

for the strength of their commitment to their family and to each other and in wishing them many future years of happiness.

TRIBUTE TO CYRUS M. "RUSS"
JOLLIVETTE

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2001

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has dedicated himself to the advancement of higher education and public service, Cyrus M. Jollivette, who is affectionately known as "Russ."

For 24 years, Russ Jollivette has compiled a remarkable record of achievement as the representative of the University of Miami, not only in these halls and in this city, but throughout Florida and the nation. He has announced his decision to leave the University now in further pursuit of his many interests. He leaves at the same time that the University's beloved president, Edward T. Foote, retires after 20 years at this institution. They leave together, two very extraordinary men whose mutual trust, skill, hard work and vision have left a permanent mark on the University and our entire community.

Russ is long-time personal friend and one of the finest men that I know. He has had a remarkable impact on improving the lives of students at U of M and creating new opportunities for dozens of talented students and researchers in fields like biomedical research, international education and development and marine sciences. Through Russ' efforts, the University has secured almost \$200 million in federal support for cutting-edge education, training and research objectives. He has worked with me on minority health and education issues, cancer, diabetes and marine research and environmental science issues. His abilities as a problem-solver are legendary. There are very few University representatives who have Russ Jollivette's professionalism, knowledge, commitment judgment and persuasive ability, or who can match his success.

But his achievements do not begin or end with his service to the University. He is a special leader in the world of higher education and public service, and a leader in the African-American community. He understands the meaning of friendship in the truest sense. He comes from a prominent S. Florida family with a long history in our

Russ Jollivette's name is synonymous with academic service and excellence. He holds a Masters in Business Administration and a law degree. At the University of Miami, he served for more than two decades as Vice President for Government Relations, as the Secretary of the University, as Director of Public Affairs, Director of the Foundation and Corporate Relations, and, for many years, as the Executive Assistant to the President. In recognition of this service to the University, Russ was just awarded the 2001 Alumnus of the Year Award. Standing ovations at that ceremony and at meetings of the University's Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees reflect the depth of feeling and respect for him throughout the University.

In Florida, Russ Jollivette's reputation for public service and civic activities go well be-

yond U of M. Russ helped to shape the Florida Education as its Board Chairman and a Director—a fund dedicated to the advancement of African-American students with special promise to seek advanced degrees in many fields. He has served as a Chairman and Trustee for the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) and as a Chairman and Trustee of the Public Health Trust of Miami-Dade County. He serves as Board Member and Secretary-Treasurer of the Miami Coalition for a Safe and Drug-Free Community and a member of the Orange Bowl Committee. He was a Board member of The Dade County Foundation and We Will Rebuild coalition following the devastation of Hurricane Andrew. The list goes on and on.

Mr. Speaker, the University of Miami; the Florida Congressional Delegation and the Congress; the world of higher education and countless young lives have been well-served by Russ Jollivette. I know my colleagues join me in thanking him and wishing him well. We can hardly wait to see what he will accomplish next.

MILITARY PAY

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2001

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to restore a small measure of balance to the way military retired pay is handled during a divorce.

Under the Uniformed Services Former Spouses Protection Act, courts were given the authority to divide military retirement pay as property. This has resulted in certain injustices to many divorced military retirees. Chief among them is the fact that former spouses continue to receive a share of the retired pay even after one or more re-marriages—unlike other federal agency pensions, such as those of the CIA and Foreign Service, which terminate after a spouse remarries. Moreover, since there is no limitation on when former spouses can seek a division of retired pay, some former spouses seek this action many years after the divorce.

My bill has four principal components addressing problems created by the original legislation. First, it would terminate payments made as a division of property from retired pay upon remarriage of the former spouse. Second, it would require computation of the former spouse's portion of retired pay based on the servicemember's rank and year of military service at the time of divorce, not at the time of retirement. Third, it would limit the period of time after divorce in which a former spouse may seek a division of retired pay. Fourth, it would protect any veterans' disability compensation from division with the former spouse, which was originally intended, but has either been circumvented or ignored.

I urge my colleagues to join me in seeking equity for military retirees by cosponsoring this bill.

MEMORIAL DAY IS A DAY TO
REMEMBER THE SACRIFICE

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2001

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, Memorial Day was established in 1868 to pay tribute to individuals who have made the ultimate sacrifice to the United States and their families. The men and women of the armed services of today and yesterday took an oath to uphold and protect the constitution against all enemies foreign and domestic. Those who served in the Army, Air Force, Navy, Coast Guard, and Marine Corps have been willing to lay their lives on the line to keep this greatest nation on the earth free. We must never forget the importance of this oath and this sacrifice.

