

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF JUKE VAN OSS

HON. PETER HOEKSTRA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Juke Van Oss. Juke has been involved in West Michigan radio for 50 years, but August 12 does not just mark the anniversary of his involvement in radio—it also serves as a reminder of over 50 years of community involvement in areas that extend far beyond the airwaves. Juke's service has ranged from the Saugutuck School Board and Village Council, including three years as Mayor, to a position as President of the Chamber of Commerce and a seat on the Region 8 Criminal Justice Planning Council.

Juke got his start in radio during World War II. Shortly after being transferred out of Air Force radio school to the infantry, he was sent to Luzon where he was given 50 pounds of radio equipment to carry around the Pacific theater. After discharge Juke remained involved in radio, earning his Ham license and applying to be an engineer at WHTC 1450 AM. On August 10, 1951 he got his First Class license in Chicago, and his career began two days later.

Juke's big break came one morning when the host didn't arrive on time. He spent an hour on the air, the people loved him, and when the morning slot opened up he had a new job. Juke tried a number of different shows and formats, and it was 40 years ago that he settled into something that suited his amiable nature: He began hosting "Talk of the Town," the mid-morning show that made him famous.

Over 50 year Juke has entertained more listeners than can be numbered, and he has seen many people come and go. He has worked with folks who went on to their own successful careers in radio and television, and he has worked through changes in listeners, changes in topics, changes in partners, changes in formats, and changes in technology. Through it all Juke Van Oss has remained the constant.

THE SKIP ENTERTAINMENT
COMPANY

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this occasion to commend the SKIP Entertainment Company. The group was originally formed in 1982 as a project of Children's Productions known as Sunshine Kids In Production (SKIP). Based on Guam and comprised of local talent, this group has entertained as well as brought tremendous honors to the island. Under the direction of Lee and Teri Knapp and instructors, Chad Knapp, Tina

D'Amato, Brian Thomas and Glenn Packard, members of SKIP recently won awards at the 2001 Showstopper National Dance Finals in San Antonio, Texas.

During the five-day competition, a panel of five judges reviewed over seven hundred dance routines. The five highest scoring entries in the junior division, comprised of kids age 12 and under, as well as the five highest scoring entries in the senior division, comprised of kids age 13 and over, were guaranteed slots to perform at the 2001 Showstopper Television Special.

SKIP's rendition of "Robot," choreographed by Dee Casparly, was performed before a packed house at the San Antonio Auditorium and earned the group the 2001 Showstopper National Junior Championship. Dancers on this routine comprised of Brian Aflague, Deena Agnon, Ryan Brasuel, Chloe Kernaghan, Maho Kogure, Shiina Kuniyoshi, Danielle Leon Guerrero, Ali McCully, Dorian Nelson, Giana Pangelinan, Mariesa Quitugua, Ryan Ruiz, Lauren Santos, Tawyna Unsiog and Patrick Wolff.

"Quiet," choreographed for the senior company by former SKIP dancer Michael Lomeka, was also one of the top five acts in their division selected for the television special. The senior company members include Janelle Cruz, Thomas Cruz, Stacy Eustaquio, Tony Francisco, Janet Hetzel, Claressa Johnston, Nicloe King, Mia McCully, Beatrix Poh, Cora Rivera, Tracy Sablan, and Tawnee Unsiog.

In addition to the national championship title won by the junior company, SKIP won a number of other awards. The SKIP performance of "Kansas City" received the highest score for all dancers under age 9. Dancers include Ashley Arizala, Brian Esperon, Alyssa Mariano, Shayana Mariano, Anjenette Pineda, Tammy Ramirez, DeMario Scimio, Taylor Toves, Tara Unsiog, Teesha Unsiog, Regine Vida, and Kristine Vo. SKIP members also won the Senior Large Group Championship, Senior Line Second Place, Junior Large Group Third Place, and Junior Small Group Third Place.

Having had the chance to view the performances of these kids, I can attest to the fact that these kids are outstanding artists and entertainers who have worked hard to deserve the honors bestowed upon them. Through their exceptional talents and notable achievements, the SKIP kids have brought recognition upon themselves and the island of Guam.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I would like to commend everyone who played a part in the success of the SKIP kids. I wish them continued success and the best in their future undertakings.

HONORING DR. TIMOTHY M.
STEARNS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Timothy M. Stearns for his

innovative work in the field of education. He has been active in various areas of education, including teaching, researching, launching new programs, and journal editing.

Dr. Stearns received his Bachelor's degree in Sociology from San Jose State University. He went on to obtain his Master's in Business Administration and his Doctorate in Management and Sociology, both from Indiana University. Dr. Stearns has been a member of the Management faculty at the University of Wisconsin, Madison and Marquette University.

Dr. Stearns serves on the editorial board of three academic journals, and is the author of more than 50 research articles and presentations. Dr. Stearns has lectured on entrepreneurship, strategic planning, and corporate re-engineering to executives in various countries, including Poland, Japan, and the People's Republic of China. In 1996, Professor Stearns founded the Institute for Developing Entrepreneurial Action (IDEA). IDEA works with students and local entrepreneurs to help move their dreams toward reality.

Dr. Stearns is currently the Coleman Foundation Endowed Chair in Entrepreneurial Studies at the Craig School of Business at California State University, Fresno. In addition, Dr. Stearns is directing the development of the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship on the CSUF campus. The Center will house a creativity lab, a technology transfer center, a venture capital fund, and curriculum for undergraduate and graduate students.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Timothy M. Stearns for his dedication to education. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. Stearns many more years of continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO GERTIE COLE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and salute Ms. Gertie Cole of Watsonville, California. Ms. Cole is my constituent, and last month she was awarded one of five national Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis Awards for volunteer service to the community. As many of my colleagues, friends, and constituents know, community service is something that I strongly believe in, and it is with pride that I honor Ms. Cole here in the United States Congress.

Ms. Cole received the Regional Jefferson Award earlier this year from the American Institute of Public Service. She and the other recipients of this award came from all over the United States to the International Trade Center in Washington, D.C. to attend the 2001 National Jefferson Awards Gala Dinner, held on June 12, 2001. Of the many regional honorees, only five were chosen to receive the Onassis Award, and I am thrilled that Ms. Cole was among them. This award is designed to

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

recognize a few of the countless individuals across the country who are performing extraordinary public services in their local communities. Some are paid; others are volunteers; most are unrecognized.

Mr. Speaker, I join with Ms. Cole's family and friends in congratulating her on this occasion. She is an example to those in her community and across the nation, and I am proud to be able to pay tribute to her here.

HONORING A GREAT AMERICAN—
SHERIFF CORDELL WAINWRIGHT

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pleasure to honor a great American. Sheriff Cordell Wainwright, after 20 years of service to the state of Georgia and, more specifically, Brantley County, has decided to retire.

When Sheriff Wainwright was first elected in 1971, he was the youngest ever elected to that position in Georgia history. His hard work and dedication to law enforcement have gone unmatched since that day. Throughout the next 30 years, Sheriff Wainwright brought in more drug arrests than anyone in Brantley County history, including the county's largest single drug bust. In fact, it was his information and assistance that led to neighboring Glynn County's largest single drug bust as well.

As extensive as his law enforcement record is, Sheriff Wainwright's greatest achievements may not have come about in the field. Many believe his greatest legacy came through his work in the classrooms and churches of our communities. He started a Junior Deputy Program in the schools that taught students the dangers of drug use. This program is still going on today and continues to work at a more cost efficient rate than Georgia's D.A.R.E. program, while achieving better results.

Sheriff Cordell Wainwright has been nominated for and won many awards throughout his career, including the Brantley County Citizen of the Year. Many people owe their lives to him and our streets are safer because of him. He is a true American hero.

May God Bless him in his future endeavors. He certainly blessed us when He sent Sheriff Wainwright to us.

HONORING TRACEE EVANS

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, August 3, 2001, one of Houston's prized reporters will be recognized for her top notch work by the Association for Women in Communications and the 2001 Clarion Awards at the Renaissance Harborplace Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland. Ms. Tracee Evans, of KTRH radio in Houston, Texas, will be awarded this prestigious award for her documentary on the struggle in Kosovo.

The Association for Women in Communications is a professional organization which

champions the advancement of women across all communication disciplines by recognizing excellence and promoting leadership. The Clarion Awards is a renowned competition recognizing excellence in many fields of communications. One Clarion Award is given in each field of communications to an exemplary entry and it is judged on quality, substance, style, originality and achievement of the objective.

Ms. Tracee Evans' hard work and creativity distinguish her in the field of Communications. Her documentary on Kosovo is just one example of the many creative and insightful pieces she has created. Her ingenuity serves as a guide for future generations of communication professionals and more notably, her personal accomplishments serve as a model for women wishing to follow in her path.

Mr. Speaker, I join the Association for Women in Communications, the Clarion Awards, Ms. Evans' family, and her colleagues at KTRH in applauding Ms. Evans' diligence in the field of Communications and I look forward to sharing in her future work.

THE 77TH INFANTRY DIVISION OF
THE UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I had mentioned in an earlier speech that Guam, each year, sets aside the twenty-first of July as a day to commemorate the landing of the Third Marine Division on the shores of Asan and the First Marine Provisional Brigade, supported by the 77th Infantry of the U.S. Army, in Agat. Over the years, the U.S. Marines, due to the massive casualties they suffered in this campaign have taken the center stage in our commemorations and celebrations. Today, I would like to expound on the contributions of the United States Army—particularly the 77th Infantry Division, towards liberating the people of Guam from their captors fifty-seven years ago.

The 77th Division was first organized on August 25, 1917. A unit comprised of twenty thousand men, it was composed of men from all walks of life. Among these men were first generation immigrants who, upon finding freedom on American soil, accepted the noble duty of protecting it. The 77th was the first Army division to reach France in World War I—gaining fame in the Meuse Argonne Offensive.

Deactivated in May 1919, the division was reactivated for World War II in the spring of 1942. Taking less than 40 days to assemble, the 77th trained for more than a year before being tasked to play a major part in the Pacific theater of the war. The oldest U.S. Army infantry unit at the time, the 77th made their initial landing on Guam.

Touching ground on the southern part of the island on July 21, 1944, the 77th, along with the Marines, pushed north through thickly mined roads, subjected to heavy artillery fire. Roughly, two weeks later, the end to the fighting was virtually at hand. By August 8, the last Japanese stronghold on the island, Mount Santa Rosa, was captured by the 77th Division. This marked the end of organized resistance on the island. By August 10, the official

conclusion of the Guam campaign was declared.

This, however, did not put an end to the fighting. Soldiers, sailors and Marines were to spend many more weeks clearing the jungles and mountains of Guam of resisting stragglers. The 77th would eventually spend May and June of 1945 on the front lines in Okinawa, often engaged in hand-to-hand combat. The final tally on Guam by August 10, 1944, came to 7,800 casualties, of whom 2,124 were killed in action or died of wounds. Of this total, the Army accounted for 839, the Navy for 245, and the Marines for 6,716.

Every year since World War II, the liberation of Guam is commemorated as a time of solemn contemplation and remembrance. It was a highly noble struggle of Americans liberating a captive people who happened to be fellow Americans. This serves as a reminder of the spirit of freedom and democracy and the high cost paid to maintain it. The people of Guam are eternally grateful for the contributions of their fellow Americans in the liberation of Guam. As liberators fifty-seven years ago, they deemed that no sacrifice was too great. The people of Guam now consider that no act was too small to merit their undying appreciation and affection. Those who aided in the island's liberation after years of brutal captivity are equally held in the highest esteem. On behalf of a grateful people, I express my sincerest thanks. Si Yu'os Ma'ase'.

HONORING SAM TOLEDO

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sam Toledo for his contributions to the local restaurant industry and his success as a restaurateur. Sam has three Mexican restaurants that are operated in Fresno, California.

At the age of fourteen, Sam came from Guanajuato, Mexico hoping to find work so he could help his parents financially. He began working as a farm laborer, then was hired as a dishwasher at a local restaurant. This was Sam's first job in the restaurant industry. Within two years he worked his way from dishwasher to bussing tables to assistant cook.

Sam married at the age of 18 and continued working in the restaurant industry. He worked at various restaurants as a cook, server, bartender, and head chef. A few years later Sam helped a friend open a Mexican restaurant. He put his industry knowledge to work by helping his friend open the restaurant and serving as general manager of the new establishment. That restaurant chain now has three restaurants in Fresno and one in Oakhurst, CA.

After working as general manager of all four restaurants over ten years, Sam was ready to open his own business. Mr. Toledo started with an empty building, prepared the restaurant by himself and billed all expenses to his line of credit. After eight months of hard work, Sam opened the first Toledo's Mexican Restaurant on September 5, 1991. In February of 1995, Sam opened the second Toledo's Mexican Restaurant and three months later opened the third. Mr. Toledo used his experience in the restaurant industry to help

three of his nephews open their own businesses. Toledo's Mexican Restaurants remain successful in the Fresno community.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Sam Toledo for his contributions to the local business community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Toledo many more years of continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO HENRY J. MELLO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Henry J. Mello, a native of Watsonville, California. Mr. Mello has worked for many years as a public servant and he has made significant contributions to the Central Coast of California.

Mr. Mello was born on March 24, 1923, and studied at Hartnell College in Salinas. Working with his father, Mr. Mello established a farming business in 1940. He founded the Mello Packing Company and later, the Central Industrial Sales Company.

In the mid-1950's, Mr. Mello became active in many local charitable and nonprofit organizations. He became more deeply involved in public service in 1966 when he was elected to the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors, on which he served until 1974. Two years later, Mr. Mello was elected to the California State Assembly. During his tenure lasting two terms, Mr. Mello was Chairman of the Committee on Aging and also an influential member of the Ways and Means Committee. In 1980, Mr. Mello was elected to the State Senate, where he served on the Senate Rules Committee and was elected Majority Whip. He retired from the California State Senate in December 1996.

Some of Mr. Mello's greatest contributions have been to the environment and educational community of the Central Coast. He played an integral role in the creation of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. He worked to preserve open spaces and develop the agriculture industry on the Central Coast. Mr. Mello was also instrumental in the founding of the University of California, Santa Cruz. He recently donated his extensive personal papers to the Regional History Project of the university's library, which will allow others the opportunity to learn from his work.

Mr. Mello's public service has improved the quality of life on the Central Coast and in the state of California. He has made great contributions to his family, friends, and neighbors, and his lifelong dedication to public service is commendable. It is a pleasure to express my appreciation of his effort and accomplishments.

HONORING THE SAVANNAH
DIAMOND DAWGS

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor and pleasure to rise today on be-

half of a competitive and outstanding baseball team of exceptional young men. On Saturday July 21, 2001 at Al Rollins Park in Dalton Georgia, the Savannah Diamond Dawgs 10 and under baseball team closed out the post season and took home the machine pitch baseball state championship. I would like to join in and be a part in celebrating their victory.

The Diamond Dawgs under the leadership of coaches David Elliott, Bruce Powell and Kirk Miles, over a three-day stretch defeated Whitefield Co. 14-1, North Hall Co. 10-7, St. Simons Island 7-3, and North Hall Co. 6-2.

Congratulations on a job well done to the players of the Diamond Dawgs Andrew Drough, Thomas Carter, Travis Jaudon, Jamel Miles, David Elliott, Corey Jaudon, Matt Kuhn, Matthew Lee, Jimmy Blakewood, John Coker, Evan Powell, and Ryan Westen.

This team is firm in the principles of teamwork, commitment, and excellence. We all could learn from their example and the best of luck to the defending champions throughout the course of next season.

HONORING THE GRAND OPENING
OF THE EMERY/WEINER SCHOOL

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition the all new Emery-Weiner School in southwest Houston. This \$14 million educational facility combines the 23 year old I. Weiner Jewish Secondary School and the brand new Emery High School to form the Emery-Weiner School. This expansion combines the quality education offered at the I. Weiner Jewish Secondary School with the cutting edge facility of the new campus.

This fall as homerooms fill for the first time at the Emery-Weiner School students will benefit from the formation of these two institutions. The state-of-the-art facilities at the new campus will include art and music rooms, as well as a theater, emphasizing the important role the arts play in education. The campus also houses a multi-court gymnasium, cultural arts facility, computer and science labs. The twelve acres in southwest Houston on which the campus sits is surrounded by several more acres of accessible playing fields. The campus will provide tremendous opportunities to students.

On Thursday, September 20, 2001, the Emery-Weiner School will celebrate the opening of this new campus with a special event honoring two of its many benefactors, Mr. Joe Kaplan and Mr. Joe Komfeld. The proceeds from this celebration will benefit the "Joe Fund," a fund appropriately named for these two founding fathers. Mr. Kaplan and Mr. Komfeld contributed countless hours to seeing this project come to fruition. Their selfless offerings make them role models for the students who will benefit from their efforts.

The "Joe Fund" was created to bolster teacher enhancement programs and projects. It will be used to purchase materials to provide teachers the necessary means to incorporate creativity and ingenuity into their everyday classroom. I applaud the leadership of the countless teachers and volunteers who con-

tributed to the erection of this new campus and recognize the commitment of these individuals to providing opportunities through education to our young people.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the many people who contributed to the construction of the Emery-Weiner School, and I look forward to seeing the many ways in which the innovative voice of this institution will help to educate and shape the minds of Houstonians. There is no doubt, this school will soon serve as a model for other schools across the nation.

GUAM NATIONAL GUARD

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, on July 21, 1981, thirty-two residents of Guam were sworn in as members of the Guam National Guard giving birth to the nation's newest and westernmost National Guard unit. As the Guam National Guard celebrates its 20th anniversary, we celebrate its accomplishments and recognize its roots and traditions as part of the oldest component of the Armed Forces and one of the longest enduring American institutions.

The National Guard has a distinct and honored place in American history. Tracing its roots to the formation of the Militia of the Massachusetts Bay Colony in October 7, 1636, its men and women have served in every conflict involving the United States. On Guam, citizen soldiers date back to the first military organization on island first organized in 1771 by the Spanish colonial governor. Within the next two hundred years a number of succeeding militias were organized and later disbanded.

However, it is of note that, prior to the Japanese occupation of Guam during World War II, the defense of the island fell upon the shoulders of a handful of Marines, several sailors, the Guam ancillary guard and Guam militia which consisted of civilian reserve forces. The insular force, a locally-manned militia, were the ones who faced the Japanese invasion force. Although easily overwhelmed, it is ironic that the only ones who put up a defense against the invaders were citizen soldiers—members of the Guam insular guard who had set up some machine gun nests in defense of the Plaza de Espana and at the Governor's offices.

On December 4, 1980, President Jimmy Carter signed into law P.L. 96-600, officially authorizing the establishment of the Guam National Guard. Deriving honor and traditions from the citizen soldiers who came before them, the thirty-two charter members of the Guam National Guard together have made possible the development of the world-class organization for which we now take pride.

Under the leadership of Generals Robert Neitz, Frank Torres, Simon Krevitzky, Edward Perez, Edward Duenas, Colonels Ramon Sudo and Robert Cockey and the current adjutant general, Benny Paulino, the Guam National Guard has been able to develop as a world class organization. Comprised of the Guam Army National Guard and the Guam Air National Guard, this institution has now grown to over 1,000 members performing missions for the federal and territorial governments. In

addition to periodic deployments in support of military activities all over the world, the Guam National Guard has been instrumental in recovery efforts on island in the aftermath of emergencies and natural disasters. They have also made tremendous contributions towards mentoring and the development of the island's youth and they have also assisted the local community in its campaign against illegal drugs.

On this, their 20th anniversary, I would like to commend the men and women of the Guam National Guard for their contributions towards the security of our nation and the well being of our island. I would also like to submit for the RECORD the names of the Guam National Guard's 32 charter members who, twenty years ago continued the traditions of their forebears and paved the way for today's men and women on the Guam National Guard.

GUAM NATIONAL GUARD CHARTER MEMBERS
AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Brig. Gen. Robert H. Neitz; TSgt George R. Quichocho; SSgt Raymond L. Taimanglo; SrA Juan G. San Nicolas; SrA Alfred Flores; SrA George C. Pablo; SrA Carlos E. Umayam; A1C Prudencio F. Meno

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

CPT Arthur W. Meilicke; 2LT Molly A. Benavente; 2LT Michael G. Martinez; CW2 Charles Guantlett; W01 Charles W. Walters; SSG Roland M. Chargualaf; SSG Benjamin B. Garrido; SSG Ladislao C. Quintanilla; SSG Carlos R. Untalan; SGT Edward R. Blas; SGT Charles F. Moore; SGT Joseph J. Sablan; SGT Thomas R. Wolford; SP4 Dedia T. Kellum; SP4 Raymond C. Benavente; SP4 Ricardo Camacho; SP4 Lorenzo M. Manibusan; SP4 James E. Thurman; PFC Raymond P. Cruz; PFC David G. Rodriguez; PFC Jesse R. Camacho; PV1 Marceline I. Castro; PV1 Marcie T. Paulino; PV1 Jeffrey I. Santos

CONTRIBUTION OF HMONG/LAO
VETERANS

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute and honor the important work of Hmong and Lao-Americans in my district in Pennsylvania for their efforts on behalf of their community in Reading and their former homeland of Laos. Many of them are veterans, or the family members of veterans, who served with the United States military and clandestine forces during the Vietnam War, and who have now become proud U.S. citizens.

As new Americans, the Hmong and Lao people from Reading, and other parts of Pennsylvania, are still very concerned about their suffering families and friends still being oppressed by the one-party Communist regime in Laos. Many of my constituents recently traveled from Pennsylvania to Capitol Hill to participate in the U.S. Congressional forum on Laos. At the forum, they offered testimony and evidence regarding human rights abuses in Laos, including: religious persecution against Christians and Buddhists; the oppression of ethnic minorities; and the crackdown against

peaceful student demonstrators. The Lao Veterans of America helped to make this effort a success by raising awareness in Congress about the ongoing problems in Laos. Important community leaders that have participated include Mr. Tong Vue, Mr. Nhia Pao Vue, Reverend Song Chai Hang, Long Yang, and others. I am also very grateful to Mr. Philip Smith for his work in Washington, D.C. and the U.S. Congress with regard to Laos and Southeast Asia, and with the Asian American community in my district.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to represent the Hmong and Lao-American citizens in my Congressional district, including the veterans and their refugee families, who were staunch allies of the United States during the Vietnam War. It is important for us to recognize and commend them. It is also important not to forget their relatives and friends who continue to suffer terrible human rights abuses in Laos as a result of their devotion to the cause of freedom and democracy.

To the Hmong and Lao-American community, and the Lao Veterans of America, I salute you and thank you for your commitment to the principles of freedom, democracy, and human rights. I appreciate the productive role that you are playing in our community as patriotic new Americans and good citizens.

RADNOR TOWNSHIP CELEBRATES
CENTENNIAL YEAR

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to offer congratulations to Radnor Township in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, which is celebrating its centennial this year.

Founded in 1682 by 40 Quakers from Radnorshire, Wales, Radnor Township is a thriving community with a rich history. The land that is now Radnor was purchased as a 5,000-acre parcel from William Penn at a cost of one British pound per 50-acre lot. Prior to settlement by the Welsh, the Lenni Lenape Indians made their home here.

By 1717, the Welsh Friends society began to establish a government in the township. They erected a meetinghouse on a former Conestoga Indian trail, now known as Conestoga Road. The meetinghouse served as the center of the population of the Township for the next 200 years, with Radnorville growing rapidly around it.

The power of Darby and Ithan creeks helped the settlers establish tanneries, gristmills, and sawmills, and allowed them to clear nearby fields for farming. Land that is now preserved as open space at The Willows was once the Township's busiest commercial area.

Thanks to its fortuitous location between Lancaster and Philadelphia, Radnor quickly became a favorite passageway for travelers. At one time, four inns operated in the town. One of these inns, the Sorrel Horse, is believed to have accommodated General Lafayette and George Washington during the encampment at Valley Forge. Today, this is the location of the Agnes Irwin Lower School.

The development of America's first toll road in 1794, Lancaster Turnpike, brought more development and traffic to the town. Additional traffic to the township came when the Columbia (later Pennsylvania) Railroad laid tracks through the township in 1832.

In 1842, the Brothers of the Order of Hermits of St. Augustine established the Catholic College of St. Thomas of Villanova on one of the first great estates in Radnor. Today, Villanova University is a valued neighbor in the community, and just one of several well-known and respected educational institutions located within the township.

The history of the village of Wayne began in 1865 when banker J. Henry Askin bought a 300-acre parcel along the railroad. He named this parcel Louella, for two of his daughters, and built a mansion, a Presbyterian Church, Lyceum Hall, and an avenue (Bloomingdale) of mansard-roofed villas on this property.

In the 1880's, Louella changed hands and was renamed Anthony Wayne after a local Revolutionary War figure. Wayne became one of the country's first suburban communities to be served by a central heating system, a public water supply, sewers, and electricity. The development of such a high-quality public works system led the township's population to double to 3,800 between 1880 and 1890.

By the early 1900's Radnor Township Commissioners knew that the township needed a more elaborate governmental structure. On March 12, 1901, they elected to adopt the status of a First Class Township. This new form of government provided representation to both the suburban villages of Wayne, Rosemont, and Bryn Mawr, as well as the more pastoral districts of Villanova, Newtown Square, St. David's, and Radnor.

Today, Radnor Township is a culturally, ethnically, and economically diverse community. With its status as one of the best places to live in the Philadelphia region and continued high standard of living and education, Radnor Township is a community that residents can be proud to call home.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Radnor Township during its centennial year as the citizens of Radnor begin an exciting new century.

GENGHIS KHAN FURNITURE

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, in 1971, Robert and Anna Kao came to Guam upon Anna's recruitment to work as the Sales Manager for the furniture store at Andersen Air Force Base. Shortly thereafter, the couple opened their own furniture store, Genghis Khan Furniture.

The business grew steadily and over thirty years become the leading provider of fine furniture to the residents and businesses of the

island. Based on their success on Guam, Genghis Khan Furniture has been able to branch out. They now have stores in San Diego and San Marcos, California, in addition to a location in mainland China.

Robert and Anna credit their success to their hard work and perseverance. However, they admit that they would not have been able to accomplish this feat without the invaluable support of those close to them. Their children, Michael and Heidi, provided them inspiration and drive to succeed while loyal employees such as their interior design consultant, Sylvia Flores, and their sales manager, Hsui Pi Perez, insured the success of the business that they started.

Despite the rigors and stress involved in running a business, Robert and Anna still managed to become actively involved in community affairs. A member of the masonic fraternity, Robert was also a former president of the Chinese Association of Guam. As a charter member of the Federation of Asian Peoples of Guam, he served as the association's first president. While serving as president of the Confucian Society of Guam in 1997, Robert was instrumental in lobbying the Guam Legislature to designate September 28, Confucius' birthday, as "Teacher's Appreciation Day." In addition, he was also appointed by the Republic of China Overseas Chinese Affairs Commission to serve as the Overseas Chinese Affairs Commissioner on Guam—a position he held for several years. Due to his prominent standing within the community, he was able to coordinate numerous cultural exchanges between Taiwan, China, and Guam.

Anna has also served as a director for several local nonprofit organizations. She currently serves as Vice-President for the Chinese Merchants Association. In addition, she also sits on the Board of Directors for Sanctuary, Incorporated, a local nonprofit organization assisting Guam's youth.

For the past three decades, Genghis Khan Furniture has been at the forefront of providing top quality furniture on Guam. Its founders, Robert and Anna Kao, have been distinguished and productive members of our community. On behalf of the people of Guam, I offer my congratulations to the Kaos and to the employees of Genghis Khan Furniture on their 30th anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE PENN

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, this week, the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Social Security bids farewell to George Penn. George, a detailee from the Social Security Administration's Office of Inspector General, has served the Subcommittee with distinction as a Professional Staff member since March of last year.

George brought a wealth of new experience to the Subcommittee, having served over 4 years as Senior Attorney for the Office of the General Counsel to the Inspector General. Before then, George served 6 years as a Senior Attorney for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation/Resolution Trust Corporation, 2 years with the Department of the Interior as an attorney, and many years in general private practice.

With George's expertise the Subcommittee was better able to tackle one of the fastest growing crimes in America—identity theft. With the rise of the internet age, our Subcommittee has had to deal with a threat to the integrity of the Social Security number as we have never seen before. Supported by George's skill and leadership, the Subcommittee has held numerous hearings on Social Security number privacy and identity theft. Last year, his efforts culminated in the Ways and Means markup of the "Social Security Number Privacy and Identity Theft Prevention Act of 2000." With George's help, 1, along with a number of my Ways and Means colleagues, have held another hearing and have introduced similar legislation this year. George's commitment to excellence, masterful negotiating skills, and steadfast adherence to our key principles for this legislation, have helped to ensure a fair and comprehensive approach to protecting the privacy of Social Security numbers and preventing identity theft.

In addition, George has worked on a number of hearings and resulting legislation aimed at improving the integrity of Social Security programs. George's vast knowledge of the law, superior analytical skills, and attention to detail have helped focus the Subcommittee's oversight efforts on those Social Security Administration's stewardship efforts most needing improvement.

Agency detailees sometimes find the politically charged atmosphere of Capitol Hill overwhelming. But George jumped right into the fray and proved to have an excellent political mind. In addition, using his train commute to good end, George graciously presented the Subcommittee staff with Godiva chocolates on a regular basis. Needless to say, he will be a hard act to follow in many regards.

Americans owe a debt of gratitude to George Penn. His professionalism, integrity, and commitment to improving government's service to the citizens of this country have greatly assisted the Subcommittee and the full Committee on Ways and Means. My heartfelt thanks and best wishes to George Penn.

DIRECTING FERC TO ORDER REFUNDS FOR ELECTRICITY OVERCHARGES

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I am joined by many of my California colleagues in introducing legislation directing FERC to order refunds to consumers in the Western States of California, Oregon and Washington who have been charged excessive electric energy rates.

This bill is necessary because we were blocked yesterday from offering it as an amendment to H.R. 4, the energy bill.

As our colleagues know, on several occasions, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has found electricity rates charged in the Western States to be "unjust and unreasonable." Under the Federal Power Act, such a finding should result in refunds to consumers but, as of today, not a penny has been paid.

To be sure, there is a difference of view on how much should be refunded. While the

State claims \$8.9 billion, even the Administrative Law Judge tasked by FERC several weeks ago to investigate concluded that upwards of a billion dollars was owed.

Now is the time to finally resolve this issue.

The bill my colleagues and I are sponsoring will require FERC to accelerate the process of refunding electricity overcharges.

It is consistent with the Federal Power Act, although many of us would have liked the bill to do more. In particular, if FERC had acted promptly when the first evidence of gouging surfaced, FERC could have ordered refunds for the period May to October 2000, when electricity rates rose dramatically and evidence of overcharges first surfaced. The Federal Power Act and concern about "takings" prevents FERC and us from including that period, although we hope there may be an equitable way to do so.

Many of us also believe that all sellers of electricity engaged in price gouging should be ordered to make refunds. Last week, for example, FERC exerted jurisdiction over municipal power entities, although many legal experts are dubious about the authority to do so. Again, without amending the Federal Power Act, we are unable to include them, though if we could, there would be an ex post facto concern about recouping for a past period.

Lastly, the process FERC announced last week will still not result in refunds for many months. FERC is again engaged in a process of investigate-and-delay. Consumers need relief now.

We strongly believe FERC should act promptly, using one of two methodologies in the bill that are fair and likely to result in a quick determination. In fact, one of the methodologies was advocated by Republicans on the Commerce Committee.

Consumers in California, Washington and Oregon deserve a prompt resolution of this issue. Billions of dollars have been siphoned from home and business budgets. Those dollars should be returned and returned promptly.

This bill does that and we urge our colleagues in supporting its passage.

BILL TO FIX ISO/AMT PROBLEM INTRODUCED

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing with Mr. DAVIS of Virginia, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. WELLER and several of our colleagues, legislation to alleviate the problem of the unfair tax imposed by the alternative minimum tax on many of our constituents who exercised incentive stock options last year. The bill represents a temporary patch for the tax year 2000.

I have advocated repeal of the alternative minimum tax (AMT) for some years now. It no longer serves the function for which it was designed. The AMT was intended to make very high income individuals who heavily invested in tax shelters, pay some minimum amount of tax each year. However, the 1986 Tax Reform Act repealed most of these tax shelters, leaving the AMT with little impact on taxpayers until recently. Since the AMT is not adjusted for inflation while the regular tax base is, the

AMT now increasingly hits families with large numbers of children, taxpayers in higher tax states, users of the education tax credits, and, in the case of incentive stock options, the unwary.

Incentive stock options are a preference item for purposes of the alternative minimum tax. That means that you include for purposes of calculating the AMT the difference between the price you pay for a share of stock, and the value of the stock at time of exercise. For example, if you exercised an incentive stock option for \$10 a share, and the stock was valued at \$100 a share, you must include the difference—\$90 a share—for purposes of calculating the AMT in the year you bought the stock. Unfortunately, most people have never heard of the AMT, or believe it applied to only high income individuals, and never took this into account in their decision making. If the stock increases in value, then you can pay the taxes you owe. But if your stock crashes in value, you still owe the same amount of tax. Last year, the stock of some people sank so low that they could sell all their stock and still not raise the amount they need to pay the tax they owe. People have complained about taking out a second mortgage on their home, emptying out their pension plans or education funds for their children, and selling all their other assets, just to pay the tax they owe on stock that has lost much of its value.

What makes this situation our responsibility is that Congress told these people to hold onto their shares of stock. Congress provides in the regular tax base an incentive to hold their stock—a lower capital gains tax rate if they hold their shares for at least a year. So, on the one hand, Congress tells them to keep their stock, and gives them a backhanded slap by means of the AMT when they listen to us.

The bill we are introducing fixes this problem for last year. The bill states that, in effect, that you can recalculate your AMT tax preference using the difference between the amount you pay for a share of stock, and its value on April 15, 2001. Using the example above, if the value of your share fell from \$100 on date of exercise to \$30 on April 15, 2001, your tax preference would be \$20 per share (instead of \$90). Under this proposal, the more you have been hurt by the fall in the value of your stock, the more relief you get. For those who had their stock rise, this bill would not impact them at all.

Some may argue that the bill is retroactive. This, however, has never been a high hurdle for a pro-taxpayer provision. In fact, this week's energy bill contains a retroactive tax provision, as did the Bush tax cut signed into law June 7, 2001.

Others may argue that these individuals simply made a bad investment decision. A bad investment decision does not rest on a tax trap set by Congress, and masked by an outdated and hopelessly complex "second" tax system. Without the AMT, these individuals would simply have lost the value of their stock when it declined, as would any other investor. No one is talking about restoring any value to that stock, and "bailing" these people out. Individuals who exercised incentive stock options are actually much worse off than those who simply made a bad investment decision, because these individuals lose the value of their stock and get to pay the AMT tax on that lost value as well.

This bill costs \$1.3 billion over five years according to the Joint Tax Committee. It is bipar-

tisan, and has Members from across the nation as original cosponsors. Senator LIEBERMAN is introducing a companion bill in the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, this tax bill needs to be enacted this year, so that affected taxpayers can file for relief this year. We are working to attach this legislation to any tax bill that moves forward this fall.

POSTAGE STAMP SERIES
ENTITLED "E PLURIBUS UNUM"

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I have the distinct privilege of introducing a resolution that honors the United States of America and all the jurisdictions which comprise it through the issuance of a postage stamp series entitled "E Pluribus Unum."

"E Pluribus Unum" is a Latin phrase that may sound familiar to many of us. In English, it means "out of many, one," and it was selected to appear on our coins and dollar bills because it references the unification of the original thirteen colonies into one nation. Today, the United States of America encompasses 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the territories of Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. As the first year of the millennium draws to a close, it is timely and appropriate that we celebrate these distinct states and territories that unite to form our country, the land of the free.

While we go about our daily routines, it is easy to forget that our great country extends past mountains, rivers, valleys, and even oceans. While our children might recognize the stars and stripes of our national banner and their state or territory flag, it is highly unlikely that they are familiar with the varying flags and emblems of the individual states and territories. Stamps depicting state and territorial flags, or other suitable emblems, are creative and highly enjoyable mediums through which we may impart knowledge to our children regarding the diversity of our great nation.

Stamps are issued every year by the United States Postal Service, with the help of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee has 15 members whose backgrounds cover an extensive range of educational, artistic, historical and professional expertise. The Advisory Committee receives a myriad of letters, postcards and resolutions each year proposing ideas for stamps. The Advisory Committee studies the merits of these ideas and makes recommendations to the United States Postal Service, who has the final authority to issue stamps.

Although this resolution cannot require the United States Postal Service to issue the stamp series, it is important for the U.S. Congress to express support for this legislation and consider its possibilities. Not only will this series serve to showcase our flags, seals, or emblems, which are works of pride and art, but we can expect the series to generate profits for the United States Postal Service, just as the 50 States Commemorative Coin Program

Act has done for the Treasury Department. Barring an increase in the cost of stamps, all Americans, particularly our youth, will be introduced to the diversity of our nation at minimal expense by purchasing the whole set of these 56 colorful stamps, for usage or for keepsakes, for under \$20. Because each flag or emblem has a history behind it, these stamps can ignite interest in and awareness of our country's rich diversity and our united commitment to national ideals of freedom, justice, and democracy.

For these reasons and more, I urge support for this resolution, which encourages the Citizen Stamp Advisory Committee to recommend to the Postmaster General the issuance of a postage stamp series that honors the United States of America.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE GOVERNOR
JOAN FINNEY OF KANSAS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to former Governor Joan Finney of Kansas, who passed away on July 28th in her hometown of Topeka.

Governor Finney was an extraordinary woman, a pioneer, a populist, and my friend.

Governor Finney served the people of Kansas for sixteen years as our elected State Treasurer and then was elected as the first woman Governor of Kansas, defeating her two predecessors in that office while on her way to achieving that goal.

Joan Marie McEnroy Finney was born on February 12, 1925. Her father abandoned her pregnant mother and two older sisters in 1924, and her mother raised the three girls by teaching piano, voice and harp. Governor Finney herself was an accomplished musician and often played her harp at political and social events. She graduated from Manhattan High School in 1942 and earned a bachelor's degree in economic history from Washburn University in Topeka in 1978. Her political career began in 1953 when U.S. Senator Frank Carlson of Kansas hired her as a secretary in his Washington, D.C., office. She returned to Topeka where she worked for Carlson until he retired in 1969; in the following year Finney was appointed Shawnee County Election Commissioner, where she served until 1972.

In 1972, Finney sought the Republican nomination for U.S. Congress in the Second District of Kansas. Two years later, she switched parties and was elected State Treasurer as a Democrat, winning re-election three times. I first got to know her when we were both statewide candidates on the Kansas ballot in 1986; I lost and she won. I know from firsthand experience on the campaign trail with her that she possessed an amazing ability to remember names and personal details about virtually every Kansan she encountered.

In a recent interview with the Topeka Capital-Journal, former Kansas Democratic Party Chairman Jim Parrish noted that Finney had switched parties because of the way the Republican Party in Kansas had treated her:

She was told generally by the party that, "We're not ready for a woman." . . . I remember her telling me she counselled with Frank Carlson before she did it, and then

proceeded to make the change. I go all the way back to the 1974 treasurer's campaign with Joan Finney, and there's not a stronger, more determined woman in all of Kansas political life, ever. And among women I would say she stands tall in terms of being able to set her sights on an objective and go for it in a world where, when she started, it wasn't particularly easy for women.

The Kansas City Star had it right recently, when they wrote:

People credited Finney's success to her campaign style, kidding that she had crossed every creek in Kansas. And she was the master one-on-one politician, grasping a voter's hand in both of hers. She saw herself as a populist who listened to everybody.

The Associated Press quoted Republican State Senator David Adkins of Leawood, Kansas, as saying,

You had to see Joan Finney work a bean feed to understand her appeal. She would walk in and she already knew half the people there, and the other half, before she left they would think she was their best friend.

Her good friend, Kansas Senate Democratic Leader Anthony Hensley hit the nail on the head when he said,

She literally went door-to-door all of her political career. She'd walk in the parades, speak at the chili suppers, campaign in bowling alleys and grocery stores, just picking up bits and pieces from the people.

In 1991, the Kickapoo Tribe of Kansas gave her the name White Morning Star Woman after she became the first governor to issue an official proclamation to recognize the sovereignty of American Indian tribes. The state's four tribes and Indian leaders nationwide admired Governor Finney for supporting tribal efforts to open casinos on reservations as an income source for them and for being sympathetic to their efforts to assert their sovereignty.

As Governor, she appointed women to an unprecedented number of top jobs in state government. On average, at least half of her cabinet members were women, and her staff of advisors was almost exclusively female. As Kansas Insurance Commissioner Kathleen Sebelius recently commented,

I don't think there's any question that Joan Finney was one of the most remarkable politicians I've ever known. She changed the face of politics in this state and made it possible for women like me to be seriously considered for statewide office. She pushed women along every step of the way.... She has an impressive place in American history and an incredible place in Kansas history.

During her four years as Governor, the state rewrote its law for distributing money to public schools, revised its abortion law, overhauled its workers' compensation system, re-enacted a capital punishment law, and signed four compacts that allowed Indian tribes in northeast Kansas to open casinos. Legislators rejected her proposals to amend the state constitution to provide for public initiatives and referendums. Finney also took credit for opening international markets to dozens of Kansas businesses due to a series of international trade missions she undertook.

Most importantly, though, Joan Finney will be remembered as a true populist leader in the finest sense of the word. As she said to the Topeka Capital-Journal shortly before her election as Governor:

I believe the people should be supreme in all things. Even if I don't agree and the ma-

majority want a certain issue and believe in a certain issue, I accept that and I will stand by the people.

Governor Finney was a genuine Kansas pioneer, particularly for women in public life. She truly loved people and the people of Kansas loved and respected her. As Commissioner Sebelius noted,

She had the heart of a true Kansan—someone with strong values, ideals and pride. We should all be so lucky to live like that.

We may never see another leader in our state with her determination, self-confidence and independent spirit, and that truly is our loss.

Governor Joan Finney is survived by her husband, Spencer Finney, and their three children, Sally Finney, Dick Finney, and Mary Holaday. I join with them in mourning the loss of this unique, incredible woman.

HOMELESS VETERANS ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2001

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing the "Homeless Veterans Assistance Act of 2001." I intend to have hearings on this measure in September and to ask the House to consider it shortly thereafter.

This is a great Nation, Mr. Speaker, and Fortune smiles on us in this country in so many ways. But tragically, a few are left behind, and a large number of America's veterans are counted among them. Currently, we believe that some 225,000 veterans are homeless on a given night. For these veterans, access to VA benefits, specialized services and effective outreach are vital components to any hope of individual stability and improvement in their prospects.

It is important to create and maintain programs that give veterans the opportunity to become self-sufficient, and to concentrate our resources on programs that work. We know this is not an immediate process but instead constitutes a long-term challenge and struggle for many, both for those who are homeless and those who are trying to help. Also, I believe that some of our government's homeless assistance programs ought to stress prevention as an integral part of any strategy to help homeless veterans. This bill I am introducing, the Homeless Veterans Assistance Act, incorporates a number of these goals.

Mr. Speaker, it is difficult to pinpoint any one cause of homelessness among veterans. Many problems and difficulties could be traceable to an individual's experience in military service, exposure to combat, or return to a seemingly uncaring civilian society. In fact, we know that a majority of homeless veterans today suffer from serious mental illness, including post-traumatic stress disorder, and illegal substance use often complicates their situations. Many have served time in jail. These individual conditions have far-reaching effects on veterans and their families.

A veteran with an impaired mental state may lose the ability to maintain stable employment. Absent employment, it eventually becomes difficult to maintain any type of permanent housing. The vicious cycle only acceler-

ates once employment and housing are lost. The absence of these two important anchors to society is a precursor for increased utilization of medical resources in emergency rooms, VA and other public hospitals and, unfortunately, the resources of America's courtrooms, jails and prisons.

A full platter of medical services may be available to veterans through VA medical facilities, but without better coordination within and across Federal programs relief is only temporary, because veterans once released from VA health care frequently are exposed to the same challenges that created these conditions in the first place. This is why prevention and accountability are two important priorities of my bill. We need to find new ways to prevent veterans from spiraling down to homelessness, but to be responsible we should also provide for them and their caregivers a sense of accountability. And we should not expect veterans to complete this arduous journey alone.

This bill will hold accountable the three federal departments most directly involved in homeless assistance for veterans: Veterans' Affairs, Labor, and Housing and Urban Development. These agencies need to help homeless veterans make a transition to self-reliance; my bill urges them, and in some cases requires them, to cooperate more fully to address the problem of homelessness among veterans.

The bill improves and expands VA's homeless grant and per diem program. Recipients of these funds are contributing substantially to the fulfillment of this bill's objective: to reduce homelessness and provide for the specialty needs of homeless veterans. The initiative I am introducing authorizes higher funding for the program. It also provides a new mechanism for setting the per diem payment so that it will be adjusted regularly. Finally, it eliminates some of the intricate accounting procedures associated with the receipt of the payment.

It is important that any investment produced at taxpayers' expense to help homeless veterans must do the job for which it is intended, or those funds should be returned to the government and put to better use. The existing law requires grant recipients to submit plans, specifications, and specific timetables for implementation of their programs. If the grant recipients cannot meet these obligations, the United States should be entitled to recover the total of unused amounts provided in the grant. My bill would thus bring greater accountability to VA's program to help homeless veterans.

