

various organizations has helped make the local community a better place to live. In recognition of his many contributions to the community, Mr. Siano will be honored by the Astoria/Long Island City Kiwanis Club as "Kiwanian of the Year."

A lifetime New Yorker, Mr. Siano was born and raised in Brooklyn and attended New York University. As a young man, Mr. Siano joined the U.S. Navy and served as medic. After his honorable discharge from the U.S. Navy, Mr. Siano completed his education and received his degree in mortuary science.

An enthusiastic and dedicated community advocate, Mr. Siano is an active member of many organizations. Past president of the Astoria/Long Island City Kiwanis, Mr. Siano is now board chairman. Mr. Siano was also a CCD instructor, board president of Trinity Players, and has received the Walter M. Mitchie Community Service Award from the 114th Civilian Observation Patrol, and is involved with many other church and civic organizations.

Mr. Siano is also distinguished within his profession, having been honored with the Pursuit of Excellence Award since 1995 by the National Funeral Directors Association. Mr. Siano is presently vice president of Thomas Quinn and Son's Funeral Home, Inc. In addition, Mr. Siano is the vice president of the Broadway Merchants and Professionals Association.

Mr. Siano is described by his peers as a man of boundless energy and commitment to the community he has been a part of for the past thirty years. In recognition of these outstanding achievements, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Tony Siano as "Kiwanian of the Year."

IN HONOR OF THE COMMUNITY
PROBLEM SOLVING TEAM OF
THE QUEST PROGRAM

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2003

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Community Problem Solving Team of the Quest Program at the Dr. John Howard, Jr. School in East Orange, NJ. Working through various mediums, this group of fourth, fifth, and sixth graders has sought to combat the growing problem of gangs in their community.

Using their peer influence, these students reach out to elementary school children to teach them the dangers of gang involvement. They have made it their mission to educate the community through publishing monthly gang awareness newsletters, organizing a unity celebration night against gangs, organizing a kids against gangs rally, participating in an inmate day with gang members currently serving time in prison, as well as creating a website to inform students of the dangers of gangs. With the goal of educating others to prevent gang involvement and violence, these students have demonstrated that they are truly inspiring members of the community. Volunteering over 400 hours to this project, the dedication of this team has been outstanding.

These exceptional students will represent New Jersey at the International Competition in

Storrs, CT, June 4–8, 2003, having placed first in the New Jersey junior division of the Problem Solving Component of the International Future Problem Solving Program. It is with great pride that I recognize the Community Problem Solving Team of the Quest Program in East Orange, New Jersey. These young people have taken great strides to assist the members of their community and to see that they have a part in securing a healthy future for our country. Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in wishing the Quest Program continued success.

RECOGNIZING THE INSTITUTES OF
THE AMERICAS

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2003

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate the Institutes of the Americas on their 20th anniversary. Since 1983 the IOA has improved the opportunities for and relationships among companies and individuals who currently conduct or hope to conduct business in America.

In this age of international cooperation the Institute of the Americas has played a vital role in creating greater understanding and interaction between the United States, Canada and the countries of Latin America. With strong Latin American participation, this independent Inter-American organization has become a trusted and respected catalyst for dialog and problem solving. Its relationship with the University of California, San Diego gives the Institute added depth and balance in its quest to develop building blocks for Latin America's progress and stability.

Since its creation the Institute of the Americas has met its goal of becoming a significant catalyst for promoting development and integration as a means to improve the economic, political and social well-being of the people of the Americas. I want to congratulate the Institute, and all those associated with it, on the occasion of its 20th anniversary, extending sincere wishes for continued success.

IN HONOR OF ENGLEWOOD'S
JUBILEE II

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2003

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the City of Englewood, Colorado, on the occasion of its Centennial Anniversary. I am truly honored to have the privilege of representing this outstanding community in the United States Congress. The City of Englewood will celebrate 100 years of colorful history and development on May 13, 2003.

