

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN COMMEMORATION OF PHILIP MORSE

**HON. PETER DEUTSCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 13, 2001*

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a dear friend and distinguished citizen of South Florida, Mr. Philip Morse. Philip Morse's inspiring courage, successful business career, and generous philanthropic initiatives serve as a beacon of American achievement for the causes of peace, freedom, and humanity. Sadly, Mr. Morse passed away on March 9, 2001. Today, I wish to celebrate his life's achievements and mourn the passing of a great American.

Mr. Speaker, Philip Morse's life is a testament to the triumph of humanity over the greatest adversity, and the limitless opportunities earned by a hard-working American entrepreneur. Born as Ephraim Mushacski in Wolkowysch, Poland, Phil fled the 1939 Nazi invasions of his homeland and the horrors of the Holocaust. Traveling through Sweden, Russia, Japan, and Settle, he settled with relatives in New York City in 1940. Phil arrived in America as an impoverished refugee but through hard work and ingenuity, he realized his dreams of success and freedom. It was his unwavering commitment to the values of justice and liberty combined with his entrepreneurial and innovative spirit which lead to his great success in business.

Phil's training in the repair and reconditioning of industrial machinery led to the creation of the Morse Electro Products Corp. where Phil first revolutionized the sewing machine, then developed a new way to transform the cumbersome radio console into a compact stereo. This innovation greatly reduced the cost of stereo production, making stereos affordable for working Americans. In little time, the Morse Electro Products Corp. became a multi-million dollar company with factories in New York, Texas, and California, Phil's entrepreneurial enthusiasm and strong work ethic kept his business ventures successful throughout the twentieth century.

Mr. Morse's entrepreneurial spirit was equally matched by his commitment to the advancement of knowledge, peace, and freedom both in the United States and abroad. As a Holocaust refugee, Phil was a strong supporter of the Zionist movement and active promoter of business and cultural development in Israel. As a devoted member of his South Florida community, he was a founder of the Aventura Turnberry Jewish Center-Beth Jacob Synagogue and a member of the Beth Jacob's Board of Directors.

In addition, Phil has been honored internationally for his commitment to spreading the values and culture of Judaism. For his efforts to bring together people of all races, religions, and ethnicity, the Anti-Defamation League awarded Phil the Torch of Liberty Award. In addition, for his visionary philanthropic leader-

ship, he was awarded the Guardian of Israel Award by Shimon Peres. His care for both the spiritual and physical health of his community led to his founding of the Chair for Clinical Studies in Rheumatology at the Ben-Gurion University where he also served as a Board Member.

In short, Mr. Speaker, Philip Morse embodies the best of American ingenuity, devotion to community, and love of freedom and humanity. He was a pioneer of American industrial development, a virtual institution for South Florida's Jewish community, and internationally honored philanthropist. While we mourn his passing, Mr. Morse's profound legacy will be treasured by current and future generations.

IN HONOR OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CENTRAL BANK OF KANSAS CITY

**HON. KAREN MCCARTHY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 13, 2001*

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to a pillar of the Kansas City community, the Central Bank of Kansas City. This month marks the 50th anniversary of Central Bank's service to the residents and businesses of Northeast Kansas City.

Chartered in August of 1950, this financial institution has remained a stronghold in the community throughout the cultural and economic changes and growth that have occurred since it opened its doors. Through expansion and innovative services, Central Bank has demonstrated and continues to live up to its commitment and dedication to Northeast Kansas City.

The American Bankers Association Banking Journal considers Central Bank of Kansas City one of the top performing banks in its category. A leader in community development, the bank joined with Old Northeast, Inc. Community Development Corporation, in 1999, to construct thirty new homes in the Northeast Community for low and moderate income families. Central Bank has also partnered with the Kansas City Neighborhood Alliance and Bishop Sullivan Community Center in an effort to revitalize housing in the Blue Valley neighborhood. In addition to promoting housing and small business initiatives such as the First Step Fund designed to assist small business entrepreneurs, they serve on the Safe Neighborhood Grant Advisory Council, which addresses the quality of life for the residents.

Quality education is another priority of Central Bank. They participate in the "Bank at School" program which gives fifth grade students basic bank training. They participate on various boards such as the national Academy Foundation's business partnership for American education.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in celebrating the 50th anniversary of Central Bank

of Kansas City. Its outstanding leadership serves the community well. Its continuing commitment to Old Northeast assures the vitality of this historic neighborhood.

MONTEREY BAY MEDICAL SURGERY CENTER FIRST EVER IN THE NATION TO BE ACCREDITED FOR OFFICE-BASED SURGERY

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 13, 2001*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to brag a little. In fact, I rise today to brag a lot. Why? Because again my district is the site of cutting-edge advances in health care services and health care technology.

On March 15, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) will accredit the first office-based surgery practice in the nation. The Monterey Bay Medical Surgery Center and practice of Robert Mraule, D.D.S., M.D., and David Perrott, D.D.S., M.D., in Salinas, will be the first recipient of this standards-based accrediting process.

The Monterey Bay Medical Surgery Center was awarded office-based accreditation following a thorough on-site evaluation. The practice was evaluated on its compliance with no less than 146 standards that address key patient safety and quality issues, such as patient care, staffing, customer service, improving care and improving health, and responsible leadership.

The Monterey Bay Medical Surgery Center provides services for patients requiring surgical intervention, and care of oral and maxillofacial/cosmetic conditions. Digital radiography, anesthetic techniques and equipment, computerized patient education processes and electronic records are used there.

More than 8.3 million surgeries were performed last year in an estimated 41,000 office-based surgery sites across the United States. Experts predict the number will surpass those performed in hospitals in another year or two. This trend bespeaks the critical need for standards-based practices, like those developed by JCAHO, in order to protect patients and ensure only the highest quality of care from any office-based surgery practice to which they avail themselves.

As the nation's leading evaluator of safety and quality in healthcare organizations, JCAHO has more than 25 years' experience in promoting safe, high-quality care for patients seeking care at more than 40 types of outpatient settings. The office-based surgery standards were established specifically for single sites of care with up to four physicians, dentists or podiatrists.

JCAHO evaluates and accredits nearly 19,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States. Accreditation is recognized nationwide as a symbol of quality

• 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.

that indicates that an organization meets certain performance standards. JCAHO has certainly chosen a good place to start its accreditation program of office-based surgery by starting in Salinas. Even more, it has chosen a solid model for others to follow in meeting the stringent JCAHO standards by choosing Drs. Mraule and Perrott. I congratulate them on their fine work and urge my colleagues to join me in acknowledging their contribution to health care services on the Central Coast of California.

IN HONOR OF JOHN GALLAGHER

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to John Gallagher. Known as "Bobo" by friends, John Gallagher dedicated himself to working for justice and creating a safer community. As bailiff for Judge Norm Fuerst, Mr. Gallagher strove to fight crime and create a more secure community. He worked hard and was dedicated to the public interest.

His dedication to his community did not end with his job. In his free time, Mr. Gallagher devoted himself to improving his neighborhood and creating a better home for his family. His love for his family could be seen in how he spoke of them to his friends, neighbors, and coworkers. John Gallagher contributed to the restoration of St. Colman Church and he worked tirelessly to support the West Side Irish Club. John Gallagher loved his country and was active in many political campaigns, working to advance the causes in which he believed.

Even greater than his dedication to his community was John Gallagher's commitment to his family. The father of three, John Gallagher always worked to help strengthen his family. He was a loving, caring father who saw the importance of creating a safe neighborhood for his family to live. He was proud of his family as well as his heritage. John Gallagher was always quick with a smile, or a kind comment or word of encouragement. John was, in the words of a longtime friend, a "ray of sunshine."

John Gallagher was a model citizen who recognized the connection between a strong family and a safe community. Throughout his life, he worked to strengthen both. He will be missed. My fellow colleagues, please help me in honoring John Gallagher.

TRIBUTE TO LEAMON KING

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to salute Leamon King, of California. Leamon has been recognized by Adelante, California Migrant Leadership Council and American Legion Merle Reed Post 124 as an outstanding individual who has made significant contributions to the improvement of education opportunities for Latino Children in California.

A lifelong educator in the Richgrove and Delano Elementary School Districts, Olympic

Gold Medalist, World Record Holder on the 100 yard dash and Delano High School graduate, Leamon has provided a positive role model for the local youth.

Leamon was born on February 13, 1936 in Tulare, California. His parents were Loyd King and Beatrice Wallace King. They owned a farm in Earlimart, and Leamon lived there the first year of his life. His father, Loyd King, sold their farm in 1937, and the King family moved to Delano, California where Leamon completed his elementary and secondary education.

Leamon began his education at Ellington School and later transferred to Fremont School. His mother wanted him to learn music and to play the saxophone. The only elementary school in Delano with a band at that time was Cecil Avenue Elementary School, so he transferred to this school. While attending Cecil Avenue and learning music, Leamon began to excel in track as a sprinter, and was ultimately elected student body president.

Upon graduation from Cecil Avenue, Leamon transferred to Delano High School. He attended and won his first state meet at the age of fifteen during his freshman year in high school. During the next four years, Leamon King continued to excel as both a student and as a runner. This outstanding athlete provided a positive image for Delano High School and the City of Delano, as well as being a positive role model for students to emulate.

Following graduation from Delano High School in June 1954, Leamon began to pursue higher education at University of California, Berkeley. He was the first child in his family to pursue a college education. The April 10, 1956 Delano Record stated, "Delano Sprinter Ready for Olympics. Sophomore Leamon King, Delano High School graduate, a young man with wings on his feet, is California's newest hope for 'World's Fastest Human' honors, and the Bear sprint sensation will have ample opportunity to earn such acclaim this spring."

The following month Leamon King tied the world record for the 100-yard dash at the West Coast Relays in Fresno, California. Merle Reed Post 124 First Vice Commander Joe Viray and former educators Wayne and Wava Billingsley witnessed this spectacular event. They stated Leamon King's historic race was an awesome sight to see. It appeared as though Leamon King had wings on his feet as he majestically flew across the finish line and into the world record history book.

The Delano Record dated May 15, 1956 stated the following: "King's 9.3 Dash Brings Another Record to City. Delano became the home of two world champions Saturday when Leamon King, local resident and former Delano High School track star, ran the 100 yards dash in 9.3 at the Fresno Relays to tie the world record. King's victory brought another world record to Delano, making it the home of one the fastest sprinters and the residence of Lon Spurrier, holder of the world record for the 880. There is no city in the United States the size of Delano, which can boast two world champions."