Working is the key to helping homeless veterans rejoin American society, but this is a process that begins with quality medical care and other supportive services including counseling and transitional housing. The Department of Labor's Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program was designed to put homeless veterans back into the labor force. The Secretary of Labor has the authority to determine appropriate job training, counseling, and placement services to aid the transition of homeless veterans back into the labor force.

This bill makes support services available to veterans in need. As homeless veterans begin to make a transition back into the labor force the respective departments must make available essential services to help these veterans. For example, the bill urges the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs to increase contracts with

community agencies for representative payee services to help some of these homeless veterans manage their own personal funds and thereby avoid poor choices some of them have made that lead to personal catastrophe. The entity acting as a representative on the veteran's behalf can work with care providers of the Veterans' Health Administration and other parties to a veteran's reintegration to ensure that government funds are used appropriately to help the veteran be reestablished in society.

As I indicated, prevention of homelessness among veterans is an important objective of this bill. This should certainly include veterans transitioning from institutional settings who are at risk for homelessness. As I indicated and as we well know, many homeless veterans have been in jail or in prison. I believe we need to consider making provision for the particular services incarcerated veterans need, and begin providing them before they are released from these institutions into society. The bill includes a demonstration program to test the prevention hypothesis within the institutionalized veteran population, at 6 demonstration sites, one of which will be a Bureau of Prisons facility. The purpose of this program is to provide incarcerated veterans with information, referral and counseling with respect to job training and placement, housing, health care, and other needs determined necessary to assist the veteran in the transition from institutional living to civil life.

Also, Mr. Speaker, some programs with very high success rates have been growing on their own, basically without government intervention. One such program that comes to mind is the "Oxford House" concept. In this model, a group of recovering alcoholics determined to stay sober band together to rent a residential property. Oxford House, Inc., provides earnest money deposits, and the rest is up to the individuals to govern their own lives and run their own homes. This program has been highly effective, and now there are over 800 Oxford Houses nationwide. The bill authorizes a small demonstration project to provide housing assistance to veterans in group houses with similar goals of self-governance. This bill authorizes the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs to make grants up to \$5,000 for the purpose of subsidizing housing for veterans who present this need. Elements of the Department of Veterans' Affairs recently have helped sponsor 20 such houses. My bill will provide for 50 more in fiscal year 2003 and an additional 50 houses in fiscal year 2004. This is a model worth exploring.

Mr. Speaker, these are the highlights of my bill, the "Homeless Veterans Assistance Act of 2001." I believe the bill will accomplish very important goals. It will provide needed assistance to homeless veterans, lift them to a sustainable level that will prevent them from returning to a state of homelessness, and help them to become self-sufficient individuals who are accountable for their own actions. This bill will also hold all grant and contract recipients accountable for performing their promised services in exchange for government investments, and promote a greater opportunity to work across departments to provide the best possible service for our Nation's homeless veterans. It also sponsors innovative approaches at prevention of homelessness in high-risk groups within the veteran population.

These are good purposes on which I believe we can all agree, Mr. Speaker, so I am very

pleased to offer this bill to the House. On behalf of homeless veterans who need these services, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM E. LEONARD, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION LEADER

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege for me to bring to your attention the great life and great works of William E. Leonard. Bill is an old friend and one of the true community leaders of San Bernardino County. He will culminate a 30-year career guiding California's transportation system with the opening next month of what is probably the state's last major freeway: The Foothill Freeway.

The life blood of any community that hopes to succeed and grow are leaders who will step forward and commit their energy, time and personal resources to the goals of that community. Over the years, San Bernardino County has had relatively few leaders who have had the vision to see how the entire region might work together, and the courage to push that vision toward success.

Bill Leonard has been right at the point of able responsible leadership for all of San Bernardino County. For most of my three decades in public life, I have worked with Bill Leonard to improve the economy and quality of life for the residents of the Inland Empire. Although he never sought elected office, Mr. Leonard has been one of the region's—indeed the entire state's—most influential leaders on transportation.

After rising to the rank of First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army in 1946, Mr. Leonard joined his father at the Leonard Realty and Building Company in his hometown San Bernardino. He was active in many construction projects throughout the area, and soon began his public service career as a member of the state Athletic Commission in 1956.

San Bernardino County had already established a statewide reputation for powerful highway planners. Local leaders like publisher James Guthrie and grocer Milton Sage, who served on the California Highway Commission, helped set the standard that allowed the state to create one of the best road systems in the nation. William Leonard carried on that tradition as a member of the state highway commission from 1973 to 1977, and on its successor, the California Transportation Commission, from 1985 to 1993. He was chairman of that commission in 1990-91. He is still a member of the HighSpeed Rail Authority.

Mr. Speaker, we know that a strong family life is the most important factor in a person's success in life. Bill and Bobbi Leonard created a family environment that emphasized a commitment to personal integrity and public service, and this is evident in the lives of their children. Daughter Christene is an elementary school teacher in San Bernardino; son Fred retired after a distinguished 20-year career in the U.S. Air Force. And William Leonard Jr. has been a highly-respected member of the California Assembly and State Senate for the

past 23 years, serving as minority leader in both chambers and providing another generation of strong community leadership for the Inland Empire.

Bill Leonard has shown his commitment to action in many ways: He is a board member of the National Orange Show and many hospital, university and community groups. He has received a number of prestigious awards. But he will soon be recognized for his greatest contribution—to ensure the area's roads meet the needs of our citizens. The Legislature has voted to name the interchange of Interstate 15 and the new Foothill Freeway as the William E. Leonard Interchange. It is a fitting memorial to a man who spent his life working for the citizens of the Inland Empire and California, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating him on a career of outstanding public service.

IN HONOR OF LIFE RESOURCES NETWORK

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend Life Resources Network for its excellent accomplishments in social services that provide women with life affirming alternatives to abortion. Over 1,370,000 children, or one quarter of all pregnancies, are aborted each year. While many mothers and fathers want to raise their children, they often feel that abortion is their only viable option.

The mission of Life Resources Network is to solve underlying social issues that lead to unintended pregnancies and the societal pressures that compel both men and women to abort their children. This non-profit organization is operated by more than 100 volunteers that have logged over 1,370 hours. These volunteers focus on distributing the Women's Resource Guide in order to connect women with services that can enhance their lives and the lives of their children. This guide is a directory of services offering information on housing, adoption services, medical care, employment, birth preparation, and many other valuable resources.

From January 2000 to May 2001, Life Resources Network was able to educate 108,000 people through an active Speaker's Bureau and Media Outreach. The bureau covered topics including human life development, post-abortion trauma and abortion alternatives and also equipped teenagers with the facts about pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes and pregnancy prevention.

Life Resources Network has shown remarkable progress in uniting individuals, businesses, and organizations of different philosophies and working together to build a society that offers affirming solutions that elevate women and improve the lives of their children. I would like to personally thank the management and all of the many volunteers at Life Resources for their exemplary efforts to foster a community that promotes healthy choices for women and a healthy environment for their children.

POST-ABORTION DEPRESSION
RESEARCH AND CARE ACT

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced the Post-Abortion Depression Research and Care Act, a bill to provide hope and healing for the more than 35 million women in this country who have had abortions in the past twenty-eight years.

The Post-Abortion Depression Research and Care Act will direct federal funding for the research of post-abortion depression and the development of successful treatments for emotional distress in post-abortive women.

I have been working on this legislation because I believe that it is a travesty that more work has not been done to support women who have chosen to have an abortion. We cannot simply abandon these women. Because of the emotional issues that often surround a woman's decision to have an abortion, many women are reluctant to even talk about their experiences. Some women don't come to terms with the emotional impact of their abortion until years later. I believe that increased research on post-abortion depression will lead to a greater awareness of this issue and the development of compassionate outreach and counseling programs to help post-abortive women.

We already know much about the psychological impact of giving birth and of miscarrying, and yet much remains to be discovered about post-abortion depression. Why should women who choose to have an abortion be given any less care and concern than women who give birth or women miscarry? Post-abortive women deserve equal treatment.

While there is some disagreement among researchers as to the extent and substance of post-abortion emotional response, everyone agrees that the decision to have an abortion is fraught with emotion. It only makes sense, then, to continue to explore the psychological impact of abortion on women.

I urge my colleagues to support post-abortive women by cosponsoring the Post-Abortion Depression Research and Care Act. Let's not let politics get in the way of good mental health care for women.

TRIBUTE TO ANDREA RAVINETT
MARTIN

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Andrea Ravinett Martin, an extraordinary leader, a national treasure and a great friend.

Andrea Martin is the founder, the Executive Director and the living soul of The Breast Cancer Fund, a national public trust nonprofit established to innovate and accelerate our nation's response to breast cancer.

A native of Memphis, Tennessee, Andrea graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Newcomb College of Tulane University in New Orleans and went on to earn a Masters degree in

French before moving to San Francisco, California in 1969. Three years later, she entered law school at the University of California Hastings and began a career in litigation which would last until 1980, at which point, Andrea opened a Memphis-style barbecue restaurant called Hog Heaven. Years later, having sold the popular San Francisco establishment, Andrea participated as a fellow in the Coro Foundation's City-Focus program, a year-long training program in civic leadership. In May 1988, Andrea, the proud mother of her daughter Mather, married her second husband, Richard Gelernter.

Just eight months after their wedding day—and two weeks after losing her sister-in-law to breast cancer—Andrea discovered a seven centimeter invasive tumor in her right breast. Told she had a 40 percent chance of survival and less than five years to live, Andrea Martin underwent six rounds of chemotherapy, a mastectomy, six weeks of radiation, and a final eight rounds of another chemotherapy protocol. Just one month after the completion of her treatment in 1990, Andrea went back to work, joining Dianne Feinstein's campaign for governor of California. Two months into the campaign, however, the nightmare returned, when Andrea discovered a tiny lump in her remaining breast. Just as quickly as before, she opted for a mastectomy and returned to work two weeks later.

Throughout both her personal and professional life, Andrea Martin has consistently strived to transform her personal adversity into a triumph for humankind. While working for Feinstein, Andrea also began raising money to combat breast cancer, organizing a series of events and activities to heighten awareness and increase funding for the prevention and treatment of this devastating disease.

In October 1992, Andrea Martin founded the Breast Cancer Fund, a national public trust nonprofit that has grown and become one of the preeminent organizations nationwide dedicated to fighting breast cancer. The Fund operates through a wide variety of activities to raise awareness and new sources of funding for cutting-edge projects in breast cancer research, education, advocacy and patient support.

Andrea works full time directing the Fund and traveling across the country to give talks and to consult with researchers, health care providers and breast cancer organizations. A reliable and expert source on breast cancer prevention and treatment, Andrea Martin is frequently called upon by Members of Congress as well as state and local governments to share her insights and counsel on major public policy endeavors. A member of the External Advisory Board to the Breast Cancer SPORE at the University of California in San Francisco, Andrea also serves on numerous advisory committees to the California Division of the American Cancer Society.

In addition to her Breast Cancer Fund activities, Andrea Martin has an extraordinary history of accomplishments, honors and achievements. She's a model of courage for the thousands of women who are diagnosed each year with breast cancer. In 1995, Andrea joined 16 fellow breast cancer survivors in climbing 23,000-foot Aconcagua in the Argentine Andes.

Today Andrea faces another extraordinary challenge in addition to the many she has overcome * * * a malignant brain tumor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring a woman who has brought hope and courage to millions of women around the world, and as we honor her and her work, we promise our prayers as she fights to overcome this challenge successfully.

CONGRESSMAN SCARBOROUGH ON
THE RETIREMENT OF KARIN
WALSER

HON. JOE SCARBOROUGH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a person who has made a great difference in the lives of many people. She has brought hope to the hopeless, love to the unloved and light to the lives of children who have known only darkness.

For over a decade now, Karin Walsler has been the driving force behind an organization called "Horton's Kids." Karin's amazing energy level and commitment to those less fortunate than her have made Horton's Kids a shining example of how we all can reach out and greatly impact other's lives.

Too often, we are brought to our knees in despair over the plight of those living in seemingly hopeless conditions. Too often we convince ourselves that there is nothing that one person can do to change the terrible course of a suffering child's life. But Karin has never been driven to despair or cried out in helplessness. Instead, her spirit is sparked by such overwhelming challenges.

Bobby Kennedy once told a group of students in South Africa not to believe that an individual was helpless to cure the world's ills. In a speech he delivered two years to the day before his death, Kennedy said, "Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance."

The walls of oppression were torn down in South Africa two decades after Kennedy's death. But they still act as borders in neighborhoods less than five minutes from the Capitol.

Karin Walsler's life has been dedicated to ripping those walls down piece by piece. And with the help of her friends and other Capitol Hill staffers, I truly believe these walls will come tumbling down sooner now that Karin is leaving Capitol Hill to join Horton's Kids full-time.

While we will miss Karin, just as we all miss Joe Moakley, I am sure she will never be far from us—or our telephones. Sure, she'll be calling for volunteers, or contributions, or anything else she can think of to help Horton's Kids, but we will all gladly answer her call because we know that together, Karin and Horton's Kids will continue to make a great difference in the lives of our area's most disadvantaged children.

Thank you for all you have done and all you have meant to your hundreds of friends on Capitol Hill. You're not too bad for a left-wing radical.

COMMON SENSE NEEDED ON
ARSENIC ISSUE**HON. DOUG BEREUTER**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues the following editorial from the August 2, 2001, Lincoln Journal Star. The editorial highlights the need to move beyond the rhetoric and examine the arsenic issue in a rational manner.

Clearly, it is important to get the full story and listen to those who would be most affected by the proposed changes. Many State and local officials as well as water system administrators have expressed concern about the problems which could be caused by the proposed changes. Everyone recognizes the importance of providing safe drinking water for all of our Nation's citizens. Also, some changes in the arsenic standard may well be justified. However, it makes sense to base these changes on sound science rather than emotion.

[From the Lincoln Journal Star, Aug. 2, 2001]

OF ARSENIC, AND ART OF GOVERNING

President George Bush is getting a bum rap on the arsenic issue.

New EPA chief Christine Whitman was neither wacko nor callous when she withdrew new standards for arsenic in drinking water proposed by the Clinton administration that slashed the previous limit by 80 percent.

Neither was Nebraska's entire House delegation oblivious to health concerns when it voted shoulder-to-shoulder—unsuccessfully—against a proposal to force the administration to restore the new standards.

The real reason Bush is undergoing such a bludgeoning on arsenic is because it's so easy for his political enemies to portray him as a heartless boob. Arsenic is nasty. Who could possibly be against removing this poison from our drinking water?

Real life, however, is often complicated, involving tradeoffs in which the costs and payoffs are matters of speculation. As a New York Times story put it, “. . . the setting of environmental risks is as much art as science, one that entails innumerable assumptions about risks, costs and benefits.”

The Clinton administration proposed to cut the allowed level for arsenic from 50 parts per billion to 10 parts per billion.

Earlier the administration had toyed with the idea of setting the limit at 5 parts per billion, but decided that would be too expensive. So it upped the new limit to 10 parts per billion. That's still too low for many of Nebraska's communities. The city of York will have to ante up \$12 million to meet the new regulation. The city of Alliance will have to spend \$6.5 million, or \$650 per person. In all, the new water regulations would cost 51 Nebraska communities \$97 million.

One may notice that folks in those communities have not been perishing in huge numbers of arsenic-related diseases during the past 50 years. The health benefits of change in arsenic standards involve relatively small numbers in comparison with the nation's 281 million residents.

The reduction in the arsenic level is estimated to prevent 37 to 56 cases of bladder and lung cancer and 21 to 30 deaths annually throughout the nation, according to The New York Times. If the standard were set at 20 parts per billion, the benefit would diminish to preventing an estimated 19 to 20 cases of bladder and lung cancer, and 10 to 11 deaths per year nationally.

Most European countries have set arsenic levels at 20 parts per billions. The World Health Organization recommends 10 parts per billion.

Often unnoticed in the rhetoric over arsenic is that fact that the new regulation was not scheduled to take effect until 2006. Whitman's withdrawal of the new regulation allowed for nine months more study on the “art” of setting environmental standards. Her action hardly deserves the contempt it unleashed.

ON THE 53RD ANNIVERSARY OF
INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE**HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate India on its 53rd anniversary as an independent democratic republic.

Fifty-three years ago India under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi forged a path towards freedom and democracy by declaring its independence from Britain. With independence India undertook anew a responsibility as a voice of other newly independent nations in the post-colonial world.

India is the world's largest democracy, and in the next fifty years it will become the world's most populous nation. As we celebrate India's independence it is important for us to reflect on the achievements of the previous 53 years while at the time looking forward to the future.

India and the United States share much in common. Both countries sought independence to create great nations based on freedom and liberty. Both nations also sought to establish a more prosperous future for its people.

As we enter a new century it is important for the United States to recognize India's importance as a great democracy and as a force for stability in South Asia. While India faces many challenges it has nonetheless undertaken an important role of working towards greater prosperity and stability in the region.

India is of immense strategic importance to the United States. Being the only democracy and one of three nuclear powers in the region India has the potential to be a force for economic development and political stability.

South Asia is a vast region that faces many challenges, from the civil war in Afghanistan to great poverty that still haunts much of the region. It is therefore vital for the United States to maintain a dialogue with as many nations in the region as possible. India's cooperation in bringing about stability to the region will be essential.

Over the past ten years the United States and India have taken concrete steps to improve their bilateral relations. Trade, investment, and military cooperation have played a major role in bringing the two nations closer.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the India Caucus I have come to recognize the importance of India in South Asia. I am also proud to have worked on making additional funds available to India and other nations of South Asia for the creation of regional emergency institution similar to our own FEMA, so that we can save more lives in a future natural disaster.

As you know Mr. Speaker, President Clinton worked very hard to foster U.S.–Indian relations and to bring greater regional stability. I

encourage President Bush, to continue America's leadership in South Asia. I particularly encourage President Bush to call upon Pakistan to return to a democratic government and to work with India for peace in Kashmir.

As the United States Representative of the second largest South Asian community in the United States I would like to congratulate India on this achievement, and seek greater understanding and relations between our two great democracies.

TRIBUTE TO ANDY COMBS

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, colleagues, I rise today to publicly thank a member of my Washington, D.C. staff for his tireless efforts on behalf of the good people of Oregon's Second Congressional District. Andy Combs recently departed my staff to pursue a law degree at the University of Oregon. I wish him well in this new endeavor and know that he will excel both in law school and as a lawyer.

Andy comes from Dora, a small town on the southern Oregon coast. He graduated from my alma mater, the University of Oregon, and after serving admirably as a staff member in the Oregon Legislature he embarked to Washington, D.C. to join my staff. He brought those desirable “small town values” to the nation's capital and to how he treated the people who sought assistance from my office.

Andy was more than just “the guy at the front desk.” He helped families get the inside track to the sights and sounds of Washington, D.C. Time and again, he brought history alive as he led tours of the Capitol for people who had come nearly 3,000 miles so that their children could better understand the federal government and our bold history. Andy arranged their tours, took their calls, answered their questions. In short, Mr. Speaker, Andy made their day and their trip.

I can't think of a time during his service in my office that a visitor went away disappointed. He attended faithfully to every detail and literally went the extra mile to make sure families could see the White House, the Capitol and other sights in the area.

Moreover, Andy made Oregonians feel at ease and at home when they walked in the door. He possesses that warm and helpful attitude that is too often lacking in a big city. I have a significant stack of letters from Oregonians that took the time to write after their trip to Washington, D.C. to thank me for Andy's treatment of them and his dogged determination to make sure their experience was memorable, Andy was also instrumental in recognizing when something needed to be done, taking the initiative to complete myriad projects and lend others a helping hand.

His ability and intellect will serve him well as a member of the bar. And his likeable attitude will serve him well in the courtroom. In short, Mr. Speaker, Andy's a difficult person to replace. Andy, thanks for a job well done and good luck in the future.

TRIBUTE TO DR. VERMELLE J. JOHNSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Vermelle J. Johnson of South Carolina, who was recently appointed to the Commission on Higher Education. Dr. Johnson's long and illustrious career spans thirty eight years and includes many incredible accomplishments. I am sure her vast experience will serve her well at the Commission on Higher Education.

Dr. Vennelle J. Johnson is leaving her post as Senior Vice President and Vice President of Academic Affairs at Claflin University in Orangeburg, South Carolina to accept her new appointment. Her stellar career was recognized at an evening of reflection and celebration on July 31, 2001 on the campus of Claflin College.

Dr. Johnson began her career as an educator in the public school system in 1963. In 1969, she became an associate professor of business at South Carolina State University. Dr. Johnson moved to Claflin University in 1979, where she established and implemented a Department of Business Administration.

She went back to the South Carolina State University as Professor and Dean of the School of Education in 1982, and in 1985 she became the Executive Vice President and Provost of the University, which at the time was the highest rank held by a female in the South Carolina public college/university system. In this position, Dr. Johnson established several significant new programs, such as a Master of Arts in Teaching and a Department of Nursing.

In 1995 Dr. Johnson returned to Claflin to serve as Senior Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs. During this six-year tenure, Dr. Johnson conducted a complete overhaul of the academic curriculum, brought onboard five new academic Honor Societies and Fraternities, and increased faculty professional development and scholarly activity by more than 100%.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me today in honoring Dr. Vermelle J. Johnson for the incredible service she has provided to the students and citizens of South Carolina. I sincerely thank Dr. Johnson for her outstanding contributions and congratulate her on her recent appointment and wish her the best in all of her future endeavors.

THE 'WILLIE VELASQUEZ' COMMEMORATIVE STAMP ACT

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, throughout the 2000 Presidential election, talk from both sides of the isle focused on the growing prominence of Latino voters in the American political system. Of the total number of registered voters in the United States, Latinos currently comprise almost 6 percent. And according to the United States Census Bureau, 12.5 percent of the total U.S. population or 35.3 million Americans are Hispanic.

Legislation I introduced today would recognize William C. "Willie" Velasquez for his pioneering work to empower Latinos and other minority groups through voter registration. Coining the famous phrase, "Su voto es su voz," "Your vote is your voice," Willie not only translated words describing the influence of the vote, he raised a battle cry for political activism that can still be heard today.

Throughout the American Southwest, Willie was recognized as a selfless advocate of the politically under represented. An outstanding leader who inspired others to play an active role in American democracy, Willie dedicated his life to empowering the Hispanic community through voter registration, hard work, and education. His efforts are largely responsible for the unprecedented growth in the number of registered Hispanic, Native American and low-income voters across the country.

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, Willie helped to lay the foundation of political activism which brought the importance of the Hispanic vote to prominence in the 2000 Presidential election. In large part due to the civil rights organizations Willie founded, voter registration grew from 2.4 million registered Latinos in 1974 to nearly 8 million in 2000.

In 1974, he founded the Southwest Voter Registration Education Project and the Southwest Voter Research Institute (now known as the William C. Velasquez Institute). Under Willie's leadership, Southwest Voter registered Hispanics, Native Americans and low-income citizens across the country in unprecedented numbers. The research institute enjoyed similar success, emerging as a preeminent institution in the analysis of Hispanic voting trends and demographics.

Sadly, Willie passed away in June 1988 without the opportunity to see the full benefits of much of his groundbreaking advocacy work. Congress adjourned for the day upon learning of his passing, and people across the country lamented the untimely loss of the prominent community organizer and leader. President Clinton later presented the Presidential Medal of Freedom to his widow Janie Velasquez and their children.

A request I submitted to the U.S. Postal Service's Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee was unfortunately denied, but Willie's legacy remains an example for all those who believe in civil rights, democracy, and equality. I hope you will agree that his memory is worthy of national recognition and join my efforts to encourage the U.S. Postal Service to issue a commemorative stamp in Willie's honor.

Now, more than ever before, the Hispanic voice has been heard and courted by both Democrats and Republicans. Today I urge all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to recognize Willie's life-long work and the importance of the Hispanic vote with a commemorative postage stamp.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4, SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I am disappointed that this rule does not allow the Rahall-Petri-

Kind amendment to be considered by the members of the House. Yesterday we went before the Committee on Rules to ask that our amendment striking Title II of Division F of H.R. 4 be made in order during floor debate.

This title addresses various aspects of oil and gas production from federal lease lands, both onshore and offshore. The title reportedly seeks to provide greater incentives and royalty relief to oil and gas producers to encourage exploration and development in these areas. These incentives raise several serious policy questions. Unfortunately, this amendment was not made in order, and the full House was denied the opportunity to address this important issue.

The incentives contained in this section are far too generous. They are not in the public interest. They will not provide for our energy security. Further, none of these provisions was contained in President Bush's report on Energy Policy. Indeed, this title is an oil and gas producer's dream, but it is a taxpayer's nightmare.

First, this section provides a full royalty holiday for certain offshore leases granted over the next 2 years. Royalty payment suspension will be allowed for drilling operations in water as shallow as 400 meters. Just a few weeks ago, Interior Secretary Norton testified before the Resources Committee that the Administration does not support granting relief for production in water under 800 meters in depth. And, importantly, the Secretary currently has the authority to waive royalties. We don't need to mandate it—especially at a time of high prices. The CBO cost estimates for this relief are only the tip of the iceberg—taxpayers will continue to lose hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars of revenue during the full lifetimes of these leases.

Second, this title proposes to allow the Secretary of the Interior to replace the current royalty system with a "Royalty-in-Kind" program which allows royalties for oil and gas taken from public lands to be paid in actual deliveries of crude oil or natural gas. This would require enlarging the size of the federal presence in these western states so that federal employees can assume private sector responsibilities. This cannot be done efficiently; an audit of a recent royalty-in-kind pilot program in Wyoming found that it had lost \$3 million.

Third, this legislation would mandate a royalty holiday for, and expand the definition of, marginally producing oil and gas wells. Onshore wells producing less than 30 barrels of oil per day would be considered marginal. It is my understanding that approximately 85 percent of all the oil wells on public lands produce less than 30 barrels of oil per day. Clearly, this stretches anyone's definition of marginal. Moreover, relief for truly marginal wells is already provided in this bill through the expansion of the marginal well tax credit.

Fourth, the legislation contains several provisions which transfer the costs of regulatory compliance to taxpayers. Such fees are normally paid by permit applicants. There is no good reason to grant this type of financial relief, and I can think of no other federal program in which taxpayers bear these costs.

I agree that we need to address our energy future to assure all Americans access to reliable and affordable energy. But I fail to see how granting a royalty holiday for oil and gas production on federal leases will accomplish

this goal. This title benefits the oil and gas industry without providing any benefit for taxpayers—these royalties are, after all, rent payments for the privilege of extracting energy resources from publicly owned land. Again, I am disappointed that the rule did not allow members to consider separately these questionable royalty relief provisions.

TRIBUTE TO JEFF EAGER

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, colleagues, I want to take the opportunity to publicly thank a member of my Washington, D.C. staff for his years of service to me and to the people of the Second District of Oregon.

Jeff was raised in Central Oregon, graduating from Mountain View High School and then Willamette University. Upon graduating from college, he embarked on Washington, D.C. to begin his public service as a staff member to my predecessor, then-House Agriculture Committee Chairman Bob Smith. Jeff honed his skills in the Congress immediately.

Upon my election to Congress, I was fortunate to successfully recruit Jeff and he joined my staff the day I took office in 1999. He started out as a legislative assistant. Jeff is a quick study, Mr. Speaker. He tackled some of the most complex and vexing issues that face Oregonians and Americans. From how we safely dispose of chemical nerve agents in Eastern Oregon to how we get better quality and more affordable health care to rural America, Jeff learned these issues quickly and worked on creative solutions.

Within a year, Jeff added the title of press secretary to his resume. Now, I have to tell you there's probably nothing more challenging than being a press secretary to a Member of Congress who was a press secretary to a Member of Congress. Jeff rose to the challenge quickly and, frankly, made a difficult job look easy. He got to know the reporters and editors in my district and understood their needs and their deadlines. He excelled at the press secretary duties while continuing to work on his portfolio of legislative issues.

This week Jeff leaves the Nation's capital to return to Oregon where he will attend law school at the University of Oregon. I know he will do as well pursuing a legal career as he did in his work for me. While I wish him every success it goes without saying he will be difficult to replace. Jeff, thank you for a job well done.

TRIBUTE TO THE LAKE CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AND RECOGNITION CEREMONY

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Fifth Annual Academic Achievement and Recognition Ceremony, being sponsored by the Lake City Housing Authority for the

housing resident students of Lake City, Johnsonville, and Kingstree. This special ceremony will be held on August 5, 2001 in Lake City, South Carolina.

The purpose of the ceremony is to honor housing residents who have achieved academic excellence during the prior school year, and to recognize those who have obtained high school diplomas or college degrees. Special recognition will also be given to several individuals who ranked at the top of their classes. This innovative event has become an anticipated occasion for both the housing residents and the community. I commend Mr. Ronald L. Poston, Executive Director of the Lake City Housing Authority, and the Board of Commissioners of the Authority for instigating this creative, community-oriented occasion.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me today in honoring the Fifth Annual Academic Achievement and Recognition Ceremony. It is events such as this that hold our communities together, strengthen our future, and promote our values. I sincerely thank Mr. Ronald Poston and the Board of Commissioners of the Lake City Housing Authority for designing and implementing this innovative and important ceremony, and congratulate those students who will receive recognition this year.

RECOGNIZING ANDREW WOODSON

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable young man and his contributions to the seventh district of Virginia. Andrew Woodson has been a servant of the people, tackling any challenge handed him during his service in my Washington, DC office.

Andrew cares about the people of the district, and it shows in his dedication and perseverance. Mr. Speaker, Andrew has been a remarkable addition to the office and his service is appreciated.

Andrew will be leaving Capitol Hill to pursue his law degree at the University of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join me in wishing Andrew Woodson luck at UVA and to thank him for his hard work and dedication during his service to the seventh district.

TRIBUTE TO IRENE DICKERSON ROGERS

HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mrs. Irene Dickerson Rogers of Pelzer, South Carolina. Mrs. Rogers has led an extraordinary life of service to our state and to our country.

An educator for the past 61 years, Mrs. Rogers has extended her time and talents to students ranging from elementary to high school. Of her 61 years spent teaching, 43 were in the public school system of Anderson County, the rest of the time she lead adult education classes. A mathematics major with

a degree from Lander University in Greenwood, South Carolina, Mrs. Rogers has spent the majority of her career as an educator in the field of mathematics. While most of her years teaching mathematics were spent with middle and high school students, Mrs. Rogers has also generously given her time teaching classes to help better prepare adults entering into job fields associated with higher mathematical skills.

I am exceptionally proud, Mr. Speaker, to make special note that Mrs. Rogers was recently and deservedly awarded the Order of the Silver Crescent, one of the most prestigious awards from the South Carolina Governor. The order of the Silver Crescent is reserved for those South Carolinians who have demonstrated service to our state well beyond their call of duty. With over 61 years of service in education to the Palmetto State, Mrs. Rogers has not only demonstrated remarkable energy and love of her job, but has set an example for all of us to follow. Her belief that each student should be given the maximum opportunity to succeed has left a mark on the schools for whom she has worked, and more importantly, on the students, parents, and communities to whom she has given so much of her time.

I believe it to be of the utmost importance to recognize that not only did Mrs. Rogers directly impact the education of the students in her classroom, but her dedication to her students has impacted the lives of the families and communities within and around the schools. As a teacher, Mrs. Rogers imparted valuable knowledge to her students; as a South Carolinian she has demonstrated drive and dedication in ensuring a bright future for our state that makes us all proud.

Today Mrs. Rogers is an active member of the Pelzer, South Carolina community. A mother of three and a grandmother of two, Mrs. Rogers continues to pass along her love of teaching to her family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that this body will join me today in honoring Mrs. Irene Dickerson Rogers.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION NAMING THE "FRANK R. LAUTENBERG AVIATION SECURITY COMPLEX"

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation to designate Buildings 315, 318 and 319 located at the Federal Aviation Administration's William J. Hughes Technical Center in my district as the "Frank R. Lautenberg Aviation Security Complex." As Chairman of the Senate Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee, Senator Lautenberg worked to secure funding to provide for the creation and building of this complex. Due to his tireless efforts on this and other aviation security matters, and for his distinguished service in the Senate, it is fitting to name the complex after Senator Lautenberg.

Throughout his career, Senator Lautenberg was acutely aware of the need for greater vigilance and development of ever more sophisticated and effective technologies and methodologies to counter terrorist threats directed

at civil aviation. Senator Lautenberg was at the forefront of the effort to provide the resources necessary for the United States to develop the policies, procedures and equipment needed to ensure the safety of the American flying public.

Following the tragic December 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland that resulted in the loss of over 270 lives, Senator Lautenberg called for and chaired the first Congressional hearings into this tragedy and initiated efforts to assist the families of the victims.

Senator Lautenberg sponsored the Senate Resolution calling for appointment of a special commission to perform "a comprehensive study and appraisal of practices and policy options with respect to preventing terrorist acts involving aviation security" and President Bush responded with the establishment of the "President's Commission on Aviation Security and Terrorism." Senator Lautenberg was named to serve as one of only four Congressional members of the Commission. Upon completion of the Commission's work, Senator Lautenberg sponsored the Aviation Security Improvement Act of 1990 (PL 101-604), which provided the basis and authority for much of the FAA's current aviation security program.

In the wake of concerns over the crash of TWA flight 800 in 1996, Senator Lautenberg supported President Clinton's establishment of the "White House Commission on Aviation and Security." This commission went on to develop an action plan to deploy new high technology machines to detect the most sophisticated explosives, and offered recommendations to further enhance aviation security. In direct response to that report, Senator Lautenberg joined with his colleagues in sponsoring the Federal Aviation Reauthorization Act of 1996 and the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act of 1997 which appropriated more than \$400 million for acquisition of new explosives detection technology and other aviation security improvements.

I thank my colleagues in the New Jersey delegation—ROBERT MENENDEZ, JIM SAXTON, RUSH HOLT, FRANK PALLONE, DONALD PAYNE, STEVE ROTHMAN and WILLIAM PASCHELL—for cosponsoring this bill, and urge its passage.

TRIBUTE TO MELISSA GALVAN

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, colleagues, recently I said goodbye to a member of my Washington, DC staff who started with me the day I took office back in 1999. Melissa Galvan served as my manager and scheduler. From managing my schedule and our interns, to handling the office finances and many other important functions, Melissa performed admirably and with dedication.

Melissa was raised in the great state of Oregon and began honing her skills early at Corvallis High School and my college alma mater, the University of Oregon. Upon graduation from college, Melissa embarked on Washington, D.C. to serve the public as a staff member to my predecessor, then-House Agriculture Committee Chairman Bob Smith. Upon my election, I was fortunate to successfully re-

cruit Melissa. From day one of my first term, I—and the residents of the Second Congressional District of Oregon—benefited from Melissa's expertise and affable personality.

I never had to worry about having a seat on a plane, because I knew that Melissa had it taken care of properly. Considering the fluid nature of the schedule in Congress and the fact that I commute back to my district most every week, I assure you that securing a seat on a plane at the last minute is not an easy task. I never had to worry about missing a meeting, because Melissa had it covered. Visitors to my office were always made to feel welcome and cared for because of Melissa.

Simply put, Melissa was a delight to work with and always displayed care and determination during her service on Capitol Hill. She also became a real pal to my son, Anthony, and kept all the "guys" in the office in line, too.

We miss her friendly smile and upbeat attitude, which she has taken to a new job in the private sector. We also are very excited for her and her fiancée, Jason Vaillancourt, an outstanding young man and professional staff member on the House Agriculture Committee. They will marry this fall. Melissa, thanks for your help and a job well done.

POSTAL STAMP CELEBRATING THE LIBERTY MEMORIAL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a national commemorative postal stamp celebrating the Liberty Memorial, our nation's only World War I monument, located in Kansas City, Missouri. Liberty Memorial has been standing for nearly seventy-five years as a monument to those who sacrificed their lives for our freedom and will be rededicated on May 25, 2002. It is my hope that a Liberty Memorial commemorative stamp can be issued as a part of the rededication celebration.

The Liberty Memorial stands 217 feet tall and overlooks the heart of downtown Kansas City as a constant reminder of the battles fought and blood shed for our country in WWI. The peak of the memorial is crowned with four large stone figures representing courage, honor, patriotism and sacrifice. Two carved stone Sphinxes, Memory and Future, guard the memorial. A commemorative stamp of this beautiful site would be a fitting tribute to the veterans who fought in the Great War and the virtues that the Liberty Memorial represents.

The Liberty Memorial is important as the only WWI memorial in the United States, but it also represents a community wide achievement for the citizens of Kansas City. In 1919, a community-based fund raising drive raised over \$2,500,000 in less than two weeks. Considering the value of the dollar and the communication challenges at the time, this sum demonstrates the tremendous dedication of the people of Kansas City and the nation to the Liberty Memorial. Seventy-five years later, the citizens of Kansas City are coming together again to rededicate the memorial they worked so hard to build. A commemorative stamp of Liberty Memorial could make the event even more special.

The Liberty Memorial stamp will bring the nation's only WWI memorial to the world and honor those that brought us our freedom in the fashion they deserve. Let us issue a Liberty Memorial Commemorative stamp with the same principle as the monument was built, "In honor of those who served in the world war in defense of liberty and our country."

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JOSEPH HUGH MACAULAY

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and commemorate the life of my constituent, Joseph Hugh Macaulay. Mr. Macaulay, age 77, passed away on July 13th at Georgetown University Hospital of leukemia.

"Mac," as he was known by his friends and colleagues, served as a congressional aide for more than 30 years. He worked for many different members of Congress, before retiring in 1980 as Chief of Staff to Representative John J. Rhodes, Republican from Arizona, in the Republican Leader's Office.

Mr. Macaulay came to Washington after World War II as a Navy liaison with the U.S. House of Representatives. He began his Capitol Hill experience in 1947, working for Representative Henry J. Latham, Republican of New York. For many years, from 1948 to 1964, Mr. Macaulay served on the staff of Representative Charles B. Hoeven, Republican from Iowa. After working for Representative Charlotte Reid, Republican of Illinois, until 1971, Mr. Macaulay spent three years as administrative assistant with Representative Leslie Arends, Republican from Illinois, who was the Minority Whip. He worked for a year with Representative Virginia Smith, Republican of Nebraska, before joining Congressman Rhodes's office in 1976.

During these many years of dedicated service on Capitol Hill, Mr. Macaulay also had edited "Legislative Alert," a publication for Republican Members which tracked legislation scheduled for consideration and debate on the House Floor.

In all of his many important positions on Capitol Hill, Mr. Macaulay served diligently behind the scenes while never seeking recognition for himself. In addition to his many years of public service, he was committed to his community. For example, Mr. Macaulay volunteered for the past ten years in my district with the Children's Inn at the National Institutes of Health.

Mr. Macaulay, who lived in Bethesda, was a Wisconsin native. He was a graduate of George Washington University and studied at John Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies under the American Political Science Association Congressional staff award. He was a Navy veteran of World War II.

Survivors include his wife, Patsy, of Bethesda; two sons, Scott of New York, and Colin, of Philadelphia; a sister; and a granddaughter.

FIRST PLACE WINNERS IN THE
NATIONAL HISTORY DAY COM-
PETITION

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to honor Jasmine Chiu, Kevin Liang, Jordan Hathaway and Christopher Hynes, of Upland High School, Upland, California, First Place winners in the National History Day competition.

Approximately 700,000 students from across the Nation competed in the year-long, oldest, and most highly regarded humanities contest in the country. I commend each of you for representing Upland High School, your community and the State of California with pride and distinction.

Congratulations and best wishes for success in your future educational endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JOHN A.
MCCARROLL

HON. JIM DeMINT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. DeMINT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. John A. McCarroll of Greenville, SC, for his many contributions to our State and our community and to congratulate him on his upcoming retirement.

Mr. McCarroll has been the Executive Director of the Phyllis Wheatley Association for the past 30 years. Since becoming director, the agency has grown from a recreational center to a multi-faceted human services agency that operates programs out of its two buildings in Greenville and three satellite centers across the Upstate.

The Phyllis Wheatley Center is a member of the United Way of Greenville and, out of forty-four agencies, receives the second highest allocation behind the Red Cross. The agency had a budget of over \$1,300,000 in 1999.

Many individuals that have participated in the agency's programs under Mr. McCarroll's leadership are now serving in important positions throughout the state, including Columbia's Chief of Police, Mr. Charles Austin.

Mr. McCarroll has assisted in providing training for several South Carolina Cabinet Agencies, assisted groups in organizing non-profit agencies, and has provided board development, marketing and fundraising training for non-profit agencies throughout the state.

Additionally, Mr. McCarroll received the Distinguished Leadership Award from the National Association for Community Development. He was selected as an Inaugural Program Participant for Leadership USA in 1995. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees of South Carolina State University and the Greenville County First Steps Board.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Mr. McCarroll for all his years of service to our community and wish him well in his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, last night, at about 11:23 pm, the House voted 206-223 against an amendment to H.R. 4 offered by Representative MARKEY. I arrived at the House floor a moment after the vote was closed, so my vote was not recorded, but I intended to vote "aye" on the Markey amendment.

I want the record to be clear regarding my position on drilling in Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, or "ANWR." I do not support drilling on the coastal plain of "ANVR." While estimates of the amount of oil that might be recovered from the area vary, I am simply not convinced that spoiling one of the world's last pristine areas is the right answer to our nation's energy problems. In fact, I am a cosponsor of legislation to declare the coastal plain of the reserve, often referred to as "Section 1002," a wildlife refuge so that no drilling can take place. This bill, H.R. 770, the Morris K. Udall Arctic Wilderness Act of 2001, was introduced by Representative MARKEY earlier this year.

I feel strongly enough about protecting ANWR that during debate on H.R. 4 yesterday, I voted against two amendments offered by Representative SUNUNU to H.R. 4—rollcall votes No. 315 and No. 316—designed to make drilling in ANWR more palatable. Furthermore, my vote against final passage of H.R. 4 and for the Motion to Recommit was based in no small part on my disappointment in the bill's ANWR provisions. I regret that I was not able to record my vote on the Markey amendment, but the record should be clear: I support it.

HONORING MARTHA W. BARNETT
ON HER TERM AS PRESIDENT OF
THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to recognize the achievements of Martha W. Barnett as she completes her term as President of the American Bar Association.

After joining the ABA in 1986, Martha Barnett's talents quickly became invaluable to the Association. She served on the Board of Governors from 1986 to 1989, and in 1994 she became the first woman to chair the ABA's policy-making House of Delegates. She has been President of the ABA for the 2000-2001 term.

A partner in the law firm of Holland & Knight LLP, Martha Barnett has had a long record of service to the State of Florida. She has been active in the Tallahassee Women Lawyers Association, the Tallahassee Bar Association, as well as the Florida Bar. Martha has been a Governor's Appointee to the Governor's Select Committee on the Workforce 2000 and the Florida Constitution on Ethics, and has served on the Constitution Revision Commission.

Mr. Speaker, we often tell our constituents, particularly students and young people, about

the value of public service in our society. Martha Barnett exemplifies the best that public service has to offer, and we would like to thank her for her contributions and wish her the best for the future.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SWAT ACT

HON. BRIAN BAIRD

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss something that threatens the economic and environmental health of my district and the entire western half of the United States. That something is the spread of zebra mussels from their current infestation area of the Great Lakes and Mississippi River to all of the rivers of the West. The infestation of the zebra mussels has already cost our nation \$3.1 billion and if they are allowed to spread to the West, we will see the cost to American businesses and taxpayers expand even further.

If zebra mussels invade the West Coast, they will foul thousands of miles of pipes and canals, water gates and intakes, clog fish screens, obstruct drinking water facilities, block cooling pipes at hydroelectric and nuclear power plants, damage water filter plants, agricultural irrigation systems and other water system components. Waters conducive to zebra mussel establishment are located along the entire West Coast from the ports of Alaska to the reservoirs of southern California, including the Columbia and Snake rivers, the California and south Bay Aqueducts, the Los Angeles Aqueduct, the Colorado River Aqueduct and many smaller rivers in between.

Zebra mussels were inadvertently introduced into the Great Lakes in 1987 by ballast water exchanges from boats that had traveled from Eastern Europe. Since that time, they have spread through connected water bodies by various means including larval transport in ballast water and adult attachment to hulls of ships, barges and recreational crafts. The infestation of zebra mussels throughout the Great Lakes, Mississippi River drainages and the Missouri River has cost water users in the area millions of dollars every year. Stopping or slowing their arrival is therefore critical from an economic and biological standpoint. The bill I am introducing today will help prevent the westward spread of zebra mussels, as well as other invasive species that can be transferred through boat traffic.

The bill, entitled the "Stop Westward Aquatic Threats (SWAT)" Act builds upon programs that already exist to educate, monitor and prevent the westward spread of aquatic invasive species, especially zebra mussels. On the federal level, the SWAT Act uses an existing, but underfunded, Fish and Wildlife program called the 100th Meridian Initiative that is designed to prevent the spread of zebra mussels and other aquatic nuisance species west of the 100th meridian. The SWAT Act fully funds education and monitoring programs at boat launches and along highways and requires the inspection of commercial boats that cross the 100th meridian. On the State level, the SWAT Act more than doubles the authorized funding, for State Invasive Species Management Plans to help States develop and coordinate their Invasive Species Management Plans.

