

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCING THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to introduce the Department of Homeland Security Financial Accountability Act.

The purpose of this bill is to ensure that the new Department of Homeland Security is subject to the same financial management and accountability requirements as all other cabinet-level departments. This requires adding the new Department to the list of agencies that are covered by the Chief Financial Officers (CFO) Act of 1990 and making adjustments to provisions of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make it consistent with the CFO Act. These changes will put the Department's CFO on the same footing as the CFOs at the rest of the cabinet-level departments by ensuring that the Department's CFO is a presidential appointee subject to Senate confirmation, that the CFO reports directly to the Secretary, and that the CFO is a part of the statutorily created CFO Council.

The CFO Act of 1990 increased federal accountability by enacting much needed financial management reforms. Among the most important of these reforms was the establishment of a new leadership structure for federal financial management within the 24 largest departments and agencies as well as within the Office of Management and Budget. The CFO Act created 24 chief financial officers for the major executive departments and agencies as well as 24 deputy CFOs. The CFOs in the 14 cabinet-level departments, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration are filled by presidential appointees, confirmed by the Senate. These CFOs serve as the leaders of financial management in these departments and agencies. The Department of Homeland Security, as one of our most important departments, should be in this framework.

The newly created Department of Homeland Security is one of the most significant government reorganizations in the history of the United States. The Department faces the challenge of merging 22 agencies, 17,000 employees, and hundreds of computer systems and management processes. As the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Government Efficiency and Financial Management, I have seen how ineffective strategic planning can result in systemic problems in an agency's financial management. The Department of Defense is a good example of a situation where years of insufficient coordination among business units, improper financial planning, and the use of stove piped information systems has resulted in the inability of the Department to obtain a clean annual financial audit or fully account for the way it spends its budget. No one wishes

to see these same mistakes made at the Department of Homeland Security. That is why it is extremely important to instill solid financial management practices in the Department from its inception through the establishment of a strong CFO that is on equal footing with the other CFOs at cabinet-level departments.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Homeland Security Financial Accountability Act makes important, common sense changes to the CFO position at the Department of Homeland Security. It is a good government measure that benefits the American taxpayer. I urge my colleagues to join with me in seeking prompt enactment of the bill.

WELL DONE, SPECTRUM

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the accomplishments of the SBC/Ameritech employee group SPECTRUM, which holds its annual dinner August 3 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

SPECTRUM has been successful in achieving its goals to provide a supportive, diverse, accepting, and respectful work environment for all employees regardless of sexual orientation. Their work both within and outside of their company has served to improve the perception of SBC within the LGBT community and the community as a whole. SPECTRUM has successfully been able to secure company benefits for domestic partnerships. The group should be commended for its perseverance and ability to work with SBC to come closer to achieving SBC's Diversity Vision.

SPECTRUM has done a fine job of celebrating diversity as well as ensuring that rights and benefits in the workplace are applied equally and without discrimination. Groups that promote diversity and equal rights in the workplace are an important part of promoting tolerance and awareness. Organizations such as SPECTRUM have gone to great lengths to secure equal and fair treatment of employees through equal benefits and fair opportunities regardless of factors such as sexual orientation. Although much more work still needs to be done, SPECTRUM has led the way by working with SBC and its employees to set a wonderful example of what should be accomplished in all workplaces and throughout the entire United States.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday July 23, 2003 I was unable to record my vote on

final passage of H.R. 2800, the Foreign Operations Appropriations bill for FY04, and the four recorded votes on amendments immediately preceding. My unfortunate and unavoidable absence was due to the fact that I fell very ill earlier in the evening.

Had I been able to vote I would have voted the following: Rollcall No. 425: "yes," Rollcall No. 426: "yes," Rollcall No. 427: "no," Rollcall No. 428: "yes," and Rollcall No. 429: "yes."

REGARDING TURKEY'S INVASION OF CYPRUS 29 YEARS AGO

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, twenty-nine years ago—on July 20, 1974—the Republic of Turkey invaded the independent Republic of Cyprus and seized control of more than one third of the island. In 1983, Turkey declared the seized territory to be the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus." For two decades this entity has received diplomatic recognition only from its creator and protector the Republic of Turkey. United Nations observers are deployed, and the 113-mile barbed wire fence known as the "Green Line" continues to divide the island.

The United States has supported efforts by the United Nations to address the continued division. Though not accepted by both sides, the latest plan, the Annan Plan, remains on the table for consideration. Both Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders have met trying to resolve their differences on this issue.

Over the last several years, the Helsinki Commission, which I chair, has held two briefings focusing on Cyprus. We have heard optimism from some witnesses, and skepticism from others. But the common thread throughout the testimonies has been that Cyprus has been divided too long and must come together to move into the future.

In April, the Green Line was opened to private individuals and groups and their automobiles, and Cypriots flocked across by the thousands into areas denied them for over a generation. Although required to return home each day, families have been able to visit their pre-war homes. In an effort to develop trade between the two areas, the Government of Cyprus announced in June that it would permit Turkish Cypriot trucks carrying goods from the north to cross into the south. The trucks are inspected in accordance with European Union regulations and the laws of the Government of Cyprus Transport Department, which will issue permits to the drivers for the transport of goods, and various fees have been reduced or abolished.

Thus, while we observe the anniversary of a bleak day in the history of Cyprus, we do so in the light of optimism. The people of Cyprus have made clear their desire to overcome the legacy of the past and move toward some

• 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.

sense of normalcy after decades of division. Regrettably, intransigence on the Turkish Cypriot side remains a formidable obstacle to ending the artificial division of Cyprus. We must encourage and support the efforts of open-minded reformers. I am hopeful that negotiations will resume under the auspices of the United Nations Good Offices Mission for Cyprus and that a new generation of Cypriots will have the opportunity to exercise their fundamental freedoms, including freedom of movement, and enjoy economic prosperity in their own land.

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ACT

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my House colleague, Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON today, in introducing the "Metropolitan Washington Regional Transportation Act."

No one would expect the road system and limited transit service that existed in the 1970s to serve us today. Yet much of the transportation infrastructure in this region was designed and built more than 30 years ago and has already reached the saturation point. A disruption on any single thoroughfare, be it rail or road, can overwhelm other roadways and shut down the entire region. Rush hour conditions in this region are becoming a 24-hour phenomenon. For more than a decade we have suffered some of the worst traffic congestion in the nation. According to the Greater Washington Board of Trade, this increased commuting time and congestion costs each man, woman, and child in the region close to \$1,600 for each rush-hour driver in lost time, wasted fuel, and environmental damage. Long commutes and traffic congestion have also become quality-of-life issues to area residents, robbing many families of the one commodity Washingtonians never seem to have enough of—time.

Some drivers facing a longer commute have even become a safety hazard as they race recklessly to cut a precious few minutes from their daily commute. For those who lack cars, the distance between employment opportunities and affordable housing has grown more and more difficult to traverse. Our economic prosperity and quality of life hinge on improving our congestion problem.

Unfortunately, as we look to the future the traffic situation only grows worse. Even with the increase in Federal funds that Virginia, Maryland and DC will receive under legislation reauthorizing Federal surface transportation programs, "TEA-21," this region will still fall seriously short of meeting the growing demand for transportation improvements. For the period of 1990 through 2020, this region can expect both a 43 percent increase in population and a 43 percent increase in employment. This growth and increased dependency on the automobile is expected to increase, by 79 percent, the number of vehicle miles traveled in the region by 2020. The Board of Trade estimates that transportation spending is expected to fall short of the region's transportation needs by more than \$500 million annually.

Any solution to current and future congestion demands strategic investment in both our road and mass transit system. It demands better land use and planning decisions and better interjurisdictional cooperation. And it also demands that this region come together and raise additional revenue to finance priority transportation projects that will provide immediate congestion relief. It may not be a popular idea, particularly in light of Northern Virginia's failed attempt to enact a regional sales tax for transportation improvements. I think the key to success, however, is with some healthy Federal incentives that encourage this region to do more.

The legislation I am introducing provides a new option to help the metropolitan Washington region more effectively address its transportation needs. It has seven key elements: it turns the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board into a regional transportation authority with the power to issue bonds, receive Federal grants and local funds; it directs the new authority to develop a list of critical congestion relief projects that have not been funded under current and forecasted Federal, State, or local transportation plans; it directs the authority within two years to contract out through the States, local governments or the private sector to build the approved list of projects; it allows tolls on interstate highways for the purposes of building more HOV and new HOT lanes; it grants consent to the metropolitan Washington region jurisdictions to enter into an interstate compact or agreement to create a more permanent authority that would help meet the region's long-term transportation needs; it provides \$100 million annually in Federal grants to leverage more State and local funds; and it provides \$5 million annually for expanding the network of non-motorized trails within the region.

This legislation provides the framework under which regional transportation needs could be addressed. It requires consultation with State and local officials at every level and in an effort to win State support, the legislation preciously guards State control of both the corporation and the authority through veto power. It does not raise anyone's taxes, but it does provide a mechanism or a "vehicle" through which the local jurisdictions could coordinate and commit future revenues to finance the construction of specific transportation projects that otherwise will not get built or built anytime soon.

The "Metropolitan Washington Regional Transportation Act" gives us a choice and helps start a debate on how we should take control and improve our future transportation system and improve our quality of life. Our failure to act and meet our transportation needs will have a much higher cost. The Board of Trade places the cumulative regional economic losses from the failure to meet our transportation needs in the year 2020 at between \$70.2 billion to \$182 billion. That economic loss includes: a 350 percent or \$345 million increase in shipping costs; \$1.3 billion to \$2.6 billion in higher warehousing and inventory costs; \$1,365 per household, per year, higher consumer costs; and more than \$1,000 per household, per year, in higher personal travel costs.

In the past, leaders from this region have shared a vision and worked together successfully to address important transportation needs, through such institutions as the Metro-

politan Washington Airports Authority, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, and the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. We need a similar vision to carry us forward another 30 years. The Metropolitan Washington Regional Transportation Act will help us craft this vision.

JOHN DAVID GARCIA

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share with you the personal motto of Deputy Constable John David Garcia, a brave law enforcement officer from Magnolia, Texas, who tragically lost his life in the line of duty one week ago today.

"Always do right. This will gratify some, and astonish the rest."

These words were written on the back of a Magnolia Deputy Constable's "officer trading card." What make these words so special are not only the meaning, but also the fact that this officer lived by them each day that he protected and served the people of Texas. Garcia was killed in a tragic car accident, on July 17, 2003 while patrolling just outside the city of Magnolia in Montgomery County, Texas.

Born July 25, 1969, Deputy Garcia was a young officer who began his career in law enforcement in 1997, and had been with Precinct 5 since 1999.

Everyone will remember John David Garcia differently. To some, he will be remembered as one of the finest officers in Constable David Hill's precinct—always giving 110 percent. All of Deputy Garcia's fellow law enforcement officers will remember him as a person who was eager and willing to serve, especially with his service to the Hispanic community in the area.

Most importantly, he is known as a loving husband, father, son, and friend. Deputy Garcia leaves behind his wife, Shannon, and 14-year-old daughter, Patricia. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends during this time.

Deputy Garcia's dedication and values are reflected in his personal creed and the life that creed embodied.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in honoring the life and service of Deputy John David Garcia. All residents of Montgomery County, Texas and the 8th Congressional District are grateful for his service and dedication.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 29TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TURKISH INVASION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 29th anniversary of the Turkish invasion of the Republic of Cyprus, which occurred on July 20, 1974. It is my firm

hope that these Turkish occupying forces, which are still stationed in the northern third of the island, will soon be withdrawn, thus allowing Greek and Turkish Cypriot compatriots to live in peace and unity in the absence of this needless military presence.

For the past 29 years, Cyprus has been a nation divided. Despite the strong desires of Greek Cypriots to return to the homes that they have been barred from since the initial invasion, and the expressed desires of an overwhelming majority of Turkish Cypriots to reunify the island so that all Cypriots can enjoy the benefits of EU membership, the Republic of Cyprus remains torn. There have been recent advancements, such as the signing of the EU Accession Treaty, the partial opening of the Green Line, and the package of measures that was designed and implemented by the Greek Cypriots with the intention of assisting their Turkish-Cypriot neighbors, but none of this has led to the ultimate goal, which is the peaceful reunification of the island. The United Nations, under the leadership of Secretary General Kofi Annan, made a sincere effort at encouraging negotiations between the two sides prior to the signing of the EU Accession Treaty, but the obdurate leader of the Turkish-Cypriots, Rauf Denktash, failed to cooperate. Thus, the division remains.

The failure to reunify the island is certainly not due to a lack of interest shown by the people of Cyprus. Compelled by desires to return to the lands they have been evicted from since the Turkish invasion of 1974, Greek-Cypriots continue to support efforts to reach a settlement through negotiations. Likewise, Turkish-Cypriots have come out in great numbers to demonstrate against their leader's negative approach in hopes of someday reuniting their country and gaining all of the benefits that come with EU membership. Mr. Speaker, I feel that it is vitally important for the United States government to continue its strong support and encouragement of the Cypriot community as they continue their push towards reunification.

I recently introduced a resolution into the House, H. Res. 320, which calls for the immediate withdrawal of the Turkish troops of occupation from the Republic of Cyprus. Given the recent advancements that have been made, I feel that the removal of occupational forces would be an appropriate and meaningful step to continue the momentum towards reunification of the island. With over 30,000 troops currently stationed in Cyprus, the island is one of the most militarized countries in the world, and this is clearly not conducive to peaceful negotiations. I strongly urge each of my colleagues in the House to join me in support of this positive step, and to cosponsor this resolution.

It has been 29 long years since the Republic of Cyprus was first divided by the illegal occupation of Turkish military forces. For 29 years Greek-Cypriots have been barred from the northern portion of their homeland, and Turkish-Cypriots have lived through economic hardships under an illegitimate government. Mr. Speaker, I firmly believe that the time has come for the Republic of Cyprus to be reunified, and I urge my colleagues in the House to join me in support of all efforts towards this end.

IN TRIBUTE TO BERT BOECKMANN

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Bert Boeckmann, a close friend, who is being honored tonight for his many years of service to the Los Angeles Police Department and a lifetime of service to the community.

Bert Boeckmann proved his business acumen at an early age. He began selling automobiles at Galpin Ford in 1953 and by age 26 was general manager of the company. As vice president in 1960, he began purchasing company stock. Four years later he became president and majority stockholder. By 1968, the buyout was complete. Galpin Motors now employs more than 835 people and includes not only Ford, but also Saturn, Jaguar, Mazda and Volvo dealerships.

Bert also owns, partners or serves as board chairman in a slew of other companies spanning the spectrum from real estate development, to ranching, to mining to communications.

As anyone who has had dealings with one of Bert's companies can tell you, he has built his success on a recipe of moral character and ethical standards that are rewarded at every level. It works. For 30 of the past 34 years, he has been the Number One profitmaker for Ford Motor Company. For the past 11 years, he has ranked Number One nationally in Ford retail car and truck sales. About 87 percent of Galpin's sales are to customers who are either repeat customers, referrals from customers, or heard about the Galpin reputation.

