

the sustainability of the fishery. Both quota systems and share holders must come under periodic review to ensure adherence to the goals of the program. Standards legislation must be passed as soon as possible to avoid any future negative results from quota systems developed without any standards at all.

This Act allows for the establishment of fishing quota systems within a fishery management plan or plan amendment if such systems:

Are voted on and approved by fishermen who hold a permit to fish in the fishery and crew who derive seventy-five percent of their income from the fishery subject to the proposed fishing quota system.

Include management measures designed to ensure the sustainability of the fishery and provide additional and substantial conservation benefits to the fishery.

Allocate quota to distribute the public resource fairly.

Not allow anyone to hold an excessive share of quota.

Reserve an allocation to new entrants into the fishery.

Minimize, to the maximum extent practicable, negative social and economic impacts of the system on local communities.

Ensure adequate enforcement, management, and data collection of the system.

Be effective for a set period, 7 years. A system can be altered or renewed to respond to fishery management issues and to ensure the sustainability of fish stocks.

#### NATIONAL RIVER MUSEUM AND AQUARIUM GRAND OPENING

### HON. JIM NUSSLE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my deepest congratulations to a community I have had the honor of representing since I took office in January of 1991. Tomorrow Dubuque, Iowa will pass a milestone in its history with the official opening of its National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium.

The Mississippi River has already drawn more than 1 million visitors to the City of Dubuque. This community chose to make its story of the river a cornerstone of urban renewal by investing millions of dollars to revitalize the river front. The June 28 opening represents the community's dedication to growing its tourism industry. For more than 12 years Dubuque has worked to create a world-class center to educate residents and tourists alike about the Mississippi River, its science and cultural history.

This project enjoys rare, unified and vigorous support from local government, the business community, and residents. During difficult economic times in the 1980s, the people of Dubuque came to understand all too well that being subject to a single economic sector's peaks and valleys hinders a city's self-sufficiency. The years of planning for the museum have been a catalyst for change by redirecting the economy toward tourism and making Dubuque a more viable community. Significant changes are happening in the area adjacent to the museum known as the Port of Dubuque. These changes include The Grand Harbor Re-

sort and Waterpark, a new riverwalk, a community amphitheater, and a conference center.

Enthusiasm for this project has been infectious. It has spread to Main Street where activities are beginning to flourish with the opening of new businesses, including several new restaurants. The entire business community in Dubuque and the surrounding area is already seeing a positive economic impact due to this project. Dubuque's spirit of partnership, community pride and determination have helped the city to grow. They have found a way to tie together Iowa's best strengths—our people and our rich natural resources—to serve as an example to other cities of what can be accomplished.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to personally commend Mayor Terry Duggan and other local elected officials for their leadership in Dubuque's revitalization. Additionally, this project would not be possible without the very diligent work of Jerry Enzler and Teri Goodmann. Thanks in large part to Jerry's work, the museum is now an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and last year was named by the U.S. Department of Transportation to be the official interpretive center for the Mississippi's Great River Road. Dubuque has been well served by Mayor Duggan, the city council, Jerry, Teri, and the countless others who have been undaunted in their efforts to obtain financial assistance for the museum from individuals, private industries and government officials.

I am proud to have played a part in making this project a reality and look forward to attending the Grand Opening. I believe Dubuque serves as a great example of what a community can do when it identifies goals and pursues them. At one time the phrase often used in the city was, "will the last person out please shut off the lights?" What a difference less than 20 years have made! The city now calls itself, "Masterpiece on the Mississippi." It is truly a masterpiece of natural beauty, historical value, and residents bursting with pride and enthusiasm. Dubuque, your lights are on for the whole world to see and experience.

#### SUPREME COURT RULING ON AFFIRMATIVE ACTION IS A JUST, FAIR DECISION IN SOCIETY WHERE RACIAL DISPARITY IS STILL THE ROOT OF MANY PROBLEMS

### HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my joy over the 5-4 ruling by the United States Supreme Court that favors affirmative action based on race. It is the right decision at the right time. The Supreme Court ruling on affirmative action is a just, fair decision in a society where racial disparity continues to feed problems rooted in racial injustice. It is the right decision at the right time.

On Monday, the Supreme Court announced its ruling in a case where white applicants sued the University of Michigan law school, alleging the use of race was an illegal quota system. The case, *Grutter v. Michigan*, has been called the most important civil rights case in 25 years because it challenged the use of racial preferences in school admissions.

While we lost on points, or a point system used to help minorities compete for slots, the decision by the high court affirms the United States Constitution on the side of balancing the scales of fairness, not on the side of continuing the unfairness built into a system that allows the racially privileged to continue their reign.

The white ruling class in America was built in large part on slavery and its aftermath—slave wages, and as long as America depends on the beneficence of gatekeepers who are insensitive to the history of this nation and the long-term effects of American apartheid, then the problem of racial disparity will continue.

Affirmative action is one tool that can help make-up for years of deprivation by helping people of color hurdle racial pitfalls in less time than would normally take many more generations to remove," he said. To wait for the goodness of human nature to rise to the top and result in racial fairness, is not judicious governance. It took the courts to help undo segregation and it will take the courts to help maintain justice. Sometimes only laws compel people to do the right thing. Without compulsion, many people of all races will submit to whatever decisions that favors them, even decisions made at the expense of weaker, less fortunate, powerless people.

Good law creates balance and for these times, affirmative action is good law. It addresses the needs of a disparaged group that has been historically discriminated against based on race. To overlook that reality is to impose a new form of segregation. According to Pete Williams, NBC news correspondent for MSNBC News, the 5-4 ruling that favored the university's law school, noted that "race can be one of many factors that colleges consider when selecting their students, while, at the same time, knocking down a similar lawsuit over the university's undergraduate program."

An Associated Press summary said the two split decisions means "minority applicants may be given an edge when applying for admissions to universities, but limited how much a factor race can play in the selection of students. The high court struck down a point system used by the University of Michigan, but did not go as far as opponents of affirmative action had wanted. The court approved a separate program used at the University of Michigan law school that gives race less prominence in the admissions decision-making process."

In April, I noted that affirmative action today really means affirmative access for minorities, a group of Americans that was systemically denied access to education and society in general, for hundreds of years.

What I don't think some people realize is that affirmative action is not new. While affirmative action seems like something out of the ordinary, historically, it is not new.

Segregation was affirmative action for whites. And when it comes to getting into college, there is affirmative action (even quotas) for athletes, intellectuals, artists and the children of the rich, just to name a few categories. Only when minorities were added to the list of beneficiaries has affirmative action become a problem."

Former U.S. Education Secretary Richard W. Riley noted in mid-2002 that a study published by the Educational Testing Service, entitled "Crossing the Great Divide," stated that