This may be one of the best investments Congress can make to save money in the long run. By spending a few million dollars today, we can save businesses and taxpayers billions later on.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN FOR 15 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh and the Council of Khalistan, who have completed 15 years of service to the Sikh community in this country and the people of the Sikh homeland, Khalistan.

For the past 15 years, Dr. Aulakh has been diligently walking the halls of the U.S. Congress to tell us about the latest developments in India and the massive violations of human rights that have been perpetrated against Sikhs, Christian, Muslims, and other minorities. We appreciate the work he has done and the information he has provided.

Dr. Aulakh's efforts have made a valuable contribution to the consideration of our policy towards India and South Asia. I appreciate his efforts, and I congratulate him on 15 years of tireless efforts on behalf of the oppressed.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE DWIGHT "DIKE" EDDLEMAN

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on August 1, 2001, the University of Illinois and every fan of Illinois athletics, lost a close, dear friend by the name of Dwight "Dike" Eddleman. Dike Eddleman was what every young boy dreams of becoming as a kid, the perfect athlete. In his career at the University of Illinois he earned 11 varsity letters in football, basketball, and track & field and if you ever wanted to meet a dedicated athlete and human being, you wouldn't have had to look any further once you met Dike. From the fall of 1947 to the fall of 1948, Dike was in training or in competition on 354 of the 365 days. From this dedication came one of the most impressive athletic careers that has ever been assembled, highlighted by a two year span when he led the football team to the Rose Bowl, the basketball team to the Final Four, and competed in the Olympic Games. In 1993, the University of Illinois' Division of Intercollegiate Athletics appropriately named the University of Illinois male and female Athlete of the Year awards after Dike, ensuring that we would never forget his accomplishments and dedication. Dike Eddleman will be greatly missed, but never forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO 25 YEARS OF SERVICE BY THE EAST JORDAN FAMILY HEALTH CENTER

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to two significant health care events, which will take place while you and I and our House colleagues are back in our districts during the August work period.

The first event is national, the celebration of National Health Center Week, August 19 through 25. This year's theme is "Breaking New Ground in Community Health," a theme that reflects the expanding role of community health centers in our nation's system of health care delivery.

The second event is the Aug. 23 celebration of a quarter century of community service by the East Jordan Family Health Center, which provides basic and expanded medical care for 10,000 members in a rural part of our nation—building healthy families and communities and ensuring a good quality of life.

The two events, Mr. Speaker, are entwined. The national celebration marks more than 30 years of growth of a grant program for health care delivery, and the local celebration is a bright example of that successful growth.

The East Jordan Family Health Center was incorporated 25 years ago when the community lost its only doctor. The next nearest community with a doctor was Charlevoix, 18 miles away. So a forward-looking consortium of community members came together and created a private, not-for-profit service.

When the medical practice in the nearby small community of Bellaire was pulling out, the East Jordan Center purchased that clinic and the services of one doctor.

Now the East Jordan Center offers its 10,000 members the services of ten doctors at two health delivery sites. Among its services are family practice, pediatric care, and internal medicine. The Center offers full X-ray and mammography services.

Membership in the center, Mr. Speaker, is \$6 per year for individuals and \$10 per year for families. It is governed by a board of directors elected by the membership. The East Jordan Family Health Center draws its strength and direction from the community, and through that strength it offers other services to the community.

Doctors practicing at the Center can provide other health services, such as assisting in a local nursing home. The not-for-profit nature of the Center qualifies the organization for federal grants, which are used to provide health care to those residents who might not otherwise have access to preventive medicine.

The facilities themselves are a community asset. Space is provided free to the local Food Pantry, and to a counseling service. Organizations like Alcoholics Anonymous are given meeting space. Clearly, keeping health care costs low through a community-based health care service helps meet a broad range of local needs.

The outreach doesn't stop there. The center has collaborated with the Northwest Michigan Community Health Agency, the district health department, to renovate space and provide modernized dental facilities, ensuring oral health care access for area residents.

Facilities like the East Jordan Center are a great health deal for their members, but we in Congress need to recognize their important place in national health care delivery. According to the Michigan Primary Care Association, community health centers in Michigan receive 1 percent of the state's Medicaid dollars but provide 10 percent of the Medicaid services, clearly an excellent bang for the buck.

Here's some national figures. According to the National Association of Community Health Centers Inc., our nation's Health Centers are "the family doctor and health care home for more than 10 million people," including one of every 12 rural residents, one of every 10 uninsured persons, one of every six low-income children, and one of every four homeless persons.

As we in Congress work to ensure that all Americans have access to the finest quality, most advanced, most personal kind of health care, we must recognize those individuals and groups on the front lines of health care delivery. I ask you and our House colleagues to join me in wishing the East Jordan Family Health Center the best as it celebrates 25 years of helping to work toward the same goals.

HUMAN CLONING PROHIBITION ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2001

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to HR 2505, The Human Cloning Prohibition Act of 2001.

As I have already stated, I believe that cloning is a fascinating, promising issue but one that remains to be more fully explored. As has been evidenced by the prior hearings and debate on this issue, the knowledge of the scientific community in this field is still in its infancy, particularly in the field of stem cell research. It is crucial that Congress carefully consider all options regarding this issue before it proceeds, particularly before we undertake to criminalize aspects of this practice. We must carefully balance society's need for life-saving scientific research against the numerous moral, ethical, social and scientific issues that this issue raises. Yet what we face here today is a bill that threatens to stop this valuable research, in the face of evidence that we should permit this research to continue.

The legal, ethical, physical and psychological implications of such an act are not yet fully understood. It is generally accepted that the majority of Americans is not yet comfortable with the production of a fully replicated human, or "clone." There is little argument that the existence of these unresolved issues is good reason to refrain from this activity at this time. We do not yet know the long-term health risks for a cloned human being, nor have we even determined what the rights of a clone would be as against the person who is cloned or how either would develop emotionally.

Those of us who believe in the Greenwood-Deutsch-Schiff-DeGette substitute are not proposing and are not proponents of human cloning. What we are proponents of is the

Bush Administration's NIH report June 2001 entitled "Stem Cells: Scientific Progress and Future Research Directions." This report, as I will discuss further, acknowledges the importance of therapeutic cloning.

None of us want to ensure that human beings come out of the laboratory. In fact, I am very delighted to note that language in the legislation that I am supporting, the Greenwood-Deutsch-Schiff-Degette legislation, specifically says that it is unlawful to use or attempt to use human somatic cell nuclear transfer technology or the product of such technology to initiate a pregnancy to create a human being. But what we can do is save lives.

For the many people come into my office who are suffering from Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's, neurological paralysis, diabetes, stroke, Lou Gehrig's disease, and cancer, or infertility the Weldon bill questions whether that science can continue. I believe it is important to support the substitute, and I would ask my colleagues to do so.

What we can and must accept as a useful and necessary practice is the use of the cloning technique to conduct embryonic stem cell research. This work shows promise in the effort to treat and even cure many devastating diseases and injuries, such as sickle cell anemia, spinal cord damage and Parkinson's disease through valuable stem cell research. This research also brings great hope to those who now languish for years or die waiting for a donor organ or tissue. Yet just as we are seeing the value of such research, H.R. 2505 would seek not only to stop this research, but also to criminalize it. Yet just as we are seeing the value of such research, H.R. 2505 would seek not only to stop this research, but also to criminalize it. We must pause for a moment to consider what conduct should be criminalized.

Those who support the Human Cloning Prohibition Act contend that it will have no negative impact on the field of stem cell research. However, the findings of the report that the National Institutes of Health released in June 2001 are to the contrary. This report states that only clonally derived embryonic stem cells truly hold the promise of generating replacement cells and tissues to treat and cure many devastating diseases. It is ironic at the same time that while the Weldon bill has been making its way through the House, the Administration's NIH is declaring that that the very research that the bill seeks to prohibit is of significant value to all of us.

An embryonic stem cell is derived from a group of cells called the inner cell mass, which is part of the early embryo called the blastocyst. Once removed from the blastocyst, the cells of the inner cell mass can be cultured into embryonic stem cells; this is known as somatic cell nuclear transfer. It is important to note that these cells are not themselves embryos. Evidence indicates that these cells do not behave in the laboratory as they would in the developing embryo.

The understanding of how pluripotent stem cells work has advanced dramatically just since 1998, when a scientist at the University of Wisconsin isolated stem cells from human embryos. Although some progress has been made in adult stem cell research, at this point there is no isolated population of adult stem cells that is capable of forming all the kinds of cells of the body. Adult stem cells are rare, difficult to identify, isolate and purify and do not replicate indefinitely in culture.

Conversely, pluripotent stem cells have the ability to develop into all the cells of the body.

The only known sources of human pluripotent stem cells are those isolated and cultured from early human embryos and from certain fetal tissue. There is no evidence that adult stem cells are pluripotent.

Further, human pluripotent stem cells from embryos are by their nature clonally derived—that is, generated by the division of a single cell and genetically identical to that cell. Clonality is important for researchers for several reasons. To fully understand and harness the ability of stem cells to generate replacement cells and tissues, the each identity of those cells' genetic capabilities and functional qualities must be known. Very few studies show that adult stem cells have these properties. Hence, now that we are on the cusp of even greater discoveries, we should not take an action that will cut off these valuable scientific developments that are giving new hope to millions of Americans. For example, it may be possible to treat many diseases, such as diabetes and Parkinson's, by transplanting human embryonic cells. To avoid immunological rejection of these cells "it has been suggested that . . . [a successful transplant] could be accomplished by using somatic cell nuclear transfer technology (so called therapeutic cloning), . . ." according to the NIH.

Hence, although I applaud the intent of H.R. 2505, I have serious concerns about it. H.R. 2505 would impose criminal penalties not only on those who attempt to clone for reproductive purposes, but also on those who engage in research cloning, such as stem cell and infertility research, to expand the boundaries of useful scientific knowledge. These penalties would extend to those who ship or receive a product of human cloning. And these penalties are severe—imprisonment of up to ten years and a civil penalty of up to one million dollars, not to exceed more than two times the gross pecuniary gain of the violator. Many questions remain unanswered about stem cell research, and we must pen-nit the inquiry to continue so that these answers can be found. In addition to research into treatments and cures for life threatening diseases, I am also particularly concerned about the possible effect on the treatment and prevention of infertility and research into new contraceptive technologies. We must not criminalize these inquiries.

HR 2505 would make permanent the moratorium on human cloning that the National Bioethics Advisory Commission recommended to President Clinton in 1997 in order to allow for more time to study the issue. Those who support the bill state that we must do so because we do not fully understand the ramifications of cloning and that allowing even cloning for embryonic stem cell research creates a slippery slope into reproductive cloning. I maintain that we must study what we do not know, not prohibit it. The very fact that there was disagreement among the witnesses who spoke before us in Judiciary Committee indicates that there is substantial need for further inquiry. We would not know progress if we were to criminalize every step that yielded some possible negative results along with the positive.

There are many legal uncertainties inherent in prohibiting cloning. First, we face the argument that reproductive cloning may be constitutionally protected by the right to privacy. We must also carefully consider whether we take a large step towards overturning *Roe v. Wade* when we legislatively protect embryos. We do not recognize embryos as full-fledged human beings with separate legal rights, and we should not seek to do so.

Instead, I again urge my colleagues to support the Greenwood-Deutsch-Schiff-Degette, a reasonable alternative to H.R. 2505. This legislation includes a ten year moratorium on cloning intended to create a human life, instead of permanently banning it. As I previously noted, it specifically prohibits human cloning or its products for the purposes of initiating or intending to initiate a pregnancy. It imposes the same penalties on this human cloning as does H.R. 2505. Thus, it addresses the concern of some that permitting scientific/research cloning would lead to permitting that permitting the creation of cloned humans.

More importantly, the Greenwood-Deutsch-Schiff-Degette substitute will still permit valuable scientific research to continue, including embryonic stem cell research, which I have already discussed. This substitute would explicitly permit life giving fertility treatments to continue. As I have stated, for the millions of Americans struggling with infertility, protection of access to fertility treatments is crucial. Infertility is a crucial area of medicine in which we are developing cutting edge techniques that help those who cannot conceive on their own. It would be irresponsible to cut short these procedures by legislation that mistakenly treats them as the equivalent of reproductive cloning. For example, there is a fertility technique known as ooplasmic transfer that could be considered to be illegal cloning under H.R. 2505's broad definition of "human cloning." This technique involves the transfer of material that may contain mitochondrial DNA from a donor egg to another fertilized egg. This technique has successfully helped more than thirty infertile couples conceive healthy children. It may also come as no surprise that in vitro fertilization research has been a leading field for other valuable stem cell research.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advise that ten percent of couples in this country, or 6.1 million couples, experience infertility at any given time. It affects men and women with almost equal frequency. In 1998, the last year for which data is available, there were 80,000 recorded in vitro fertilization attempts, out of which 28,500 babies were born. This technique is a method by which a man's sperm and the woman's egg are combined in a laboratory dish, where fertilization occurs. The resulting embryo is then transferred to the uterus to develop naturally. Thousands of other children were conceived and born as a result of what are now considered lower technology procedures, such as intrauterine insemination. Recent improvements in scientific advancement make pregnancy possible in more than half of the couples pursuing treatments.

The language in my amendment made it explicitly clear that embryonic stem cell research and medical treatments will not be banned or restricted, even if both human and research cloning are.

The organizations that respectively represent the infertile and their doctors, the American Infertility Association and the American Society for Reproductive Medicine, support this amendment. For the millions of Americans struggling with infertility, this provision is very important. Infertility is a crucial area of medicine in which we are developing cutting edge

techniques that help those who cannot conceive on their own. It would be irresponsible to cut short these procedures by legislation that mistakenly addresses these treatments as the equivalent of reproductive cloning.

The proponents of H.R. 2505 argue that their bill will not prohibit these procedures. However, access to infertility treatments is so critical and fundamental to millions that we should make sure that it is explicitly protected here. We must not stifle the research and treatment by placing doctors and scientists in fear that they will violate criminal law. To do so would deny infertile couples access to these important treatments.

Whatever action we take, we must be careful that out of fear of remote consequences we do not chill valuable scientific research, such as that for the treatment and prevention of infertility or research into new contraceptive technologies. The essential advances we have made in this century and prior ones have been based on the principles of inquiry and experiment. We must tread lightly lest we risk trampling this spirit. Consider the example of Galileo, who was exiled for advocating the theory that the Earth rotated around the Sun. It is not an easy balance to simultaneously promote careful scientific advancement while also protecting ourselves from what is dangerous, but we must strive to do so. Lives depend on it.

Mr. Speaker, we must think carefully before we vote on this legislation, which will have far reaching implications on scientific and medical advancement and set the tone for congressional oversight of the scientific community.

A TRIBUTE TO JUSTICE CLINTON WAYNE WHITE

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of our nation's Civil Rights' Leaders, the Honorable Clinton Wayne White.

Justice Clinton Wayne White was born on October 8, 1921. Between 1942–1945, he proudly served in the United States Army Air Corp.

After World War II, Justice White attended the University of California, Berkeley and received his Bachelor's Degree in 1946 and later he earned his LLB from the University's Boalt Hall School of Law. In 1949, he, along with one other African-American, was admitted to the California State Bar. It was at this time that Justice White truly became an inspiration to African Americans and future African American leaders.

Justice White was a prominent defense attorney who publically criticized and challenged the criminal justice system's biases against African-Americans. He knew how to use the law to fight for social, economic and political progress for people of color. He was a warrior and a crusader, who truly believed in equality for all persons.

It was his strength and determination for equity, which led Justice White to become President of the Oakland NAACP in the 1960s. He waged a successful campaign to change the Alameda County's jury selection system to include minorities.

After several successful years as a leading civil rights attorney, Justice White was elevated to serve as a trial court judge in the Alameda County Superior Court and was later appointed to the State Court of Appeal.

Even with his hectic schedule, Justice White still found the time to participate in many community organizations such as Men of Tomorrow and the Charles Houston Club. He was certain to make time to coach youth baseball teams in Oakland, because he cared about our youth and their future. In 1978, Justice White became the founder of the Clinton White Foundation which seek to enable and empower people to live their lives away from poverty and despair.

Justice White was considered a mentor to current leaders in Alameda County, but to me, he is also and will always be my hero. I knew him when I was still a student in the early 1970s. His guidance and wisdom helped me through some very difficult times. I will always remember his kindness and compassion.

I am proud to stand here alongside his family, friends and colleagues to salute Justice Clinton Wayne White, a man who was a legacy for all.

INTRODUCTION OF THE
"TEACHERS FOR TOMORROW" ACT

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, today I proudly introduce the Teachers for Tomorrow Act of 2001, a bill to address the serious teacher shortage in our nation's schools. We have over 53 million students in America's elementary and secondary schools—a new enrollment record. Unfortunately, we lack the most important part of the equation—teachers! Nationwide, we will need an additional 2 million teachers over the next ten years. There are particular shortages in specific subject areas such as math, science, bilingual education and special education. For the first time in my district in Washington State, teaching positions have remained vacant.

We cannot afford to allow the current trend to continue where our best and brightest students ignore the teaching profession or leave it altogether. A million teachers are expected to retire over the next ten years, and they are leaving the classroom faster than new teachers are graduating from college. Even more troublesome is the fact that only half of new teachers in urban public schools are still teaching after five years. These are serious warning signs of a teacher shortage and an upcoming crisis if we do not act to recruit and retain teachers.

We must do more to empower new college graduates to choose education as a career. My legislation would permit every public elementary and secondary school teacher to apply for 100% federal loan forgiveness. Current law only applies to teachers that teach specific subject areas or in low-income schools. For teachers of disabled students, specific subject areas, or in low-income schools, my bill would guarantee loan forgiveness over three years. All other teachers would be eligible for loan forgiveness over five years.

Loan forgiveness would be granted for continuing education loans, in order for teachers to pursue advanced degrees. Moreover, rather than allowing these financial incentives to unfairly push teachers into a higher tax bracket, any loan forgiveness would be granted tax neutral status.

Finally, our teachers deserve to use the benefit of their experience and be able to guide their classrooms and schools with local control. My bill maintains the ability of local schools to make hiring, firing and other decisions as they see fit.

Our teachers deserve our highest accolades for educating our nation's children. We ought to thank them for the meaningful work they do every day. I hope that by forgiving federal loans, this legislation will draw more successful students into the teaching profession, and help to retain their experience.

I submit to my colleagues a plan to recruit and retain qualified teachers. We cannot shirk our duty to provide a high quality education to every child. I urge my colleagues to meet this challenge and support this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO DELORIS CARTER
HAMPTON

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Deloris Carter Hampton, a resident of Northern Virginia, who passed away on July 15, 2001, while attending a family gathering in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. I first met Deloris over ten years ago and was immediately impressed by her generosity of spirit, boundless energy, sense of humor, and devotion to her family and friends. As a young student, she fulfilled her dream of becoming a dancer by dancing for Martha Graham. She graduated from Tuskegee Institute and received her master's degree from New York University before beginning her teaching career in Huntsville, Alabama and in Englewood, New Jersey. Deloris was a caring wife, mother, friend and teacher. She was dedicated to children and teaching, and spent 27 years as a physical education instructor before retiring in 1996 from the public schools in Prince William County, Virginia. Deloris was an activist in her community, in the State of Virginia and in civil rights. In Prince William County, she was a member of the Service Authority, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Committee of 100, the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA), and a founding member of Women in Community Action (WICA). She was active in the National, Virginia and Prince William County Education Associations, the American Association of University Women (AAUW), the Fairfax County Retired Educators Association as immediate past President, in the Virginia Education Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance, in Carousels, Inc., and in Celebrate Children. She was a hard working member of her church, Good Shepherd United Methodist Church. Deloris leaves a loving family, her husband, George M. Hampton, Sr., a retired Army officer, her father, George L. Carter, Sr., a son George M. Hampton, Jr., a daughter Sydni T.

Hampton, and a granddaughter, Desiree D. Hampton. Deloris will always be missed by those who knew her but her selfless, giving spirit lives on in her community, and with her family and her friends.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2647) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes:

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my support for the fiscal year 2002 Legislative Branch Appropriations bill. During the last few years, Congress has led a historic effort to reduce the deficit and incorporate fiscal responsibility into federal spending. We reviewed programs and guidelines to make them more efficient and effective and explored alternatives to get the most of each tax dollar. We have also adopted many proposals that have saved taxpayers billions of dollars. Today, we again have the opportunity to reaffirm our message of fiscal responsibility and deficit reduction by passing this legislation.

As many of my Colleagues know, since 1991 I have, along with several other Members, introduced an amendment to the Legislative Branch Appropriations bill that simply requires unspent office funds to be used for deficit or debt reduction. This amendment has always received strong bipartisan support and I am proud to report that the committee has included this provision in the base bill.

In the last few years we have achieved what has eluded Congress for 30 years—a balanced budget. The fiscal year 2002 Legislative Branch Appropriations bill continues our assault on the national debt and holds the line on spending. I believe this measure provides a good incentive for Members to spend taxpayer funds responsibly and lead by example in our efforts to reduce the national debt. Without this provision, Members' unspent office funds can be "reprogrammed" for other budget purposes, frustrating the frugal efforts of many Members. Let's keep practicing sound spending practices and keep moving towards reducing our enormous national debt.

I thank the Chairman for his support and for including the unspent office funds provision in H.R. 2647 and I urge all Members to support this important legislation.

TRIBUTE TO EARNEST L. RICE

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Earnest L. Rice, who is about to retire after a long career with United Parcel Service and will soon relinquish his post on my Military Advisory Board.

Earnie Rice has had a long and distinguished career with UPS, starting in 1967 as a package car driver. Over the years, he rose within the ranks of his company and eventually reached the post of Operations Manager. Now, at the end of his career, Earnie is the Community Relations Manager for the Metro New York District, a position he has held for the past eight years.

Earnie Rice has also worked hard for his community. In the past, he served on the Board of Directors of the Harlem YMCA, and worked with the American Cancer Society as well as City Meals-on-Wheels. Mr. Rice also served his country honorably in the Vietnam War.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Mr. Rice. He has been a great asset to our community and we will miss his contributions to my Military Advisory Board. I wish him luck in his future endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF DR. HARLAN
DETLEFSEN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Harlan Detlefsen, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, who practiced in Ferndale, Humboldt County, California for more than fifty years. His contributions to horse racing and the Humboldt County Fair will be celebrated on August 11, 2001 with the dedication of an historic barn in his memory.

In his long association with the Humboldt County Fair, Dr. Detlefsen served as the track veterinarian, assistant veterinarian and volunteer. His lifelong support and service continued through the 2000 Humboldt County Fair. Highly esteemed in his community and by his colleagues for his dedication and commitment to the highest standards of veterinary practice, Dr. Detlefsen has left a distinguished legacy to his wife, Maxine, and to his daughters, Wendy Lestina, Candace Detlefsen, and Tonya Detlefsen.

After his retirement, Dr. Detlefsen established himself in the Myers Flat area as an extraordinary horticulturist, providing County Fair personnel each year with a variety of fruits and vegetables from his Southern Humboldt gardens.

The Humboldt County Fair Association and the Ferndale Jockey Club will dedicate the historic Assembly Barn, first built in 1928, to Dr. Detlefsen who helped prepare the facilities for the monitoring of racehorses in Fair competitions.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Harlan Detlefsen, DVM, for his outstanding service to his community.

IN TRIBUTE TO A PEACEMAKER,
JOHN WALLACH, FOUNDER OF
SEEDS OF PEACE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Mr. GILMAN, Mr. BALDACCI, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr.

ALLEN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. KNOLLENBERG, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. RAHALL, Ms. LOWEY, Mr. FILNER, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mr. SANDERS and Mr. NADLER, I rise to honor John Wallach, journalist and international peacemaker. Mr. Wallach has nurtured a belief that peace can be achieved when opponents humanize each other, get to know each other, and grow to respect and understand each other, and learn to live together. Mr. Wallach created a place where that humanizing and coexistence could take place. It is a camp called Seeds of Peace.

Starting in 1993, Seeds of Peace has brought together Arab and Israeli teenagers, aged 13 to 15, to learn how to stop the cycle of violence and to learn conflict resolution skills. Since then, teenagers from opposing sides in the Balkans, Cyprus and India/Pakistan international conflicts have begun to participate. They participate in person-to-person peacemaking. They create the substance of peace—daily coexistence. They confront the most difficult issues facing their nations—refugees, water, borders, holy sites—issues that in many cases their leaders have avoided. No subject is left unaddressed and their hatred is raw, the pain is fierce and real. Unlike their national leaders, Seeds of Peace participants must live every waking moment together—sleeping, eating, playing, conversing, and understanding. Seeds of Peace is a supplement to international diplomacy. While governments sign agreements, it is up to ordinary people to fulfill the meaning of those documents, and they do it through daily coexistence.

The Seeds of Peace Camp is set in Maine, a safe, neutral and beautiful environment. It is a physical location that reminds participants of what the world can be. Seeds of Peace fosters friendships among young people in order to facilitate an enduring peace in the future.

An indicator of the program's success was the first Middle East Youth Summit (organized by Seeds of Peace) at Villars, Switzerland in May, 1998. The Summit brought together Seeds of Peace graduates from Egypt, Israel, Jordan, the Palestinian National Authority and the United States to collaborate in figuring out how to end the stalemate of the peace process. The young delegates were presented with the areas in conflict, and they subsequently framed a Declaration of Principles, upholding conflict resolution methods and concepts. The final result of the Summit was the "Charter of Villars," which was proposed as a starting point for Israeli and Palestinian leaders in going about resolving conflicting issues. The Charter serves as a paradigm for future attempts at peaceful conflict resolution.

The short-term impact of the program is obvious, and its long term success will be measured by the continuing connections among graduates. Two-thirds of the teens, it is estimated, remain actively involved with each other and with the program.

A total of twenty-one delegations participated in Seeds of Peace in the summer of 2000: eight delegations from the Middle East (Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Qatar, Tunisia, and Yemen), two from Cyprus (Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot), Greece, Turkey, the Balkan nations, and the United States.

For fostering peace through the Seeds of Peace program, Mr. Wallach has been recognized for playing a significant role in the Middle East peace process. He received the

UNESCO Peace Prize in 2000, and received the Legion of Honor of the Hashemite Kingdom from King Hussein in 1997. Mr. Wallach also founded the Chautauqua Conference on U.S.-Soviet Relations, for which he received the 1991 Medal of Friendship from then President Mikhail Gorbachev. President Clinton saluted Mr. Wallach by writing, "Your commitment to spreading the message of tolerance, justice and human right has helped so many people . . . and planted the seeds for peace in the generation that will one day be leading our world."

Before embarking on a second career as an ambassador of peace and mutual understanding, Mr. Wallach had a distinguished career in journalism and as an author. From 1968 to 1994, he served as diplomatic correspondent, White House correspondent, and foreign editor for the Hearst Newspapers. He was named BBC's first visiting correspondent in 1980, and contributed regularly to CBC, NPR, and BBC. He was also the founding editor of WE/Mbl, the first independent weekly newspaper in Russia. His articles earned many prizes, including two Overseas Press Club awards, the Edward Weintal Prize and the Edwin Hood Award, the highest honor presented by the National Press Club. In 1979, President Carter presented Mr. Wallach with the Congressional Committee of Correspondents Award for his coverage of the Egyptian-Israeli Camp David summit. As an author, he co-authored with his wife Janet Wallach, three books, *Arafat: In The Eyes of the Beholder*, *Still Small Voices*, and *The New Palestinians*. Mr. Wallach has also written *The Enemy has a Face*.

When Mr. Wallach founded Seeds of Peace, many people told him it was a futile undertaking. They told him he would be risking his reputation. Despite the critics, Mr. Wallach persisted. Thankfully, he did, and through his example, he has demonstrated the power of hopeful vision, dogged determination, inspiring optimism, and faith in humankind. Let us join Mr. Wallach in the hope that one day, there will be a pathbreaking international summit, where the representatives of many nations have in common the experience of peacemaking at Seeds of Peace. That will be a great day indeed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for rollcall vote 305. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." I ask unanimous consent that this be noted at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

COLORADO RIVER QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT FACILITATION ACT

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, as you know, the story of the American West is one of a re-

lentless quest for our most precious resource: water. Hundreds of rivers have been diverted and dammed, and thousands have lost their lives over this precious resource. Many of these battles continue today as our Western population rapidly grows, environmental regulations increase, and farmers find themselves in the outrageous predicament of arguing over what should have a priority during water shortages: the livelihood of their families and communities—or fish.

Today I am proud to introduce the Colorado River Quantification Settlement Facilitation Act. This legislation will enable California to avoid future water conflicts by establishing the means for new conservation measures. In addition, it will ensure a reliable source of water for Southern California's many agricultural and urban users.

For decades, California has been using approximately 800,000 acre feet per year more from the Colorado River than its 4.4 million acre feet water right. Understandably, the other river basin states, with many of their communities growing rapidly, have long expressed concern. They feel our continued use of their surplus water, with no plan to wean ourselves from such use, will come into conflict with their inevitable need to utilize their full water rights.

In recent months, the California Colorado River water agencies and the other basin states came to an important agreement. This agreement established a time-line for California to gradually, over fifteen years, decrease its dependency on the Colorado River and live within its 4.4 million acre feet annual allotment. The agreement establishes new operating procedures that allow California to continue to use excess river water, while they develop ways to establish agricultural conservation measures. This will make possible increased transfers of water to urban areas and ensure our future compliance. Further, the agreement mandates that California adhere to specific benchmark conservation goals, which if go unmet, California would immediately be forced to live within the 4.4 million acre feet allotment. Such a scenario would prove disastrous to our state.

My legislation will help California avert such a crisis by providing a degree of certainty in completing the agreement's required benchmarks, funding off-stream reservoirs to store surplus water, and insuring compliance with the Endangered Species Act by funding environmental mitigation in and around the Salton Sea. The Sea, in my district, is the largest lake in California and habitat for hundreds of species of birds and fish, which I aim to protect against the effects of any water conservation measures.

Again, I introduce the Colorado River Quantification Settlement Facilitation Act. This bill will promote conservation and enable reliable water supplies for California for decades to come. I urge my colleagues' thoughtful consideration.

TRIBUTE TO THE BRONX PUERTO RICAN DAY PARADE

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, once again it is with pride that I rise to pay tribute to the

Bronx Puerto Rican Day Parade, on its thirteenth year of celebrating the culture and contributions of the Puerto Rican community to our nation.

The Bronx Puerto Rican Day Parade will be held on Sunday, August 5, in my South Bronx Congressional District. The event is the culmination of a series of activities surrounding Puerto Rican Week in the Bronx.

Under the direction of the Bronx Puerto Rican Day Parade Committee, Inc., the parade has grown into one of the most colorful and important festivals of Puerto Rican culture in the five boroughs of New York City and beyond. The Parade brings together people from all ethnic backgrounds, including Puerto Ricans from the Island and all across the nation.

It is an honor for me to join once again the hundreds of thousands of people who will march with pride along the Grand Concourse in celebration of our Puerto Rican heritage. The Puerto Rican flag and other ornaments in the flag's red, white, and blue will decorate the festival.

As one who has participated in the parade in the past, I can attest to the excitement it generates as it brings the entire City together. It is a celebration and an affirmation of life. It is wonderful that so many people can have this experience, which will change the lives of many of them. There's no better way to see our community in the Bronx.

The event will feature a wide variety of entertainment for all age groups. The Parade will end with live music, Puerto Rican food, crafts, and other entertainment. It is expected that this year's parade will surpass last year's number of visitors.

In addition to the parade, the many organizers have provided the community with nearly a week of activities to commemorate the contributions of the Puerto Rican community, its culture and history.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great enthusiasm that I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this wonderful celebration of Puerto Rican culture, which has brought so much pride to the Bronx community.

RECOGNIZING ANDY AND BETTY BECKSTOFFER FOR BEING CITIZENS OF THE YEAR

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Andy and Betty Beckstoffer for being named St. Helena 2001 Citizens of the Year. As residents of St. Helena for over 25 years, they consistently contribute positively to my hometown.

Two of my great friends, Andy and Betty Beckstoffer, have been at the helm of one of the most successful grape growing operations in the country. Beckstoffer Vineyards now owns and operates vineyards in Mendocino, Lake, and Napa counties, all three of which I am honored to represent in Congress.

I admire the Beckstoffers for their success in the grape growing business and in community service. Andy has always been a leader in utilizing new technologies to increase the quality of wine grapes from Northern California.

The highly respected winegrowing region in my district owes a lot of its success to the innovative style of Andy Beckstoffer.

Betty Beckstoffer is currently a member of the board of the St. Helena Boys & Girls Club. She works tirelessly to improve the lives of the young people in the Napa Valley. Betty has been a real star in generating support for the Club—she has coordinated fundraising efforts to bring thousands of dollars to support the goal of aiding at-risk children.

The Beckstoffers moved to my hometown, St. Helena, in 1975, the same year Andy became a founding director of the Napa Valley Grape Growers Association. Beckstoffer Vineyards came to life after Andy invested \$7,500 to buy a small grape growing company in 1973. The company has grown under the care of the Beckstoffers to a company that now owns over 2500 acres of Northern California vineyards.

Andy and Betty were married in 1960, and are the proud parents of five children. Our community and our country are fortunate to have citizens like the Beckstoffers promoting the wine industry and working to improve the lives of our nation's youth.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the achievements of Andy and Betty Beckstoffer. The town of St. Helena, the entire Napa Valley, and our nation should aspire to achieve the success of these two great Americans.

ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE
"MX MISSILE STAND-DOWN ACT"

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, today, Rep. TAUSCHER and I are introducing the "MX Missile Stand-Down Act", a measure to take the 50 MX missiles off of hair-trigger alert.

Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld announced on June 27 of this year that the Pentagon would seek to dismantle these 50 MX missiles. Yesterday, the House Armed Services Committee passed by voice vote an amendment by Rep. ALLEN to the Defense Authorization bill to allow such dismantlement, which had been previously prohibited by Congress.

The bill we are introducing today augments these recent steps. According to a preliminary plan by the Air Force, these MX missiles would be dismantled over a 3-year timescale. What our legislation is saying is that there is no need to keep the balance of the silo-busting, heavily-MIRVed MX missiles in a state of ready launch during that time, and therefore we direct the Secretary of Defense to stand-down the MX missiles by removing their warheads over FY2002.

This is a simple but important step. Currently, the United States and Russia have a total of about 4,000 weapons on hair-trigger alert, ready to launch within a few minutes. This state of readiness is unnecessary a decade after the end of the Cold War. As then-Governor George W. Bush observed during the recent Presidential campaign on May 23, 2000, "[T]he United States should remove as many weapons as possible from high-alert, hair-trigger status. Another unnecessary ves-

tige of Cold War confrontation, preparation for quick launch within minutes after warning of an attack was the rule during the era of superpower rivalry. But today for two nations at peace, keeping so many weapons on high alert may create unacceptable risks of accidental or unauthorized launch."

There is a real danger that a false alarm could lead to a nuclear exchange, as evidenced by episodes such as the 1995 incident in which the Russians mistook a scientific launch for an attack and began the process of responding. With the Russian early warning systems having deteriorated since that incident, the hazard is all the more plausible. Therefore, we also direct the Secretary of Defense to make yearly reports to Congress on the condition of the Russian early warning systems, as well as the inventory and alert status of the Russian nuclear arsenal.

This bill continues the process of confidence-building, making a definitive, material statement to the Russians that we do not wish to continue to maintain our nuclear weapons in high-alert and thereby encourage them to follow suit.

ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE
"MX MISSILE STAND-DOWN ACT"

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join Congressman MARKEY today in offering this important bill which I believe would take an important step toward making the world safer from the threat of accidental nuclear war.

As you may know, Mr. Speaker, the United States and Russia maintain between them, over 4000 weapons on high alert. These weapons are capable of being launched in 3 to 15 minutes and have a combined destructive power nearly 100,000 times greater than the atomic bomb dropped over Hiroshima.

Within a few minutes of receiving instructions to fire, American and Russian land-based rockets with over 3,000 warheads could begin their 25 minute flight to their targets. Less than 15 minutes after receiving their attack order, U.S. and Russian ballistic missile submarines could dispatch over 1,000 warheads.

As you know Mr. Speaker, none of these missiles can be recalled or made to self-destruct.

The Cold War is over but the dangers posed by nuclear weapons have increased because of the heightened risk of an attack resulting from accident, miscalculation or unauthorized use. Indeed, I have serious concerns about the steady deterioration of Russia's early warning and nuclear command systems. According to intelligence reports, critical electronic devices and computers sometimes switch to combat mode for no apparent reason. And many of the radars and satellites intended to detect a ballistic missile attack no longer operate.

During the 2000 campaign, President Bush stated that the "U.S. should remove as many weapons as possible from high-alert, hair-trigger status" because an excess number "on high-alert may create unacceptable risks of accidental or unauthorized launch".

This important bill would take a small but significant step toward reducing the risk of accidental nuclear conflict by de-alerting the 50 Peacekeeper Missiles. By building trust with the Russians and showing them we are serious about arms control, this measure is a serious and responsible investment in our country's security.

In 1991, responding to the August Moscow coup, and along with START negotiations, President George Bush took 450 Minuteman II missiles and all strategic bombers off alert.

In response, Russia announced the deactivation of 503 ICBMs and pledged to keep bombers at low readiness levels.

Mr. Speaker, ten years later it is high time we do this again. Let's deactivate the MX Missiles and send the Russians the same message we did in 1991 that we are serious about reducing the threat of nuclear war.

DISABLED VETERANS SERVICE
DOGS & HEALTH CARE IMPROVEMENT
ACT OF 2001

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Veterans Subcommittee on Health I am introducing the "Veterans Service Dogs & Health Care Improvement Act of 2001." This legislation improves veterans' health care services in several important ways.

It allows the VA to provide service dogs to disabled veterans. It mandates improvement in VA capacity for specialized medical programs for veterans, such as serious mental illness, spinal cord injury, blindness, amputees and traumatic brain injuries. It modifies the VA's "ability to pay" formula so that low-income veterans can receive the care they need. Finally, the bill establishes innovative pilot programs to help us learn how we can improve veterans' benefits in the future.

We all know that dog is man's best friend, but for many disabled veterans, a dog is much more than a friend. Service dogs can greatly enhance the quality of life for many seriously disabled veterans. This bill authorizes the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide enrolled veterans with spinal cord injuries, immobility due to chronic impairment and hearing impairment to use service dogs in day-to-day activities. Training, travel, and incidental expenses incurred while adjusting to the dog may also be paid.

This bill also seeks to strengthen mandates for VA to maintain capacity in specialized medical programs, such as serious mental illness, spinal cord injury, blinded veterans, veterans with amputations and veterans suffering from traumatic brain injuries, in each VISN. Although overall capacity has increased in the VA, there has been a decrease in the number of veterans with substance-use and mental illness served in specialized programs. With over 225,000 homeless veterans currently living on our streets, we cannot allow this to continue. Only 11 of 25 spinal cord injury facilities are providing the number of staffed beds specified by a VHA Directive. We must extend the reporting requirement to ensure VA is doing what was directed to care for our at-risk veteran population.

Beyond the VHA Directive regarding capacity, this bill seeks to modify the current VA means-test threshold. For about fifteen years, the VA has determined a nonservice-connected veteran's ability to pay by comparing a veteran's income to a predetermined "means-test threshold." The threshold, expressed in annual household income, is an assumed income level that would be sufficient to a veteran to pay for health care in the community. If a veteran's income is below the "ability to pay" threshold, (currently \$23,688 for a single veteran without dependents) he or she is eligible for VA care, and permits the veteran to avoid the co-payments charged to higher-income veterans for VA health care services.

VA's one national standard income threshold has been criticized for years because of the disparities in living costs throughout the country.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development employs a system of ascertaining poverty levels for subsidized housing that is much more reflective of the cost of living around the country than the VA's means test. The Chairman of the Full Committee and I believe the HUD index should be used by VA to better reflect differences in economic factors.

Another provision of this bill explores improved coordination of VA ambulatory and community hospital care. This calls for a 4-year, 4-site pilot project in which the VA refers enrolled veterans to local community hospitals rather than transporting them to an urban VA facility hours away. This is one more way the VA can work to bring VA services closer to the veterans they serve.

Another pilot program proposed in this bill is a 4-year, 4-VISN program for managed care through an outside contractor in VA's \$500 million fee-basis and contract hospitalization program. A contractor would provide resource information and referral services to eligible veterans, RN staffed advice lines, coordination with assigned VA case managers, and a variety of reports and data on utilization, satisfaction, quality, access, and outcomes. This program provides care to service-connected veterans whose places of residence or health conditions prevents them to be geographically accessible to VA facilities, or available VA facilities cannot furnish the care or services required. This would also provide health care for life threatening emergencies when no VA facility is available.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes important improvements in our veterans health care system. When Congress returns from the August break, the Subcommittee will consider this important legislation. I urge the members to support the bill on behalf of veterans.

LIFE OF MRS. MAMIE L.
TOWNSEND

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, it is with both sorrow and appreciation that I submit these remarks on behalf of the life and memory of Mrs. Mamie L. Harrington Townsend who departed this life last Saturday, July 28, 2001.

First I am grateful that Mrs. Townsend was loaned to us for such a long time. I feel a spe-

cial kinship to her and was saddened when I learned that she had taken a flight to California and whereupon she took another flight to heaven. We were similar in so many ways: Her mother's name is Julia. We both attended Crispus Attucks High School and IUPUI. We both love children, family, community, state and nation. We have backgrounds that reflect diverse employment and have been honored by many of the same organizations.

Mamie was universal in her commitments and volunteerism. She has been acclaimed Woman of the Year by her sorority and received the prestigious Sagamore of the Wabash; distinguished citizen, outstanding businesswoman, "Who's who among women", Sojourner Truth award, and Mary McCloud Bethune award among her many awards. Her greatest reward is yet to come.

Time and space does not accommodate her many achievements. She was simply a unique, tireless, and selfless person.

Mamie was my friend. She had a beautiful spirit. She was a continuous helper to more than we would ever know about.

The great book reminds us that there is a time for all things under the heaven. That there is a time to be born—she was born not once but twice. There is a time to die—she died—in the arms of Jesus.

She has enriched the lives of many—she inspired me especially.

To her family: thanks for sharing Mamie with us. Be strong and of good courage. You have so much to be proud of and to celebrate.

MOTOR VEHICLE OWNERS RIGHT
TO REPAIR ACT

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Motor Vehicle Owners Right to Repair Act. As the name implies, this bill will preserve a vehicle owners' freedom to choose where, how and by whom to repair their vehicles as well as their choice in car parts.

Right now, thousands of vehicle owners who are being turned away from their local repair facility. They are being denied the choice of working on their own vehicles, or the choice of replacement parts because information necessary to make these repairs or integrate replacement parts with the vehicle computer system is not readily available or not available at all. This isn't the way it used to be. Until recently, this information was either not necessary or widely available. But language in the 1990 Clean Air Act mandated that vehicle manufacturers install computer systems in vehicles 1994 and newer to monitor emissions. This law had the unintended consequence of making the vehicle manufacturer the gatekeeper on who can repair, or produce, replacement parts for the vehicle.

This lack of consumer choice will have a huge negative economic impact. An economic study examining this lack of choice's effect on California vehicle owners concluded that motorist repair bills in California alone would increase by 17 billion through 2008. Nation-wide this would equate to a huge tax increase on the American people and severely hurt low and fixed income motorists.

I believe that most vehicle owners who have for years taken for granted that any qualified repair technician of their choice, including themselves, may repair their vehicle have relied heavily on the quality, cost and convenience of the competitive independent aftermarket parts will be surprised to find that in many cases it no longer exists.

With this legislation, we put the motor vehicle owner back in the driver's seat.

MEDICARE REGULATORY AND
CONTRACTING REFORM ACT OF
2001

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to join Chairman NANCY JOHNSON (R-CT) in introducing legislation that will improve Medicare's administrative functions. Our bill addresses two very important problems in Medicare. First, it takes important steps to improve outreach and assistance to beneficiaries and providers, and to respond to certain other legitimate concerns raised by physicians and other providers. And second, it includes long overdue contracting reforms that will improve beneficiary and provider services and permit the consolidation of Medicare claims processing. Importantly, however, our legislation does not compromise the government's ability to protect taxpayer dollars from being inappropriately spent under Medicare.

Mr. Speaker, no public program can continue without strong public support, and I suggest that Medicare needs both public support and provider support. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), formerly the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), is constantly criticized for burdensome regulations and paperwork. Yet polls of physicians and other providers have shown that providers prefer Medicare over other payers because Medicare pays faster and does less second-guessing than other payers.

We need to improve the education and information processes for providers. It is hard for even the most seasoned Medicare analyst to keep track of all the payment and policy changes that have occurred in Medicare in the last few years. How can we expect providers to keep track of all of these changes while continuing to provide services? We need to do a much better job of educating and assisting physicians and other providers about these changes, and this legislation will help the CMS/HCFA do so.

Mr. Speaker, throughout the history of Medicare, we have relied on Medicare contractors—carriers and fiscal intermediaries—to provide information to beneficiaries and providers, but that process is outdated in the face of all of the changes. Although that approach worked well for many years, I think most stakeholders would agree that we need major improvements in the Medicare contracting processes. Every President since President Carter has proposed reforms to the administrative contracting provisions in Medicare, yet they have never been enacted. I hope we succeed this time.