Bert has given equal energy to bettering his community. He set a precedent by being appointed as a Los Angeles Police Department commissioner by three consecutive mayors. In addition to his Police Department service, which spans three decades, he served as a State of California New Motor Vehicle Board director, on the Mayor's Select Blue Ribbon Committee on Budget & Finance, and is president of the Municipal Improvement Corporation of L.A. He donated a major collection of 80,000 volumes of Spanish language books to the University of Southern California, including the complete history of Central and South America, and created an annual endowment to catalog and maintain the collection.

He has served on the executive board of the Boy Scouts of America since 1965, as a director of the San Fernando Valley Business and Professional Association since 1972, and supported Chambers of Commerces, universities and high schools, and many, many more civic, educational, church and business organizations.

Not surprisingly, Bert Boeckmann has won numerous prestigious awards for his business acumen and community service. To highlight only a few: the Jack Webb Award presented by the Los Angeles Police Department Historical Society, the Albert Schweitzer Award from the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Foundation, and the Presidential Citation for Private Sector Initiatives, presented by President Reagan and Vice President Bush at a special Rose Garden Ceremony.

Mr. Speaker, Bert Boeckmann's life and success proves that ethical and moral cap-

italism is not only good business, but benefits everyone in the community. I know my colleagues will join me in paying tribute to Bert Boeckmann and thank him for a lifetime of service.

**RECOGNIZING THE MISSION OF
THE DIAGEO IRAQ HUMANITARIAN
AIRLIFT TEAM**

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, to recognize and pay tribute to the effort of the Diageo Iraq Humanitarian Airlift Team, who in four days, covered 12,000 miles, and delivered school supplies, hygienic and food products to the children of Iraq. The Diageo Iraq Humanitarian Airlift, one of the first U.S. corporate humanitarian missions into Iraq, provided 90,000 pounds of aid and supplies to improve the health and lives of thousands of Iraqi children.

As a project endorsed by both U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and Commanding General Tommy Franks, this team of Diageo employees and Ground Zero Heroes—current and former New York City Firefighters and Policemen who provided emergency services on September 11th—left for Baghdad on June 22, 2003. This humanitarian team flew from New York to Amsterdam, where they loaded a DC-8 cargo transport plane with supplies that included such things as school materials, infant formula, milk powder, rice and sugar. With temperatures exceeding 115 degrees, the cargo plane carrying these supplies touched down at the Baghdad International Airport. In a city mostly without power and water, the Diageo Iraq Humanitarian Airlift volunteers visited among thousands of small children suffering from malnutrition, severe dehydration and other illnesses at the Habibya Children's Hospital and the Pediatric ward, formerly the Saddam Pediatric Hospital. These supplies have not only helped improve the health of these children, but have offered some relief to the many troubled parents who cannot afford the basic needs for their children.

The Diageo Iraq Humanitarian Airlift, marks the second time Diageo has embarked on a humanitarian airlift. In December 2001, New York Fire Department and Police Department officers participated in the Diageo "Ground Zero to Ground Zero" airlift taking food and emergency relief supplies to an orphanage in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in thanking the volunteers of the Diageo Iraq Humanitarian Airlift and Diageo North America, who represent the finest and most compassionate qualities of America.

**HONORING THE VILLAGE OF
JUSTICE, ILLINOIS**

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to salute the men and women of Justice, Illinois

for their act of positive Americanism. Led by Mayor Mel VanAllen, Clerk Kathleen Svoboda, and my good and longtime friend Jeff Kranig, the village of Justice planned, organized, and presented a magnificent celebration of Americanism dedicated to our men and women fighting terrorism and defending our Nation and people around the world.

This four-day long celebration included athletic events, cultural events, educational events, and culminated in a great parade and awards ceremony for the youth of the community. I was fortunate enough to be selected as parade marshal for this first annual Patriots weekend. I wish to thank the citizens of Justice for this great honor and express my sincere appreciation to them for all their hard work and dedication that brought this patriotic event to fruition. All residents of Justice should be very proud of their contribution to this unique and very special event.

In closing, let me say my Tricorner hat is off and my trusty old colonial musket is raised in salute to the Mayor, the clerk, my old friend Jeff, and the residents of Justice, Illinois.

COMMENDATION AND RECOGNITION FOR MERCATUS CENTER'S REPORT ON THE "TRANSPARENCY OF ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTS FROM THE 24 FEDERAL CFO ACT AGENCIES"

HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress, we are accountable not only to the constituents who elected us, but to all American taxpayers. We are responsible for making informed decisions, that incorporate a base of knowledge. The Mercatus Center at George Mason University provides a valuable, objective, independent evaluation to Members of Congress and taxpayers, by reviewing the annual performance reports of the 24 CFO Act agencies and ranking them according to three criteria: transparency, public benefit, and forwardlooking leadership. Mercatus evaluates the Annual Performance and Accountability Reports of each of these Agencies to determine how transparently an agency reports its successes and failures, how well an agency documents the tangible public benefits it claims to have produced, and whether an agency demonstrates leadership that uses annual performance information to devise strategies for improvement.

Their analysis and the report I submit to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, allows us as Members of Congress to have a common understanding about which agencies report to the public most clearly. Their analysis also allows agencies to learn from their colleagues how best to present useful data about the performance of their organizations. Armed with this report, and upon reviewing performance information provided by agencies, we can and must determine appropriate resource allocations, based not on the amount appropriated and spent last year, but on what benefit was earned from this expenditure. We owe it to the people who pay our salaries, to demonstrate the public benefit created with the money en-

trusted to us. And where the government is a poor steward of funds, we must intervene to improve the Federal Government's role in providing efficient and effective service to the American people.

I commend the Mercatus Center's report to my colleagues.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Public disclosure is the mechanism used to report on performance to those who are entitled to know. In this Scorecard we assess how effective reports of the agencies of the federal government are in disclosing pertinent information to the American people. We review these reports with the mindset of ordinary citizens, who are interested in looking for the benefits that the agencies provide and the effectiveness of the agencies' efforts. Thus, our research efforts emphasize an assessment of an agency's transparency of communications with the general public, identification and assessment of the public benefits it provides, and its leadership vision for the future.

In an era of increased demand for accountability, disclosure and transparency, the government has a responsibility to supply the American people with quality disclosures on the public benefits it provides. Clear, descriptive disclosure of the public benefits provided by governmental agencies allows ordinary citizens to understand the strategic goals and assess the agencies' performance relative to those goals.

Annual performance and accountability reports are one avenue for agencies to communicate with both citizens and policymakers. The purpose of this Scorecard is to encourage improvement in the quality of reporting on results achieved by government agencies. We do this by evaluating and ranking (1) how transparently an agency reports its successes and failures; (2) how well an agency documents the tangible public benefits it claims to have produced; and, (3) whether an agency demonstrates leadership that uses annual performance information to devise strategies for improvement.

Researchers at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University conducted our fourth annual evaluation of the reports produced by the 24 agencies covered under the Chief Financial Officers Act, using similar criteria to evaluate the fiscal year (FY) 2002 performance and accountability reports. By assessing the quality of agencies' reports (but not the quality of the results achieved), we wish to learn which agencies are supplying the information that Congress and the public need to make informed funding and policy decisions. The importance of quality reporting has taken on added significance in light of the President's Management Agenda that highlights the intent to use agency performance information to make budget decisions.

Best Reports: For FY 2002, the Department of Labor (Labor), the Department of Transportation (Transportation), the Small Business Administration (SBA), and the Department of Veterans Affairs (Veterans) produced the highest rated reports. Three of these agencies, Department of Labor, Department of Transportation, and the Department of Veterans Affairs were rated the top three agencies for FY 2001 as well. The SBA joins their ranks this year.

Reports Most In Need Of Improvement: The Department of Defense (Defense), U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and the Department of Energy (Energy) earned the lowest rankings for FY 2002.

Most Improved Reports: Eleven agencies improved their scores from FY 2001 to FY

2002. Of these, the Small Business Administration, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Department of State showed the most improvement in their rankings. The Small Business Administration moved from 16th to 3rd in the rankings, the Federal Emergency Management Agency jumped from 19th to 8th, and the Department of State moved from 20th to 11th.

Most Common Strengths: (1) accessibility of reports, and (2) clarity of reports.

Most Common Weaknesses: (1) weak or missing explanations of failures to achieve strategic goals, and (2) lack of well-articulated descriptions of changes in policies or procedures to address weaknesses or failures.

Mixed results: The average score of the 24 reporting agencies was 30, a 4.1 percent increase for FY 2002 reports compared to FY 2001. The average scores for seven of the twelve criteria improved this year, led by improvements of 26.9 percent for accessibility and 19.7 percent for better explanations of the linkages between the agencies goals and results to their costs. However, on average, agencies did not make progress in several areas, particularly in providing quality trend data (decline of 13.0 percent) and clearly articulating their goals and objectives as outcomes (decline of 9.9 percent).

Scorecard Rankings for FY 2002 (1) Labor; (2) Transportation; (3) SBA, Veterans; (5) Commerce; (6) EPA, Interior; (8) FEMA; (9) NRC, SSA; (11) State; (12) Agriculture, Education, GSA, Justice, NASA, OPM; (18) HUD, NSF, Treasury; (21) Energy, HHS; (23) USAID; and (24) Defense.

INTRODUCTION

Following the passage of the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA), federal agencies developed strategic plans, performance plans, and performance reports to explain what they are trying to accomplish, identify performance measures, and report on their results. A new reporting requirement for FY 2002 requires agencies to prepare and submit a combined performance and accountability report. The combined Performance and Accountability Report includes the strategic plans, performance plans, and performance reports previously included as well as a financial section, which incorporates the audited financial statements and report of the Office of Inspector General (OIG) on serious management challenges.

President Bush's FY 2002 budget proposal called upon the federal government to produce better results for citizens by enhancing accountability for dollars collected and dollars spent. The administration also began using information on agency performance in the FY 2003 budget for a selected set of programs, a practice that has been expanded for the FY 2004 budget. Performance-based budgeting means that money will be allocated not just on the basis of perceived needs and policy priorities, but also according to the federal government's ability to address those needs and priorities effectively. Program proponents will have to demonstrate that the particular programs actually accomplish their stated goals.

For performance-based budgeting to work, performance information has to be transparent, accessible, and reliable. GPRA and its amendments require federal agencies to produce annual performance reports. The purpose of these reports is to give Congress and the American people accurate and timely information that will let them assess the extent to which agencies are producing tangible public benefits. In line with expectations under the legislation, agencies published their first reports (for FY 1999) in spring 2000, the second series in spring 2001 (covering FY 2000), the third series in spring

2002 (covering FY 2001), and the current series in spring 2003 (for FY 2002). Beginning with FY 2002 reports, agencies are required to consolidate their performance reports with financial reporting information in a combined Performance and Accountability report. With society's increased emphasis on accountability, transparency, and disclosure, it is incumbent on the federal government and its agencies to meet the highest standards in their external reporting efforts. Effective accountability in public service requires that agencies present a comprehensive, concise, accurate, and reliable assessment of the benefits created for the public, as well as the costs of producing those benefits. Equipped with such information, the administration and Congress can allocate federal resources in ways that continually advance government's contribution to citizens' quality of life (The Mercatus Center has developed a seven-step process, called "Outcome-Based Scrutiny," that provides a framework for comparing the results and costs of programs with similar objectives and assessing the likely impact of reallocating resources to the most effective programs. For a pilot study applying Outcome-Based Scrutiny to federal vocational training programs, see <http://www.mercatus.org/governmentaccountability>).

To help policymakers assess this year's reports and agencies improve the quality of future reports, a Mercatus Center research team evaluated the reports produced by the 24 agencies covered under the Chief Financial Officers' Act. This marks the fourth year that researchers at the Mercatus Center's Government Accountability Project have evaluated agencies' reports. It is our goal that this annual assessment will not only help to inform decision makers, but that it will also inform the American people more generally. By promoting the American spirit of competition and accountability and applying it to government performance reporting, it is also our hope that agencies can and will improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of the services they deliver.

INTERPRETING OUR FINDINGS

It is important to emphasize that our research team evaluated only the quality of reporting, not the quality of results. Therefore, it would be a mistake to conclude that the agencies with the highest-scoring reports necessarily produced the best results for the country. Ideally, an agency's report reflects more about its managers' capabilities than just their ability to write reports. Instead, a high scoring report reflects an agency's ability to translate what it does into understandable and meaningful results that Americans can appreciate.

Similarly, it would also be inappropriate to draw policy conclusions from our analysis. We offer no recommendations on whether the federal government should or should not be engaged in its current menu of activities.

So what do the findings in this study really mean? By assessing the quality of agency reports, we are trying to evaluate the agencies that are supplying the information that Congress and the public need to make informed funding, budgeting, and policy decisions. An additional word on information quality is also in order. Our researchers assessed the quality of each report's disclosure of data verification and validation procedures. In the interest of producing a timely study, we did not, however, verify the performance information cited in each agency's report. Given the importance of accurate data for sensible decisions, we believe that verification and validation should be a high priority for Inspectors General, Congress, the General Accounting Office, and the Office of Management and Budget.

For the complete report, visit the Mercatus Center's Government Accountability Project website at www.governmentaccountability.org.

HONORING DONALD SCHNEIDER

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Donald Schneider, who served as the Chief Clerk of the Wisconsin State Senate for 26 years.

As the longest-serving Chief Clerk in Wisconsin's history, Don Schneider worked under three Democrat and three Republican majorities. Although it is impossible to quantify his rich legacy, I honor him most for three reasons: his dedication to bring cutting edge technology to the Senate, his expertise in legislative organization, and his non-partisan cooperation in serving the body.

During his tenure, Schneider was instrumental in the modernization and automation of the Senate. The Senate's increased technology allowed for increased efficiency and increased public accessibility. In a world of ever-advancing technology, Schneider's commitment of keeping the Senate technologically current was crucial to the performance of its function.

Secondly, Schneider is recognized both within Wisconsin borders and beyond for his authority in the fields of legislative organization and legislative institution development. This reputation extends nationally and internationally, culminating in his acceptance of the Joseph A. Beek Distinguished Service Award from the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries in 1998.

Perhaps most importantly, Schneider is honored for his professionalism and nonpartisanship. His collaboration with both sides of the aisle induced the respect that Republicans and Democrats alike feel for him, translating into his lengthy tenure under both majorities. Mr. Schneider's character served to advance and facilitate the legislative function of the Senate both on the floor and behind the scenes.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2800) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to thank the Committee for including in the report on the Fiscal Year 2004 Foreign Operations Appropriations bill language reiterating its support for the East Central European Scholar-

ship Program (ECESP). This program has operated successfully for a number of years at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and has had positive impacts not only in the various Balkan nations on which it is focused, but also on the La Crosse campus of the University of Wisconsin.

As we look at the situation in Iraq and Afghanistan today, it is clear how critically important it is that we work to ensure that nations taking shape in the aftermath of conflict have the human resources to sustain democratic institutions and free market economies. Over the past 14 years, ECESP has conducted technical training for democratic institution building, health care administration, and financial sector management, among other fields. The program's efforts have resulted in strengthened skills and understanding for over 1200 administrators, managers and government leaders. ECESP alumni include members of national parliaments and the European Council, bank examiners of central banks, hospital administrators as well as administrators of nongovernmental and non-profit organizations.

