

these brave acts, while publicizing the critical need for increased organ donation. I urge swift passage of the Gift of Life Congressional Medal Act.

HONORING CAROL KOLBERG

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize one of Chicago's finest educators. Carol Kolberg has served the Archdiocese of Chicago for more than 32 years and has been principal of St. Bartholomew Montessori, an elementary school on the Northwest side, for the past thirteen years. Under her leadership St. Bartholomew has blossomed and today is recognized as one of the best elementary schools in the city. A lifelong educator, Ms. Kolberg was one of twelve principals in the United States selected by the National Catholic Education Association to receive the 2003 Dr. Robert J. Kealy Distinguished Principal Award. This prestigious honor is presented annually to an elementary school principal. In order to qualify an individual must first be nominated by their archdiocese. Once nominated, the Association selects the recipients based on their experience, community service, leadership, and educational philosophy. Carol Kolberg's credentials are outstanding in each of these areas and I am proud to recognize her.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to take this time to thank Ms. Kolberg for her service to Chicago. Across this country educators are being held to more stringent standards for preparing students. Carol Kolberg is a shining example of an educator, among many, who has devoted her life to school children. For 32 years Ms. Kolberg has selflessly given her best so that our children can learn and advance through life. I am proud to represent Ms. Kolberg and the other educators who serve the students of the 5th Congressional District.

INTRODUCTION OF INTERNET
GAMBLING LICENSING AND REG-
ULATION COMMISSION ACT

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2003

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, you might remember a failed experiment the U.S. government tried in the 1920s called Prohibition. Back then, the government tried to prevent people from drinking alcohol by making it illegal. We know what happened—speakeasies flourished, alcohol consumption spiraled, and organized crime infiltrated and profited from the provision of alcoholic beverages.

Today, Congress is rushing to pass a similar type of ill-conceived prohibition: the prohibition of Internet gambling. Gaming prohibitionists believe they can somehow stop the millions of Americans who gamble online from visiting Internet gaming sites by passing legislation to prevent the use of credit cards and other bank instruments to gamble on the Inter-

net. Just as outlawing alcohol did not work in the 1920s, the current attempts to prohibit online gaming will not work, either.

Instead of imposing an Internet gambling prohibition that will drive gambling underground and into the hands of unscrupulous merchants, Congress should examine the feasibility of strictly licensing and regulating the online gaming industry. A regulated gambling industry will ensure that gaming companies play fair and drive out dishonest operators. It also provides a potential tax revenue source for financially-strapped States.

That is why I am introducing legislation to create a national Internet Gambling Licensing and Regulation Study Commission to evaluate how best to regulate and control online gambling in America to protect consumers, to provide badly needed tax revenue, and to prevent criminal elements from penetrating this industry. Rather than passing ineffective prohibition legislation in the vain hope that the problems related to Internet gambling will simply go away, the Commission will confront the issues head-on and formulate realistic, workable solutions.

Today in our country, gambling is a highly regulated, \$26 billion dollar industry that creates substantial tax revenue for the States and provides a safe environment for the 52 million people who gamble in U.S. facilities. The Commission will explore whether the same conditions that afford safety and fair play in land-based casinos can and should exist for Internet-based casinos. In addition, the Commission will study whether the problems identified by gambling prohibitionists—money laundering, underage gambling, and gambling addictions—are better addressed by an ineffective ban or by an online gaming industry that is tightly regulated by the States.

First, some claim that Internet gambling sites are being used to launder money for terrorists or other criminal organizations. Although there is no evidence that Internet gambling is any more susceptible to money laundering than other types of e-commerce, it is still a significant law enforcement concern. In this regard, it is useful to compare a system where Internet gambling is legal and regulated to another legislative proposal that would prohibit the use of credit cards and other financial instruments for online gambling. What that other bill essentially says to gamblers is this: use cash and offshore bank accounts if you want to bet online. This is nonsensical on its face. If you truly want to prevent money laundering, the last thing you would do is eliminate the financial controls and recordkeeping that credit cards and U.S. bank accounts provide. To the contrary, a regime where there is strict oversight by the States and transparent recordkeeping is far more likely to prevent money laundering and give law enforcement the tools it needs to effectively prosecute criminals and terrorists.