Mr. Speaker, our legislation takes important steps to improve outreach and assistance to

providers. It would also create a Medicare Provider Ombudsman to help physicians and other providers to address confusion, lack of coordination, and other problems or concerns they may have with Medicare policies.

Our bill reforms the Medicare contracting processes by consolidating the contracting functions for Part A and Part B of Medicare, permitting the Secretary to contract with separate Medicare Administrative Contractors to perform discrete functions, making use of the Federal Acquisition Rules in contracting, eliminating the requirements for cost contracting, and expanding the kinds of entities eligible for contracting. Our bill would permit consolidation of claims processing with fewer contractors, and it would permit separate contracting along functional lines—for beneficiary services, provider services, and claims processing.

Mr. Speaker, my support for combining the administrative contracting functions of Part A and Part B in no way implies my support for combining the Part A and Part B trust funds or otherwise combining the financing or benefits. I strongly oppose such a consolidation.

Mr. Speaker, I have tried for years to get CMS/HCFA to institute a single toll-free phone number for Medicare beneficiaries like the single toll-free phone number that Social Security has operated for years. Finally, in the BBA, the Congress mandated the establishment of a toll-free number, 1-800-MEDICARE. By all accounts, it has been a great success, and even CMS/HCFA now touts its success. However, CMS/HCFA has still been unwilling to permit Medicare beneficiaries to use this number as a single entry point to Medicare. The latest national Medicare handbook includes 14 pages of telephone numbers for beneficiaries to call with specific questions! Surely, if a beneficiary calls the 1-800-MEDICARE number, their call could be transferred to the appropriate number, rather than asking them to try to locate the correct number themselves from among 14 pages of numbers!

In addition to not having a single place to call for Medicare problems, beneficiaries also have no casework office whose responsibility is to help them with their Medicare problems. In the past, CMS/HCFA has relied on the contractors, but many of the problems beneficiaries face are with the contractors themselves. In addition, CMS/HCFA now relies on State Health Insurance Counseling and Assistance Programs (HICAP) organizations to help beneficiaries. I am a strong supporter of these organizations; however, these agencies are staffed with volunteers. It is absurd for a huge public program the size of Medicare to rely on volunteers to be the main source of assistance for its beneficiaries.

We should look to the Social Security Administration to identify ways to provide assistance for Medicare beneficiaries. For example, Social Security not only has regional tele-service centers to staff their national toll-free line and help beneficiaries with their questions, SSA also has Program Service Centers to perform casework for Social Security beneficiaries with specific problems. We need similar offices for Medicare beneficiaries to perform casework for them. Currently, Medicare casework is handled primarily by Congressional offices, since no casework office exists in Medicare.

I have proposed that Medicare staff be stationed in Social Security field offices to help

answer questions and provide assistance for Medicare beneficiaries. There are 1291 SSA field offices around the world, and I would like to see Medicare staff in many, if not all of them in the near future. I am pleased that the legislation we are introducing today authorizes a demonstration program to examine the value of placing Medicare staff in SSA field offices, and I hope it will be expanded if it is found to aid beneficiaries.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, let me address Medicare administrative resources. Two years ago, in the January/February 1999 issue of Health Affairs, fourteen of our nation's leading Medicare policy analysts—ranging from conservative to liberal—published an open letter titled, "Crisis Facing HCFA & Millions of Americans." The crisis they spoke about was the lack of resources to administer Medicare. Their letter is even more relevant today. As its administrative workload has increased, CMS/HCFA resources have not kept pace. The changes that we propose in our legislation today are important, but by themselves, they are not sufficient. We simply must get more resources into Medicare administration.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ASA HUTCHINSON

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, I was inadvertently detained during several rollcall votes this week. If I had been present I would have voted in the following way: Rollcall No. 301—"yea"; No. 302—"nay"; No. 304—"yea"; No. 305—"yea"; and No. 320—"yea".

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE WILLIAM E. LEONARD

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and honor the accomplishments of The Honorable William E. Leonard, member of the California Assembly, 63rd District.

Mr. Leonard earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from UC Berkeley in 1944, and served in the United States Army from 1943 to 1946 where he rose to the rank of First Lieutenant. After his military service, he joined his father at the Leonard Realty & Building Company. He served as a member of the California State Highway Commission from 1973 to 1977, and was appointed to the California Transportation Commission from 1985 to 1993, and served as its chair in 1990 and 1991. Prior to that he was a member of the state's Athletic Commission from 1956 to 1958. He currently serves on the state's High-Speed Rail Authority.

Mr. Leonard has been actively involved in a number of community organizations. He is a member and past director of the San Bernardino Host Lions, a founding member

and president of Inland Action, Inc., and a member of the National Orange Show Board of Directors, where he has served as President and Chairman of the Board of Governors. He is also a member and elder of the First Presbyterian Church of San Bernardino. He served on the San Bernardino Valley Board of Realtors, San Bernardo Valley Foundation, St. Bernadine's Hospital Foundation, and the University of California at Riverside Foundation.

In recognition of his outstanding service to the constituents of the 63rd Assembly District, and his involvement in bringing the Foothill Freeway to the Inland Empire, the California State Senate passed a resolution naming the interchange of I-15 and Route 210 as the William E. Leonard Interchange. A dedication ceremony will take place on July 20, 2001.

Mr. Leonard's exemplary record of service has earned the admiration and respect of those who have had the privilege of working with him. I would like to congratulate him on these accomplishments and thank him for the service he has provided to his community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL OF SOUTH TEXAS

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the important contributions of the Community Action Council of South Texas (CACST) to the improvement of the general quality of life of the citizens of South Texas. CACST is a private, nonprofit corporation that provides high quality comprehensive primary health care to the medically underserved residents in Duval, Jim Hogg, Starr, and Zapata Counties in South Texas. These counties are currently medically underserved due to geographic isolation, financial barriers, and an insufficient number of health care providers.

The CACST has made great strides in the South Texas health care system, specifically by empowering communities to develop programs to meet their specific needs. This has strengthened the local communities and enhanced opportunities for children and families. In addition, the CACST has maintained a high standard of accountability and provided health care services in accessible low-cost environments.

They have worked to improve access to quality health care by providing trained professionals in areas that had previously been underserved and promote individual responsibility and health awareness in the communities. It is critical that the CACST remain a provider of primary health care and their host of support services, including transportation, case management, outreach, and eligibility assistance. Their presence in the South Texas community has been a tremendous benefit to the individuals that reside there. I commend their efforts to help achieve primary health care for everyone and end health disparities.

TRANSITIONAL MEDICAL
ASSISTANCE IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to join with my colleagues MICHAEL CASTLE and HENRY WAXMAN in introducing the Transitional Medical Assistance Improvement Act. I am also pleased to partner with Senators LINCOLN CHAFEE and JOHN BREAUX, who have introduced identical legislation in the other body. This bill is a critical next step toward making welfare reform work for families and for states. Improving access to health insurance for people leaving welfare is also a necessary component of any plan to reduce the number of uninsured people in the U.S.

When we passed the 1996 welfare reform bill, we agreed on a bipartisan basis that people who left welfare for work should not lose health insurance coverage. Unless Congress acts, the program which keeps that promise, the Transitional Medical Assistance program (TMA), will expire at the end of 2002. The TMA Improvement Act would permanently authorize this critical program and fix some of the problems that have kept it from living up to its potential.

We made the commitment to providing health insurance for people who leave welfare for work both because it was the fair thing to do and because health insurance is a critical work support. According to the Welfare-to-Work Partnership, which represents over 20,000 businesses that have hired former recipients, access to health insurance is one of the five most important things that keeps employees on the job. However, it can be difficult for some employers—especially smaller ones—to offer medical benefits to employees and their dependents. For example, while 74 percent of all The Partnership's members offer health benefits to their new workers, only 56 percent of the smallest employers—those with 50 employees or fewer—are able to do so. And health insurance sometimes isn't offered to part-time employees, or doesn't become effective for up to a year. Even when an employer does offer health care benefits, employees may not participate if they can't afford the premiums.

TMA fills the gap for former welfare recipients who aren't offered insurance or can't afford the coverage they're offered. Unfortunately, certain technical problems with the program have made it difficult for states to administer and even more difficult for eligible workers to access. Here are a few of the major problems the TMA Improvement Act would solve.

Our bill would give states the option of offering up to a year of continuous TMA coverage, without burdensome reporting requirements and excessive paperwork. Current law requires beneficiaries to re-apply for coverage every three months and have states redetermine their eligibility for benefits. The redetermination forms are often long, complicated, and difficult to fill out, requiring time and energy that a working parent in a new job may not have. The process also creates a significant burden for primary care providers by forcing them to re-verify insurance coverage each time they see a TMA patient, which makes them reluctant to serve this population.

Our bill would allow states to offer a second year of TMA coverage to workers who were still poor and uninsured. The Urban Institute estimates that 50% of people leaving welfare are uninsured a year after leaving the rolls. On average, those workers earn \$7 an hour and cannot afford to purchase private insurance. A few states are already trying to offer these workers a second year of Medicaid coverage, but current law makes doing so administratively complex.

Our bill would allow states to provide transitional health coverage to people who find work quickly. Ironically, current law restricts TMA coverage to those who have been receiving assistance for at least 3 months. This means that some of the most motivated people leaving welfare, those that find work the most quickly, are deprived of health coverage. I applaud my home state of Michigan for using state funds to cover this group, but I believe the federal government should be doing its part.

Our bill would make it easier for employers, community groups, schools, and health clinics to help us enroll working parents in health insurance programs. A recent survey of employers of welfare recipients found that 79% would be willing to help a new employee access information on these programs if they knew he or she were eligible. Many were even willing to help the employee enroll. Our bill would ensure that nonwelfare office sites were able to accept applications for TMA, greatly expanding access for working parents who are unable to go to welfare offices during business hours.

Tens of thousands of former welfare recipients have gone to work since 1996, exactly as we asked. I hope that my colleagues will join me in supporting the TMA Improvement Act, which will ensure that Congress keeps its promise of transitional health insurance for these hard-working parents and their children.

REGARDING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF BRANDY VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of the Brandy Station Volunteer Fire Department, which has faithfully protected and served its community since 1951.

Throughout its five decades, this organization has served as a true testament to the spirit of volunteerism that makes America such a uniquely compassionate country. After receiving its charter in February, 1951, the department started off by obtaining a single fire truck through the generosity of the neighboring town of Culpeper. Over the course of the next two years, numerous dinners, dances, and bake sales held in order to raise enough money to finance the building of its first fire station in 1953. Although it does receive a small portion of its budget from Culpeper County, the department still operates primarily on the donations of its members and the Brandy Station community. In the year 2000 alone, the volunteers were able to answer seven hundred and twenty-three calls, which included everything from auto accidents and

house fires to plane crashes and hazardous chemical spills. Even while answering this extremely high number of calls, they were still able to keep their response time to an incredible low average of 4½ minutes. This is truly an exemplary group of individuals because of their outstanding commitment to the protection of Brandy Station and its citizens.

Mr. Speaker and members of the House, my words here do not do justice to the service of the men and women of the Brandy Station Volunteer Fire Department, but I ask that you join me in honoring their 50th Anniversary and wish them fifty more years of success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CHILDREN'S LEAD SCREENING ACCOUNTABILITY FOR EARLY INTERVENTION ACT OF 1999
(CHILDREN'S LEAD SAFE ACT)

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to re-introduce the Children's Lead Screen Intervention Act. This important legislation will strengthen federal mandates designed to protect our children from lead poisoning—a preventable tragedy that continues to threaten the health of our children.

Childhood lead poisoning has long been considered the number one environmental health threat facing children in the United States, and despite dramatic reductions in blood lead levels over the past 20 years, lead poisoning continues to be a significant health risk for young children. CDC has estimated that about 890,000, or 4.4 percent, of children between the ages of one and five have harmful levels of lead in their blood. Even at low levels, lead can have harmful effects on a child's intelligence and his, or her, ability to learn.

Children can be exposed to lead from a number of sources. We are all cognizant of lead based paint found in older homes and buildings. However, children may also be exposed to non paint sources of lead, as well as lead dust. Poor and minority children, who typically live in older housing, are at highest risk of lead poisoning. Therefore, this health threat is of particular concern to states, like New Jersey, where more than 35 percent of homes were built prior to 1950.

In 1996, New Jersey implemented a law requiring health care providers to test all young children for lead exposure. But during the first year of this requirement, there were actually fewer children screened than the year before, when there was no requirement at all. Between July 1997 and July 1998, 13,596 children were tested for lead poisoning. The year before that more than 17,000 tests were done.

New Jersey has made some progress since then. In the year 2000, New Jersey screened 67,594 children who were one or two years of age. But that is still only one-third of all children in that age group.

At the federal level, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) has mandated that Medicaid children under 2 years of age be screened for elevated blood lead levels. However, recent General Accounting Office (GAO) reports indicate that this is not being done. For

example, the GAO has found that only about 21 percent of Medicaid children between the ages of one and two have been screened. In the state of New Jersey, only about 39 percent of children enrolled in Medicaid have been screened.

Based on these reviews at both the state and federal levels, it is obvious that improvements must be made to ensure that children are screened early and receive follow up treatment if lead is detected. That is why I am introducing this legislation which I believe will address some of the shortcomings that have been identified in existing requirements.

The legislation will require Medicaid providers to screen children and cover treatment for children found to have elevated levels of lead in their blood. It will also require improved data reporting of children who are tested, so that we can accurately monitor the results of the program. Because more than 75 percent—or nearly 700,000—of the children found to have elevated blood lead levels are part of federally-funded health care programs, our bill targets not only Medicaid, but also Head Start, Early Head Start and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). Head Start and WIC programs would be allowed to perform screening or to mandate that parents show proof of screenings in order to enroll their children.

Education, early screening and prompt follow-up care will save millions in health care costs; but, more importantly will save our greatest resource—our children.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ACCIDENTAL SHOOTING PREVENTION ACT

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I am joined by 40 of my colleagues in introducing the "Accidental Shooting Prevention Act" to address the large number of firearm injuries and deaths that occur when users mistakenly fire guns they believe are not loaded. This sensible bipartisan legislation would require that all semiautomatic firearms manufactured after January 1, 2004, which have removable magazines, be equipped with plainly visible chamber load indicators and magazine disconnect mechanisms.

As with many other consumer products, firearm design can reduce the risk of injury. But unlike other products, gun design decisions have been largely left to manufacturers. Fortunately, firearms manufacturers have already produced many guns with safety devices, such as chamber load indicators and magazine disconnect mechanisms, which can help reduce the risk of accidental injuries.

A chamber load indicator indicates that the gun's firing chamber is loaded with ammunition, but to be effective, a user must be aware of the indicator. Generally, chamber load indicators display the presence of ammunition via a small protrusion somewhere on the handgun. Unfortunately, most chamber load indicators do not clearly indicate their existence to untrained users or observers. We must ensure these indicators are easily visible to all gun users, and my legislation will do just that.

By comparison, a magazine disconnect mechanism is an interlocking device which prevents a firearm from being fired when its ammunition magazine is removed, even if there is a round in the chamber. Interlocks are found on a wide variety of consumer products to reduce injury risks. For example, most new cars have an interlocking device that prevents the automatic transmission shifter from being moved from the "park" position unless the brake pedal is depressed. It is common sense that a product as dangerous as a gun should contain a similar safety mechanism.

This is an issue of great importance to me. At the age of sixteen, I was left paralyzed when a police officer's gun accidentally discharged and severed my spine. Had the gun involved in my accident been equipped with a chamber load indicator, the officer would have known that the weapon was loaded. Clearly, mistakes can happen even when guns are in the hands of highly trained weapons experts, which is why safety devices are so critical.

I urge my colleagues to join me and the 40 original co-sponsors of this bill in reducing the risk of unintentional shootings. Please co-sponsor this responsible measure, and help make guns safer for consumer use while protecting those unfamiliar with the operation of guns.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. AND MRS. WALSH

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to announce to you, and to the rest of my esteemed colleagues, that on August 4, 2001, Mr. and Mrs. William Walsh will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

Gloria and Bill were both born in Chicago, Illinois. On November 20, 1930, Gloria Augusta was born to Frank and Martha Velten. On October 22, 1929, William and Myrtle Walsh gave birth to William Kenneth.

Although they both graduated from Blue Island High School, they did not meet prior to graduation. It was after graduation, while members of a social club—Gloria was the Secretary-Treasurer and Bill was the President—that they met and began their lifelong partnership.

Gloria and Bill expanded their family with the birth of two daughters, Cynthia and Dawn. In 1959, Bill brought his family to Anaheim, California, and two years later co-founded Continental Vending, a successful family business he still manages.

The marriage of Gloria and Bill is a love story that is still in progress. Their "I do's" are as sincere and heartfelt today as they were 50 years ago and deserve our commendation.

It is with great pleasure that I rise to recognize this grand occasion and join with family and friends to honor William and Gloria Walsh on their 50 years of committed marriage.

On behalf of the United States Congress and the people of Orange County, I extend our sincere congratulations to Bill and Gloria Walsh.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RICHARD NEVINS OF PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Richard Nevins, who died on Saturday following a bodysurfing accident at St. Malo Beach in Oceanside, California.

Mr. Nevins was a life-long resident of Pasadena, in the Congressional District I am proud to represent. He was very well-known throughout Pasadena, and indeed California as a whole, as a political representative, civic activist, and supporter of the beautification and heritage of his community.

Dick served seven terms on the California State Board of Equalization—an impressive feat. During his terms on the Board he did much to instill a culture of service and professionalism. He was referred to as ". . . an encyclopedia of tax policy" by Lawrence de Graaf who took an oral history from Nevins shortly after his retirement. Professionally he was active in the State Association of County Assessors of California, International Association of Assessing Officers, National Association of Tax Administrators and American Society for Public Administration—Los Angeles Board of Directors. In addition to these professional organizations, Nevins was active in the Los Angeles Urban League, the NAACP (Pasadena Chapter), the World Affairs Council, Town Hall and the Commonwealth Club.

His political legacy also included service as a delegate to three national conventions, including the 1960 Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles, where he was an early supporter of presidential candidate John F. Kennedy. He continued to promote Democratic candidates for the rest of his life. After retiring from the State Board of Equalization in 1986 he served as President of the Boards of the Pasadena Historical Museum and Pasadena Beautiful. He was a familiar figure in his 1935 Ford pickup truck carrying around—gardening tools and planting trees. In fact, one week before his passing, California Governor Gray Davis approved \$20,000 in the state budget on a project Dick had lobbied for—landscaping at Pasadena schools. A fitting final contribution for his beloved home city.

Dick was known and loved by people throughout his community. His service as a political representative, his work on civic affairs in Pasadena, and his spirit of community involvement will undoubtedly be felt for years in our region.

Dick graduated from Arroyo Elementary School and Polytechnic School in Pasadena; from Midland School in Los Olivos; and from Yale University with a bachelor's degree in government in 1943. He was also a veteran who served our nation in the U.S. Army Air Force in World War II.

Dick is survived by his wife of 55 years, Mary Lois, by three sons, Richard Jr., William and Henry; and by five grandchildren.

I would like to convey to his family and his many many friends, my deepest sympathies. Dick Nevins will be missed by all who knew him.

EGYPTIAN HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BASED ON REAL OR PERCEIVED SEXUAL ORIENTATION

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. TOM LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on the night of May 10, 2001, Egyptian police arrested 52 Egyptian men because they frequented a gay night club. Since then, these men have been denied counsel, they have been tortured, they have had their reputations attacked, and they have been arraigned on trumped up charges of "obscene behavior" despite the fact that Egypt has no laws expressly criminalizing consensual homosexual behavior. Furthermore, if these men are convicted, under Egypt's Emergency State Security Court system, they will not have the right to appeal and may be sentenced up to nine years in prison. Mr. Speaker, by jailing, torturing, and denying a fair trial to people because of their real or perceived sexual orientation, the Egyptian government once again demonstrates its disregard of the human rights of its citizens, and its willingness to deny them the right of free association and due process.

Egypt is clearly violating the human rights of these 52 men. Reports indicate that these men have been tortured with electroshocks, whipped while in prison, threatened with dogs, and they have been forced to undergo degrading and intrusive examinations designed to "prove" that they have been partners in homosexual relations. Mr. Speaker, the Egyptian government has not only harmed these men physically, but has also sought to hurt their reputations. Their names together with identifying details, such as their professions and places of work were published, and they were publicly labeled as members of a "Satanist" organization.

Mr. Speaker, astonishingly even anti-Semitism has been used to defame the detainees. For example, the pro-government press reported that one of the men "confessed" to being "immersed in Judaism." The alleged leader of the so-called "cult" was shown in an evidently doctored photograph in one newspaper with an Israeli flag on his desk.

The Egyptian government's treatment of these 52 men is indicative of a broad pattern of persecution towards religious and secular dissidents. Often these victims of persecution are members of Islamist political movements whom the government sees as a particular threat. In recent months, however, President Mubarak's government has undertaken a number of well publicized prosecutions aimed at secular dissidents. Most notably, the government imposed a seven-year sentence on Saad Eddin Ibrahim, a noted sociologist, for defaming the Egyptian State—a charge apparently prompted by his activism on behalf of religious tolerance and honest elections.

Mr. Speaker, this repressive intolerance has extended to the international sphere. Egypt led the effort, at the recent United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS, to eliminate from the final document all references to vulnerable groups including men who have sex with men, sex workers, and IV-drug users. And Egypt also led the unsuccessful effort to deny the right to speak at the Special Session to the International Gay and Les-

bian Human Rights Commission. Local human rights groups in Egypt have been reluctant to act against many of these abuses—fearful their own precarious situation, facing a determinedly draconian government, will be worsened if they defend stigmatized groups. The Egyptian Organization for Human Rights, a prominent non-governmental organization, recently fired one of its employees because he pressed them to speak out against the arrests of gay men.

Lawyers have been reluctant to take up the case of these 52 men, fearing their own careers and even freedom could be endangered. The right to legal representation is a basic one, essential to the operations of a free and fair justice system. By creating a climate in which due process it is denied to gay men, the Egyptian government has undermined the basic human rights of all Egyptians.

Mr. Speaker, this body must not ignore the Egyptian government's attempts to violate the human rights of individuals based on their real or perceived sexual orientation. The US government and the governments of all countries should stand up and be counted against Egypt's growing record of intolerance and inhumanity. Our distinguished colleague from Massachusetts Mr. Frank and I, along with 34 of our colleagues are sending a letter to President Mubarak to express our very strong disapproval of the arrest of 52 men in Egypt on the basis of their real or perceived sexual orientation.

Mr. Speaker, human rights are universal. These basic rights affirm our shared humanity; they should not be applied unequally according to prejudice and fear. We must not let the Egyptian government's rejection of basic human rights go unnoticed.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DIXIE LUKE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor and congratulate Dixie Luke for teaching English and social studies to seventh and eighth grade students for thirty years. After providing a positive influence for hundreds of students in their most critical years, she has decided to move on from the teaching profession.

Dixie is a longtime Colorado resident—she was born in Hotchkiss, Colorado, and has lived in Glenwood Springs for thirty years. Even now she returns almost daily to her birthplace to build the foundation for her next adventure, which involves making sheep's milk cheese, including the caring for the sheep. She also plans on planting a nearby vineyard.

In addition to teaching a more traditional English and social studies curriculum, Dixie used an interdisciplinary unit to give her students a different perspective on learning. One example involved taking students on a day trip to Meeker in order to relate literature to real life. The class first read *The Hay Meadow*, by Gary Paulson, which is about a boy in Wyoming who has to go to high country to spend a summer working with sheep. Dixie explained that many of her students are from cities and don't have the personal experience to help them relate to the novel's setting. The class

then visited the sheep dog trials in Meeker, where they were able to watch the highly trained sheep dogs perform several maneuvers. Another example of a favorite part of the job is the "Mosaic" project, which involves teaching the students to use fourteen different reference sources, and then to cite them.

While she is an old hand at working with kids, in the past few years, she has discovered a few new enjoyable aspects of the job. For instance, she says the results of new CSAP testing have provided more verification for how much her students have been learning. "The Glenwood Springs Middle School had the highest reading and writing scores in the district," she proudly explained, and those scores are also well above the State average. "I always thought that we were preparing the kids well, and it was fun to start seeing those results." Also, during her last five or six years of teaching, Dixie has enjoyed working with new teachers. One fun thing is "helping young teachers . . . to work with the kids in the classroom in a successful way," she said.

Mr. Speaker, Dixie Luke has been a fantastic teacher for thirty years. She has committed herself to her students and has helped to equip them with the education and confidence vital for their success. I would like to thank her for her longtime dedication, and I wish her luck on her next adventure.

LEGISLATION WHICH ENHANCES SENIOR CITIZENS' HEALTH CARE

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation which enhances senior citizens' ability to control their health care and use Medicare money to pay for prescription drugs. This legislation accomplishes these important goals by removing the numerical limitations and sunset provisions in the Medicare Medical Savings Account (MSAS) program so that all seniors can take advantage of the Medicare MSA option.

Medicare MSAs consist of a special savings account containing Medicare funds for seniors to use for their routine medical expenses, including prescription drug costs. Seniors in a Medicare MSA program are also provided with a catastrophic insurance policy to cover non-routine expenses such as major surgery. Under an MSA plan, the choice of whether to use Medicare funds for prescription drug costs, or other services not available under traditional Medicare such as mammograms, are made by the senior, not by bureaucrats and politicians.

One of the major weaknesses of the Medicare program is that seniors do not have the ability to use Medicare dollars to cover the costs of prescription medicines, even though prescription drugs represent the major health care expenditure for many seniors. Medicare MSAs give those seniors who need to use Medicare funds for prescription drugs the ability to do so without expanding the power of the federal bureaucracy or forcing those seniors who currently have prescription drug coverage into a federal one-size-fits-all program.

Medicare MSAs will also ensure seniors access to a wide variety of health care services

by minimizing the role of the federal bureaucracy. As many of my colleagues know, an increasing number of health care providers have withdrawn from the Medicare program because of the paperwork burden and constant interference with their practice by bureaucrats from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (previously known as the Health Care Financing Administration). The MSA program frees seniors and providers from the this burden thus making it more likely that quality providers will remain in the Medicare program!

Mr. Speaker, the most important reason to enact this legislation is seniors should not be treated like children and told what health care services they can and cannot have by the federal government. We in Congress have a duty to preserve and protect the Medicare trust fund and keep the promise to America's seniors and working Americans, whose taxes finance Medicare, that they will have quality health care in their golden years. However, we also have a duty to make sure that seniors can get the health care that suits their needs, instead of being forced into a cookie cutter program designed by Washington-DC-based bureaucrats! Medicare MSAs are a good first step toward allowing seniors the freedom to control their own health care.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to provide our senior citizens greater control of their health care, including the ability to use Medicare money to purchase prescription drugs by cosponsoring my legislation to expand the Medicare MSA program.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONALISM AND PERFORMANCE OF THE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE 53RD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, an often overlooked hallmark of our democracy is the smooth transition of power from administration to administration. This seamless transfer is made possible only through the dedication and hard work of countless numbers of career Federal employees. Often underappreciated and maligned by the public, these career bureaucrats effectively carry out the day to day functions of the Federal Government for the benefit of the American public both at home and abroad.

In this respect, the recent performance of the U.S. delegation to the 53rd Annual Meeting of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) in London exemplifies the type of excellence in public service for which we can all be proud. Considering that several highly contentious issues came before the plenary, the Bush administration is to be commended for sending nothing less than a topnotch team to London. And I applaud the decision of this administration to maintain longstanding U.S. policies that uphold the responsible protection and conservation of the world's cetaceans, especially large whales. Strong U.S. leadership will be vital to thwart future attempts to reverse global whale conservation measures put for-

ward by pro-whaling nations as part of their determined strategy to undermine the IWC. This administration must remain vigilant, and a very brief summation of the issues that arose at this year's meeting will help explain why.

Perhaps the most contentious issue which emerged in London was the proposal by Iceland to rejoin the IWC. In 1992 Iceland, a whaling nation, withdrew from the IWC in part due to the adoption by the IWC of a global moratorium on commercial whaling in 1986. Iceland intended to rejoin the IWC this year but with a reservation against the moratorium. While supportive of Iceland rejoining the IWC, the U.S. delegation strongly, and rightly, opposed the reservation arguing that it would have established, if accepted, a harmful precedent with significant repercussions affecting the adherence of treaty obligations by nations under virtually any international agreement. Such a precedent could severely disrupt the framework of U.S. foreign policy.

Iceland was re-admitted but denied voting rights in the plenary, a decision which sparked significant controversy. Undoubtedly, hard feelings generated in the plenary will linger. Yet the administration was correct in its position. And while it is important for the administration to attempt to restore amicable relations with the Government of Iceland, it should remain clear in communicating its opposition to Iceland's reservation against the global moratorium.

Another item of controversy was the maintenance of lethal scientific research whaling conducted by the Government of Japan in the Southern and North Pacific Oceans. Since 1987, Japan has exploited a loophole in the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (ICRW) to maintain whaling under the auspices of self-administered scientific lethal whale research permits in the Southern and North Pacific Oceans. Over 700 minke whales have been taken annually. In 2000, Japan expanded this program to include sperm and Bryde's whales; both species are listed as endangered under the U.S. Endangered Species Act.

Japan's recalcitrance in the face of world opinion to continue this lethal research whaling—a practice which the IWC's own Scientific Committee has ruled consistently to be unnecessary for the management and conservation of whale stocks—led to the Clinton administration's decision last year to certify Japan as in violation of the Pelly Amendment to the Fisherman's Protective Act, and to consider retaliatory economic sanctions on Japanese fishery products. The 68 members of Congress who have agreed to cosponsor my resolution, H. Con. Res. 180, strongly oppose such "scientific whaling," and we very much appreciate the decision of the Bush administration to join us in robust opposition to this illegitimate scheme.

Newer and much lower abundance estimates for Southern Hemisphere minke whale populations helped persuade the IWC plenary, led by the U.S. delegation, to again pass this year a resolution condemning Japan's controversial research and calling on Japan to refrain from continuing these programs. But regrettably, Japan appears unwilling to discontinue or even scale back this illegal whaling contrivance. Should the Japanese decide to again move forward, the administration should re-certify Japan as in violation to the Pelly amendment and this time impose real

sanctions. The administration should also continue to engage with Japan in the development of new and better non-lethal scientific methods to obtain data to study whale populations.

Another issue adroitly handled by the U.S. delegation was the emerging question of whether the decline in some global commercial fisheries is linked to a corresponding increase in the consumption of fish by recovering whale populations. In its efforts to justify the resumption of commercial whaling, Japan has postulated a simplistic theory: world fisheries are depleted due to increased foraging by increasing numbers of whales. Moreover, this theory is used conveniently by the Japanese to justify the necessity of its lethal scientific whaling programs. Recently, Japan and other nations have promoted this concept in other international fisheries organizations, such as the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization's Committee on Fisheries (COFI). This tactic has raised concerns within and outside of the IWC that the organization is being undercut in an area within its competence.

The U.S. delegation rightly maintained that the competition claim is grossly oversimplified and biologically unsound. Nevertheless, the U.S. delegation considered it necessary for the issue to be held within the IWC—the one international organization recognized for the management of whale stocks. As a result, while remaining emphatically opposed to lethal scientific whaling and skeptical of the competition theory, the U.S. delegation prudently reached agreement with Japan on a resolution, subsequently adopted by the plenary, that lays out how the IWC will address the question of competition between whales and fisheries in the immediate future. In essence, this resolution acknowledged the competence of the IWC in this area and urged the IWC to engage with FAO and other regional fisheries management organizations to initiate relevant ecosystem-based, holistic and balanced research to investigate this theory.

Representatives of the environmental community objected to this strategy arguing that it legitimized "junk science" and that it was an ill-advised concession to Japan. And time might very well verify those concerns. But at the moment, I agree with the decision of the U.S. delegation that accurate, balanced and non-lethal scientific research offers perhaps the best opportunity to expose the scientific flaws and gaps of this questionable theory once and for all. The U.S. must maintain a strong presence on the IWC Scientific Committee and in the activities of other regional fisheries management organizations to ensure that objectivity is maintained.

I commend the U.S. delegation for its continued efforts to develop a consensus for a Revised Management Scheme (RMS) to govern the future governance of whaling. The U.S. delegation rightly maintained that the RMS must be addressed comprehensively, and not through a piecemeal approach. Despite the fact that little progress was made to resolve difficult issues concerning transparency, supervision and control, the U.S. delegation remained engaged with all nations in an attempt to bridge differences. What has become clear is that the lack of progress on the RMS rests squarely on the shoulders of the pro-whaling bloc led by Japan and Norway, and not on the U.S. and its like-minded allies.

This is surprising considering that many of the features being proposed for the RMS mirror elements that are common to other fisheries management regimes of which the pro-whaling nations are signatories.

I also appreciate the actions of the U.S. delegation in strong support of other important conservation proposals raised during the plenary. While I was disappointed to learn that proposals to create whale sanctuaries in the South Pacific and South Atlantic Oceans failed to pass, I was proud to hear that the U.S. delegation strongly supported both proposals. I was also pleased that the U.S. delegation joined a substantial majority of other nations to pass a resolution condemning Norway's desire to export minke whale blubber to Japan, and another resolution that reaffirmed the competence of the IWC in regards to the management of small cetaceans, such as Dall's porpoises. The administration was right to hold the line and support these efforts.

In closing, I would like to commend the leadership of the U.S. delegation to the 53rd meeting, the Commissioner, Mr. Rolland Schmitt, and the Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Michael Tillman, both from NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service. Their dedicated and tireless service on behalf of the American public in support of sensible, long-term protection of the world's great whales is remarkable. I would also like to extend my appreciation to the other members of the delegation who so ably supported Mr. Schmitt and Dr. Tillman so that they might excel under trying circumstances. Their preparations for this meeting in the midst of the political transition between elected administrations was nothing short of outstanding. They are all a credit to public service in the very best sense, and their efforts are noted and appreciated by the Congress.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS THAT THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS SHOULD SAVE SOCIAL SECURITY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND VIGOROUSLY SAFEGUARD SOCIAL SECURITY SURPLUSES, AND THAT THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION TO STRENGTHEN SOCIAL SECURITY SHOULD RECOMMEND INNOVATIVE WAYS TO PROTECT WORKERS' FINANCIAL COMMITMENT WITHOUT BENEFIT CUTS OR PAYROLL TAX INCREASES

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, today I, along with Ways and Means Chairman Bill Thomas, a number of my Ways and Means colleagues, and other Members of this body introduce a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the President and the Congress should save Social Security as soon as possible and vigorously safeguard Social Security surpluses, and that the President's Commission to Strengthen Social Security should recommend innovative ways to protect workers' financial commitment without benefit cuts or payroll tax increases.

Social Security is an enormously popular and successful program, and has helped keep millions of people out of poverty. It has been and will continue to be fundamental income security Americans can rely on.

However, we cannot ignore the fact that Social Security faces financial challenges in the near future. Shortly after the baby boomers begin to retire, Social Security's tax income will not be enough to cover benefit promises, even though hard-working taxpayers contribute billions of dollars of their wages to support the program.

If we do nothing, we would eventually need to reduce benefits by as much as 33% or increase taxes by almost 50% to keep the system in balance. Failing to act would be foolhardy and is entirely unacceptable. We must act soon to save Social Security for both today's seniors and for our kids and grandkids, so that all Americans will have a secure retirement and protection against income loss from disability or death of a family's breadwinner.

That is why I, along with many other Members of Congress, are introducing this sense of the Congress—because we have a duty to our seniors and to future generations to let them know their retirement security will not be jeopardized.

I urge my colleagues to follow our example and join us in expressing our dedication to saving a program that is the cornerstone of income security for Americans and has served our country well for over two-thirds of a century.

HONORING DIANE HARDEN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, often times we do not fully appreciate what we have until it's gone. Life is no exception. As Diane Harden suffered from a serious form of heart disease, she was faced with the challenge of losing her heart. Her life was in limbo and every day she was alive it was a blessing.

This experience of possibly losing her life led Diane to gain a new perspective. While her name was placed on a waiting list for nearly 3 months for a donor transplant, finally an organ donor was found to replace Diane's heart. An eighteen year old, under organ donor status, was able to assist Diane and eight others in the pursuit of a healthy life. With only a few bouts of minor rejections, she has fought strongly for her life and lives every moment to the fullest extent. Today, 14 years after the operation, she lives every day with a renewed sense of hope.

Diane now takes care of herself and her husband, who suffers from a disease that attacks the spinal chord. Throughout the couple's 31 years of marriage, they have grown together as they have both faced trying experiences with their health. At a time of celebration for her 50th birthday, Diane and seventy-six others gathered to honor her fourteen years of surviving an organ transplant.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my warmest regard and best wishes to Diane Harden and her husband. My prayers are with them for their continued health and renewed hopes.

FISK JUBILEE SINGERS
COMMEMORATIVE STAMP ACT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to introduce a resolution calling on the U.S. Postal Service to honor the Fisk Jubilee Singers with a commemorative stamp. The Fisk Jubilee Singers are true heroes in the fight for civil rights and racial equality in education. Their heritage goes back more than one hundred and thirty years to just after the Civil War. These singers are part of a unique group of former slaves who made it their passion to achieve the kind of education that they did not have access to before emancipation. Their spirit has been felt all across this nation and around the world, and it is my honor to stand before you today to tell you about the legacy of the Fisk Jubilee Singers, whom I hold near to my heart.

The Fisk School was founded in Nashville, Tennessee, just after the end of the Civil War. This school was intended to transcend the racial divide, with the founders of the University opening the doors of education to all persons, regardless of their race. Recently emancipated slaves, ecstatic at the limitless possibilities for freedom offered by learning, took it upon themselves to create in the Fisk School an educational institution that would give to them a sense of profound moral purpose in the great American democracy. The sale of slave paraphernalia paid for the opening of the school, and in 1867 the Fisk School became Fisk University, now the oldest university in Nashville.

Fisk University's accomplishments in the advancement of educational opportunities for African-American's is far too long to mention here. I will tell you briefly that some of the most honored African-American artists, thinkers and activists attended or were involved with Fisk, including W.E.B. DuBois, Booker T. Washington, Charles Spurgeon Johnson, James Weldon Johnson, and Thurgood Marshall, to name a few of the more distinguished African-Americans. Indeed, Fisk University played an enormously profound role in the advancement of black learning and culture in America. I am both humbled by and proud of the time that I, too, spent at Fisk University. Many of the values I hold dear to my heart today I learned from my colleagues and professors at Fisk.

It was in 1871 that a group of students formed the Fisk Jubilee Singers, a choral group, with the intent to raise money for their beloved University. That same year, these singers took all of the money from the school's treasury and used it to tour around the United States and Europe. During that tour they raised enough money to preserve the University and to construct Jubilee Hall, which became the South's first permanent structure built for the education of black students. This building has also been dedicated as a National Historic Landmark. I swell with pride to tell you that the Jubilee Singers were the first internationally acclaimed African-American musicians. They introduced so-called "slave songs" to the world and are considered responsible for preventing that historic and spiritual music from extinction. The Fisk Jubilee Singers still perform to this very day.

Mr. Speaker, the Fisk Jubilee Singers have made a lasting contribution to racial equality and black culture in America. They introduced the spiritual as a musical genre, and demonstrated a truly unique commitment to their education. It is time that we in Congress honor their incredible achievements in such a manner that all of America will come to know of their commitment.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to pass my resolution encouraging the Postal Service to issue a postage stamp commemorating the legacy and achievements of the Fisk Jubilee Singers.

JOHN TERRANA HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House of Representatives to the hard work and achievements of my very good friend, Attorney John J. Terrana of Kingston, Pennsylvania, who will be honored on August 24, 2001, as Past President of the Wilkes-Barre Chapter of U.N.I.C.O. John's deep love of his Italian heritage makes it especially fitting that he is being honored by this fine organization of Italian-Americans.

Attorney Terrana is a 1970 graduate of St. John the Evangelist School in Pittston and earned his bachelor of arts degree in government and politics from King's College in 1974. In 1981, he served as a legislative assistant to former Congressman Ray Musto and was admitted to practice before the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania and the U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

John earned his doctor of jurisprudence degree from the George Mason University School of Law in 1982 and established his private practice of law in Luzerne County. He was inducted into membership in the Wilkes-Barre Chapter of U.N.I.C.O. in 1988 and has served at various times on the chapter board of directors, in addition to serving as co-chairman of the Miss U.N.I.C.O. pageant for 10 years.

Last year, when the chapter elected him its president, he also attained the honor of being inducted the Million Dollar Advocates' Forum, an organization whose membership is restricted to trial lawyers who have successfully tried a case which resulted in a verdict or award in excess of one million dollars.

John's sense of humor and warm personality have made him a popular toastmaster and speaker at many events throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania. Everyone who knows John is well-familiar with his devotion to his family.

Attorney Terrana is the son of Dolores Terrana and the late Angelo Terrana and the brother of my former district director, Attorney Joe Terrana, as well as Attorney Angelo Terrana and Rosemary Dessoye, executive vice president of the Pittston Chamber of Commerce. John and his wife, the former Antoinette Farano, have three children, Katie, Julie and John Charles.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the

hard work and achievements of Attorney John Terrana, and I wish him all the best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday during rollcall vote No. 312, I inadvertently recorded my vote as "aye." My intention had been to vote "no" on the green amendment.

I ask that my statement be inserted in the RECORD at the appropriate place. Thank you.

HONORING HARRY BUTLER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Harry Butler for all of his contributions to Grand Junction and the state of Colorado. In addition, I would like to congratulate him on his recent election to the Grand Junction City Council, which marks the first person of African-American descent to hold a position on the City Council.

Harry has always been persistent in his efforts to achieve his goals. As a young child, he used to attend church services in the Handy Chapel located in Grand Junction. The chapel was also a residence for him and his wife, Danielle, after they were married. At that time, they exchanged rent for cleaning the facility. The church filled a large portion of his heart. Today, Harry serves as a minister and leads the Saturday morning services at the church he used to reside in.

From the age of seven, Harry has done everything from delivering newspapers to working for the Job Corps in Collbran for 11 years. Harry has consistently extended a helping hand to warm the hearts of others. He worked for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation in Grand Junction and has become an outstanding minister. He and Danielle have been happily married for 37 years and are proud parents to three children.

Throughout his trials and tribulations, Harry strengthened his faith and found compassion in the Bible. He never takes a moment for granted and truly understands the value of life. Now as a City Councilman, Harry hopes to work on issues of community safety, drug utilization and transportation.

Mr. Speaker, Harry Butler has done great things throughout his life and I am certain he will tackle his new position with the utmost attention and dedication. I would like to extend my warmest regard to Harry and his family and wish him the best throughout his term as a councilman.

TRUTH IN EMPLOYMENT ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Truth in Employment Act which protects

small businesses and independent-minded workers from the destructive and coercive "top-down" organizing tactic known as salting. Salting is a technique designed by unscrupulous union officials for the purpose of harassing small businesses until the businesses compel their employees to pay union dues as a condition of employment.

"Salts" are professional union organizers who apply for jobs solely in order to compel employers into consenting to union monopoly bargaining and forced-dues contract clauses. They do this by disrupting the workplace and drumming up so-called "unfair labor practice" charges which are designed to harass and tie up the small business person in constant and costly litigation.

Thanks to unconstitutional interference in the nation's labor markets by Congress, small businesses targeted by union salts often must acquiesce to union bosses' demands that they force their workers to accept union "representation" and pay union dues. If an employer challenges a salt, the salt may file (and win) an unfair labor practice charge against the employer!

Passing the Truth in Employment Act is a good first step toward restoring the constitution rights of property and contract to employers and employees. I therefore urge my colleagues to stand up for those workers who do not wish to be forced to pay union dues as a condition of employment by cosponsoring the Truth in Employment Act.

DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA—AN
ALL AMERICA CITY

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the city of Delray Beach, Florida, "The Village By The Sea," for being one of the ten cities selected by the National Civic League for the 2001 All America City Awards.

The All America City Award is America's oldest and most prestigious community recognition award. It recognizes exemplary grassroots community problem-solving and is given to communities that cooperatively tackle challenges and achieve results.

To qualify as a contender for this competitive Award an application is submitted that illustrates how three community projects were made possible by the efforts of volunteers, government officials, and businesses. The three successful initiatives of Delray Beach were: (1) the Youth Enrichment Vocational Program, which teaches skills and creates opportunities for high-risk youth; (2) the Community Neighbors Helping, which provides elderly minority citizens with food, clothing, and services that they could not otherwise receive; and (3) the Village Academy, a deregulated public school which provides an environment to address the needs of at-risk grade-school students. All of these programs have assisted the countless Delray Beach citizens both young and old with opportunities for a better future.

What makes each of these programs unique and warrants our attention is that through public and private cohesive efforts the residents of Delray Beach have, through their own initiative, created specific programs that address

specific challenges that individuals in their community face. Public and private, resources are used to create these programs. A balance is created between individuals and organizations which makes these programs all the more better because everyone has contributed.

Thanks to the Mayor, the City Commissioners, the City Manager, the City workers, and community organizations, churches, businesses and residents, the City of Delray Beach is once again an All America City. It is an accomplishment to be named once, but being named twice is a true distinction, which serves as an inspiration to every city in the State of Florida and sets a standard of civic responsibility that serves as a reminder to us all that the effort always counts.

