

DOUBLING THE BUDGET OF THE  
NATIONAL EYE INSTITUTE**HON. PATSY T. MINK**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 13, 2001*

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a bill that would double the budget of the National Eye Institute (NEI) within three years.

Blinding eye and vision disorders pose a tremendous challenge to our health care system. The numbers are staggering. By the year 2030, 66 million Americans will be at risk for blinding-eye disorders. Cataracts affects 29 percent of Americans between the ages of 65–74. Glaucoma, the leading cause of blindness in African Americans, affects three million Americans. Age-related macular degeneration (AMD), a disease which alters central vision, affects an estimated 1.7 million Americans.

Since its establishment in 1968, NEI has conducted and supported research that helps prevent and treat eye diseases. A few of its research achievements include: New medical therapies to treat glaucoma; introducing drugs to treat uveitis, a potentially blinding inflammation of the inside of the eye; and contributing to the development of medical lasers to treat patients with glaucoma, AMD, and other eye disorders.

The National Eye Institute has many exciting research projects on the horizon. They cannot complete those projects without adequate funding. In FY 2000, NEI's funding was \$452,706,000. This year, NEI is funded at \$510,611,000. By FY 2004, we should commit \$791,714,000 to the NEI budget.

We have an obligation to make our commitment to eye and vision research at the NEI as strong as our commitment to the biomedical research at the National Institutes of Health.

I urge my colleagues to support increasing the research efforts at the National Eye Institute by cosponsoring this legislation.

CARR, O'KEEFE, KAHLO: PLACES  
OF THEIR OWN**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 13, 2001*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise and announce that an exhibition entitled "Carr, O'Keefe, Kahlo: Places of Their Own" has been organized by Dr. Sharyn Udall of my home town, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Each artist in this exhibition represents one of the three great countries of North America: Canada, the United States and Mexico.

This exhibition, therefore, celebrates the cultural bond of the North American continent which transcends national borders. We may well find that this cultural bond will also prove to be a benefit to our mutual economic interests.

In the Congress, we often talk about the need for opening our borders for trade, commerce, importation and exportation. Rarely do we reflect on the need for the international exchange of art. This exhibition gives us an opportunity to do so.

This exhibition also celebrates the contribution of women to the arts. Each of the three artists, Emily Carr of Canada, Georgia O'Keefe of the United States, and Frida Kahlo of Mexico, became one of her country's pre-eminent twentieth century painters. Each is recognized as a legend. Viewed together, their work takes us beyond all borders and the only passport needed is the eyes and the heart.

"Carr, O'Keefe, Kahlo: Places of Their Own" can be seen in Toronto, Canada, Santa Fe, New Mexico, Mexico City, Mexico and, a year from now, at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington DC. It is a tribute to these artists and to the spirit of cultural cooperation in North America.

## RECOGNIZING JOHN CUSEY

**HON. GARY G. MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 13, 2001*

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bid farewell to my Legislative Director, John Cusey.

I first met John in March of 1996. Immediately, I was struck by his keen sense of political intuitiveness. Although he had only worked on a few local campaigns, I could tell that his future in government would be bright.

As an employee, John has excelled in many areas. As a result, he rose quickly through the ranks of legislative positions, and for the next week, he will continue to serve as my Legislative Director. John has staffed numerous bills in the California State Legislature and here in Congress. His assistance in the area of unsolicited e-mail, commonly known as Spam, has been crucial, and led to the passage of California's first law to protect e-mail users.

John has also served as my Spokesman and Communications Director. His outstanding communication skills were especially important during my bid for U.S. Congress. On every occasion, he greeted challenging questions with honesty and tact.

Over the last five years, I have come to consider John's family as my friends. His wife, Becky, has tolerated the long hours that legislative and campaign work often entail. Moreover, I have seen John grow as a father, welcoming two healthy, beautiful children, Ethan and Ava, into his life.

Next week, John will be leaving my office to become the Director of the House Pro-Life Caucus. While I wish him the best of luck in this new endeavor, it is with much sadness. John's absence will create both a professional and personal void in my office.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this 107th Congress to join me in recognizing and thanking John Cusey for his hard work and dedication to serving the constituents of California's 41st District and wishing him the best of luck as the Director of the House Pro-Life Caucus.

PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY DONOR  
IDENTITY DISCLOSURE**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 13, 2001*

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced legislation that would require organizers

of presidential libraries to disclose the identity of donors and the amounts they give.

I introduced this legislation in the 106th Congress as well because I felt the public should be made aware of possible conflicts of interest that sitting presidents can have while raising funds for their libraries.

Mr. Speaker, we do not know who these donors are or what interests they may have on any pending policy decisions that are to be made. I think that our government needs to operate in the open—not behind closed doors.

Recent news reports surrounding the pardon of billionaire fugitive Marc Rich have brought to light additional justification for this legislation. The Washington Post recently reported that Denise Rich, the former wife of financier Marc Rich, lobbied President Clinton to pardon her former husband by donating \$450,000 to Clinton's presidential library fund starting in 1998.

The Post also reported that, "Clinton foundation attorney David Kendall said he would fight a subpoena for the library donor list." Mr. Speaker, I cannot think of one good reason why the organizers of any future presidential libraries would not be willing to release this information to the public. Even Richard Cohen, the very liberal columnist for the Washington Post said, "But surely it would be anything from interesting to illustrative to just plain damning to see what names are on that list and for what amounts."

Our citizens have the right to know the details of these fundraising activities. The bill I have introduced will ensure this happens. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 13, 2001*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, one of the most important foreign policy and defense issues the 107th Congress will consider is National Missile Defense. Our nation is indeed vulnerable to ballistic missile attack, and it is imperative that we take steps to protect ourselves from this threat.

As we address this threat, however, it is critical that we adopt a cautious and comprehensive approach. In an article in today's Washington Post, our former National Security Advisor, the Honorable Samuel R. Berger, makes a compelling case for such an approach. As he asserts, we must be careful not to overlook the danger of attack by less conventional means, such as a terrorist strike or a weapon of mass destruction smuggled across our borders. We must also be careful not to undermine our defensive alliances, such as NATO, or needlessly provoke a new arms race with our former Cold War adversaries. As we move forward on these important issues, Mr. Speaker, it is critical that we not allow ourselves as a nation to be lulled into a false sense of security or let our guard down in other areas of our national defense.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the entire text of the insightful article by Mr. Berger entitled "Is This Shield Necessary?" be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I urge my colleagues to review this article and to join me in engaging