From 1989 until 1998, ECESP focused its work in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia, assisting in the systemic reforms required for integration into the European community. Since 1998, ECESP has been engaged in similar efforts focusing on Albania, Bulgaria, Macedonia and Romania. I look forward to working with USAID, institutions of higher learning, and my colleagues in Congress to help expand this program model in the former Soviet Republics and Central Asia, as recommended by a recent USAID funded evaluation, and explore similar possibilities in the Middle East.

Over the last decade, the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, through ECESP, has been able to provide training to some 300 financial managers from all of the participating ECESP countries. That training has provided these managers with expertise in bank risk management, financial management, and supervision of financial institutions, all of which are critically important to stable market economies. At the same time, the program has enabled U.S. students on the UW-La Crosse campus to benefit from interaction with the international students and a greater awareness of international perspectives in these areas.

USAID is currently considering a new multiyear agreement with the Center for Intercultural Education and Development based at Georgetown University, which manages ECESP. As that agreement is finalized, I strongly encourage USAID and the Department of State to maintain the current level of support for this important and successful program. ECESP is an important component in our efforts to stabilize the Balkan region, and it is a commitment that we need to see through.

DISPLACED PERSONS FACING SERIOUS OBSTACLES IN RUSSIA

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I want to bring to the attention of colleagues two situations concerning internally

displaced persons (IDPs) in the Russian Federation. I recently chaired a Helsinki Commission hearing to assess the plight of IDPs, including those in the Caucasus region.

The first involves IDPs from Chechnya who, according to reliable sources, continue to be pressured by Russian authorities to return to the war-torn capital city of Grozny, despite continuing violence there and a lack of many basic services. According to the State Department's Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2002, approximately 140,000 persons remained internally displaced within Chechnya, with 110,000 more displaced in the neighboring republic of Ingushetia. Despite international attention, including a letter initiated last fall by the Helsinki Commission, which I chair, the Russian Government continues to pressure IDPs to return, and in some cases limits the ability of NGOs to provide assistance.

My concern for the safety of Chechen IDPs is well founded, as authorities in the past year closed three IDP camps, two near the village of Znamenskoye in northern Chechnya and the Aki-Yurt camp in Ingushetia, effectively forcing the residents back to Grozny. Reports of violence and human rights violations by both Russian military units and Chechen rebels in Chechnya are disturbing. The ongoing chaos in that war-torn region has kept UNHCR from certifying Chechnya as a safe return destination, which is supported by the fact that many international aid agencies have limited or suspended their operations out of concern for the safety of aid workers.

Despite this lack of security, the United Nations estimates that more than 38,000 IDPs from Ingushetia returned to Chechnya last year, with many complaining of government coercion. While no camp has been closed since December 2002, Doctors Without Borders reports that government officials threaten to cut off assistance in Ingushetia and block future aid in Chechnya for those refusing to leave immediately. The stationing of Russian troops near IDP camps and the limiting of assistance from international agencies to camp residents represent pressure tactics to "encourage" the return of IDPs to Chechnya.

Clearly, the Russian Government is not respecting the fundamental right of individuals to seek safe refuge. As a participating State of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Russian Federation has committed to facilitate sustainable solutions to the plight of IDPs and the voluntary return of such individuals in dignity and safety. I urge President Putin to intervene to ensure that Russian policy and practice are consistent with these OSCE commitments and that no IDPs be effectively forced to return to their homes in Chechnya until the conditions have been created for their return. To do otherwise would place the lives of tens of thousands of innocent Russian citizens at risk.

The second situation I want to briefly highlight concerns the plight of Meskhetian Turks in the Krasnodar Krai region of the Russian Federation. Also known as Ahiska Turks or Meskhetians, Meskhetian Turks were forced to relocate twice within the past 50 years, first from Soviet Georgia in November 1944 to the Soviet Socialist Republic of Uzbekistan. In 1989, approximately 90,000 Meskhetian Turks fled ethnic conflicts in Uzbekistan to all parts of the Soviet Union, with the largest concentration today found in Krasnodar Krai.

Numbering approximately 13,000, these displaced individuals find themselves in a virtual no man's land, denied citizenship and permanent residency permits, as well as many other fundamental rights.

Due to loopholes in the Russian citizenship law and the improper application of this law by Krasnodar Krai authorities, Meskhetian Turks must register as "guests" every 45 days, may not legally register the purchase of a house or car, and their marriages and deaths are not officially recorded. Most are denied education above high school, as well. The Krasnodar regional legislature enacted a series of laws in 2002 in an attempt to pressure the Meskhetian Turks to leave. Corresponding with the expiration of the temporary registration held by most Krasnodar Meskhetian Turks, the laws reportedly cancelled leases on land or denied lease renewals for the 2002 crop season.

Furthermore, chauvinistic local authorities have not intervened to prevent local Cossack paramilitary units from repeatedly victimizing Krasnodar Meskhetian Turks through public harassment, robbery, and vandalism. In late May, a mob of around 50 people attacked Meskhetian Turks and other non-Russian-looking individuals in two villages, injuring 30 people and hospitalizing six.

By not granting citizenship or providing permanent residency status, current Russian policy enables the discriminatory practices subjugating the rights of Meskhetian Turks in Krasnodar Krai to continue. Mr. Speaker, President Putin cited the problems of citizenship and stateless persons in his annual State of the Federation address earlier this year. The Russian President pointed out the complexities and uncertainties faced by stateless persons in Russia. I urge him and Members of the State Duma to rectify the status of Meskhetian Turks and other stateless persons. Meanwhile, the Kremlin should intervene to ensure that Krasnodar Krai officials desist in their discriminatory treatment of the Meskhetian Turks until their status is normalized, as well as guarantee the prosecution of violent criminals.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JAMES E. COTTRELL

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding physician, scholar, educator, humanitarian and citizen from the State of New York, James E. Cottrell, M.D. Dr. Cottrell will soon complete his term as national president of the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA). I am very proud and pleased that one of New York's own served as the 2002-2003 president of this prestigious national organization that is recognized worldwide for its outstanding work in improving patient safety.

Founded in 1905, ASA is the predominant professional organization that represents more than 36,000 anesthesiologists. Since its founding, ASA has been the leader in the development of patient safety standards and guidelines for the delivery of safe patient care before, during and after surgery. Efforts on the part of the organization and its members are

recognized throughout the scientific and medical communities. The Institute of Medicine in its 1999 report on medical errors recognized the successes of organized anesthesiology's efforts to improve patient outcomes.

Anesthesiologists either directly administer or supervise 90 percent of all anesthetics performed throughout this country, in hospitals and outpatient surgical centers, and in urban and rural areas. In fact, anesthesiologists are the predominant provider of anesthetics in rural facilities. Besides the operating room, anesthesiologists are often found treating patients' pain and delivering critical medical care to patients in hospital intensive care units, emergency rooms and diagnostic facilities.

Dr. Cottrell received his medical degree from West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, and completed his anesthesiology residency at Mercy Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA.

As a recognized expert in the field of neuroanesthesia, he has lectured extensively worldwide, authored or co-authored more than 90 scientific papers, 114 scientific abstract presentations, 20 book chapters, was co-editor of three textbooks and has most recently authored a book that helps patients be better prepared for their surgery and anesthesia.

Dr. Cottrell currently serves on the Board of Directors of Doctors of the World and has served on the Board of Directors of God's Love We Deliver, an organization dedicated to serving and delivering meals to AIDS patients in New York City.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing James E. Cottrell, M.D., for his notable career, outstanding achievements, humanitarian work and dedication to patient safety.

THE TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, since 1974, Cyprus has been divided de facto into the government-controlled two-thirds of the island, the Republic of Cyprus, and the Turkish Cypriot one-third, the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. The anniversary of the events of July 1974 in Cyprus gives rise to misrepresentation of historical events. As the cliché goes, there are two-sides to every story. That is why I would like to share with my colleagues, the Turkish Cypriot point of view regarding the current situation on Cyprus.

The island of Cyprus gained its independence from Great Britain in 1960 and has been divided since 1974. At independence, the Republic's constitution defined elaborate power-sharing arrangements. It required a Greek Cypriot president and a Turkish Cypriot vice president; each elected by their own community. The Treaty of Alliance among the Republic, Greece, and Turkey provided for 950 Greek and 650 Turkish soldiers to help defend the island.

Cyprus' success as a new Republic lasted from 1960-63. After President Makarios proposed constitutional modifications in favor of the majority community in 1963, relations between Turkish and Greek Cypriots deteriorated. In 1964, Turkish Cypriots withdrew from

most national institutions and began to administer their own affairs. Violence between Turkish and Greek Cypriot communities occurred in 1963–64 and again in 1967. Since the 1964 crisis, U.N. peacekeeping troops have been a buffer between the two communities.

In 1974, a military junta in Athens supported a coup against President Makarios, replacing him with a hardline supporter of enosis. Turkey, citing the 1960 Treaty of Guarantee, sent troops in two separate actions and, by August 25, was in control of more than 36 percent of the island. The Athens junta fell and civilian government was restored. The legitimacy of the Turkish intervention was confirmed, among others, by the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe, by resolution 573, dated July 29, 1974, in which it is stated, "Turkey exercised its right of intervention in accordance with Article IV of the Guarantee Treaty of 1960." Greece withdrew from NATO's military command to protest NATO's failure to prevent Turkey's action.

According to Turkish Cypriot leaders, the Turkish intervention of July 1974 did not come about as an unprovoked invasion but in response to a coup d'état; was in accordance with the Treaty of Guarantee of 1960; and therefore, was legal and legitimate. Furthermore, the Turkish Cypriot community saw the 1974 coup attempt as the culmination of a campaign to annex Cyprus to Greece.

Turkish Cypriots celebrate July 20 as their day of liberation. Since Turkey's arrival in Cyprus, peace has prevailed on the island, and the biggest beneficiaries of this atmosphere of peace and tranquility have been all Cypriots, Greek and Turkish. However, the Greek Cypriots enjoy a high level of economic prosperity, while the Turkish Cypriot economy continues to suffer from the embargoes imposed on the Turkish Cypriot North by the Greek Cypriot South.

Turkey's presence in Cyprus is within the confines of a security role and far from preventing a political settlement. Turkey has always supported a just and lasting settlement on the island, within the mission of the good offices of the United Nations Secretary-General. Recently, Turkish Cypriots, with the full support of Turkey, demonstrated their good will by undertaking a series of confidence-building measures, including the opening of the borders to people and traffic from both sides. This has allowed, by Turkish Cypriot estimates, thousands of Turkish and Greek Cypriots to cross over to each other's territory.

This measure was followed-up by an offer to the Greek Cypriot side for the resettlement of the vacant town of Varosha in return for the re-opening of the now-defunct Nicosia International Airport. President Denktas also proposed to meet with Greek Cypriot leader Tassos Papadopoulos directly in order to discuss these and other related issues.

However, it appears that the Greek Cypriot side has shown little interest in a negotiated settlement. In a speech made on July 17, Greek Cypriot leader Papadopoulos again made clear that his side does not accept the "Annan Plan" for a settlement as it is, claiming that doing so would mean "legitimizing the gains accomplished by the occupation" and that if they did so, the (the Greek Cypriots) "would become accomplices in the destruction of the Republic of Cyprus."

It is my hope that efforts to reach a settlement will continue between Turkish and Greek

Cypriot leaders. I know there are two sides to the Turkish and Greek Cypriot conflict, and that is why it is important for Congress to adopt a balanced, even-handed approach to the issue of facilitating a just and lasting settlement between Turkish and Greek Cypriots.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. (UNITED STATES NONCONTIGUOUS SHIPPING OPEN MARKET ACT OF 2003), H.R. (HAWAII SHIPPING OPEN MARKET ACT OF 2003), AND H.R. (HAWAII AGRICULTURE/LIVESTOCK SHIPPING OPEN MARKET ACT OF 2003)

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce three bills to end a century of closed market cargo shipping to, from and within my isolated home state of Hawaii, as well as the other noncontiguous locations of our country. In doing so, we will break the stranglehold on the economics and peoples of these exposed communities which results from just a few shipping companies controlling the lifeline of commerce upon which our communities absolutely depend.

These bills all amend the Merchant Marine Act of 1920, also known as the Jones Act. That federal law mandates that all cargo shipping between U.S. ports occur exclusively on U.S., not foreign, flagged vessels. (A similar federal law of the same vintage, the Passenger Vessels Services Act, provides the same mandate for cruise line and other passenger transit; the same arguments as drive these three bills apply there, but that is another effort, already commenced through limited Federal exemptions.)

The Jones Act was enacted in a protectionist era under the guise of preserving a strong national merchant marine. But today it is just an anachronism: most of the world's shipping is by way of an international merchant marine functioning in an open, competitive market. And those few U.S. flag cargo lines that remain have maneuvered the Jones Act to develop virtual monopolies over domestic cargo shipping to, from and within our most isolated and exposed locales: our island and offshore states, territories and possessions.

My Hawaii is a classic example. Located almost 2,500 miles off the West Coast, we import well over 90 percent of our life necessities by ocean cargo. There are no doubt plenty of international cargo lines who could and would compete for a share of that market. Yet only two U.S. flag domestic cargo lines—Matson Navigation and CSX Lines (fka Sea-Land)—operate a virtual duopoly over our lifeline.

While they are nominally subject to Federal regulation, the fact of the matter is that cargo prices have gone in only one direction—up, and fast—and it is indisputable that there is no downward market pressure which would otherwise result from meaningful competition. These accelerating cargo prices are not absorbed by the shipping lines, but passed through all the way down the chain, to the transporters, wholesalers, retailers, small businesses, mom-n-pops, and ultimately consumers, of all of the elementals of life, from

food, to medical supplies, clothes, housing and virtually all other goods. The result is a crippling drag on an already-challenged economy and the very quality of life in Hawaii.

The broadest, deepest effects of the Jones Act on Hawaii result from its impact on west-bound imports. But Hawaii is an export location as well, in key products such as agriculture and livestock. Here the Jones Act also effectively stifles meaningful competition in getting those products to their primary markets on the U.S. Mainland. Because the producers of these products and all that rely for their own livelihood on their successful export have to eat inflated shipping costs, these export industries, which any economist knows are the ultimate key to any economy's prosperity, are also crippled.

Let's take a concrete example: Hawaii's once-prosperous ranching/cattle industry, which is so key to the economic health and the very lifestyle of so much of the rural Second District which I proudly represent. That industry depends on getting its product, young cattle, to West Coast pens and transportation hubs in a cost-efficient manner.

There are foreign cargo carriers that specialize, through custom cattle ships and overall sensitivity and adjustment to rancher timetables and needs, in such transport, but the Jones Act outright excludes them from the Hawaii-Mainland market. As a result, Hawaii's ranchers are reduced to two crippling, cost magnifying options.

The first is to ship their cargo by foreign carriers to Canada, where they have to go through a myriad of bureaucratic, cost-magnifying gyrations to get their product eventually to their U.S. markets. The second is to beg for the goodwill of the domestic carriers, to whom this is simply a hindrance rather than a major commitment, to ship directly to the West Coast.