Both Leamon King and Lon Spurrier were selected to participate in the 1956 Olympics in Melbourne, Australia. Delano became the only city of its size in the United States to have two representatives make the 1956 Olympic team. Because of the fame the City of Delano had

received due to the athletic accomplishments of these two track stars, Leamon King and Lon Spurrier were the Grand Marshalls of the Eleventh Annual Harvest Holidays Parade on October 6, 1956.

During the October 1956 United States Olympic camp practice meet at Ontario, California, Leamon King set his second world record when he tied the 10.1 time for the world record for 100 meters set by Ira Murchison and Willie Williams in Germany the previous summer. Following this splendid achievement, Leamon traveled to Australia to represent the City of Delano and the United States. Dr. Clifford Loader, Mayor of Delano, also traveled to Australia to give support to the two Delano Olympic participants.

Delano High School Educator Gary Girard, who was serving as a staff writer for the Delano Record, stated in his article dated November 23, 1956, "King's Efforts Pulled U.S. to Victory in 400-Meter Relay at Olympic Games. Dr. Clifford Loader, Mayor of Delano, believes that it was the running of ex-Delano High star Leamon King that pulled the United States to victory in the 400-meter relay at the Olympic Games in Australia. The U.S. had stiff competition from Russia. Loader said that after the relay, Thane Baker, another member of the U.S. relay team ran over to hug King, realizing that it was his leg on the relay team that had won the race. King received a gold medal for his effort on the winning U.S. 400-meter relay quartet."

Following the Olympic games, the foursome set a New World record. In a meet with the British Empire, the U.S. team of King, Andy Stanfield, Thane Baker and Bobby Morrow set a new world mark of 1:23.8 for the 880 yard relay. The old mark was 1:24.

According to Leamon King, when he first arrived in Melbourne, he ran on grass and set a grass record. It appeared as though every time he ran, he would break a record.

Bakersfield Californian Staff Writer Kevin Eubanks stated "King's omission from the 100 meter team certainly didn't affect his moment in the spot light. The news that the world's fastest man was not competing in the 100 meter race was received as something of a shock by the rest of the sporting world." For his outstanding attributes as an athlete, Leamon King served as Grand Marshall for the Delano Cinco de Mayo Parade, was inducted into the University of California, Berkeley Hall of Fame, and the Bob Elias Hall of Fame in Bakersfield, California.

During the past twenty-nine years, Leamon King has served as an educator in the Delano area. Mr. King taught for two years in Richgrove prior to transferring to the Delano Union School District where he has served as educator for the past twenty-seven years. Mr. King has taught the sixth grade at both Terrace Elementary and Almond Tree Middle School. During his tenure as an educator for the Delano Union School District, Mr. Leamon King has proven to be an extraordinary educator and is highly respected. This educator has served as an excellent example for his peers, as well as our youth.

On his sixty-fifth birthday this year, during Black History Month, the Delano Union School District named in Leamon's honor the athletic facilities at Almond Tree Middle School, which include the school gym and outside athletic facilities, including a track and basketball courts.

It is a pleasure to honor Leamon King, who has made and continues to make a difference for California youth and the Latino community.

**CONDEMNING HEINOUS ATROCITIES THAT OCCURRED AT SANTANA HIGH SCHOOL, SANTEE, CALIFORNIA**

SPEECH OF

**HON. JIM DeMINT**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 13, 2001*

Mr. DEMINT. Mr. Speaker, what are we to make of the most recent school shooting in California? How do we respond to events that are so beyond belief, so tragic that goodness in our world appears no stronger than a flickering flame on a shrinking wick?

The accused is a scrawny, quiet fifteen-year-old named Andy. He was relentlessly picked on at his new school in San Diego. A victim of bullies, he found no refuge in his broken home. He longed for a relationship with his estranged mother. He searched for acceptance. "He tried to act cool, but he wasn't cool," said one skateboarder who saw him trying to fit in with a rougher crowd. He was relentlessly hounded for his haircut, his voice, and his clothes. Andy reached out to old friends. "He told me many times that I was the reason he hadn't killed himself," his closest friend from Maryland said.

Within minutes of the shooting, the televisions blared with quick-fix commentary. Gun control. Lack of self-control. Blame the parents. Blame the schools. The answers seemed empty, earthly, leaving many with more questions and more confusion.

I trust you will agree that Andy's actions are a condition of the heart. The answer lies in something more than smaller classroom sizes or higher test scores.

Tragically, a dark shadow of spiritual emptiness has eclipsed our reliance on the truth and dignity that come from a belief in God—the very essence of what provides us with guidance, worth, and meaning. I humbly offer this saying from Dorothy Sayers who writes that the problem is "the sin that believes in nothing, cares for nothing, seeks to know nothing, interferes with nothing, enjoys nothing, lives for nothing, finds purpose in nothing, and remains alive because there is nothing for which it will die."

That, my friends, is the challenge of our time. It is the desperate calls of Andy and the despondent cries of the victims. Our youth are looking for something beyond the nothing. It is my prayer that we give them a reason to believe.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN E. RUDOLPH

**HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to salute an exceptional citizen and good friend of mine, John E. Rudolph.

John, the founder of Lima, Ohio-based Rudolph Foods Company, was recently pre-

sented with the Snack Food Association's (SFA) 2001 Circle of Honor Award. John and his wife, Mary, have transformed their small company that sold Mexican specialty snacks into the world's largest producer of pork rinds. In 1984 he was the first non-potato chip manufacturer to be elected SFA chairman. John's career path certainly exemplifies the American dream.

John has been an asset not only to his business, but also our country and his community. After graduating from college he served as an artilleryman in World War II. An active member in the community; he has been president of the Lima Rotary Club, president of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, chairman of the Lima YMCA and a member of the board of directors of Lima Memorial Hospital.

I would like to thank John on behalf of the people in the snack food industry, and the city of Lima for all of his service and devotion. Congratulations, John, on the fine award.

MARCH SCHOOL OF THE MONTH

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I have named Powell's Lane Elementary School in Westbury as School of the Month in the Fourth Congressional District for March 2001. In February, Powell's Lane won Newsday's Stock Market Game for the third time.

John Ogilvie is Principal of Powell's Lane Elementary, and Dr. Constance R. Clark is the Superintendent of Schools for the Westbury School District.

I'm so excited to have such an innovative and remarkable school as School of the Month. Powell's Lane is singlehandedly training future Wall Street investors. There was a time when the stock market was too daunting and confusing even for adults, but new computer technology and the use of the web has cut through to many barriers—and Powell is making that happen every day.

Recently, Powell's Lane received the New York State School of Excellence Award, and is one of seven schools nominated by the state for the U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Schools 2000–2001 Elementary School Program.

Powell's academic record—and their national recognition as a "Blue Ribbon School" nominee—displays the qualities of excellence that consistently train Long Island's students to excel through the rest of their lives.

The mission of Powell's Lane Elementary School focuses on child development, blending in academic achievement and social relationships. Powell's Lane Elementary teaches students in grades 3, 4 and 5, and has many achievements and programs of note. The students are involved in community outreach such as helping with Newsday's "Help a Family" campaign.

I commend Powell's Lane Elementary School for its innovation, and I look forward to great achievement from Powell's students.

IN HONOR OF GEORGE BECKER

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of George Becker, the recently retired president of the United Steelworkers of America. Through his leadership, courage and determination, labor unions across our nation have been revitalized and reenergized with a newfound strength.

George Becker became a member of the United Steelworkers of America when he became a mill worker in Granite City, Illinois. His determination and dedication to helping others allowed his ascent to the presidency of the union. As a vice-president of the United Steelworkers, George Becker organized a strike against Ravenswood Aluminum Corporation. Lasting over twenty months, the eventual resolution benefited steelworkers. The first major strike in years to offer positive tangible results, the Ravenswood protest was just the beginning of how George Becker worked to organize and lead the labor movement.

Upon becoming the president of the United Steelworkers of America, George Becker promptly restructured the union, bringing new efficiencies and operational improvements. He also worked to redefine its mission, so that the union would help foster new leaders for tomorrow. Creating the Legislative Internship Project, George Becker invited young people to become involved in the labor movement. He fostered a sense of community from within, and as President Becker was able to create a stronger labor union with a newfound political clout.

George Becker has continually fought and stood up for the steel industry in the United States. He founded Stand Up For Steel, an alliance of unions and steel manufacturers. United to help stop unfair trade practices, Stand Up For Steel has become an important organization in the battle to promote fair trade.

As George Becker ends his long term of service to the United Steelworkers of America, he leaves behind a stronger, more assertive union. He has spent a lifetime helping his fellow workers by representing and expressing their needs and concerns. My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. George Becker.

TRIBUTE TO VERA FIGUEROA

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to salute Vera Figueroa, of California. Vera has been recognized by Adelante, California Migrant Leadership Council and American Legion Merle Reed Post 124 as an outstanding individual who has made significant contributions to the improvement of education opportunities for Latino Children in California.

Delano High School Board Member, a highly respected community leader and cultural dance instructor, Vera has made major contributions to the youth and parents over the past years.

Born in El Paso, Texas, on January 4, 1937, daughter of Mrs. Elvira Villegas, Vera has five brothers and two sisters. Her family moved to Delano in 1946. Married since 1955 to Johnny Figueroa, they have three children: Lorriane Melendez, 28 years of age, who resides in McFarland, Johnny Figueroa III, 24 years, of Delano, and Edmundo Figueroa, age 14, a student at Delano High School.

Attending Fremont Elementary, Richgrove Elementary, and Delano High School, Vera graduated in 1955. She worked as a Community Aide at Delano High School from 1979 to 1985, and currently works at the school as a Record Clerk, since 1985.

Vera has been an active community volunteer, freely giving of her time, efforts, and talent. She has served as a coach for Delano Parks and Recreation, coaching 3rd to 12th grades, all sports. In honor of her achievements and volunteerism, Vera was appointed Delano parks and Recreation Commissioner, July 1980—December 1984.

Vera is also known for dance. She has served as Dance Instructor at Albany Park and Fremont School for 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders.

