

the current deduction because it will allow teachers to utilize the benefit, particularly teachers with low salaries and those in disadvantaged schools.

My Congressional district in western Wisconsin is home to no less than 75 public school districts. I find it unconscionable that teachers must supplement school needs with their own hard earned income to ensure every student receives the same quality education. This bill represents much needed short-term relief, but also renews our long-term commitment to maintaining America's excellence in education. By supporting our teachers in their efforts to provide a quality education to all of our children, we support the very future of our country. Without a doubt, education is the cornerstone of a healthy, productive society, and today's investment represents tomorrow's future success. As we continue the federal government's role in guaranteeing affordable educational opportunities, our commitment to our teachers is one step in the right direction.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this measure and the scores of dedicated teachers across the nation who spend their own money on classroom materials needed to educate our children. Their sacrifices to alleviate a problem in the structure of education funding should not go without some benefit. I would encourage my colleagues to support this legislation and give our nation's teachers the credit they deserve.

ASBESTOS SETTLEMENT FUND
RELIEF LEGISLATION

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise, along with my colleague from Georgia (Rep. JOHN LEWIS) to introduce legislation that would help companies and victims that are struggling with asbestos liability. Distinct and separate from the controversy associated with asbestos liability reform, our tax bill has broad and deep bipartisan support. Approximately 70 of our colleagues have agreed to be original cosponsors of the bill.

The bill provides fairness for victims and defendants alike. Many companies that are paying victims for their injuries cannot deduct these costs because the costs exceed their taxable income and these costs can only be carried back to a limited number of tax years in which their expenses already exceed their income. Many asbestos victims rely on settlement funds for compensation. Those settlement funds are currently taxed at 39.6%, which increases the costs of financing the funds and decreases the amount of money available to victims.

Our bill, would (1) exempt from federal tax settlement funds established for the purpose of paying asbestos victims, and (2) allow companies to carry back deductions for the payment of asbestos claims to the tax years giving rise to the current asbestos liabilities.

Our bill will ensure that all companies that pay asbestos claims are allowed to deduct those costs and that all of the money in asbestos settlement funds will be paid only to asbestos victims.

TRIBUTE TO ANNIE MARTIN
GIBSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Annie Martin Gibson of Summerton, South Carolina, who died at the age of 90 on March 6. Mrs. Gibson and her late husband William were among the principle petitioners in the lawsuit *Briggs v. Elliott*, which became the first of the five lawsuits collectively known as *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*. Those cases began the process of breaking down racial barriers in our nation's public schools.

Annie Gibson's place in history has been often overlooked. She, along with 19 of her peers, were the original signers of the document that started legal action leading to the desegregation of America's schools. Mrs. Gibson was the last surviving petitioner who set the landmark desegregation movement into motion. For decades following the lawsuit, the Gibson family suffered through stress and unrest due to their decision. Mrs. Gibson was fired from her job as a housekeeper at a local hotel.

While many of the petitioners left the Clarendon County area, the Gibsons remained with their four children. With the land they owned they managed to earn a meager living. A family friend said the family never succumbed to the hardships facing them. Mrs. Gibson has been described by friends and family as a quiet, gentle person who refused to allow her children to receive a second rate education. She was one of many unsung heroes during the Civil Rights Movement who should be celebrated and remembered for putting her country before herself.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me today in honoring Annie Martin Gibson for her great work as a Civil Rights Movement trailblazer. Her sacrifices should be remembered and celebrated by this House. Mrs. Annie Martin Gibson will be sorely missed.

TRIBUTE TO BUTLER
MANUFACTURING COMPANY

HON. KAREN McCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in salute to the Butler Manufacturing Company and its 100 years of service and leadership to Greater Kansas City, the United States, and countries abroad. Throughout the last century, Butler Manufacturing has remained steadfast in its commitment to providing quality products and services worldwide. I am proud to recognize their achievements.