And it shows: most of the cattle are first shipped from Hawaii's Neighbor Islands, where the bulk of the cattle industry is located, to Oahu, in small "cow-tainers", where they sit for days in Honolulu Harbor awaiting the return to the Mainland of one of the massive cargo ships designed and utilized for quite another purpose. The result (besides associated higher costs): in-harbor cattle waste disposal challenges; higher in-transit cattle mortality; lower-weight cattle delivery to market. That's what happens when you try to squeeze a square peg into a round hole.

These three bills say: enough is enough. The first, H.R. —, the United States Noncontiguous Shipping Open Market Act of 2003, exempts all noncontiguous U.S. locations, including Hawaii, from the Jones Act. (Frankly I question whether we shouldn't outright repeal the Jones Act, but I leave it to my colleagues from the contiguous U.S. to evaluate that option; the consequences are especially acute in the noncontiguous U.S. and that is my focus.) The second, H.R. —, the Hawaii Shipping Open Market Act of 2003, exempts Hawaii. And the third, H.R. —, the Hawaii Agriculture/Livestock Shipping Open Market Act of 2003, exempts Hawaii agriculture and livestock. Essentially, the bills are intended to lay out the options from broad to narrow; we can get into the issue at any level and work our way up or down.

Let me address directly some arguments sometimes offered up by the domestic shippers in defense of the Jones Act: that it contains important labor and environmental protections that would be lost upon repeal. Of course, the exact terms of repeal are up to this Congress and administration, and all three of these bills propose to retain these important protections. Specifically, these bills provide that all foreign shippers operating under Jones Act exemptions must comply with the same labor, environmental, tax, documentation, U.S. locus and other laws as are applicable to non-U.S. flag ships and shippers transiting U.S. waters today.

Mr. Speaker, these long-overdue bills are of the utmost importance to the localities which have long borne the brunt of the Jones Act. Sometimes it is difficult to pierce the veil of longstanding custom and understanding to see what should instead be, but clearly the time for these measures is overdue. I urge their passage.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SUPERVISORY SPECIAL AGENT THOMAS M. BOURGEOIS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Supervisory Special Agent Thomas M. Bourgeois for his nearly twenty-two years of service to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. For the past two decades, SSA Bourgeois has selflessly put his own well-being in jeopardy to serve and protect the American people.

Thomas M. Bourgeois reported for duty on October 5, 1981 and was first assigned to the Milwaukee Division of the FBI. He worked in both the Milwaukee and Myrtle Beach offices investigating fugitives, bank robbery, and kidnaping cases before being transferred to the Chicago Division to investigate narcotics and organized crime. During his tenure in Chicago, Tom was responsible for the apprehension of some of America's most dangerous criminals, including the Calabrese Street crew, Anthony Centracchio, and John Serpico. From 1986 until 1997, Tom served as a member of Chicago Division's enhanced SWAT Team. While serving on the SWAT Team, Tom was deployed on several assignments, including the Unibomber case, Hurricane Marilyn in the Virgin Islands, and the Republican National Convention in 1996.

SSA Thomas M. Bourgeois is the recipient of numerous honors for his work at the FBI. He received letters of commendation from FBI director William Webster in May of 1982 and again in March of 1986. Mr. Bourgeois also received the Chicago Crime Commission's Star of Distinction Award in both 2001 and 2003 for his role in the Anthony Centracchio investigation and for his role in thwarting a scheme by Cicero, Illinois public officials to defraud the town of nearly \$13 million.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer my best personal regards to SSA Thomas M. Bourgeois on his recent retirement from the FBI and I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking him on behalf of the American people for his service and dedication to our collective security.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COBRA COVERAGE ACT OF 2003

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the COBRA Coverage Act of 2003. As you may know, our Nation's faltering economy has resulted in staggering unemployment, unemployment that has risen from 5.7 percent in January of this year to 6.4 percent in June, leaving millions of Americans out of work. The loss of one's job is often accompanied by the loss of employer-based health coverage and the ability to afford individual health insurance. In this time of economic hardship, we must act to make health care more accessible to the working and middle-class families of America.

In an attempt to reduce the growing population of those without health coverage, Title X of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA) provided access to group health insurance for workers who had lost their employer-sponsored coverage. COBRA requires employers who offer health insurance to continue coverage for their employees under circumstances such as a change in their employment status. However, this law allows the employer to charge up to 102 percent of the premium for the covered beneficiary and up to 150 percent for disabled individuals who qualify for an additional 11 months of coverage.

The Kaiser Family Foundation estimates that in 2002 health care premiums increased by 12.7 percent, making the average cost for self-only coverage \$3,060 while the average cost for the family coverage reached \$7,954. These high costs make retaining health coverage extremely difficult for individuals without work, without an income. As a result many people and their families choose to go without health insurance until they find another job. This is unacceptable.

Not only do these prohibitive costs prevent people from maintaining their health coverage, they can also drive up the group costs of employers who offer COBRA coverage. Because health care premiums are so high, those who have costly, preexisting health problems are more likely to enroll in extended coverage than those who are healthy. These costs are often passed onto the employer and onto the others covered by the group insurance.

We can alleviate this problem by making COBRA health coverage more accessible and more affordable. With the COBRA Coverage Act of 2003, laid-off workers would be provided with a 50 percent tax credit toward the cost of COBRA coverage, up to a maximum of \$110 for an individual and \$290 for a family per month. This credit is entirely refundable, which means one can receive it regardless of one's tax liability, and it is advanceable, meaning that it's available to the recipient immediately. This is possible because the tax credit would be administered through the employer.

While we work diligently to improve our economy, we must not sit idle and turn our backs on the millions of uninsured Americans. We must assist those who are suffering by ensuring they retain access to affordable health insurance for themselves and for their families.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GEORGE ROLOFSON

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, Dr. George Rolofson—"Dr. George" as I call him—has been a good friend of mine for many years and has worked with me on a number of issues relating to the U.S. agrichemical industry. Soon he will be retiring as Senior Vice President of legislative and regulatory affairs from CropLife America, where he has been a tireless champion of the agriculture and chemical industries. As Dr. George prepares to retire, I want to take the opportunity to thank him for these efforts and for his many contributions to the industry and to let him know that he will be greatly missed by all those with whom he has come in contact over the years.

George spent his entire adult life devoted to the study and improvement of the field of agricultural science, specifically as it regarded the use of important agrichemicals. He earned his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in entomology from the University of Nebraska and later went on to receive a Doctorate from Virginia Tech in entomology and toxicology. He then applied those degrees to practical use with the former Ciba Geigy Company in their agricultural division, now known as Syngenta Crop Protection. George worked in product development, toxicology, environmental sciences, and most recently in government relations for CropLife America here in Washington, D.C.

Our nation was largely built upon the back of the agriculture industry. Even here in our Capitol building, we see numerous artistic references to this critical industry and its importance in our nation. I would like to ask my colleagues to join with me in thanking my friend, Dr. George, for the devotion he has demonstrated to such an important part of our nation. George, you have left a legacy of pride and commitment to the American farming industry and we are most appreciative for your dedication and contributions. Best wishes in the next phase of your life.

RECOGNIZING COLONEL DAVID L. HANSEN, COMMANDER OF THE NORFOLK ENGINEER DISTRICT, NORFOLK CORPS OF ENGINEERS, VIRGINIA FOR HIS SERVICE AND DEDICATION

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Colonel David L. Hansen, Commander and Norfolk District Engineer, for his loyal service to the United States Corps of Engineers and to the development and progress of numerous projects in Virginia's Fourth District.

Colonel Hansen's dedication and loyalty to the advancement of our district and the Commonwealth of Virginia as a whole is to be commended. He has played an instrumental role in overseeing the growth and preservation

of numerous projects along the river basins in Virginia since he assumed command in July 2001.

Since first enrolling in the U.S. Army nearly 30 years ago, Colonel Hansen's devotion to duty has reflected the highest standards of the military profession. Following four years of Army enlisted service, he was commissioned in the Corps of Engineers through the Officer Candidate School program, Fort Benning, Georgia, in 1978. He has served on numerous assignments both in the United States and overseas. His military education is extensive and includes the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, the Army's Command and General Staff College, Engineer Basic and Advanced Courses, and the Combined Arms and Services Staff School. Colonel Hansen also holds a Bachelor of Science degree, and two master degrees.

Colonel Hansen's decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal with one silver and two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal with star, and Good Conduct Medal.

Colonel Hansen has shown tremendous commitment and devotion to his country. Today we recognize him for his unwavering patriotism and dedication to both his profession and the American people.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Colonel David L. Hansen.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
MADONNA OF THE TRAIL

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Madonna of the Trail. One of these historic statues stands in my hometown of Lexington, Missouri, where the pioneer mother monument was presented by the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1928. The pioneer mother looks west, up the Missouri River, on area that was settled by American pioneers more than 160 years ago.

In the early 1900's, the Daughters of the American Revolution suggested marking the national Old Trails Road with a series of small markers placed at frequent intervals along the route. This road began with Braddock's Road in 1755. Lt. George Washington surveyed the road, which was cut through the Allegheny Mountains by British soldiers. The road was later continued as the Columbia Pike; the Great Valley Road; the Wilderness Road (cut by Daniel Boone across the Cumberland Gap); the Cumberland Road (also known as the National Road); Boone's Lick Road; and, finally, as the Santa Fe and Oregon Trails.

In 1924, Missouri State Regent, Mrs. John Trigg Moss of St. Louis, a member of the Cornelia Green Chapter, envisioned the idea of placing an identical statue in each of the twelve states crossed by the National Old Trails Road instead of small markers.

The twelve statues, designed by St. Louis sculptor August Leimbach, are made of algonite stone, a poured mass, of which the Missouri granite is used as the main aggre-

gate, thus giving the monument a warm, pink shade. They stand ten-feet tall on a six-foot base with a five-foot foundation (two-feet showing) below.

The Madonna of the Trail is a pioneer woman clasping her baby with her young son clinging to her skirt. The face of the mother, strong in character, beauty, and gentleness, is the face of a mother who realizes her responsibilities and trust in God. It has a feeling of solidarity—a monument that will stand through the ages.

Marking the 67th anniversary of the Battle of Lexington during the Civil War and facing ever Westward, the Pioneer Mother statue was dedicated on September 17, 1928. The presentation of the American Legion Memorial Flag and Flag pole was made by Ike Skelton III. The keynote speaker was Judge Harry S. Truman, President of the National Old Trails Association.

Mr. Speaker, the Daughters of the American Revolution can be proud of the Madonna of the Trail statue and the 75 years it has graced the City of Lexington. I know the Members of the House will join me in saluting the Daughters of the American Revolution for their contributions to preserving American history.

A VOICE OF CUBA

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on July 16, 2003 Mrs. Celia Cruz passed away, however, her legacy will be eternal. Celia Cruz was a musical genius and an extraordinary human being, dedicated to improving the lives of all, to the most admirable humanitarian causes, and with a profound love for Cuba and her people. Celia Cruz's exceptional life is a model and inspiration to all people. Her blessed voice combined with her gentle soul brought comfort and happiness to every corner of the planet.

Mrs. Cruz was not only the Ambassador of free Cuba's music, she represented the finest qualities of Cuban-Americans and Cuban exiles, and was a constant voice for freedom on the oppressed island nation.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Cruz died longing to return to a free and democratic Cuba, but as Reverend Martin Añorga so eloquently stated during her funeral mass, "Celia did not leave Cuba because she took Cuba with her when she left."

Hundreds of thousands of people of all nationalities paid their respects and tribute to the "Queen of Latin Music" in Miami and New York. Even at the moment of her death Mrs. Cruz made certain that her physical passing would be a celebration of the happiness she embodied.

The passing of Celia Cruz is cause for deep pain. I send my deepest condolences to her husband, another great Cuban, Pedro Knight.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the record an editorial by The Washington Post which appropriately honors the life and legacy of Celia Cruz.

A VOICE OF CUBA

Sugar is a symbol of Cuba, not only a core industry but a key ingredient of its history and heritage and a timeless reminder of both

sweeter and grittier times for the island's people. And in Spanish, "Azucar!" was also the signature trill of Celia Cruz, whose voice has embodied the sound of Cuba for decades.

Ms. Cruz, who died Wednesday of brain cancer, was the voice of a generation, and the one after, and the one after that. She started out singing lullabies to her nieces and until the end continued to shake what her mama gave her. Young couples in the 1950s swayed to her rhythms as part of the band La Sonora Matancera; those same couples' grandchildren got down to her single "La Negra Tiene Tumbao," whose album won a Latin Grammy in 2002.

When Ms. Cruz defected from Cuba in 1960, her songs were banned in her home country, though in recent years Cuban aficionados could listen to her hits by tuning into Miami radio stations. At first, the sensation who left behind stardom in Cuba and sought liberty in the United States had no easy time; her efforts for the next decade stumbled. But like so many immigrants seeking the American dream, she eventually made it: That clear, operatic voice could not be denied.

Hers was a talent that reached far beyond her own culture. In concert, she charmed audiences throughout Latin America, Europe, Africa and Asia, and Ms. Cruz's more than 70 records became a clarion call for music lovers worldwide. She moved, effortlessly between the Afro-Cuban rhythms of her youth to the salsa she defined and redefined; later in her career she embraced hip-hop style and transformed it into eye-popping music videos. For her, it was all part of the same music and a shared experience.

Unlike so many celebrities of the modern era, Ms. Cruz knew firsthand of the atrocities of communism in Cuba, and she spoke frankly of her time and challenges there. Ms. Cruz's voice instantly fills a room with the feel of swaying palm fronds and cigar smoke, bringing back memories of a Cuba before Fidel Castro's dictatorship. But her art transcended any political agenda. Ms. Cruz always remained a lady, coy about her age and decked out in extravagant outfits even in her last public appearances—accompanied nearly always by her husband of 40 years, Pedro Knight.

For thousands of Cuban exiles, listening to her music will remain a time machine, a connection to a homeland that in many ways no longer exists. She, like so many others of her generation, was never able to return to the free Cuba for which she longed. But her message was also one of hope, inspiring fans of all nationalities with her indomitable voice, ringing at once with grace and perseverance every time she cried out, "Azucar!"

HARRISBURG SESQUICENTENNIAL
RECOGNITION

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the City of Harrisburg, Illinois, as she celebrates her sesquicentennial. Established in 1853, the people of Harrisburg have prospered while giving so much to this great nation.

The City of Harrisburg was founded as an administrative center for the newly-created Saline County. Since that time, many people have been blessed to call Harrisburg home. Harrisburg boasts of a quality educational system, the unrivaled natural beauty of the Shawnee National Forest and one of Illinois' top

track and field programs. Each fall, the City of Harrisburg celebrates its history with a Past to Present Festival. As well, Harrisburg has served as a vital part of the coal industry in southern Illinois for many years.

I am proud to represent the people of the great City of Harrisburg and to share in this special occasion with them. I thank them for all they give to this great nation and I wish them many successes in the years to come. Congratulations!