Second, the problem of underage gambling should not be discounted. Children can be kept off of gambling websites, however, by requiring the use of a credit card, PIN numbers, and other screening devices. In fact, Congress recognized the usefulness of credit cards as a tool to protect minors on the Internet when it passed the Children's Online Protection Act. Since Internet gambling prohibitions will not eliminate online gambling—just drive it underground—children will be better protected by a gaming industry that is held accountable to strict standards established by the States.

Finally, we must also consider the needs of problem gamblers and gambling addicts. Certainly, online gambling sites present difficulties for these individuals, just as land-based casinos do. Although unlicensed, unregulated gaming sites may have no incentive to prevent problem gambling, it is possible to establish a regulatory framework that can set financial limits on an individual's gambling, through the use of shared electronic recordkeeping. Technologies can even be employed to identify problem gamblers and put them in touch with organizations where they can get help. For this reason, the Internet affords the potential for greater protection for problem gamblers than land-based casinos.

Until now, Republicans and Democrats have stood together against those who wanted to cut off access to the Internet, restrict its boundaries, or use it for some special purpose. Except in the narrow areas of child pornography and other obvious criminal activities, Congress has rejected attempts to make Internet Service Providers, credit card companies, and the technology industry policemen for the Internet. We should not head down this road now. If we do, we'll be joining countries like Iraq, China, and other totalitarian regimes who limit their citizens' access to the Internet.

Attempts to prohibit Internet gambling in the name of fighting crime and protecting children and problem gamblers will have the opposite effect. Prohibition will simply drive the gaming industry underground, thereby attracting the least desirable operators who will be out of the reach of law enforcement. A far better approach is to allow the States to strictly license and regulate the Internet gambling industry, to foster honest merchants who are subject to U.S. consumer protection and criminal laws.

IN CELEBRATION OF WALTER
JEFFERSON LEWIS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2003

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, Walter Jefferson Lewis passed away on February 22, 2003. On that day, his family and friends lost a loving son, brother, and companion and the world lost a passionate lover of art, food, travel, and life itself.

Walter Lewis was born and raised in Schenectady, New York. He went on to study at Syracuse University and Schenectady County Community College, graduating with distinction in the Culinary Arts and Hotel and Business Management.

Walter served his country, spending eleven years in the United States Air Force. During that period, he was stationed in Alaska, California, New Mexico, and Germany. The time spent in those distant posts just whetted his appetite for travel; his journeys took him across much of the globe, and he made lifelong friends wherever he went.

That same passion and zest for life fueled both his occupation and avocation of baking. Walter worked for a number of years managing the bakery department of the Golub Corporation, and he shared his culinary skills with those around him: for him, food, family, and food, were all joyously intertwined.

Walter Lewis will be deeply missed by those of us who knew and loved him. He made a

special imprint through his faith, his gifts, and his joy of life. While we mourn his passing, we also celebrate his memory. May he rest in peace.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE PINK LADIES

HON. SCOTT McINNS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today in order to recognize the Pink Ladies of Delta, Colorado. This group of women has been truly dedicated to serving their community through numerous volunteer efforts with the Delta County Memorial Hospital. I would like to pay tribute to their efforts before this body of Congress and this nation today.

Over 65 strong, the "Pink Ladies" get their name from their distinctive pink jackets. Some work cleaning the whirlpool tubs used by rehabilitational patients, others greet people at the visitor's desk or in the cafeteria, and others knit baby caps for newborns. By donating more than 16,000 hours in the past year, the Pink Ladies have helped the hospital save more than \$85,000. The ladies have also raised money to fund an annual scholarship for health care students, while also donating much-needed medical equipment.

Helping those in need is truly admirable work, and these women have taken on this work with passion and fervor. It is very inspirational to see a group of people who work this much in order to help others in their community, and I feel lucky to have the ability to honor these women who have worked so selflessly for such a long time.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize the Pink Ladies before this body of Congress and this nation for their dedication to their community hospital. Their volunteer efforts have truly been a wonderful benefit to not only the people of Delta County, but to the people of the State of Colorado as well.

HONORING WANDA LITTLE ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2003

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System and the New Haven community in honoring one of our most active and distinguished community members, Wanda Lee Little, on the occasion of her retirement after thirty-two years of dedicated service.

Throughout her lifetime, Wanda has dedicated herself to enriching the lives of young people. Through her efforts to develop working social programs and her work with several service organizations, she has changed the face of our community. Wanda's endless contributions to the Greater New Haven area have made a real difference—improving the quality of life for hundreds of children and their families.

