

involvement, and through a strong and successful family life. To commemorate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, I would like to briefly highlight the remarkable accomplishments of three distinguished Asian Pacific American civic leaders who represent constituents from California's 27th Congressional District, which I am proud to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives.

John Chiang has shown a deep and genuine commitment to public service as Vice Chair of the California Board of Equalization. Elected as the representative of the Fourth District of the Board of Equalization in 1998, Mr. Chiang has promoted public-private community outreach and taxpayer-education initiatives to better serve his more than 8 million constituents in Los Angeles County. Mr. Chiang organized the first joint Board of Equalization, Franchise Tax Board, and Internal Revenue Service seminar for nonprofit organizations and joined with the Los Angeles County Assessor's Office to hold a tax seminar for religious organizations. He has also organized business and labor forums on fighting tax evasion in the "underground economy" and sponsored state legislative reforms to enhance the California Taxpayers' Bill of Rights. John is the son of Judy Chiang, a generous and committed community volunteer, and Dr. Mutong Thomas Chiang, a thoughtful and dedicated scholar.

Carol Liu has a long-standing record of community leadership, culminating with her election last year as the representative of California's 44th Assembly District. Assemblymember Liu's top priority is to restore California's public education system to be among the very best in the nation. Prior to her election to the State Assembly, Ms. Liu's work in education included serving as a PTA President, President of the Pasadena City College Foundation Board, and Co-Chair of the Pasadena City College capital campaign to fund construction of a new physical education and sports complex. In addition, Liu sits on the Board of Trustees of the U. C. Berkeley Foundation. She also served her community as a civic leader, with her election to the La Canada Flintridge City Council in 1992, reelection in 1996 and her terms as Mayor in 1996 and 1999. Liu has been honored for her contributions to the community with the La Canada Flintridge Educational Foundation Spirit of Outstanding Service Award and the Second Baptist Church Outstanding Service Award. In 1998, when I served as a State Senator in California, I was proud to designate her as the 21st Senatorial District Woman of the Year. Liu is married to Mike Peevey, a businessman and entrepreneur, and they are the proud parents of three grown children, Jed, Maria, and Darcie, and even prouder grandparents of three grandchildren.

Matthew Y.C. Lin, M.D., is the first Asian American elected to serve as a Member of the City Council of the City of San Marino, California. Dr. Lin, a board-certified orthopedic surgeon, has an extensive record of community service. His volunteer activities include leadership positions with the San Marino Schools Foundation, Pasadena Symphony, Chinese Club of San Marino, United Way of the San Gabriel Valley and Luke Christian Medical Mission. He has sought to improve the lives of our children through his service at the West San Gabriel Valley Boys and Girls Club, Asian Youth Center, and by coaching

AYSO soccer and serving as assistant coach for the San Marino High School Judo Club. He has taken part in voluntary medical missions to aid the victims of disasters, responding to the Taiwan earthquake in September 1999 and the earthquake in El Salvador in January 2001. Dr. Lin and his wife, Joy, are the proud parents of four adult children, Jenny, George, Tim and Jerry.

I am proud to recognize the community and civic accomplishments of Councilman Lin, Assemblywoman Liu and Board of Equalization Member Chiang as we celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. They are truly remarkable leaders who through their service to our communities are an inspiration to us all.

AMERICA'S NATIONAL TREE—THE
OAK

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2001

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to introduce legislation recognizing the people's selection of the oak tree as America's national tree. This past Arbor Day, April 27, Members of Congress, Agriculture Secretary Veneman, Interior Secretary Norton, and EPA Administrator Whitman joined the National Arbor Day Foundation in a ceremonial unveiling of a young oak on the Capitol grounds. Selected by the American public over a four-month long open voting process using the Internet (<http://www.arborday.org/NationalTree/ntResults.html>), the oak earned the title of America's Chosen National Tree. To recognize this distinction, I and Mr. GOSS of Florida along with Mr. OSBORNE of Nebraska are introducing legislation today granting the oak official status as America's national tree. The junior Senator from Nebraska, Mr. NELSON, has already introduced companion legislation, S. 811.

As a member of Congress representing a heavily forested district in Virginia, I fully understand and appreciate how trees add to an individual's quality of life. As chairman of the House Agriculture Subcommittee responsible for forestry, I know how trees and forests enhance the environment, add recreational opportunities and provide for the livelihoods of 1.4 million working individuals in the \$262 billion dollar forest industry. Whether one is enjoying the myriad of products generated from a forest, or the simple satisfaction of laying under a shaded giant, trees contribute to all Americans. This is why I am here today and why it is appropriate to recognize the Oak as the National tree chosen by the American public.

I would also like to commend the National Arbor Day Foundation for its use of the Internet as the primary communication tool in this endeavor to name America's National tree. As co-chair of the Congressional Internet Caucus, I applaud the powerful role the Internet played in this historic vote. Not only did this medium make possible easy, broad-based participation in the vote, but it also offered many educational opportunities for those who checked out arborday.org online. Having been a member of the Foundation for 16 years, I am impressed with their work in promoting trees in

our communities across the country, and I am also pleased that they are using the capabilities of the Internet to educate the American public about the proper care and benefits of trees.

Along with other well-known national emblems, the oak is a most fitting selection as America's National tree. The stately oak not only surrounds us here on the Capitol ground, but also is a part of our daily lives as wood products in our homes, our offices and places of gathering. Common to all fifty states, the oak has played a huge role in America's history as a valuable resource. It helped our founding fathers establish a new nation, supplying building materials for the expanding original thirteen colonies. It further greeted pioneers as they traveled across the new republic to the West Coast. And to this day it has remained an enduring, valuable, and highly-prized raw material. Its use as beautifully crafted furniture, sturdy door and window framing, ornate flooring and paneling, all reinforce the sensible selection of the oak. This majestic tree, which has long been a part of our national heritage and strength, fully merits this distinction.

I want to personally thank those who took part in the vote for America's national tree, and I applaud Arbor Day for its dedication to the future for which the oak represents. I look forward to working with my colleagues to designate the oak as America's national tree.

PRINTED CIRCUIT INVESTMENT
ACT OF 2001

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2001

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and join my good friend and colleague, Bob Matsui of California, to introduce the Printed Circuit Investment Act of 2001. This simple and straightforward bill allows manufacturers of printed wiring boards and printed wiring assemblies, known as the electronic interconnect industry, to depreciate their production equipment in three years rather than the five years in current law. Printed wiring boards are those ubiquitous little green boards loaded with tiny wires and microchips that are the nerve centers of electronic items from television sets to computers to mobile phones and electronic organizers.

The interconnecting industry, like so much of the electronics industry, has changed dramatically in just the last decade. This industry, which has \$44 billion in annual sales, was once dominated by large companies. Now it consists overwhelmingly of small firms. The rapid pace of technological advancement today makes interconnecting manufacturing equipment obsolete in 18 to 36 months. This makes the interconnecting industry very capital intensive. In fact, capital expenditures last year totaled more than \$3 billion and continue to grow.

The depreciation rules found in the tax code have not kept pace with the realities of this dynamic market. The industry currently relies on tax law passed in the 1980s, that was based on 1970s era electronics technology. US competitors in Asia, however, enjoy much more favorable tax treatment as well as direct government subsidies,