IN RECOGNITION OF FORMER MISSOURI GOVERNOR WARREN E. HEARNES AND FORMER MISSOURI STATE REPRESENTATIVE BETTY COOPER HEARNES

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two great Missourians, Governor Warren E. Hearnes and his wife, State Representative Betty Cooper Hearnes on their birthdays.

I salute the accomplishments of Governor Hearnes and Representative Hearnes. I worked alongside Betty in the General Assembly. In true fashion, she does not want to be recognized for her accomplishments, but I would be remiss not to mention her great contributions to our State as an elected official and First Lady. The Hearnes have shared significant roles in the State of Missouri, shaped and crafted sound public policy, and served as beacons of light for our citizens and our party.

The Hearnes celebrate the same birthday and today marks Warren's 80th birthday and Betty's 76th birthday. I salute the remarkable longevity of their lives together and their lifelong commitment to public service.

Warren Hearnes is renowned for his tenacity and principles as a public official. Governor Hearnes is a graduate from West Point Military Academy, as well as from the University of Missouri Columbia Law School. After serving in the U.S. Army during World War II, he was elected to the Missouri House of Representatives the following year, and later went on to serve as Secretary of State. He will long be remembered for his unwavering stance to promote state autonomy. Governor Hearnes' fight with the Johnson administration often made him disliked by the presidency but admired by his colleagues in the National Governors Conference throughout the sixties and seventies.

During his time in office, the state legislature overwhelmingly approved and the people ratified a constitutional amendment to allow future Governors of Missouri to serve two consecutive four year terms. Thus, Governor Hearnes ran for and won a second term with the largest percentage of popular votes in Missouri history. In his second term he facilitated reforms to improve universities and colleges, ushered in massive road improvements, and supported the troops in Vietnam but questioned the administration's plan to pursue such a war. Following his term in office, he continued his public advocacy by spending sixteen

years working as the Executive Director of the Southeast Missouri Legal Services, an agency to assist people with low incomes in dire need of legal counseling.

Like her husband, Betty Hearnes is an amazing mentor and friend to everyone she meets. She was an excellent model and confidante during the seventies and eighties when the Missouri legislature had very few women in office. In 1979, Betty won the same Missouri House seat her husband held years prior. In addition, she served as Chairwoman of the Democratic State Committee, President of the Mississippi County Industrial Development Authority, as a major facilitator of the Warren E. Hearnes Museum, and a volunteer currently involved in countless civic and charity projects. Today Warren and Betty continue to spend time in Charleston, Missouri serving those most in need. Their endless generosity is an inspiration to us all.

I congratulate Warren and Betty Hearnes on this meaningful occasion and shared birthday. I am grateful for their friendship and am honored to recognize them for their vast personal accomplishments and lifetime of public service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on the legislative day of Wednesday, July 23, 2003, the House had a procedural vote on the FY 2004 Foreign Operations Appropriations bill. On House rollcall vote No. 424, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

NYSSA 100TH CENTENNIAL

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to pay tribute to the community of Nyssa in eastern Oregon's Malheur County and to commemorate the passage of an important milestone in the history of the town. This weekend the people of Nyssa will commemorate the centennial anniversary of the incorporation of their community. This is an event that symbolizes the endurance of the eastern Oregon way of life and the continuity that exists between the earliest settlers of our state and the people who proudly identify themselves as Oregonians today.

There is some debate about the origin of the name Nyssa. Some say it is an acronym for the New York Sheep Shearing Association, which sounds plausible enough given the tradition of shepherding throughout the town's history. Others insist that the town was named by the daughter of a railroad engineer who was reading a book on ancient history and named the town after St. Gregory of Nyssa. Whatever the source of the name, this much

is clear: Nyssa stands for the small town values that still echo in the hearts of the people who call it home.

Known as the Gateway City to Oregon, Nyssa is located on the banks of the Snake River on the Idaho-Oregon border. Nearby the historic Oregon Trail, which brought thousands of settlers across the continent to the West, remains visible to this day. Nyssa's history as a town began in 1883 with the arrival of the Oregon Short Line Railroad, though the area was familiar terrain to the fur traders who operated along the Snake River in the early 1800s. The town's first Post Office was established in 1889 and the incorporation of Nyssa occurred in 1903, when the town had gained enough residents to merit elected city officials. In the generations that have followed the founding of Nyssa, the community has been home to hardworking farmers and ranchers who have made their homes in the high desert of Oregon.

The community was immeasurably enriched by the revival of federal irrigation projects in the area, such as the Owyhee Dam which was completed in 1932 to provide water for 120,000 acres of arid land surrounding Nyssa. The miracle of irrigated agriculture made the high desert of Oregon bloom and made possible the way of life that continues today. In the 1930s, many citizens of the Great Plains relocated to the area, drawn by the warmth of the people and the quality of life offered by the community. By the late 1930s, the number of acres being irrigated had attracted the sugar beet industry, and Nyssa saw the opening of the Amalgamated Sugar Company, a sugar processing plant that came into operation in Nyssa in 1938. Agriculture remains the base of the local economy, and most businesses cater to farm production and marketing of products, which include sugar, onions, potatoes, corn, mint, and wheat.

Like many communities in Oregon, the growth in agriculture during the first half of the century brought immigrant families to Nyssa to work the land. Many Hispanic families traveled to the area, where they raised their children and established roots that endure to this day. Nyssa also became home to many Dutch immigrants and later a number of Japanese-Americans who were interned during World War II. Many of these internees remained in the area after the war ended, where they continue to add to the richness of the town's history.

Despite the ups and downs of the Oregon farm economy and the need for many townspeople to find work outside of town, the people of Nyssa have remained loyal to their community. The town has maintained an excellent school system and the population remains stable at 3,100.

Mr. Speaker, since Nyssa was founded it has been home to hearty, self-reliant people who are proud of their history, loyal to their families and community, and representative of the rural way of life that still means as much to the people who live here as it did a hundred years ago. It is both a privilege and an honor to represent the good people of Nyssa in the U.S. House of Representatives. I congratulate them on the occasion of the Centennial of their community, and I look forward to traveling to Nyssa this weekend to share in the celebration with my good friends.

JEFFREY MATTISON WERSHOW:
KILLED IN IRAQ

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to speak about a very brave young man, Jeffrey Mattison Wershow, who was killed in the line of duty in Iraq. A specialist in the Florida National Guard who served with the Army's 124th Infantry Regiment, he died at the very young age of twenty-two. Jeffrey was born in Gainesville, a city which is in my congressional district, Florida's third.

Compounding the tragedy of Jeffrey's death is that he was killed in Iraq while trying to keep the peace after the U.S. invasion had already ended. He was assigned to be part of a group of soldiers in a 124-man group assigned to escort U.S. officials. He was killed while guarding a convoy of vehicles while they were parked outside a campus building at Baghdad University when an Iraqi man approached him, pulled out a gun, and shot him.

For his service in "Iraqi Freedom" Jeffrey received the Army Commendation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Achievement Medal, the Parachute Badge and the Army Service Medal. The Army in fact, has recommended that he receive the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart for his dedicated and honorable service in combat.

It is truly impressive all that Jeffrey had accomplished during his young life. He began his active duty in the U.S. Army back in June 1999. After he finished his specialized training, he went on to join the 82nd Airborne Division of the Army's 505 Parachute Infantry Regiment. From there, he went on to continue his service with the National Guard.

A curious and bright young man, Jeffrey had a burning interest in history and political science. He was active in Gainesville politics, and served as co-campaign manager to the campaign of one of my close friends, Cynthia Chestnut, during her County Commission campaign in 2002. He also participated in politics at Santa Fe Community College, was elected to the Student Senate, and was intending to run for student body president.

In a photo taken of him for which he will be fondly remembered, he can be seen patriotically waving the flag during last year's University of Florida Homecoming parade. Jeffrey, riding in the veteran's float, in a demonstration of boundless patriotism and limitless energy, jumped out of the boat and ran down the street waving the American flag to energize the crowd.

Jeffrey will be deeply missed by all of the people who knew him. I will keep Jeffrey and his family members with me in my prayers and thoughts.

2003 CYPRUS

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, as I have done every year, I rise again today to reiterate my

fierce objection to the illegal occupation of the island of Cyprus by Turkish troops and declare my grave concern for the future of the area. The island's twenty nine years of internal division make the status quo absolutely unacceptable.

In July 1974, Turkish troops captured the northern part of Cyprus, seizing more than a third of the island. The Turkish troops expelled 200,000 Greek-Cypriots from their homes and killed 5,000 citizens of the once-peaceful island. The Turkish invasion was a conscious and deliberate attempt at ethnic cleansing. Turkey proceeded to install 40,000 military personnel on Cyprus. Today, these troops, in conjunction with United Nations peacekeeping forces, make the small island of Cyprus one of the most militarized areas in the world. Over a quarter of a century later, approximately 1,500 Greek-Cypriots remain missing, including four Americans.

The Green Line, a 113-mile barbed wire fence, separates the Greek-Cypriot community from its Turkish-Cypriot counterpart. The Turkish Northern Republic of Cyprus (TNRC), recognized by no nation in the world except for Turkey, prohibits Greek-Cypriots from freely crossing the Green Line to visit the towns and communities of their families. With control of about 37 percent of the island, Turkey's military occupation has had severe consequences, most notably the dislocation of the Greek-Cypriot population and the resulting refugees.

Twenty-nine years later, the forced separation of these two communities still exists despite efforts by the United Nations (U.N.) and G-8 leadership to mend this rift between north and south. The U.N., with the explicit support of the United States, has sponsored several rounds of proximity talks between the former President of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr. Glafcos Clerides, and Mr. Rauf Denktash, the self-proclaimed leader of the occupied northern part of the island.

In March 2003, the United Nations-sponsored Cyprus peace talks at the Hague between newly-elected President of Cyprus, Tassos Papadopoulos, and Mr. Denktash came to an abrupt halt. Responsibility for this unfortunate setback in the peace process rests largely with Mr. Denktash who rejected U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan's Plan to end the 29-year division of Cyprus. It is a shame that the Secretary General's personal diplomacy was met by this kind of flat-out rejection. A large share of the blame also rests with the Turkish military and hard-line nationalists in Ankara, who have maintained the illegal Turkish military occupation of Cyprus since Turkish forces invaded the island in 1974. If the Government of Turkey were sincere about settling the Cyprus problem, they could have put the necessary pressure on Mr. Denktash to say "yes" to the U.N. Plan.

In sharp contrast to Mr. Denktash, Mr. Papadopoulos said "yes" to a public referendum on the Secretary General's plan. His response is consistent with years of efforts by the Government of Cyprus to try to negotiate in good faith to reunify the country—efforts that have been consistently rebuffed by the separatist Turkish-Cypriot regime. I praise President Papadopoulos for stressing that the Greek-Cypriot side will continue the efforts for reaching a solution to the Cyprus question both before and after Cyprus joins the European Union (EU).

In April 2003, the House of Representatives unanimously approved House Resolution 165, introduced by Mr. BEREUTER and myself, which expresses support for a renewed effort to find a peaceful and lasting settlement to the Cyprus problem by declaring appreciation for the efforts of Kofi Annan. The bill also expresses strong disappointment that Mr. Denktash rejected the comprehensive settlement offered by Secretary General Annan, thereby denying the Turkish-Cypriot people the opportunity to determine their own future.

A few days later, Cyprus experienced a major historic event on April 16, 2003, with the signing of the Treaty of Accession to the European Union. For the first time, the people of Cyprus have the opportunity to seal their future when Cyprus becomes a member of the E.U. next year. Upon accession to the European Union, Cyprus will, in its capacity as a full member, be firmly anchored to the western political and security structures, enhancing both geographically and qualitatively the operational capabilities of the Western world.

Needless to say, it would be in the best interest of Turkey to cooperate with the United Nations and the rest of the international community on Cyprus in order to advance its own membership in the European Union. Northern Cyprus will perhaps be the greatest beneficiary of Cypriot membership and resolution of the entire affair. It is currently in a state of economic distress that is being exacerbated by Turkish intransigence. Sadly, the people living in the northern part of the island continue to be mired in poverty as a direct result of their leadership's and Turkey's separatist policies. By joining the rest of Cyprus, it would become part of an already progressive economy, eliminating its financial dependence on Turkey.

So far we have seen that both Turkey and Mr. Denktash have sought to create preconditions on Cyprus' accession by tying that process to the resolution of a comprehensive settlement in Cyprus. The United States should remind Turkey that any threat against the Republic of Cyprus will be met with strong opposition and that Turkey does not possess any veto power over European Union membership. Promotion of Cyprus' membership will remove what has been a stumbling block in comprehensive settlement negotiations, and it will allow Turkey to strive toward the laudable goal of its own accession.

Despite the continued Turkish intransigence, earlier this year the Cypriot Government announced a package of measures aimed at assisting those Turkish Cypriots residing under the control of the Turkish occupation army. This package includes a wide range of political, social, humanitarian, educational and economic measures that will enhance the ability of the Turkish Cypriots to enjoy many of the benefits that the Republic of Cyprus offers to its citizens—as well as to share in the benefits of European Union membership. Far beyond a merely symbolic gesture, the package is a substantive program to integrate the Turkish Cypriot community into the larger Cypriot society as the country prepares to join the EU.

At the same time, the Turkish occupation regime partially lifted restrictions on freedom across the artificial line of division created by Turkey's military occupation. Since then, hundreds of thousands of Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots have crossed the line, to visit homes and areas of their own country that

were inaccessible to them for nearly 30 years. It isn't clear whether opening the border was just a tactic to ease the frustrations, or a sign of a fundamental change of heart. But it has produced rare displays of human kinship, exchanges of flowers and pastries, and emotional visits to homes abandoned in the mid-1970s.

Neither the Government's measures for the Turkish Cypriots, nor the partial lifting of restrictions by the occupation regime, should be seen as a substitute for a comprehensive resolution to end the division of Cyprus. We can only hope that the improved climate that has resulted from these steps will contribute to a negotiated settlement based on the U.N. framework in time for the accession of Cyprus to the European Union in May 2004.

We are all standing at the threshold of a historic opportunity that will shape the futures of generations of Cypriots, Greeks, and Turks. We have a responsibility to these ensuant generations to secure their futures by contributing to the efforts to create a peaceful world. We have a moral and ethical obligation to use our influence as Americans—as defenders of democracy, and as defenders of human rights, to reunify Cyprus. There have been twenty-nine years of illegitimate occupation, violence, and strife; let's not make it three decades.

Lastly, I want to bid a fond farewell to Cyprus's Ambassador to the United States, Mrs. Erato Kozakou-Marcoullis, after nearly 5 years of service in our nation's capital. I want to praise the Ambassador for her tremendous efforts and contributions to accomplishing awareness among Members of Congress and Administration officials of Cyprus' desire to be reunified. She will be missed.

CYPRUS

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the gentleman from Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS, for organizing this special order on Cyprus, and for allowing us to reflect on the 29th anniversary of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus. Cyprus has over the last three millennia faced war, devastation and foreign occupation. Today, we highlight the most recent occupation, which Cyprus has endured for 29 years.

Although Cyprus was granted its independence by Great Britain in 1960, as an independent republic composed of two equal communities, in 1974, Turkey exploited a crisis brought about by a military junta to occupy over one third of the island.

