

was a key member of the team that successfully attained legislative approval of the so-called 301(h) waiver for the Point Loma waste treatment plant. This action saved literally billions of dollars for the taxpayers of San Diego. Without Dave's technical expertise and political acumen, we would not have been successful in this effort.

Dave's talents were also critical to last year's Congressional approval of the Bajagua project to treat Mexican sewage. Dave helped to develop the innovative public-private partnership that promises to solve a 50-year-old problem plaguing San Diego. We always relied on Dave's "sense of the possible"—both politically and technically—to get over the many obstacles we faced over several years.

Dave is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland where he received a Bachelor of Science degree. He also holds a Masters degree in Civil Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta. He is a registered professional engineer in the Civil Discipline. He has had nearly 30 years of experience in planning, engineering and construction project management and facilities management. Prior to his service with the City of San Diego, he served as a U.S. Navy Civil Engineer Corps officer for 25 years. He retired with the grade of Captain. Dave is a member of the Society of American Military Engineers, the National Society of Professional Engineers and the Navy League of the United States. He is also involved in numerous technical and professional societies in the San Diego area.

The City of San Diego will greatly miss the services of Dave Schlesinger.

IN HONOR OF DAVID C. FORBES,  
SR.

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2001*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Reverend Doctor David C. Forbes, Sr., Senior Minister and Pastor of Christian Faith Baptist Church, on the occasion of his receipt of a doctorate in sociology from the University of Virginia. Doctor Forbes was one of eight children born in Raleigh, North Carolina to a Pentecostal Bishop and a sainted mother. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Shaw University, a Master of Social Work degree from Adelphi University and Doctor of Ministry Degree from United Theological Seminary. He has also been awarded several honorary degrees, including a Doctor of Divinity by the Richmond Virginia Seminary, Doctor of Humane Letters by Shaw University and Doctor of Divinity by Shaw Divinity School.

Doctor Forbes was active in the civil rights movement during the 1960's having served as the North Carolina representative for the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). Doctor Forbes came to the gospel ministry after an extensive career in education, which included teaching at the elementary and university levels. He was also involved in counseling and social program administration. In addition to the ministerial role, he was Assistant Professor and Director of Admission, School of Social Work, Virginia Commonwealth University for some twelve years. From

1979–1984 Dr. Forbes served as Pastor of St. Peter Baptist Church, Glen Allen/Richmond, Virginia; and from 1983–1990 Senior Minister and Pastor of Martin Street Baptist Church, Raleigh, North Carolina. Dr. Forbes currently serves as Consultant to the President and Dean of The Shaw Divinity School.

Doctor Forbes has also volunteered on numerous committees and boards. He currently serves on the Human Services Taskforce of The North Carolina Local Government Partnership Council, the Board of Building Together Ministries, Board of The United Way of Wake County, and the South-East Raleigh Improvement Commission. In addition, he has a number of publications to his credit. In fact, he is in broad demand as an evangelist, church development consultant, workshop facilitator and keynoter.

Dr. Forbes is married to the former Hazel Baldwin of Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina. He is the father of three children, a son, Reverend David C. Forbes, Jr. founder and Pastor of the Columbus Christian Center, Columbus, Ohio, and two daughters, Mrs. Cheryl Forbes Lassiter, a banker in Raleigh, and Denise Colene Forbes, a music teacher in Bronx, New York. Dr. Forbes proudly answers to "Pa Pa" and "Grand Pa" to five grandsons and four granddaughters.

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Doctor David C. Forbes, Sr. has devoted his life to serving his community his church and his people. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today as he is awarded a truly hard-earned honor. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable man.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF PHOENIX  
HOME LIFE MUTUAL INSURANCE  
COMPANY

### HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2001*

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, 1851 was an extraordinary year. Our country was 75 years old and on the brink of Civil War. In the midst of all the chaos, a small group of Hartford, Connecticut's leading businessmen, religious leaders, cultural and civic leaders, applied for a charter for the formation of The American Temperance Life Insurance Company, which would become Phoenix Home Life Mutual Insurance Company.

On Thursday, Phoenix celebrates its 150th anniversary. It has survived the Civil War, Reconstruction, the Great Depression, two World Wars and the societal upheaval of the late 20th century. Phoenix has endured because the company has always met the needs of its policyholders and customers while upholding its standards of integrity, and industry and community leadership.

Phoenix has through the years been a leader in product innovations: it was the first to insure the temperate, the first to lower rates for women (based on actuarial science), the first to offer policies that covered total families, not just individuals, and the first to lower rates for nonsmokers.

Phoenix has been a leader in business practice innovations: Phoenix was the first to require full-time dedicated agents and led the

drive to make the sale of insurance a profession. Phoenix was also the first to develop a publication for its field force and the first company to use direct mail marketing.