INTRODUCING THE ELECTION
WEEKEND ACT OF 2001

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, the National Commission on Federal Election Reform released its report highlighting a variety of reforms that need to occur in our country's faltering election system. While I do not agree with all of the Commission's views, I do agree with the report's recommendation to establish a federal holiday on Election Day.

Today, however, I am taking the Commission's recommendation one step further and introducing the Election Weekend Act. My bill changes our nation's election day from the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November to the first consecutive Saturday and Sunday in November. Furthermore, it expresses the sense of Congress that private sector employers provide their employees with one day off during Election Weekend to allow them ample opportunity and time to cast their ballot without having to leave work.

Each Election Day, employees are faced with the difficult task of balancing their work schedules with their family responsibilities, while trying to find time to make it to the polls. My bill recognizes the undue amount of pressure Americans face when trying to participate in the democratic process. It acknowledges the fact that a great deal of Americans are unable to leave their jobs in the middle of the day and vote because our elections occur on a Tuesday, a day when almost all Americans are working.

As more and more Americans enter the workforce, the choice they are forced to make between working or voting has resulted in decreased voter turnout. In the last election, barely 51 percent of our country's eligible voters actually voted. Also, consider that in the last election, only 48 percent of those who voted cast a ballot for our current President. That means that 48 percent of the 51 percent of people who actually voted last November voted for him. To put it in a different perspective, less than one-quarter of all those eligible to vote voted for our current President—talk about pitiful. Even more, the percentage is even smaller in low and middle income communities where individuals do not enjoy the luxury of taking a three hour lunch to eat and

vote. For many, the hour they lose in wages when they go to the polls may mean the difference between paying the bills or finding themselves out on the street.

It is irresponsible of us to continue forcing Americans to choose between a pay check, family time, or democracy. It is the Constitutional privilege of every American to vote. In moving our nation's election day to the first full weekend in November and extending it from one day to two days, we recognize the responsibility that we have to our constituents and our democratic heritage. We should be doing everything we can to protect the integrity of our election system by not only encouraging Americans to vote, but making it more convenient for them to do so.

CONGESTION THREATENS U.S.
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to alert my colleagues to the growing danger of gridlock in our transportation system.

Many of the nation's major transportation corridors, both rail and highway, have become increasingly congested in recent years, to the point that congestion already threatens the ability of those modes to provide reliable transportation to the U.S. economy.

Major metropolitan areas that are gateways for U.S. international trade, and hubs in the rail and highway systems, are thick with freight traffic as other vehicular traffic also increases.

Increased international trade—expected to double in the next ten years—and continued growth in the domestic economy will further burden our rail and highway systems in the years ahead, with some question that, despite the best efforts and support of Congress, existing infrastructures in those modes can grow to meet those demands.

Existing rail and highway infrastructure cannot handle all of the projected growth in container movements, and there are obvious limits to how much we can increase the capacity of interstates and rail lines. Major expansion of rail or highway infrastructure in corridors such as that along 1-95 on the U.S. East Coast has become both economically and physically difficult to do.

In the coastal corridors a "capacity crunch" is likely in this decade. Federal Highway Administration data indicates average annual increases in highway freight miles of 3 to 4 percent nationally in that period.

For example, it has been estimated that by 2010 there will be an increase of 11,000 fortyfoot containers arriving each day on each coast. While rail may be able to handle approximately 1,000 such units, absent a viable waterborne option, the remaining 10,000 containers would have to be moved by truck. On 1-95, this would equate to an additional truck every 270 yards between Boston and Miami.

As corridor densification increases so too will the cost to the economy in lost productivity. This is prompting transportation planners, shippers and transport operators to look for ways to relieve the pressure on moving freight (and passengers) in impacted regions. For the domestic transportation system to

meet the needs of our economy in the 21st Century, we must maximize the efficiency of that system, including, where possible, increasing reliance on waterborne transportation to complement rail and highway systems. The potential options range from increased use of vessels to transport bulk materials to short or long haul intermodal shipping, including high-speed ferries such as are in wide use in Europe and Asia. As transportation agencies and the private sector focus more attention to this option, the federal government should look to means by which to eliminate the barriers to, or to create potential incentives for, development of this complementary means of moving freight and passengers.

The waterborne option presently has unused capacity. Studies to date suggest that as vessel and cargo transfer technologies improve and new vessels come in to service, coastal shipping would be able to provide increasingly competitive service. Such vessels can be built in U.S. shipyards that now have the capacity to construct new designs and do it competitively. One such yard is the Kvaerner Shipyard in Philadelphia. In fact, a shift to the waterborne mode would foster a resurgence in Jones Act shipping and in the process create a new market for U.S. shipyards and American labor.

The expanded use of the coastal waters for moving cargo has some obvious benefits:

It would provide a measure of highway congestion relief,

Some hazardous material movements could shift to coastal vessels,

Vessels have the fewest accidental spills or collisions of all forms of transportation;

The movement of trucks/containers on vessels could foster increased use of intelligent transportation technologies;

Job growth would be stimulated in U.S. shipyards and on vessels;

A healthier U.S.-flag industry assures a future supply of vessels and trained crews for military sealift missions.

With few exceptions, the maritime sector largely has been left behind in Congressional and Administration attention to the transportation modes over the past decade. Policy innovations such as ISTE, TEA-21 and AIR-21 have served to prepare surface and air transportation for the demands of the next decades. The maritime sector is due the same in order for the national transportation system to meet the demands of the new century. Expanding the use of the waterborne option should be viewed as an enhancement of the nation's transportation system, responding to market demands for relief of congested rail and highway routes, and not as a matter of one mode competing against another. Coastal shipping will not supplant road and rail because of their inherent and respective advantages, e.g. speed of service and flexibility, but it can provide an essential element of new capacity with comparatively smaller investments of public capital.

Analysis to date indicates that there are some likely barriers to an expansion of intermodal coastal shipping such as the harbor maintenance tax on domestic movements, thus requiring the attention of the next Administration and Congress. Likewise, incentives no doubt would facilitate private and public sector investments into establishing coastal corridor operations. It is our duty to do what we can to facilitate and foster coastwise shipping.

HONORING VIRGINIA ANDREW

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to remember the life of Virginia Andrew from Steamboat Springs, Colorado, who passed away on Wednesday, July 25. At the age of 86, many will miss her as we all mourn her passing.

Virginia was a columnist for the Steamboat Pilot, the local paper in Steamboat Springs. She was employed there for more than 50 years. While her original column "Sidney News" was named after an area that no longer exists in the Yampa Valley, her memory will live on in the hearts and minds of the people that she touched. Throughout her career, Virginia covered a wide range of topics ranging from rural news to daily events. She even had issues pertaining to agriculture and politics.

Beyond the life of a journalist, she also operated a Farmers Union Insurance Office for 20 years starting in 1945. She also was a founding partner in the Unique Shop—a cooperative that provided second-hand goods and other items to the elderly population. Amidst all of her activities, the town was always able to recognize her when she drove by in her large blue Oldsmobile sedan.

Mr. Speaker, Virginia Andrews was a person who lived an accomplished life. She always cared for people and wanted only the best for them. I would like to extend my deepest sympathy and warmest regards to her family at this time of remembrance. My thoughts and prayers are with them.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DAMIEN
COUNCIL CELEBRATES 100TH AN-
NIVERSARY**

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House of Representatives to the good works of the Knights of Columbus Damien Council No. 598 in Carbon County, Pennsylvania. On Aug. 18, 2001, the members will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the council's founding.

The council is one of the oldest in the Knights of Columbus, being the 598th founded out of the nearly 13,000 in existence today. Under the direction of Father James C. McConnon, a group of 47 men from the small town of Mauch Chunk, now known as Jim Thorpe, chose the name of their council to honor Father Damien de Veuster. Now designated as Blessed Damien following his 1995 beatification by Pope John Paul II, Father de Veuster is remembered for his selfless and courageous efforts to care for the nearly 1,000 lepers abandoned on Molokai Island in Hawaii. Father de Veuster himself died of leprosy in 1889.

Since its founding, Damien Council has served Mauch Chunk, later known as Jim

Thorpe, Leighton, Nesquehoning and the surrounding communities. Among its many accomplishments, the council arranged to televise Advent and Lenten Masses for shut-ins on Blue Ridge Cable TV-13 in the 1970s and 1980s, well before the Catholic cable channel EWTN became available nationwide. The council also broadcast the recitation of the Rosary on WYNS Radio and the Stations of the Cross on WLSH Radio. Damien Council has also provided food baskets for families in need and has honored 39 priests from the area on the occasion of their ordination into the priesthood.

Damien Council continues to aid the church, local communities, families and young people through its various programs. Annual activities include celebrating a Memorial Mass for its deceased members, sponsoring Family Hour of Prayer services, participating in the "Adopt-A-Seminarian" program, jointly sponsoring the Pro-Life Essay Contest with the other councils in the Diocese of Allentown and coordinating the program for Carbon County, promoting the "Keep Christ in Christmas" program, sponsoring the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship and hosting the District 29 competition, raising funds for ARC, honoring the members' spouses with Ladies' Appreciation "Knight," celebrating the family by naming a "Family of the Month" and "Family of the Year" and presenting awards and altar server certificates to graduating eighth-grade students.

Damien Council has seen two of its members rise to statewide leadership over the years. Both Thomas P. (Patsy) Milan and William F. (Bill) Carroll served as state treasurers. Damien Council is currently led by Grand Knight Michael A. Heery.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the good works of the Knights of Columbus Damien Council No. 598 on the occasion of their 100th anniversary, and I wish them all the best.

**PRESCRIPTION DRUG
AFFORDABILITY ACT**

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Prescription Drug Affordability Act. This legislation ensures that millions of Americans, including seniors, have access to affordable pharmaceutical products. My bill makes pharmaceuticals more affordable to seniors by reducing their taxes. It also removes needless government barriers to importing pharmaceuticals and it protects Internet pharmacies, which are making affordable prescription drugs available to millions of Americans, from being strangled by federal regulation.

The first provision of my legislation provides seniors a tax credit equal to 80 percent of their prescription drug costs. As many of my colleagues have pointed out, our nation's seniors are struggling to afford the prescription drugs they need in order to maintain an active and healthy lifestyle. Yet, the federal government continues to impose taxes on Social Se-

curity benefits. Meanwhile, Congress continually raids the Social Security trust fund to finance unconstitutional programs! It is long past time for Congress to choose between helping seniors afford medicine or using the Social Security trust fund as a slush fund for big government and pork-barrel spending.

Mr. Speaker, I do wish to clarify that this tax credit is intended to supplement the efforts to reform and strengthen the Medicare system to ensure seniors have the ability to use Medicare funds to purchase prescription drugs. I am a strong supporter of strengthening the Medicare system to allow for more choice and consumer control, including structural reforms that will allow seniors to use Medicare funds to cover the costs of prescription drugs.

In addition to making prescription medications more affordable for seniors, my bill lowers the price for prescription medicines by reducing barriers to the importation of FDA-approved pharmaceuticals. Under my bill, anyone wishing to import a drug simply submits an application to the FDA, which then must approve the drug unless the FDA finds the drug is either not approved for use in the US or is adulterated or misbranded. This process will make safe and affordable imported medicines affordable to millions of Americans. Mr. Speaker, letting the free market work is the best means of lowering the cost of prescription drugs.

I need not remind my colleagues that many senior citizens and other Americans impacted by the high costs of prescription medicine have demanded Congress reduce the barriers which prevent American consumers from purchasing imported pharmaceuticals. Just a few weeks ago, Congress responded to these demands by overwhelmingly passing legislation liberalizing the rules governing the importation of pharmaceuticals. While this provision took a good first step toward allowing free trade in pharmaceuticals, and I hope it remains in the final bill, the American people will not be satisfied until all unnecessary regulations on importing pharmaceuticals are removed.

The Prescription Drug Affordability Act also protects consumers' access to affordable prescription drugs by forbidding the federal government from regulating any Internet sales of FDA-approved pharmaceuticals by state-licensed pharmacists. As I am sure my colleagues are aware, the Internet makes pharmaceuticals and other products more affordable and accessible for millions of Americans. One gentleman in my district has used the Internet to lower his prescription drugs costs from \$700 to \$100 a month!

However, the federal government has threatened to destroy this option by imposing unnecessary and unconstitutional regulations on web sites which sell pharmaceuticals. Any federal regulations would inevitably drive up prices of pharmaceuticals, thus depriving many consumers of access to affordable prescription medications.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to make pharmaceuticals more affordable and accessible by lowering taxes on senior citizens, removing barriers to the importation of pharmaceuticals and protecting legitimate Internet pharmacies from needless regulation by cosponsoring the Prescription Drug Affordability Act.

AMERICAN LEGACY
PRESERVATION ACT**HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, today I submit for introduction a bill to preserve and maintain the final resting places of our nation's greatest leaders. Since the Constitution was ratified, the United States has had only 43 Presidents. Some, like Washington and Lincoln and Reagan, have been great men who changed the nation. Others, like Buchanan, were capable and gifted, but have not been judged well by history.

But while James Buchanan may not be on the list of great American Presidents, he was a good man who did a lot for Lancaster County, Pennsylvania and for America. And as a Member of Congress, he did more than any of his peers to protect the Constitution and the principle of judicial review.

While he may not have had the foresight that Lincoln had when it came to slavery, it is a little-known fact that Buchanan bought slaves in Washington, DC, in order to free them here in Pennsylvania.

But much like Abraham Lincoln, he was a self-made man who was born in a log cabin. As a young man, he served in the War of 1812. He was Lancaster's Congressman from 1821 to 1831. He served as Ambassador to Russia and Great Britain. He was a U.S. Senator, and then, finally, he became President.

He served during the most tumultuous time in our history. And while he was not as good a leader as his successor, he did succeed in holding the union together.

He died in 1868 and was buried in my district, the 16th district of Pennsylvania. It is, for a President, a simple grave. The office he held was an important one in his time. Today, it is the most powerful office in the world.

Every one of our Presidents deserves the honor of a well-maintained grave.

Many of us remember several years ago when President Grant's tomb in New York fell into disrepair. Its roof leaked, its walls were covered with graffiti, and it was a hangout for heroin addicts.

Buchanan's grave is very nice by comparison. But keeping it nice has been very difficult. The cemetery association is not a wealthy one, and it is mainly through the efforts of volunteers that it has been maintained at all. When Grant's Tomb fell into disrepair, the National Park Service stepped up to the plate and fixed it. Today it's a tourist attraction.

I'm introducing today the American Legacy Preservation Act, empowering the National Park Service to assist in the upkeep of Presidential gravesites.

Whether it be the grave of Lincoln or Buchanan, Washington or Grant, preserving the final resting places of our Presidents is clearly in the nation's interest. The gravesites have exceptional value in illustrating and interpreting the heritage of the U.S. and helping Americans to value our rich and complex national story. Every American deserves to know that the graves of our past Presidents will be treated with the same dignity as the office they once held.

INTRODUCTION OF MUSIC ONLINE
COMPETITION ACT**HON. RICK BOUCHER**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. BOUCHER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to join with my colleague from Utah, Mr. CANNON, in the introduction of much-needed legislation to facilitate the rapid introduction of services which will meet the public demand for efficient delivery of music over the Internet in a manner which also assures that copyright owners receive compensation for the use of their works.

I am among those who believe that most people are willing to pay a reasonable fee to be able to obtain musical selections over the Internet, and I applaud the planned introduction by the major record labels of websites that will make their music inventories available for streaming and downloading.

There are a number of obstacles to the effective introduction of online music services in current copyright law. A recent hearing in the Judiciary Committee highlighted several of the problems in current copyright law which are impeding the deployment of innovative, legitimate Internet music services to an eager listening public. Some of these problems are practical, such as trying to locate and notify all of the publishers of a particular musical composition. Other obstacles are technical, such as needing to produce multiple copies of a song in different transmission speeds and different media formats. Current copyright law permits the placement on a server of only a single copy.

The measure we introduce today, The Music Online Competition Act, is carefully crafted to remove these obstacles and thereby promote a legitimate online music marketplace that will benefit the public, the creators of copyrighted works and the technology industry. In particular, our bill makes the following changes:

Updates the "Ephemeral" Recording Exemption: Our bill expands the law that allows broadcasters and webcasters to make a single in-house (or "ephemeral") copy of a transmission program to enable multiple copies so as to accommodate the need for different bit rates (e.g., dial-up, broadband), different formats (e.g., RealPlayer or MediaPlayer), and caching throughout the network to ensure efficient and timely delivery of music to consumers. Our bill extends the ephemeral copyright exemption to encompass not only the transmission program but also the individual songs.

Expands the "In-Store Sampling" Exemption: Under current copyright law, "brick and mortar" music retailers pay no license fees to record CDs on a server so that customers may listen to music samples in the store. Our bill allows retailers to use a central server to serve multiple retail establishments and applies the exemption to online retail establishments (such as Amazon.com or CDNow) that offer music samples of 30 or 60 seconds to promote sales of the associated sound recordings.

Clarifies the Status of Incidental and Archival Copying: Our bill adapts existing law to two situations particular to Internet technology. First, the bill exempts from copyright liability

buffer copies made in the course of browsing or webcasting, as these buffer copies are mere technical incidents of the operation of the Internet and have no independent economic value. Second, the bill allows consumers to make archival "backup" copies of music that they lawfully acquire over the Internet in order to protect their collections against hard drive crashes, accidental damage or viruses. The bill leaves unchanged existing law with respect to computer programs.

Facilitates Administration of the Section 115 Mechanical License: Witnesses at a recent hearing representing the major music labels, RealNetworks, and MP3.com uniformly urged the creation of an effective mechanism for administering the existing Section 115 statutory license for musical works, which is currently administered with paper submissions and notices to copyright owners. Under our bill, the administration of the statutory license would parallel the administration of other statutory licenses by permitting users to notify the Copyright Office of the use of the statutory license and to deposit royalty payments and accounting information with the Copyright Office, so as to ensure that funds and information are distributed to the owners of the copyright. Our bill specifically instructs the Copyright Office to develop an electronic filing system to receive such notices as a replacement for the current paper filing system.

Assures Nondiscriminatory Licensing to Affiliated and Non-Affiliated Music Distribution Entities: Recording companies are now entering into the online music distribution business by establishing joint ventures with other record companies (e.g., MusicNet and Pressplay) and by acquiring well-known, formerly independent Internet services (such as CDNow, EMusic and MP3.com). It is anticipated that the distribution services owned by record companies will cross license each other, so that each site will be authorized to distribute over the Internet approximately 80 percent of all recorded music. If the major record companies do not also license independent non-affiliated distribution services, music will be distributed exclusively by a vertically integrated duopoly. In such a circumstance, there would be no competition in music distribution.

In 1995, Congress had a similar concern with respect to cable and satellite subscription services, which Congress addressed by requiring vertically-integrated companies that both owned content and distribution services to offer nondiscriminatory license terms and conditions to all similarly-situated distribution services. Our bill extends this existing nondiscrimination provision to interactive performance services and digital distribution services.

Requires an Examination of Programming Restrictions: The sound recording statutory license for digital cable, satellite and webcasting services includes programming restrictions that, for example, restrict the provider from playing more than 3 selections from a particular CD or more than 4 selections from a particular artist within a 3-hour window. Broadcast radio is not subject to these programming restrictions. Certain digital music services contend that some of these programming restrictions impose undue burdens upon their service, reduce their ability to compete with broadcast radio, and unfairly preclude their ability to take advantage of the statutory license to deliver the type of services that consumers expect from a radio offering. Our bill

instructs the Copyright Office and the Department of Commerce jointly to study and report to Congress on the effect of these limitations upon such services, upon copyright owners and upon the public interest, and to make appropriate legislative recommendations.

Requires Direct Payment to Artists: The sound recording statutory performance license provision specifies that royalty payments should be shared equally by performing artists and recording companies. Current law funnels these payments to artists through the recording companies. Our bill requires that these payments instead to be made directly to the artists or to a collective organization representing the artists.

There is uniform agreement among record labels, online companies and consumers that changes to the copyright law are needed. Congress has a responsibility to promote an online marketplace which will allow legitimate, innovative services to thrive. I call upon my colleagues to join with us as we seek to facilitate the rapid introduction of legitimate online music services for the benefit of our constituents, the listening public, of the creators of copyrighted material and of the technology and other entrepreneurial companies which seek to deliver music to consumers. Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join with Mr. CANNON and me in supporting this measure.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO HERBERT OLSON

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Herbert Olson for his contribution toward the preservation of Colorado's land and natural resources. Herb worked for forty-three years with the Colorado Bureau of Land Management before recently retiring. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Herbert for the huge strides he has made for Colorado.

Herb was instrumental in establishing the land acquisition program for the BLM, which has acquired over 33,000 acres of private property during his time there. His talent for working with a diverse group of people allowed him to acquire land from willing sellers only; never did the BLM use the threat of condemnation to force a sale of land.

Because of Herb's work, some of the most breathtaking lands in the world are now under the careful direction of the BLM. His dedication and leadership has provided current residents and visitors of Colorado with the assurance not only that they will be able to enjoy the lands, but also that the property will be preserved for future generations.

The leadership that Herb demonstrated during his long tenure with the BLM has proven fundamental for the success of the program. I would like to thank him for his dedication toward our beautiful state and to congratulate him on a long and successful career. He certainly deserves our recognition.

FEDEX GROUND WINS SAFETY AWARD

HON. FRANK MASCARA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to FedEx Ground, the ground transportation subsidiary of FedEx Corporation. For the second year FedEx Ground has been awarded the American Trucking Association (ATA) President's Trophy for Safety Excellence.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, FedEx Ground, previously known as RPS, is the second largest small-package carrier in North America. While providing fifteen years of efficient, affordable, and safe shipping services to customers throughout the United States and Canada, they have accumulated a long list of awards and recognitions for their outstanding safety performance. In addition to the ATA President's Trophy for Safety Excellence, the company has, for the last three years, been awarded "Carrier of the Year" in the small-package ground category by Wal-Mart, the world's largest retailer. Furthermore, the members of the National Small Shipments Traffic Conference have selected FedEx Ground as Parcel Carrier of the Year in 2001 and 1999. All of these awards require a company to establish a record of technological innovation, reliable service, and excellent safety results.

Headquartered in my district, FedEx Ground employs 35,000 men and women nationwide, and 1,700 in the Pittsburgh area. The company moves over 1.5 million packages every day with their 370 distribution hubs and 9,500 drivers and contractors. One of those drivers, Jennifer Zinkel, is one of ten FedEx Ground drivers to be made a captain of the prestigious ATA Road Team during the company's history. She has over 700,000 accident-free miles in her eight-year career as a driver.

I would like to pay special recognition to FedEx Ground President and CEO Daniel J. Sullivan. His vision of merging technological advancements, reliable service, and high safety standards have made the company a leader in the industry.

It is an honor for me to recognize the employees of FedEx Ground in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as a team of citizens who recognize the importance of safety to the public while providing high quality shipping services.

RAILROAD RETIREMENT AND SURVIVORS IMPROVEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2001

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to strongly support H.R. 1140, the Railroad Retirement and Survivors Improvement Act of 2001. As a cosponsor and one of the 384 yeas votes, I am pleased to see the House pass this needed legislation.

One of the original meetings I had in my first months in Congress was with a group of widows whose husbands had worked for Conrail in Beaver County in my Pennsylvania dis-

trict. These women expressed to me how they struggled to pay their high electricity bills and rising health care costs, and that this legislation would go a long way toward helping them meet those costs. Last session, the House approved similar legislation, but the Senate failed to consider it. I hope that the overwhelming support in the House this time will give the momentum we need to give these widows and retirees the relief they need. It also modernizes the pension plan—ensuring that the program will continue to railroad workers and their loved ones.

This legislation not only increases benefits to widows of railroad employees, but also:

Lowers the minimum age of workers with 30 years service eligible for full benefits;

Creates an independent Railroad Retirement Trust Fund; and

Expands the investment authority of the fund to generate better returns.

In a "railroad state" like Pennsylvania, legislation like this provides the needed security for a large portion of our residents. It has the backing of both railroad labor and management.

Now that we have done our part to pass legislation that strengthens railroad retirement, let's make sure that we follow through and get this legislation to the President's desk.

A TRIBUTE TO THE 116 YEARS OF SERVICE BY MANHATTAN'S GOUVERNEUR HOSPITAL

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Manhattan's Gouverneur Hospital on the occasion of its 116th anniversary. Since opening its doors to the Lower East Side community in 1885, Gouverneur Hospital has been committed to providing dependable high quality health care at an affordable price. From excellent emergency services to quality long-term care, Gouverneur Hospital has been there for its neighbors time and time again throughout the past century. An excellent medical facility and a haven for the community, the Hospital and its staff provide patients with efficient, thoughtful and affordable care.

On September 12th, 2001, Gouverneur Hospital will be holding a fundraising event in honor of its 116th year of service. I am pleased to offer my congratulations to Gouverneur Hospital on this occasion. The money raised at this function will enable the hospital to better meet the needs of the community, by expanding its nursing facilities, acquiring a mobile medical van, and increasing its services to the Chinese community. I also commend the recipients of the Gouverneur Hospital Community Service Award for their invaluable contributions to the Gouverneur Hospital community.

For the services they have provided to the Lower East Side and their dedication to the well-being of the community, I offer my sincere congratulations to Gouverneur Hospital for 116 years of outstanding service.

CONGRATULATING THE CHURCH
OF KHALISTAN ON 15 YEARS OF
SERVICE

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, for 15 years of service to the Sikhs, the people of South Asia and America.

Fifteen years ago Dr. Aulakh left a well-paying job to begin striving day in and day out in an effort to draw attention to the plight of the minorities of India. Since that time he has succeeded in raising awareness of the treatment of Christians, Kashmiri Muslims, and other minorities in India and throughout the world. Dr. Aulakh has spoken out on behalf of these people; he has highlighted injustices, and in so doing, has raised the level of awareness of such issues throughout the United States.

On October 7, 1987, the Sikh homeland declared its independence from India. At that time, Dr. Aulakh was named to lead the struggle to regain the lost sovereignty of the Sikhs.

If it were not for Dr. Aulakh's tireless efforts, the human-rights conditions in India would go unexposed and unpunished. Because of his efforts, all of us in Congress are much better informed on these matters and we are more able to take appropriate action. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Aulakh and the Council of Khalistan for their tireless efforts on behalf of freedom.

TORTURE AND POLICE ABUSE IN
THE OSCE REGION

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, over the July Fourth recess, I had the privilege of participating in the U.S. Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's annual meeting held in Paris, where I introduced a resolution on the need for the OSCE participating States—all of our States—to intensify our efforts to combat torture, police abuse, and racial profiling. This resolution, adopted and included the Assembly's final Declaration, also calls for greater protection for non-governmental organizations, medical personnel, and others who treat the victims of torture and report on their human rights violations. The resolution also condemns the insidious practice of racial profiling, which has the effect of leaving minorities more vulnerable to police abuse. Finally, my resolution calls for the OSCE participating States to adopt, in law and in practice, a complete ban on incommunicado detention.

Tragically, recent news reports only underscore how urgent the problem of police abuse is. I would like to survey a few of the reports received by the Helsinki Commission in recent weeks.

First, on July 7 in Slovakia, the body of Karol Sendrei, a 51-year-old Romani father, was returned to his family. The convoluted account of his death has included mutual re-cremations among police officers and, so far,

has led to the resignation of the mayor of Magnezitovce and indictments against three police officers. While much remains to be sorted out, this much is clear: On July 5, Mr. Sendrei was taken into police custody. The next day, he died of injuries, including shock caused by a torn liver, cranial and pericardial bleeding, and broken jaw, sternum, and ribs. According to reports, Mr. Sendrei had been chained to a radiator and beaten over for the last twelve hours of his life.

The deaths in police custody of Lubomir Sarissky in 1999 and now Mr. Sendrei, persistent reports of police abuse in villages like Hermanovce, and the reluctance of the police and judicial system to respond seriously to racially motivated crimes have all eroded trust in law enforcement in Slovakia. As Americans know from first-hand experience, when the public loses that trust, society as a whole pays dearly.

I welcome the concern for the Sendrei case reflected in the statements of Prime Minister Dzurinda, whom I had the chance to meet at the end of May, and others in his cabinet. But statements alone will not restore confidence in the police among Slovakia's Romani community. Those who are responsible for this death must be held fully accountable before the law. I will continue to follow this case, along with the trials of the three men still being prosecuted for the murder of Anastazia Balazova last year.

Although it has received far less press attention, in Hungary, a Romani man was also shot and killed on June 30 by an off-duty police officer in Budapest; one other person was injured in that shooting. While the police officer in that case has been arrested, too often reports of police misconduct in Hungary are ignored or have been countered with a slap on the wrist. I remain particularly alarmed by the persistent reports of police brutality in Hajduhadhaz and police reprisals against those who have reported their abuse to the Helsinki Commission. In one case, a teenager in Hajduhadhaz who had reported being abused by the police was detained by the police again—after his case had been brought to the attention of the Helsinki Commission, and after Helsinki Commission staff had raised it with the Hungarian Ambassador. In an apparent attempt to intimidate this boy, the police claimed to have a "John Doe" criminal indictment for "unknown persons" for damaging the reputation of Hungary abroad. These are outrageous tactics from the communist-era that should be ended.

I urge Hungarian Government officials to look more closely at this problem and take greater efforts to combat police abuse. I understand an investigation has begun into possible torture by a riverbank patrol in Tiszabura, following reports that police in that unit had forced a 14-year-old Romani boy into the ice-cold waters of the Tisza river. There are now reports that this unit may have victimized other people as well. I am hopeful this investigation will be transparent and credible and that those who have committed abuses will be held fully accountable.

In the Czech Republic, lack of confidence in law enforcement agents has recently led some Roma to seek to form their own self-defense units. Frankly, this is not surprising. Roma in the Czech Republic continue to be the target of violent, racially motivated crime: On April 25, a group of Roma were attacked by German

and Czech skinheads in Novy Bor. On June 30, 4 skinheads attacked a group of Roma in Ostrava; one of the victims of that attack was repeatedly stabbed, leaving his life in jeopardy. On July 16, three men shouting Nazi slogans attacked a Romani family in their home in As in western Bohemia. On July 21, a Romani man was murdered in Svitavy by a man who had previously committed attacks against Roma, only to face a slap on the wrist in the courts.

These cases follow a decade in which racially motivated attacks against Roma in the Czech Republic have largely been tolerated by the police. Indeed, in the case of the murder of Milan Lacko, a police officer was involved. More to the point, he ran over Milan Lacko's body with his police car, after skinheads beat him and left him in the road. In another case, involving a 1999 racially motivated attack on another Romani man, the Czech Supreme Court issued a ruling that the attack was premeditated and organized, and then remanded the case back to the district court in Jesenik for sentencing in accordance with that finding. But the district court simply ignored the Supreme Court's finding and ordered four of the defendants released. Under circumstances such as these, is it any wonder that Roma so lack confidence in the police and judiciary that they feel compelled to defend themselves?

I am not, however, without hope for the Czech Republic. Jan Jarab, the Czech Government's Human Rights Commissioner, has spoken openly and courageously of the human rights problems in his country. For example, the Czech News Agency recently reported that Jarab had said that "the Czech legal system deals 'benevolently' with attacks committed by right-wing extremists, [ff]rom police investigators, who do not want to investigate such cases as racial crimes, to state attorneys and judges, who pass the lowest possible sentences." I hope Czech political leaders—from every party and every walk of life—will support Jan Jarab's efforts to address the problems he so rightly identified.

Clearly, problems of police abuse rarely if ever go away on their own. On the contrary, I believe that, unattended, those who engage in abusive practices only become more brazen and shameless. When two police officers in Romania were accused of beating to death a suspect in Cugir in early July, was it really a shock? In that case, the two officers had a history of using violent methods to interrogate detainees—but there appears to have been no real effort to hold them accountable for their practices.

I am especially concerned by reports from Amnesty International that children are among the possible victims of police abuse and torture in Romania. On March 14, 14-year-old Vasile Danut was detained by police in Vladesti and beaten severely by police. On April 5, 15-year-old Ioana Silaghi was reportedly attacked by a police officer in Oradea. Witnesses in the case have reportedly also been intimidated by the police. In both cases, the injuries of the children were documented by medical authorities. I urge the Romanian authorities to conduct impartial investigations into each of these cases and to hold fully accountable those who may be found guilty of violating the law.

Mr. Speaker, as is well-known to many Members, torture and police abuse is a particularly widespread problem in the Republic of

Turkey. I have been encouraged by the willingness of some public leaders, such as parliamentarian Emre Kocaoglu, to acknowledge the breadth and depth of the problem. Acknowledging the existence of torture must surely be part of any effort to eradicate this abuse in Turkey.

I was therefore deeply disappointed by reports that 18 women, who at a conference last year publicly described the rape and other forms of torture meted out by police, are now facing charges of "insulting and raising suspicions about Turkish security forces." This is, of course, more than just a question of the right to free speech—a right clearly violated by these criminal charges. As one conference participant said, "I am being victimized a second time." Turkey cannot make the problem of torture go away by bringing charges against the victims of torture, by persecuting the doctors who treat torture victims, or by trying to silence the journalists, human rights activists, and even members of Turkey's own parliament who seek to shed light on this dark corner. The charges against these 18 women undermine the credibility of the Turkish Government's assertion that it is truly seeking to end the practice of torture and hope these charges will be dropped.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw attention to the case of Abner Louima in New York, whose case has come to light again in recent weeks. In 1997, Abner Louima was brutally, and horrifically tortured by police officials; he will suffer permanent injuries for the rest of his life because of the damage inflicted in a single evening. Eventually, New York City police officer Justin Volpe pleaded guilty and is serving a 30-year sentence for his crimes. Another officer was also found guilty of participating in the assault and four other officers were convicted of lying to authorities about what happened. On July 12, Abner Louima settled the civil suit he had brought against New York City and its police union.

There has been no shortage of ink to describe the \$7.125 million that New York City will pay to Mr. Louima and the unprecedented settlement by the police union, which agreed to pay an additional \$1.625 million. What is perhaps most remarkable in this case is that Mr. Louima had reached agreement on the financial terms of this settlement months ago. He spent the last 8 months of his settlement negotiations seeking changes in the procedures followed when allegations of police abuse are made.

As the Louima case illustrated, there is no OSCE participating State, even one with long democratic traditions and many safeguards in place, that is completely free from police abuse. Of course, I certainly don't want to leave the impression that the problems of all OSCE countries are more or less alike—they are not. The magnitude of the use of torture in Turkey and the use of torture as a means of political repression in Uzbekistan unfortunately distinguish those countries from others. But every OSCE participating State has an obligation to prevent and punish torture and other forms of police abuse and I believe every OSCE country should do more.

IN HONOR OF THE LAKE CITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH'S 125TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the Lake City Presbyterian Church. The Lake City Presbyterian Church celebrated its 125th anniversary last month, making it the oldest church in Colorado that still utilizes its original building.

Lake City's Community Presbyterian Church, originally called Lake City's First Presbyterian Church, was started in 1876 with an organizational meeting in Del Norte, Colorado. Reverend Alexander Darley had scoured the area months before looking for Presbyterians and related religious groups to justify his idea to make Lake City the home to the first Presbyterian Church on the Western Slope of the Continental Divide. According to the church's historical record, Rev. Darley went to every house and tent within six miles of Lake City to acquire names for his petition. After the meeting in June of 1876, a piece of land was secured for the 24'x40' frame where the church was to be built. Construction began in August, and by the end of October the church was completed. The estimated cost of the church was \$2,100.

Rev. Darling was officially ordained as the minister in 1877, and served Lake City for three years before taking leave. Throughout the years, many ministers have taken the pulpit, including a tape recorder for the winter months of the 1940's and 1950's that filled in the gaps between the summer student ministers that traveled to Lake City. The membership has also fluctuated reaching a high in 1889 of 132 members to its current membership of 84. Many stories accompany the well-kept historical records of the church, and on June 24, 2001 many community members gathered to reminisce about the beautiful old church.

One hundred and twenty-five years is a milestone, and that is why Mr. Speaker, I ask Congress to recognize the oldest church in the state of Colorado. It is an honor to have that distinction, and I salute the members of the Lake City Community Presbyterian Church for continuing its lasting tradition.

THE RIM OF THE VALLEY CORRIDOR STUDY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 2715, the Rim of the Valley Corridor Study Act, directing the Secretary of the Interior to study the feasibility of expanding the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area to include the mountains and canyons in Southern California that are part of the Rim of the Valley Corridor designated by the State of California.

For many families, the mountains above our communities are a nearby haven to enjoy nature, a refuge from the noise and commotion

of Los Angeles. The National Park Service oversees the highly successful Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, the world's largest urban park, spanning from the mountains to the sea and protected in perpetuity by Congress in 1978. In the Santa Monica Mountains, Park Service rangers work with state and local authorities and community groups on conservation and recreation projects.

I am introducing the Rim of the Valley Corridor Study Act in an effort to bring back federal resources and expertise to the mountains above the San Fernando, La Crescenta, Santa Clarita, Simi and Conejo valleys as well as the famed Arroyo Seco canyon, home of Pasadena's Rose Bowl. Our mountains can and should be places where city-dwellers can easily go to enjoy such activities as hiking, camping, mountain biking, horseback riding, observing wildlife or even just to admire nature's scenic beauty, up close or afar from our communities.

The Secretary of the Interior would complete the study within one to three years, consulting an advisory committee of representatives of the Los Angeles Mayor, Los Angeles County Supervisors, Ventura County Supervisors, and City Councils of Thousand Oaks, Agoura Hills, Westlake Village, Malibu, Calabasas, Burbank, Glendale, La Canada Flintridge, Pasadena, South Pasadena, Sierra Madre, Santa Clarita, Moorpark, as well as others. It would then be necessary for Congress to enact subsequent legislation to implement the recommendations of the study.

I am pleased to report that this legislation has bipartisan support. With Reps. HOWARD BERMAN, DAVID DREIER, ELTON GALLEGLY, HOWARD "BUCK" MCKEON, BRAD SHERMAN and HILDA SOLIS as principal cosponsors of the Rim of the Valley Corridor Study Act, every Member of Congress whose district includes portions of the Rim of the Valley Corridor is supporting the legislation. It is my hope that the Rim of the Valley Corridor Study Act will result in an initiative creating a lasting legacy of nearby natural open space for our children—and their children—to enjoy.

WILLIAM E. LEONARD TRIBUTE—
INTERCHANGE NAMED IN HIS
HONOR

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a most exceptional California Inland Empire community leader, friend and great American—William E. Leonard—who will be recognized for his work in transportation with the upcoming dedication and grand-opening of the interchange between the 210 freeway and the 15 interstate highway.

Calvin Coolidge, America's 13th President, once said, "No person was ever honored for what he received; honor has been the reward for what he gave." And Bill Leonard has given much during his years of public and community service.

A member of the California State Highway Commission from 1973 to 1977 and the California Transportation Commission from 1985 to 1993, Bill Leonard has made a great impact

in a short amount of time upon Inland Empire and Californian transportation needs. I can think of no other more fitting tribute to Bill Leonard than the dedication of this vital interchange given his many years of service in the field of transportation infrastructure.

Bill Leonard began his professional career when he joined his father at Leonard Realty & Building Company in San Bernardino, after leaving the United States Army (1943–1946) where he rose to the rank of First Lieutenant. He earned a bachelors degree in Business Administration from the University of California at Berkeley in 1944. From the family business, Bill Leonard developed, owned and operated a variety of real estate, management and development services throughout the Inland Empire. And from 1956 to 1958 he served as a member of California's Athletic Commission.

In the community, Bill Leonard has been equally involved and giving. He is a member and past director of the San Bernardino Area Chamber of Commerce, member and past president of the San Bernardino Host Lions, founding member and president of Inland Action, Inc. and a member of the National Orange Show Board of Directors, which he has served as President and Chairman of the Board of Governors. Additionally he has served on the San Bernardino Valley Board of Realtors, San Bernardino College Foundation, St. Bernadine's Hospital Foundation and University of California at Riverside Foundation.

Bill Leonard has been honored numerous times over the years for his outstanding public and community service, including the Boy Scouts of America Inland Empire Council's Distinguished Citizens Award, Valley Group's Award for Excellence in Infrastructure, and more. The Interchange Dedication is a proud addition to this list.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Leonard has dedicated his life to public and community service. An American whose talents have bettered the lives of those living in the Inland Empire and California. It is an honor for me today to join in his recognition—the new Interchange bears a proud and distinguished name.

CALIFORNIA NEIGHBORWORKS

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the efforts of Freddie Mac, California Bank and Trust (CB&T), Impact Community Capital, Neighborhood Housing Services of Orange County (NHSOC) and the California Housing Loan Insurance Fund (CaHLIF), for launching a unique new statewide public-private homeownership initiative called California NeighborWorks. California Neighborworks was designed to help address California's affordable housing crisis. Every American dreams of owning a home, but because of skyrocketing home prices in California, that dream has unfortunately become unattainable for many hard working Californian families. In Orange County alone, home prices have appreciated by a staggering 45 percent since 1995.

All the partners involved should be commended for creating an innovative and progressive program that is responsive to the mortgage needs of Californians. This initiative

will help prospective homebuyers achieve their goals by reducing initial out-of-pocket costs by as much as 80 percent. That means that individuals and families that lack the cash to make a large downpayment can take advantage of California NeighborWorks to bridge the financial gap.

This program also helps families with past credit issues by providing them with counseling from Neighborhood Housing Services, giving them a better education about their credit, their finances and the home buying process. And all of this is achieved without burdening taxpayers. Instead, NeighborWorks relies on a collaborative effort between the private sector and non-profit partners to meet the needs of potential homeowners in Orange County and in California.

Providing new ways to get hard working individuals and families into their own homes is truly a worthy objective. It makes them feel good about themselves and about the community they live in. I look forward to seeing more initiatives like this one in California and to working with the NeighborWorks partners in the future.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE CECILIA HSUI-YA CHANG

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my condolences to the family and friends of Cecilia Hsui-Ya Chang, also known as Cecilia Yu, upon her passing.

Cecilia Chang was born in 1919 in Tienjing of Hepei Province, near Beijing. She began her literary career very early. Her essays and poems were published in various Chinese literary magazines and newspapers when she was in junior high school. In her second year of high school, she published her first book.

Cecilia Chang studied western languages at the Fu-Jen Catholic University in Beijing at the beginning of the Sino-Japanese war. After she graduated from the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, she studied history as a graduate student and became a seasoned editor for Fu-Jen Catholic University's literature journal. Because of the ongoing war, she moved to Chungking and worked as the editor of the Literary Edition at the Social Welfare Daily News of Chungking and the National Catholic Newspaper ("Yi-Shi Pao") at the age of 24. After WWII, she returned to Beijing to teach as an instructor at Fu-Jen Catholic University.

In 1949, she moved to Taiwan and taught as a professor of the English Department at Providence University in Taichung, Taiwan. In 1965, she began her tenure as professor of literature and translation at Fu-Jen Catholic University School of Literature. She continued to teach at Fu-Jen for 17 years.

Altogether, Cecilia Chang has written and published 82 books in Chinese, some of which have been translated into English, Korean, and French. Her works have been published and widely read in Taiwan, Hong Kong, Mainland China, Malaysia, and Singapore. Institutions and libraries throughout the world, including the Library of Congress and the Central Library of the Republic of China have col-

lected her literary work. Students in China and Taiwan now read her prose and poetry in their textbooks and standard reading.

Throughout her life, Cecilia Chang received many honors and awards, among them, the prestigious Chung Shan Literary Award in 1968; the Distinguished Alumni Award from Taipei Catholic University; the China Literary Society Award; the National Sun Yat Sen Cultural Foundation Literature Award; the Women's Union Long Poetry Award; and the Lifelong Contributor in Literature Award from the Chinese Literary Society of Taipei on May 4, 2001.

Cecilia Chang came to the United States seven years ago to live in Southern California. She was married to the late Philip Yu and is survived by one son, Justin Yu of New York City, one daughter, Theresa Yeh of Los Angeles, and four grandchildren, Rosemary and Pauline Yu and Paul and David Yeh.

HONORING CALVARY CHILDREN'S HOME, COBB COUNTY, GEORGIA

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Rev. Snyder Turner is an untiring servant to the needy children of Cobb County, Georgia. Rev. Turner's greatest accomplishment is that he has managed Calvary Children's Home since 1971. Rev. Turner has received numerous awards and widespread recognition for his work with children. His commitment to providing a haven for disadvantaged children makes him an invaluable asset to Cobb County and surrounding communities.

Calvary Children's Home provides long-term care for abused, abandoned, and underprivileged children. The home has operated in Cobb County since 1966, and has continually expanded its ability to care for even more children. In 1997, Calvary moved to a new location in Powder Springs. This new facility allows the Home to care for 20 to 30 children at one time. Calvary Children's Home provides care to children for as long as they need it; there is no age at which care must stop.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of Rev. Turner's leadership at Calvary Children's Home. I would like to extend to Rev. Turner my admiration for his work with the children of Cobb County. I hope Rev. Turner's work and dedication to his community continues for many years to come.

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT: RIGHT TO LIFE ACT

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that, if passed, will once and for all protect our unborn children from harm. Over 1.3 million abortions are performed in the United States each year and over 38 million have been performed since abortion was legalized in 1973. This is a national tragedy. It is the duty of all Americans

to protect our children—born and unborn. This bill, the Right to Life Act, would provide blanket protection to all unborn children from the moment of conception.

