Clarence "Sonny" Kenner. Regrettably, Mr. Kenner died earlier this month, but his inspiring music will live on for generations to come.

His standing room only celebration in Kansas City January 29 began with a two hour "Jam Session" where local musicians who had played with Sonny over the past 50 years shared his favorites, such as "Sunny Side of the Street." His fellow musicians said Sonny was all about sharing when he played. It was love he was sharing—his love through music. An example of Sonny's love for music was his appearance earlier this year at The Levee where he "jammed" with fellow artists while battling his health issues.

In his eulogy, Reverend Sam Mann of Saint Mark's Church spoke from the Book of Numbers in the Bible, Chapter 6, verses 24 to 26