She started dancing as "Vera" for the soldiers at Ft. Bliss and other places in Texas. While still in El Paso, she studied classical Spanish Dances. In Delano she continued to learn on her own. In the late 40s and early 50s she danced at both the Albany Park and Fremont Schools.

In the '70s she started the Figueroa Troup. It was multicultural group, featuring dances of Spain, Mexico, Russia, Hawaii, Japan and the Philippines. At one time the group included her daughter, and several other Cinco de Mayo Queen Contestants. They performed for the Boy Scouts Jamboree in Hayward and for the Men's Prison in San Luis Obispo. They performed in San Jose, Santa Ana, San Fernando, and Bakersfield.

Vera's love of dance and her Mexican culture inspired her to devote many hours to teaching the cultural dances of Mexico and Spain. She choreographed most Cinco de Mayo queen show pageants. She devoted thousands of hours to their celebration.

Vera served as Grand Marshal of the 30th Fiesta and Parade for Cinco de Mayo Fiesta, Inc., in Delano, in honor of her accomplishments and devotion to preserving the culture.

She also helped found Community of Concerned Parents for Better Education, (CCPBE), and has been President for four years. The group works for better education and greater parent participation. Under her leadership, CCPBE raised \$2,000 for the Fremont School Track. They also provide \$1,000 scholarship awards for Delano High graduates. Vera has always worked for better education for the community's economically and academically disadvantaged.

Vera has been a member of Delano High PTA and Terrace School PTA. As president of the CCPBE, she has been instrumental in helping with back-to-school nights at the Delano schools, contributing monies to Fremont School and many other local school activities.

It is a pleasure to honor Vera Figueroa, who has made and continues to make a difference for California youth and the Latino community.

## SCHOOLYARD SAFETY ACT

### HON. JENNIFER DUNN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, we continue to see tragic examples that reinforce the need for immediate action to stop the violence in our nation's schools. Today I am reintroducing, along with my colleagues PETER DEFAZIO and ZACH WAMP, the Schoolyard Safety Act. This legislation is aimed at keeping America's youth safe in their schools by establishing an incentive program for States to create a 24-hour holding period for students who bring guns to school.

The tragic May 1998 schoolyard shooting in Springfield, Oregon best illustrates the need for this bill's incentive program for States to impose a 24-hour holding period. As you may recall, a student showed up at school with a gun. He was immediately expelled and sent home. He was not, however, held to undergo psychological evaluation, nor was he placed in juvenile detention for further questioning. The next day, the student returned to his high school with a gun and used it to kill two classmates, and later, his parents.

Several hundred times a year, young people bring guns to school, and disciplinary action is taken. But we know that simply expelling a child does nothing to protect innocent students, communities, or the troubled youth himself. When a student brings a gun into the classroom, concrete steps must be taken immediately to deal with the problem. A 24-hour holding period would put the student into a secure environment where he can receive the attention he needs. This will not only protect the safety of other students and the public, but will ensure that the student carrying the gun receives proper counseling.

The Schoolyard Safety Act gives States access to Federal Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs if they seek to create a 24-hour holding period. It does not mandate another burdensome Federal program; rather, it gives States greater flexibility to use their Federal dollars how they see fit. We believe local officials and educators know best how to solve the problem of youth violence.

School shootings show us how easily gun violence can break the heart of a community. Every man, woman, and child across America have the right to expect to live on a safe street and send their kids to a safe school. Children who learn in fear are learning the wrong lessons and we have a responsibility to do whatever we can to prevent future tragedies.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE VOTING EQUIPMENT MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2001

### HON. STEVE C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a measure called the "Voting Equipment Modernization Act of 2001" (VEMA) that will create a special tax "checkoff" segment on income tax returns so Americans can direct

\$1 to \$2 of their tax dollars to help defray the cost of replacing antiquated voting machines across the country.

Mr. Speaker, the temporary election modernization checkoff on income tax forms will be separate from the current checkoff for the Presidential Election Campaign Fund. As with the presidential election checkoff, the voting equipment modernization checkoff will not increase a taxpayer's tax bill. Those filing individual tax returns would be able to contribute \$1 and those filing jointly could contribute \$2. More than 120 million individual income tax returns are filed each year.

The idea for a temporary election modernization checkoff came from a constituent of mine in Mentor, OH, who was embarrassed by events surrounding the November election and the accuracy of voting equipment across the country. In my home State of Ohio, 60 of the State's 88 counties use punch-card ballots similar to those used in Florida.

Mr. Speaker, right now we have a patchwork quilt of aging voting systems across the country and if the November election taught us anything it is that the patchwork quilt is a frayed mess. We have lottery machines that are far more modern and accurate than our current voting machines and that is just wrong.

My bill, the Voting Equipment Modernization Act of 2001, will establish a temporary checkoff on income tax returns that would allow taxpayers to designate \$1 to \$2 to the Federal Election Commission, which would then distribute funds to newly created Election Administration Improvement Funds in each State. The funding level for each State will be based on population derived from Census figures.

I believe Americans want modern voting equipment and know that State and local governments are not capable of bearing the enormous costs of replacing antiquated equipment. The cost of replacing voting equipment in each of the country's 191,000 voting precincts is estimated to cost at least \$4 billion and some estimates have voting modernization costs exceeding \$8 billion.

The current presidential tax checkoff has had mixed results, but I believe Americans will respond favorably to an opportunity to help defray the costs of new voting equipment if it will ensure accurate election results. Using Census figures as a guide, if 12 percent of Ohio taxpayers opted for the checkoff, it would amount to \$1.35 million in revenue that could be used to update voting equipment and pay to train poll workers.

Participation in the checkoff to help pay for presidential elections has fallen since it was first initiated in 1972, and studies show that only 12.5 percent of Americans checked the box on their 1997 returns. The remainder left the box blank or checked "NO." Through 1999, about \$1.2 billion had been designed for presidential elections.

I blame the low participation for the presidential checkoff on two factors: The public's unwillingness to help pay for increasingly hostile presidential elections, and widespread misunderstanding that checking off the box increases one's tax bill.

It is my belief that folks will be willing to do a tax checkoff if it will ensure that their vote will be counted and counted accurately. I think when folks realize this won't negatively impact their tax refund or tax bill, they will be willing to check the box.

Secretaries of State across the Nation agree that voting machines need to be modernized

but they realize the costs will be enormous. The voting modernization checkoff will be a temporary measure to generate funds, and will only appear on tax return forms as long as there is a need to pay for new voting machines.

Mr. Speaker, States will be able to use money generated by the checkoff to purchase and maintain modern voting equipment, and educate and train those using the new voting equipment, including those working the polls on election day. Decisions about specific equipment and training would be left up to the States. Also, Puerto Rico will be excluded from this plan because it does not pay Federal taxes.

Mr. Speaker, I believe VEMA offers a simple, common-sense solution to a problem that must be remedied as soon as possible so we can restore accuracy and integrity to our voting system. I urge my colleagues to support the Voting Equipment Modernization Act of 2001.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM MATHESON**

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, March 13, 2001, I was unable to cast votes on rollcall votes 46 and 47. However, had I been present, on rollcall vote 46 I would have voted "yea", and on rollcall vote 47 I also would have voted "yea".

CONDEMNING HEINOUS ATROCITIES THAT OCCURRED AT SANTANA HIGH SCHOOL, SANTEE, CALIFORNIA

SPEECH OF

**HON. JIM LANGEVIN**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 13, 2001*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the victims of gun violence at Santana High School, the countless lives that have been affected by this tragic incident, and the numerous similar tragedies that have happened over the past few years. The violence at Santana is deeply disturbing. No child should fear for her life in school, and no child should feel so alienated that he perceives violence as his only option.

When Charles Andrew Williams entered school on Monday, March 5, he had already cried out for help. He had told his friends his plan. He had even told his friend's parent. In all, Andy Williams told over 20 people what he planned to do. But no one took him seriously and now two children are dead. While this was clearly an act of rage, it was also one of fear and desperation.

And sadly, Andy was not alone. Within 48 hours of his arrest, 16 other children in California had been arrested or detained for suspicion of gun-related violence. In fact, since Dylan Kelbold and Eric Harris killed thirteen of their classmates at Columbine High School almost two years ago, over eighteen separate incidents of student-to-student gun violence

have occurred. Many more planned attempts to emulate this violence have gone unreported or perhaps never even known. Just six weeks ago in East Providence, Rhode Island, a hit list was found that was written by four fifth graders.

Many of us are at a loss to explain this explosion of school violence in recent years, but everyone agrees that we must address the mental health needs of our children. Education Secretary Rod Paige has attributed the rash of school shootings to 'alienation and rage.' A recent Secret Service study concluded that the common theme underlying perpetrators of violent crimes in schools is depression. Three-quarters of children committing these crimes have talked about or attempted suicide. More than two-thirds report having been bullied by their peers. Disturbing emotions of alienation and rage in our nation's schools are real and pervasive and deep-seated. We must take steps to alleviate this pain and provide the help that our children are crying out for in these violent actions.

Our schoolchildren need professional counselors who can help them cope with the pressures of being a teenager. They need supportive adults in their lives. They also need a moral compass that will help them sort through the violence that permeates our culture. What they do not need is easy access to weapons. Whatever alienation Andy Williams was feeling, he could not have committed such a heinous act without the help of a .22 caliber revolver.

Guns are simply too accessible to children today, and American children are suffering the consequences. The accidental death rate among children from gunshot wounds is nine times higher in the United States than in the other largest 25 industrialized countries combined, and at least six loopholes still exist that allow children and violent offenders obtain guns. Guns alone do not kill children, but in times of extreme emotional distress they enable a disturbed innocent child to become a murderer.

Efforts to increase children's self-esteem and to reduce their access to guns will decrease the number of these incidents. While I applaud my colleagues in honoring the children and families of Santana High School, I urge you to let this be the first step toward change, not the last. As one whose life was forever altered when a gun accidentally discharged, I know first hand that guns are dangerous and far too often fatal. For the sake of our children, I implore my colleagues to pass meaningful legislation to end school violence once and for all.

TRIBUTE TO JOE ORTIZ CARDONA

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to salute Joe Ortiz Cardona, of California. Joe has been recognized by Adelante, California Migrant Leadership Council and American Legion Merle Reed Post 124 as an outstanding individual who has made significant contributions to the improvement of education opportunities for Latino children in California.

