

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JEAN-
JACQUES CARQUILLAT

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate my constituent and dear friend, Jean-Jacques Carquillat, on the occasion of his attainment of United States citizenship. Mr. Carquillat is a valued and well-respected member of our community, and I am proud to welcome him as a full citizen to the 26th Congressional District of New York State.

I became acquainted with Jean-Jacques, as well as his family, through his businesses in the Uptown Historic District in Kingston, NY. In 1994, Jean-Jacques established Le Carnard Enchaîne, a Zagat-rated, fine dining restaurant. He also started a dance club and special events catering business in 2000. The success of these businesses led to his more recent opening of Luke's Place, a gourmet restaurant, in the Town of Shandaken, named after his young son.

I have witnessed the hard work, strong character and integrity that Jean-Jacques has brought to the projects he has undertaken. His businesses have had positive impacts on our local area, including creating jobs in the City of Kingston and enhancing the city's efforts to promote tourism in the historic district. Jean-Jacques has been an active member of the Uptown Kingston Business Association and received its Excellence Award for 1999. In addition, he has been a consistent and strong supporter of various local nonprofit community organizations.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to join Jean-Jacques Carquillat's colleagues, friends and family in extending my congratulations on his naturalization. His personal and professional enthusiasm has made him a valuable asset to our community, and I am confident that he will continue to serve in the most admirable way both his community and our great nation.

HONORING THE NAMING OF THE
DOUGLAS MORRISSON THEATER
IN RECOGNITION OF DOUGLAS F.
MORRISSON'S 40 YEARS AS A
BOARD MEMBER OF THE HAY
WARD AREA RECREATION AND
PARK DISTRICT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, on July 28, 2002, the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District will rename their theater in honor of Board Member Douglas F. Morrisson. In his 40 years of service, Douglas Morrisson has honorably served the park and recreation field on the local, regional, state, and national levels.

Douglas Morrisson was first elected to the Board of Directors of the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District in November of 1962. Since then, he has been re-elected to nine consecutive four-year terms. This year, his 40th year of service, he is serving as vice-president of the District.

The Hayward Area Recreation and Park District has seen unprecedented growth during Douglas Morrisson's tenure. The District boasts beautiful parks and fine recreation facilities, including community parks, swim centers, linear parks, playgrounds, community centers, athletic fields, and senior centers. Additionally, the park district has gone beyond traditional park features to include special interest facilities for theater, art, nature study, camping and golf.

A graduate of San Jose University and a former high school teacher, Douglas Morrisson is currently an independent business owner. In the past he has served in the leadership of many park and recreation organizations, notably as President of the California Association of Parks and Recreation Commissioners and Board Members and President and Vice-President of the Commissioners and Board Members Branch of the National Park and Recreation Association. He is the recipient of the 1993 California Association of Recreation and Park Districts Outstanding Board member award and the 1993 California Special Districts Association Outstanding Board Member Award.

In the community, Douglas Morrisson has been active as a board member of the Castro Valley Fire District, and a member of the Hayward Rotary Club. He has served as chairperson and vice-chairperson of the Alameda County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) and as President and board member of the Hayward Sun Gallery. In 1999 he received the city of Hayward's Mayor's Award.

I am honored to join the colleagues of Douglas Morrisson in commending him for his 40 years of service to the city of Hayward. Douglas Morrisson's dedicated work with the Park District has provided every member of the Hayward community spectacular state-of-the-art park facilities to enjoy.

MEMORIALIZING MS. GEORGIA
BALL TRAVIS

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and work of Ms. Georgia Travis, whose amazing life came to a peaceful end on March 12, 2002, after 94 wonderful years. Ms. Travis committed her extraordinary life to the betterment of others, through social work, teaching, writing, and countless other endeavors, culminating in the creation of the Georgia Travis Center for homeless women and children. This

shelter, along with the indelible imprint she left on so many lives, will stand forever as the legacy left by this amazing woman.

Georgia Travis dedicated her personal and professional life to helping others. Born in 1908 in Kansas City, Missouri, Georgia was brought up in a family with a keen awareness of social injustice and inequity. She was taught to lend a helping hand to those in need, a notion that would dictate the course of her long life. After becoming one of the first students to earn a master's degree from the University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration, she began working in the relatively new field of medical social work, helping stress patients in Chicago and disabled children in Seattle. By the late 1930s, Ms. Travis was traveling the country as a consultant for the new Washington, DC, based Crippled Children Service Department and the U.S. Transient Bureau. In 1953, Georgia was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship which sent her to Sydney, Australia, to teach. Shortly after returning to the States, she settled into what would eventually become her permanent home: the Bay Area of California.

The State of California may never fully realize the full extent of Ms. Travis' contributions, but I would like to take moment to share some of the many highlights. By 1962, just a few years after arriving in the Bay Area, she was name California Social Worker of the year. A year later she became a professor of Social Services at San Diego State University, teaching graduate level courses until her retirement in 1970. But Georgia's idea of "retirement" was as unconventional as it was prolific.

Ms. Travis lived in retirement with the same spirit and ideals of her childhood and professional life; she could sense injustice and suffering, create solutions, and see the process through to the end. After the passing of her mother in 1971, Georgia found solace and balance in the Quaker faith, and became a member of the Quaker Society of Friends. Strengthened by her new faith, Georgia focused her efforts on the plight of the homeless community, a pursuit that would lead her to some of the biggest accomplishments of her life. She started out with fundamentals like providing meals at the Family Center in Agnews Hospital and distributing clothing at the Family Shelter in East San Jose. Then, with the help of the American Association of University Women, Georgia organized a committee that develops and provides the homeless, especially women and children, with improved services and outreach. She convinced Stanford University to conduct a major study on homeless children, and helped initiate educational programs for the children as well. Mr. Speaker, the list of her successes, of the tangible changes she made for thousands of people, is far too long to describe here. But I would like to make note of perhaps her greatest accomplishment of all: the establishment of the Georgia Travis Center.

In 1992, the nonprofit San Jose shelter agency InnVision honored the wishes of Ms. Travis by opening a new shelter for homeless

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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

women and children, to be named after the woman who perhaps had done more for their cause than anyone else in the city's history. At the Center, volunteers help women and children get back on their feet by providing meals, medical care, childhood-development courses, and classes on computers and career planning. The Center provides them not only with new hope for the future, but a sense of a security and value that may have been taken away from them when their homes were lost. Ever humble, Ms. Travis was embarrassed by the attention of having her name immortalized, but the Georgia Travis Center will forever be a working tribute to Georgia's insatiable desire to empower, enlighten, and improve the lives of those in need of help.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of a friend and a role model. I had many opportunities to work with Ms. Travis, and what amazed me most about her was the ability she had to instill in others the same passion and resolve that she herself had in everything she set out to accomplish. The Bay Area should feel fortunate to be chosen as the beneficiary of her great works, and I personally feel fortunate to represent a district so deeply touched by her.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind Americans why the Pledge of Allegiance is so important in light of the 9th Circuit Appeals Court decision. I'd like to submit Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court Roy S. Moore's July 1998 statement titled "Our American Birthright." At that time, Justice Moore was a Circuit Court Judge.

