

school may lose funding and have fewer resources available for their educational program. Under my plan, that outcome is avoided. It is a "win-win" scenario, whereas some have argued that voucher programs can become a zero-sum situation with "winners and losers."

A tuition tax credit for education is a benefit that should be available to all, no matter what their race, creed, or national origin. And make no mistake: the public school system will and must continue to remain the backbone of our nation's education system. But we must never forget that the public school system was created to serve students—not the other way around. If a student is performing poorly, parents should have the opportunity to augment the child's education with help from the federal government.

If we are to truly make good on our promise that "no child is left behind," we must ensure that Catholic schools are included in this national promise and goal. A child is a child, regardless of which school system they are enrolled. The children enrolled in Catholic, private, and rabbinical schools deserve nothing less than our full support and compassion.

I urge my colleagues to support the Education, Achievement, and Opportunity Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 29, 2003

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, "during rollcall votes 15, 16, and 17, I was unavoidably absent. Had I been here I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 15 and "no" on rollcall vote 16 and 17.

CHIEFS OF POLICE URGE ADMINISTRATION TO SUPPORT INCREASED FUNDING

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 29, 2003

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker One of the pieces of evidence that convinces me that we have reduced taxes by too much in the face of the very significant demands that have been placed on our national security both domestically and internationally since September 11, 2001 is the refusal of this administration to support adequate funding for programs of assistance to local public safety officials. As we were adjourning, I and others in the Massachusetts Delegation received the attached resolution from the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association. I am very pleased to have a good working relationship with the chiefs of police in the district I represent, and I know that these people are deeply committed to the protection of our citizenry, against both the traditional forms of crime and against the newer threats we face. And they are not people who easily jump into controversies that are partisan or ideological in nature. So when they report that they and their fellow chiefs of police across the country adopted a resolution which "strongly rec-

ommends that the Bush administration reconsider the funding levels that have been reduced for local agencies" in the police field, I believe this is an argument to which we should pay attention. Mr. Speaker, I ask that this very thoughtful and important resolution be printed here.

HOMELAND SECURITY FUNDING

SUBMITTED BY DIVISION OF STATE

ASSOCIATIONS OF CHIEFS OF POLICE (SACOP)

WHEREAS, the approximately 740,000 law enforcement officers in local and state agencies have the best knowledge of and access to their communities, and those communities are turning to their local agencies for guidance and protection more than ever; and

WHEREAS, local law enforcement is the first to be called upon to respond to any emergency or critical incident; and

WHEREAS, because of their daily interaction with the community, local law enforcement has access to local information and grassroots intelligence that is an invaluable resource in the fight against terrorism; and

WHEREAS, demands on specialized training (interrogation techniques, recognition of terrorist threats, federal immigration law, immigration documentation, response to critical incidents, response to biological, chemical or nuclear terrorism), specialized equipment (protective clothing, isolation equipment, electronic surveillance and security equipment), and drastically, increased manpower requirements, continue to take their toll on already stretched law enforcement budgets; and

WHEREAS, the over 19,000 members of the International Association of Chiefs of Police are concerned that while the federal government is proposing greatly increased funding for Homeland Security programs, federal intelligence programs, and additional increases for federal agencies, the local and state agencies will be left with dwindling resources in their daily response to local community requirements, including those caused by increased threats and fears from terrorism; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the International Association of Chiefs of Police, duly assembled at its 109th Annual Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota, strongly recommends that the Bush Administration reconsider the funding levels that have been reduced for local agencies, such as universal hiring programs, Byrne Grants, COPS Programs and others. We urge the administration to continue these programs, or reconfigure the funding for local agencies with the recognition that these agencies are truly on the front line of the war against terrorism.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 27, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 26, honoring the contributions of Catholic schools. As a Catholic school graduate, I know the value of a Catholic education. I know first hand that Catholic schools teach students discipline, pride and respect for learning. I am so grateful to the priests, nuns and lay persons who taught me at St. Peter's Elementary, Holy Name Elementary, Parmadale, St. Aloysius El-

ementary, St. Colman Elementary and St. John Cantius High School for their love and guidance through my formative years.

I especially wish to recognize the delegation of students, teachers and parents who will make the National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools a special day this coming Wednesday. Their commitment to ensuring an exceptional education and maintaining quality Catholic schools ensures that Catholic students in the future will continue to benefit from outstanding educational opportunities. An overwhelming percentage of Catholic high school graduates attend college, which is a sign of the excellent work of our Catholic School system.

I would also like to recognize the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) for their efforts to promote educational and catechetical goals. By sponsoring programs like the Seton Awards, which recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to Catholic education, the NCEA works diligently to insure better education across America.

Providing quality educational opportunities for all children is one of the most important goals of our society. I wish to congratulate Catholic schools, students, parents, and teachers across the Nation for their ongoing contributions to education. They play critical roles in promoting and ensuring a stronger and brighter future for America.

COMMEMORATING MR. WILLIAM T. LEE

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 29, 2003

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker I rise to commemorate Mr. William T. Lee, a great patriot who served the United States well for years.

Mr. Lee passed away in his home in Alexandria, Virginia on October 30, 2002 due to complications associated with advanced cancer. He was born in Pass Christian, Mississippi and grew up with his grandparents in Missouri. He is survived by his former wife, Dixie Lee. They had no children.

Mr. Lee served as a Senior Intelligence Officer during the Cold War and was a vigorous advocate for a national missile defense. He was a prominent figure and an insightful expert concerning the assessment of the Soviet Union's economy, size and scope of its military.

Mr. Lee was an accomplished analyst of missile defense, a published writer and a formidable lecturer. His life accomplishments include an exceptional understanding of ballistic missile defenses of the Soviet Union and Russia, authoring 6 books and numerous articles and lecture tours in Europe, Asia and South America.

Mr. Lee embarked on his impressive career with an induction into the Army Air Corps in 1944 where he supported the effort in the European theater during World War II. After the war, Mr. Lee began his academic education with 2 years at The University of Puget Sound and 2 years at the University of Washington and emerged in 1950 with a degree in history with a concentration on Russian studies and economics. Later he received a masters degree from Columbia University in advanced Russian and Chinese studies.