Butler Manufacturing Company, founded in 1901 by innovators Emanuel Norquist and Charles Butler is now one of the world's leading providers of commercial and industrial construction services. Their first Butler building, completed in 1910, stood in use in central Kansas City for over 45 years. With the successful introduction of a sturdy two car version

of the garage, Butler Manufacturing was in the building business to stay because the market demand was so great. With the passing of each decade, Butler Manufacturing has remained on the cutting edge of the nonresidential construction market. The 1920s were devoted to determining customers' needs and satisfying those needs with personal service, concepts that worked successfully for Butler's grain bins. In the 1930s, Butler answered the call from the U.S. Department of Agriculture by mass-producing 14,500 galvanized steel grain bins in under 59 days; one day ahead of schedule. By the 1940s, Butler Manufacturing had a complete line of rigid frame buildings ready to market. The 1950s brought about enormous change and growth within the company with the formation of five product divisions; two of which, commercial, industrial and institutional end users, and rural buildings, continue to be the strength of the company today. Marked as a decade of enhancement and expansion, the 1960s ushered in new technologies and advancements such as construction components which allowed for frames with wider, longer, and lower slopes. In the 1970s, Butler extended the long-term value of buildings by making them virtually weathertight and advanced traditional ideas on pre-engineering buildings through such innovations as Multi-Story, Long Span, and the distinct look of Landmark, which all were pioneering steps in the advancement of building systems. The 1980s were a time of acquisitions for Butler as they sought to grow new markets and increase market share in existing businesses. Throughout the 1980s into the mid-1990s, acquisitions were made to expand Butler's architectural and aluminum market presence. Today, Butler Manufacturing has gained multinational recognition and continues to be a leader in business worldwide, including presence in South America, Europe, the Middle East and Asia, while remaining dedicated to the core ideals of excellence and teambuilding, on which the company was founded. These ideals are also responsible for Butler's being named the recipient of the prestigious 2000 Paragon Award by the Human Resource Management Association of Greater Kansas City. Noted for their excellent practices in a broad range of human resource issues, the recognition of Butler's mentoring program highlights a continued commitment to the Greater Kansas City community as well.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join with me today in celebrating Butler Manufacturing Company's 100 years of innovation, customer service, and quality that founded and continues to sustain this company's place as a leader in manufacturing in America and the global community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PERSONAL
INFORMATION PRIVACY ACT

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce legislation, the Personal Information Privacy Act (PIPA), that safeguards consumers' personal privacy by giving them the ability to protect personal information from being bought and sold by third parties.

This bill would restore consumer control over personal information by requiring that a

third party obtain consent from an individual before making commercial use of that person's Social Security number (SSN). In fact, any non-criminal use not explicitly allowed by law would face this restriction, including the growing commercial use of SSNs as personal identifiers by various businesses.

Social Security numbers have become our default identifiers for many businesses, and thereby the key to much of our most personal information. That has to stop. As identity theft and fraud increases, action must be taken to ensure that this personal information remains private.

Under my legislation, refusing to sell services or goods to consumers who choose not to furnish their SSN would be illegal under the Federal Trade Commission Act, and businesses would be liable for up to \$10,000 in fines per violation for committing unfair or deceptive business practices. Credit bureaus would also be prevented from giving out SSNs without a person's consent. PIPA would amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act and the Social Security Act to authorize civil penalties for privacy violations ranging from \$25,000 to \$500,000.

Information on products or services bought by an individual and from where they were purchased—also known as transaction histories—could not be sold or transferred for marketing purposes unless a consumer gives written consent.

We take for granted that our personal information is private. Unfortunately, that's not the case. We must take action to guard access to our personal information because it's not a commodity to be bought or sold. We as consumers should have the final say over how that information can be used, not some marketing firm.

I first introduced PIPA in the 105th Congress, but this version of the bill is slightly different than last session's because two of the bill's components have been enacted into law. As part of the FY 2000 Transportation Appropriations bill, state DMVs are now prohibited from releasing highly restricted personal information without a person's consent. The law now defines SSNs and photographs as "highly personal information" and requires a person's consent for disclosure by DMVs.

This is a great start, but there's a lot more to be done. We must curb the rampant use of SSNs as personal identifiers. This bill is an important step toward more complete personal privacy protection. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

**DEATH OF ROBERT M. TALLON,
FATHER OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE ROBIN TALLON**

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, Members of the House who served with Representative Robin Tallon of South Carolina should know that on January 28, 2001, his father passed away. Robert M. Tallon was 78, and died of a heart attack while doing what he loved, bird hunting in South Carolina.

Bob Tallon was an airborne infantryman in World War II, one of those soldiers of whom

it was said, "uncommon valor was a common virtue." As a staff sergeant in the 82nd Airborne Division, Bob Tallon fought his way from Sicily up the boot of Italy. After waging some of the fiercest fighting of the war in Italy, he parachuted with the 82nd into Holland as part of the bloody operation that Cornelius Ryan immortalized in "A Bridge Too Far," and fought his way from Remagen into the Rhineland.