OUR AMERICAN BIRTHRIGHT

(By Roy S. Moore)

One nation under God was their cry and declaration,
Upon the law of nature's God they built a mighty nation.
For unlike mankind before them who had walked this earthen sod,
These men would never question the sovereignty of God.
That all men were "created" was a truth "self-evident,"
To secure the rights God gave us was the role of government,
And if any form of government became destructive of this end,
It was their right, their duty, a new one to begin.
So with firm reliance on Divine Providence for protection,
They pledged their sacred honor and sought His wise direction.
They lifted an appeal to God for all the world to see,
And declared their independence forever to be free.
I'm glad they're not here with us to see the mess we're in,
How we've given up our righteousness for a life of indulgent sin.
For when abortion isn't murder and sodomy is deemed a right,
Then evil is now called good and darkness is now called light.
While truth and law were founded on the God of all Creation,

Man now, through law, denies the truth and calls it "separation."

No longer does man see a need for God when he's in full control,

For the only truth self-evident is in the latest poll.

But with man as his own master we fail to count the cost,

Our precious freedoms vanish and our liberty is lost.

Children are told they can't pray and they teach them evolution,

When will they learn the fear of God is the only true solution.

Our schools have become the battleground while all across the land,

Christians shrug their shoulders afraid to take a stand.

And from the grave their voices cry the victory has been won

Just glorify the Father as did His only Son.

When your work on earth is done, and you've traveled where we've trod,

You'll leave the land we left to you, One Nation Under God

RECOGNIZING RICHARD P. SESSLER

HON. SHERWOOD L. BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Richard "Dick" Sessler for his 12 years of dedicated service to the Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees. On June 28th, 2002, Mr. Sessler retired from his post as Executive Director for the Refugee Center. During his tenure, he was instrumental in the successful resettlement of close to 10,000 refugees from Bosnia, Russia, Vietnam, Burma, and Sudan to the Utica, NY area. Mr. Sessler is a visionary and a truly remarkable leader. Under his leadership the Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees expanded significantly, initiated innovative services and formed many meaningful partnerships with a large number of community organizations.

Mr. Sessler's work with the center dates back to 1990 when he was first hired as Associate Director and later promoted to Executive Director in 1993. During that time the Center has grown tremendously. The Refugee Center now offers three well staffed and well developed programs that have been made more effective: a health program, an education program, and an excellent job placement program. In addition, Mr. Sessler was involved in the establishment of an on-site clinic, nighttime English classes (ESL), a dental program, a community relations program and citizenship classes.

Upon his retirement, Mr. Sessler plans to continue to offer his services to the refugee community. His plans include consulting and serving as an active member of the Lutheran Immigration Service (LIRS). I am confident that he will continue to offer his knowledge and experience and serve as a tremendous asset to the LIRS.

Mr. Sessler's commitment to the Refugee Center should serve as an inspiration to all. Mr. Sessler was and will remain to be well respected and well liked by all that have the pleasure to work with him. He has touched and reshaped the lives of many war-torn men,

women and children across the globe by helping them escape brutal religious and political persecution—I commend him for his efforts. I am confident that the Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees will continue to maintain its excellent reputation, level of professionalism, and success that Mr. Sessler worked so diligently to instill within it.

VFW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY CONTEST

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate my constituent Allegra Guarino, New York's recent winner of the Veterans of Foreign Wars' Voice of Democracy Scholarship Contest. This very talented young writer from Marlboro, New York has written an essay entitled "Reaching Out to America's Future" that bears reading and reflection by all of us. I am very proud to represent her in Congress, and I'm sure that her family and friends are very proud of her accomplishment. I am certain that she has a very bright future and will go on to do great things for her community and our nation. We need more young people like her.

REACHING OUT TO AMERICA'S FUTURE

(By Allegra Guarino)

When I hear the phrase . . . "reaching out to America's future" . . . I think of an outreach trip that I took this summer to Harlan County, Kentucky. Harlan County is one of—if not the poorest counties in America. The people here don't have running water, some of them don't have electricity, and what is even more shocking is that some of them don't have a sewage system. They live in hills of the Appalachian Mountains in conditions that many people wouldn't dream exist in our great country. One of the volunteers on the trip found a beautiful stone on the ground and gave it to a little girl that he met. He told her that it was a dream stone, and that if she held onto it when she was dreaming of the future, it would hold inside of it all of her hopes and her dreams. The six-year-old girl looked up at him with questioning eyes and said, "But I don't know how to hope and dream." How do you teach a child to dream? Most people don't have to be taught. Because they are lucky enough to live in part of our country where the reach of their dreams has no limitations.

Another child I met in Kentucky is named Bailey. She is a four-year-old that loves to play on the swing set, so on the third day of the trip I decided to teach her how to butterfly swing. I sat down on the swing and placed her on my lap so that she was facing me. I kicked off from the rocky soil and we began swinging. I told her to be sure and watch the shadow that we were casting on the ground. I watched her eyes light up as she saw the butterfly shaped shadow on the ground. As we pulled away from each other and then back towards each other the shadow was an image of a butterfly flapping its wings. I told her that she might not be able to fly like the butterfly but she could do lots of great things in her life. She thought about the butterfly and what I had said and then she looked at me with these big blue eyes and said you can be the wings. I know that she didn't mean it as deeply as I took it. She was probably only referring to the shadow that we were making on the ground. But to me it meant something more.

Today our country is at war and once again many brave people have gone off to fight in defense of freedom. They are truly the wings of the butterfly. Just as I picked up Bailey and placed her safely on my lap the troops fighting now, and the troops that have fought for us in the past picked up America, and started to fly. In order to start us swinging I had to push hard off the rocky ground. The American soldiers don't have an easy task ahead of them. We are just now, just kicking off of the rocky ground. But I have no doubt that we will fly. A butterfly has two wings. Each equally important. The soldiers will no doubt put 110% into flying our country to the freedom of the open skies. But we the American people must put equally as much effort into flying the country higher. All of us as a team must reach out to America's future. Without knowing us people have laid down their lives so that we would be able to enjoy the freedoms that are now being threatened. America too has a dream stone. Only it comes in a different form. It is tri-colored in red, white, and blue. Red for the blood shed yesterday, White for the pure freedoms we enjoy today and Blue for the endless clear skies of tomorrow.

Our flag is our dream stone holding inside of it the very hopes and dreams of our Nation. We held tightly to it as it was proudly carried through World War One, World War Two, Desert Storm, Vietnam and Korea. While we were enjoying a time of great prosperity we tucked our stone away in our pocket. On September 11th we pulled it out of our pockets when firefighters proudly raised it high at ground zero, athletes displayed it on their jerseys, and average Americans flew it from their cars and homes. My generation knows how to dream. Will the generation after us be able to say the same? We must reach out and place the knowledge of the past into the hands of the future. When we empower the future generations with knowledge our country is sure to thrive. It is estimated that over one million men and women have died in service to our great country. Let us, America's present, take pride in our history and reach out to the future by passing along our knowledge and our great American dream stone. Because without a doubt America's future is whatever America dreams it to be.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for Rollcall No. 295, on H.R. 4687, the National Construction Safety Team Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

THE UNINSURED

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, last week, on July 11, 2002, several of my colleagues, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. LEE, Mr. McDERMOTT, and Ms. CARSON, declared that it was time for this Congress to place universal health care at the top of the nation's political agenda. This declaration, I believe, was a defining moment for the universal health care movement in Amer-

ica. Not since 1994 have we seen such a visible and strong nationwide movement for universal health care.