In 1973, the United States Supreme Court, in the landmark case of *Roe v. Wade*, refused to determine when human life begins and therefore found nothing to indicate that the unborn are persons protected by the Fourteenth Amendment. In the decision, however, the Court did concede that, "If the suggestion of personhood is established, the appellants" case, of course, collapses, for the fetus' right to life would be guaranteed specifically by the Amendment." Considering Congress has the constitutional authority to uphold the Fourteenth Amendment, coupled by the fact that the Court admitted that if personhood were to be established, the unborn would be protected, it can be concluded that we have the authority to determine when life begins.

The Right to Life Act does what the Supreme Court refused to do in *Roe v. Wade* and recognizes the personhood of the unborn for the purpose of enforcing four important provisions in the Constitution: (1) Sec. 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment prohibiting states from depriving any person of life; (2) Sec. 5 of the Fourteenth Amendment providing Congress the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provision of this amendment; (3) the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment, which concurrently prohibits the federal government from depriving any person of life; and (4) Article 1, Section 8, giving Congress the power to make laws necessary and proper to enforce all powers in the Constitution.

This legislation will protect millions of future children by prohibiting any state or federal law that denies the personhood of the unborn, thereby effectively overturning *Roe v. Wade*.

We have had some recent successes in protecting our preborn including the passage of the Unborn Victims of Violence Act and the Human Cloning Prohibition Act, as well as the introduction of the Born-Alive Infants Protection Act. These bills recognize the unborn child as a human and provide protection to the fetus. Because I firmly believe that life begins at conception and that the preborn child deserves all the rights and protections afforded an American citizen, I support these pieces of legislation. The Right to Life Act will finally put our unborn children on the same legal footing as all other persons. I hope my colleagues will join me in support of this important effort.

THE GREATEST SHOWMAN ON
EARTH

HON. DAN MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, "Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls of all ages, welcome to the greatest show on earth! The Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus is proud to present Gunther Gebel-Williams."

These words were spoken all across the world for the past quarter of a century reaching the ears of an estimated 200 million people, introducing the greatest animal trainer that has ever lived. Gunther Gebel-Williams has recently passed away, but his memory will live

on in the minds of the millions of men, women and children that came to see this amazing man and his dangerous performances. There were 1,500 people that attended his funeral to pay their respects in his adopted home town of Venice.

Gunther Gebel-Williams began his career at the age of 12 in WWII Germany and he later joined the Barnum and Bailey Circus in 1968 only to make his first American debut on Jan. 6, 1969. From that first debut in 1969 until his last in 1989 he never missed a show, totaling 12,000 consecutive performances. Kenneth Feld memorialized Gunther Gebel-Williams by saying "He was unlike any performer anywhere. When he entered the circus arena, whether caring a Roman Post on galloping horses or atop an elephant, every eye was always on him until he left the floor." When Gunther Gebel-Williams was not performing he would often put on a pair of his old boots and help to sweep the floor.

He loved and cared for the animals like a father. At Gunther's funeral Dr. Richard Houch a retired veterinarian, told the audience of his devotion to animals stating, "He would watch baby tigers and leopards playing to figure out what they could do best in the act. He knew the personality, disposition and idiosyncrasies of every animal." He was an amazing man who was not only loved by the animals but also by his fans and friends. I believe that the world has lost a legend and my congressional district a good citizen. He will be missed greatly.

INTRODUCTION OF MEDICARE
REGULATORY AND CON-
TRACTING REFORM ACT OF 2001

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce the bipartisan Medicare Regulatory and Contracting Reform Act of 2001. Over the past several months, I have been working closely with PETE STARK, Ranking Member of the Ways and Means Health Subcommittee, to assemble this much needed package. This legislation is the product of months of bipartisan consultation with health care providers and with the Department of Health and Human Services. Our bill will go a long way toward alleviating the burden of unreasonable and unnecessary regulatory paperwork from the nation's doctors and other health care providers.

I am pleased that every member of the Health Subcommittee has decided to join me and Congressman STARK in introducing this important legislation, along with several of our colleagues from the full committee. This interest tells us that Members of Congress are hearing from doctors, from home health workers, from hospital administrators, from nursing home aides that change is needed. Good health care is about patients, not paperwork. America's health care providers must be freed from the flood of forms.

My Subcommittee has been taking a serious and honest look at the problems of providers throughout the year. And I have to tell you—the problems are real. At a hearing in March, Susan Wilson of the Visiting Nurses' Associa-

tion of Central Connecticut testified about how difficult it is for a provider to respond to a technical denial of a claim. For example, a patient must be homebound in order to be entitled to benefits. A physician must certify, in writing, that the patient meets the homebound requirement. However, if the certification is not signed and dated prior to billing for coverage, a claim denial is issued. At this point, a provider has to pursue a formal appeal. Our bill requires the development of a system to allow easy corrections of technical problems with claims without having to go through the appeals process—saving time for providers and for the appeals system.

At a recent meeting of my Subcommittee, Congressman CAMP told us that he spent an afternoon working in one of his local doctors' offices, filling out the forms that need to be completed before Medicare can be billed for a health care service. He was confronted with several books, each as large as a phone book, that needed to be consulted in order to properly code the claim. It just should not be that difficult.

I have visited a wide cross section of Connecticut's health care providers—and they raise a common theme with me. They are frustrated. These are good people who want to take care of the patients they see. And yet they are inundated by forms, requirements, second-guessing, and heavy handed oversight. We have to take action, or we run the risk of driving from the Medicare program the very providers we need to ensure that seniors have access to high quality care.

An eye physician from Torrington Connecticut contacted me earlier this year to express his frustration with a system that subjected him, in his words, "to a star-chamber proceeding . . . for the crime of serving the elderly." This is unacceptable. We must act.

My bill will diminish the paperwork load required to meet complex and technical regulatory requirements and immediately free up for patient care time that providers now spend completing and filing federal forms. Specifically, my bill streamlines the regulatory process, enhances education and technical assistance for doctors and other health care providers, and protects the rights of providers in the audit and recovery process to ensure that the repayment process is fair and open. At the same time, the bill has been carefully designed to protect ongoing and necessary efforts to reduce waste, fraud and abuse from the Medicare program.

In addition, under this bill, the Secretary is given the tools to manage Medicare program operations competitively and efficiently. For the first time, the new Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services will be able to contract with the best entities available to process claims, make payments and answer questions. And the Secretary will be free to promote quality through incentives for the Medicare Administrative Contractors to provide outstanding service to seniors and health care providers.

The bill includes a section I am particularly excited about that will create a demonstration program designed to make intense and targeted technical assistance available to small health care providers. This demonstration will offer technical experts to work with small providers on a voluntary basis to evaluate systems for compliance and suggest more efficient or more effective means of operating their documentation and billing systems. This

demonstration is modeled on successful work undertaken by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to promote compliance with complicated requirements. Through this demonstration, we are going to help small providers overwhelmed by the complexity of Medicare's rules by showing them what they need to do to comply.

We also create an ombudsman to help providers solve problems they encounter with the Medicare program. Too many doctors tell us that they operate in fear of making an innocent error and ending up with the very viability of their practice in jeopardy. We need to change that mind set—Medicare should help providers comply with rules—it shouldn't drive them away from the system.

Passage of the Johnson-Stark bill will take a long step toward making that goal a reality. I look forward to working with my colleagues and with the Administration to see our bill become law this year.

CLEAN WATER USERS PROTECTION ACT

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Clean Water Users Protection Act." This bill provides that plaintiffs under the Clean Water Act must post a bond for their opponents' legal fees before filing a case. Ordinary farmers, small businessmen, rural counties and school districts have all become targets for zealots who place their own interpretation of the law before the interests of rural America. My act will ensure that only legitimate lawsuits are brought under the Clean Water Act.

Congress established Clean Water Act citizen suits in the 1970's to ensure that each citizen would have a voice in making sure that our environment remained clean. Unfortunately, the process was corrupted by those who want to destroy private enterprise and line their pockets in the process. The Talent Irrigation District is a perfect example. In that case a radical environmental group challenged a commonly used, federally regulated herbicide as violating the Clean Water Act. A lower court rejected their suit, and rightfully so. The 9th Circuit Court ruled, against nearly 30 years of precedent to the contrary, that aquatic herbicides are also covered by the Clean Water Act. Every irrigator in the United States now faces the prospect of losing their farms or going to jail. Had the plaintiff in the case been forced to post a bond, perhaps they would have thought twice before filing their suit.

The Clean Water Users Protection Act does not change any obligation under the Clean Water Act. It does not reduce the remediation and/or penalties that can be ordered if violations of the Clean Water Act are found. It will, however, reduce the incentives for frivolous suits to be filed. It will restrain the impulse for mercenary lawyers to set up shop in the guise of caring for the environment. The Sacramento Bee recently ran a series of articles about the immense amounts of money that flow into the pockets of lawyers performing such "citizen-suits." They reported that the government paid out \$31.6 million in plaintiffs attorneys fees for

434 environmental cases during the 1990's. Businesses, farmers, and local governments have paid an untold amount more. My bill will stop the flow of dollars away from environmental protection and into lawyers pockets while protecting the honest men and women who live in, care for, and make their living from the beautiful Western states we call home.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 30, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2620) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Rangel amendment to the Fiscal Year 2002 VA-HUD Appropriations bill which would eliminate funding used to implement the community service requirement for residents of public housing.

The community service requirement amounts to nothing more than an attack on those who are poor. Granted, residents of public housing do receive a benefit from the government—a benefit Congress began providing almost a century ago, because it understood that despite their hard-work, parents could not meet the basic needs of their families.

But instead of proactively addressing the factors that cause people to need public housing in the first place—lack of jobs, low wages, poor education—and helping them to escape the vicious cycle of poverty, we just add to their hardships and label them as undeserving. With these community service requirements, we're essentially saying to them, "Earn your keep or else."

If we followed this logic and made every American earn their keep, then we would demand CEO's of nuclear power companies, who receive millions of dollars from the government to subsidize their liability insurance—far more than the meager cost of a public housing unit—to hand out sandwiches at the church soup kitchen. We would demand heads of pharmaceutical companies who, year after year, get billions of dollars in tax breaks, to be candy strippers at the local hospital.

But do we demand those things? Of course not. Because those are the people who donate to our campaign war chests.

If we followed this logic, we would demand the suburban couple, who got a tax break when they bought their first home, to scrub graffiti off the wall at the subway station. We would demand the farmer, who received a subsidy when his crops were damaged in last summer's drought, to pick up litter along the highway.

But do we demand those things? Of course not. Because those people aren't poor. And in Congress, we only like to make things difficult for those who are poor.

For the last decade, every time that poverty issues come before the House, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, proclaim the words, "personal responsibility." I challenge my colleagues to hold themselves to that same standard. Take responsibility for your own actions. Admit that provisions like this are only intended to demonize those who are poor. Don't hide behind the falsehood that this community service requirement will somehow alleviate the problems of those living in public housing. Acknowledge that your failure to offer serious solutions has only exacerbated their problems.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to vote for the Rangel amendment and encourage them to support initiatives that will actually improve the situation of those struggling to make ends meet.

TRIBUTE TO RUDY ABBOTT

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rudy Abbott, the head baseball coach of Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, Alabama, for 31 years.

Coach Abbott retired this year after a remarkable career. He is the 29th coach in NCAA history to win 1,000 games and was the winningest coach in Alabama collegiate sports history. Among the highlights of his coaching career are the fact that he led the Jacksonville State Gamecocks to back-to-back NCAA Division II National Championships in 1990 and 1991 and was named the NCAA Division "Coach of the Year" in both years. He guided five teams to the Gulf South Conference titles and earned Gulf South Conference "Coach of the Year" on seven different occasions. He captured eleven Gulf South Conference Division crowns and took seven teams to championships and NCAA Division II World Series berths.

Such a record is all the more remarkable when you learn the "rest of the story" that he only got into collegiate coaching by chance. Following graduation from a junior college in Mississippi, Coach Abbott had returned home to Anniston, Alabama, and landed a job as sports writer for The Anniston Star. In 1964, he became the Sports Information Director at Jacksonville State, and in 1970, he asked to step in as Baseball Coach for a temporary period of time due to the illness of the permanent coach. He stayed for 31 years.

It is said that the measure of a man is the influence he has on the lives of others. Over his thirty years in coaching, it is almost impossible to imagine how many lives Coach Abbott has affected. On a professional level, he coached 24 All Americans and over 75 of his players have gone on to the professional ranks. But more important is what he has done for Jacksonville State University and its athletic department and its student athletes and its student body. I salute Coach Abbott at the end of his baseball coaching career and wish him and his family the very best in the future.

CONCERN-REGARDING BUSINESS OWNERS AND THEIR EMPLOYEES

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker and fellow Members of Congress, I want to alert you to a matter of concern that I have regarding business owners and their employees, particularly small business owners, within our country. This problem has been told to me by some of my constituents and is a problem about which business owners throughout the country have written to you.

We are a nation that is built upon the rule of law. This has assured a system of accountability for our conduct as individuals, businesses and institutions. Congress, as elected representatives, meets and acts to improve and refine the system in order to protect the people and their property. The foundation as framed by our nation's founders in the Constitution is the concept of due process and the right thereof. We each have the assurance that the law protects our person and property from libelous, slanderous, and otherwise tortuous interference with our reputation or business. Unfortunately, I have learned that we have within our country a private organization that with the appearance of being quasi-governmental and without any legal or regulatory oversight and control can libel and slander and tortuously interfere with a small business. They can do so with virtual immunity. This organization is the National Better Business Bureau and their franchise local Better Business Bureaus. At times, some of these bureaus classify small business owners as unsatisfactory, libel and slander them with opinion and innuendo, and provide them no due process to correct the problem. If sued in court, they argue qualified immunity under the guise of the public good. No one disputes the right of a Better Business Bureau to print facts. It is when they print falsehoods, opinion, or negative innuendo that a mechanism for redress or correction must be assured.

When closely examined, however, one finds that there are Better Business Bureaus that arbitrarily and capriciously exclude and negatively classify those they don't like. They also frequently rate companies with terrible records as being satisfactory. No written guidelines or rules are available that require the Better Business Bureau to adhere to any legal standard in their dealings with business. (With the internet, the conduct of one local Better Business Bureau is then taken as true and disseminated everywhere.) The Better Business Bureaus also charge money for these reports. They make money without responsibility for how they make it. Why are they above the law and other businesses?

On a first-hand basis, I recently inquired of the National Better Business Bureau regarding the process and I was met with hostility and rebuke. Prominent members of my community who tried to ascertain information about how to redress a concern with a local Better Business Bureau were hung up on by senior ranking National Better Business Bureau employees.

The process I have described is not in the public's best interest. It is not appropriate for us to allow our business owners and their em-

ployees, the men and women who make our country strong, to be exposed to this arbitrary and capricious process. A right to redress the actions of the Better Business Bureau when libelous, slanderous, arbitrary, or capricious action is apparent is a fundamental right we must insure. Thank you.

ENSURE FAIR WAGES AND DUE PROCESS FOR DAY LABORERS

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Day Laborer Fairness and Protection Act," a bill to ensure fair wages and due process for day laborers.

Day laborers are individuals who are hired by agencies to work on a day-to-day basis for employers who pay for the services of temporary laborers. Day labor is not of a clerical or professional nature. Most day laborers perform construction, warehouse, restaurant, janitorial, landscaping or light industrial work—often taking home far less than the minimum wage.

In the absence of federal guidelines, day laborers are often subjected to long, unpaid wait-periods before being assigned to a job. Commonly, these workers also face dangerous working conditions and are paid lower wages than full-time workers performing the same or similar jobs. Further, day laborers are frequently charged high (often undisclosed) fees for on-the-job meals, transportation to and from job sites and special attire and safety equipment necessary for jobs. Some agencies even ask workers to sign waivers in case they are injured on the job.

Partially due to these unfair labor conditions, many day laborers are caught in a cycle of poverty. A recent study by the University of Illinois Center for Urban Economic Development found that 65 percent of 510 surveyed day laborers receive \$5.15 per hour. Taking into consideration the number of hours spent waiting to be assigned to work (often between 1.5 and three hours), the real value per hour of work is reduced to less than about four dollars per hour. This low figure does not reflect transportation and food and equipment fees, which are often deducted from day laborers' wages.

To address these problems, this Act requires day laborer wages that are equal to those paid to permanent employees who are performing substantially equivalent work, with consideration given to seniority, experience, skills & qualifications. Also, it mandates wages for job assignment wait-times lasting more than thirty minutes. Such wages shall be at a rate that is not less than federal or state minimum wages. Further, it requires itemized statements showing deductions made from day laborers' wages. Finally, it mandates that when a day laborer is hurt on the job, the employer who has requested the services of the day laborer provide for coverage of health care costs.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this pro-labor legislation.

ARTICLE BY FORMER SEC. BILL RICHARDSON REGARDING KAZAKHSTAN

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, an article published in The Washington Times of Monday, July 30, 2001, by Mr. Bill Richardson, has especially impressed me. While world attention focuses on major nations, Mr. Richardson reminds us of the strategic importance of a lesser-known, but truly significant nation, Kazakhstan.

We remember Bill Richardson as a former member of this body; as our nation's Ambassador to the United Nations; and, as Secretary of Energy, all excellent credentials for his incisive assessment and powerful reminder of the critical geopolitical importance of Kazakhstan, bounded by Russia, China and Iran, and the enormous store of energy it holds for the world.

I commend the article and urge that my colleagues give it their attention.

[The Washington Times, Published 7/30/01]

CRAZY FOR KAZAKHSTAN

(By Bill Richardson)

As secretary of energy and ambassador to the United Nations during the Clinton administration, I traveled three times to Kazakhstan to underscore the importance of this key Central Asian country to U.S. interests. Of all the countries rising from the ashes of the Soviet Union, few offer the promise of Kazakhstan. In terms of both economic potential and political stability, Kazakhstan is critical to the long-term success of the Central Asian nations. The Bush administration should continue our policy of engaging Kazakhstan to ensure that this key country moves towards the Western orbit and adopts continued market and political reforms.

From its independence from the Soviet Union in 1991 to the present, Kazak leaders have made the difficult and controversial decisions necessary to bring their country into the 21st century. In May 1992, President Nursultan Nazarbayev announced that Kazakhstan would unilaterally disarm all of its nuclear weapons. In the aftermath of the Soviet Union's collapse, Kazakhstan was left with the fourth-largest nuclear arsenal in the world, a tempting target for terrorists and other extremists. Mr. Nazarbayev's courageous decision to disarm in the face of opposition from Islamic nationalists and potential regional instability was one of the fundamental building blocks that have allowed Kazakhstan to emerge as a strong, stable nation and a leader in Central Asia. Then President George Bush hailed the decision as "a momentous stride toward peace and stability."

Since that time, Central Asia has become an increasingly complex region. Russia is re-emerging from its post-Soviet economic crises and is actively looking for both economic opportunities in Central Asia as well as to secure its political influence over the region. China is rapidly expanding its economic power and political influence in the region. Iran, despite recent progress made by moderate elements in the government, is still a state sponsor of terrorism and is actively working to develop weapons of mass destruction. Many of the other former Soviet republics have become havens for religious extremists, terrorists, drug cartels and transit points for smugglers of all kind.

In the center of this conflict and instability Kazakhstan has begun to prosper by working to build a modern economy, developing its vast natural resources and providing a base of stability in a very uncertain part of the world. With the discovery of the massive Kashagan oil field in the Kazak portion of the Caspian Sea, Kazakhstan is poised to become a major supplier of petroleum to the Western world and a competitor to Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). It is critical that we continue to facilitate western companies' investment in Kazakhstan and the establishment of secure, east-west pipeline routes for Kazak oil. This is the only way for Kazakhstan to loosen its dependence on Russia for transit rights for its oil and gas and secure additional, much needed, oil for the world market.

American policy in the region must be based on the complex geopolitics of Central Asia and provide the support required to enable these countries to reach their economic potential. We must continue to give top priority to the development of Kazakhstan's oil and gas industries and to the establishment of east-west transportation corridors for Caspian oil and gas. We must also remain committed to real support for local political leadership, fostering rule of law and economic reforms and to helping mitigate and solve the lingering ethnic and nationalistic conflicts in the region. Only through meaningful and substantial cooperation with Kazakhstan, will we be able to realize these goals.

There are many challenges ahead for Kazakhstan, but there are enormous opportunities for economic and political progress. Mr. Nazarbayev has taken advantage of Kazakhstan's stability to begin transforming its economy from the old Soviet form—giant, state-owned industries and collective grain farms—into a modern, market-based economy. We have much at stake in this development. Will Kazakhstan become a true market-oriented democracy, or will it slip into economic stagnation and ethnic violence like so many of its neighbors? The stability of Central Asia and the Caucasus depends on how Kazakhstan chooses to move forward. The United States must do its part to enhance U.S.-Kazakhstan cooperation and encourage prosperity and stability for the entire region.

IN HONOR OF ED AND LYNN
HOGAN

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my close friends Ed and Lynn Hogan: successful entrepreneurs and philanthropists who have seen and changed the world together and who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on August 13, 2001.

Ed's and Lynn's accomplishments are numerous and far-reaching. In 1959, they opened Pleasant Travel Service in Point Pleasant, New Jersey. Three years later, they moved their four children and the business to Southern California to better serve clients wishing to visit Hawaii.

The company is now a limited liability corporation with more than 1,700 employees and revenues exceeding \$400 million. Their four children—Brian and Christine, and twins Gary and Glenn—are all executives in the company.

Ed is chairman and chief executive officer of Pleasant Holidays, L.L.C., and Lynn serves as vice chairperson. Lynn, a graphics artist who did picture cells for Disney's animated classic "Peter Pan," oversees the development of major promotions, ad campaigns and brochures, and is actively involved with the decoration and renovation of the company's hotels.

The company has expanded to serve Mexico, Tahiti, Japan and other destinations in the Orient, in addition to the ownership of several hotels in Hawaii.

In 1987, Ed and Lynn formed the Pleasant Hawaiian Holidays Foundation to grant annual scholarships and awards to benefit Hawaiian residents. The non-profit Hogan Family Foundation, founded in 1998, is dedicated to promoting an understanding of the importance of travel and tourism "by creating and operating educational, humanitarian, and civic-minded programs that encourage meaningful communication between persons of all cultures."

With the formation of the Travel and Tourism Institute, the Ed and Lynn Hogan Program in Travel and Tourism is funded at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles to prepare college students for executive careers in the travel industry.

Ed and Lynn volunteer for numerous other non-profit organizations focused on health care, child abuse and education, and sit on several boards, and have been honored frequently for their efforts.

Not surprisingly, they also have been honored extensively by the tourism industry and the government and people of Hawaii. A few highlights: In 1993, Ed and Lynn were inducted into the American Society of Travel Agents' "Hall of Fame," the travel industry's highest honor. In 1995, Ed served as a delegate to the first White House Conference on Travel and Tourism. Lynn has been named to Working Woman magazine's top 500 list of female executives in the United States for the past five years, number 53 in 1998 and number 34 this year.

In their spare time, Ed and Lynn train and show their Arabian horses, play in travel industry and celebrity golf tournaments, and fawn over their two grandchildren, Michael and Shalyn.

Mr. Speaker, Ed and Lynn Hogan are loving people who are dedicated to their profession, their community, their family and each other. I know my colleagues will join Janice and me in congratulating them on a lifetime of success together in each of those areas as they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS IN
INDIA CONTINUES

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, there has been a disturbing pattern of oppression of Christians and other religious minorities in India. This persecution of Christians in India continues. It has been going on steadily since Christmas 1998, with occasional flare-ups before that, as exemplified by one incident when the state police used unnecessary and overwhelming force to stop a Christian religious festival.

The animosity towards Christians and other religious minorities in India is well known. High-ranking officials of India's governing coalition have said openly that everyone who lives in India must either be Hindu or be subservient to Hinduism. They have called for nationalization of the Christian churches in India, severing them from the denominations to which they belong.

Since the current wave of violence exploded on Christmas 1998, more than two and a half years ago, Christian churches have been burned, and assaults have been carried out on priests and nuns.

Mr. Speaker, that is the state of religious freedom in India. The Indian government has much work in front of it. It is time for India to stop trampling the rights of minorities and begin protecting religious freedom, civil liberties, human rights, and the other important rights that are the mark of a true democratic state.

54TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDIA'S
INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to join with the people of India and the Indian-American community to commemorate India's Independence Day. The 54th anniversary of India's Independence will actually occur on August 15th, while Congress is in recess, so I wanted to take this opportunity tonight, before we adjourn, to mark this important occasion before my colleagues in this House and the American people.

Last month, Americans celebrated the Fourth of July. For a billion people in India, one-sixth of the human race, the 15th of August holds the same significance. I am proud to extend my congratulations to the people of India, and to the sons and daughters of India who have come to the United States, enriching American society in so many ways.

On August 15, 1947, the people of India finally gained their independence from Britain, following a long and determined struggle that continues to inspire the world. In his stirring "midnight hour" speech, India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, set the tone for the newly established Republic, a Republic devoted to the principles of democracy and secularism. In more than half a century since then, India has stuck to the path of free and fair elections, a multi-party political system and the orderly transfer of power from one government to its successor.

India continues to grapple with the challenges of delivering broad-based economic development to a large and growing population. India has sought to provide full rights and representation to its many ethnic, religious and linguistic communities. And India seeks to be a force for stability and cooperation in the strategically vital South Asia region. In all of these respects, India stands out as a model for other Asian nations, and developing countries everywhere, to follow.

Mr. Speaker, one of the most difficult situations for a democracy is their relationships with their neighbors, especially if they do not share the same democratic ideals. India has

struggled to establish a peaceful cooperation with the nation of Pakistan. As you know, Pakistan has made a transition from the thin guise of democracy to an outright military state.

Despite this fact, India has made repeated efforts to establish peaceful and economically prosperous relations with Pakistan.

Evidence of this can be found in India's Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee extending the hand of friendship to Pakistan President Musharraf. This is the latest act of good faith by India even though Pakistan has consistently reverted in their promises to uphold their end in recent years. In February of 1999 India and Pakistan signed the Lahore Declaration under which they pledged to establish a procedure for resolving their differences through bilateral negotiations. Pakistan subsequently betrayed this when their forces crossed the Line of Control in Kashmir, resulting in the loss of hundreds of lives and international condemnation. Pakistan also broke the latest cease-fire initiated by India, yet Vajpayee still decided to invite Musharraf to a summit this past month. While the summit collapsed, Vajpayee has vowed to continue dialogue to try to bring about peace with India's neighbor.

India is of utmost importance to the United States, not only because of our shared principles, but also because of India's strategic importance. They have showed the Western World time and time again that they serve as a vital stabilizing force in the South Asian region. India has committed itself both politically and economically with the United States. In March of 2000, our countries participated in the U.S.-India Summit in New Dehli, where a Vision Statement was crafted. This statement committed both countries to fight against terrorism, prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons, expand trade, and a variety of other important issues. To this day, India continues to reduce barriers to trade, and bilateral trade has grown from less than \$5 billion in 1993 to over \$15 billion in 2000. India has not just passed the litmus test of foreign governments, but they have passed the much harder test of Western corporations that look for a profitable environment. There are hundreds of U.S. companies investing in India: AT&T, Citicorp, Morgan Stanley, Ford Motor Company, and IBM just to name a few.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise on behalf of the Indian-Americans in my district, and the 1.6 million all over this country to extend my congratulations to the largest democracy in the world. India has survived hostile neighbors, the transition from colonialism, recent earthquakes and droughts, and adaptation to the world economy, and with the continued support of the United States, will do so for many years to come.

HONOR OF THOMAS L. BERKLEY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Thomas L. Berkley for his contributions to the community and to the nation.

Mr. Berkley, who was born in Illinois in 1915, moved with his family to Southern California at the age of four. In 1936, he attended

Fullerton Junior College, where he earned an Associate of Arts Degree. He went on to UCLA and completed his Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration and Finance, and then attended Hastings Law School in San Francisco where he received his Juris Doctor and became active in the NAACP. He was admitted to the California State Bar in 1943.

After finishing his academic career, Mr. Berkley proudly joined the United States Army and fought bravely in World War II, achieving the rank of Second Lieutenant.

At the end of the war, Mr. Berkley returned to Oakland in the Bay Area and became the head of one of the nation's largest integrated, bilingual law firms. He helped establish the careers of notable men such as Judges Clinton White and Allen Broussard, and former Mayors of Oakland, Elihu Harris and Lionel Wilson,

Mr. Berkley has not only been active in law, but also in business and in the media. He was the president of Berkley International Ltd, Berkley Technical Services and CEO of Berkley Financial Services. Mr. Berkley also was the publisher of the Alameda Publishing Corporation which publishes the Oakland, San Francisco and Richmond Post newspapers. In the public service arena, Tom Berkley served as a Member of the Oakland Unified School District School Board and an advisor to the Greater ACORN Community Improvement Association.

Mr. Berkley is a "Man for all Seasons". He is a visionary, a motivator, an educator, a mentor, and an entrepreneur. He has made a significant contribution in all of his many local, state, national, and international endeavors and has given his all for the betterment of our community and society.

As a friend and supporter, Tom Berkley has always been a trusted confidant, and I have benefitted from his wisdom, his encouragement, and his compassion.

I am honored to salute Tom Berkley, and I take great pride in celebrating with his family, friends and colleagues his distinguished life and accomplishments.

FEDERAL PROPERTY IN CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS, TO ADDRESS OPEN SPACE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING NEEDS

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to inform the House of my intent to introduce legislation aimed at assisting a unique community development project in my district. Specifically, when the House convenes following the August recess, I plan to introduce the Kendall Square Project Redevelopment and Real Property Reversion Act of 2001.

This legislation is critical to the efforts of the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority to provide much needed open space and affordable housing to the residents of Cambridge, Massachusetts. The parcel of land that will be utilized for the project is currently federal property, owned by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). Known as Parcel 1, the land is home to the John A. Volpe National Trans-

portation Systems Center. The Center provides technical analysis, research and project management to DOT and other Federal agencies.

Recently, the General Services Administration has concluded that fifty-five percent of the federal land adjacent to the Volpe Center is not being utilized and another twenty-eight percent of the land is underutilized. The legislation which I will propose directs the DOT to reconvey any unused or underutilized Parcel 1 to the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority for the development of open space and affordable housing. The area proposed for reconveyance represents 5.8 acres of almost entirely vacant land. DOT will retain the remaining 8.5 acres of Parcel 1, which has been deemed to be enough land to allow for a continuance of current operations at the Volpe Center, as well as future expansion of its physical plant to accommodate future growth of the facility's operations.

Make no mistake about it Mr. Speaker, this project is a win/win proposition for all parties involved. The federal government reconveys unused and underutilized land, while maintaining the integrity of the Volpe Center and its operations. The Cambridge Redevelopment Authority and the residents of Cambridge, in turn, receive much-needed land to address the urgent need for open space and affordable housing. This bill will go a long way toward meeting this need and I look forward to having the House consider this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO ELEANORE DRUEHL NETTLE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished American, an extraordinary Californian, a beloved friend and an institution in San Mateo County—Eleanore Druehl Nettle, who passed away in June of this year.

Eleanore Nettle served for thirty-three years as a Trustee on the San Mateo County Community College Board, longer than any other trustee in the history of the District. During her tenure she attended almost 800 Board meetings and served as President of the Board nine times. She was the driving force in fostering the growth of the District from a single campus to three, and from 2,700 students to more than 30,000. Half-a-million students attended the college while she sat on the Board.

Eleanore Nettle gave generously of her time and talents to the League of Women Voters and the American Association of University Women. She was recognized throughout California as a leader in community college affairs and received many awards and honors, including the Trustee of the Year Award given by the California Community College Trustees Association. Eleanore was appointed by Governor Edmund G. "Pat" Brown as a community college representative to the Coordinating Council for Higher Education and re-appointed by Governor Reagan.

Eleanore was a graduate of the College of San Mateo and an active and faith-filled member of her church since 1950. She was the devoted wife of the late Lester Nettle and the

proud mother of a daughter, twin sons and a granddaughter.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a great and good woman, Eleanore Druehl Nettle and offer the condolences of the entire House of Representatives to her family. We are a better community, a better country and a better people because of her.

HONORING BONNIE HUDGEONS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Bonnie Hudgeons for setting an example and for providing hope to transplant patients.

In 1986, Bonnie, a longtime Lake City, Colorado resident, was given blood that was infected with Hepatitis C during her heart bypass surgery. Not until 1991, when she had an angioplasty surgery, did her doctors realize that she had the infection. In 1997, she was first considered for a liver transplant, but because the demand for liver transplants outweighs the supply, Bonnie was turned down. "They thought I was too far gone," she told Nicole Ashton of Silver World. She persisted by asking for a second opinion, and this time her name was added to the waiting list. Bonnie's health deteriorated from there. She fell into four of five comas, once for a period of five days and she was unable to care for herself even when she was conscious.

In March of 2000, after 14 months on the waiting list, Bonnie got the okay for a transplant. The surgery lasted for seven hours, and she had several complications afterward, including temporary kidney failure and memory problems. In spite of the difficulties with the surgery, Bonnie said, "I had faith, trusted in God, and made it through."

Bonnie emphasizes her gratitude for her donor. Through the hospital, she was able to get in touch with the donor's family, and they exchanged letters. Bonnie wrote, for instance, "I will forever marvel at the miraculous gift of life an organ donor gives." Bonnie eventually also met her donor's parents and sister. "We still email back and forth," she said. "I carry a picture of Chad in my billfold."

Mr. Speaker, Bonnie Hudgeons, who is sometimes called "the miracle girl," is a source of hope for anyone who faces difficult odds. I would like to pay tribute to her for sharing her story, and for being an inspiration both to those who need a transplant and for those who are contemplating becoming a donor.

HONORING STEVE RIPPY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Steve Rippy for helping to build a successful assessor's office in Garfield County, Colorado, and to wish him luck on his next endeavor as New Castle Town Administrator.

Steve served as Garfield County assessor for almost seven years, and his total time in the office amounts to twenty years. In addition, he served as New Castle Mayor for seven years and as Councilman for eight years. Steve was also a member of the Town Planning and Zoning Commission for fifteen years.

Steve reflected on his time as Garfield County assessor, telling Mike McKibbin of The Daily Sentinel, "I think I'm proudest of a well-organized and efficient office with appraisals of property." Steve's satisfaction is certainly well founded, as the "significant reduction in the number of appeals (of reappraisals)" during his time there reflects. Certainly related, too, are Steve's communication skills. "We're very willing to listen to people," he said.

In addition, Steve demonstrated his ability to overcome adversity. While the assessor's office employed sixteen people when Steve began working in 1981, they lost nearly one third of their workers when the oil shale bust forced the office to lose five employees. However, under Steve's direction, the assessor's office bounced back nicely. "Now we're almost back to where we were and I think we're able to handle so many more new subdivisions," he said.

Certainly, Mr. Speaker, Steve Rippy is an excellent community servant and a skilled leader. I would like to congratulate him for a job well done, and to wish him well on his new career.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO EARNEST
"DOC" WALCHER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Earnest "Doc" Walcher of Gypsum, Colorado. After 25 years of retirement, Doc is now lending his hand to the town of Gypsum. He and town manager Jeff Shroll, it turns out, make a great team as well as good neighbors.

Doc Walcher was born in 1921 in Oklahoma, and he moved with his family to Gypsum during the Depression. He enlisted in the Army during World War II as an aircraft mechanic, serving at Guadalcanal and in the Philippines. After the war, he returned to Gypsum, where he has resided ever since.

Doc served the people of Colorado diligently before his retirement, working as head supervisor of the Colorado State Highway Department. He helped build and maintain Highway 24, Tennessee Pass, and Interstate 70 over Vail Pass before retiring in 1976.

Jeff Shroll, Gypsum's Town Manager, "noticed that Walcher, who lives directly across the street. . . had the most manicured and best-kept lawn in town." Jeff asked Doc if he might be interested in helping to keep up the lawns in Turgeonville, a property owned by Gypsum. Walcher eagerly accepted, and now that he is working again, he is "loving every minute of it," according to Julie Imada-Howard of the Vail Daily. The feeling seems mutual; Jeff says that it has been "great to work with" Doc.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor Doc Walcher for his continued service and willingness to help the community. He is truly an inspiration to us all.

HONORING DR. RICHARD HOFFMAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Dr. Richard Hoffman, Colorado's chief medical officer and state epidemiologist. Richard recently resigned from his position at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, after serving as state epidemiologist since 1987, and as chief medical officer since 1998.

Richard has remained active, professional, and reliable throughout his time with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. He has drafted laws, seen his writings published in over sixty peer-reviewed journals, written for ten non-peer-review or public health publications, written two book chapters and five published letters.

According to Dr. Sue Binder of the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control division of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, he also directed one of the division's most successful traumatic brain injury (TBI) surveillance projects. In addition, he helped to launch the Colorado follow-up registry. These efforts have "led to the first credible estimate of TBI-related disability and health services usage prevalence in the United States." The Colorado TBI registry, wrote Dr. Binder, "blazed the trail for our planned efforts to create spinal cord injury registries."

In addition, according to a draft of the Colorado Board of Health Resolution, Richard "epitomizes public health leadership and leaves an indelible legacy of accomplishments." The resolution says, also, "Dr. Hoffman's efforts have paved the way for significantly improving the health and welfare of our state's population." Jane Norton, the executive director of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment agrees; she wrote, "The bottom line is that his efforts have translated into making Colorado a healthier place to live and raise a family."

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Richard Hoffman's expertise, leadership, compassion, and hard work have improved the state of Colorado. I would like to thank him for his positive influence on Colorado's health care, and I wish him well on his future endeavors. His dedication is certainly deserving of this honor.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
RETIREMENT OF WALLY WALDROP

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a remarkable individual who performs a remarkable service, and has for more than 22 years. Just this past May, Capt. Milton R. Waldrop, better known as Capt. Wally Waldrop, retired from Lake Piloting.

Born in Texas, Capt. Waldrop joined the Navy in 1948, serving aboard the aircraft carrier USS *Tarawa*, which served as embassy protection during the Chinese Revolution in 1948. He left the service in 1952 and moved

to the Great Lakes, where he began a career as a Great Lakes Mariner. After 19 years as a mariner, he became a Lake Pilot in 1979.

Now for those of you not familiar with Lake Piloting, it is a fascinating profession. Every cargo freighter that enters the Great Lakes, must, by law, be piloted by a licensed Great Lakes pilot. Even though these ships have their own very capable crews, they still have to have a Lake Pilot aboard during their voyage through our water system. Capt. Waldrop is not only one of these master pilots, he is the best of the best. One day he could be at the helm of a Greek vessel, the next day it's a Russian freighter.

Great Lakes shipping is critical to the regional economy and has an impact on world markets and economies. Without the services of Wally Waldrop, and others like him, safe and efficient commerce through the Great Lakes would not be possible. Please join me in saluting Capt. Wally Waldrop, a great pilot and a servant to the entire Great Lakes region.

H.R. 2273—THE NATIONAL BANK
OFFSHORE ACTIVITIES ACT OF 2001

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I requested of the author of H.R. 2273, the National Bank Offshore Activities Act of 2001, to permit me to lend my support for this legislation. Let me tell you why H.R. 2273 is so important.

As one member who is interested in relations between Asian nations and the United States, I would wholeheartedly endorse the purpose of H.R. 2273 in closing a major loophole in the United States' supervision of the national banks it charters.

My office has been in receipt of numerous press accounts about the treatment of a vitally important corporation in Thailand, Thailand Petrochemical Industries, Inc. (TPI); the second largest business in the country, by a "workout specialist" assigned to act as what we in the United States would call a "trustee in bankruptcy" This "workout specialist", Effective Planner, an agent of the accounting firm Ferrier Hodgson, from Australia, has, with a Thai bankruptcy court approval, become the agent of the United States chartered banks to whom the debt is owed. What should concern us here in the United States is the activities of the Effective Planner. These questionable actions include the diminution of the value of the company (TPI), by the use of questionable accounting procedures and poor business practices, the expenditure of millions of dollars to a bodyguard company which is either not in existence or is not appropriately registered as a legitimate corporation, and the initiation and ultimate culmination of a "debt for equity swap" which was done in an offshore Caribbean Bank in the British Virgin Island. This "swap" has permitted the U.S. chartered banks to own approximately three-fourths of the entire TPI stock. The manager of Effective Planner and several of his associates were arrested in Thailand for violation of the labor laws of that country, and have reportedly even removed themselves to Singapore to manage this Thailand company.

It is the stated goal of our foreign policy to assist our allies and friends around the world during difficult times. The Asia Debt Crisis, like the Mexican Debt Crisis several years ago, has presented a number of nations with difficult choices. Thailand is no different. It is for this reason that our private sector financial institutions should not be permitted to work against the interests of our country with respect to our relations with other nations. Certainly, no bank in the United States could be placed in control of a trustee in bankruptcy with the trustee being left to their own devices in acquiring control of a U.S. business without at least some supervisory or consultative authority, such as the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) or a court, being capable of reviewing their activities. If alleged criminal and actionable civil activities were reported, surely the OCC would at a bare minimum, conduct some oversight of such actions. It should be no different for U.S. chartered banks doing business in friendly foreign country.

Our principal banking regulator, the Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury (OCC), continues to believe that it has little or no power to act against U.S. chartered banks implicated in illegal activities abroad, even when such activities may involve crimes such as embezzlement, money laundering, and establishment of secret accounts in offshore tax havens. This position makes H.R. 2273 even more important.

In this global economy, banks chartered and regulated by our government must maintain the highest legal and ethical standards wherever they operate. Simply put, our vital system of banking regulation and our confidence in our financial system is compromised when a U.S. chartered bank or its agents are implicated in criminal activities anywhere in the world. In fact, allowing our banks to enjoy a double standard harms our good relations with our trading partners and allies everywhere in the world.

This major loophole in our banking regulation is dramatically evident in Thailand, a staunch ally of our country and victim of the recent Asian economic crisis. Thailand actually stands to lose its domestic ownership and control of a key public company to foreign interests, including a group of banks chartered by us, through the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

As I stand here today, ownership and control of Thai Petrochemical Industries, or TPI has been transferred to a group of U.S. chartered and foreign banks by an equivalent of a bankruptcy trustee hired, supervised and controlled by those same banks. That trustee, Effective Planner, a foreign company that purportedly specializes in bankruptcy reorganizations, stands accused by TPI's shareholders of embezzlement, money laundering, and other crimes. Incredibly, that same trustee, supported by those same banks, stands accused of sending payments from TPI's own bank account to two of its business associates who have been indicted, convicted, and imprisoned in Laos for embezzlement, destruction of records, and tax evasion.

Unfortunately, instead of stopping such practices and terminating their relationship with the accused trustee, U.S. banks chartered and foreign banks licensed by our government have allowed the trustee to use countless sums of TPI funds to mount a public

relations effort to defame TPI's founder and former CEO, who built TPI into one of Thailand's largest employers. The family who built the company has mounted a lonely crusade to prevent the trustee from disassembling TPI and feeding it to the banks for which the trustee works. Clearly, if those banks had no concern about the legality and fairness of their activities, why would they want their stock owned through a secret, offshore trust account?

Mr. Speaker, the involved banks and their trustee may have an explanation for all these troubling facts. If they do, they should report to the OCC the activities of the trustee for whose actions they must account. That is precisely what H.R. 2273 would require. I would ask my colleagues to join me in seeking passage of the bill.

OPPOSING H.R. 7

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose H.R. 7 in its current form. Churches and charitable organizations have always played an important role in our society. They operate food banks, provide services for victims of domestic violence, operate after school programs, and provide counseling services. Many of these organizations currently use federal grants or other sources of federal funds to operate these programs.

Use of federal funds for these programs is allowed under current law. I believe faith based organizations should be able to work in partnership with the federal government to operate these programs as they currently do. Communities of faith in this country give of their time and money to help those who are less fortunate. We in the federal government can and should assist them in that mission when appropriate.

While the motivation behind H.R. 7 is honorable in theory, the bill unfortunately has serious flaws. This bill would make it possible for religious groups to use taxpayer money to discriminate, not just on the basis of a prospective employee's religion, but also on the basis of his or her failure to practice that group's religious doctrine. No one should be required to be of a particular faith in order to obtain a federally funded job.

Furthermore, the bill sets a dangerous precedent by allowing government agencies to convert funding for a program into vouchers to religious organizations. By providing such vouchers, the federal government would permit these organizations to use federal tax dollars for sectarian instruction, worship, and proselytization.

In this country, we have a long history of supporting separation of church and state. We have a diverse religious make-up—something we celebrate. We must protect that diversity. By allowing religious institutions to receive federal funds without complying with federal laws, we discourage diversity.

Mr. Speaker, a broad coalition of religious organizations, education organizations, and civil rights groups oppose H.R. 7 in its current form. These groups include the American Federation of Teachers, American Jewish Congress, the Baptist Joint Committee, the

NAACP, the National Education Association, the PTA, the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the United Methodist Church, the Episcopal Church, the Presbyterian Church, the Religious Action Center for Reform Judaism, and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. When this many religious organizations are opposed to the bill, maybe we should ask ourselves what is wrong with the bill.