The Englewood area has a rich and colorful history. In the mid 1800's, the Ute Indians, buffalo, elk, antelope and other animals inhabited this alpine plateau. In 1858, gold was discovered in this area and the first gold mining camp was set up at the mouth of Little Dry Creek. As in many mining enclaves in the

West, this miner's camp quickly became a popular spot for gambling, saloons and roadhouses. By 1903, the inhabitants of this prairie community wanted to burnish a solid community reputation and the Town of Englewood was incorporated on May 13, 1903.

The City of Englewood has grown from its original prairie confines and a small gold mining camp, to become a city with a rich tradition of hospitality, vitality and amenities for residents and visitors alike. Englewood has become an urban mainstay of the southern Metro Denver area with a diverse population of over 31,000 residents.

Englewood offers the congenial and sociable atmosphere of an authentic community with all the benefits of the larger adjacent metropolitan area. The City of Englewood has become a prominent business center, which is home to 1,841 businesses within industrial, manufacturing, and service sectors and enjoys a full-time employment base of approximately 23,500 jobs.

The City Englewood is also fortunate to have outstanding cadre of public safety personnel including 56 firefighters, 73 full and part-time law enforcement personnel, 4 reserve officers, 36 support personnel, and 16 code enforcement personnel to safeguard the health and safety of residents, visitors and employers of the City of Englewood.

The unique appeal of Englewood, coupled with the business and cultural amenities of the Rocky Mountain Region, make it an exceptional place to call home for both residents and businesses. With excellent access, a strong employee base and business-friendly government, Englewood has long been the location of choice for successful businesses—boasting more jobs and businesses per square mile than any other city in the Rocky Mountains.

Under its progressive civic leadership, the City of Englewood has designed and built Englewood City Center. It replaced an aging suburban shopping mall and has become an outstanding multi-use urban civic center. This 55-acre public/private urban design project has coordinated the complex needs of city government, regional transportation system, national retailers and homebuilders, and nonprofit cultural organizations. It has transformed a single-use facility into a multi-purpose transit oriented development that is safely accessible by train, bus, car, bike and pedestrians.

Englewood's access to the region's superior light rail transportation system helps to meet the needs of local business and the city's residents. This unique transportation amenity offers convenient, quick, and inexpensive access to Englewood's cultural, educational, entertainment, recreational, and business activities from throughout the Denver Metropolitan area. Englewood's central location makes the area a natural transportation hub, and offers a mere 15-minute commute to downtown Denver.

The City of Englewood has been on the forefront of housing and community development by promoting and providing a varied mix of housing opportunities including affordable housing, expandable housing for different life-cycle stages, workforce housing opportunities, and housing for special needs.

Englewood is responsible for maintaining sizable high quality civic infrastructure including 310 acres of parks and open space, 118 miles of City streets, and over 2,558 acres of

residential land area. Of particular note is the Englewood Wastewater Treatment Plant, which is the third largest publicly owned treatment facility in the State of Colorado. This advanced treatment plant restores wastewater for 25 districts in the Denver Metro area and treats approximately 27 million gallons of wastewater per day.

Englewood is also on the forefront of preserving and maintaining a quality environment. The Englewood Brownfield sites provide excellent opportunities for businesses and investors to reuse and renovate commercial real estate expansion as well as the reuse of land for expansion and redevelopment.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending the City of Englewood, Colorado, on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary. Residents of this community enjoy an exceptional quality of life, as they are part of a vibrant and cosmopolitan city that continues build a better future for its citizens and our children.

JOBS AND GROWTH
RECONCILIATION TAX ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2003

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2, the Jobs and Growth Tax Act of 2003.

Despite the assertions of my Republican colleagues, the Jobs and Growth Tax Act will neither create jobs nor grow the economy. Instead, this legislation increases inequity and unfairness in our tax system and society by drastically redistributing income to the very wealthiest taxpayers.

If the Republican Party was actually interested in stimulating the economy, this legislation would provide tax relief to lower and middle income taxpayers who are likely to spend additional income. By contrast, the richest taxpayers in our society need no extra incentives to consume, and are likely to save, rather than spend, their generous tax cuts.