Two years ago, in an attempt to create momentum and a unified strategy to achieve universal health care in Congress, I founded, along with Members of the Congressional Black Caucus, the Progressive Caucus, the Hispanic Caucus, and the Asian Pacific American Caucus, the "Congressional Universal Health Care Task Force," which now has 44 Members. For over two years we have sponsored briefings on Capital Hill, attended town meetings on universal health care in cities across the country, and learned from health care experts about different ways to achieve universal health care.

Mr. Speaker, I introduced House Concurrent Resolution 99 with several of my colleagues from the "Congressional Universal Health Care Task Force," in order to build the momentum for passage of universal health care legislation by 2004.

We currently have 86 co-sponsors for this bill. There are over 325 national, state, and local organizations who support it as well. House Concurrent Resolution 99 does not specify how to pay for universal health care, nor does it spell out how a health care for all system would be administered. Instead, the resolution explicitly states what universal health care should be—affordable, comprehensive, and accessible for all Americans.

America is on the road to universal health care. How can we as members of Congress justify the fact that we have one of the best health insurance plans available, yet we allow 40 million Americans to have no health insurance coverage at all? Mr. Speaker, we cannot defend something that is clearly indefensible.

In the world's wealthiest country, my colleagues somehow can sleep at night knowing that right now in America, there are millions of patients, many of the children and families, that are having serious heart problems, lung problems, headaches, dental problems, mental illness, or other maladies, but are delaying treatment, not because they do not care about their health, but because the system does not care about them.

We now know empirically, based on the recent Institute of Medicine's 2002 report on the uninsured, that 18,000 Americans die each year because they were uninsured. If we truly care about the health and well being of working families, and those with serious illnesses who are too sick to work, we would ensure that all Americans would have peace of mind, as they do in Europe and Canada, to accessible, affordable, high quality, and comprehensive health care for all guaranteed by law.

In Michigan, thousands of uninsured HIV/AIDS patients can not afford the necessary cocktail of life sustaining drugs due to budget cut backs of government subsidized HIV/AIDS prescription drug programs. Can we continue to allow the uninsured chronically ill, those who have serious physical or mental health problems to go without needed health care for long periods of time, jeopardizing their lives, and needlessly suffering due to having untreated illnesses? For Congress to ignore these health care injustices and continue to "wish our health crisis away" is both immoral and cold hearted.

Plain and simple, if you do not have health insurance, you will receive "second class medicine," as Consumer Reports magazine

highlighted in an in depth story published last year. This is particularly true if you are African American or Hispanic. Might I remind you that the first question a nurse or hospital intake administrator asks the patient is not, "May I help you," but rather, "Do you have health insurance?" Health care in America for the most part is a business, and therefore, health care providers and physicians that are making money do not have an incentive to provide charity care.

The Kaiser Family Foundation recently reported that the majority of the uninsured do not receive comprehensive charity care in hospital emergency rooms or community clinics. Because there is no such thing as "universal charity care" in this country, we need universal health care and we need it now. Most uninsured patients with serious illnesses need long term health care treatment, prescription drugs, or medical equipment. Currently, millions of uninsured chronically ill patients must suffer the indignities of spending days and weeks searching for charity care. They often borrow money from relatives or friends just to purchase prescription drugs or to see a doctor. This is wrong and we all know it.

For the past two years, the "Congressional Universal Health Care Task Force" has sponsored several briefings with my colleagues from the Congressional Black Caucus, Progressive Caucus, Hispanic Caucuses, and the Asian Pacific American Caucus on the uninsured crisis in America. We have heard story after story of untold suffering by uninsured or under-insured Americans. We have also heard from numerous physicians who saw patients after their illness were full blown, many of them who died, because they delayed treatment only because they were uninsured. I urge Members of Congress to read "As Sick As it Gets," by Rudolph Mueller, M.D., a ground breaking book about the shocking reality of America's healthcare system. The book documents case after case of Dr. Mueller's patients who tragically became chronically ill, or died, as a result of delaying health care only because they were uninsured.

The Task Force has heard from numerous Americans whose credit was ruined for life, and went into bankruptcy due to thousands of dollars of unpaid medical bills. There are approximately 200,000 bankruptcies in America each year due to unpaid medical bills. Individuals and families should not have to experience the pain and humiliation of declaring bankruptcy just because they got sick. I heard testimony last year from two Washington D.C. residents, a husband and wife with cancer, both high school teachers, who declared bankruptcy due to the high costs of chemotherapy. They were both insured at the time, but had to rely on their credit cards to cover the costs of treatment, due to inadequate private health insurance coverage. Their daughter, who has Hepatitis C, called dozens of doctors but was denied access because she was uninsured. She is having a difficult time returning to work, because she needs long term therapy and treatment in order to be productive again. This is a national disgrace.

Mr. Speaker, I do not believe, unlike many of my colleagues, that universal health care means the federal government provides vouchers so Americans can purchase costly and inferior or private health insurance, that in most cases, will not adequately cover one's health care needs, especially if an individual

or family has a chronic illness. Universal health care is not a system where health decisions are made by HMO bureaucrats instead of physicians. Furthermore, it is not a system where the patient receives some kind of health insurance coverage through an HMO or a private health insurance plan, but does not have the freedom to choose their physician.

It is my hope that we will achieve universal health care one day by extending, strengthening, and expanding Medicare to all Americans. Medicare has a 2–3 percent administrative overhead, versus the 20–30 percent administrative overhead costs of an HMO or private health insurance plan. The CBO in 1991 reported that we would save \$ 100 billion dollars a year if we established a public health insurance program for all Americans. Many health care economists contend that a tax payer financed national health insurance program would cost the average family of three a total of \$739 dollars a year for all of their health care costs, as opposed to the thousands of dollars needlessly wasted on premiums, co-pays, and high deductibles of a private health insurance plan. If we continue to support the idea that health care must be run like a business, and we continue to worship at the altar of private health insurance, it will be difficult if not impossible to cover the skyrocketing costs of primary care, prescription drugs, mental health services, and long term care through a private health insurance dominated system.

National health insurance would save billions of dollars through reduced emergency room visits, reduced chronic illnesses, and a dramatic reduction in uncompensated care for public hospitals which treat the uninsured after they have developed full blown chronic illnesses. Prevention is the key here. All Americans would have access to affordable primary care, and therefore, illnesses such as hypertension, cancer, heart conditions, pre-natal health conditions, respiratory, or kidney problems would be dramatically reduced due to having access to regularly scheduled check-ups.

Mr. Speaker, every sector of the American public is calling for health care coverage for all. Citizens, business, labor, the faith community, civil rights organizations, community clinics, public hospitals, the media, physicians, state and local officials; all are calling for health care for all. The time has come for Congress to act on the crisis of the uninsured. Let's join the rest of the industrialized West, and ensure that all Americans receive high quality and affordable health care.

I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor House Concurrent Resolution 99. Let's show the American people that we truly care about their health. We can not allow another 18,000 Americans to die next year because they are uninsured.

DEATH OF DHIRUBHAI AMBANI

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, as the current Co-Chairman of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian American, I note with great sadness the recent death of Dhirubhai

Ambani, the founder of The Reliance Group, India's largest and most profitable company.