Phoenix has been recognized ten times by Working Mother magazine as one of the Top 100 companies for working mothers. It was recognized for its efforts in providing childcare, workplace flexibility, leave for new parents, and advancement of women.

But perhaps most importantly, Phoenix's Chief Executive Officer, Robert W. Fiordella, has proven that the values of community and citizenship made good business sense. Phoenix encourages its employees to volunteer through a policy that allows them to devote 40 hours of company time per year to community activities, provided it is matched by the same amount of personal time. The company also rewards its top 20 professional advisors through its Donor's Award, a program that enables them to designate up to \$2,000 to a local charity. Since its inception, the award has benefited many organizations, including the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, Lou Gehrig Baseball and the Make A Wish Foundation.

Phoenix has spearheaded a \$3 million "Legacy Campaign" to sustain and grow the Doc Hurley Foundation, the creation of Walter J. "Doc" Hurley, who has worked tirelessly for Hartford's youth. Phoenix contributed \$250,000 at the start of the campaign and will contribute another \$250,000 at the end of it. The campaign's endowment will help high school students go on to college through a scholarships and other support, such as help with purchasing books and completing paperwork. Foundation Trustees will help with mentoring and helping to complete necessary paperwork pertaining to college applications.

Student attendance and mastery test scores have improved at Hartford's Fred D. Wish Elementary School as a result of Phoenix's partnership with the school. For 15 years, employees have worked one-on-one with students in grades three through six to sharpen math and language skills. Phoenix provides transportation each week for students to travel to their Hartford office for tutoring.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when some businesses are scaling back their corporate giving programs, Phoenix is sustaining and even enhancing its involvement. In 1995, Phoenix made an eight-year commitment to Special Olympics International as its first Official Worldwide Partner, setting a standard for volunteerism and civic responsibility few companies can match.

Please join me in offering congratulations on their 150th anniversary and in recognition of Phoenix Home Life Mutual Insurance Company.

HONORING ENRON METHANOL  
COMPANY AS INDUSTRY OF THE  
YEAR

### HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2001*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Enron Methanol as the 2001 Industry of the Year by the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce. On May 17, 2001 Pasadena Chamber of Commerce Chairman of the Board Larry C.

Johnson will present this 2001 Industry of the Year Award at the Industrial Luncheon at the First United Methodist Church. Although I will not be able to attend this ceremony because I will be in Washington, D.C. fulfilling my official legislative duties, I want to congratulate all of the employees at the Enron Methanol plant and Plant Manager David Bush for their commitment to community service. Helping your neighbors is a valuable goal which we should all applaud.

As you may know, Enron Methanol is the seventh industry recognized by the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce for the overall positive impact they provide to the area. This Award is presented annually to a local business which has contributed to improving our neighborhoods and community.

Enron Methanol has clearly demonstrated their commitment to our area. This year, Enron Methanol employees have worked cooperatively with many local community groups including the United Way, Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, American Heart Association, Pasadena Police Department, Girls Softball, H.O.S.T. program, Pen Pal Program, Science Fair judges, Pasadena Alumni Association, the Emergency Response Team and East Harris County Manufacturing Association as well as the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce. All of these organizations have benefited from the volunteer labor and financial assistance which Enron Methanol employees provide to local organizations.

The Pasadena Enron plant produces Methanol, which is a colorless liquid used in MTBE, Acetic Acid, Formaldehyde, Fuel, and Windshield washer fluid. This facility is one of the world's most energy efficient methanol plants. They provide sixty jobs locally with an annual payroll of \$3,600,000 and pay \$750,000 in taxes to our area.

Again, I want to congratulate the employees of Enron Methanol and encourage other local business organizations to participate in local volunteer activities to make Pasadena, Texas a better place to live.

FENTON HIGH SCHOOL AND JEFFERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

**HON. HENRY J. HYDE**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2001*

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, each year I present a challenge to the 6th District high school seniors and to the students attending junior high. The challenge is an essay contest I sponsor in which I choose a topic and ask the student to write about it. The work is judged on originality, creativeness, cohesiveness, writing skills, including sentence and paragraph structure, and neatness. The topic for the Seniors this year was "The Necessity of the Electoral College," and for the junior high students, I asked that they write about James Madison.

I am very pleased to share with my colleagues the essays that won first place. In the senior category, the author of the winning entry is Jeremy Hawbaker who lives in Bensenville and attends Fenton High School. The first place winner in the junior high category is Keith Root of Elmhurst who attends Jefferson Middle School. I thoroughly enjoyed

the writing skills of both these young students and am pleased to insert their essays in the RECORD for your enjoyment.

THE NECESSITY OF THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE  
(By Jeremy Hawbaker)

In the wake of a highly controversial election, in which a candidate won with less popular votes but more electoral votes than the other candidate, the question of whether the Electoral College should be abolished or not has come up. Questions then arise around that. What exactly is the purpose, the original purpose, the Founders put it in place for? What would be the advantage of abolishing it in favor of election by purely popular vote? What other method is there?

