

including Pease Air Force Base and the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. His career has been long and distinguished in both print and broadcast journalism, reporting on hundreds of issues each year. His dedication to the readers of New Hampshire is evident in the stories he writes; I commend him on success. As Jerry so humbly stated, "I have never tired of covering business in the Granite State, where the entrepreneurial spirit is alive and well. It's a spirit I've seen every day in the men and women who take the risks associated with businesses and job creation, so that they and others may enjoy their perceptions of the American dream." This further exemplifies why he was such a deserving candidate for this award.

I applaud Jerry on receiving this award and wish him continued success in keeping New Hampshire well informed. His commitment to small business is a positive example for the State and I look forward to reading Jerry's next article. It is an honor to represent you in the Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO PETER F. BURGER

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Peter F. Burger of Concord. Peter was recently named New Hampshire's Special District Advocate of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration. Currently practicing with the law firm of Orr & Reno, Peter's exemplary contribution to the small business community over the year made him the likely recipient of this award.

I applaud Peter's commitment to the International Trade Resource Center of Portsmouth. He has made time over the past decade to volunteer his services and expertise to the center, teaching classes and taking clients on a pro bono basis. Peter's time spent volunteering has been crucial to the center's clients. Without his contributions, the ITRC would not have been able to offer competitive and complete services to New Hampshire's small businesses.

New Hampshire's small business community is privileged to have such a dedicated member of their community. Peter has generously volunteered his time advising on numerous issues including trademark protection and licensing, contract issues related to e-commerce, financing, and mergers and acquisitions. Without the competitive edge ITRC and Peter offer to our State's small businesses, they would be at a disadvantage to their competition. I commend Peter on his dedication to the Granite State. It is an honor to represent you in the Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO GT EQUIPMENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to GT Equipment Technologies, Inc of Nashua, which has been chosen as New Hampshire's Small Business Exporter

of the Year by the Small Business Administration of the United States.

GTi began in 1994 as a two person home-based operation and has grown into an 80 employee firm with this year's projected annual sales of \$30 million. As one of New Hampshire's great export success stories, GTi has gained national recognition and numerous business awards. In 1997 GTi was designated one of Entrepreneur Magazine's top 100 fastest growing companies, as well as the president and CEO Kedar P. Gupta being named Entrepreneur of the Year. Along with numerous entrepreneurial awards for both Kedar and the executive vice-president Jonathan A. Talbott, GTi received NASA's Commitment to Excellence award of 1998 and Deloitte & Touche's 2000 list of the top 50 fastest growing technology companies. I applaud the dedication and hard work that Jonathan and Kedar have shown in the rise of their company. They have set a positive example of the risk and reward associated with starting and owning a small business for the Granite State.

As a former small business owner, I can appreciate the efforts required to have a successful business, and I wish GTi continued success in the coming years. As Jonathan so humbly stated, "As a company we strive to meet and exceed the expectations of our customers, and that's the key to our success. This award is really our employees, for their hard work, dedication, and long hours." It is an honor to represent you in the Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO LAURA L. MONICA

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Laura L. Monica, New Hampshire's Small Business Person of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration. Laura is currently president and owner of the Bow based company, High Point Communications Group.

I applaud Laura's determination and hard work in making High Point one of New Hampshire's successful small businesses. As a former small business owner, I understand the amount of energy that starting and running your own business requires. Laura started as a one woman team and has taken her company to a nine-person staff, with revenues exceeding \$2.2 million. Laura followed her dream of changing and evolving the typical "public relations" model into a new strategic communications model designed specifically for businesses.

By reaching out and taking risks, Laura was able to make her dream of innovative and creative strategic communications a reality. I commend her business savvy and exceptional work ethic in the field of public relations. She has brought High Point to a higher level of work productivity and created a company which is able to compete with corporations. I will continue to work hard to protect New Hampshire's small businesses as I am assured that

Laura Monica will continue to work hard in putting High Point on the map. With High Point being named as one of the "Top Ten Best Companies To Work for in New Hampshire" by NH Business Magazine, we can be sure to see even more great things from Laura Monica and her team at High Point Communications. I wish her continued success in years to come, it is an honor to represent you in the Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT G. CARON

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Robert G. Caron of Rye. Robert was named New Hampshire's SCORE Counselor of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration. His outstanding service to the Portsmouth Service Corps of Retired Executives made him the perfect candidate for this year's award.

I applaud his continued service and commitment to New Hampshire's small business community. His dedication to helping his fellow Granite Staters is exemplary. In his fourth year as a SCORE member, Robert is considered to be one of the most active counselors in the organization. Using his experience as the former senior vice president and CEO of an international chemical manufacturing company, he is able to effectively use his expertise in general management, marketing, profit and working capital improvement, strategic thinking and financial reporting.

The business savvy that Robert brings to New Hampshire's small business community is to be commended. His continued service to the Granite State is a positive example for others. Robert so humbly stated, "I'm grateful that SCORE has given me the opportunity to use my skills to help others in our community." New Hampshire is also grateful. It is an honor to represent you in the Senate.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2001, the Secretary of the Senate, during the recess of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 2248. An act to extend the authority of the Export-Import Bank until May 31, 2002.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2001, the following enrolled bill, previously signed by the Speaker of the House, was signed subsequently by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. NELSON of Nebraska).

S. 2248. An act to extend the authority of the Export-Import Bank until May 31, 2002.