Dhirubhai Ambani began his illustrious business career as a small trader of fabrics in rural Gujarat. Over the next half decade, he transformed his small business into a diverse economic powerhouse which included vibrant businesses in petrochemicals, petroleum, polyesters, telecommunications, securities and cutting edge technologies. Unlike many older Indian businesses, however, Reliance chose a new path on its ascendancy to becoming a Fortune World 500 Company, and Dhirubhai Ambani was the architect of Reliance's success. Dhirubhai Ambani chose not to keep his businesses as a family concern. Instead, he floated equity shares and thereby allowed millions of middle-class Indians to join with him in enjoying Reliance's decades of economic success. Indeed, there are now more than three million investors in India's largest and most widely held company, which is also the largest exporter from India, as well as the largest private sector source of revenue to the Indian government.

Mr. Speaker, Dhirubhai Ambani was a legend in India. He was also a role model for entrepreneurs around the world, as well as having served as a shining example of India's economic potential. I am confident that all of the Members of the India Caucus join with me in expressing our sympathy to the entire Ambani family. In particular, we send our heartfelt condolences to his widow, Kokilaben Ambani, and her two sons, Mukesh and Anil, who have assumed the helm of India's largest economic vessel. Dhirubhai Ambani's legacy is large, but his sons will continue to build on their father's many achievements.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 4687, NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION SAFETY TEAM ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 12, 2002

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4687, the National Construction Safety Team Act. And I especially want to recognize my friend from New York, Anthony Weiner for his work on the bill.

As we all know, September 11th changed New York. It changed our world. Since September 11th, brave workers, volunteers, and scientific experts have traveled to Ground Zero in the name of recovery and understanding.

These workers, volunteers, and experts have all pushed themselves and their skills to the ultimate limit to deal with an unusually grave situation. And I commend them all.

In particular, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, NIST, had to deftly work with a myriad of concerned New Yorkers. There are thousands of affected family members who are both grieving and seeking answers. People like John and Kathy Ashton of Woodside, Sally Regenhard of Co-op City, and Arthur Taub of Co-op City. Some, like Mr. Taub, had concerns about the NIST investigation itself.

NIST has worked with constituents who wanted answers—and with constituents who had information.

Even seasoned NIST employees admitted they were covering new ground as no one could ever imagine such an event as 9/11 happening.

In the immediate aftermath of September 11th, NIST had to try to do its job amidst emergency respondents, police officers, and incomprehensible loss.

In this extraordinarily challenging situation, critical evidence—like beams, steel work, and cables—was being carted off before the NIST team had a chance to even catalogue or identify it.

Given the fact that the scope of this tragedy had never been seen before, it is understandable that the investigation would be less than ideal.

But it is important that we learn from this tragedy.

And there are several lessons to be learned from September 11th. One lesson is the importance of a swift and thorough investigation of a building failure.

NIST's response teams must have access to building debris as soon as it's safe to enter a site.

And they must be able to move and preserve this critical evidence. This bill gives NIST that authority.

Looking toward the future, it is important to do all we can to prevent a building failure of any kind from ever happening. This bill will allow us to obtain information to help prevent building failures.

And it is important for us to swiftly and thoroughly respond to the community when building failures, God forbid, happen. And this bill does that also.

I urge your support of H.R. 4687.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOSE L. LASTRA

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jose L. Lastra, a man who has served with distinction in the Social Security Administration in South Florida for 30 years.

Born in Cardenas, Cuba in 1948, Jose Lastra arrived in the United States on September 28th, 1961, speaking no English and carrying with him nothing but a strong work ethic and determination. Graduating from Miami Edison High School in 1966, Jose continued his education, earning a degree in History with a minor in Political Science from Florida Atlantic University, with post-graduate studies at the University of Miami School of Hispanic American Studies and Florida International University's School of Public Administration.

Mr. Lastra entered public service on July 17, 1972, when he was hired for the position of Service Representative in the Miami Beach Social Security Office. This month marks his 30th anniversary with the Social Security Administration. Over the last three decades, Jose has served with distinction in a number of positions in the South Florida Area, including: service, claims and field representative, Hispanic Program Officer, and manager of the Cuban-Haitian Emergency Processing Office and the Riverside Branch Office. In recognition

of his outstanding work, Jose was awarded the Commissioner's Citation in 1980, 1991, and 1992, and the Commissioner's Team Award in 1997.

In 1990, Mr. Lastra was appointed Area Director of South Florida. In this capacity, he oversees thirty-three Social Security field offices with a total staff of 978 employees. The South Florida Area includes more than 2 million Social Security beneficiaries, many of whom reside in my district. As Chairman of the House Social Security Subcommittee, I am especially grateful for all of Mr. Lastra's hard work on behalf of my senior constituents.

Today, I am pleased to recognize a man who has taken full advantage of what America offers. Coming to this country as a young immigrant from Cuba, he studied hard, worked tirelessly and rose from an entry level position to one of leadership in the Social Security Administration. A true sign of his character, Jose is held in the highest regard by those who work with him and for him. Jose L. Lastra's life and achievements represent the dream of opportunity that America so proudly boasts.

ON THE RETIREMENT OF JOHN
DURANT OF CUSTOMS

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to acknowledge the retirement of John Durant, Director of Commercial Rulings for the U.S. Customs Service. Mr. Durant retires after 33 years of federal service, with almost 31 years of that time with Customs. John Durant served in Customs field offices in Boston and Houston, before coming to Headquarters office in Washington DC. John is well known to all members of the international trade community and the trade bar as a preeminent expert on Customs matters and has been instrumental in the effort to modernize Customs' procedures for the benefit of trade and our economy.

Thirty years has seen remarkable changes in how trade has taken on an ever more important role in our country's economic success. Just in the last decade, trade has grown 132 percent, and by 2004, Customs will be processing more than 30 million commercial entries a year. This is up from 12.3 million in 1994 more than double the level of 10 years earlier. John has had the unenviable but critical role in overseeing more than 12,000 commercial rulings that Customs issues each year on such arcane topics as tariff classification, country of origin and marking. He was also the liaison with the trade community for Customs during discussions leading up to the passage and implementation of the Customs Modernization Act of 1993.

For the Congress, however, Mr. Durant will always be known as Customs point man, and sometimes lightning rod, on trade legislation. For the past 14 years, Mr. Durant has been invaluable to the Congress in providing timely and useful technical comments on draft legislation. Much of trade legislation is not exciting or entertaining. It requires people who are professional, dedicated, and very attentive to detail. Mr. Durant is the leader of such men and women at Customs and he does so with a sense of humor. He has been the "man to

see" at Customs for answers on trade matters. His retirement will be sorely felt by Customs, Congress, and the trade community.

I am very grateful for all of his help throughout the years. John is a delightful man to work with. We wish him the best in his retirement and his future endeavors. We hope Mr. Durant will return to the nation's Capital and lend his considerable talents to the private sector.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JOHN WALLACH

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, today I join the chorus of voices around the world to express my admiration and respect for Mr. John Wallach. On July 10, 2002, John Wallach passed away after a life of passion, hope, and heart. I offer my condolences to the family and friends of this truly great man.