A highly-respected community leader in Earlimart for more than 33 years, a Barber by

trade, Joe Cardona has spent most of his life helping others. He is active in improving the conditions of the people of Earlimart, in such areas as flood control, schools, health care, food and clothing acquisition and distribution, and support for families in need.

Joe was born in 1933 in Somerton, Arizona. His family migrated to Earlimart in 1940, where Joe enrolled in first grade at Earlimart Elementary School. Following the seasonal crops, Joe's family moved to Brawley where he graduated from eighth grade in 1948.

Joe enlisted in the Army in the late 1950's serving two years. In 1957, Joe studied and obtained his apprenticeship for Barbering from Moler Barber College, Fresno, California. In 1959, Joe married Cruz Amaya Cardona and raised four children, Larry, Joe Jr., Frankie and Vicky. In 1974, Joe was determined to receive a high school diploma. He enrolled in Adult Education at Delano Joint Union High School. Along with the forty-seven area citizens, he was one of the proud graduates of the commencement exercises in June 2, 1975.

Joe Cardona is a man of integrity, dependability and dedication. In 1967, understanding the poverty and hardships of some of the community members of Earlimart, he had an idea to have members of the community contribute to a fund, which could be used to assist families on the occasion of bereavement. With this idea the Earlimart Funeral Fund Association was formed and to-date Joe is still an active member of this organization, and besides the monetary support, you probably will see Joe attending the funerals and expressing his sympathy to the bereaved families.

Serving his country was one of Joe's proudest moments, and because of his active membership, he has received recognition for participation in the American Legion Post. Joe has proudly served in the position of president and commander of the American Legion Post. Representing the American legion Post 745, Joe helps raise funds for scholarship to annually honor a deserving Earlimart Junior High School student.

Joe helped coordinate the first Food Link Program for the community of Earlimart in 1995, dedicating countless hours gathering volunteers, and through his example, others have continued to take on this responsibility. This program continues to serve the needy families of this community. During the flood of 1997, Joe helped form a Flood Control Committee, gathering local active members, as well as invoking assistance from political representatives to help disaster stricken families, and was also involved in the issue of the White River Dam. Joe recruits volunteers to assist with the annual clean-up day activities in the community. One of Joe's biggest accomplishments is the annual Christmas "Give Away" to the needy families of the Earlimart community.

Joe has received recognition by the California State Assembly and California State Senate for outstanding leadership and community services. Joe speaks very softly, and with his congenial and humble character, never boasts of his accomplishments. If you know Joe personally, you are aware of the relentless hours he has served on various committees expressing concerns. Although the town of Earlimart is not incorporated, the majority of the community will still refer to Joe as the "Town Mayor" and through his dedication and commitment he has made the difference!

HUMAN RIGHTS AND REPUBLIC OF  
CHINA PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-  
BIAN

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, while the world's attention has focused on human rights abuses in the People's Republic of China, attention ought also be given to the commendable human rights record of the Republic of China.

The Republic of China's constitution guarantees its citizens basic civil liberties, including freedom of peaceful assembly and association, freedom of speech and press, and freedom of religion. The Republic of China is also now a recognized full-fledged democracy that respects political rights, as evidenced by last year's election of President Chen Shui-bian in free and fair elections. This occasion marked the first time in Chinese society that an opposition party candidate was elected President. Son of a farm laborer, Mr. Chen was an active political reformer and activist for many years and served time in prison for his beliefs. After gaining his release, he served as a lawmaker and later as mayor of Tapei. His presidential victory last March 18 signaled to the world that true democracy has taken hold in the Republic of China.

In his inaugural address last May 20, President Chen announced: "We are willing to promise a more active contribution in safeguarding international human rights. The Republic of China cannot and will not remain outside global human rights trends. We will abide by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Convention for Civil and Political Rights, and the Vienna Declaration and Program of Action. We will bring the Republic of China back into the international human rights system. . . . We hope to set up an independent national human rights commission in Taiwan, thereby realizing an action long advocated by the United Nations. We will also invite two outstanding non-governmental organizations, the International Commission of Jurists and Amnesty International, to assist us in our measures to protect human rights and make the Republic of China into a new indicator for human rights in the 21st Century."

Mr. Speaker, I applaud President Chen's commitment to democracy and human rights. As we approach President Chen's first anniversary in office, I hope my colleagues will acknowledge his full commitment to safeguarding human rights in the Republic of China. President Chen and his cabinet ought to be applauded for their continuing efforts to make Taiwan one of the freest places on earth and for proving once again that political freedom and a prosperous market-oriented economy go hand-in-hand. I wish to congratulate president Chen and send him my support and best wishes.

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TAX  
RELIEF ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

**HON. PATSY T. MINK**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 8, 2001*

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 3. It is based on unreal assumptions and fuzzy scenarios.

H.R. 3 income tax rate reductions for single taxpayers are as follows:

For taxable income up to \$6,000 the current rate of 15 percent would be reduced under H.R. 3 and the Bush plan to 10 percent.

For taxable income between \$6,000 and \$27,050 the rate of 15 percent is unchanged.

For taxable income between \$27,050 and \$65,550 the current rate of 28 percent is reduced to 25 percent.

For taxable income between \$65,550 and \$136,750 the current rate of 31 percent is reduced to 25 percent.

For taxable income between \$136,750 and \$297,350 the current rate of 36 percent is reduced to 33 percent.

For taxable income above \$297,350 the current rate of 39.6 percent is reduced to 33 percent.

These income tax rate changes take effect gradually over a 10-year period:

For single taxpayers with income under \$6,000 the 15 percent rate is reduced to 12 percent in 2001 and 2002, to 11 percent in 2003 and 2004 and to 10 percent beginning in 2005.

The 15 percent tax rate on taxable income between \$6,000 and \$27,050 is unchanged.

For taxable income between \$27,050–\$65,550 the 28 percent rate is reduced to 27 percent in 2002 and 2003, to 26 percent in 2004 and 2005 and to 25 percent beginning in 2006.

For taxable income between \$65,660–\$136,750 the 31 percent rate is reduced to 30 percent in 2002, to 29 percent in 2003, to 28 percent in 2004, to 27 percent in 2005 and to 25 percent beginning in 2006.

For taxable income between \$136,750–\$297,350 the current 36 percent rate is reduced to 35 percent in 2002 and 2003, 34 percent in 2004 and 2005 and declines to 33 percent beginning in 2006.

For taxable income above \$297,350, the current 39.6 percent rate is reduced to 38 percent in 2002, to 37 percent in 2003, to 36 percent in 2004, to 35 percent in 2005 and to 33 percent beginning in 2006.

This tax reduction plan has three fundamental flaws.

First, the tax cuts are premised upon there being a \$5.6 trillion surplus over the next 10 years. But the actual surplus is much less, and the cost of the tax cuts are much larger than claimed.

The \$5.6 trillion "surplus" includes \$2.5 trillion from the Social Security Trust fund and \$400 billion in the Medicare Trust funds. It also includes another \$111 billion in the Military Retirement Trust Fund that is needed for the retirement benefits of our military personnel. That leaves only \$2.6 trillion in real surpluses.

From that the Bush tax plan would cost \$1.6 trillion in tax cuts leaving a surplus of \$1 trillion. But the tax cuts would increase the Fed-

eral government's interest costs by \$400 billion, leaving only a \$600 billion surplus.

Making the tax cuts retroactive to January 1, 2001 adds another \$100 billion in costs. Other Bush proposals, including adjustments to the alternative minimum tax, extending expiring tax credits, and promised spending add another \$500 billion. Added together, the Bush proposal uses up all the non-Social Security surplus.

It is unconscionable to pass a tax cut based on Social Security and Medicare surpluses after you have promised not to touch this surplus.

In fact Congress has voted many times on legislation not to touch these surpluses (lock box.) Congress even took Social Security "off budget" to make sure Congress did not forecast "surpluses" based on surpluses currently accumulated in Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds.

These tax cuts endanger the Social Security–Medicare Trust Funds.

Second, President Bush states that he wants to pay down this debt. But his tax cuts mean that we will not be able to pay down the national debt.

Of the \$5.7 trillion in current federal debt, the public holds \$3.4 trillion. The remaining \$2.3 trillion is held by the Social Security and Medicare trust funds. The interest on the Federal debt in fiscal year 2000 was \$362 billion.

But in fact the Bush plan does not pay down the debt, and threatens any possibility of paying it.

The Clinton 1993 Balanced Budget plan cut spending by \$250 billion and raised revenues by \$250 billion. Not a single Republican in the House or Senate voted for this in 1993. This courageous action by the Congress eliminated the annual budget deficits. It cost the Democrats plenty. In 1994 we lost 50 seats and the Republicans became the majority party.

In 1993 the annual deficit was \$255.1 billion. The total national debt in 1993 had already reached \$3.248 trillion. This debt was caused by faulty revenue projections under Reagan-Bush tax cuts. George W. Bush is repeating the same mistakes.

In FY 1998, under the Democrats budget plan, we achieved the first budget surplus since 1969 in the amount of \$69.2 billion. The Social Security surplus was \$99 billion and the Medicare surplus was \$9 billion. In FY 1999 the budget surplus was \$124.4 billion, the Social Security surplus was \$124.7 billion and the Medicare surplus was \$21.5 billion. In FY 2000 the surplus was \$236.2 billion, the Social Security surplus was \$151.8 billion and the Medicare surplus \$30 billion. For the current FY 2001, the total surplus is estimated to be \$281 billion, the Social Security surplus is estimated at \$156 billion and the Medicare surplus at \$29 billion.

If we don't pay down substantial portions of our debt with these surpluses the interest on our debt could increase by over \$400 billion in 10 years.

Lastly, no one can make accurate economic forecasts covering ten years into the future.

Having served on the U.S. House of Representatives Budget Committee for 6 years, I can attest to the fact that none of the experts or agencies assigned the task of forecasting either the "deficit" or the "surplus" ever forecast it accurately nor did they even come close.

Any tax cut plan based on a "10 year" forecast of surpluses is totally unrealistic.

Even Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan has problems deciding whether the economy is going up or down in the next 3 months. How can we plan 10 years ahead? It is a course guaranteed to lead us to terrible consequences.

