

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CASEY BROWN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize Casey Brown of Ignacio, Colorado. Mr. Brown has been a dedicated citizen and leader of the Southwest Colorado community and it is my honor to pay tribute to his accomplishments before this body of Congress and this nation.

Casey graduated from New Mexico State University and the University of Wyoming with a focus on wool production. After college and a brief teaching stint at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, California, Casey returned to the Four Corners area to help his father run their family ranch in New Mexico. Casey has continued to manage the ranch, which now includes a herd of 2,500 sheep and 200 cattle.

Casey has always been active in agricultural and community activities, serving as a member of the San Juan County Fair Association, the New Mexico State University experimental station advisory board, the Pine River Irrigation District board, and as the founder of Citizens for Common Sense Government. Additionally, Casey is the past president of the Colorado Wool Growers Association, which recognized him as Wool Grower of the Year in 1993. Among other honors, Casey was the La Plata County Cattleman of the Year in 1992, DACRA Agriculturalist of the Year in 1999, and earned special recognition for service by the National Public Lands Council in 1994.

For his significant contributions in the agricultural community, Casey was named the seventh recipient of the Southwestern Colorado Livestock Association's Distinguished Service Award, which honors members who have gone above and beyond in their contributions to the livestock industry. Mr. Speaker, it is with honor that I commend Mr. Casey Brown before this body of Congress and this great nation for his dedication to his trade and his community. His contributions have greatly benefited the people of the Four Corners region and I am honored to have the opportunity to represent such a fine Coloradan. I wish Casey the best of luck with all of his future endeavors.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1104, CHILD ABDUCTION PREVENTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this rule, H. Res. 160.

The rule in the House should mirror the opinion of our colleagues in the Senate, that H.R. 1104 should be reduced to one single issue: The Amber Alert system.

The rule as written, however, provides for debate on extraneous issues ranging from sentencing guidelines, to penalties for possession of child pornography, to the investigative powers of the U.S. Secret Service.

While these and the other extraneous provisions in H.R. 1104 are worthy of our full consideration, those provisions should not be considered in H.R. 1104.

The House should debate and pass a clean Amber Alert bill, just as the Senate passed a clean Amber Alert bill with S. 121.

By passing a clean Amber Alert bill we send a clear message to America's families that the safety of our children is a priority second to none.

We also increase the likelihood that more child abductions will have the happy ending experienced by the family of Elizabeth Smart, who, as we all know, was safely returned to her family after a nine-month-long kidnapping ordeal.

The Republican majority's decision to bog down the Amber Alert bill with several unnecessary and unrelated provisions is inexplicable and endangers our children.

It seems as though the majority has used every conceivable measure to load up the bill and make it more difficult to pass.

The Senate set aside their partisan agendas and took a giant step toward protecting America's children by passing a clean, bipartisan Amber Alert bill.

The Majority should set aside their agenda and eliminate these extraneous provisions so that the House, too, can pass a clean Amber Alert bill.

Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 412, a clean Amber Alert bill.

I oppose the rule, H. Res. 160.

CONGRATULATING MEMBERS OF THE MATIGNON HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2003

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two more members of the Matignon Warriors boys' basketball team that won the MIAA Division 4 state championship on March 10, 2003. Last week I submitted for the record the Warriors' team roster, and inadvertently left out Jimmy Burns and Michael Flaherty. I would like to correct that today, and congratulate them on their successful season.

TRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL SERVICE ORGANIZATION OF SCHOLASTIC

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2003

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to recognize the fine accomplishments of the National Service Organization of Scholastic, which is the largest employer in Jefferson City, MO. Scholastic was rewarded the PR News 2002 Corporate Social Responsibility Award.

Scholastic has been awarded this honor due to their ongoing innovation campaigns and ongoing programs. Scholastic was honored in the category of Diversity Communications for its partnership with Lincoln University on sponsorships, scholarships, job internships, and book donations. The company sponsors programs that provide speakers and curriculum literature, and also recognizes outstanding achievement of faculty, staff, and volunteers for local schools.