Throughout his life, John Wallach approached all things with heartfelt passion. As an award-winning journalist, peace activist, and friend to so many individuals throughout the world, Mr. Wallach inspired those around him to believe in themselves and achieve their dreams.

I had the opportunity to meet Mr. Wallach through his work as founder of, and force behind, the organization Seeds of Peace. Seeds of Peace promotes understanding and long-term stability by uniting teenagers from areas of regional conflict for a unique mediating program at its neutral site in Otisfield, Maine. It was John Wallach's confidence that hope and progress can succeed that enabled Seeds of Peace to grow from simply an idea into the world leader in conflict resolution for youth. I have personally visited this camp in Maine, and seen first-hand the positive effect it has on the participants. Seeds of Peace has established a network of peace builders, who now serve as an inspirational part of John Wallach's legacy.

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. 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*.

John Wallach was a man with an enormous heart. Throughout his life he took chances to make progress, and motivated others to follow their hearts. The world is a better place because of John Wallach, and I join many people around the world to commend him and thank him for what he has done.

STATEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL
AIDS CONFERENCE

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, last week in Barcelona, Spain, 15,000 people came together for the 14th International AIDS Conference for "Knowledge and Commitment for Action."

We know that in 2001, there were 5 million new AIDS infections across the globe. Today there are 40 million people living with AIDS worldwide, and there are 14 million AIDS orphans. Currently, in Africa more than 28 million people are living with HIV/AIDS, however, only 30,000 are in treatment.

In comparison, in the United States, nearly 100 percent of the people who need treatment receive it. 99 percent of the African people living with AIDS do not have access to Antiretroviral drugs because they are simply too poor to purchase them.

In Barcelona, thousands came together to call for treatment now, and presented the "Barcelona Declaration," which was also read during the opening session of the Conference. Nelson Mandela and former President Clinton have pledged their assistance to help raise awareness and funding for the UN Global AIDS Trust Fund.

This declaration called for securing donations of \$10 billion dollars per year for global AIDS; Antiretroviral (ARV) treatment for at least two million people with HIV/AIDS in the developing world by 2004; lower, affordable ARV drug prices and universal access to generics in the developing world; and a new global partnership between government and NGOs.

I am urging that Congress and the President in a bi-partisan spirit, bolster UN efforts to combat the AIDS pandemic, provide 2 billion dollars to the United Nations Global Aids Fund, to help pay for the costs of HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention programs. This Administration has allocated \$200 million dollars to fight global AIDS. I wholeheartedly agree with the activists in Barcelona that \$200 million is not enough to combat "the Plague" of the 21st century.

The United States must put at least \$2 billion into the Global Trust Fund. Dr. Peter Piot, the Director of UNAIDS said that a \$ 10 billion effort will only begin to make a dent in the crisis. It is a falsehood to say that spending money on AIDS in Africa would simply be a waste of money. Critics of the fund incorrectly say that corrupt dictators will take the money and use it to enrich themselves. In Uganda, Thailand and Senegal, for example, strong national leadership partnered with a community-wide response are reducing new HIV infections and AIDS diagnoses and focusing on treatment measures for their people. There are hundreds of AIDS organizations and government officials around the world that are monitoring the progress of the Fund. Please . . . let's give it a chance to work.

I am urging today that my colleagues in Congress, the Bush Administration, the private sector, and the celebrity community begin lobbying the more affluent nations of the European Community and Asia to provide the remaining 8 billion necessary to combat the

AIDS pandemic. France, Germany, Japan, Taiwan, and the oil rich Countries of the Middle East are not providing enough funding to the UN Global AIDS Trust.

I have often heard the argument that we can not afford to treat and prevent HIV/AIDS patients around the world who have AIDS, or will contract it in the future. Nobody on the planet can persuade me that America, and the industrialized countries of the East and West, nations with trillion dollar economies, do not have the resources to combat the AIDS pandemic. But the truth of the matter, and I have seen this for decades, is that the international community will follow our lead if we provide the moral and financial leadership on HIV/AIDS. Again, this has not been the case.

I am also urging my colleagues to call a meeting with the pharmaceutical companies, and begin the much needed discussion on how to bring the price of HIV/AIDS prescription drugs down so that the poorer nations, in particularly those in Africa, can afford to buy them or generic drugs. In times of international health disasters, we must put the lives of people first; and profits second. Sadly, this has not been the case.

In the United States, 950,000 people have been diagnosed with AIDS. African Americans make up only 13 percent of the total U.S. population but 54 percent of new infections. 82 percent of women who are newly infected with HIV are African-American and Latino.

In Michigan, AIDS patients who are dependent on federal programs to help cover the costs of HIV/AIDS drugs are now saying that due to budget cuts, they are having difficulty affording HIV/AIDS drugs. We can not allow this to happen.

It is imperative that we as a nation provide the requisite funds necessary to provide adequate treatment and prevention for HIV/AIDS both at home and abroad.

COMMEMORATING THE 40TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF JOE AND BARBARA SALTZMAN

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Joe and Barbara Saltzman who were married on July 1, 1962, and are now celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary. They are the children of Ruth and Murray Saltzman and Sid and Lillian Epstein, the parents of David and Michael Saltzman, the parents-in-law of Jennifer Saltzman, and the grandparents of Samantha and Sarah Saltzman.

Joe and Barbara Saltzman have been active as professional journalists in the community for four decades, with Joe Saltzman having won more than 50 awards as a broadcast journalist including the Columbia University-duPont broadcast journalism award, four Emmys, four Golden Mikes, two Edward R. Murrow Awards, a Silver Gavel, and one of the first NAACP Image Awards, and Barbara Saltzman having been a member of the Los Angeles Times staff for 22 years and editor of the daily Calendar section.

When their son David, a Chadwick School graduate, tragically died of Hodgkin's disease

after graduating from Yale, Joe and Barbara could have turned their backs on the world. Instead, they mortgaged their house to keep a promise they had made to David. They promised that if he finished his children's book, *The Jester Has Lost His Jingle*, they would make sure it would be published in the way he envisioned it and would donate it to children who were suffering from illnesses.

Joe and Barbara made that promise a reality producing more than 40,000 Jester books and 35,000 Jester & Pharley Dolls that have been donated to ill and special-needs children. The book has also become a national best-seller and there are more than 300,000 copies in circulation. To further their efforts, Joe and Barbara Saltzman have created The Jester & Pharley Phund, a non-profit charity so that they can continue the mission of giving every child a sense of hope, a feeling of empowerment, a love of learning, the joy of laughter, and the desire to live up to The Jester & Pharley's motto: "It's up to us to make a difference, it's up to us to care. . . ."

Barbara has become "The Jester's Mom" bringing the Jester & Pharley's message of hope and laughter to thousands of children in hospitals and schools throughout the country. Joe has served the community as a professor of journalism at the University of Southern California Annenberg School for Communication for more than 35 years and continues to serve as an educator, academic, journalist and administrator.

Mr. Speaker, Joe and Barbara Saltzman have dedicated their lives to helping children who need to hear the Jester's message and have made a significant difference in the lives of so many people who need to find hope and laughter. I commend their commitment in bringing a little more happiness to all our lives.