H. RES. 193—CRIME PREVENTION
AND NATIONAL NIGHT OUT RESOLUTION

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I have introduced this resolution along with Representatives Curt Weldon and Joe Hoeffel to emphasize the importance of crime prevention at the local level and to recognize the efforts of National Night Out. I am pleased to say that this resolution has bipartisan support, with 64 cosponsors. I would like to specifically thank the Chairman JIM SENSENBRENNER Ranking Member of the Judiciary Committee, the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Crime Subcommittee, and the leadership on both sides of the aisle for their help in bringing this measure to the floor.

Our resolution calls upon the President to focus on neighborhood crime prevention, community policing programs and reducing school crime and to issue a proclamation in support of National Night Out.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 308, I was unavoidably detained on official businesses. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye".

RECOGNITION OF THE
RETIREMENT OF PATRICIA GIBBS

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a remarkable woman, who has served remarkable organizations with outstanding professionalism and dedication. Patricia Gibbs is retiring from the position of Executive Director of Macomb County Community Services Agency which she has held for the last 13 years.

Ms. Gibbs began her career with Macomb County as the Quality Assurance Assistant for the Office of Substance Abuse. From there she rose to become one of the most influential health and human services individuals in Macomb County. It is easy to see how she has touched the lives of many of Macomb County's residents either directly or indirectly.

Ms. Gibbs was one of the original organizers of the Human Service Coordinating Body. The HSCB was put together to develop a more efficient county human services network. She has also chaired the Creating a Healthier Macomb Partnership Board, the first organization to bring hospitals, businesses, public and private agencies, and volunteers together to improve the health of county residents. Add to that her service on the Macomb Literacy Partners Board of Directors, her position as Chairperson of the Directors Council of the Michigan Community Action Agency Association, her contributions to the United Way Community Services Macomb Division Board of Directors and her memberships in the American Society of Public Administrators, the American Management Association, and the Michigan Literacy Association, and you could easily have the life's work of three or four people instead of just one. It is hard to believe that she has somehow found time to become a certified personal trainer and race walking instructor at Macomb Community College.

Please join me in recognizing Patricia Gibb's years of dedication to the health and well being of others. It takes a special person to pledge their life to the cause of making others healthier and stronger through counseling. While her expertise will be missed from 9 to 5 each day, thanks to her commitment to healthy living, we will still have the benefits of her wisdom for years to come.

JUDGE JAMES R. BROWNING
COURTHOUSE

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Judge James R. Browning, formerly Chief Judge of the Ninth Circuit, I am pleased to introduce legislation to name the federal courthouse building at 7th and Mission Streets in San Francisco the "James R. Browning U.S. Court of Appeals Building."

Appointed to the Ninth Circuit by President John F. Kennedy in 1961, Judge Browning served for 40 years, including 12 years as chief judge. He assumed leadership in 1976 at a time when appeals courts faced a large backlog of cases. Under his leadership, the Ninth Circuit expanded in size, eliminated its backlog, and cut in half the time needed to decide appeals. Since 1961, he has participated in almost 1,000 published appellate decisions and authored many other unsigned per curiam opinions on behalf of the panel as a whole.

As the head of the largest circuit court in the country, Judge Browning acted as a tireless and effective advocate for maintaining the unity of the Ninth Circuit. An extraordinary administrator, he implemented numerous innovations that reshaped the structures and procedures of the circuit. Many of his ideas were subsequently adopted in other circuits. He also emphasized the importance of collegiality and civility among the judges and the Ninth Circuit bar. He was instrumental in establishing the Western Justice Center Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the legal system by encouraging collaborative work and research.

Judge Browning earned his law degree from the University of Montana Law School in 1941,

joining the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice upon graduation. A U.S. Army Infantry private, he served in Military Intelligence in the Pacific Theater for three years, attaining the rank of First Lieutenant and winning a Bronze Star. Subsequently, he served again in the Antitrust Division, then the Civil Division, becoming Executive Assistant to the U.S. Attorney General in 1952. From 1953 to 1958, he practiced law as a partner at Perlman, Lyons & Browning, leaving private practice again to become Clerk of the U.S. Supreme Court, prior to his appointment to the Ninth Circuit.

The Ninth Circuit includes all the federal courts in California, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Montana, Idaho, Nevada, Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The courthouse at 7th and Mission was designed by James Knox Taylor, who also designed the U.S. Treasury Building in Washington, D.C., and built between 1897 and 1905.

It is my hope that in the near future, in addition to serving as a courthouse, this building can stand as a monument to the tremendous achievements of Judge James R. Browning.

INTRODUCING THE ACCESS TO
STUDENT LOANS ACT

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Access to Students Loans Act.

This legislation permanently extends the McKeon-Kildee student loan fix.

The overall goal is to see that students are able to obtain student loans whether they attend Stanford or a career college in the inner city of Los Angeles. In order to achieve this goal, a stable and strong FFELP program is key to making sure these students are able to obtain loans each year without having to worry about whether one will be available.

During the 1998 Higher Education Act reauthorization, Representative DALE KILDEE and I hammered out the current interest rate fix after numerous meetings and plenty of negotiations. The end result was the lowest interest rate for borrowers in the history of the program, with current rates in repayment at 5.99 percent.

These loans, however, are only as good as their availability. Banks won't make loans unless they are making a profit. Therefore only those students attending universities with low default rates will get served. Fixing this interest rate problem will be a direct benefit to those students who are usually underserved, and the most at risk of dropping out of college. This is why I want to see this problem fixed now.

Additionally, if we are able to solve this problem now we have a much better chance, with the necessary resources, to work on other challenges facing higher education in the 2003 reauthorization. Specifically, increasing funding for Pell grants and campus-based aid would be at the top of my priority list.

Included in the budget resolution under the leadership of Budget Committee Chairman JIM NUSSLE is a technical reserve fund specifically set up to make the current student loan interest rate formulas permanent. However, we

must take action to make the fix permanent before the current budget resolution expires.

I hope my colleagues will support me in this endeavor and cosponsor this important legislation which will ensure access to loans for all of America's students.

CHIQUITA BRANDS
INTERNATIONAL

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, Chiquita Brands International has played a historically controversial role in Latin America. Beginning from its inception as the United Fruit Company, Chiquita has assisted in the overthrow of democratically elected governments who refused to yield to its economic demands. Other allegations against the company include producing false documentation, intimidating potential competitors and bribing government officials in order to maintain its hold over Latin American banana production.

During the Clinton Administration, Chiquita also became embroiled in a well-publicized legal standoff with the European Union. The litigation resulted from the company's claim that the banana regime of the European Union, which attempted to protect small-scale producers in Africa and the Caribbean, would lead to business losses for Chiquita in the European banana market. In response to Chiquita's complaints, the White House challenged the European banana regime in the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Despite such strong-armed tactics, Chiquita has not been able to maintain market share nor profitability in the 1990s. Since Chiquita has never been a proponent of open competition and fair play at any time in its history, the company's claims that built-in competitive advantages for small producers hurt large producers seems especially dubious. Chiquita must begin to accept responsibility for its economic and strategic failings, rather than assigning blame to those who would assure a competitive market.

The attached article on Chiquita's irresponsible behavior was co-authored by Ernest Hartner and Randall Johnson, Research associates with the Washington-based Council on Hemispheric Affairs (COHA), an organization that is committed to addressing issues associated with democracy and human rights throughout the Western Hemisphere. COHA's researchers have often spoken out about U.S. policies and practices toward Latin American countries. The article, which appeared in the June 18, 2001, edition of COHA's biweekly publication, *The Washington Report on the Hemisphere*, examines Chiquita's dubious history in Latin America.

I request unanimous consent to include this article in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

CAPITOL WATCH: CHIQUITA BANANA'S HARD
DAYS

The long battle between Chiquita Brands International and its many foes may be approaching an unanticipated ending. The company's recent financial restructuring indicates that a declaration of bankruptcy could occur in the near future. Chiquita has long attracted fiery criticism from human rights

groups, labor unions and small-scale competitors over accusations of unethical and anti-competitive over accusations of unethical and anti-competitive business practices. Nevertheless, news of the company's financial difficulties came as a surprise to its detractors, who have often tended to see it more as a gun-toting mafia than a traditional corporation. Chiquita's possible demise should serve as a cautionary tale for companies seen as chronically operating outside the law, rather than acting as good corporate neighbors.

A SUSPECT HISTORY

Through its 120-year existence, Chiquita has been a leader in the world's banana industry. The company's long presence in Central and South America has emphasized political manipulation, dirty tricks and a history of labor exploitation. First created as the United Fruit Company in the 1880's, Chiquita historically has sought to take advantage of the systematic corruption and tainted operating conditions to be found, or to be created, in such countries as Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras and Colombia. While still known as United Fruit, Chiquita went so far as to arrange the overthrow of a democratically-elected government in Guatemala which has refused to yield to its self-serving economic demands. More recently, in the Otto Stalinski affair, Chiquita financed an alleged assassination attempt, produced false documents, and bought judges and hot-shot Washington lawyers in order to secure its dominance over the local banana industry. Preceding the 1990 Banana War, rival banana exporter, the Fyffes Group, alleged that Chiquita illegally undercut agreements that it had made with independent banana suppliers. Fyffes' Stalinski accused the company of filing a fraudulent warrant and corrupting local judges and other officials to carry out its will, resulting in the confiscation of his company's banana shipments. Chiquita claims that the warrant was filed only as a cautionary measure, in light of Fyffes' defaulting on mortgage payments owned to it. The warrant was later invalidated, but not before Fyffes had suffered serious financial losses. Beyond lost banana shipments, Stalinski also accuses Chiquita of financing an attempt to kidnap him, with the intent of doing bodily harm, using a false arrest warrant and paramilitary forces.

ROOTS OF FINANCIAL TROUBLES

Despite attempts to manipulate the global banana market in recent years, Chiquita has found it increasingly difficult to maintain market share and profitability in the late 1990's. While other banana producers such as Dole and Del Monte successfully adapted to changes in EU trade policy, Chiquita became embroiled in litigation and various schemes to buy influence in high places. On Chiquita's behalf, the White House Trade Office filed suit with the WTO against the EU's Lomé agreement, an accord developed to guarantee its former colonies preferential access to European markets and lucrative aid packages. The morning after the complaint was filed, Chiquita's CEO Carl Lindner expressed his thanks to the Clinton administration was a \$500,000 donation to several Democratic state committees' coffers. This donation represents only one in an unprecedented series of gifts made to U.S. political candidates, without regard to party affiliation. In fiscal year 1994, perhaps in an effort to hedge his bets, Lindner was the second largest soft money contributor to political campaigns, with \$525,000 given to Democrats and \$430,000 given to Republicans.

Secretary of Commerce Mickey Kantor continued to defend Chiquita's interests before the WTO in the face of allegations that contributions made by Lindner had influ-

enced his actions, and that Lindner had, in effect, purchased a foreign policy. Chiquita and U.S. officials worked actively to eliminate Lomé preferences, with the WTO ruling in Washington's favor, but in the end succeeded only in securing a partial compromise. The quotes first introduced by Lomé gave way to a first-come-first-serve policy that was later replaced by a partial distribution of EU banana licenses. During this period, Chiquita experienced a severe financial crisis that has led to its impending financial restructuring.

Chiquita's economic difficulties date back to 1992, several years before the signing of the Lomé agreement. The eagerness of Chiquita's Lindner to assign responsibility for its losses to the EU quota system should come as no surprise, given his traditional reluctance to operate within the confines of a competitive market. Traditionally, Chiquita has ruthlessly sought 'sweet-heart' deals with host countries leaders, which allowed to it to gain domination of the local banana industry, after after arranging for the purchased cooperation of local officials.

'STRONG ARMED' BUSINESS TACTICS

Despite some questionable cost-cutting measures aimed at maximizing profit margins, such as the use of fertilizers profit margins, such as the use of fertilizers banned in the U.S., anti-union tactics and the alleged corruption of judges and government officials, Chiquita still has been unable to sustain the economic growth experienced in the 1980s. The record profits of that decade were exhausted through Chiquita's single-minded devotion to protecting its banana turf, excessive legal expenses, and a series of poor management decisions. Instead of diversifying its product line, as Dole did by expanding into such new product lines as freshcut flowers, Chiquita chose to increase its involvement in the European banana market by making a determined assault against the relatively minor concessions made to the English-speaking Caribbean islands. It spent millions of dollars on refrigerated ships and advertising campaigns which sought to strengthen its hold in Europe, but saw little returns as a result of few changes in banana importation policy. This resulted in the heavy debt burden that leads many to predict Chiquita's downfall.

Chiquita has never been a staunch proponent of open competition and fair play, as evidenced by the accusations of bribery, fraud and kidnapping. The company filed suit against the EU alleging the 'preferential' treatment of small-scale banana producers. Chiquita adamantly views the guarantees established by Lomé, as an attack on the WTO's free trade provisions. In an attempt to account for its financial decline, Chiquita has focused attention upon problems caused by Lomé, rather than accept responsibility for its failed economic strategy.

SUPPORT FOR HARBOR
INVESTMENT PROGRAM ACT

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing, along with Ms. Dunn and 24 Members of Congress, the "SHIP" Act, or Support for Harbor Investment Program Act, to repeal the harbor maintenance tax and provide an alternative source of funding to maintain our Nation's harbors and waterways.

I am fortunate to serve as a representative of a major East Coast port city, and I am well aware of the importance of continued reliable financing of our Nation's harbors and waterways. Every year, hundreds of billions of dollars of goods enter and are moved through this country by means of our water system offering a cost-effective and environmentally friendly alternative to other means of transportation.

As our economy increasingly moves toward globalization, we will face a corresponding need for safe, efficient, and modern port facilities and waterways to sustain such growth. Expanded use of larger shipping vessels and increased ship traffic at many of our Nation's ports will require a significant investment in increased channel depth and capacity.

The export provision of the Harbor Maintenance Tax (HMT), the system that currently provides financial resources for this maintenance, was deemed unconstitutional in a 1998 Supreme Court decision and the European Union has since challenged the import provision as an unfair trade practice and is considering bringing a complaint to the World Trade Organization regarding the tax.

This is why we are introducing the SHIP Act today—to provide an alternative funding source to maintain our Nation's harbors and waterways. This legislation repeals the HMT and restores the 200-year Federal obligation to adequately fund operation and maintenance of the Nation's harbors with funding from the general revenues of the Treasury.

It is only appropriate to fund the construction and maintenance of our Nation's harbors and waterways through the general revenues in light of the nationwide benefit that comes from a safe and efficient port system. To that same end, GAO reported that \$22 billion in these general revenues are a direct result of our ports and navigation system. It is evident that we must return this responsibility back to the federal government.

The existing Harbor Maintenance Tax puts our maritime industry at a competitively disadvantage. The tax increases the price of goods sold in the U.S. and diverts cargo Canada, which does not have a similar tax. At a time we should be working to attract new commerce to our U.S. ports, and take advantage of our waterways to relieve congestion, we are hindering their ability to remain competitive, attract business and aid in relieving congestion. The time to repeal this unfair and detrimental tax is now!

Mr. Speaker, it is important to provide our ports with safe, efficient, and modern port facilities and waterways. We must work to return this responsibility to the federal government as it was for over 200 years. The SHIP Act collaborates the support of groups as diverse as the American Association of Port Authorities, the American Waterways Operators, the National Grain and Feed Association, and others.

I want to thank the bill's current cosponsors and supporters and urge all Member to support this important piece of legislation.

CURRENT CRISIS IN HOME HEALTH CARE SERVICES

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call to your attention an issue of great concern to me and the constituents throughout my southeastern Massachusetts congressional district—the current crisis in home health care services.

As you are well aware, in 1997 Congress approved the “Balanced Budget” Act (BBA). This legislation sought to slash Medicare benefits by \$115 billion—the largest reduction in Medicare payment rates in the program's 35 year history.

I opposed this “reform” bill because I thought it recklessly threatened the quality and dependability of health care for Medicare recipients. Regrettably, it has fulfilled these fears—resulting in \$240 billion of cuts, \$124 billion more than originally intended.

The BBA has resulted in a 53% drop in federal reimbursements for home health services in Massachusetts—well over \$350 million in lost Medicare revenue. 31 Massachusetts home care agencies have closed—and other on the South Shore and the Cape & Islands have limited services to homebound patients.

It is clear that the “unintended” consequences of BBA has had and continues to have a devastating impact on our health care system. And now Congress is backpedaling, trying to address the immediate consequences of the BBA, while searching for comprehensive approaches to the long-term solvency of the overall Medicare program.

In this light, I would like to share with my colleagues an editorial from the Cape Codder newspaper that followed a month-long series of articles outlining critical steps in addressing the challenges in home health care. And I hope this will serve as a useful source of guidance as we continue these deliberations.

[From the Cape Codder, July 6, 2001]

ASSURING HOME HEALTH CARE

For a month, Jennifer Brockway has been reporting on one of the more frightening prospects facing an increasingly older Cape Cod population: the specter of rising health needs and the drastic decrease in home health care aides.

This gap between supply and demand will threaten thousands of us who want to grow old in as independent a fashion as possible. We want to avoid hospitals, nursing homes and assisted living facilities. That's why so many retirees are moving here in the first place.

Those struggling to right a sinking ship offer a wide array of solutions. But, as Brockway reported, remedies will require action by both state and federal governments, as well as the health care industry itself.

Our month-long series identified the following steps as crucial:

The long-term community—home health care and nursing and rehabilitation homes—must form a united front.

Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement rates must be increased to reverse damage caused by the 1997 Balanced Budget Act and compensate for rising health care delivery costs.

Home health aides must be paid a wage allowing economic self-sufficiency. They currently earn about \$10 an hour, \$7 less than

what's needed to afford a median-priced home on the Cape.

Family health insurance must be made affordable for all direct-care workers.

Training programs for direct-care workers must be increased and expanded to the home care industry.

An active recruitment program must be instituted to capture the high school students, immigrants, and older adults re-entering the workforce.

Opportunities for career advancement in direct care must be encouraged.

Home health agencies must allow greater involvement of home health aides in agency operations and patient care decisions. Aides should be made to feel like respected stakeholders through acknowledgment of their skills and contributions.

As with most complex issues, there is no magic bullet. Solutions require crossing many jurisdictional and geographic boundaries. It means forming unique alliances.

And unless other problems facing Cape Codders—inadequate housing, childcare and transportation—are addressed simultaneously, the current challenges facing home health care indeed will become a crisis.

IN HONOR OF 17 LEXINGTON AVENUE, THE SITE OF THE FIRST FREE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2001

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize 17 Lexington Avenue, the site of the Free Academy, the first free publicly funded institution of higher education in the United States. Baruch College now carries on the proud tradition of public education at this location.

The Free Academy was approved by New York's legislature in 1847. Townsend Harris, a strong advocate of publicly funded educational opportunities, advocated a school that would “Open the door to all—let the children of the rich and poor take their seats together and know no distinction save that of industry, good conduct and intellect.”

The original building was designed by James Renwick, Jr. who went on to design St. Patrick's Cathedral. Gaslights, warm-air heating and drinking fountains made the building modern and luxurious, yet he managed to keep the final cost \$2000 under budget. In January 1849, the Free Academy held its formal opening, admitting its first class of 149 students.

The exquisite building that originally housed the Free Academy became too small for the growing business campus. In 196, using the proceeds of a \$1.5 million bond offering by the City, the college built a 16-story structure that housed a new library, science labs and accounting classrooms. Since its opening, 17 Lex has welcomed generations of talented students, students with limited means, but unlimited dreams. Scores of prominent and successful business leaders have been educated in the building, which came to represent the place where they began to achieve the American dream.

In 1866, the Free Academy became known as the College of the City of New York, popularly called CCNY or City College. When

CCNY moved its campus uptown in 1909, 17 Lex continued to house the downtown business campus. CCNY grew into City University of New York, which today educates 200,000 students on more than 18 different campuses.

In 1919, CCNY's business campus became an independent entity known as the School of Business and Civic Administration, which changed its name in 1953 to the Bernard M. Baruch College of Business and Public Administration, in honor of the economist and financier, Class of 1889, who advised six U.S. Presidents from Wilson to Truman. By 1968, Baruch College emerged as a separate senior college in the CUNY system. Today, Baruch College enrolls over 15,000 students and enjoys a national reputation for excellence in business education and public administration.

Baruch College continues to open doors for young people from all types of backgrounds. U.S. News and World Report has called Baruch College the most diverse school in the United States.

17 Lex is about to undergo its third incarnation, thanks to a \$200 million capital project approved by CUNY. The new building will, no doubt, continue the tradition of educational excellence available at this location for the past century-and-a-half.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the visionaries who believed that everyone should have an opportunity to have higher education and I ask my fellow Members of Congress to join me in celebrating a new beginning for 17 Lexington Avenue, the site of the first free public institution of higher education.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Chairman, today I will vote against the Boehlert-Markey amendment. I support increasing fuel efficiency standards for SUVs, light trucks and minivans as a way of improving our air quality and reducing our reliance on foreign oil. I also support using alternative fuels and much needed flexible fuel vehicles that can burn the home grown ethanol-based gasoline E85. This amendment asks me to make a false choice between higher fuel efficiency standards and an increasingly successful clean air program in the Twin Cities. It will stop the production of clean air vehicles at Ford Motor Company's St. Paul plant that use E85 fuel. This amendment could have done both—raise fuel efficiency standards and protect this clean air program. I will unfortunately oppose it today.

The St. Paul-Minneapolis metropolitan area has shown the nation that alternative fuels can help clean our environment and sustain our economy. E85, a fuel that is 85 percent ethanol and 15 percent gasoline, helps our cars and trucks burn cleaner, reducing air pollution

while at the same time helping Minnesota's farmers and our rural economy.

The Twin Cities leads the nation in the number of gas stations that offer E85 with over 60 fueling stations throughout the metro area. It will not matter how many stations we have if we are not manufacturing the cars and trucks that use this innovative fuel.

And that is the problem I have with this amendment. Currently, our St. Paul Ford plant receives a credit for producing Flexible Fuel Vehicles that can use a combination of gasoline or another hybrid fuel like E85. Manufacturers like Ford use this credit as an incentive to produce these types of cars and trucks. The Boehlert-Markey amendment would shift the credit from the number of vehicles produced to the actual consumption of the alternative fuel, whether it's E85 or something else.

I agree with the amendment's authors about CAFE standards. However, it is equally important for us to provide incentives for people to consume home grown fuels. Because so little E85 and other alternative fuels like it are consumed nationwide, would we be reintroducing the age-old chicken and the egg conundrum? Do we need the cars to encourage the use of the fuel, or do we need the fuel before the cars? Would this be a disincentive to car and truck manufacturers to make automobiles that run on multiple fuels? Would we be providing a disincentive to car and truck manufacturers to make consumption of alternative fuels, and do not provide incentives for manufacturers to make these cars and trucks, we will be left without both.

What's more the Ford Motor Company plant in St. Paul has been a leader in manufacturing trucks that run on E85 and other innovative fuels. Ford, the Minnesota Corn Growers, American Lung Association of Minnesota, the U.S. Department of Energy, and Minnesota Department of Agriculture and others on the E85 Team have been instrumental in our area in promoting these clean-air vehicles and the alternative fuels that run them.

Mr. Chairman, this isn't an easy decision for me. We need to increase the fuel efficiency standards of all our cars and trucks and continue to work on improving our air quality. We put ourselves on the moon. Surely we can raise the efficiency of our automobiles. However, I know what the negative impact could be on the production of clean air vehicles and clean air in St. Paul. I unfortunately have to oppose this amendment today.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Chairman, we must reduce our nation's dependence on foreign oil. And while I believe our nation needs a comprehensive energy policy as a matter of na-

tional security, we also have an obligation to ensure that this need is met in a manner that does not jeopardize our financial security. This bill takes a balanced approach to meeting our nation's energy security needs. But, it fails to pay for any of these proposals which have a cost of \$34 billion.

H.R. 4 contains numerous provisions that I have supported in the past and will continue to support in the future under fiscally responsible circumstances. In fact, H.R. 4 includes a provision based upon a bill that I introduced during both the 106th and 107th Congresses that would extend the section 29 tax credit for the production of unconventional fuels such as coalbed methane. My version of this legislation [H.R. 794] was modified slightly and included in the Ways and Means portion of H.R. 4. I have worked for months to ensure H.R. 794's inclusion in a comprehensive energy measure. And while I would like to be able to vote for this provision, I cannot in good conscience support final passage of a bill that includes \$34 billion in tax expenditures that are not offset with comparable spending reductions. This is fiscally irresponsible. Such action threatens to spend money from both the Social Security and Medicare Trust funds on which the seniors in my district rely.

Further, as a member of the House Renewable Energy Caucus, I have supported measures to encourage and increase the use of renewable and alternative energy sources. This bill includes tax incentives for energy efficiency programs and renewable energy sources such as wind and solar production that I would like to vote for, and I would support if these incentives were paid for and handled in a fiscally responsible manner. As well, H.R. 4 contains tax incentives for domestic production from marginal wells that I have supported in the past and that would increase our national energy supply.

Last month I supported funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program [LIHEAP]. I would like to support the LIHEAP reauthorization included in H.R. 4. I made a promise to senior citizens and other people in my district that I would not spend Social Security and Medicare Trust funds. That's a promise I intend to keep.

Two months ago, we were hailing surpluses "as far as the eye can see." There was even concern that we not pay down our national debt too quickly. Today, we are watching these surpluses disappear before our very eyes.

Two days ago, the House passed an appropriations bill that spent \$1.3 billion more than the budget resolution. I voted against the bill because in order to do this, we will have to borrow from other priority programs or from the Medicare and Social Security surplus funds.

If Congress adopts this new policy of borrow and spend it not only endangers the Medicare and Social Security surpluses, it places us back on the road to deficit spending. We must not travel down this road again.

It's time we made some tough choices. This Congress made a commitment to the American people that we would not vote to spend one single penny of the Medicare and Social Security Trust Funds. We must honor that commitment. Spending restraint, fiscal responsibility, and honoring our commitments do not come about by good intentions, but by resolute actions.

Today, I reluctantly vote against this energy package because it fails to provide any offsets to pay for its provisions. This is a particularly difficult vote for me because this bill contains a proposal I authored and many other good provisions.

In an effort to honor our commitments to ensure financial responsibility, I will adhere to the levels in the budget resolution enacted by a majority of this Congress. I will oppose any efforts that reduce revenues without offsets.

The expenditures contained in H.R. 4 are not accounted for in the budget resolution and, despite sound energy policy this bill promotes, it busts the budget and threatens the Social Security and Medicare Trust funds. I urge my colleagues to honor their commitment to preserve this country's fiscal integrity; I urge my colleagues to either find a way to pay for these tax cuts or to vote no on H.R. 4.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill. (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Chairman, I rise to remind my colleagues of a critical provision of H.R. 4, the Securing America's Future Energy Act, which passed this House yesterday. The provision authorizes critical funds for our nation's nuclear engineering education programs, and is identical to a bill introduced by Congresswoman Judy Biggert.

For over 50 years, the United States has been the leader in nuclear science and engineering. However, the energy crisis in California has awakened our nation to energy supply constraints. Nuclear power accounts for 20% of our energy supply and is the key to solving our energy supply needs.

This bill authorizes \$240 million over five years for university nuclear science and engineering programs at the Department of Energy.

The supply of bachelor degree nuclear scientists and engineers is at a 35 year low, and the number of universities offering nuclear engineering degrees is half of what it was 20 years ago.

Mr. Chairman, the provision we passed yesterday is a critical foundation for tomorrow's energy supply.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill. (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Chairman, H.R. 4, otherwise known as the Securing America's Future Energy (SAFE) bill, is anything but safe for rural America. This legislation, which was originally designed to encourage energy conservation, energy reliability and energy production, leaves rural America behind and in a cloud of dust. Proving once again that the majority is more intent upon rewarding campaign contributors than in addressing the needs of consumers in rural America.

This legislation, Mr. Chairman, while initially well-intentioned, does not take into account the unique differences that America's rural communities face in an ever-changing electricity environment. Much of rural America is served by not-for-profit rural electric cooperatives, cooperatives that are not in the business of making money, but serving their consumers. These cooperatives do not seek out to price-gouge, but rather they seek to provide reliable and affordable electricity to their consumers in an efficient manner. The bill we are considering will allow investor-owned electric companies that are currently reaping record profits to receive \$33 billion in tax breaks for huge companies to spend overseas!

Mr. Chairman, when this body considers industry-specific legislation, it should consider all the unique aspects of the particular industry. Indeed, sound public policy is advanced when the differences between the sectors are taken into account. One important area that this Congress must study more carefully are the differences between the needs of rural America and urban and suburban America. This legislation does not meet this test.

H.R. 4 prevents rural electric cooperatives from participating in the new competitive marketplace. For all our talk about a level-playing field and a competitive marketplace, we fail to foster such a thing by excluding rural electric cooperatives from the same benefits that we provide to investor-owned utilities. It is critical that we provide a level playing field for all sectors of the electric utility industry—municipals, investor owned, and cooperatives—when considering public policy.

Bypassing this legislation, we are in essence saying that one sector of the industry should be favored over another. We are also saying that the electric needs of rural America and American farmers are less important than our population centers. The SAFE bill provides investor-owned utilities with billions of dollars worth of capital gains relief that comes at the expense of higher electricity rates to consumers.

The Congress needs to reconsider this poor public policy legislation and come back after the August recess to address these inequities and finally consider legislation that is good for all of America, urban and rural.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM NUSSLE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill. (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Chairman, as the House considers H.R. 4, the Saving America's Future Energy Act, I rise to express my concern about an amendment offered by my colleagues from California to exempt their state from the oxygenate requirement of the Clean Air Act.

In 1990, Congress approved the Clean Air Act Amendments to require that gasoline sold in certain areas of the country, including California, contain at least 2 percent oxygen, "Reformulated Gasoline," which can be derived from adding an oxygenate to gasoline. The goal of the oxygenate requirement is to lower pollution in areas of the country that have the highest levels of air pollution.

There are two main substances that are used to meet the oxygenate requirement: Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE) and ethanol, a fuel derived from corn. Following the 1990 law, the Chicago and Milwaukee reformulated gasoline areas chose to use ethanol and, to my knowledge, have not reported any problems with groundwater contamination, but have reported significant improvements in their air quality. Meanwhile, many of the reformulated gasoline areas in California, the Northeast, and several other areas of the country, chose to use MTBE. These areas are now reporting that about 80 percent of their drinking water contains MTBE, which does not biodegrade and which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has classified as a potential human carcinogen.

For the last few years, California and other parts of the country have sought to solve the problem of MTBE groundwater contamination by removing the oxygenate requirement altogether. In fact, the State of California has petitioned both the Clinton administration and the Bush administration to grant a waiver to exempt the entire State from the oxygenate requirement. On June 12, the President opted to deny this request citing that the EPA has determined, time and again, that the addition of oxygen to gasoline improves air quality by improving fuel combustion and displacing more toxic gasoline components.

Mr. Chairman, I believe the only prudent way to address this problem correctly is to replace MTBE in the United States with ethanol. Indeed, the transition for ethanol to reach California drivers is expected to be neither long nor difficult. It is my understanding that California will need 600 million gallons of ethanol annually to replace MTBE. Ethanol producers currently have the capacity to supply 2 billion gallons per year. This year alone, ethanol producers have already begun the process of shipping 150 million gallons to the State, cost-effectively and with no transportation impediments. In fact, letters delivered to California on

behalf of railroads, barge operators, ocean-going ships, and California gasoline terminals assure that ample shipping and storage capacity exists today to move ethanol from the Midwest to California markets.

I agree with my colleagues that MTBE is a danger to public health. That is why earlier this year I introduced legislation that protects the environment and public safety by totally and immediately banning the use of MTBE as a fuel additive across the United States. The Clean Air Act has done a good job in curbing dangerous emissions, and a key part of this success has been the oxygenate requirement. For the sake of keeping the air clean in California and across the United States, we cannot allow this requirement to be scaled back or waived. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to vote against the Cox amendment.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill. (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4, the Securing America's Future Energy Act of 2001. This bill grants expensive new subsidies to virtually every energy sector without offsets and does little to promote much cheaper energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies. This bill will cost \$34 billion and because no offsets are provided it will threaten the Medicare and Social Security trust funds.

This bill does nothing to relieve the suffering of the citizens of California. California's crisis is a precursor of what is to come for the rest of America as we fail to produce an energy policy which is balanced. California consumers paid \$7 billion for electricity in 1999. In 2000, that number went up to record highs and Californians paid \$27 billion for electricity. It is expected that the number could go up to \$70 billion in 2001. I am concerned that minority business owners in my district will suffer greatly due to the high costs of energy.

I am dismayed that this bill will do nothing to stop the outrageous price gouging by out-of-state energy producers to California consumers. In fact, the administration and my Republican colleagues are unwilling to carry out its obligation to ensure that energy prices are just and reasonable, claiming that uncontrolled market prices are needed in order to increase the energy supply. That's like saying that we must pay dairy farmers \$300/gallon to produce milk.

This bill will not provide one more kilowatt to California this summer, prevent one less minute of blackouts, or keep one less dollar from being transferred from California into the hands of the energy producers.

I am concerned about the environmental ramifications of this energy bill. We must look into renewable energy programs, rather than

reverse a decade old U.S. policy against re-processing commercial nuclear fuel and allow for new drilling on public lands without royalty payments. This bill fails to guarantee a significant increase in clean, renewable energy or energy efficient products. For example, the bill fails to require significant improvement in the efficiency of air conditioners, and fails to address peak power demands of other major appliances.

Moreover, we must amend this bill because it would allow for drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Instead, we must utilize current American sources that are already open for drilling. After 6 years of energy inaction on behalf of the Republican Congress, this bill follows the same old path: cast blame, insist on extreme anti-environmental proposals, and declare themselves powerless in offering relief to Americans facing record-breaking energy price increases.

I believe in a balanced, comprehensive and cost-efficient energy program that meets America's energy needs through increased production and efficiency that puts the interests of consumers first and protects the environment. This omnibus energy package does little to address America's future energy needs and I want to urge my colleagues to vote no on H.R. 4.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill. (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the managers Amendment and HR 4 which does not really secure America's energy future at all. This bill is a bad bill, largely because it favors energy exploration and production at the expense of the environment and conservation. As we seek to secure our country's energy future as the title of this bill refers, we must take into account the social and environmental costs of energy development and also remember that negative impacts on the environment in one part of our world can also affect other, even far-off, parts of the world.

Instead of securing America's future, HR 4 threatens the future of Alaska's and one of this country's most pristine and beloved natural resources. It cuts back on clean air standards, and opens up more public lands to mining and drilling, while relieving the oil companies, which already have registered humungous profits, of their responsibility for paying the American people what they owe for the right to drill on our lands.

Mr. Chairman, on ANWR, what those who support drilling there do not say, is that 95% of the Alaskan wilderness is available for drilling. We must preserve this fragile and important small 5% in the Wildlife Refuge and use the rest to drill to increase our oil and natural

gas supply, and still create the jobs our workers need.

Mr. Chairman, the Resources Committee, on which I serve as Ranking Member of the National Parks and Public Lands Subcommittee, reported an Energy bill, two weeks ago, which represented nothing more than a "grab bag of goodies" for the big oil companies and an unprecedented assault on our country's precious natural resources.

During consideration of the bill, I supported a substitute amendment offered by the Ranking Democrat, Mr. RAHALL that provided a far better solution to the concerns over energy production in our country. This amendment would have ensured that more domestic energy is introduced into the domestic market, would relieve transmission constraints for our western States, encouraged renewable energy on federal lands, assured fairness in oil royalties, and protect our environment and our nation's monuments and parks.

The Rahall substitute would have also provided for a significant number of new jobs by facilitating the construction of the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline originally authorized in 1976. This provision would enhance the delivery of 35 trillion cubic feet of natural gas already discovered in existing development fields, and the Rahall substitute would require that a project labor agreement govern construction activities on the pipeline.

Sadly, Mr. Chairman, the Rules Committee prevented Mr. RAHALL and other Democrats from offering perfecting amendments, which means that much of what the Rahall substitute would have provided, will not be allowed today.

H.R. 4, does include one aspect of the Rahall substitute which would update a nearly twenty-year-old assessment of energy importation, consumption, and alternative indigenous sources that can be used by insular areas. A new part of this reassessment will be a recommendation and a plan to protect energy transmission and distribution lines from the effects of hurricanes and typhoons. The amendment also gives the Interior Secretary the authority to fund such recommendations.

We are all aware of the tragedy and destruction a hurricane or typhoon brings once it reaches land. The majority of Americans become aware of such a storm when it heads up the eastern seaboard or makes it way inland from the Gulf of Mexico. They are awesome and dangerous. And there is not much that can be done when it is headed your way. Those of us whose districts have been in the path of such storms can attest to the devastation.

The Virgin Islands are affected by the strongest of storms, like Georges and Hugo that eventually make their way to the U.S. mainland. But we are also all too frequently a target for lesser known hurricanes that never make it out of the Caribbean Basin but still manage to inflict just as much damage as those that reach Florida.

Some of the costliest destruction during these events in the Virgin Islands and the other offshore areas is to electrical infrastructure. Island-wide outages are common in the wake of a storm because our lines are not as hardened as they could be from a storm's strength. Ideally, in any location that experiences as much hurricane activity as my district, transmission lines should be buried underground. To have the majority of our electrical lines above ground poses a great threat

to residents during storms and makes our system vulnerable and costly to repair.

While I appreciate the recognition of the vulnerability of the Insular Areas energy supply to natural disasters, in H.R. 4, I remain opposed to the bill as a whole because of its over-reliance on energy production at the expense of pristine areas of our environment, as well as large tax breaks it provides to energy companies who are enjoying record profits. I hope that we can provide this relief to my district and others through another legislative vehicle.

H.R. 4 also leaves rural America behind. I ask that the attached statement from the National Rural Electric Cooperatives Association be included in the RECORD.

Mr. Chairman, this is not the way to secure America's future, I urge my colleagues to oppose both this "figleaf" amendment and H.R. 4.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Chairman, H.R. 4 does very little to help the average U.S. consumers who need to put fuel in their cars to get to work, or who need to cool their homes in the summertime. It does even less for the state of California that has been gouged by energy generators while the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)—the federal body responsible for regulating the transmission and sale of wholesale electricity—has sat idle. The bill does however provide an enormous windfall for some of the planet's greatest polluters seeking to make even bigger profits at the expense of the U.S. taxpayer, and at the expense of a cleaner environment. This bill is too expensive, spending nearly \$37 billion in new tax breaks without providing offsets, and it dips further into the Medicare and Social Security Trust Funds which Members of both sides of the aisle have agreed to protect.

The nuclear power industry alone will receive \$2.7 billion in tax breaks and spending subsidies on what amounts to nothing more than pork barrel spending. \$1.9 billion of this tax break, originally reserved for state-regulated utilities with nuclear assets, will now be conferred to unregulated private nuclear entities seeking to increase their profit margin.

Although the General Accounting Office (GAO) has reported waste and mismanagement of the \$2.4 billion Clean Coal Technology Program (CCTP), this Congress wants to squander another \$3.3 billion in tax benefits for a very similar program. Add this to the various research and development tax breaks in the bill and the coal industry will see a \$6 billion Christmas gift in August.

The biggest beneficiaries of the energy bill are the oil and gas industries, which will receive \$24 billion in tax breaks. The oil and gas

industries are experiencing a period of tremendous profits. Instead of regulating these industries to ensure that they don't take advantage of flawed de-regulated electricity states such as California, we are giving them further tax breaks to increase profits without imposing any additional federal oversight. This bill rewards the Texas oil producers for gouging California's electricity consumers but does nothing to guarantee that the price gouging will cease.

This bill further rewards companies with a particularly egregious provision that allows royalty-free oil drilling on federal lands. Currently, oil companies pay royalty fees to the federal government on the oil derived from the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). However, H.R. 4 will change that. The bill provides royalty relief to major oil and gas companies seeking new leases on the Outer Continental Shelf in the Gulf of Mexico. Under the royalty exemption, the Interior Secretary would be required to give as much as 52.5 million barrels of oil royalty-free, costing Americans at least \$7.4 billion that the government would have received in those fees. Although proponents of this provision will tell you that it will encourage domestic oil exploration, there is no evidence that these companies would suspend drilling in the Gulf without such relief. This provision is nothing more than another handout to an industry that gets more than its fair share of tax relief.

Finally, this bill doesn't do nearly enough to protect our environment. We have an opportunity to slow domestic fuel consumption, increase conservation and improve our environment by increasing the corporate average fuel economy (CAFE) standards. The CAFE program dictates the average miles per gallon (mpg) that passenger cars and light-duty trucks sold in the United States must meet. Unfortunately, the "compromise" that was reached on the CAFE standards was nothing more than an insincere fig leaf.

The compromise calls for five billion gallons in gasoline savings over a six-year period. While this might sound like a genuine attempt to decrease fuel consumption, it translates to a mere six days worth of oil consumption for the U.S. To achieve that would require an increase in the fuel economy of cars and trucks of only about 1 mile per gallon—an increase that, considering how far fuel economy has fallen in recent years due to increased sales of SUVs and pickups, would improve efficiency only to the level we achieved in the early 1980's. The National Academy of Sciences just this week reported that fuel economy improvements could further reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil. Our fuel economy standards should reflect a developed nation, leading in technological advances in the 21st century. But the meager CAFE increase proposed in H.R. 4 reflects a nation unwilling—not unable—to provide global leadership for fossil fuel conservation and a cleaner environment.

Regrettably, my colleagues did not seek a truly bipartisan energy bill that would encourage conservation and renewable energy generation; and contain manipulation of the energy spot market by the electricity generators. Instead, they chose to take a shortsighted approach to help some of their leading campaign contributors at the expense of our environment.

I urge my colleagues to protect the environment, and protect the Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds. Vote no on H.R. 4.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Chairman, H.R. 4, the so called SAFE Act, that opens the Coastal Plains of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) to oil drilling, provides mandatory relief for offshore producers in the Gulf of Mexico, and provides tax breaks for oil and gas exploration. Simply put, H.R. 4 increases oil supply instead of researching and developing alternative, renewable energy sources and conservation. This bill includes tax credits and deductions of \$33.5 billion over 10 years with no offsets. Passage of this bill will invade the Medicare surplus. We are on a dangerous path towards the deficit spending that we spent the last 8 years fighting to eliminate it.

ANWR is home to more than 200 species that use the coastal plains as a breeding and migratory habitat. U.S. geological reports are inconclusive as to how much oil will actually be available within the coastal plains, and even if drilling were to begin today, it will be more than a decade before useable oil will be produced. H.R. 4 does not address the fact that oil produced right now on Alaska's North Slope is currently being exported to Japan and Asia. If we are trying to increase supply, why not ban exports on all our oil currently produced in America?

H.R. 4 includes a provision to artificially enhance competitiveness of western federal coal to give lessees the ability to control market prices. Instead of requiring coal prospectors to "diligently develop" coal, H.R. 4 allows federal coal lessees to withhold production at any time without penalty. I wrote this provision that H.R. 4 is striking. Federal coal lessees already produce 33 percent of U.S. coal consumption, this "produce or withhold" option would allow them to drive out competition and spike prices. They could flood the market with coal when they wanted and eliminate their competition or they could withhold production in order to raise prices. This provision gives an unfair advantage to current federal coal lessees and is bad for consumers.

H.R. 4 provides an insufficient amount in grants to develop alternative fuels, including fuel cells, natural gas, hydrogen, propane and ethanol. Ethanol should be a cornerstone of America's energy future. It is a clean burning, renewable, biodegradable fuel that reduces harmful greenhouse gasses when added to gasoline as oxygenate. Ethanol is good for the environment and production is vitally important economic stimulus to our nation's farmers. Ethanol is also critical to American energy security, adding volume to a tight fuel supply and will reduce consumer cost.

There were 5 amendments offered on renewable fuels, but the Rules Committee made every single one of them out of order. This is not the way to help our farmers, our environment, and will not enhance our energy security.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4, the Securing America's Future Energy (SAFE) Act of 2001. I regret having to take this position because I support the Energy and Commerce Committee provisions of this bill, which were crafted in a bipartisan manner under the leadership of Chairman TAUZIN and Ranking Member DINGELL, as well as the Energy and Air Quality Subcommittee Chairman BARTON and Ranking Member BOUCHER. Working together, the members of the committee created a balanced energy policy that recognizes the importance of conservation and efficiency as well as increased production from traditional sources of energy, while improving our nation's commitment to alternative and renewable energy resources. These efforts produced an excellent first step toward addressing critical national energy supply issues in an environmentally sensitive manner, improving efficiency so as to reduce waste, and ensuring our nation's energy security for future generations.

The product of our committee's bipartisan work was combined with the sections reported by other committees. Instead of having conservation and efficiency as its center, the legislation added millions of dollars of tax benefits for corporations involved with exploration and production and distribution of energy supplies with no guarantees that the savings will be passed on to the American consumer. Several provisions were added which threaten sensitive environmental areas such as the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) and allow the private sector to short circuit important environmental regulations. These provisions fundamentally alter the balance that was needed to increase energy supply and protect the environment.

The process by which the bill was pieced together for floor consideration was also seriously flawed. I worked with my colleagues in the Energy and Commerce Committee, on both sides of the aisle, to include important provisions that will improve the energy efficiency of the federal government through a streamlining of the Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP), saving taxpayers millions of dollars for years to come.

