

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SUBMISSION OF APPEAL FOR CONGRESSIONAL VOTING REPRESENTATION FROM D.C. CADET AT UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 7, 2002*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, as the American people and government officials consider entry of our country into a war, I rise today to bring to the attention of the House a letter to the President of the United States from one of my constituents, James N. Rimensnyder, a cadet at the United States Military Academy. I nominated Cadet Rimensnyder, a graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School in the District of Columbia in 2000, and he is now in his 2nd year there.

Recently, Cadet Rimensnyder's letter to the President was brought to my attention by his father, Nelson Rimensnyder. Entirely on his own, Cadet Rimensnyder, who identified himself in his letter as a Republican, had written President Bush, as his Commander-in-Chief, to express his desire for full representation in the Congress. The simple eloquence of Mr. Rimensnyder's plea for the benefits of full citizenship as he serves his country speaks for itself. Cadet Rimensnyder speaks as well for all District residents. I ask the House to recognize Cadet Rimensnyder, who is serving in the U.S. Army in time of war and asks only that his service be honored with full citizenship rights.

*West Point, NY, April 2, 2002.*

Hon. GEORGE W. BUSH,  
*The White House,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: As a native-born resident of the District of Columbia, you know, of course, that I have no voting representative in Congress. This situation has persisted for 200 years. District residents first brought this to the attention of Congress in 1801. Today, we are the only citizens of the United States, excluding felons, who pay federal taxes and serve in the Armed Forces, but are denied representation in Congress.

Two years ago, when I reached my 18th birthday, I registered as a Republican and voted in the 2000 presidential election as provided in the 23rd Amendment to the Constitution. Now I am a Cadet at the United States Military Academy, and appeal to you to uphold the longstanding tradition of our party to advocate voting representation in Congress for the residents of the District of Columbia.

Sir, I wish that one day soon I might have the opportunity to meet you, salute you as my Commander-in-Chief, and thank you personally for addressing this grievance.

Sincerely,

JAMES N. RIMENSNYDER,  
*Cadet PFC USMC.*

THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY  
RENEWAL ACT OF 2002

### HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 7, 2002*

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, America's strength rests in its communities. It is for this reason that today I introduce the American Community Renewal Act of 2002. This legislation will continue the advances begun with the provisions contained in the original American Community Renewal Act of 2000, and provide opportunity for even more cities, towns, and neighborhoods across the country to better their circumstances.

This legislation authorizes the designation of 20 additional Renewal Communities, 15 urban and 5 rural, using newly available 2000 census data. By creating an environment where private investment can flourish, Renewal Communities are uniquely able to harness market forces for job creation and growth. Providing access to employment is a catalyst for people to escape the vicious downward spiral of poverty, and to improve the lots of their families and communities.

An additional incentive provided for in this legislation is a new tax code feature designed to encourage private sector investment in Renewal Communities, Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities and HUBZones. This addition to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, relating to common nontaxable exchanges, would allow investors, subject to certain restrictions, take proceeds from the sale of real property and re-invest these proceeds in businesses in the community without recognizing capital gains. This should encourage investment in businesses within these communities that create jobs for the residents of said communities.

Finally, in order to marshal the resolve of State governments to engage in the revitalization process within Renewal Communities, this legislation requires that States adopt a qualified allocation plan for their available commercial revitalization deduction within 120 days. If States fail to adopt such a plan, the commercial revitalization deduction allocations will pass directly to the approved commercial revitalization agency at the local governmental level. This provision will encourage States to provide the statewide coordination function for community revitalization originally intended in the American Community Renewal Act of 2000.

One of the primary responsibilities of Congress is to create an environment that rewards efforts to strengthen our nation's communities, and fosters the development of responsible and engaged citizens. The American Community Renewal Act of 2002 continues the efforts of previous Congresses in this regard. This strategy is particularly relevant in today's volatile world.

WYANDOTTE NATION LAND  
CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT

### HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 7, 2002*

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Speaker, throughout my years as a Member of this body, I've tried hard to be a defender and promoter of the rights of Native Americans, our First Americans. In that spirit and as Vice Chairman of the Resources Committee, I am proud to add my name as an original co-sponsor of the Wyandotte Nation Land Claims Settlement Act.

The Wyandotte Nation, like so many other Native American Tribes, has endured a sad history of broken promises at the hands of the federal government and they have filed suit to reestablish their rightful and just claim to the lands that those broken promises took away from them. The land claim suit, which the courts have said has sufficient merit to proceed, involves billions of dollars worth of land and thousands of current landholders whose ownership status is now in question.

The Wyandotte Nation, like other groups of Native Americans who have successfully settled their aboriginal land claims, including Natives in my State under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, do not seek to dispossess anyone of their homes and businesses. Rather, they seek a fair and just settlement of those claims so that the broken promises can be mended sufficiently for Native and non-Native Americans to move on productively and cooperatively with their lives and interests.

The Wyandotte Nation Land Claims Settlement Act provides the opportunity for compromise and resolution of longstanding issues in a manner that is beneficial for the Wyandotte Nation and for the entire community currently occupying and surrounding the lands in question and I am therefore proud to add my name to the bill and urge my colleagues to support its passage.

HONORING THE HOMELAND CENTER OF HARRISBURG ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 135TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 7, 2002*

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor today to recognize the Homeland Center of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on the occasion of its 135th Anniversary. For well over a century, Homeland Center has met the medical and social needs of the community through the compassionate vision of its founders.

Christian men and women from various denominations established the "Home for the

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