TRIBUTE TO CARDINAL WILFRID NAPIER, OFM, OF DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA AND THE ARCHDIOCESE OF DETROIT

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Archdiocese of Detroit, which has joined with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic Relief Services to stand in solidarity with Africa through the Africa Rising: Hope and Healing Campaign. Encouraging members of the Metro Detroit Catholic community to engage in advocacy, dialogue, and prayer, they have joined this campaign to truly put their faith to work. On Sunday, June 30, 2002, the Archdiocese of Detroit had the distinguished honor of hosting Cardinal Wilfrid Napier, OFM, of Durban, South Africa, as part of their Africa Rising: Hope and Healing Campaign.

Born in Matatiele, South Africa, in 1941, Cardinal Napier studied in Ireland and France and completed a Masters Degree in Philosophy and Theology. Ordained a priest in 1970 and then appointed Administrator Apostolic of the Diocese of Kokstad and made Bishop of Kokstad in 1981, Cardinal Napier's vibrance and leadership was apparent from the start. Serving two terms as President of the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference from

1987-1994, Cardinal Napier went on to be appointed Archbishop of Durban in 1992. In 1998 Pope John Paul II appointed him as Consultor to the Congregation for the Evangelization of the Peoples, and in February of 2001, he was named Cardinal. An outspoken advocate for HIV-AIDS treatment, poverty eradication, debt relief, and development, Cardinal Napier's outstanding work to create innovative new programs and initiatives for these social justice issues is truly unparalleled. He has taken up the challenge to fight for the people of sub-Saharan Africa and continues to work hard for the advancement of his region and beyond.

I applaud Cardinal Napier for the work he has accomplished and continues to do, and I welcome him to the United States and to Detroit, Michigan. I also applaud the Archdiocese of Detroit for its leadership, commitment, and service, and for encouraging our community to stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Africa. I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting Cardinal Napier, and pay tribute to him as he embarks on this historic visit.

THE FREE HOUSING MARKET ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Free Housing Market Enhancement Act. This legislation restores a free market in housing by repealing special privileges for the housing-related government sponsored enterprises (GSE). These entities are the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae), the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac), and the National Home Loan Bank Board. According to the Congressional Budget Office, the housing-related GSEs received 13.6 billion worth of indirect federal subsidies in Fiscal Year 2000 alone.

One of the major government privileges granted the GSEs is a line of credit to the United States Treasury. According to some estimates, the line of credit may be worth over \$2 billion dollars. This explicit promise by the Treasury to bail out the GSEs in times of economic difficulty helps the GSEs attract investors who are willing to settle for lower yields than they would demand in the absence of the subsidy. Thus, the line of credit distorts the allocation of capital. More importantly, the line of credit is a promise on behalf of the government to engage in a massive unconstitutional and immoral income transfer from working Americans to holders of GSE debt.

The Free Housing Market Enhancement Act also repeals the explicit grant of legal authority given to the Federal Reserve to purchase the debt of the GSE. GSEs are the only institutions besides the United States Treasury granted explicit statutory authority to monetize their debt through the Federal Reserve. This provision gives the GSEs a source of liquidity unavailable to their competitors.

Ironically, by transferring the risk of a widespread mortgage default, the government increases the likelihood of a painful crash in the housing market. This is because the special privileges of Fannie and Freddie have distorted the housing market by allowing Fannie,

Freddie and the home loan bank board to attract capital they could not attract under pure market conditions. As a result, capitol is diverted from its most productive use into housing. This reduces the efficacy of the entire market and thus reduces the standard of living of all Americans.

However, despite the long-term damage to the economy inflicted by the government's interference in the housing market, the government's policies of diverting capital to other uses creates a short-term boom in housing. Like all artificially-created bubbles, the boom in housing prices cannot last forever. When housing prices fall, homeowners will experience difficulty as their equity is wiped out. Furthermore, the holders of the mortgage debt will also have a loss. These losses will be greater than they would have otherwise been had government policy not actively encouraged over-investment in housing.

Perhaps the Federal Reserve can stave off the day of reckoning by purchasing the GSE's debt and pumping liquidity into the housing market, but this cannot hold off the inevitable drop in the housing market forever. In fact, postponing the necessary, but painful market corrections will only deepen the inevitable fall. The more people invested in the market, the greater the effects across the economy when the bubble bursts.

No less an authority than Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan has expressed concern that the government subsidies provided to the GSEs make investors underestimate the risk of investing in Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for Congress to act to remove taxpayer support from the housing GSEs before the bubble bursts and taxpayers are once again forced to bail out investors who were misled by foolish government interference in the market. I therefore hope my colleagues will stand up for American taxpayers and investors by cosponsoring the Free Housing Market Enhancement Act.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DEFICIT REDUCTION SAFEGUARD RESOLUTION

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Deficit Reduction Safeguard Resolution. The House Deficit Reduction Safeguard Resolution will allow Members of Congress to reduce the federal deficit by crediting money to the Deficit Reduction Safeguard Balance.

Under current budget and House Rules, when a Member offers an amendment to reduce spending the money saved is left on the table and available for someone else to spend on another program. Members are not allowed to offer amendments and direct the savings to deficit reduction. As a result, there is little incentive to reduce wasteful spending in order to reduce the deficit.

The Deficit Reduction Safeguard Balance would correct this problem by amending House Rules to permit a Member to dedicate the money saved from any amendment to be dedicated to reducing the deficit. The Deficit

Reduction Safeguard Balance only amends House Rules. It does not require approval by the Senate. This Resolution applies to both mandatory and discretionary spending. We have maxed out Uncle Sam's credit card and until we pay down the debt it is shortsighted for us to continue spending without restraint.

This Resolution is about honesty with the American public. A dollar saved should actually be a dollar saved, not a dollar added to another program. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this Resolution.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, July 12, I was unavoidably detained and missed roll call vote numbered 295.

Rollcall vote 295 was on passage of H.R. 4687, legislation which would provide for the establishment of investigative teams to assess building performance and emergency response and evacuation procedures in the wake of any building failure that has resulted in substantial loss of life or that posed significant potential of substantial loss of life.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on this bill.

TRIBUTE TO DIOCESE BISHOP CHARLES M. LASTER 20TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY PENTECOSTAL TEMPLE CHURCH

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, as the congregation of the Pentecostal Temple Church gathered together on Sunday July 14, 2002, they celebrated the 20th Pastoral Anniversary of Diocese Bishop Charles M. Laster. A life-long leader and devoted pastor, Bishop Laster has truly demonstrated his commitment to advancing the mission of Pentecostal Temple Church across southeastern Michigan. As the members and friends of Bishop Laster and Elect Lady Jacqueline Laster gathered to celebrate this special anniversary, they paid tribute to their outstanding years of activism, leadership, and faith.

Bishop Laster has been preaching the Gospel to the congregation of Pentecostal Temple Church, located in Detroit Michigan, since 1982. As his glorious message and ministry has been received, he has shown a special dedication to making a positive difference in the lives of others. An active force in his community, he has worked tirelessly with the Pentecostal Temple Church throughout the years in organizing several programs and ministries as well as working with many organizations around the State of Michigan. With community outreach programs, social and religious events, charity work for those in need, and statewide and national conferences, his involvement with church and beyond has been an inspiration to all. In fact, Bishop Laster's leadership has truly become a legacy, as he

has led his congregation and community to greatness.

