

advocacy and litigation skills. It will also provide Southwestern, which serves a significant populace of minority law students, with a community resource for jurists and lawyers. The university has committed to a better than one to one match for the federal funding.

Mr. Speaker, there are not many issues where 100 percent of the diverse 52-member California House delegation come together, but support for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program is one of them. A united and unanimous delegation is responsible for seeing that \$565 million was provided for this important program that reimburses California and other impacted states for the costs associated with incarcerating illegal aliens.

Several other California projects also received attention. The California Center for Integrative Coastal Research, CI-CORE, is a new research initiative pulling together the strengths of several California State University campuses, including San Jose, San Francisco, Hayward, Monterey Bay, San Luis Obispo, Sacramento, Long Beach, Los Angeles, and San Diego. With the increased burden placed upon California's coastal resources due to agriculture, industry and urban development, better understanding of the oceans and our coastal region is imperative in making informed commercial, recreational and environmental policy decisions. CI-CORE will provide timely, indispensable and appropriate environmental data to regulatory agencies that are responsible for the development and enforcement of management policies.

The University of California's textile research program will receive funding and designation as one of the member institutions of the National Textile Consortium (NTC). California is the leading manufacturer of apparel in the U.S. and is the largest employer in the apparel and textile trade, yet until now, no California university was included in the NTC. The inclusion of its research program, whose strengths include polymer science, fiber mechanics, fabric performance, and fashion theory, is long overdue.

The California Spatial Reference Center at Scripps Institute will also receive special attention. The center's research and activities support an accurate spatial reference system in California that is integral to decision-making by policy-makers at the local, state and federal level. As California faces significant seismic and geologic activity each year, an up-to-date spatial reference system is central to our ability to perform environmental monitoring, manage our civil infrastructure, and respond appropriately to emergencies of all kinds.

And finally, a modest amount of funding is provided to support the Central California Ozone Study. This study is being conducted to understand the relative role of local emissions and transported pollutants on air quality. The study is a collaborative effort by the California Air Resources Board, local governments, and industry, and has already received over \$8 million in state and local contributions. In light of the change in federal air quality standards for ozone, the deregulation of utilities in bringing new power generation to California, and the on-going process of developing State Implementation Plans for air quality, the Central California Ozone Study is a vital ingredient to ensure the cleanest air possible for all Californians.

I have enjoyed working with our chairman, ranking member and all the members of the

Commerce-Justice-State-Judiciary Subcommittee this year on the wide variety of programs and agencies within our jurisdiction. Our work is a constant balancing act, but I believe a good balance has been achieved. I urge support of the conference report.

CONDOLENCES TO BETRU FAMILY

HON. DIANE E. WATSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2001

Ms. WATSON of California. Mr. Speaker, as a fellow American, I extend my deepest sympathies and condolences to Yeneneh Betru's friends and family, as well as the numerous and untold victims of the tragedies that occurred on September 11th. Dr. Betru was aboard the American Airlines Flight 77 bound from Washington Dulles Airport to Los Angeles which crashed into the Pentagon.

A native of Ethiopia who was raised in Saudi Arabia, Yeneneh Betru came to the United States for an education. "Ever since he was a little kid, he always wanted to be a doctor" said his brother Sirak, "he always wanted to help people." Yeneneh realized his dream before his life tragically ended. Dr. Betru was a pioneer in the hospitalist movement and he personally trained hundreds of hospitalists. His passion and legacy was a project distributing dialysis equipment to Ethiopia.

May we honor his legacy and cherish his memory forever and always.

HONORING A DAY OF UNDERSTANDING

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to acknowledge Sunday, November 18, 2001 as a Day of Understanding. In a society where so many diverse ethnicities and beliefs coincide with each other every day it is important that we take the time to realize and appreciate all the different cultures that are represented throughout the United States.

The County of San Luis Obispo in California has resolved that November 18th be recognized as a Day of Understanding, in order to promote understanding among many different faiths. As a nation, we need to take this opportunity to listen and learn about one another's faiths, and attempt to understand different cultures and practices.

Religious intolerance and lack of understanding has long contributed to wars between different groups throughout the history of mankind. It is time to recognize and appreciate cultural differences instead of condemn and remain ignorant about them. In a free society, peoples of divergent faiths should endeavor to understand and respect one another's different religious and spiritual heritages, beliefs, hopes and dreams, and it is my hope that by acknowledging the Day of Understanding we are taking the first step in making this possible.

I encourage you to pause this Sunday, November 18, and take the time to ask a neighbor, friend, or co-worker about his or her cul-

ture or religion that may be different than yours. We should all attempt to learn more about and appreciate the multitude of cultures that surround us every day, and I am so pleased that the citizens of San Luis Obispo County have taken the initiative in creating this wonderful Day of Understanding.

RECOGNIZING TEDD RICHARDSON FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2001

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an important member of the El Paso community.

Mr. Tedd Richardson, an El Paso businessman, is well known around the city for his gracious contributions to the under-served. He conducts an annual Christmas dinner to serve the less fortunate and he has currently expanded his Christmas tradition to my home community of Canutillo. Mr. Richardson recently toured the Bill Childress Elementary School in Canutillo. He was so impressed by the progress of their school grounds improvement project that he made a generous donation to help fund and further the progression of the project.

Mr. Richardson also vowed to help raise the \$19,000 necessary to complete the project, and in addition has challenged other local businesses and individuals to match his contributions. This project is empowering students and is teaching a life lesson in the importance of civic responsibility. Mr. Richardson has promised to continue working hand-in-hand with the Bill Childress Elementary School.

Mr. Tedd Richardson is an exemplary citizen. He believes in helping people to help themselves. I believe that Tedd Richardson is a model citizen who insists that his contribution to his community be more than average. His dedication to education and establishing a future for El Paso children has not only made him an individual of distinction, but has also earned him a special place in the minds of families and schools all over the city. I am proud to recognize Mr. Richardson, and hope the model of his citizenship reflects in all people around El Paso.

HONORING WAYNE BEMIS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Wayne Bemis on the occasion of his retirement as Forestry Instructor at Reedley College.

Mr. Bemis was born in New Hampshire. At the age of eight, he and his family moved to San Diego, California. In 1953, he graduated from Grossmont High School. After completing a two-year forestry program at Lassen Junior College, he enrolled at California State University, San Diego. He interrupted his college education for two years when he joined the Army, where he served at Fort Bliss, Texas. After proudly serving his country in the U.S.