Over her thirty-two year career with the UCONN Cooperative Extension System, Wanda was responsible for the initiation of several youth development programs as well as the successful application for several grants from the United States Department of Agriculture. Her outstanding leadership and good work has provided numerous opportunities to the city of New Haven and its residents.

By adapting the USDA's SuperSnackers Program to include youth and workforce development into the program, Wanda created a youth focused model in which young people are trained in a basic nutrition curriculum and then team teach in summer camp settings throughout New Haven. Through the 4-H Summer Nutrition Education Program, Wanda served as an educator and mentor for hundreds of children—often offering these young people their first job experience. The lessons and skills these young people brought away from this program have proven to be an invaluable asset as they continue in their academic and professional careers.

Wanda's dedication to our community extends far beyond her professional career. A founding member of the City Wide Youth Coalition of New Haven, Inc., a past member of the Board of Directors for the Special Olympics Committee, and host family for Guilford, Connecticut's A Better Chance Program, her unwavering commitment to serving the community has empowered women, families, and young people to improve themselves and their lives. Her generosity and compassion is truly unmatched.

Wanda's innumerable contributions and her strong message have left an indelible mark on our community. I am pleased to rise today to join her husband, Horace, their children, grandchildren, family, friends, and colleagues in extending my sincere congratulations and very best wishes to Wanda Lee Little as she celebrates her retirement from a lifetime of good work. My sincere congratulations and very best wishes for continued health and happiness.

TRIBUTE TO BRENDAN ANTHONY ROGERS

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, a most joyous occasion has taken place for me that I want to share with you and my friends.

On December 23, 2002, my oldest son and his wife became the parents of my first grandson. Brendan Anthony Rogers became the only Rogers boy to be born in my parents' family and therefore the bearer of the name into the future. Brendan's parents, Anthony and Mindy, live in my hometown, Somerst, Kentucky.

Brendan's grandmother, my first wife, Shirley, passed away in 1995. She would be very proud, as am I, of this handsome, lively little guy.

Mr. Speaker, in the midst of the weighty issues with which we are faced in this body, my announcement of this bundle of joy is indeed a respite. However, for me, Brendan's arrival is, in itself, a weighty matter because he brings to me a sense of immortality, and I know all my colleagues can identify with that.

Mr. Speaker, I ask of you and all our colleagues, that you join me in wishing to Brendan Anthony Rogers, as he embarks on life, Godspeed!

TRIBUTE TO PAUL AND NADINE SHIRLEY

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2003

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress, each of us has the privilege of representing countless numbers of constituents who work tirelessly to make their communities better. We meet these remarkable men and women every day, but often do not have the opportunity to highlight their contributions before the Nation.

Paul Shirley of Knoxville, Tennessee, is one such person, as was his late wife, Nadine. For more than 57 years of marriage this remarkable couple lived a life committed to sharing God's love with all those around them.

In November of last year, Nadine went to be with the Lord, but the example they set continues to be a standard matched by very few. Paul's dedication to changing lives around him has not slowed with Nadine's passing, and I know she is proud of his perseverance.

After graduating from the University of Tennessee in Business Administration, Paul began a career in the construction industry that continues today. From the very beginning Nadine played a key role in their business success.

Paul served as president of the Home Builder's Association of Greater Knoxville in 1962. He presently serves on the Board of Adjustments and Appeals for the City of Knoxville, a position he has held for 30 years. At each point of his professional career, Paul has always displayed the highest level of integrity and commitment to excellence.

It is, however, in the Shirleys' work together outside the business world that they found their most meaningful success. For almost 35 years, Paul and Nadine tirelessly worked to provide hundreds of children in the Knoxville area with a biblically based education surpassed academically only by the Christ-like love shown to each student.

In 1969, they, together with a dedicated group of parents, opened what was then known as West End Kindergarten. This soon expanded to become Knoxville Christian School and in 1975, the Shirleys donated 67 acres of land for what was to be the permanent campus of this growing school. Today, Knoxville Christian School provides a biblically based education to 108 students from Kindergarten through the ninth grade.

Paul served as president of the school until 1979, and both he and Nadine gave many years of service on the school's board of directors. Paul and Nadine's work, however, went far beyond what any job title implies, and their compassionate dedication to every child reached far beyond the classroom.

On February 20, 2003, those close to Knoxville Christian School came together to show their appreciation to Paul and to share in their memories of Nadine. As a small token of thanks for the impact this couple had on so many lives, Paul was presented with the