Bishop Laster's distinguished service and outstanding dedication to improving the lives of people through faith will continue to serve as an example to communities across this Nation. I applaud Bishop Laster for his leadership, commitment, and service, and I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting him for his exemplary years of faith and service on this very special 20th Pastoral Anniversary.

H.R. 5017

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2002

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5017, a bill that creates an opportunity for the United States to implement agreements with foreign countries to assist us as we battle severe wildfires.

During the devastating wildfires two years ago, both Australia and New Zealand provided the United States much needed help. Following the 2000 fire season, long-term agreements for firefighting assistance were negotiated with these countries. Unfortunately, these agreements have not been implemented because of concerns that foreign firefighters could be held liable for actions taken while providing assistance in the United States. H.R. 5017 removes this barrier and extends liability protection to foreign firefighters providing service to our nation by treating them the same as U.S. employees. At the same time, it requires those countries with which we enter reciprocal firefighting agreements to extend the same protection to U.S. firefighters who lend support overseas, or across our borders.

The valuable assistance firefighters from other countries provide to the United States is not new. For years, the collaborative relationship we have developed with Canada has protected property, resources and lives. Forest fires do not recognize international boundaries. It is vital we continue to work with other countries to ensure that wild fires are prevented and contained.

Just last week lightning started a 450-acre wildfire in the northeast corner of Minnesota, north of the small town of Hovland. Since the risk of wildfire is low in Minnesota, much of the state's firefighting resources had been sent west to help with the forest fires there leaving us shorthanded. Because of our close working relationship with Ontario's natural resource agency, Canadian firefighters were able to bring the Hovland fire quickly under control.

Unfortunately, not every country has the unique and special relationship that the United States has with Canada in fighting wildfires. H.R. 5017 will allow the U.S. Government to develop similar firefighting relationships with other countries around the world and enhance the relationship we have with one of our neighbors. We must help each other. I am pleased the House addressed this issue today and am proud to lend my support.

REGARDING H.R. 5068, ALLOWING UNINSURED WOMEN TO OBTAIN TREATMENT FOR OVARIAN AND UTERINE CANCER

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, Congress passed the Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Act (P.L. 106-354) to help low-income, uninsured women with breast and cervical cancer.

Before passing this act, low-income women could receive free mammograms and pap smears through the CDC's National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program. However, women who were diagnosed with cancer could not obtain financial assistance for treatment. The government found diseases that could kill these women, but it did not help them obtain the medical treatment they needed.

P.L. 106-354 corrected this problem by providing federal funds to treat any breast or cervical cancer detected by the CDC's early detection program.

Congress passed P.L. 106-354 so poor women suffering from breast and cervical cancer could focus on dealing with their illness rather than paying for expensive medical bills. The law allows these women to obtain medical coverage for cancer treatments and medicine.

My bill, H.R. 5086, amends the Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Act to include ovarian and uterine cancer. It will provide medical treatment for women who are screened by the CDC's early detection program and who are found to have ovarian and uterine cancer.

My bill takes the next logical step by helping low-income women with ovarian and uterine cancer, two of the most devastating cancers faced by women. Ovarian cancer is the 5th leading cause of cancer death in women. Every year almost 40,000 new cases of uterine cancer are diagnosed in the U.S., and approximately 6,600 women will die from uterine cancer.

I urge my colleagues to help women who live in poverty and cannot obtain the cancer treatments they desperately need.

TO HONOR MR. VINCENT ROIG FOR HIS MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENTS

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise before you today and take this opportunity to recognize the meritorious achievements of an outstanding Arizonan and American, Mr. Vincent Roig.

Mr. Roig has distinguished himself as a leader in the essential work of providing educational opportunities for qualified citizens. From his early years as an educator and financial aid administrator at a number of universities, he dedicated himself to helping young people gain the knowledge and skills that they would need throughout their life.

In 1982, he was one of the founders of the Arizona Educational Loan Marketing Corporation, the state's secondary market for Federal student loans, which is now an affiliate of the Southwest Student Services Corporation.

Although the Congress of the United States had the foresight to create the Federal Family Education Loan Program, it takes the leadership and dedication of a person such as Mr. Roig, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Southwest Student Services Corporation, to effectively implement the Congress' intended goal. The Southwest Companies initially supported only students at Arizona colleges and universities. However, to date, they have provided more than \$3 billion to more than one million parents and students nationally in support of providing financial access to post-secondary education.

Under the initiative and leadership of Mr. Roig, not only have the Southwest Companies facilitated the availability of student financial support, they have reduced costs to the borrowers and provided the critically important informational services that ensure that low-income families understand that educational opportunity is available to them. Mr. Roig has worked tirelessly with the U.S. Department of Education, Congressional Subcommittees and the many organizations supporting student financial assistance to bring about useful change and modernization to improve service to educational institutions and students alike. In recognition of his efforts, in 2001 he was awarded the Jean S. Frohlicher Outstanding Service Award by the National Council of Higher Education Programs. This is a prestigious award for which he was chosen by his peers for his exceptional service.

Today, on the occasion of the celebration of Southwest Companies' 20th Anniversary, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our heartiest congratulations to Southwest Student Services Corporation and to Mr. Vincent Roig for his 20 years of leadership and dedication.

TRIBUTE TO RAY TOWNSHIP

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Ray Township, whose outstanding dedication and commitment to the service of its community has led to a great accomplishment. On Sunday, June 30, 2002, Ray Township will be celebrating its 175th Anniversary.

Ray Township today is a flourishing center of civic and social activities and resources for families of the community. With a great emphasis on community service, Ray Township has opened its doors throughout the years to welcome community members to civic gatherings, conferences, club meetings, and events for the entire family. Ray Township's Historical Committee will be honoring the many years of service by presenting the State of Michigan's Registered Historical Site Plaque.

Community will always serve as the cornerstone of Ray Township. While maintaining this community spirit, Ray Township is expanding, by bringing in new levels of technology and resources. The community of Ray Township has dedicated its time and talents to bring its community into the 21st Century, and they have been successful. While continuing to progress, Ray Township's roots will forever be memorialized by the Historical Plaque that will be unveiled at the anniversary celebration. The plaque will represent the First Religious Society of Ray built in 1869, currently the township's Town Hall, and the Ray Township District School House of 1863, currently the township's library. Because of this community unwavering support throughout its remarkable history, Ray Township has become a place that will continue to cultivate its historic roots as well as reach out to younger generations.

Ray Township is a true testament to the hard work and dedication of community members and their families. I applaud the people of Ray Township for their leadership, commitment, and service, and I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on this landmark occasion.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, July 16, 2002 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 17

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Consumer Affairs, Foreign Commerce, and
Tourism Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed legislation
authorizing funds for the Federal Trade
Commission.

SR-253

10 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine
the protection of Native American sac-
red places.

SR-485

Judiciary

Constitution Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S.J.Res.35, proposing
an amendment to the Constitution of
the United States to protect the rights
of crime victims.

SD-226

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider S.2394, to
amend the Federal Food, Drug, and
Cosmetic Act to require labeling con-
taining information applicable to pedi-
atric patients; S.2499, to amend the
Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act
to establish labeling requirements re-
garding allergenic substances in food;
S.1998, to amend the Higher Education
Act of 1965 with respect to the qual-
ifications of foreign schools; proposed
legislation authorizing funding for the
Child Care and Development Block
Grant; and the nomination of Richard
H. Carmona, of Arizona, to be Medical
Director in the Regular Corps of the
Public Health Service, and to be Sur-
geon General of the Public Health
Service.