Then-Governor Bush led Texas, based on a "rosy scenario," to enact massive tax cuts which today has Texas reeling over a \$700 million annual deficit.

Once you cut federal revenues by \$1.6 trillion and if the surpluses melt away to deficits, we will repeat the 10 years of agony we all suffered under the Reagan-Bush deficits of 1982–1992 federal budgets.

For these reasons, I shall vote "no" on H.R. 3 and urge my colleagues to do the same.

IN MEMORY OF BEATRICE L.  
PETERSON

**HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, today, I am deeply saddened to share the news of the passing of Beatrice L. Peterson.

Beatrice L. Peterson was born on June 16, 1931 to Raymond H. and Annabelle Allen McFate. She married Edward Kerr Peterson July 1, 1946 who died December 20, 1997. She is survived by a brother, Charles McFate; a sister, Mrs. Shirley Peterson; two daughters, Diane Was and Brenda Ellis; and a son, Edward K. Peterson, Jr. Two of her children, Rita Ann Peterson and Robert Carlson are deceased.

Beatrice was an amazing woman. A graduate of Choffin School of Nursing in Youngstown, she worked for over a decade at St. Joseph Riverside Hospital as a licensed practical nurse before retiring in 1985.

Beatrice loved the outdoors. Whenever she had a spare moment, she could be found outside, usually working in her garden. Camping was another of her beloved pastimes.

Beatrice Peterson will be sorely missed in the Bristolville community, where she loyally attended Grace Baptist Church. She touched the lives of many people, including mine, and was adored by all who had the privilege to know her. I extend my deepest sympathy to her friends and family.

SMALL BUSINESS  
TELECOMMUTING ACT

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I am joined by my colleagues, Representatives FROST, OWENS, HILLIARD, MCKINNEY, BALDACCI, BLUMENAUER, CUMMINGS, DAVIS (IL), HINOJOSA, KUCINICH, MCGOVERN, TAUSCHER, BAIRD, BALDWIN, TUBBS JONES, UDALL (NM), WU, and JO ANN DAVIS (VA), in introducing the Small Business Telecommuting Act to assist our nation's small businesses in establishing successful telework programs for their employees. Senator JOHN KERRY of Massachusetts will be introducing companion legislation in the Senate.

Across America, numerous employers are responding to the needs of their employees and establishing telecommuting programs. In 2000, there were an estimated 16.5 million teleworkers. By the end of 2004, there will be an estimated 30 million teleworkers, representing an increase of almost 100%. Unfortunately, the majority of growth in new teleworkers comes from organizations employing over 1,500 people, while just a few years ago, most teleworkers worked for small to medium-sized organizations.

By not taking advantage of modern technology and establishing successful telecommuting programs, small businesses are losing out on a host of benefits that will save them money, and make them more competitive. The reported productivity improvement of home-based teleworkers averages 15%, translating to an average bottom-line impact of \$9,712 per teleworker. Additionally, most experienced teleworkers are determined to continue teleworking, meaning a successful telework program can be an important tool in the recruitment and retention of qualified and skilled employees. By establishing successful telework programs, small business owners would be able to retain these valuable employees by allowing them to work from a remote location, such as their home or a telework center.

In addition to the cost savings realized by businesses that employ teleworkers, there are a number of related benefits to society and the employee. For example, telecommuters help reduce traffic and cut down on air pollution by staying off the roads during rush hour. Fully 80% of home-only teleworkers commute to work on days they are not teleworking. Their one-way commute distance averages 19.7 miles, versus 13.3 miles for non-teleworkers, meaning employees that take advantage of telecommuting programs are, more often than not, those with the longest commutes. Teleworking also gives employees more time to spend with their families and reduces stress levels by eliminating the pressure of a long commute.

Mr. Speaker, our legislation seeks to extend the benefits of successful telecommuting programs to more of our nation's small businesses. Specifically, it establishes a pilot program in the Small Business Administration (SBA) to raise awareness about telecommuting among small business employers and to encourage those small businesses to establish telecommuting programs for their employees.

Additionally, an important provision in our bill directs the SBA Administrator to undertake special efforts for businesses owned by, or employing, persons with disabilities and disabled America veterans. At the end of the day, telecommuting can provide more than just environmental benefits and improved quality of life. It can open the door to people who have been precluded from working in a traditional office setting due to physical disabilities.

Our legislation is also limited in cost and scope. It establishes the pilot program in a maximum of five SBA regions and caps the total cost to five million dollars over two years. It also restricts the SBA to activities specifically proscribed in the legislation: developing educational materials; conducting outreach to small business; and acquiring equipment for demonstration purposes. Finally, it requires the SBA to prepare and submit a report to Congress evaluating the pilot program.

Several hurdles to establishing successful telecommuting programs could be cleared by enacting our legislation. In fact, the number one reported obstacle to implementing a telecommuting program is a lack of know-how. Our bill will go a long way towards educating small business owners on how they can draft guidelines to make a telework program an affordable, manageable reality.

LEGISLATION TO CHANGE THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE'S COST RECOVERY RULES

**HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress, I am continually seeking sound policy changes that will make and keep our economy productive, create jobs and improve the overall quality of life for Americans. It is my belief that an important element of a productive economy is modern, efficient and environmentally responsible space for Americans to work, shop and recreate. In order to create and maintain such space, a building owner must regularly change, reconfigure or somehow improve office, retail and commercial space to meet the needs of new and existing tenants.

I believe that the Internal Revenue Code's cost recovery rules associated with leasehold improvements are an impediment for building owners needing to make such improvements. Therefore, I am pleased to introduce this legislation to change the cost recovery rules associated with leasehold improvements.

Simply stated, this legislation would allow building owners to depreciate specified building improvements using a 10-year depreciable life, rather than the 39 years required by current law, thereby matching more closely the expenses incurred to construct these improvements with the income the improvements generate under the lease.

To qualify under the legislation, the improvement must be constructed by a lessor or lessee in the tenant-occupied space. In an effort to ensure that the legislation is as cost efficient as possible, improvements constructed in common areas of a building, such as elevators, escalators and lobbies, would not qualify; nor would improvements made to new buildings.

Office, retail, or other commercial rental real estate is typically reconfigured, changed or somehow improved on a regular basis to meet the needs of new and existing tenants. Internal walls, ceilings, partitions, plumbing, lighting and finish each are elements that might be the type of improvement made within a building to accommodate a tenant's requirements, and thereby ensure that the work or shopping space is a modern, efficient, and environmentally responsible as possible.

Unfortunately, today's depreciation rules do not differentiate between the economic useful life of a building improvement—which typically corresponds with a tenant's lease-term—and the life of the overall building structure. The result is that current tax law dictates a depreciable life for leasehold improvements of 39 years—the depreciable life for the entire building—even though most commercial leases

typically run for a period of 7 to 10 years. As a result, after-tax cost of reconfiguring, or building out, office, retail, or other commercial space to accommodate new tenants or modernizing workplace is artificially high. This hinders urban reinvestment and construction job opportunities as improvements are delayed or not undertaken at all.

Additionally, a widespread shift to more energy-efficient, environmentally sound building elements is discouraged by the current tax system because of their typically higher expense. If a greater conservation potential of energy-efficient lighting were to be realized, the demand for the equivalent of one hundred 1,000-megawatt powerplants could be eliminated, with corresponding reductions in air pollution and global warming.

Reform of the cost recovery rules for leasehold improvements has been long overdue. In the 106th Congress, this bill enjoyed widespread support with 144 Members co-sponsoring it. This legislation should be enacted this year. This would acknowledge the fact that improvements constructed for one tenant are rarely suitable for another, and that when a tenant leaves, the space is typically build-out over again for a new tenant. It is important to note that prior to 1981 our tax laws allowed these improvement costs to be deducted over the life of the lease. Subsequent legislation, however, abandoned this policy as part of a move to simplify and shorten building depreciation rules in general to 15 years. Given that buildings are now required to be depreciated over 39 years, it is time to face economic reality and reinstate a separate depreciation period for building improvements to tenant occupied space.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my fellow members to review and support this important job producing, urban revitalization legislation. I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Ways and Means Committee to enact this bill.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE  
"ANTI-SPAMMING ACT OF 2001"

**HON. BOB GOODLATTE**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, unsolicited commercial e-mail, such as advertisements, solicitations or chain letters, is the "junk mail" of the information age. When unwanted mail is hand delivered to your home or post office box, you can ask the postmaster not to deliver it. When telemarketers call you at home you may ask to be taken off their solicitation list. But currently, there is no mechanism to prevent unwanted e-mail.

Jupiter Communications reported that in 1999 the average consumer received 40 pieces of spam. By 2005, Jupiter estimates, the total is likely to soar to 1,600. These numbers are truly astounding. Unsolicited e-mail messages burden consumers by slowing down their e-mail connections, and cause big problems for the small business owner who is trying to compete with larger companies and larger servers.

Consumers are not the only ones victimized by spam. In recent instances, unsolicited e-mail transmissions have paralyzed small Internet Service Providers (ISPs) by flooding their

servers with unwanted e-mail. This has the potential to do great damages to small ISP companies and the communities they serve.

Currently, ISPs are developing programs that require the individual sending the unsolicited message to include a valid e-mail address, which can then be replied to in order to request that no further transmissions be sent. Under these programs, once the individual sending the original e-mail receives a request to remove an address from their distribution list, they are required to do so. However, offending spammers get around this requirement by using the e-mail address of an unsuspecting user to spam others.

To address this problem, I am introducing legislation to give law enforcement the tools they need to prosecute individuals who send unsolicited e-mail that clog up consumers' inboxes: the Anti-Spamming Act of 2001.

The Anti-Spamming Act would amend 18 U.S.C. § 1030 (which addresses criminal fraud in connection with computers) in several respects to address fraudulent unsolicited electronic mail. It would add to the substantive conduct prohibited by 18 U.S.C. § 1030(a), both the intentional and unauthorized sending of unsolicited e-mail that is known by the sender to contain information that falsely identifies the source or routing information of the e-mail, and the intentional sale or distribution of any computer program designed to conceal the source or routing information of such e-mail.

This legislation would subject those who commit such prohibited conduct to a criminal fine equal to \$15,000 per violation or \$10 per message per violation, whichever is greater, plus the actual monetary loss suffered by victims of the conduct. In addition, prohibited conduct that results in damage to a "protected computer" (as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1030(e)(2)) would be punishable by a fine under Title 18 or by imprisonment for up to one year.