To this day, Turkey refuses to remove its troops, despite repeated condemnations by the United Nations.

The Cyprus conflict is one of the longest lasting issues of the international community, which remains unresolved. This conflict has had devastating consequences in terms of lives lost, children orphaned, economic losses and psychological trauma.

The present division of Cyprus, and the presence of 35,000 Turkish troops on the island, is completely unacceptable. We should not accept any further delays or excuses from Turkey on withdrawing from Cyprus.

Numerous resolutions adopted by the United Nations Security Council and the UN

General Assembly condemn both the Turkish invasion of Cyprus and the continuing presence of the Turkish military, as illegal acts of aggression.

In addition to the UN, other international bodies of similar stature, like the European Parliament, have also voiced their opposition to the occupation and endorse the reunification of Cyprus as the only acceptable solution to the Cyprus problem.

Faced with a unanimous condemnation by the international community, Turkish leaders have reverted to threats of annexation of Cyprus.

Reports by the European Commission on Human rights state that the Turkish government uses Turkish newspapers to issue threats that the Turkish army will move to occupy the southern part of Cyprus as well, which is under control of the Government of the Republic.

The human rights body of the European Commission adds that Turkey's puppet regime has increasingly threatened to settle, as yet unoccupied areas, with Turks, instead of returning these to the 35,000 lawful inhabitants, the Greek Cypriot refugees of Varosha.

This cannot and will not be tolerated. The United States has put Turkish and Turkish Cypriot leaders on notice.

Not only is it the right thing to do, but it would also benefit American interests in the region to help bring about an expeditious resolution of the tragic division of Cyprus.

Cyprus is a valued partner in the fight against the new global threats of terrorism and terrorist-sponsoring regimes, proliferation, illegal narcotics and international crime.

Cyprus and the United States also have shared values and a shared commitment to building a world based on open markets, democratic principles and the rule of law.

While the Turkish stance, which clearly led to the failure of U.N.-sponsored negotiations between the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities, must change immediately, we, in Congress, will not waiver on our commitment for Turkish troops to end their illegal occupation of Cyprus once and for all, bringing to an end a tragic period in Cypriot history.

As a U.S. NATO ally and European Union aspirant, Turkey should be held to the highest standards of compliance with its international obligations.

For 29 years, Turkey has ignored the will of the United States and has repeatedly violated the mandates of the United Nations to cease its illegal occupation of Cyprus. Rather than withdrawing, it has reinforced its military presence.

The moment of truth is at hand, and time has run out for Turkish and Turkish Cypriot leaders.

They must undertake concrete steps to forge an agreement on the terms of reunification, and must do so with all deliberate speed.

HONORING MARY LOU STROM

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Lou Strom of Enfield, CT who is leaving the political arena after 22 years of

dedicated service to the people of North-eastern Connecticut.

Mary Lou has set a standard of excellence for those engaged in local politics. Having served for 8 years on the Planning and Zoning Commission and another 14 years on the Enfield Town Council, Mary Lou has become a familiar face to Connecticut politics and has truly made a difference in her community.

What is most exceptional about Mary Lou is her understanding that it is our fellow citizens who are most important in the political process. All of us know that if democracy is to work properly, quality leadership is required at every level of government, and Mary Lou has proven to be that type of leader. Because of Mary Lou's service, Enfield and the surrounding communities are a better place in which to live, work and raise a family.

Mr. Speaker, I would encourage the Members of the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the service of Mary Lou Strom as she leaves the political arena. She has been a blessing to her community and her country and will be greatly missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF PENNKNOLL VILLAGE

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Pennknoll Village located in Everett, Pennsylvania. On July 26, 2003 the retirement community will celebrate 25 years of service, and acknowledge the employees who have worked at Pennknoll Village since the inception of the institution.

In the late 1970s, Diakon Lutheran Social Services, which serves nearly 60,000 people annually, revamped the program and, with the help of the county, built a new nursing facility. Pennknoll Village has grown to become a vital part of the community and now accommodates 133 residents, including those in need of short-term care.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor that I rise today to recognize Pennknoll Village and its 25 years of service. Central and western Pennsylvania are a better place because of workers like those employed by Pennknoll Village. I wish them continued success over the coming years.

ENSURE FAIR WAGES AND DUE PROCESS FOR DAY LABORERS

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Day Laborer Fairness and Protection Act," a bill to ensure fair wages and due process for day laborers.

Day laborers are individuals who are hired by agencies to work on a day-to-day basis for employers who pay for the services of temporary laborers. Day labor is not of a clerical or professional nature. Most day laborers perform construction, warehouse, restaurant, janitorial, landscaping or light industrial work—

often taking home far less than the minimum wage.

In the absence of federal guidelines, day laborers are often subjected to long, unpaid wait-periods before being assigned to a job. Commonly, these workers also face dangerous working conditions and are paid lower wages than full-time workers performing the same or similar jobs. Further, day laborers are frequently charged high (often undisclosed) fees for on-the-job meals, transportation to and from job sites and special attire and safety equipment necessary for jobs. Some agencies even ask workers to sign waivers in case they are injured on the job.

Partially due to these unfair labor conditions, many day laborers are caught in a cycle of poverty. A study by the University of Illinois Center for Urban Economic Development found that 65 percent of 510 surveyed day laborers receive \$5.15 per hour. Taking into consideration the number of hours spent waiting to be assigned to work (often between 1.5 and 3 hours), the real value per hour of work is reduced to less than about four dollars per hour. This low figure does not reflect transportation and food and equipment fees, which are often deducted from day laborers' wages.

To address these problems, this Act requires day laborer wages that are equal to those paid to permanent employees who are performing substantially equivalent work, with consideration given to seniority, experience, skills and qualifications. Also, it will help ensure that workers are being properly trained before performing hazardous tasks. My bill would also ban fees and wage deductions for health and safety equipment and for transportation between the place of hire and the work site. Further, it requires itemized statements showing deductions made from day laborers' wages. It will also outlaw the unscrupulous practice of charging workers a fee for cashing paychecks. Some companies reap millions of dollars from this deceitful practice. Finally, it mandates that when a day laborer is hurt on the job, the employer who has requested the services of the day laborer provide for coverage of health care costs.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this pro-labor legislation that will help ensure that people who work hard and pay taxes have the same employment protections as people in other jobs.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO GRANT CITIZENSHIP TO SOLDIERS
OF OPERATION IRAQI
FREEDOM

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call to the attention of my colleagues a bill that would extend automatic citizenship to those immigrant soldiers who have served our country during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

I introduce this bill in honor of soldiers like Sgt. Riayan Tejeda of Washington Heights, who laid down their lives so that all of the people of the United States, regardless of immigration status, could continue to enjoy the freedoms that our Constitution lays out. To uphold and protect a Constitution that this august

body continues to perfect through legislation and debate.

The Riayan Tejeda Memorial Act of 2003 goes beyond current congressional efforts by granting citizenship to all servicemembers that request naturalization and have served in a combat zone designated as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. It ensures that not only spouses and unmarried children, but also parents of soldiers killed as a result of service in the U.S. military, can apply for citizenship or legalization of status beyond the death of that servicemember. It allows undocumented spouses, dependents and parents of servicemembers to stay in the country while they are legalizing their status. Finally, this bill honors our current and fallen soldiers for their service by prioritizing the naturalization applications of servicemembers and their families.

No one in this country who works hard and abides by the just laws of this country should have to die to receive the citizenship that they crave and deserve. For men and women who decide to don the uniform of the armed forces, their actions on the battlefield should be enough to prove their allegiance and dedication to this land and our families.

HONORING LUCILLE COUGHLIN

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today in recognition of a truly amazing woman, Lucille Coughlin. Last year, Lucille was named the top usher at Wrigley Field, home of the World Famous Chicago Cubs. While we are all extremely proud of Lucille for becoming the Cubs' "top usher," we are even more impressed that she achieved this at 88 years young.

A true Chicago Northsider, Lucille is a graduate of Lakeview High School—one of Chicago's finest public schools. She was married at St. Andrew Parish and lived 40 years of her life in the Sauganash neighborhood. Lucille raised three children, one of whom is our own Chaplain, Reverend Daniel Coughlin. Today, she lives near Lake Michigan and enjoys spending time with her five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Approximately 15 years ago, Lucille and her friends at St. Andrew began looking for ways to stay involved in their community. After exploring a few options, they decided on working at Wrigley. Among the original group of St. Andrew's parishioners who began ushering at Wrigley Field, only Lucille remains, working nearly every day. Because she is universally loved and recognized for her cheerful and friendly demeanor, I share the joy felt by so many thousands of Cubs fans who are thrilled she has been honored with the Usher of the Year award for the 2002 season.

During her years at Wrigley, Lucille has witnessed the addition of lights to the field, rejoiced when the Cubs won the National League East title in 1989, lamented the retirement of Cub legend Ryan Sandberg, mourned the loss of Harry Carey, and celebrated many of Sammy Sosa's 505 home runs. Knowing Lucille, she'll be around when the Cubs finally return to the World Series.

But if you ask Lucille why she still works, she will tell you that it's partly to stay active,

but mostly because of the great friends she has made. As an usher she has met some of the players, past and present, as well as many important public officials. But, as interesting as the VIPs are, it is the strong bonds she has made with co-workers and fans which keeps her coming back.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call Chicago home because of people like Lucille. When she retired, she chose to stay active and involved in the community she has called home for more than 88 years. This August, Lucille will turn 89, and I hope to see her at Wrigley for years to come. Lucille Coughlin is a great Chicagoan. I congratulate her on her successes, and I wish her a happy birthday and the best in whatever life sends her way.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT
FINANCING, AND RELATED PRO-
GRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2004

SPEECH OF

HON. J.D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2800) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to bring attention to a very important issue for my state. My intent is to demonstrate to the government of Mexico that they must start working with us to provide great health care services for its citizens.

As you know, the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA) requires hospital emergency rooms to treat all patients who seek care, regardless of immigration status.

The cost of providing free medical care to illegal immigrants is a devastating burden particularly to hospitals in counties along Arizona's southern border. While this problem affects our national health care system, it has resulted in a health care crisis in states such as Arizona.

Many Arizona hospitals face serious financial difficulties. Some have cut back services and state residents are forced to stand in longer lines to see fewer doctors.

Last year, the U.S.-Mexico Border Counties Coalition released a report that should alarm and concern all of us. It found that health care facilities in 28 border counties lost nearly \$200 million in one year in costs for the emergency medical treatment of illegal aliens, \$31 million of which was lost in Arizona's border counties.

Because the federal government has failed to take financial responsibility for the costs associated with illegal immigration, much of the financial burden of emergency care for undocumented immigrants falls to state and local governments. I support efforts to ease that financial burden and I am proud to be a co-sponsor of my colleague Mr. KOLBE's bill—H.R. 819—that will assist border states, localities, and health care providers. In addition, I will be sending a letter soon to Medicare conferees in support of a Senate provision that

provides \$250 million a year for 4 years to reimburse state and local governments and local health care providers for emergency health services provided to undocumented aliens.

The Congressional Budget Office says helping border states deal with this problem will cost \$1.45 billion a year. The United States should not have to bear this burden alone. The Government of Mexico has an obligation to provide its citizens with greater health care services and help stem the tidal wave of illegal immigrants into this country. One way the Mexican government can be helpful is to provide matching funds for projects like the Nogales Trauma Center. It seems to me that the better job the Mexican government can do to provide medical care for its own people, the fewer Mexicans will be attracted to cross the border to obtain medical care. In Arizona and other border states the Mexican government needs to do more and I will work with you to urge them to take these matters seriously.

However, if the Mexican government is unwilling or unable to work with us over the next year, I fully intend to offer an amendment next year that would eliminate all aid provided to the government of Mexico in the Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill and redirect those funds to states, localities, and health care providers to help deal with the crushing burden of health care costs for illegal aliens.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT
FINANCING, AND RELATED PRO-
GRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2004

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2800) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate Congressman HAYWORTH's concern on the issue of medical care for undocumented aliens. He and I are both from Arizona. We know very well the concerns of our state.

Together, we are actively working to get the federal government to compensate state and local governments along the border for the costs resulting from illegal immigration or undocumented entries along the border. There is currently no federal or state policy to reimburse medical care providers for their treatment of illegal immigrants not in custody or who do not possess proof of residency in Arizona. During the past six years, Arizona has experienced a drastic surge in illegal immigration due to recent policy of sealing off Texas and California borders. Therefore, Arizona hospitals and ambulance service providers have had to shoulder an increasingly harsh economic burden.

If we fail to act quickly, our hospitals will go bankrupt leaving the citizens in many areas of Arizona without access to medical care.

Just this week, I introduced H.R. 2807, The Border Hospital Survival and Illegal Immigrant Care Act. This legislation aims to address the

shortcomings created by Immigration and Naturalization Service policy instructing the Border Patrol to not apprehend illegal immigrants injured in the process of crossing the border thereby avoiding financial responsibility.

It is a bipartisan effort being supported by several Republicans and Democrats across the border region, including Representatives REYES, FILNER, PASTOR, RENZI, and GRIJALVA.

I know the intent of Congressman HAYWORTH's floor amendment to the Foreign Operations appropriations bill is to get greater Mexican attention and resources on this issue. I think that is appropriate.

There is an innovative pilot project underway that may actually yield commitment on a larger scale from the Mexican government on these issues.

Just recently USAID contributed resources to establish a triage and stabilization unit at the General Hospital in Nogales, Sonora located in Mexico just across from Nogales, Arizona.

This unit would seek to take care of most emergency medical needs of Mexican citizens on the Mexican side of the border in Nogales, Sonora. I encouraged and supported this leadership by USAID and the U.S. government.

In the spirit of public private partnerships, its funding composition has several components:

\$350,000 from USAID/Mexico and a USAID Global Health agreement with EngenderHealth, a U.S. NGO,

Nearly \$200,000 of cost-sharing support from Arizona partner organizations, principally the USAID grantee, Tucson's University Medical Center Foundation,

2,000,000 pesos from Mexican Federal and State Government, and

1,000,000 pesos from local Mexican business association.

I recognize the goal of Congressman HAYWORTH and I appreciate his willingness to withdraw the floor amendment to the Foreign Operations appropriations bill.

As I continue to work on this issue, I would propose that he and I work together to bring greater focus to this important issue.

Cooperation in support of Mexico's economic and social development and its consolidation of democratic institutions and practices ranks high in the range of U.S. policy interests. This national interest of the U.S. mirrors what is in our intense local Arizona interest.

I plan to work with the distinguished Member of Arizona on this issue. In the near future, I hope you can consider co-sponsoring H.R. 2807, The Border Hospital Survival and Illegal Immigrant Care Act.

HONORING GEN. LESTER L. LYLES
ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Gen. Lester L. Lyles, United States Air Force, who will soon be retiring from the U.S. military after 35 years of distinguished service to our nation.

Gen. Lester L. Lyles is currently the Commanding General of the Air Force Material Command, headquartered at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in the 7th Congressional Dis-

trict. The command conducts research, development, test and evaluation, and provides acquisition management services and logistics support necessary to keep Air Force weapons systems combat-ready.