SD-430

Finance

To hold hearings to examine schemes,
scams, and cons regarding fuel tax
fraud.

SD-215

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine economic
outlook issues. 2226, Rayburn Building

10:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To resume hearings on the Treaty Be-
tween the United States of America

and the Russian Federation on Stra-
tegic Offensive Reductions, Signed at
Moscow on May 24, 2002 (Treaty
Doc.107-08).

SD-419

2 p.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine Homeland
Security.

SH-216

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomina-
tion of Mark W. Everson, of Texas, to
be Deputy Director for Management,
Office of Management and Budget.

SD-342

2:30 p.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Housing and Transportation Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings to examine
public mass transit systems.

SD-538

JULY 18

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the role of
Enron Corporation energy services in
the western state electricity crisis.

SR-253

Aging

To hold hearings to examine issues with
respect to identify theft.

SD-628

10 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine proposed
legislation to approve the settlement
of water rights claims of the Zuni In-
dian Tribe in Apache County, Arizona.

SR-485

Judiciary

Business meeting to resume markup of
H.R.3375, to provide compensation for
the United States citizens who were
victims of the bombings of United
States embassies in East Africa on Au-
gust 7, 1998, on the same basis as com-
pensation is provided to victims of the
terrorist-related aircraft crashes on
September 11, 2001; and S.486, to reduce
the risk that innocent persons may be
executed; and to begin mark up of
S.862, to amend the Immigration and
Nationality Act to authorize appro-
priations for fiscal years 2002 through
2006 to carry out the State Criminal
Alien Assistance Program; S.2395, to
prevent and punish counterfeiting and
copyright piracy; S.2513, to assess the
extent of the backlog in DNA analysis
of rape kit samples, and to improve in-
vestigation and prosecution of sexual
assault cases with DNA evidence; and
S.Res.293, designating the week of No-
vember 10 through November 16, 2002,
as "National Veterans Awareness
Week" to emphasize the need to de-
velop educational programs regarding
the contributions of veterans to the
country.

SD-226

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings on the nominations of
Paul S. Atkins, of Virginia, and Harvey
Jerome Goldschmid, of New York, each
to be a Member of the Securities and
Exchange Commission.

SD-538

Intelligence

To hold joint closed hearings with the
House Permanent Select Committee on
Intelligence to examine events sur-
rounding September 11, 2001.

S-407, Capitol

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings on the nominations of
John S. Bresland, of New Jersey, to be

a Member, and Carolyn W. Merritt, of
Illinois, to be a Member and Chair-
person, both of the Chemical Safety
and Hazard Investigation Board.

SD-406

2 p.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on proposed legislation
to ratify an agreement to regulate air
quality on the Southern Ute Indian
Reservation.

SR-485

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine pending
nominations.

SD-226

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Production and Price Competitiveness
Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S.532, to amend the
Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and
Rodenticide Act to permit a State to
register a Canadian pesticide for dis-
tribution and use within that State.

SR-332

Appropriations

Business meeting to markup H.R.5010,
making appropriations for the Depart-
ment of Defense for the fiscal year end-
ing September 30, 2003; proposed legis-
lation making appropriations for the
Departments of Commerce, Justice,
and State, the Judiciary, and related
agencies for the fiscal year ending Sep-
tember 30, 2003; proposed legislation
making appropriations for foreign op-
erations, export financing, and related
programs for the fiscal year ending
September 30, 2003; and proposed legis-
lation making appropriations for the
Departments of Labor, Health and
Human Services, and Education, and
related agencies for the fiscal year end-
ing September 30, 2003.

S-128, Capitol

2:15 p.m.

Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider pending
calendar business.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings on the nominations of
Frederick W. Gregory, of Maryland, to
be Deputy Administrator of the Na-
tional Aeronautics and Space Adminis-
tration; and Kathie L. Olsen, of Oregon,
and Richard M. Russell, of Virginia,
each to be an Associate Director of the
Office of Science and Technology Pol-
icy.

SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S.1865, to
authorize the Secretary of the Interior
to study the suitability and feasibility
of establishing the Lower Los Angeles
River and San Gabriel River water-
sheds in the State of California as a
unit of the National Park System;
S.1943, to expand the boundary of the
George Washington Birthplace Na-
tional Monument; S.2571, to direct the
Secretary of the Interior to conduct a
special resources study to evaluate the
suitability and feasibility of estab-
lishing the Rim of the Valley Corridor
as a unit of the Santa Monica Moun-
tains National Recreation Area; S.2595,
to authorize the expenditure of funds
on private lands and facilities at Mesa
Verde National Park, in the State of
Colorado; and H.R.1925, to direct the
Secretary of the Interior to study the
suitability and feasibility of desig-
nating the Waco Mammoth Site Area

in Waco, Texas, as a unit of the National Park System.

SD-366

JULY 19

10 a.m.

Intelligence

To continue joint closed hearings with the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence to examine events surrounding September 11, 2001.
S-407, Capitol

JULY 23

9:30 a.m.

Governmental Affairs
Investigations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the role of financial institutions in the collapse of Enron Corporation, focusing on the contribution to Enron's use of complex transactions to make the company look better financially than it actually was.

SD-342

JULY 24

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine mental health care issues.

SR-418

10 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on S.1344, to provide training and technical assistance to Native Americans who are interested in commercial vehicle driving careers.

SR-485

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the measuring of economic change. 311, Cannon Building

JULY 25

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S.2672, to provide opportunities for collaborative

restoration projects on National Forest System and other public domain lands.

SD-366

JULY 30

9:30 a.m.

Governmental Affairs
Investigations Subcommittee

To resume hearings to examine the role of financial institutions in the collapse of Enron Corporation, focusing on the contribution to Enron's use of complex transactions to make the company look better financially than it actually was.

SD-342

10 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on proposed legislation concerning the Department of the Interior/Tribal Trust Reform Taks Force; and to be followed by S.2212, to establish a direct line of authority for the Office of Trust Reform Implementations and Oversight to oversee the management and reform of Indian trust funds and assets under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior, and to advance tribal management of such funds and assets, pursuant to the Indian Self-Determinations Act.

SR-485

JULY 31

9:30 a.m.

Finance

To hold hearings to examine the Report of the President's Commission to Strengthen Social Security.

SD-215

10 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine the application of criteria by the Department of the Interior/Branch of Acknowledgment.

SR-485

Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, Restructuring and the District of Columbia

Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine consumer safety and weight loss supplements, focusing on the extent of the use of supplements for weight loss purposes, the validity of claims currently being made for and against weight loss supplements, and the structure of the current federal system of oversight and regulation for dietary supplements.

SD-342

AUGUST 1

10 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Secretary of the Interior's Report on the Hoopa Yurok Settlement Act.

SR-485

2 p.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine problems facing Native youth.

SR-485

POSTPONEMENTS

JULY 18

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the effectiveness and sustainability of U.S. technology transfer programs for energy efficiency, nuclear, fossil and renewable energy, and to identify necessary changes to those programs to support U.S. competitiveness in the global marketplace.

SD-366

10:30 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine Food and Drug Administration regulation of tobacco products.

SD-430