Last year, when Public Law No. 106-579 was signed into law, we reaffirmed the importance of remembering and renewing the legacy of Memorial Day. We as a nation need to reclaim memorial Day as the sacred and noble event the day was intended to be. We can do this by taking greater strides to domestic appreciation for those loyal people of the United States whose values, represented by their sacrifices, are critical to the future of the United States. As a Government, we have a responsibility to raise awareness of and respect for the national heritage, and to encourage citizens to dedicate themselves to the values and principles for which those heroes of the United States died.

As part of this reaffirmation, Congress and the President called on the people of the United States to pause at 3:00 p.m. on Memorial Day to observe a National Moment of Remembrance. By doing so we honor the men and women of the United States who died in the pursuit of freedom and peace.

Memorial weekend has become the signal in this country that summer has begun. In Indianapolis this weekend we have the great Indy 500 race and festivities. It is a great weekend for Hoosiers. I hope that each American as we go about our holiday weekend will at the very least remember to take that moment on Monday and pause at 3:00 p.m. for a moment of remembrance through prayer, quiet reflection, or meditation.

We have been blessed this week to have a great media focus on the heroes of our armed services. Last Sunday night the James Keach Movie, "Submerged" aired on network television. This movie portrayed the heroics of the submariners of our early Navy and told the true story of raising a submarine and saving many of its crew. This Friday the movie "Pearl Harbor" will premier in theaters across the nation. I am pleased that these artists have used their talents and efforts to share with the world the stories that are such a vital component of our nation's history.

I am also pleased that we are preparing a sixty-year remembrance event at Pearl Harbor. We are fortunate in the 107th Congress to have heroes among us. The following are members of the House and Senate who served in the armed services during World War II. From the House of Representatives: CASS BALLENGER, JOHN D. DINGELL, BENJAMIN A. GILMAN, RALPH M. HALL, AMO HOUGHTON, HENRY J. HYDE, JOE MOAKLEY, RALPH REGULA, Norman Sisisky, JOE SKEEN, and BOB STUMP.

From the Senate: DANIEL K. AKAKA, JESSE HELMS, ERNEST F. HOLLINGS, DANIEL K. INOUE, TED STEVENS, STROM THURMOND, and JOHN WARNER.

As we go about remembering those who died in service, I hope we will also remember those who are still with us. Each month over 38,000 World War II veterans die. Our veterans are our nation's heroes. Whether a Private or a General, combat veteran who served on the front lines, a nurse in a MASH unit, or the quartermaster who was stateside during war—our veterans deserve to be remembered and honored by our country and by each of us. We need to make sure every eligible veteran who goes to a Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital or clinic for medical care is treated with compassion and respect and gets good medical care. We also need to make sure that we do a better job with those whose conditions mean their care is palliative and not curative.

During a Government Reform Committee hearing in October 1999, we learned that the VA had an initiative to improve their hospice programs. We heard from such experts as Dr. Ira Byock and Dr. Judith Salerno as well as Dannion Brinkley who founded Compassion in Action—a non-profit foundation that trains hospice volunteers to serve in VA hospitals. I am pleased that in four short years this organization has been able to train 4,000 hospice volunteers who last year provided 27,000 hours of service to veterans.

Americans who volunteer through Compassion in Action, the American Legion, the Paralyzed Veterans Association, and the many other volunteer service organizations at the VA are also our heroes. Many of these volunteers are veterans as well and continue to serve their country as brigades of volunteers without whom our VA hospitals could not function. I am pleased that our President is continuing the legacy of the Thousand Points of Light by rejuvenating the call to volunteerism and compassion through service.

NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2001

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this is National Safe Boating Week. In the year 2000, over 72 million Americans participated in recreational boating activities. However, between 700 and 800 Americans will be killed in recreational boating accidents this year.

It will take a continued effort by State Boating Law Administrators, Manufacturers, boating safety educators, and the many other organizations involved in boating to decrease the number of Americans killed every year on our waterways.

Today, I would like to ask the cellular telephone industry in the United States to join this effort by designating “*CG” as the emergency response number that boaters can use in an emergency to make free calls to the nearest Coast Guard unit.