Scholastic also has a long-term commitment to Missouri through their annual summer book donation program, which provides children at more than 150 schools with a donation of three books for each student for summer reading. Scholastic also provides Lincoln University books and materials each month for their children's library. In addition, the company fosters recruitment opportunities and sponsors writing and student awards programs. Many of Scholastic's employees also serve on Lincoln University's advisory board.

Mr. Speaker, I know that the National Service Organization of Scholastic should be honored for their commitment to serving their local communities. They can be proud of their accomplishments. I know the Members of the House will join me in congratulating Scholastic for this well deserved award.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ROBERT DUNCAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with much pleasure that I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Robert Duncan of the San Juan Technical School located in Denver, Colorado. Robert has dedicated his life to passing on his extensive knowledge and experience, providing many students with otherwise unthinkable opportunities. I wish to take this opportunity to acknowledge Robert's dedication and commitment to education before this body of Congress and this Nation.

Robert is known for his expertise in automotive technology and his dedication to his students. His recent award recognizes Robert's ability as a teacher, particularly emphasizing the dramatic increases in enrollment in

• 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.

Robert's courses and his success recruiting women into his automotive technology program. Furthermore, Robert has won acclaim for his unique talent for welcoming special education students and helping them excel in the program. Great teachers, like Robert, draw on their own practical experience in order to bring the real world into the classroom. Recently, the State Board of Community Colleges and Occupational Education named Robert faculty member of the year.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand today and recognize Robert Duncan before this Congress and this Nation. We should all express our deepest gratitude to teachers like Robert. They make an enormous difference one life at a time, providing countless students with opportunity and hope. Teaching truly is a noble calling, and Robert has answered that call.

LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2003

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I commend to my colleagues' attention the following letter sent to President George W. Bush by members of the California Legislature stating their opposition to war against Iraq. I am proud of these 52 lawmakers who represent a diversity of California's citizens. They understand firsthand the cost of this capricious act. Financing this war will mean less federal investment in schools and nursing homes and the loss of basic services for the working poor, the disabled and mentally-ill. They are rightly concerned about the impact this war will have on those young Americans who have been called to fight. They are disappointed about the diminished respect and influence America will have in the world given the President's use of military power, not the interests of peace and democracy, in his approach to foreign affairs. I commend my fellow Californians for their eloquence and outspokenness on an issue of such great importance to the American people.

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE,
March 4, 2003.

Hon. GEORGE W. BUSH,
President, United States of America, The White House, Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: As Members of the California State Legislature, we respectfully write in opposition to a war on Iraq without a formal resolution by the United Nations Security Council and a declaration of war by Congress.

As elected representatives of the largest population and economy in America, we have many concerns over the policies your administration is pursuing. These include:

A lack of credible evidence that meets the standard of "beyond a reasonable doubt" that shows the imminent danger Iraq poses to America's essential interests. Neither Colin Powell nor Hans Blix presented a case sufficient to warrant an attack by American forces.

A failure to persuade other nations to support our intentions. Unlike the aftermath of the Attack on America, you have not been able to enlist the support of other key nations, who presumably have been given even more intelligence data than has the American public. This lack of geo-political solidarity substantially weakens America's case in the court of world opinion. Further, it en-

hances the prospects of fighting a war with few allies.

Lack of clarity about the possible instability in the Middle East during the war and subsequent foreign occupation of Iraq. It seems unlikely that the Muslim world will for long passively accept America's incursion—whatever our provocation.

Respectfully,

Don Perata, Byron Sher, Jack Scott, Mike Machado, Tom Torlakson, Gloria Romero, Wesley Chesbro, Debra Bowen, Deborah Ortiz, John Burton, Liz Figueroa, Gil Cedillo, Sheila Kuehl, John Vasconcellos, Edward Vincent, Richard Alarcón, Jackie Speier, Dede Alpert.