The Republican tax bill accurately reflects the other party's priorities. While the bill's dividend and capital gains rate reductions will be in effect until 2013, the bill's limited middle class tax relief, including the acceleration of marriage penalty relief and an increase in the child tax credit, expire in three years. The Republicans are effective at paying lip service to the middle class, but completely ineffective in backing up their words with meaningful actions.

While I strongly support tax relief, and was one of only 28 Democrats to support President

Bush's tax cut package [EGTRRA] in 2001, I do not believe that the tax bill before us today will provide the economic stimulus that our country needs. Unfortunately, the Republican tax bill's dividend income tax rate reduction will not increase either short or long term economic growth, as it will have only modest effects on demand in 2003 and would expand budget deficits over the next decade.

According to the Library of Congress's nonpartisan Congressional Research Service [CRS], "using dividend tax reductions to stimulate the economy is unlikely to be very effective." CRS further notes that "the dividend relief proposal is less likely to be successful in stimulating short-run demand than a spending increase or some other tax cuts because it accrues to higher income individuals who may save a larger fraction of the cut."

The country's economic, fiscal, and national security situations have changed significantly since Congress passed the first Bush tax package in 2001. According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office [CBO], in fiscal year [FY] 2000, the US had a budget surplus of \$236 billion. The CBO currently projects a budget deficit in FY2003 of \$248 billion. The White House's Office of Management and Budget [OMB] estimates a higher deficit for the current fiscal year [\$304 billion] if Congress enacts the president's tax and spending proposals. The very first bill I cosponsored in Congress would have amended the U.S. Constitution to require a balanced Federal budget. The Federal Government needs to operate under the same principles of fiscal responsibility as the states, most of which are constitutionally required to produce balanced budgets. The increases in our budget deficits and national debt are counterproductive and will only serve to damage long-term economic growth prospects.

Further, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate in Texas has risen from 4.3 percent in January 2001 to 6.7 percent in March 2003. 112,000 jobs have been lost across Texas since January 2001, and many working Americans have not been able to find new employment. Texas has the fourth highest unemployment rate in the country, and the Republican tax bill will do more harm than good for my constituents.

In Texas, under the President's so-called stimulus plan, the average tax cut for the top 1 percent of taxpayers would be \$32,571. The average tax cut for the middle 20 percent of taxpayers, the definition of the middle class, would have been \$283. 4.4 million Texans would have received \$100 or less under the Bush plan, and of those, 2.9 million people would have realized no benefits at all. Like the Bush plan, the Republican tax bill under consideration today drastically redistributes wealth

toward the very richest taxpayers, and increases the tax burden on the middle class and poor.

A congressional study on the Bush "growth" package estimates that the average East Texas taxpayer would receive \$30 from the package's dividend proposal. The Republican bill's dividend tax cut will provide equally ineffective relief. The negative impact of higher budget deficits, and consequently higher long-term interest rates, far outweighs any potential short-term gains from an elimination of taxation on dividend income.

I will continue to enthusiastically support reasonable tax relief that does not threaten the fiscal future of our country. I support many of the individual provisions of the Republican tax bill, but believe that Congress and the President have a responsibility to work toward balanced budgets and should avoid passing the costs of large, unproductive tax cuts on to our children and grandchildren.

TRIBUTE TO MR. KYLE
ROGACHENKO

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2003

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Kyle Rogachenko, a 14-year-old whose commitment, discipline, and motivation have made him a well-known competitor in the upper echelons of the international sailing community.

Mr. Rogachenko, a 9th grader at Methacton High School in Worcester, Pennsylvania, began his sailing career at age 6 at the Toms River Yacht Club in New Jersey. Included on his sailing resume are his participation on two World Teams, three South American Teams, and three North American Teams. Additionally, he was the top American finisher at the 40th annual IOCA World Championship regatta in 2001. For his age group, Mr. Rogachenko is the top young sailor in the United States.

Throughout the past few years, Mr. Rogachenko has had an extensive travel schedule that has provided him with many rewarding experiences. He has continually displayed all of the attributes of a true leader. I am proud that this young man hopes to attend the United States Naval Academy upon his completion of high school.

It is a privilege to recognize such a fine young man. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Pennsylvania's own, Kyle Rogachenko.