

to the people of Tennessee and to wish him good luck representing the State of Tennessee at the National Auctioneer Association meeting.

Allen Ramsey exemplifies the best of our great state. He works hard and gives his all to everything he does. Like many native Tennesseans, Allen grew up on a farm, and has become a farmer himself. In addition to raising cattle and tobacco on his farm, Allen has become a very accomplished auctioneer.

Last December, Allen Ramsey was recognized as the "Tennessee Grand Champion Auctioneer." He competed against seventeen other entries and was among five finalists before winning the coveted title of "Tennessee Grand Champion Auctioneer."

Mr. Speaker, next week, Allen will represent Tennessee at the National Auctioneer Association meeting in Boise, Idaho. I congratulate Allen on being named "Tennessee Grand Champion" and wish him the best of luck when he travels to Boise to represent our great state.

COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE
DEVOLUTION ACT OF 2001

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2001

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Commercial Driver's License Devolution Act of 2001." This legislation will give states the option to establish their own commercial driver's license (CDL) requirements for intrastate drivers.

As many in this House already know, I have always been a strong advocate for taking power out of Washington and returning it to the states. I do not believe that our traditional, one-size-fits-all approach to governing is effective, efficient or economical for the American taxpayer.

The legislation which I propose today would return power to the states by giving states the option (and I emphasize option) to license intrastate drivers of commercial motor vehicles based upon testing standards determined by the individual states. As you know, the Com-

mercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986 (CMVSA) required states to establish a new and uniform program of testing and licensure for all operators of commercial vehicles both intra- and interstate. The principal objectives of this Act have been met and would not be harmed by this legislation.

The CMVSA is good law, and its provisions were necessary and timely for improving standards of performance for long-haul truck drivers. The CMVSA, however, was also imposed upon intrastate commerce where the operation of trucks may be a small but necessary part of an individual's job. We imposed our will on thousands of small businesses not involved in long-haul trucking and somehow expected them to adjust to any circumstance that might arise. Under these conditions, I believe it should be within a state's discretion to determine what kind of commercial vehicle licensure and testing is required for commerce solely within its borders.

I again want to emphasize that it would be entirely up to each state whether it chooses to reassume authority over licensing and testing of intrastate drivers. A state that chooses to exercise this option would in no way diminish the role of the CDL in the long-haul trucking industry. Additionally, this legislation effectively precludes two or more states from using this option as the basis for an interstate compact. I am confident that those states taking advantage of this option will develop testing standards that maintain the same level of safety offered by the federal program. After all, the primary mission of all state DOTs is to ensure the safety of those travelling on their roads.

This legislation is extremely important to our nation's small businesses, and I urge the House to adopt this measure.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF FUJIFILM TO THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2001

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Fujifilm for recently receiving the Smithsonian Institution's 2001 Corporate

Leadership Award for its role as lead sponsor of Mei Xiang and Tian Tian, the new giant panda pair at the Smithsonian's National Zoo. The award recognizes the gift made on behalf of Fujifilm's 8,000 U.S. associates at 47 separate facilities.

Additionally, I would like to commend Fujifilm for the significant contribution that organization has made to the Smithsonian's National Zoo in donating \$7.8 million, the largest donation in the Zoo's distinguished history. Fujifilm's generous gift and lead sponsorship of the project to bring a new giant panda pair to the Zoo and to construct the Fujifilm Giant Panda Conservation Habitat which will serve as the new, permanent home for the pandas.

Mei Xiang and Tian Tian have quickly become national treasures. Their arrival at the Zoo, as well as the extensive giant panda education and research activities, initiated through their sponsorship, have been beneficial to the visiting public. Fujifilm hopes that its involvement will create a gateway that will help people better understand the broader issues of species conservation worldwide. Additionally, many items from Fujifilm's wide range of state-of-the-art imaging, data storage and information products will be used by Zoo researchers as they conduct their projects in the study of the giant pandas.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in lauding the outstanding corporate citizenship of Fujifilm and its leadership in conservation efforts. Additionally, I would hope that the members of this body will join me in thanking Fujifilm's 8,000 U.S. associates for their valuable gift to the National Zoo, its visitors, and its researchers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK R. KENNEDY

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2001

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 211, 212 and 213 I was unavoidably detained by airline delays.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on each rollcall.