I would also like to thank Representative HEATHER WILSON for her tireless efforts to address this issue. Representative WILSON should be commended for bringing the problem of spam to the forefront of public debate. I look forward to working with her to achieve our common goal of reducing the burden of unwanted e-mail on consumers and Internet Service Providers.

Legislation addressing the problem of unsolicited commercial e-mail is greatly needed to protect consumers and Internet Service Providers from victimization by spam. I urge my colleagues to support this much needed legislation.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK MARSH

**HON. DOUG BEREUTER**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this week Nebraskans said good-bye to Frank Marsh, our former lieutenant governor, secretary of state and state treasurer. Frank was a loyal Nebraskan, a dedicated public servant, and an enthusiastic Republican. He was elected secretary of state in 1953 and served in that position for 17 years. He was lieutenant governor from 1971 to 1975. He served twice as state

treasurer. He was State director of the Farmers Home Administration. In all, he devoted nearly 40 years of his life to public service.

Indeed, public service was a family affair for the Marshes. Frank's father, Frank Marsh Sr., was secretary of state for 16 years. Frank's wife Shirley was a state senator—my close friend and seatmate for the last two years of my service in the Nebraska Legislature.

Frank was a staunch Republican, but he worked amicably with partisans of all persuasion. Indeed, his stint as lieutenant governor was served under a Democratic governor. They got along well. After Frank left elective office, he continued his career in public service by serving the poor. He helped to begin a food distribution network that came to involve 300 volunteers working in 33 distribution sites in Lincoln, Nebraska, his hometown.

All of us who knew Frank Marsh and worked with him and all of those who were beneficiaries of his compassion and dedication will miss him. We send our condolences to his wife Shirley and their children and the many foreign guests—extended family in effect—who were hosted by the Marsh family in their home for varying lengths of time. Frank Marsh was a citizen ambassador for our country and a model for voluntarism for all Americans. His contributions to the public good will be missed throughout Nebraska and far beyond.

SPECIAL ORDER ON WOMEN'S  
HEALTH

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleagues of the Women's Caucus to discuss the importance of women's health.

As a Caucus, we are working hard to improve health for all women. From protecting Social Security and strengthening Medicare to working for a Patient's Bill of Rights.

And we are working to add a reliable, affordable prescription drug benefit.

We must ensure that the progress made to improve women's health continues.

To this point, I urge my distinguished colleagues to join me in the following measures.

I am working to improve the health and well-being of women—young and old.

I will soon reintroduce the Osteoporosis Early Detection and Prevention Act and the Cancer Screening Coverage Act to give women a fighting chance against these diseases.

I am working with my distinguished colleague, CONNIE MORELLA, to make women's health research a priority. We will introduce the Women's Health Office Act to make the women's health offices at the Department of Health and Human Services permanent.

And for our littlest people and their moms, I have introduced the Breastfeeding Promotion Act, which supports and protects mothers who choose to breastfeed. Everyday, new medical studies are released highlighting the positive health effects of breastfeeding for both mother and child.

We must continue to work hard to ensure that the priorities of our country include policies that promote healthy women and healthy

families. I urge my colleagues to join me on these measures.

A TRIBUTE TO DANIEL R. ENSLEY

**HON. BOB ETHERIDGE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of North Carolina's leading citizens and to bring to the attention of my colleagues of the 107th Congress his many contributions.

Daniel R. Ensley, director of the mass communications program at Campbell University and a 1993-94 "Professor of the Year" at the institution, is retiring from Campbell due to health concerns. He will be greatly missed by fellow professors, by students in the mass communications school, and by the hundreds of alumni who remember the courses they took there.

Ensley, a native of Dover, Delaware, grew up in a military family and lived in New Jersey, Illinois, Florida, Georgia, and Oklahoma as a youngster. He is a 1979 magna cum laude graduate of Campbell. He worked for the college radio station throughout his college years and became station manager during his senior year. After graduation, he managed the station until 1984 and also taught courses at the University.

In 1984, Ensley entered graduate school at the University of South Carolina College of Journalism. He earned his Master of Arts degree from that institution in 1986 and was accepted for a Ph.D. program at the University of Wisconsin. Just before leaving for Madison, Wisconsin, Ensley was contacted by the administrators at Campbell and offered a position as an instructor in the Department of Communications. He accepted and joined the Campbell family.

Ensley was promoted to assistant professor in 1990 and twice—1989 and 1999—has won the Dean's Award for Teaching Excellence. The Student Government Association honored him with the first "Professor of the Year" award in 1993-94, and he was also honored as "Teacher of the Year" by the Omicron Delta Kappa society in June of 1994. That same year, the college yearbook was dedicated to him. In 1987, the college of Journalism at the University of South Carolina awarded him its Excellence in Research Award for his masters thesis.

Ensley's most dramatic contribution to the University came in 1991 when he created the Department of Mass Communications at the university. As director of the new department, he designed curriculum, taught courses, and established and monitored an internship program.

Hundreds of former students owe Ensley a debt of gratitude for the work he did with them while they were at Campbell. One former student, Dallas Woodhouse, a political reporter for NBC-17 in Raleigh, says he owes his career to the retiring educator.

"Ensley gave his life to his students," Woodhouse says. "Nights. Weekends. Overnights. He gave it all and never complained. I have never seen someone work so much and so hard. I have never seen someone like Dan Ensley. I only hope I can teach my children his work ethic and his selflessness."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE EIU  
PANTHERS

**HON. DAVID D. PHELPS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and congratulate one of my district's college basketball teams. The Eastern Illinois University Panthers of Charleston, IL recently won the OVC tournament championship. The Panthers defeated Austin Peay 107-100 in the championship game at Eastern Illinois University's Lantz Gym. The Panthers finished the season with a 17-12 record.

Led by coaches Rick Samuels, Troy Collier, and Steve Weemer, members of the 2001 EIU Panthers include Rod Henry, Jan Thompson, Craig Lewis, Chris Herrera, Kyle Hill, Matt Britton, Eric Sandholm, Nate Schroeder, Merve Joseph, Andy Gobczynski, John Thorsen, Todd Bergmann, Henry Domercant, Ryan Kelly, and Jesse Mackinson.

The members of the EIU Panthers should be proud of their achievement. I congratulate them and wish them good luck in future basketball seasons.

RETIREMENT OF JAMES I. SMITH,  
III

**HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the retirement of a man who has been a fixture in Allegheny County's public life for a number of decades.

On June 1, 2001, James I. Smith III will retire as the executive director of the Allegheny County Bar Association. Mr. Smith has served as the executive director of this organization for the last 38 years.

In the course of his tenure, Mr. Smith has made a number of innovative changes in the organization's operations. In addition to supervising the ACBA's many departments, Mr. Smith instituted the ACBA's first Bench-Bar Conference, developed a daily in-house legal newspaper, and developed the first video deposition service in the nation. He has carried out his duties with great dedication and professionalism.

I commend Mr. Smith for his many contributions to the community, and I wish him a long and happy retirement.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HCFA FOR  
SAVING MEDICARE MONEY; CON-  
GRESS SHOULD GIVE HCFA  
MORE COMPETITIVE PUR-  
CHASING TOOLS

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, a lot of Members of Congress have been criticizing HCFA lately, largely because they are trying to carry out impossible complex laws passed by Members of Congress.

We also complain that HCFA isn't competitive enough. In the BBA of 1997, we gave authority to HCFA to carry out competitive bidding demonstrations on the purchase of durable medical equipment. Those demonstrations are indeed showing substantial savings. I would like to enter in the RECORD a press release of March 1st describing the progress of these demonstrations.

Mr. Speaker, Congress should immediately allow those demonstrations to become permanent and to be extended nationwide. Congress should stop calling HCFA inefficient when we aren't willing to give it the power to be efficient.

[From the HCFA Press Office, Mar. 1, 2001]

SECOND ROUND OF MEDICARE COMPETITIVE  
BIDDING PROJECT FOR MEDICAL SUPPLIES IN  
POLK COUNTY, FLA.

Medicare has launched the second round of its successful pilot project in Polk County, Fla., that uses competition to provide quality medical equipment and supplies to beneficiaries at better prices. The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 authorizes the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) to demonstrate how competitive bidding can help Medicare beneficiaries and the program pay more reasonable prices for quality medical equipment and supplies. Several studies by the U.S. General Accounting (GAO) and the HHS Inspector General have shown that the Medicare program and its beneficiaries often pay more for medical equipment and supplies than the prices paid by other insurers and individual patients. Requiring suppliers interested in serving Medicare beneficiaries to submit bids including quality and price information assures access to high-quality medical equipment at a fairer price. The changes also can reduce Medicare waste and abuse.

During the first round of the Polk County demonstration, HCFA, the agency that administers Medicare, invited companies to compete to sell medical equipment and supplies to 92,000 Medicare beneficiaries in Polk County. Bids were evaluated on the basis of quality and price. The new rates set by this competitive process are saving individual beneficiaries and Medicare an average of 17 percent on the cost of certain medical supplies, while protecting quality and access for Polk County beneficiaries. The competitive bidding process took place in the spring of 1999. The new rates took effect on Oct. 1, 1999, and will remain in effect until Sept. 30, 2001.

HCFA implemented a similar demonstration in three Texas counties in the San Antonio area—Bexar, Comal and Guadalupe counties. Suppliers who wished to sell products in five categories to Medicare beneficiaries in the region were required to compete on the basis of quality and price in the spring of 2000. As in the Polk County process, the new prices are saving individual beneficiaries and Medicare an average of 20 percent on the cost of certain medical supplies while protecting quality and access for San Antonio beneficiaries. The new rates took effect on Feb. 1, 2001, and will remain in effect until Dec. 31, 2002.

In the second round of the Polk County demonstration, suppliers will again compete this spring on the basis of quality and price for four of categories of medical equipment and supplies categories included in the first round of the pilot. The categories are: oxygen supplies; hospital beds; urological supplies and surgical dressings. The fifth product category, enteral nutrition, is not being included in the second round because the focus of the demonstration is on medical equipment and supplies delivered to the

home, and enteral nutrition is primarily provided to nursing home residents. The rates determined for the second round are to take effect on Oct. 1, 2001, and will remain in effect until Sept. 30, 2002.