Paul Koretz, John Longville, Mervyn Dymally, Christine Kehoe, Jackie Goldberg, Fabian Nuñez, Sally J. Lieber, Ronald Calderon, John Laird, Loni Hancock, Judy Chu, Patricia Wiggins, Alan Lowenthal, Hannah-Beth Jackson, Gene Mullin, Cindy Montañez, Marco Firebaugh, Patty Berg, Wilma Chan.

RECOGNIZING THE SOCIAL PROBLEM OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT, AND SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO ENHANCE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE PROBLEM

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 113 recognizing the social problem of child abuse and neglect, and supporting efforts to enhance public awareness of the problem. Although we live in the world's wealthiest nation, we have yet to eradicate some of the most disheartening social ills that plague our society. Throughout this great republic, it is a fact that many of our children are in great need, impacted by the horrifying realities of unsafe and unhealthy living environments, wherein abuse and neglect tear away at the very core of their youthfulness.

With regards to the prevalence of this problem, in 1999, an estimated 3,244,000 children were reported to Child Protective Services agencies as alleged victims of child maltreatment. Child abuse reports have maintained a steady growth for the past ten years, with the total number of reports nationwide increasing 45 percent since 1987. Neglect represents the most common type of reported and substantiated form of maltreatment. In 1996, 25 States provided the following breakdown for reported cases: 62 percent involved neglect, 25 percent physical abuse, 7 percent sexual abuse, 3 percent emotional maltreatment, and 4 percent other. For substantiated cases, 31 States gave the following breakdowns: 60 percent neglect, 23 percent physical, 9 percent sexual, 4 percent emotional maltreatment and 5 percent other.

Figures issued by another study conducted in 2000, which surveyed 48 States, representing over 95 percent of the population under 18, reveal a serious need for concern. Approximately 1,356 children died due to causes of child abuse and neglect. More specifically, children under 5 years old accounted for four out of five of all fatalities reported, which served as the 2nd leading cause of

death of children ages 1–4 in the United States. In that same year, children under 1 year old accounted for two out of five of all fatalities reported.

In the State of Texas, Child Protective Services reported there were 131,147 investigations of child abuse and neglect and 47,532 were confirmed victims. In fact, of the child abuse and neglect related fatalities in the State of Texas, figures from 2001 data show Harris County with the most occurrences.

To this end, there is no doubt that child abuse and neglect continues to be a significant problem in the United States. These statistics can only begin to help us understand the scope of the problem—who is affected and what extents to which they are. Nonetheless, this legislation makes way for others in the public who may not ordinarily think about such problems more acutely aware of these issues.

Our children are our future, but their health and safety in our society continues to decline. Everyone has an obligation to ensuring children have a chance at a great life and a prosperous future. The reality is alarming, but our commitment to the goals of this legislation must be strong. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS, GREATER RIVERSIDE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE, MORENO VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, AMERICAN RED CROSS, SALVATION ARMY AND COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, MARCH CANTEEN, HARVEST CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP AND OTHERS

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2003

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to several organizations whose patriotism, dedication and contributions to the troops deploying out of March Air Reserve Base in Riverside, California are exceptional. As our troops have been preparing to deploy to the Middle East many local organizations have taken it upon themselves to provide an outpouring of support and assistance. The local organizations involved have been the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce, Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce, American Red Cross, Salvation Army and Community Foundation, March Canteen and Harvest Christian Fellowship.

March Air Reserve Base has a long history of honorable service to our country and once again it will hold a place in U.S. military history. The substantial airlift of 6,500 tons of cargo and the movement of 26,400 Marines headed for overseas has been helped by public donations of food and \$30,000. The volunteers have handed out fruit, potato chips, cookies and paperback books to each Marine passing through the Marine deployment terminal. The Marines were also given personal items in order to provide a measure of comfort during their stay in the Middle East.

The groups and individuals involved in the volunteer effort expressed nothing but appreciation and admiration for the men and women