Bob Tallon came home with his chest full of medals, including Bronze Stars and a Purple Heart. Though worthy of being called a hero, he never thumped his chest or boasted of his valor. He lived his life with the quiet abiding confidence that he had served his country and done his duty.

Though he distinguished himself as a soldier, Bob Tallon's finest accomplishment in life was in marrying Mary Williamson Tallon, a school teacher and a dear woman loved by all who know her. Indeed, anyone who has met Bob and Mary Tallon understands how Robin Tallon got his affable personality and affinity for politics. In addition to Robin, our former colleague, Bob and Mary Tallon had another son, Terry, and a daughter, Cameron.

Bob Tallon returned home from the war to Dillon County, South Carolina, and became President of Tomlinson Stores. He was a mainstay in the Methodist Church and a pillar of the community, involved in every good cause from the Lions Club to the Hospice Society.

Though Bob Tallon lived most of his life within the radius of Dillon, a small town in South Carolina, he lived the kind of life that made this country great. As President Clinton said at Anzio in his own father who also fought in Italy, "They made possible the world we live in."

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM J. HEARIN

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of a great man, William J. "Bill" Hearin. Mr. Hearin passed away Monday, February 19, 2001 at the Mobile Infirmary. He was chairman of the boards of the Mobile Register and Energy South, Inc., the parent company of Mobile Gas Service Corp. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife Emily, his daughter, Ann Bartlett, and to all of his family at this difficult time.

Bill was very active in the community. He rose through the ranks at the Mobile Register becoming co-publisher, then publisher and president, then chairman. He had one of the longest tenures at the top levels of a metro newspaper, and as a result he had a significant and lasting relationship with Mobile. Hearin was involved professionally in the newspaper industry, where he served as president of the Alabama Press Association, director of the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association and as a member of the American Newspaper Publishers Association.

Bill Hearin was a leader in Mobile's social circles, where he served on the reception committees for a few of Mobile's oldest mystic organizations. He also served on the committee for the Camellia Ball. He was named

Mobilian of the Year in 1977, and in 1987 he received an award for Outstanding Civic Leader in the state.

After the death of Ralph B. Chandler, Bill took the reigns of the Chandler Foundation, which later became the Hearin-Chandler Foundation. The foundation distributes more than \$10 million among Mobile charities. Mobile can thank Bill Hearin for so many things.

My heart goes out to Mr. Hearin's family and to all those who grieve his passing. He gave unselfishly to the city he loved. William Hearin was a Mobile icon and a true newspaper man in every sense of the word and his contributions to our community will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO WILSON HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, on April 21–23, 2001, more than 1,200 students from across the United States will be in Washington, D.C. to compete in the national finals of the We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program. I am proud to announce that the class from Wilson High School from my district in Florence will represent the state of South Carolina in this national event. These young scholars have worked diligently to reach the national finals and through their experience have gained profound knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy.

The students are: Lakisha Boston, Lynette Carr, Christine Chen, Rebecca Derrick, Ashunti Drummond, Elizabeth Fortnum, Albert Hayward, Anthony Henderson, Benjamin Ingram, Janny Liu, Christina Moss, Jason Owens, Anna Stewart, Tyler Thomas, and Dheepa Varadarajan. I would also like to recognize their teacher, Yvonne Rhodes, who deserves much of the credit for the success of the class.

We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution is one of the most extensive educational programs in the country specifically developed to educate young people about the Constitution and Bill of Rights. The three-day national competition is modeled after congressional hearings and they consist of oral presentations by the high school students before a panel of judges. The student's testimony is followed by a period of questioning by the simulated congressional committee. The judges probe students for their depth of understanding and ability to apply their constitutional knowledge. The 250th Anniversary of James Madison's birth in 1751 offers an appropriate opportunity to examine this Founder's contribution to American constitutionalism and politics. To this end, the national finals will include questions on Madison and his legacy.

Findings suggest that national finalists are less cynical about politics and public officials and participate in politics at a higher rate than do their peers. Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We the People program has provided curriculum materials at the upper elementary, middle, and high school levels for more than 26.5 million students nationwide. Members of Congress and our staff enhance