GUEST CHAPLAIN, DR. CALVIN  
TURPIN

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to submit background material on Dr. Calvin Turpin. Dr. Turpin, from my district, offered the prayer to open the House today.

Dr. Calvin C. Turpin of Hallister, CA, is a native of Illinois. He is a retired professor of religion and an administrator from Hardin Simmons University, Abilene, TX.

Dr. Turpin earned a B.A., and M.A. from Baylor University, Waco, TX; An M.A. from Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN; Bachelor of Divinity; M.R.E. (Master of Religious Education) and a Master of Divinity from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY, and a Doctor of Science in Theology from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, CA.

Dr. Turpin served as Deputy Chief of Chaplains for the Civil Air Patrol. He and his wife Eudell are the parents of a son and daughter.

Dr. Turpin served in the Army during World War II and has served as a minister in Southern Baptist Churches in Texas, Kentucky, Tennessee, and California.

Presently he serves as National Chaplain of the American Legion (2000–2001).

**REVIVING STEEL**

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I submit into the RECORD the following editorial from the March 11th edition of the Cleveland Plain Dealer. I believe this piece speaks to the urgent need for action to aid the American steel industry, and I encourage my colleagues to read it.

[From the Plain Dealer, Mar. 11, 2001]

**REVIVING STEEL**

Why is America's steel industry in such a sorry state?

Poor management, inefficient work rules, runaway imports, outrageous energy costs, low prices, expensive obligations to retirees, skeptical landers and rapidly changing technology have all played a role. But the collective impact is undeniable: In little more than three years, 16 firms, including Cleveland LTV Corp., have sought bankruptcy protection. Since last spring, profits at even the best-run firms have largely melted into pools of red ink; LTV lost \$351 million in the last quarter alone. The mini-mills that once seemed to be steel's new wave now look almost as vulnerable as the dinosaurs in this historically cyclical industry.

Since steel is an economic and military necessity, America needs a healthy industry. And in our system, that's largely the responsibility of individual steelmakers. They have

to be intelligently managed, flexible, able to see technological change before it overwhelms them. Companies that can't or won't change will fail. And yet, it's not unreasonable for government to help such a vital enterprise negotiate a market shaped by forces that bear little resemblance to economic theory.

The Bush administration is said to be studying how best to assist steel. And a bipartisan group in the House of Representatives has offered a set of proposals, many of them rooted in ideas put forward by industry leaders and the United Steel Workers of America. While specifics of the legislation, whose co-sponsors include Cleveland-area Democrats Dennis J. Kucinich, Stephanie Tubbs Jones and Sherrod Brown, may be a bit dubious, they do pinpoint areas that need attention: foreign competition, "legacy costs," consolidation and capital.

Ask most steelmakers and their allies to identify the industry's No. 1 problem and chances are they'll finger the glut of low-priced foreign steel that flooded this country last year. But the import crush is not some foreign plot. A strong U.S. dollar, while good for the overall economy, makes imports relatively cheaper and more desirable to cost-conscious steel users. Even in the best of times, American steel makers cannot meet domestic demand. Industry officials concede that about a quarter of the steel used in this country will always come from abroad, much of it slab that's then finished by American steel firms.

Still, American steel firms need some respite from bargain-basement competition. The question is how to give it to them, especially since the world Trade Organization has rejected America's anti-dumping laws. Perhaps the administration at least could give American producers the "anti-surge" warnings that NAFTA partners Mexico and Canada provide their steelmakers by constantly monitoring imports.

U.S. steelmakers proudly point to billions invested in modernization since the late 1970s. America today makes as much steel with a third as many workers. But shrinking the work force meant early retirement for thousands of employees; LTV's integrated steel operations, for example, support 12,000 active workers and 72,000 retirees. Many established steel firms thus face enormous "legacy costs," mostly for retiree health care, that add an estimated \$15 to \$20 to the price of each ton. It's a burden not shared by domestic upstarts or by foreign competitors whose governments pay for health care.

The House bill proposes a surcharge on every ton of steel sold in the United States to help cover retiree health costs. A similar program operates in the coal industry. Spreading the burden of legacy costs might speed the consolidation that many think the steel industry desperately needs. Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill, who led a troubled aluminum industry back to profitability while at Alcoa, has signaled that any long-range fix for steel probably will require some global reduction in capacity that pushes up prices. Retrenchment may cost some American firms, but their workers and retirees should not be punished in the process.

Finally, steel may be on the verge of technological quantum leaps. But they won't be cheap, and already many banks are understandably leery of investing in such a dicey industry. Even a federal program that currently guarantees 85 percent of a loan has attracted so few takers that the Bush budget suggests cancelling it. Some suggest that governments or pension funds could step in as financiers. But before heading down that risky road, let's see whether help on import competition and legacy costs encourages private lenders to take another look at steel.

DR. THOMAS STARZL

**HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call my colleagues' attention to an important anniversary—the 20th anniversary of Dr. Thomas Starzl's first liver transplant in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Starzl has been a pioneer in the field of organ transplants for the last 40 years. Dr. Starzl performed the world's first liver transplant in 1963 and the world's first successful liver transplant in 1967. His successful use of azathioprine and corticosteroids in kidney transplants in 1962 and 1963 produced a surge of transplant research around the world. Dr. Starzl's successful experiments with antilymphocyte globulin and cyclosporine in 1980 enabled transplantation to move from the experimental stage to an accepted medical procedure. And in 1989, Dr. Starzl's experimentation with another anti-rejection agent, FK506, led to additional advances in transplantation.

These are only a few of the highlights of Dr. Starzl's long and productive career. One measure of his contribution to modern medicine is the sheer volume of research that he has produced. He has authored or co-authored more than 2,000 articles, as well as four books and 292 chapters. I would point out that Dr. Starzl has been identified by the Institute for Scientific Information as the most cited scientist in the field of clinical medicine. Truly, he is a remarkable man.

Dr. Starzl was born in 1926 in Iowa. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in biology from Westminster College in Missouri. He studied medicine at the Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago, and he did graduate work at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. He subsequently worked and studied at Johns Hopkins, the University of Miami, and the Veterans Administration Research Hospital in Chicago. Dr. Starzl served on the faculty of Northwestern University from 1958 until 1961 and held several positions, including chairman of the department of surgery, at the University of Colorado School of Medicine from 1962 until 1980.

Since 1981, Dr. Starzl has been associated with the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Under his leadership, Pittsburgh became one of the largest and most successful centers for transplant surgery in the world. More than 5,700 liver transplants, 3,500 kidney transplants, 1,000 heart transplants, and 500 lung transplants have been performed at the University of Pittsburgh Medical center. In 1991, Dr. Starzl became director of the University of Pittsburgh Transplantation Institute, and in 1996, the Institute was renamed in his honor. Dr. Starzl now holds the title of director emeritus, and continues to conduct cutting-edge research on transplantation. Dr. Starzl has also been active as a leader—and often as a founding member—of a number of professional and scientific organizations, and he received nearly 200 awards and honors for his work.

I salute Dr. Starzl for his many contributions to the field of medicine on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of his first liver transplant in Pittsburgh.

INTRODUCTION OF YOUNG AMERICAN WORKERS' BILL OF RIGHTS ACT—H.R. 961

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, last week, with the support of 48 of our colleagues, I introduced comprehensive domestic child labor law reform—H.R. 961, The Young American Workers' Bill of Rights Act. This much-needed legislation will provide greater protection for American children in the workplace. The unfortunate exploitation of child labor in America is not a thing of the past. It is a problem that continues to threaten the welfare and education of millions of American young people. Unless we swiftly enact this important legislation, children will continue to be employed in jobs that place their lives in danger, and students will continue to struggle with the competing interests of holding a job and gaining an education at a time when education should be "priority number one". I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

The exploitation of child labor is a national problem that continues to jeopardize the health, education and lives of many of our nation's children and teenagers. In farm fields and in fast-food restaurants all over this country, employers are breaking the law by hiring under-age children. Many of these youth put in long, hard hours and often work under dangerous conditions. Our legislation seeks to eliminate the all-too-common exploitation of children—working long hours late into the night while school is in session, and working under hazardous conditions.

Mr. Speaker, I am saddened to report that in this country, a young person is killed on the job every five days. Every 40 seconds a child is injured on the job. It is appalling to learn that the occupational injury rate for children and teens is more than twice as high than it is for adults. These statistics are a national disgrace. It is totally unacceptable for a civilized, advanced society such as ours to have our children injured and killed on the job.

Mr. Speaker, The Young American Workers' Bill of Rights Act would establish new, tougher penalties for willful violations of child labor laws that result in the death or serious bodily injury to a child. Not only does the bill increase fines and prison sentences for willful violation of our laws, but it will also assure that the names of child labor law violators are publicized. Nothing will deter corporate giants more than negative publicity. Negative publicity is one of the most effective tools we have to change corporate behavior.

While people often associate the evils of child labor with Third World countries, American children and teenagers are also exploited on the job. Our economy has changed significantly since the days when teenagers held after school jobs at the "Mom and Pop" grocery store or soda shop on the corner. In today's low unemployment economy, teenagers are hired to fill-in or replace jobs previously held by adults in full-time positions. They work in franchise fast food restaurants and national supermarket chains.

Many high-school students are working 30 to 40 hours a week, and they often work well

past midnight. Research shows that long hours on the job take away time needed for schoolwork or family and extracurricular activities. The Young American Workers' Bill of Rights Act sets limits on the amount of time students can work during the school year. This is important Mr. Speaker, because studies show that the more hours children work during the school year, the more likely they are to do poorly academically. Studies have also shown that children who work long hours also tend to use more alcohol and drugs.

Mr. Speaker, The Young American Workers' Bill of Rights Act will reduce the problem of children working long hours when school is in session, and it strengthens existing limitations on the number of hours children under 18 years of age can work on school days. The bill would eliminate all youth labor before school. After-school work would be limited to 15 or 20 hours per week, depending on the age of the child. Additionally our legislation will require better record keeping and reporting of child labor violations. It also prohibits minors from operating or cleaning certain types of dangerous equipment, and prohibits children from working under certain particularly hazardous conditions.