The purpose of the Electoral College, as the Framers of the Constitution made it, was that with this system, more populated states would not be able to dominate over the less populated states in the presidential elections. This was a compromise made between those who favored power in the states and those who favored the power in the people. This was also a precautionary measure. The Founders created the United States of America as a republic, not a democracy as many would have one believe. They knew when they formed the nation that a democracy could quickly lead to mob rule and eventually tyranny, the farthest thing that they wanted having just fought a war to rid themselves of the tyranny of the British government. In a republic, there would be a government of law that would protect the rights of an individual. As James Madison wrote, many important issues "are too often decided, not according to the rules of justice and the rights of the minor party, but by the superior force of an interested and overbearing majority." In other words, people too often vote the way in which they are misled by politicians who claim to have the people's best interests in mind. Decisions are made by emotion rather than intellect. Instead, in the republic that America is currently, decisions are made by close deliberation. The Founding Fathers also knew their history. They were aware that unlimited power could not be trusted to anyone, including the people. As constitutional scholar Dan Smoot pointed out, "they devised a system to control political power by dispersing it and balancing it so that too much power could not be concentrated in one place." The Electoral College system was also made to protect the people from despots. Once again, from their knowledge of history, the Framers knew that in past democracies in which leaders were chosen by the people alone tyrants had quickly arisen. For example, Caesar, elected by the people with promises of more property, quickly seized power. As Benjamin Franklin put it, "There is scarce a king in a hundred who would not, if he could, follow the example of Pharaoh, get first at the people's money, then all their lands, and then make them and their children servants forever." This has also happened since the Founders. One of the more obvious examples is that of Adolf Hitler who was elected by a democratic election. Hitler, after becoming Chancellor of Germany, rapidly pooled up as much power as possible and abolished the independence of the German states. This was not because this is what the German people wanted. They were unfortunately ignorant of what Hitler truly wanted and instead listened to his promises of security and greatness. Perhaps if such an institution such as the Electoral College existed in Germany this would not have happened. As Fisher Ames, one of America's first congressmen aptly put it, "Every step . . . towards a more complete unmixed democracy is an advance towards destruction; it is treading where the

ground is treacherous and excavated for an explosion. Liberty has never lasted long in a democracy; nor has it ever ended in anything better than despotism."

Many people today feel however that popular vote is a much better way of determining who the next president should be. What are the advantages of this then? Or rather should I say what are the disadvantages? One possible advantage is that by abolishing the electoral College, the election process is simplified. The principle of "one person, one vote" is upheld. However, there are many disadvantages. One problem with this method is that it worsens the problems associated with a two-party system. "Split votes" become a serious problem in that if two candidates divide the vote of those who agree with them, a dissimilar third candidate would receive the plurality of the votes even if the electorate sides more with the pair. A larger problem though is that this would require an amendment, an amendment that would most likely never be able to be passed. An amendment requires three-fourths of the states to support it. In an amendment such as this, most states would lose their influence in presidential politics. Few states would endorse this.

What then is there to do? I suggest retaining the Electoral College but reforming it. Instead of the "winner-takes-all" system that the Electoral College runs under now, electors should instead be chosen by congressional districts, with two electors-at-large for the senators in each state. With this idea, candidates would receive an electoral vote from each district they win. This would much more accurately reflect popular mandate. An advantage of this is that it would not take a Constitutional amendment. States can already do this if they wish, a couple of states already do. In this last election, the results would have been much more simplified as well. Bush won counties with an aggregate population of 143 million, compared to the 127 million that Gore would have won. This system would preserve then the weighting of votes in favor of the less populous states instead of letting the more populous states totally dominate over presidential elections.

To keep our country secure and free then, the Electoral College should by all means stay as part of our government. However, I do believe that the process should be looked at due to the amount of controversy recently surrounding it.

JAMES MADISON, THE FATHER OF THE CONSTITUTION  
(By Keith Root)

James Madison, the president of the United States from 1809-1817, is known today as the Father of the Constitution because of his major role in the Constitutional Convention. His many other accomplishments include serving as Thomas Jefferson's secretary of state from 1801-1809 and sponsoring the Bill of Rights.

James Madison was born on March 16, 1751 in Port Conway, Virginia. He was the son and heir to a wealthy planter. He received a full education, and graduated from the College of New Jersey (which is now Princeton University) in 1771. In 1776, he was elected to the Virginia Convention, a convention that was called to urge independence from Britain. He was elected in 1780 to the Continental Congress, of which he was the youngest member. Despite this potential drawback, he gained much respect and rose to a position of leadership. During his term he worked with Alexander Hamilton (unsuccessfully) to give Congress the power to tax and regulate trade.

Madison was instrumental in persuading Congress to revise the Articles of Confederation (the current constitution at that