We created an innovative funding mechanism called the Federal Energy Bank to establish a fund that would help federal agencies invest in more efficient technologies and renew-

able resources, recouping the savings for reinvestment later on. We also included incentives for production from renewable energy facilities through revisions to the Renewable Energy Production Incentive (REPI).

When H.R. 4 was presented for floor consideration the Energy Bank provision, which was unanimously approved by committee, was missing, with no explanation of why other than that the Office of Management and Budget had concerns about the provision that had not been raised during the three previous versions of the legislation as it was developed in committee. After learning that those concerns could be addressed with minor revisions, I offered an amendment to clarify the language for the floor, but it was not made in order by the rule. As the details of the legislation came to light, it was determined that other important provisions contained in the Energy and Commerce Committee bill were removed without consultation with committee members. Mr. Speaker, legislation of this magnitude deserves complete and thorough review and the rush to get the measure to the floor should not supersede the good bipartisan work that was performed in committee and thwart the public policy gains that were made.

Increasing the fuel efficiency of passenger vehicles and light trucks holds the greatest potential to reduce consumption of fossil fuels and emissions of harmful global greenhouse gases, but the implications on the industry and jobs requires a delicate balance on how we best approach this problem. The Energy and Commerce Committee took a first step toward addressing improved fuel efficiency through the requirement that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) take steps to decrease petroleum fuel consumption of new vehicles manufactured between 2004 and 2010 by five billion gallons than otherwise would have occurred. Because the rulemaking process under existing law has been stalled for the past six years we have lost the opportunity to approach increasing fuel efficiency at a reasonable pace. We should continue to work to increase the fuel efficiency of all vehicles. The automakers have indicated repeatedly that they have the existing technology to increase the fuel economy of their products and plan to implement those improvements in the near future. Making these changes to improve automotive fuel efficiency and actually affecting the number of these vehicles sold is a different matter. Whether for safety, convenience or performance reasons, Americans' buying habits have trended strongly toward larger sport utility vehicles (SUVs) and light trucks. The public supports improved fuel economy, but balanced with the desire to have vehicles that meet their transportation needs.

The Energy and Commerce Committee provisions also call for a report that will examine alternatives to the current CAFÉ standard policy and requirements for each manufacturer to comply with these standards for vehicles it makes. The National Research Council report suggests alternative means by which we could achieve greater success at improving fuel efficiency such as a system of tradeable credits to augment the current CAFÉ requirement and eliminating the differentiation between foreign and domestic fleets. We should continue the effort to examine how best to accomplish this over the next several months and come back to this issue once we have learned more about the economic effects of the suggestions

that have been included in the report. Mr. Speaker, we must follow through on our commitment to make the provisions of this bill the first step to increase the fuel efficiency of all vehicles, not the last.

When considered as a whole, H.R. 4, is an incomplete solution to our nation's energy needs which will harm the environment we are charged with protecting. I cannot support such an unbalanced and shortsighted energy strategy, and I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill. (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the amendment.

There is a great deal at stake in this controversy.

First is the damage that will be done to the environment by air pollution if the most populous state in the union is given an exemption from the oxygenate requirement under the reformulated gasoline program.

Second is the setback which will be given to our efforts to become more energy self-sufficient if this waiver is granted.

Third is the blow such a waiver will deal to the Midwest economy.

Any rational national energy policy must include the development and usage of alternative sources of fuel—from wind to water, sun to corn and beans—need to be explored, cultivated and implemented more rigorously. This amendment would move our energy policy in precisely the opposite direction.

From a Midwest view ethanol production provides a much-needed boost for the rural Midwestern economy. The USDA has determined ethanol production adds 25 to 30 cents to the price of a bushel of corn, and, according to a Midwestern Governor's Conference report, adds \$4.5 billion to farm revenue annually, creates 195,200 jobs, brings in \$450 million in state tax revenues, improves our balance of trade by \$2 billion, and saves the federal Treasury \$3.6 billion annually.

Promoting the use of ethanol in reformulated gasoline makes good sense environmentally, geostrategically and economically.

Again, I urge a no vote on this amendment.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Ms. HOOLEY. Mr. Chairman, I have to admit I'm a little surprised the Administration has proposed an inadequate proposal to address our long-term energy needs. After all, both the President and Vice President have extensive experience in the energy sector. Quite frankly, I'd think they'd be a little more creative in their vision of America's future.

After all, a national energy policy is supposed to be predicated on the assumption that we need to increase supplies to mitigate demand. And to some degree, the Administration's plan is geared toward that end. However, given their experience in the energy sector, we ought to expect that.

But the cold hard fact is that the Administration sees drilling and mining as our only way to address our predicament. Personally, I disagree with the Vice President—conservation isn't a personal virtue. It's not only a proven method to increase energy supplies, but the costs to the taxpayer to fund research in this field is a drop in bucket compared to the huge taxpayer-funded subsidies this legislation bestows on traditional industries.

Unfortunately, instead of debating a reasonable and prudent legislation, we have forfeited that option. Instead of making tough choices, we have before us a bill that too heavily focuses on oil, coal, and nuclear energy. This Administration simply isn't worried about giving equal consideration to promoting and encouraging energy efficiency, renewable energy, and conservation.

That's unfortunate for a variety of reasons. Not only does it defy common sense, but it defies a Department of Energy report issued last November demonstrating increased efficiency and renewable energy can meet 60 percent of the nation's need for new electric power plants over the next 20 years. Yet the recommendations in the report are nowhere to be found in this legislation.

Moreover, this bill grants billions in new tax breaks for the oil and coal industries—all of this in the wake of record profits for industry and record-high energy bills for consumers. Why are we providing "royalty relief" to the oil industry when, as the Wall Street Journal recently reported, the industry currently has more money than it can manage to spend? Why do they need royalty relief when they are making billions of dollars in profits from oil that is pumped from public lands and are more financially stable than ever before?

Finally, in this bill is a provision that authorizes oil production in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). According to proponents of this provision, we need to drill in ANWR as a solution to our energy crisis.

Unfortunately, facts are stubborn, and the truth is we could have done more to lower our dependence on foreign oil by passing the Boehlert/Markey amendment that would have increased fuel efficiency in SUV's than we could ever get from pumping every drop of oil from the coastal plain in ANWR. For a bill designed to reduce our reliance on foreign oil, it seems strange to me that the sponsors of this bill would object to raising gas mileage standards. Doing so is not only completely feasible, but once completely implemented this step would reduce our oil consumption by hundreds

of millions of barrels a year. But the amendment failed and again we regress.

As such, I urge my colleagues to vote against this bill and let's work to create a comprehensive energy bill that is truly one for the 21st Century.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill, (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. WATTS. Mr. Chairman, the House of Representatives today is considering a comprehensive energy strategy to provide clean, affordable and available energy to all Americans. The president has put forth a sound initiative to meet our energy needs after eight years of neglect by the previous Administration. The House today is considering a forward-looking plan that confronts the energy crunch head-on and offers real solutions to our energy shortage, volatile prices and our dependent on foreign oil.

The Securing America's Future Energy (SAFE) Act is a balanced approach of conservation and production. It is good for the economy, as it will create jobs. It's no wonder the AFL-CIO and Teamsters' unions have thrown their support to our ideas. They, like many working Americans, know the value and importance of domestic energy production.

The SAFE Act helps modernize our aging energy infrastructure. In California, which has faced some of the most severe energy shortages in the country this year, they went without a new power plant for nearly twenty years. Playing catch-up should not be considered an energy strategy. We need 38,000 miles of new natural gas pipelines to move enough fuel to supply our energy needs. The SAFE Act will look ahead to the future and plan for the energy needs of today and tomorrow.

We should not wait for another crisis to formulate an energy plan. The time is now to correct the mistakes of the past and lay down sensible groundwork for the future. Reliable, affordable and environmentally clean energy should be first and foremost on our agenda. I urge the House to pass the SAFE Act.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill, (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diver-

sity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Chairman, only a few short months ago, the members of this House passed, one of the largest tax cuts in over a decade. Now here we are again, debating an energy bill that is as fiscally irresponsible. Just two days ago, the U.S. Treasury announced that it will be forced to borrow \$51 billion to pay for the tax rebate checks, instead of paying down the debt as previously planned. The New York Times also cited the Bush Administration as saying that the surplus for this fiscal year could fall by \$120 billion below the January estimate. No matter how we slice it, the fact remains that the U.S. Government simply doesn't have enough surplus funds to pay for the recently passed tax cut as well as the tax breaks contained in H.R. 4.

Furthermore, H.R. 4 does little to solve America's long-term energy challenges. Its primary focus is on developing non-renewable fuel sources, such as oil, natural gas, and coal, with a lesser emphasis on energy conservation and renewables. H.R. 4 gives over \$33 billion to energy companies in the form of tax breaks, all at taxpayer expense. About two-thirds of this tax break goes to oil and gas companies whose profits are at all-time record highs and some of whom have so much surplus cash they haven't yet figured out how to spend it all.

From 1999 to 2000, profits for the five largest U.S. oil companies rose 146%, from \$16 billion to \$40 billion. Exxon-Mobil reported yearly profits of \$17.7 billion. A July 30, 2001, Wall Street Journal article reported that, "Royal Dutch/Shell Oil said it was pumping out about \$1.5 million in profit an hour and sitting on more than \$11 billion in the bank." Even personal salaries for energy executives have skyrocketed. Yearly compensation for executives at the largest energy companies selling power to California rose an average of 253%, with one top executive collecting over \$100 million alone. With unprecedented increases in oil company profits, the industry clearly does not need financial assistance from Uncle Sam.

Not only is H.R. 4 fiscally unsound, but its provisions allowing drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) reflect an utter disregard for the preservation of America's last remaining untouched wilderness. ANWR is a pristine region, teeming with a wide variety of plant and animal species. To believe that we could drill in ANWR without causing irreversible environmental damage is, at best, overly optimistic. As recently as last month, a corroded pipeline in an Alaskan oil field erupted, causing 420 gallons of crude oil to spill onto Alaskan tundra. This spill is but one of many that have occurred in the 95% of Alaska's North Slope that has already been opened to oil development.

According to the U.S. Geological Survey, ANWR contains about 3.2 to 5.2 billion barrels of economically recoverable crude oil. Since the U.S. consumes about 19 million barrels of oil daily, or almost 7 billion barrels of oil annually, even with drilling at top efficiency, the coastal plain would only supply about 2% of America's oil demand. Additionally, if the total amount of oil in this area could be extracted all at once and the ANWR oil was used as the primary oil supply for the U.S., it would only last about 6 to 8 months. Destroying our environmental treasures in search of a quick fix to our energy needs is not the right course of action.

During debate on this bill, we will also consider an amendment to increase fuel efficiency standards for light trucks and sport utility vehicles (SUVs). Currently, the minimum average mileage per gallon (mpg) standard is 20.7 mpg for the fleet of SUV's produced by an automaker in a given year. The amendment would increase this to 26 mpg by 2005 and then to 27.5 mpg by 2007. This standard has not been changed in five years, and it is time that we allow it to be increased. While the underlying bill would decrease gasoline use by 5 billion gallons between the year 2004 and 2010, this amendment would create a savings of 40 billion gallons of gasoline over that same period. The amendment would increase the minimum average fuel efficiency standard of all cars and light trucks by only 1.3 mpg over what the industry actually produced back in 1987.

Opponents of this proposal claim that raising these standards is not feasible and would result in a decrease in safety to SUV passengers. However, this is not the case. In fact, a competition recently sponsored by General Motors and the Department of Energy illustrates this point. Various engineering schools across the country competed to increase the fuel efficiency of one of the larger SUV'S, a Chevrolet Suburban. The winner, University of Wisconsin at Madison, increased the fuel efficiency of this vehicle to 28.05 mpg while maintaining the structural integrity and protections that vehicle affords.

In conclusion, passing H.R. 4 today would be highly imprudent. America's long-term energy needs would be better served with an energy policy that places greater emphasis on energy conservation and renewable fuel technologies.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. ROGER F. WICKER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 4. The most important action the Federal Government can take to stabilize energy prices for the American consumer is to develop and implement a coordinated, long-range national energy policy. H.R. 4 is the result of the hard work of five congressional Committees, who have incorporated conservation, environmental regulations, alternative energy sources, tax relief, and increased production to produce a comprehensive national energy plan.

In the foreseeable future, domestic exploration, and production of oil and natural gas will have a critical impact on our country's economy, stability, and international relationships. During the last 30 years, we have watched OPEC coalesce, fractionalize, and coalesce again. I do not think we will ever have more than a superficial influence over

many of the OPEC nations. Libya, Algeria, Iran, Nigeria, and Iraq are not what I would call our allies. Why then should we place such heavy reliance on them to meet our energy needs?

The answer for the United States to the supply manipulations by the OPEC cartel is sufficient access to the best oil and natural gas fields here at home. That's why I strongly support the lease sale of area 181, and other tracts in the eastern gulf, and why I believe now is the time to open up area 1002 in the Arctic Coastal Plain of Alaska. While we may never be completely self-reliant for oil supply, we can make a dramatic difference by developing the resources domestically in a reasonable and responsible fashion.

Though domestic production is an essential part of the national energy policy, H.R. 4 addresses other variables that are vital to the full implementation of a coherent national energy plan. While most experts acknowledge that natural gas represents an abundant energy resource for the future, we must ensure there will be sufficient transmission capacity for this uniquely North American product 10 years from now. The regulatory obstacles to operating pipelines—much less constructing new lines—are too numerous to count. H.R. 4 recognizes these obstacles and includes incentives for companies to construct new lines and add capacity that will increase the reliability of America's utility infrastructure.

H.R. 4 creates a favorable tax climate that encourages increased production while also providing tax incentives for individuals and businesses to increase their conservation efforts.

H.R. 4 is a well balanced piece of legislation that draws upon conservation efforts, increased domestic production, and tax incentives to develop the beginnings of a national energy policy that will help decrease our dependence on foreign energy sources and help stabilize energy prices for the American consumer.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to oppose H.R. 4, the SAFE Act, which taps the Social Security and Medicare trust funds in order to pay for new energy tax incentives.

Mr. Chairman, I support many of the provisions in the SAFE Act. I am encouraged by a number of initiatives that combine incentives for enhanced production along with sensible conservation measures. I particularly support the investments in clean coal technology and the tax credits for wind electricity production, as North Dakota has an enormous supply of lignite coal and the greatest potential for development of wind powered generation in the

country. But I am not willing nor is it necessary to invest in energy at the expense of Social Security and Medicare.

I think it is inexcusable that the Rules Committee refused to allow consideration of an off-set amendment to protect Medicare and Social Security. I cannot support legislation that does not contain "pay for" provisions when the result is a direct raid of the Social Security and Medicare trust funds. That is unacceptable and I see no other choice but to oppose this bill.

I am also extremely disappointed that this bill leaves out an important segment of energy suppliers—public power suppliers and rural electric cooperatives, which serve 25 percent of the nation's power consumers. It is only logical that by including the maximum number of market participants in generation of renewable and clean energy production, we best equip ourselves to meet these goals.

I strongly support meaningful energy legislation that will offer more options and better solutions for my constituents and for all Americans. But I will not rob Peter to pay Paul and I oppose this raid on Medicare and Social Security. I am voting against the SAFE Act and I encourage my colleagues to join me.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise to offer comments on H.R. 4, the Securing America's Future Energy Act of 2001. However, first I would like to thank House Science Committee Chairman BOEHLERT and Ranking Member HALL for their leadership in producing a bipartisan energy bill from the Committee.

The first hearing held by the Full Science Committee in the 107th Congress was on the issue of our nation's energy future. It was appropriate that the Committee review closely all portions of the Administration's energy plan in light of the heavy burden placed on the fiscal resources of the federal government because of the \$1.2 Trillion tax cut.

We can all agree that the United States does need to develop a long-term national energy policy. Our nation's energy priorities should remain constant regardless of the changing dynamics of energy supply. However, there are many facets to our nation's energy needs.

This nation is comprised of producer states and consumer states who must work together in order to resolve future energy needs. The energy portfolio for our nation must include fossil fuels, renewables, and nuclear power.

The bill that is before us today is a compilation of several efforts on the part of four separate House Committees to craft a national energy plan. The Science Committee contributed

to this effort through enhanced research and development in oil and gas exploration, support of renewable energy, and increased opportunities for new technology on conservation, and a strong support of the environment. Rather than this disregard of the environment, we should work together to protect our precious environment.

I strongly believe that the best approach to our nation's energy needs is one of bipartisan cooperation with a goal of ensuring long-term commitments to a national energy plan that reducing dependence on foreign sources of energy and enhances our Nation's productivity. For this reason, we must explore the potential that renewable energy technologies have to contribute to fulfilling an increasing part of the nation's energy demand and how that can occur, while increasing the economies, that can be reached through more efficient and environmentally sound extraction, transportation, and processing technologies.

I had an amendment that was incorporated into the final bill offered for inclusion into H.R. 4 that created a Secondary Electric Vehicle Battery Use Program in the Department of Energy. This new program is designed to demonstrate the use of batteries previously only used in transportation applications in secondary applications, including utility and commercial power storage and power quality. The program would also evaluate the performance of these batteries, including their longevity of useful service life and costs, as well as the required supporting infrastructure to support their widespread use.

I found that at the "end-of-useful-life" of a battery system that is used in an electric vehicle (EV), that battery system still retains 80 percent of its initial capacity. However, the battery system is no longer useful in the EV because it has lost power capabilities that are required to run the vehicle effectively. In many electric utility applications, only the capacity from a battery, not capability, is required. This situation presents an opportunity for furthering the use of electric vehicles while finding a secondary market for the batteries used for transportation purposes.

The high vehicle prices for the initial series of electric vehicles, along with a lack of consumer familiarity and limited driving range, have greatly restricted consumer acceptance and prevent successful market penetration. In turn, manufacturers refuse to produce greater numbers of EVs, having reached conclusions that the costs are too high and the market too limited. The cycle of high costs and limited sales is broken only if costs are reduced and/or volume is increased dramatically. While it is estimated that prices for batteries begin to fall when the volume reaches 10,000 packs per year, auto manufacturers believe that volume alone cannot address the prohibitive costs of advanced technology batteries necessary to create consumer demand for EVs because the materials needed for such batteries (e.g., nickel) are expensive. Currently, there are a total of approximately 4,000 EVs on U.S. roads.

To assure volume sales of EVs, a dramatic reduction in the cost of batteries is required. An innovative approach to addressing this issue may be to "extend" the life—or value—of the batteries beyond vehicular use. Once the batteries have been "used" in a vehicle, there is an opportunity to refurbish, then "re-use" the batteries in a stationary application. For example, electric utilities could "re-use"

EV battery packs in peak shaving, transmission deferral, back-up power and transmission quality improvement applications. If successfully demonstrated for secondary, stationary-use applications, the effective price of battery systems are projected to make EVs more competitive.

I along with Members of the Congressional Black Caucus have serious concerns regarding the balance shown in the drafting of this legislation. We must be sure to ensure the interest of those who have the least in our society. For this reason, the CBC sponsored a number of amendments to H.R. 4.

Two of these amendments offered were to ensure the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) continues to provide help to those who are the most vulnerable in our society. The first amendment would make sure that all funds expended for LIHEAP in this bill will remain available until used. This amendment also adds report directives to a GAO report being requested to include an assessment of how a lack of energy conservation and efficiency education can impact on energy conservation of program beneficiaries. This amendment would also request that information on the conditions of structures that receive LIHEAP funds could impact energy efficiency.

The initial GAO report only requested information on how LIHEAP funds discourage energy conservation, and asks how direct payments not associated with energy needs may effect energy conservation.

The second LIHEAP amendment would allow program funds to be used to ensure the retrofitting of homes that receive federal assistance. This will address issues of structural problems that often exist in the homes of those who must sustain themselves on limited and often inadequate incomes. This amendment would allow homes in communities to retain their tax value, which would benefit the community as a whole. Often times homes are in need of roof repair in order to be able to place insulation.

Unfortunately, the Rules Committee only found the LIHEAP amendment that produces a GAO study in order for consideration by the full House today. I would like to stress that as we make our nation's energy future more secure, we must make sure that every American household is secure in the fact that they have access to affordable and reliable energy.

I believe that the effects of rising energy prices have had and will continue to have a chilling effect on our nation's economy. Everything we as consumers eat, touch or use in our day to day lives have energy costs added into the price we pay for the good or service. Today, our society is in the midst of major sociological and technical revolutions, which will forever change the way we live and work. We are transitioning from a predominantly industrial economy to an information-centered economy. While our society has an increasingly older and longer living population the world has become increasingly smaller, integrated and interdependent.

As with all change, current national and international transformations present both dangers and opportunities, which must be recognized and seized upon. Thus, the question arises, how do we manage these changes to protect the disadvantaged, disenfranchised and disavowed while improving their situation and destroying barriers to job creation, small business, and new markets?

One way to address this issue is to ensure that this nation becomes energy independent through the full utilization of energy sources within our nation's geographic influence.

Today there are more than 3,800 working offshore platforms in the Gulf of Mexico, which are subject to rigorous environmental standards. These platforms result in 55,000 jobs, with over 35,000 of them located offshore. The platforms working in federal waters also have an excellent environmental record. According to the United States Coast Guard, for the 1980–1999 period 7.4 billion barrels of oil was produced in federal offshore waters with less than 0.001 percent spilled. That is a 99.999 percent record for clean operations.

According to the Minerals Management Service about 100 times more oil seeps naturally from the seabed into U.S. marine waters than from offshore oil and gas activities.

The Nation's record for safe and clean offshore natural gas and oil operations is excellent. And to maintain and improve upon this excellent record, Minerals Management Service continually seeks operational improvements that will reduce the risks to offshore personnel and to the environment. The Office of Minerals Management constantly re-evaluates its procedures and regulations to stay abreast of technological advances that will ensure safe and clean operations, as well as to increase awareness of their importance.

It is reported that the amount of oil naturally released from cracks on the floor of the ocean have caused more oil to be in sea water than work done by oil rigs.

Most rigs under current Interior regulation must have an emergency shutdown process in the event of a major accident which immediately seals the pipeline. Other safety features include training requirements for personnel, design standards and redundant safety systems. Last year the Office of Minerals Management conducted 16,000 inspections of offshore rigs in federal waters.

In addition to these precautions each platform always has a team of safety and environmental specialists on board to monitor all drilling activity.

These oil and gas rigs have become artificial reefs for crustaceans, sea anomie, and small aquatic fish. These conditions have created habitat for larger fish, making rigs a favored location to fish by local people.

I will be offering an amendment later today with Congressman NICK LAMPSON to create a reporting process to access the operation of oil and gas wells off the coast of Texas and Louisiana.

We can all agree that the United States does need to develop a long-term national energy policy. Our nation's energy priorities should remain constant regardless of the changing dynamics of energy supply. For this reason, I hope that the process of completing work on the bill will allow for open debate and honest compromise.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill, (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my support for H.R. 4—The Securing America's Future Energy Act of 2001. This bill will at long last define our national energy policy so that the United States will have an ample, affordable and increasingly efficient energy supply for the future.

It is time that the American people declare independence from foreign sources of energy. We need to develop our own resources and our own technology so that the economy and security of the United States will not be adversely affected by decisions of foreign energy suppliers in the future.

Mr. Chairman, on March 20, 2000, in the 106th Congress, I introduced H.R. 4035, The National Resource Governance Act of 2000 (the NRG Bill). The goal of this bill was to establish a commission that would investigate U.S. dependence on foreign energy sources, evaluate proposals that would make the United States energy self-sufficient, explore alternative energy sources, investigate areas currently not being used for oil exploration and expand drilling in areas such as the Arctic National Wildlife Reserve and offshore. This commission would then submit its findings and recommendations to Congress and the President so that steps could be taken to design and implement a national energy policy.

I introduced the NRG Bill because I believed that our lack of a comprehensive national energy policy would lead to energy shortages and a continued dependence on OPEC. My concerns continued and on November 11, 2000 and again on October 4, 2000, I wrote then-Energy Secretary Bill Richardson to share with him some of my concerns and the concerns of my constituents. Mr. Speaker, I ask that the text of this letter be entered into the RECORD.

NOVEMBER 1, 2000.

Hon. BILL RICHARDSON,
Secretary of Energy,
Forrestal Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: On October 4th, I sent a letter to you asking for your response to reports run in The Wall Street Journal and other media suggesting that crude oil released by the Administration from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) may in fact be diverted to Europe. Assuming that the SPR oil would not be diverted to Europe, I further asked that you reconcile the apparent disparities between the Administration's claim that tapping the SPR would forestall a winter home heating oil crises in the Northeast United States, and independent reports that the SPR oil would not even reach the intended markets until early next year.

I am extremely disappointed that you have not yet responded to these two basic, yet important questions. In my October 4th letter I asked that you provide me with "an immediate assessment" of the aforementioned media reports. I specifically requested that you provide me with a report "early next week" so that I might convey the information to my constituents who are preparing themselves for the onset of winter weather.

Since my last letter to you, officials from your Department have testified to Congress about the President's decision to tap the SPR. I understand that acting Assistant Secretary of Energy Robert S. Kripowicz acknowledged, in one of those hearings, that the release of 30 million barrels of crude oil

from the SPR may yield only an additional 250,000 barrels of home-heating oil for the Northeast, including my state of Pennsylvania, which face possible fuel shortages this winter. If Mr. Kripowicz can provide answers to Congress regarding the Administration's recent actions, I fail to understand why an answer to my letter has not been forthcoming.

Mr. Secretary, Pennsylvanians are afraid that the United States has no energy policy. We wonder how long we will continue to be dependent on foreign sources of energy. Unfortunately, your failure to answer basic questions about your Department's actions only serves to confirm those fears. Please provide my office with a response to the questions raised in my letter of October 4th, by November 8th.

Very truly yours,

GEORGE W. GEKAS,
Member of Congress.

Mr. Chairman, my letters went unanswered as did the concerns of so many Americans worried about energy prices, supply, the environment and national security. Unfortunately, my concerns became a reality. This past winter we saw what the lack of a comprehensive national energy policy meant to the people of California as they experienced unannounced rolling blackouts. We also saw the implications of high gasoline and energy prices on our economy. H.R. 4 will define a national energy policy that will avert such situations in the future.

Today, I not only rise to support H.R. 4, the Securing America's Future Energy Act of 2001, but I rise to commend President Bush, Vice President Cheney and the rest of the members of the National Energy Policy Development Group for their leadership in proposing a much needed national energy policy. The development and implementation of this bold and innovative policy will certainly insure that the United States will be less dependent on foreign sources of energy, be more efficient and thus more environmentally sensitive, and will also provide every American with access to ample and affordable energy.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill, (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 4, Securing America's Future Energy Act.

First, let me commend President Bush for his leadership and the committees in the House who have worked on this most important national priority.

Mr. Chairman, gas prices are down, and so far this summer in New Jersey, the lights have stayed on. But make no mistake about it, we have an energy crisis in America. Many families face energy bills two to three times higher than they were a year ago. Millions of Ameri-

cans find themselves dealing with rolling blackouts. Employers are laying off workers to absorb the rising cost of energy. Even families vacationing across America this summer may have noticed a new "energy" surcharge tacked onto their motel bills.

Let's face it, we live and work in a nation that demands more energy than we can adequately supply. We are a nation that relies on fossil fuels, and whether we think that's good or bad, it's not going to change. Oil, gas and coal fuel our nation. In fact, 52% of our nation's electricity is generated in power plants that burn coal, 20% of our nation's electricity is nuclear powered, and 18% of America's lights are turned on thanks to natural gas.

We won't go from huge gas-guzzling SUV's to small, electric vehicles overnight. Nor will we unplug our computers and televisions, and run our homes and businesses on solar energy just because someone says that's a wise thing to do. It's just not realistic. What is realistic, however, is the fact that we can be smarter and more efficient about the way we produce and consume energy.

That's why I applaud President Bush for his leadership on the issue of energy. You and I may not agree with each and every proposal he has put forth, but one thing we can all agree on is the fact that we need a comprehensive strategy to ensure a steady supply of affordable energy for America's homes, businesses and industries.

President Bush has called for such an energy policy, one that is balanced, long term and provides answers that will ensure the United States has that safe, stable and reliable national energy supply we so desperately need.

Congress worked hard to shape the President's vision. It is important to keep in mind that this problem was created as a result of eight years of neglect and "knee-jerk" reactions to various energy crises "of the moment." Thus, since this crisis worsened over many years, there is no overnight solution to our nation's energy woes. Furthermore, once our strategic plan is implemented, it will require constant monitoring. We will need to update the plan as new technology is developed and alternative energy sources are found. But having a plan already in place will make it easier to make necessary adjustments in the way our nation produces and uses energy.

The President's plan has many components. Among the provisions Congress is addressing are funding increases for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, setting stricter standards for energy use in Federal buildings, and offering tax credits for consumers, home and business owners that focus on energy conservation, reliability and production. A large part of the President's plan calls for funding increases to improve conservation efforts, reduce energy consumption and to encourage research and development of renewable energy, oil, gas, coal and nuclear energy. He also wants us to focus on the development of the most promising new sources of clean energy, including hydrogen, biomass, and alternative fueled vehicles. These are just a few examples of the many areas in energy science, conservation and public assistance we will be addressing over the coming months.

For my part, you should know that I serve on the Appropriations Subcommittee which oversees the budget for the Department of Energy. In that role, I have and will continue to

support increased funding for research, development and greater consumer use of renewable energy. Over the last 7 years the Federal government has invested some \$2.2 billion in renewable energy. I also remain a steadfast supporter of fusion energy research, much of which is conducted in New Jersey at Princeton University. Fusion energy has the potential to become an unlimited, safe, environmentally friendly, affordable energy source. I appreciate the budget support, some \$240 million this year for continued research, from the President and Secretary of Energy, Spencer Abraham.

As a nation, we want the lights to come on whenever we flip the switch. We expect our computers to run and the air conditioning to work. Fortunately for New Jerseyans, unlike our fellow Americans in California, our power still flows—the lights come on, the computer runs and the air conditioning works. This is in large part due to the fact that most of New Jersey's electric power is generated by nuclear energy—75 percent of our electricity comes to us thanks to nuclear power. Nuclear energy has come a long way. It's proven to be safe, stable and reliable. But much of our nation does not have the benefit of such an abundant, reliable source of energy and that's exactly why we need a comprehensive national energy plan. As a nation, we cannot afford any more "California" crises.

The bottom line is America must be energy self-sufficient. Currently, our nation imports over 55% of the oil we consume from foreign oil cartels. This must change. When more than half of our energy needs comes from foreign sources, particularly OPEC, that alone is a security risk. We need more American oil, more American gas, and more use of American clean-coal technology, to name just a few. This is the only way to guarantee an uninterrupted supply of energy when we need it. But this drive to produce more energy domestically does not mean that energy development and environmental priorities cannot co-exist. They must. There must be a balance between energy development and the protection of our environment. For the record, when I say balance is needed, I mean drilling in the Alaskan National Wildlife Refuge, or off the coasts of New Jersey or Florida are not options.

Obviously energy has enormous implications for large and small businesses, homeowners, our economy, environment, and our national security. Under the President's leadership, I am confident that we will better manage America's energy problems. It won't be easy and there will be many disagreements. No one person, or no one political party, has all the answers. That's why the debate in Congress on America's energy plan for the 21st Century is so important. And, part of our obligation is to listen to our constituents and educate all Americans about the reality of our energy situation, and what it will actually take to improve it.

Mr. Chairman, the situation is not as 'cut and dry' as some people on both sides of the issue would like to make it. We cannot simply throw caution to the wind and build pipelines all over the place, and drill for oil or gas anywhere the oil companies want. Neither can we simply oppose an energy plan because we are pure environmentalists. The reality is we are a nation of homeowners, commuters and computer users—we consume energy in practically everything we do. That's why I am working to

provide the necessary balance to our energy plan that will help us better manage our energy production and consumption. There's no way to escape it—we need a strategy on energy, and that's exactly what we are working on. At the same time, we can ill-afford to give up on our historic obligation to our children to protect our nation's air, water, wildlife and open spaces.

We can, and will, do both.

Again, Mr. Chairman, I support H.R. 4 and urge my colleagues to do the same.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this bill. This bill does not enhance our security: it endangers it. It does not protect our environment: it threatens it.

Increasing global warming does not enhance our security. Increasing our reliance on nuclear power plants and creating more nuclear waste does not enhance our security. Making only token changes in fuel economy standards does not enhance our security.

This bill does not enhance our security. Instead it jeopardizes wilderness, ignores consumers, and rewards the fossil fuel industry at the public expense.

This bill subsidizes the oil industry and gives billions in tax breaks to oil producers in an age of record-breaking profits.

In contrast, it does nothing for California consumers and taxpayers who have paid billions in unjust and unjustified energy costs.

Instead of promoting cost-based rates and badly needed refunds, it increases tax breaks and handouts for the oil, coal, and nuclear industries.

When Minority Leader DICK GEPHARDT and other members of Congress came to my district of Oakland, California, they saw the faces of this crisis. They heard from small business owners who face potential bankruptcy. They heard from persons with disabilities for whom blackouts are nightmares and rising bills are an impossible expense. They heard from school administrators who have been forced to divert money from much needed textbooks, teacher salaries, and instructional supplies to paying energy costs. They heard from the people of California who have been paying the price in this crisis for the last year.

Electricity cannot be treated as any other commodity. We cannot force Americans to choose between paying their utility bills and their grocery bills. Between electricity and rent. Between power and prescriptions. Those choices are simply unacceptable.

Nor can we choose to destroy irreplaceable wilderness for short-term gain. There are simply places on earth that are too fragile, too vulnerable, and too special to drill for oil. The

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is one of those places.

I strongly oppose this bill and I urge you to protect America's wilderness and to protect America's consumers and vote against this bill.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Chairman, much like the Nation, the U.S. territories are headed down a dangerous path. Our energy demands are outpacing supply, resulting in blackouts, high fuel prices, and increasing dependence on foreign energy sources.

These problems will only grow worse as electricity consumption continues to grow. Although we are hard pressed to pass legislation to address these issues, we must be mindful of the impact unbalanced legislation will have on our economy and our overall quality of life. We must pass legislation that offers a balance environmentally, socially, economically, and cognitively of national security and energy objectives.

Developing a sound national energy policy presents a compelling challenge. It requires balancing policies to encourage energy conservation, efficiency, and supply. H.R. 4, the Securing America's Future Energy (SAFE) Act fails to create this balance.

H.R. 4 fails to include a provision to explore the possibility of Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) as a renewable energy source. It is our responsibility to explore every possible source of renewable energy available and OTEC is a viable option. OTEC can help meet future energy needs for the nation, and it may also be the most viable alternative for the U.S. insular areas.

Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) is an energy technology that converts solar radiation to electric power. OTEC systems use the ocean's natural thermal gradient—the fact that the ocean's layers of water have different temperatures—to drive a power producing cycle. As long as the temperatures between the warm surface and the cold deep water differs about 20 degrees Celsius, an OTEC system can produce a significant amount of power. The oceans are thus a vast renewable resource, with the potential to help produce billions of watts of power.

The economics of energy production today have delayed the financing of a permanent, continuously operating OTEC plant. However, OTEC is very promising as an alternative energy resource for tropical island communities that rely heavily on imported fuel.

OTEC plants in tropical island communities could provide islanders with much needed power, as well as desalinated water and a variety of mariculture products. Because most insular areas are dependent on the importation

of foreign fuel supplies, there is a relatively high cost of diesel-generated electricity. OTEC can be a cost effective source for the pacific islands.

In addition to hydroelectricity, geothermal and the other renewable resources listed in H.R. 4, Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) must also be considered as a renewable energy source.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the Securing America's Future Energy Act of 2001 (H.R. 4). H.R. 4 represents the first comprehensive national energy policy considered by this House in more than a decade. The President's energy policy will put in place a long-term plan that will provide power to America for generations to come.

In my district in California, my family and my constituents are suffering from the dramatic rise in electricity prices. Sadly, we have learned the consequences of not having a long-term plan to produce energy. The failure of the last decade by the Clinton administration, combined with the failure of the Davis administration in California to develop a reasonable long-term energy plan, created this disaster.

The failed policy they embraced is the policy of the radical environmentalists. These groups promote an energy plan based on fantasy. They oppose nuclear power, hydropower, oil, gas, coal, natural gas, and in some cases even wind power. They cling to the failed belief that we can magically make energy without action. There should be no question that this is a strategy of failure, of skyrocketing costs and blackouts.

I support solar power. I believe that solar power research can and will help us address our future energy needs. Nevertheless, commercial solar power is not available today.

I also believe that fusion power will help us meet our energy needs of the future. I am working closely with the gentlelady from California, Ms. LOFGREN, in pushing a fusion energy research bill, which the Science Committee included in H.R. 4, that will set us on the course to commercial development of fusion power. But fusion power is not available today.

I believe that conservation will help us solve our energy problems. Which is why I am the sponsor, with the gentleman from Massachusetts, Mr. MARKEY, of the Energy Efficient Buildings Incentives Act (H.R. 778). This commonsense bipartisan bill provides incentives for conservation and energy efficiency. I am proud that portions of my bill are included in H.R. 4. I am also proud that the President's

plan promotes responsible conservation methods.

Yes, as we in California have learned, we must increase the supply of safe, reliable domestic energy while promoting a clean, safe and healthy environment. Our Nation's energy problems must be addressed by increasing supplies of traditional fossil fuels, developing alternative sources of energy, and improving conservation. It will not be easy and it will not be quick. However, we have the technology and the resources to meet our energy needs for decades, even centuries to come. At the same time, we can ensure a clean environment as a legacy for our children. The President's balanced, comprehensive national energy policy will strengthen our economy, lower consumer prices, create jobs and protect the environment. We should pass H.R. 4 today.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased that the House is considering H.R. 4 today. This legislation is the first step in the development of a comprehensive national energy strategy.

Included in H.R. 4 is an amendment I offered at the full committee markup to have the Department of Energy conduct a study and review of the Federal Energy Savings Performance Contract Program. This program is an existing and innovative program that provides Federal agencies the opportunity to fund the installation of necessary energy efficiency measures. As the single largest consumer of energy, our Federal government facilities offer a significant opportunity to help us meet one of our national energy goals—increased efficiency. Our experience has shown that many of these government facilities have aging and energy inefficient equipment that require modernization in order to allow them to operate at peak efficiency.

We have learned over the past 10 years in the implementation of this program, like so many other government programs, that "one size does not fit all." I believe that there are barriers and obstacles in current law and regulations, including some unnecessary red tape that prevents some Federal agencies from participating in the program. If flexibility is increased, this program could be used more effectively by Federal agencies. It is important that we take a look at the program, determine what barriers or obstacles exist, and implement appropriate changes. This provision provides for a 6-month review, report to Congress, and requires the Department to implement appropriate changes to increase program flexibility and effectiveness. As part of this report and review, it is our intention that the Department of Energy will consult with out-

side parties that have experience participating and working within the program as well as other Federal agencies.

I am hopeful that the end result of this effort will keep us on the road to increasing our nation's energy efficiency, and that the Federal government will indeed be a large contributor to this effort.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Chairman, I am in support of this important legislation. I want to thank Chairman THOMAS of the Ways and Means Committee, along with Chairman TAUZIN, Chairman HANSEN, and Chairman BOEHLERT for their efforts in getting this legislation to the floor today.

I would like to speak in support of two specific provision included in H.R. 4. I am pleased that this legislation includes the provisions of a bill I introduced on June 13, 2001, the Save America's Valuable Resources Act (H.R. 2147). These provisions create a \$2,000 tax credit for individuals and businesses to encourage homeowners, builders and contractors to make energy efficiency improvements to homes.

In order to qualify for the credit, homes must be made 30% more energy efficient according to the International Energy Conservation Code, a private sector energy code used in the United States. Except for the first \$1,000 in expenditures which are exempt from certification requirements, energy efficiency improvements must be certified by a utility company, a local building regulatory authority, a manufactured home production inspection primary inspection agency or other specified entity to ensure that real and significant efficiency improvements are made.

In 1998, homes accounted for nearly 20% of all of the energy consumed in the United States. Today, it costs the average American \$1500 to heat and cool their homes every year, which amounts to a cost of \$150 billion nationwide annually. By simply making changes in energy efficiency to their homes, consumers can save real money. Consumers can save 10% or more on energy bills by simply reducing the number of air leaks in their home. Double pane windows with low emissivity coating can reduce heating bills by 34% in cold climates like Chicago. If all households upgraded their insulation to meet the International Energy Conservation Code level, the nation would experience a permanent reduction of annual electric consumption totaling 7% of the total consumed.

I would also like to offer my support for the extension of the tax credit for wind energy. Currently, the wind energy tax credit expires on January 1, 2002, H.R. 4 extends the availability of this credit through January 1, 2007.

I have been a long time supporter of the wind energy tax credit and other similar incentives to utilize new and efficient energy sources.

Mr. Chairman, thank you again for allowing me to offer my support for this important legislation. I encourage my colleagues to join me in support of this bill.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Chairman, we are in the midst of an energy crisis brought on by years of ignoring the potential problems. During the next 20 years, U.S. oil consumption will increase by 33 percent and the demand for electricity will rise by 45 percent.

At this rate, the demands for energy will far outweigh the supply if we do not enact a comprehensive energy plan. With that I urge my colleagues to support the Securing America's Future Energy Act which emphasizes conservation, infrastructure upgrades and further development of traditional fossil fuels.

I would like to take a moment and focus on some of the conservation aspects of H.R. 4. This bill provides a tax credit for residential solar energy use, which not only encourages the use of solar energy but it will reduce electric bills and the load on the electric grid. Through tax incentives, H.R. 4 also encourages the development and use of clean cars by increasing technology and reducing costs.

Studies indicate that 275,000 alternative fuel vehicles will be purchased because of this bill, reducing gasoline consumption and the effects of greenhouse gases. Conservation is also emphasized in H.R. 4 through tax credits for energy efficient appliances, homes and businesses.

Use of super energy efficient appliances in all households would save more than 200 trillion BTUs, which is equivalent to taking 2.3 million cars off the road. If all households upgraded their insulation, electric consumption would be reduced by 7 percent.

As you can see, this bill provides valuable tools to promote conservation among Americans. I realize, Mr. Chairman that conservation alone will not go far enough, but neither will drilling. In fact, 37.5 percent of this bill stresses conservation, while 23.8 percent focuses on production and 38.7 percent on reliability. That is why I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4 because it is a well-balanced plan that provides for the future energy needs of America.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this bill. At a time when this country is wasting a huge amount of fuel and electricity, this bill provides \$34 billion dollars in subsidies and tax breaks for the big oil, coal, gas and nuclear companies to drill for more oil and gas and to produce more and more energy. These companies are making record breaking profits by gouging consumers, destroying our environment and threatening our health. Can anyone tell me why we need to give more corporate welfare to Exxon-Mobil, the most profitable company in the history of the world with a net income of \$17.7 billion, while providing little more than lip service to energy efficiency and renewable energy and absolutely no relief to middle income Americans struggling to pay their energy bills? Mr. Chairman, this is outrageous. We simply cannot drill our way out of this mess.

At a time when emissions from dirty coal-fired power plants produce acid rain and carbon dioxide that threatens our global climate and our health; at a time when scientists throughout the world believe that we have an enormous amount of work to do to combat the danger of global warming; at a time when wind energy is the world's fastest growing source of energy and when the price of solar energy has been coming down in recent years due to better technology, I find it outrageous

that the best we can do is to study whether our country can get to 5 percent renewable in the next 15 years.

Mr. Chairman, we don't need a study on renewable energy, the studies have already been done. The technology is already there. What we need is a firm commitment. I tried to offer an amendment to require that 20 percent of our nation's electricity come from renewable sources of energy such as wind, solar, and biomass by 2020. Unfortunately, the Rule Committee denied the opportunity for debate on this amendment.

While renewable, non-polluting wind power has been the world's fastest growing energy source in recent years, wind energy contributes less than 1 percent of the national supply of electricity in the United States, and renewable energy only 1 percent. We can and must do better.

The growing dependency on imported oil is dangerous not only to our economy but also to our national security. We must attack this problem by increasing our use of renewable sources of energy such as wind, solar and biomass, but his bill does not get this done.

Mr. Chairman, the price gap between fossil fuels and renewable energy has narrowed. For example, the price of natural gas has more than doubled in the past year, while the cost of wind energy has dropped more than 80 percent in the past two decades.

Mr. Chairman, they are doing it in Denmark, they are doing it in Northern Germany, and they are doing it in Northern Spain. 13 percent of Danish electricity consumption is covered by wind right now. In Northern Germany and in Northern Spain the figure is 20 percent.

Danish companies have supplied more than half the wind turbines now in use worldwide, making it one of the country's largest exports and employing more than 12,000 people. Germany has 6,113 megawatts worth of wind turbine, which meets 2.5 percent of the country's total electricity demand. Spain, the fastest-growing market for the past 3 years, now has almost as much wind capacity as the entire U.S.

Right now we have the opportunity to set an energy course that saves money, restores our environmental health, and enhances both the competitiveness of our economy and our national security. There is no question that the U.S. has the technology and the resources to move us away from our reliance on fossil fuels and towards renewable, non-polluting sources of energy. Unfortunately, this bill does not get the job done. I urge my colleagues to defeat H.R. 4.