Over the past decade, more and more Americans are carrying cellular telephones wherever they are—including on their boat. I am pleased to recognize that companies such as Verizon and Alltel wireless allow many of

their customers to call the Coast Guard using *CG. However, the use of *CG is not universal. For example, in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, *CG will reach the Coast Guard if you are using a Verizon phone. However, if you happen to be using a Sprint Cellular phone you reach a recording that says “invalid code entered”; on Cellular One and Nextel you get “call cannot be completed as dialed.” Even within a singular cellular telephone company, designation of *CG for emergency communications is not universal. For example, Verizon has *CG connections in Seattle and Massachusetts, but not in Norfolk, Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, when a boater is in distress they need to be able to reach the local Coast Guard unit as soon as possible. They may not have a VHF radio on board and the only way to reach the Coast Guard is by using their cellular telephone. Time is of the essence, and they can't wait to go through the operator to reach the nearest Coast Guard unit.

Today I would like to call on the U.S. cellular phone industry to designate *CG as the nationwide phone number for boaters to reach the Coast Guard during emergencies using cell phones and to ask them to program their networks to route these calls to the nearest appropriate Coast Guard facility. They too can join the coalition of people in the United States striving to save boaters lives.

The Coast Guard has a template agreement that they have been successfully implemented around the country. Once all of these companies are on board, we can initiate a boating safety campaign to educate the boating public about the universal access to *CG during emergencies.

Please help us save lives by establishing a national *CG system.

Mr. Speaker, I submit for the record an article about Verizon Wireless use of *CG in the Seattle area.

VERIZON WIRELESS LINKS BOATERS TO COAST GUARD

DON'T CAST OFF WITHOUT YOUR WIRELESS PHONE

SEATTLE, May 2 /PRNewswire/—With the official arrival of a new boating season on May 5, Verizon Wireless reminds boaters that it offers its customers a direct connection to the U.S. or Canadian Coast Guard by dialing *CG (*24) from their Verizon Wireless phone. There is no access fee to use *CG. Airtime is deducted from customers' calling plan bundle.

“While VHF-FM maritime channel 16 should be used as the primary means for reporting an emergency,” said Kelly DeLaney, Verizon Wireless regional president, “our extensive marine coverage gives boaters another reliable means of communication while on the water that increases convenience and enhances safety and security. Boaters can use *CG to get help if there is an emergency, or to pass along information about a navigational hazard that could endanger boats.”

Just as wireless users are encouraged to exercise caution when driving and dialing onshore, boaters should keep safety in mind when navigating and dialing.

To recognize National Safe Boating Week, May 19 through May 25, Verizon Wireless asks all boaters to think “safety,” by following these tips:

Safe boating is your first priority. Make sure your phone is positioned where it is easy to see and reach.

Use the speed dialing features on your phone to program frequently called numbers.

Let your wireless network's voice mail pick up your calls when you're unable to answer the phone. If you're heading into a navigational hazard, it's easy to retrieve your messages later.

Use your wireless phone to notify those on shore of your whereabouts and destination.

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) to close the achievement gap with accountability, flexibility, and choice, so that no child is left behind:

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, as the father of two young children in the public school system, I have a vested interest in supporting any measures that will further strengthen the current system. Ensuring that our children have access to every educational opportunity necessary to achieve is my top priority in Congress.

The provisions contained in H.R. 1 will give states and local school districts the flexibility and decision-making authority they need to address the individual needs of their students and teachers. Paperwork mandates and regulations force states and local school districts to sacrifice student achievement in order to comply with bureaucracy; thus, taking time away from teaching. Giving state and local officials additional flexibility helps them tailor programs to more closely meet students' unique needs and priorities—whether it be through additional focus on teacher training and professional development or additional funding for technology needs or class size reduction. I firmly believe that local school districts, not Washington, know best what the needs of our children are and although the federal government can and should play an important role in our education system, it should not be the guiding force.

In Michigan and throughout the country, an alarming number of children enter school without the language and literacy foundation necessary to succeed in school. Many children are incapable of deciphering that letters make up words and that words carry meaning. This problem spans all socioeconomic backgrounds and leads to children entering school behind their classmates before they even get started. Therefore, I am extremely pleased by the enormous step forward H.R. 1 takes toward focusing on effective, proven methods of reading instruction and triples federal literacy funding from the present \$300 million to \$900 million in 2002. Furthermore, this legislation authorizes \$5 billion over the next five years on reading programs for children between kindergarten and third grade.

At a time when our economy is slowing and we are facing fiscal restraint here in Washington, our commitment to funding education has never been stronger. H.R. 1 provides for a \$4.6 billion increase, which represents an eight percent increase over current year funding for K-12 programs. This is funding that is primarily directed toward the economically disadvantaged. While dollars alone are not the