Children working early in the morning before school or working late into the evening on days when school is in session is a serious problem facing our country. Recently, I met with students from Aragon High School of San Mateo, California, in my Congressional district. After talking about The Young American Workers' Bill of Rights Act to these students, who were visiting our nation's capitol, the students spoke up and voiced their concerns about being required to work past 11 or later on school nights. Every one of these students spoke in favor of enacting The Young American Workers' Bill of Rights Act.

Mr. Speaker, our legislation also increases protection for children under the age of 14 who are migrant or seasonal workers in agriculture. Current labor laws allow children—even those under 10 years of age—to be employed in agriculture. Child farm laborers can work unlimited hours before and after school, and they are not even eligible for overtime pay. At the age of 14, or even earlier, children working in agriculture are using knives and machetes, operate dangerous machinery, and are exposed to dangerous toxic pesticides. In no other industry in this nation are children so exploited as they are in agriculture. These are not children working on family farms, these are children working for agribusiness, these are children exploited by agribusiness.

I want to make it adamantly clear that as supporters of child labor reform we do not oppose young people working. I firmly believe that children must be taught the value of work. They need to learn the important lessons of responsibility, and they need to enjoy the rewards of working. It is not our aim to discourage employers from hiring young people. Rather, our goal is to ensure that the job opportunities available to young people are meaningful, safe and healthy and do not interfere with their important school responsibilities.

Mr. Speaker, let me state unequivocally that we do not oppose children taking on after-school employment. What we oppose are the senseless deaths and needless injuries of our teenagers. We oppose the negative effects on academic achievement that result when children work excessive hours while school is in

session. A solid education—not after-school employment—is the key to a successful future.

I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in cosponsoring The Young American Workers' Bill of Rights Act. I urge swift enactment of meaningful child labor law reform legislation during this Congress.

KANE HONORED FOR 47 YEARS IN EDUCATION

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my very good friend, Anthony Kane of Sugar Notch, Pennsylvania, who is being honored with a testimonial dinner on March 17 by the Luzerne County Coordinating Council and the Northeastern Region of the Pennsylvania State Education Association for his 47 years of hard work in the field of education.

Tony was born in Sugar Notch, graduated from Sugar Notch High School and went on to continue his education at Wilkes College, Bucknell University and New York University. He obtained his master's degree in music education from Ithaca College.

Tony started teaching in 1954, choosing to work at the Old Edwardsville School district because the pay was, as he put it, "a little better" than elsewhere: \$2,400 a year, the equivalent of just \$15,622 today.

From that humble beginning, Tony has become a singularly important force in elevating the wages and working conditions of teachers in the region and all of Pennsylvania to a level that recognizes their education, dedication and the importance of the duty with which we entrust them, that of preparing our children for the future.

The right to collective bargaining has been crucial to raising the standard of living for teachers in Pennsylvania. In addition to advocating for the improved wages and benefits, Pennsylvania teachers have also used their voice to secure more education funding.

Mr. Speaker, Tony has been a leader in all those efforts. In 1969, his fellow teachers recognized his abilities as a labor leader and elected him president of the Wyoming Valley West Education Association. He has served in that post ever since, and in 1981, he was elected to the Pennsylvania State Education Association's political action committee. He has chaired numerous state and local task forces and committees.

Tony's dedication to the labor movement and improving the standard of living for his colleague also carried over into his career as an accomplished accordion player. He became secretary of the American Federation of Musicians, Local 140, in 1962, another post he still holds. One of his accomplishments for his fellow musicians was securing a pension plan for the Northeast Philharmonic Orchestra.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the hard work and distinguished career of Anthony Kane, and I join his many friends in wishing him and his wife, Sarah, well.

SECURITY AT THE NATIONAL LABORATORIES: A PROBLEM DEMANDING A REMEDY

**HON. DOUG BEREUTER**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2001*

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member rises to call attention to the continuing threat to U.S. national security posed by lax security standards at our national weapons laboratories. As we have learned in recent years, lax security at our Department of Energy national weapons laboratories has resulted in the loss of some of this nation's most important secrets. This Member had the honor to serve on the select committee tasked with investigating the loss of highly sensitive, classified program technology to the People's Republic of China (the Cox Committee), and can testify that security at our national weapons laboratories had been dangerously compromised. Other investigations have come to similar conclusions.

In 1999, a Presidential Commission led by former Senator Warren Rudman pointed to a dysfunctional culture that rebelled at the notion of addressing security requirements at the labs. In recent days, yet another commission has issued a devastating critique, noting that "there is a dissonance within the system" and

that "security people are not talking to scientists."

Mr. Speaker, the issues at stake are too important to ignore. This Member urges President Bush to ensure that proper security becomes a priority at Federally funded institutions, such as the national weapons laboratories, which perform classified work. This Member commends to his colleagues an editorial in the February 24, 2001, edition of the Omaha World-Herald. As the editorial notes, "George W. Bush campaigned last year on a pledge that he would make the security of the nation's nuclear labs a priority. In the wake of these ongoing embarrassments, it is essential that his Department of Energy deliver on that promise."

NUCLEAR SECURITY PARTICULARLY URGENT

One of the Clinton administration's greatest failures was the Department of Energy's bumbling efforts to maintain security at the nation's nuclear weapons labs. Last year, after embarrassing security breaches exposed the department's Keystone Kops approach to security, then-Energy Secretary Bill Richardson said his department had finally set things right. Yet, according to a new press report, in his final days in office, Richardson suspended those security measures pending a review, saying they had harmed morale.

Richardson's action was ill-considered and exasperating. If scientists lack the professionalism to accept the security require-

ments necessary to safeguard the nation's pre-eminent nuclear research labs, those researchers should seek employment elsewhere.

This situation did not come about overnight. For many years, well preceding Clinton, scientists at Los Alamos and other labs tended to display an inappropriate elitist attitude, acting as if they were above the common-sense, if inconvenient, security protocols routinely required of everyone else in the defense establishment. The situation worsened during the Clinton administration as top administrative slots at energy were filled by appointees who exhibited far more enthusiasm for "progressive" endeavors such as unsealing classified documents about past radiation-exposure scandals than in something as passe as buttressing weapons-lab security.

Last week, the chairman of a commission charged with overseeing security at the nuclear labs described ongoing problems. There is "dissonance within the system," he said, and "security people are not talking to scientists." Those are astounding admissions. Even at this late date, after all the scandals and exposes and reviews, the security arrangements for the weapons tabs are still in a shambles?

George W. Bush campaigned last year on a pledge that he would make the security of the nation's nuclear labs a priority. In the wake of these ongoing embarrassments, it is essential that his Department of Energy deliver on that promise.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 15, 2001 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 19

1 p.m.  
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs  
Housing and Transportation Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine the current state of Department of Housing and Urban Development's Federal Housing Administration Insurance Fund.  
SD-538

2:30 p.m.  
Armed Services  
Strategic Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine the fiscal year 2000 report to assess the reliability, safety, and security of the United States nuclear stockpile.  
SR-222

MARCH 20

9:30 a.m.  
Armed Services  
Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine the readiness impact of range encroachment issues, including endangered species and critical habitats; sustainment of the maritime environment; airspace management; urban sprawl; air pollution; unexploded ordinance; and noise.  
SR-232A

10:30 a.m.  
Foreign Relations  
To hold hearings on the nomination of Marc Isaiah Grossman, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of State (Political Affairs).  
SD-419

MARCH 21

9 a.m.  
Environment and Public Works  
Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on harmonizing the Clean Air Act with our nation's energy policy.  
SD-406

9:30 a.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
To hold oversight hearings to review current United States energy trends and recent changes in U.S. energy markets.  
SD-106

10 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Defense Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine issues surrounding the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.  
SD-192

2 p.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
Water and Power Subcommittee  
To hold oversight hearings on the Klamath Project in Oregon, including implementation of PL 106-498 and how the project might operate in what is projected to be a short water year.  
SD-628

Foreign Relations  
To hold hearings on the nomination of Grant S. Green, Jr., of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of State for Management.  
SD-419

3 p.m.  
Intelligence  
To hold closed hearings on intelligence matters.  
SH-219

MARCH 22

9 a.m.  
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry  
To hold hearings to review the Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture.  
SH-216

10 a.m.  
Veterans' Affairs  
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative recommendations of the AMVETS, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Vietnam Veterans of America, Retired Officers Association, and the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs.  
345 Cannon Building

Governmental Affairs  
Oversight of Government Management, Restructuring and the District of Columbia Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to assess the District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department's achievement of its year 2000 performance goals.  
SD-342

2:30 p.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee  
To hold oversight hearings to review the National Park Service's implementation of management policies and procedures to comply with the provisions of Title IV of the National Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998.  
SD-192

MARCH 29

9 a.m.  
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry  
To hold hearings to review environmental trading opportunities for agriculture.  
SR-328A

2:30 p.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee  
To hold oversight hearings on the implementation of the Administration's National Fire Plan.  
SD-124

APRIL 3

10 a.m.  
Judiciary  
To hold hearings to examine online entertainment and related copyright law.  
SD-226

APRIL 24

10 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Bureau of Reclamation, of the Department of the Interior, and Army Corps of Engineers.  
SD-124

APRIL 25

10 a.m.  
Judiciary  
To hold hearings to examine the legal issues surrounding faith based solutions.  
SD-226

APRIL 26

2 p.m.  
Appropriations  
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy.  
SD-124

MAY 1

10 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for certain Department of Energy programs relating to Energy Efficiency Renewable Energy, science, and nuclear issues.  
SD-124

Judiciary  
To hold hearings to examine high technology patents, relating to business methods and the internet.  
SD-226

MAY 3

2 p.m.  
Appropriations  
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for Department of Energy environmental management and the Office of Civilian Radio Active Waste Management.  
SD-124

MAY 8

10 a.m.  
Judiciary  
To hold hearings to examine high technology patents, relating to genetics and biotechnology.  
SD-226

POSTPONEMENTS

MARCH 27

APRIL 3

MARCH 16

10:30 a.m.

10 a.m.

9:30 a.m.  
Finance

Appropriations  
Energy and Water Development Sub-  
committee

Appropriations  
Energy and Water Development Sub-  
committee

To hold hearings to examine issues relat-  
ing to international trade and the  
American economy.

To hold oversight hearings on issues re-  
lating to Yucca Mountain.

To hold oversight hearings to examine  
issues surrounding nuclear power.

SD-215

SD-124

SD-124