The general entered the Air Force in 1968 as a distinguished graduate of the Air Force ROTC program. He has served in various assignments, from the Headquarters of the U.S. Air Force, to the Air Force Systems Command (AFSC). The general became AFSC headquarters' Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Requirements in 1989, and Deputy Chief of Staff for Requirements in 1990.

From 1992 to 1996, he served consecutively as: Vice Commander and then Commander of the Ogden Air Logistics Center at Hill Air Force Base in Utah, and then commander of the Space and Missile Systems Center at Los Angeles Air Force Base in California.

The general became the Director of the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization in 1996, which is certainly one of the most politically charged offices in the Pentagon.

In May 1999, he was assigned as Vice Chief of Staff at Headquarters, U.S. Air Force. He assumed his current position in April 2000.

I have had the privilege to work with the General on many occasions, since we have the mutual goal of seeing the Air Force (and Wright-Patterson Air Force Base) maintain its role as the preeminent leader in aerospace and advanced technology research.

General Lyles has always understood what has needed to be done, and we have worked very well together to maintain a robust research atmosphere at Wright-Pat. In addition to being a great leader and administrator, General Lyles is also the only African-American four-star general in the Air Force.

This makes him an outstanding role model for the youth of today as an example of what can be accomplished through hard work and perseverance. In fact, in February of this year, General Lyles received the Black Engineer of the Year Award for lifetime achievement. This award is presented on behalf of the Council of Engineering Deans of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Lockheed Martin, Daimler Chrysler and U.S. Black Engineer & Information Technology Magazine.

As befitting a leader of his stature, General Lyles has an impressive academic background including: a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Howard University in Washington, D.C., and a Master of Science degree in mechanical and nuclear engineering from the Air Force Institute of Technology Program at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces.

Through his advancement in military rank, he has also attended: the Defense Systems Management College, the Armed Forces Staff College, the National War College, and most recently he completed a National and International Security Management Course at Harvard University.

And, like any successful person, General Lyles is supported by a strong family relationship with his wife of 33 years, Mina, and their four children.

During my tenure in Congress, it has been my honor to work with several consecutive commanding generals of the Air Force Material Command. Each one has been professional, dedicated and a credit to the caliber of general officers in the U.S. Air Force. However, General Lyles has greatly impressed not

only myself, but also many business and community leaders in the Miami Valley. When General Lyles retires, we will be sorry to lose the man I consider to be the best leader in the distinguished history of the command.

As the Congressman who represents Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in the U.S. House of Representatives, I offer my sincere congratulations to Gen. Lyles on his well-deserved retirement and on behalf of the 7th Congressional District and thank him for all he has done to preserve our freedoms.

HONORING WILLIAM STRAUS

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William Straus, rancher, environmentalist, and father of the family whose Straus Family Creamery has set a new standard for organic dairy products. Mr. Straus, who lived in Marshall, CA, died on July 6, 2003, at the age of 88.

Born in Hamburg, Germany, in 1914, Bill, whose father was the first German Jew to earn a doctorate in agriculture, also studied agriculture before fleeing to British-controlled Palestine in 1936. Although he planned to settle there, relatives lured him to California where they were expecting to find oil near San Luis Obispo.

No oil was found, but Bill fell in love with the land. He earned a degree in agriculture from UC Berkeley and purchased a ranch in Marshall. In 1949, fearing he would not find a Jewish girl to marry in West Marin, he traveled to New York twice to meet Amsterdam-born Ellen Prins. The couple married soon after, and Ellen moved to the ranch where she too fell in love with the rolling hills and beautiful landscape.

The Strauses soon became leaders in efforts to protect the land and to develop environmentally sound farming practices. The couple understood that ranchers and conservationists needed to work together to preserve open spaces. Bill was the first rancher to join the Marin Conservation League, and in 1980 Ellen co-founded Marin Agricultural Land Trust (MALT). In 1994, son Albert Straus established the first organic dairy west of the Mississippi.

Bill and Ellen created a warm, hospitable household based on their Jewish roots and were welcoming to friends, family, and a parade of visitors. Ellen Straus died last November. Bill is survived by four children and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Straus left a legacy based on stewardship of the land, close personal relationships, commitment to agriculture and love of the landscape. His spirit lives on in the beautiful hills of West Marin.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to explain my absence on Friday,

July 18, 2003 and Tuesday, July 22, 2003. I attended the funerals of Sgt. Roger Rowe, a Tennessee National Guardsman killed in Iraq, and Rose Barker, a longtime friend. I wanted to pay my respects to Sgt. Rowe and thank his family for his dedicated service to our country. I also wanted to say farewell to a very good friend in Rose.

INTRODUCING THE NATIONAL DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS ACT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my good friend from Montana, Mr. REHBERG, to introduce the National Drought Preparedness Act. The companion to our bill is also being introduced today in the other body by Senators PETE DOMENICI and MAX BAUCUS.

In 1998, Congress passed legislation creating the National Drought Policy Commission. The Commission was tasked with the responsibility to examine current U.S. policy on drought. To summarize the Commission's fifty-page report in a few short words, "The U.S. does not have a policy on drought."

I wish I had just made a joke. The fact that we don't have a drought policy, however, is a joke—and not a good one at that.

Drought is not just an agriculture issue, nor is it only a water management issue. When droughts occur, forest fires erupt, small businesses close, crop yields decrease, and in many instances, people die.

Here in Washington, it's been raining all month, so people aren't talking about drought. However, just because we aren't talking about it, doesn't mean that we shouldn't be doing something about it.

In my home State of Florida, we are always taking steps to mitigate the effects of hurricanes and floods—regardless of what season it is. In the Midwest, similar efforts are made to plan for tornadoes, and in the West, the same could be said for wildfire prevention and earthquakes.

It is time for America to move away from the costly, ad-hoc, and response-oriented approach to drought, and toward a more pro-active approach that focuses on preparation and planning. Coordination between Federal, State, and local governments, in addition to watershed groups, farmers and ranchers, and resource dependent businesses, is the only way we will successfully curb the effects of drought before we find ourselves in one. The bill we are introducing today provides a new focus on an otherwise often ignored natural disaster.

Our bill accomplishes four major goals:

First, the bill begins to move the country away from the costly, ad-hoc, and response-oriented approach to drought, and toward a more pro-active approach focused on preparation and planning. The new national policy will provide the tools and focus for Federal, State, tribal and local governments to address the diverse impacts and costs caused by drought.

Second, the bill will improve the delivery of Federal drought programs. To ensure improved program delivery, integration and leadership, the National Drought Preparedness Act

establishes the National Drought Council under the direction of the Secretary of Agriculture. The Council will provide the coordinating and integrating function for the more than 80 Federal drought programs currently in existence.

Third, the bill establishes new tools for drought preparedness planning. Building on current water policy, the Drought Council will assist states, local governments, tribes, and other entities in the development and implementation of drought preparedness plans. The bill does not mandate state and local planning, but is intended to facilitate the development and implementation of drought plans through the establishment of a Drought Assistance Fund. Importantly, the bill also preserves State authority over water allocation.

Fourth, the bill improves our forecasting and monitoring abilities. Under our legislation, the Drought Council will facilitate the development of the National Integrated Drought System in order to improve the characterization of current drought conditions and the forecasting of future droughts, as well as provide a better basis to trigger Federal drought assistance.

Mr. Speaker, the creation of a coordinated and comprehensive National Drought Council will provide efficient and time sensitive coordination between Federal agencies in preparing for and responding to droughts, as well as assisting Congress in identifying our immediate and long term needs in providing drought relief.

I am looking forward to working with my colleagues and moving this bill forward. Americans are hurting throughout this country today because of water shortages and prolonged droughts. Congress must act immediately, and time is of the essence.

I ask my colleagues to support this bill, and I urge the House leadership to bring this bill to the floor for its swift consideration.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION REFORM ACT OF 2003

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Federal Bureau of Investigation Reform Act of 2003," legislation that strengthens the accountability, enhances the security and improves the management of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). I am joined by Representatives BERMAN, JACKSON-LEE, DELAHUNT, BLUMENAUER, WAXMAN, FARR, and CARSON of Indiana.

The report released today by the joint congressional committee investigating the September 11th attacks was quite disturbing. It provided ample evidence of key clues and signals that astute FBI agents should have picked up on. Line after line of the report reveals incidences of missed opportunities. Beginning with the FBI's neglect of the now infamous "phoenix" memo and ending with the mishandling of potentially valuable informants, the FBI engaged in a pattern and practice of activities that did very little, if anything, to protect this nation from the devastating attacks it experienced on 9-11.

To address some of the obvious miscues and intelligence failures highlighted in the report, we are introducing the FBI Reform Act of

2003. There are five key elements of our bill. First, it strengthens whistleblower protection for FBI employees and protects them from retaliation for reporting wrongdoing. Second, it addresses the issue of a double standard for discipline of senior executives by eliminating the disparity in authorized punishments between Senior Executive Service members and other Federal employees. Third, it establishes an FBI Counterintelligence Polygraph Program for screening personnel in exceptionally sensitive positions with specific safeguards. Fourth, it establishes an FBI Career Security Program, which would bring the FBI into line with other U.S. intelligence agencies that have strong career security professional cadres whose skills and leadership are dedicated to the protection of agency information, personnel, and facilities. Finally, it requires a set of reports that would enable Congress to engage the Executive branch in a constructive dialogue building a more effective FBI for the future.

The FBI Reform Act is designed to strengthen the FBI as an institution that has a unique role as both a law enforcement agency and a member of the intelligence community. As the Judiciary Committee continues its oversight work and more is learned about recent FBI performance, additional reforms may prove necessary. Especially important will be the lessons learned from the attacks of September 11th, the anthrax attacks, and implementation of the USA PATRIOT Act. I am hopeful that Congress can move quickly to enact this worthwhile and timely legislation.

HONORING JAMES WILSON JACKSON AND HARRY BELLE FULLMORE ON THEIR GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to honor the 50th wedding anniversary of James Wilson Jackson and Harry Belle Fullmore, better known as Honey.

James, a lieutenant in the United States Army was stationed at Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas where he met Honey. And, like her name, Honey was the belle of Texas and James was swept off his feet. After numerous Sunday dinners prepared by Jesse Cook, Honey's mother and James' future mother-in-law, James proposed to Honey and the two married on August 14, 1953.

They had four children: James Wilson Jackson, Jr., Suzan Elizabeth Jackson, Barbara Ann Jackson and Michelle Jackson.

Having chosen a military career, James and Honey traveled throughout the world including the Orient, Europe and from coast to coast in the United States. Everywhere they settled, they developed a host of friends.

Upon retiring from the military, James and Honey chose Cleveland, Ohio as their new home. Since moving to Cleveland in 1970, they have dedicated themselves to contributing to their community and society at large. James chose the civic route, volunteering to serve on various Boards and Commissions. Honey chose to make her contributions more

economic in nature, supporting upscale and specialty boutiques from coast to coast.

During the 50 years of their marriage, James and Honey have been faced with many obstacles and hurdles, but working together, they have persevered. We are honored to commend James and Honey Jackson on their Golden Anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIARD MCDONALD ON THE OCCASION OF WILLARD MCDONALD DAY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Willard McDonald on the occasion of the 6th Annual Willard McDonald Day in Ashland, Alabama.

Willard McDonald has a deep faith in God and a deep love for gospel music. He was the founder and editor of "Deep South Gospel Magazine," and the host of "Gospel Music Review" and the "Country Boy Eddie Show" in Birmingham, Alabama. He used his love of gospel music to organize gospel sings for twenty-five churches and for charity events.

Since his retirement, Willard McDonald has devoted his time to helping others, and six years ago, his friends, his family and the citizens of Ashland organized a Willard McDonald Day to show their appreciation.

Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute today to Willard McDonald as a great Alabamian and American, and I appreciate the House's acknowledgment of his legacy.

CELEBRATING THE 14TH EDITION OF PAN-AMERICAN GAMES IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 14th edition of the Pan-American Games, this year to be held in Santo Domingo Dominican Republic, from August 1st to August 17th.

Since 1951, the games have carried the Olympic spirit of trying to build and strengthen international cooperation through friendly, but no less intense, competition between the countries of the Western Hemisphere. In a time when we are engaged in a global struggle against terrorism, poverty and disease, the sight of some of the region's best athletes coming and sharing the same stage peacefully gives the world hope that our current struggles are just a prologue to better days.

This year's games are also a source of pride to Dominicans all over the world, especially those who live in my district's neighborhood of Washington Heights. While putting on an event of such magnitude is a challenge for any nation, there is no doubt in my mind that the world will be treated to a world-class celebration full of the best of Dominican culture. It is also a chance to sow the seeds of future

economic development by showing the world that any stage can shine brightly from Santo Domingo.

So it is with great enthusiasm that I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating all the participants and organizers in advance for all their achievements and hard work. Let us hope that the Pan-American Games' motto, loosely translated as "The American spirit of friendship through sports," not only lasts beyond these two weeks in August, but also extends beyond sports and the island of Hispaniola into the hearts of all of the world's citizens.

INTRODUCTION OF SENSE OF CONGRESS BILL ON LIBERIA

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that while we encourage a regional West African effort to resolve the Liberia crisis, the United States military has no role—either alone or as part of a multinational force—in that country.

We all recognize the tragedy in Liberia. A civil war has raged there for the past 14 years, leaving thousands dead and a million without homes. Horrific stories of atrocities abound. We wish for peace and a resolution to the conflict. But we must recognize that this resolution should come through regional West African efforts. These are the countries involved and affected; these are the countries with the most incentive to resolve the problem. Simply stated, there is no U.S. national security interest at stake in the conflict—no matter how widely "national interest" is defined.

But the administration is currently pondering repeated calls by some in the U.S. and especially the United Nations to commit thousands of troops to a full-fledged American operation in Liberia. According to press reports, the Pentagon has just ordered about 4,500 sailors and marines from the Horn of Africa into the Mediterranean Sea, so as to be closer to Liberia—just in case.

Before we commit our troops to yet another foreign intervention, Congress must at the very least consider the implications of further committing our already seriously overextended military. According to recent press reporting, of the 33 brigades that make up the entirety of the U.S. Army's active duty combat forces, all but just three brigades are either currently engaged in Iraq, Afghanistan, South Korea, are committed to other missions, or are reconstituting. This suggests that the U.S. military is in serious danger of becoming over-extended.

Mr. Speaker, there is no U.S. interest in the conflict and U.S. military involvement could well lead to resentment and more violence against U.S. troops, as we saw in Somalia. We must ponder this possibility before yet again putting our men and women in uniform in harm's way.

I hope very much that my colleagues will join me in this effort and that we may see a quick Floor vote on this very important measure.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE TURKISH
INVASION OF CYPRUS**HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of the 29th Anniversary of the Turkish Invasion of Cyprus and to commemorate this tragedy for the Greek Cypriot people.

On the 29th Anniversary of the Turkish Invasion of Cyprus, we solemnly remember the victims of the invasion. The invasion claimed 5,000 Cypriot lives, displaced 200,000 Greek Cypriots from their homes, and has created one of the most militarized areas in the world, with 40,000 Turkish troops continuing to occupy the island. The invasion also created hatred between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots that poisoned the way they thought of each other for years.

While we mourn the tragic losses of the past 29 years, we are also able to celebrate the future of a Cyprus integrated into the European Union. This is an historic year for Cyprus, and I would like to commend Cyprus and the Greek Cypriot people for their commitment and determination in reaching a settlement on the reunification of the island and especially membership in the European Union. On April 16, 2003, Cyprus signed the Accession Treaty to the European Union and will now have a host of new opportunities open to its people. Just this week, the Wall Street Journal ran an article describing the emotional meetings of Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots going back to their former villages, and their realization that the hatred melted away once they met and spoke with people on the other side. If this is truly the case, then there is hope for a peaceful future.

Nevertheless, it is the obligation of the U.S. Congress to condemn the violence that separated the island nation of Cyprus, and to encourage Turkish Cypriot leaders as needed to negotiate in good faith with their Greek Cypriot counterparts to settle this dispute. The reunification of the island nation is a priority for this Congress and the international community. On this anniversary of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus, we mourn the deaths of those killed in the invasion and the lost opportunities over the years, and we look forward to a future of a reunited Cyprus in the European Union.

HONORING THE SACRIFICE OF
CMDR. KEVIN A. BIANCHI**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true American hero. Kevin A. Bianchi, 40, was among three members of a Navy helicopter crew confirmed dead in a crash in Sicily on July 16, 2003. The fact that his older brother, Robert, a Navy helicopter pilot, was killed in a crash in the Philippines in 1986, adds to the enormous grief that his family now feels.

Kevin Bianchi came from a proud family tradition of Navy servicemen. Two of his three brothers served honorably with Kevin in the

Navy. Indeed, Kevin himself graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, in May 1985 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Science. He led fellow servicemen as captain of the Navy Wrestling team, and was commissioned and assigned to the Naval Academy staff as an Assistant Physical Education Instructor and Assistant Wrestling Coach. In June 1991, Cmdr. Bianchi reported to the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey California where he earned a Masters of Science degree in Information Systems Technology Management. Finally, in March 2001, he went to Newport, Rhode Island to attend the College of Naval Command and Staff at the United States Naval War College where he was awarded a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

His glittering academic career was mirrored by his successful service record. He served with honor on the Naval Air Force Atlantic Fleet in Virginia, and was promoted to the position of Air Operations Officer of the Pacific Fleet in San Diego, California. He was decorated on countless occasions in recognition of his service success. In addition to various service awards, Cmdr. Bianchi earned an Air Medal and Navy Commendation and Achievement Medals.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives are inspired, as I am, by Cmdr. Bianchi's remarkable patriotism and exceptional valor. He was proud to serve his country, and refused to give up his career even after his family had been struck by tragedy. That Cmdr. Bianchi continued to put his life at risk on a regular basis, even after the loss of his brother in 1986, is proof of his unassailable courage and dedication. Let us join in extending our condolences to Cmdr. Bianchi's parents, who have now lost two sons in service to our Nation. Our thoughts and prayers will be with his loving wife Rita Barrie, and their three children, Kevin, Christopher and Julia.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Chairman, I was unavoidably detained due to a U.S. Airways plane malfunction and missed rollcall vote No. 357, the Ackerman-LaTourette amendment to the Agriculture appropriations bill which would require that the USDA expend no funds to approve meat from downed animals—animals that are too sick to walk or stand—for food. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

COMMUNITY PROTECTION AND
RESPONSE ACT**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Community Protection and Response Act of 2003 to eliminate confusion in terrorist prevention and response.

One of the major lessons learned in the aftermath of the September 11th, attacks is

that timely response is critical. Any delay complicates short-, medium-, and long-term recovery efforts. Sadly, many of the lessons that we have learned have gone without an appropriate response. For example, the Washington Post reported on June 4, 2003, that the United States remains highly vulnerable to a chemical terrorist attack, in large part because the Department of Health and Human Services and the Environmental Protection Agency still have not decided which agency would spearhead chemical testing. Clearly now is the time to learn from our past and prepare for the future. The Community Protection and Response Act does just that.

In response to the attacks of September 11th, Congress took a series of actions to bring relief to affected areas. These legislative actions along with existing statutes, including the Robert T. Stafford Relief and Emergency Act and the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, formed the framework for the federal government's response. The magnitude of the attacks and the need for Congress to take action before certain relief could be delivered added to the challenge of the recovery efforts and exposed critical weaknesses in federal authority to respond.

The Community Protection and Response Act would amend the Stafford Act along with other statutes and would give the President a series of policy options to choose from following a homeland security event. A homeland security event is defined as an event that poses a significant risk to the security of people and property and is in such a magnitude that effective response is beyond the scope and capability of the affected state and local government. Many of these options are based on congressional action following September 11th or other policy suggestions in reports by the Congressional Research Service, the General Accounting Office and the New York branch of the Federal Reserve. Specifically, in the event of homeland security event, the President can provide grants for lost tax revenue, aid to school systems, and assistance to medical facilities and utility companies. The bill also establishes guidelines to ensure the public health of area residents and disaster workers.

This legislation was introduced in the 107th Congress (H.R. 5164) and was offered as an amendment to the Bill that created the Department of Homeland Security. While the Committee on Government Reform passed the amendment by an unanimous vote, it was stripped out before floor consideration.

IN RECOGNITION OF JETT WIL-
LIAMS, THE DAUGHTER OF HANK
WILLIAMS**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jett Williams, the daughter of the legendary Hank Williams, for her outstanding professional achievements.

Jett Williams was born in Montgomery, Alabama, on January 6, 1953, five days after the death of her father, Hank Williams. She was adopted by her grandmother, Lillian Williams. When Ms. Williams passed away in 1954, Jett was adopted by a family living in Mobile, Alabama. It was not until adulthood that she

began to search for her real identity. In 1989, the Alabama Supreme Court recognized Jett Williams as the daughter of Hank Williams.

Through her fight to be recognized as the daughter of Hank Williams, Jett Williams was assisted by attorney Keith Adkinson, who became her husband in 1986. The next year, she began her professional singing debut in Evergreen, Alabama. In 1990, she published her autobiography. Finally, on the occasion of the anniversary of the 75th birthday of Hank Williams, Jett Williams and Hank Williams, Jr. made their first appearance together, demonstrating their family relationship.

Carrying on the Hank Williams tradition, Jett Williams performs throughout the country, and on August 16, 2003, she will once again return to Alabama for her annual Kowliga Reunion on Lake Martin to honor her father and one of country music's best known legacies, Hank Williams.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE IN RECOGNITION AND SUPPORT OF THE WORK OF SISTER JANET DOYLE

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take this opportunity today to recognize the contributions to Catholic education made by Sister Janet Doyle, O.P. of the Toledo Catholic Diocese. Sr. Janet leaves her position as Superintendent of the diocese's Catholic Youth and Social Services, having developed the office into a comprehensive network of services for young people including schools, sports, social activities, and ministry.

During her long tenure, Sr. Janet has overseen 83 elementary schools, 10 high schools, 4 private high schools, and 2 colleges in the diocese's nineteen county Northwest Ohio area through which tens of thousands of children have been educated. Under her leadership, the schools expanded enrollment to include children of all faiths, offering opportunities for them to learn in an interfaith environment.

Sr. Janet's stewardship has been marked by the Catholic educators' credo that "we believe our Catholic School is not only a school, but a community of Faith; we believe those entrusted to us are not only students, but children of God; we believe we are not only educators, but ministers of the Gospel; we believe the values we teach are not only character development, but a call to Holiness; we believe our courses of study are not only academic pursuits, but a search for Truth; we believe the purpose of education is not only for personal gain and the development of society, but for the Transformation of the world." Under her capable guidance, the diocese's schools have demonstrated they are at the forefront of a quality education with rigorous academic standards, and at the same time giving students a safe haven in which to learn and grow. Thank you Sister!

Sr. Janet leaves as her legacy the fulfillment of the mission of the office of Catholic Youth and School Services to "assist the Bishop in his teaching mission by serving, challenging, and supporting the leaders of youth formation and education who minister in schools and

parishes in the Diocese of Toledo." Though her daily presence will be missed, Toledo's Catholic youth services bear her imprimatur.

TRIBUTE TO EDDIE MURRAY

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, the words most often used to describe Eddie Murray are "team-player," "reliable," "steady," and "clutch-player." What these words fail to convey is just how much fun it was to watch Eddie play, particularly for the Orioles, particularly in Memorial Stadium where he spent his first 12 years as a professional baseball player. He helped the team excel in every way, from winning a World Series and a pair of American League Championships, to being an exciting home team to root for at the ballpark.

This wonderful and often under appreciated ball player known in my hometown simply as "Eddie" will be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame this weekend in the first year he is eligible. The statistics are important, and they show just how steady and yet remarkable Eddie's career was: Eddie Murray is one of three players (the other two are Hank Aaron and Willie Mays) to hit over a lifetime 500 home runs and 3,000 hits. He is the only switch hitter to accomplish this feat. He homered from both sides of the plate in 11 games—a Major League record. He was the 1977 American League Rookie of the Year, an 8-time All-Star (in both Leagues), a 3-time Golden Glove winner, and shares the distinction with Cal Ripken and Pete Rose of playing at least 150 games in 16 seasons—all in a career that was 20 years long. He ranks 2nd in all-time career grand slams with 19. He ranks 8th all-time in RBIs, 17th in home runs, 12th in hits. He holds the Major League record for games played and assists by a first baseman. He batted in 1,917 RBIs—more than 75 a season in 20 consecutive seasons.

He hit 996 RBIs in the 80's—the most any player hit in the decade—and was known for being able to play his best in situations where his team needed him the most. Murray was a career .410 hitter with the bases loaded. In fact, he hit 117 game-winning RBIs, an American League record, and hit a Major League record 128 sacrifice flies. Murray was in every way the ultimate clutch player and a team player who thought of the team and the game before his own glory. In total, he hit 504 home runs, 3,255 hits, and played for the Orioles, the Dodgers, the Mets, the Indians, and the Angels. But he started his career and hit his 500th home run in Baltimore, and he will be inducted on Sunday as an Oriole. We are proud to claim him.

Eddie Murray told the Baltimore Sun in January when he found out about the induction: "The 500 home runs, to me, is the most mind-boggling, because I didn't think I was strong enough. I never thought of myself as a home-run hitter." He gave back to other players, on the field with his selfless play and off. When Cal Ripken broke Lou Gehrig's record, he singled his former teammate out for praise, saying "when I got to the big leagues, there was a man—Eddie Murray—who showed me how to play this game, day in and day out. I thank

him for his example and for his friendship. I was lucky to have him as my teammate for the years we were together . . ." Murray also gave to his community, starting, with Ripken, a program giving Orioles tickets to underprivileged children. He also created an outdoor education program in the second largest urban park in the nation, Leakin Park in Baltimore, named The Carrie Murray Nature Center in honor of his late mother.

Of sharing his achievement with Aaron and Mays, Murray said, "I'm not in their class." Mr. Murray, your fans in Baltimore and across the Country beg to disagree.

CELEBRATING NEW YORK'S DOMINICAN DAY PARADE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of New York's oldest celebrations of Dominican culture, Manhattan's Dominican Day Parade.

The annual parade, which once ran through the heart of Washington Heights, has grown to become one of August's most anticipated celebrations of cultural and ethnic pride on New York's Sixth Avenue.

This year's parade on August 10th not only comes on the heels of the Dominican Republic's hosting of the 14th edition of the Pan-American Games, it also kicks off Dominican Heritage Week in New York City. From then to August 16th, New Yorkers of all ages will get a chance to learn about some of the ways in which this vibrant community is transforming the nation.

We have begun to hear of Dominicans and Dominican-Americans in the context of stars like baseball slugger Sammy Sosa, designer Oscar de la Renta, and Miss Universe 2002 Amelia Vega. However, there are hundreds of Dominican professionals and an increasing amount of Dominican students that are blazing trails in government, law, science, and technology. They understand that they stand on the shoulders of not only the sacrifices that their parents have made but also on the achievements of members of other freedom-loving people.

In many ways, their journey is similar to other immigrant groups that have landed on our shores. But make no mistake, the people of the Dominican Republic have a style all their own. They are part of the wonderful mosaic that is America whose continuing empowerment can only help this country reach its full potential as a democracy.

LIVING WELL WITH FATAL CHRONIC ILLNESS ACT OF 2003

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Living Well with Fatal Chronic Illness Act of 2003", a bill to build the capacity to meet the challenge of growing numbers of people living with serious chronic illness for some time before death. I am joined

in introducing this bill by my colleague, Representative JIM RAMSTAD.

The early ideas for this legislative initiative came from conversations around the dinner table with my wife, Jean. We have both lost spouses, who succumbed at an unusually early age to cancer, and we have tended to disabled and frail parents.

Many citizens have been personally touched by the experience of caring for disabled and frail parents or for spouses and children as they lived out their final days. My experience in these difficult situations has been that our health care system is a patchwork quilt of mismatched services that carry with them substantial expense. So, the challenges faced by those nearing the end of life, as well as by those caring for loved ones, are particularly meaningful to me.

Just in the last half-century, the way that most Americans come to the end of life has changed dramatically. Today, most people live for many months with a serious chronic illness before they die. In fact, statistics show that, on average, Americans will be unable to care for themselves for the last two years of their lives. However, the services that our health care system makes readily available were designed to cope with short-term threats, such as accidental injuries and heart attacks. Our nation's health care system has not been adapted to meet the needs of people facing the final phase of life or the many challenges faced by their caregivers.

Problems associated with end-of-life care are deeply rooted in federal policy. Unfortunately, we have been slow to see that these lapses are not just personal calamities and challenges, but rather, are built into federal policy. For example, while Medicare coverage makes operations and emergency services readily available to the elderly, services more appropriate for serious disability and dying are not easily found. Medicare, Medicaid, and Veteran's coverage do not provide for continuity in care, advance care planning, family support, or symptom relief for long-term fatal illnesses.

Further, end of life care uses a large portion of funding allocated to health care services. Those last few years of life are tremendously expensive, with the last year alone using 28% of the overall Medicare budget. It is estimated that half of Medicare costs—and even more of Medicaid for the elderly and Veteran's health care—go toward care of those who are very sick and will die, rather than get well. Although taxpayers spend money on end-of-life care, they do not get reliability and quality from that care.

This is a problem that will only increase in the coming years. The numbers of people facing serious illness and death will double within a quarter century, as the Baby Boomer generation reaches old age. Our nation must not only arrange and pay for services that can support the unprecedented number of people who will need care, but we must also learn how to support family caregivers. Facts show that a family member will spend nearly as many years—seventeen—caring for an elderly parent, as raising children—eighteen years. Further, a family caregiver can expect to lose more than one-half million dollars in net worth, (from having a lower pension, more time not covered by health insurance, and lost wages.)

The "Living Well with Fatal Chronic Illness Act of 2003" will meet the challenges faced by a growing number of people who must live

with serious chronic illness for some time before death. This comprehensive legislation addresses three key initiatives—one affects caregivers, two relate to improving end-of-life care.

First, the legislation proposes a \$3,000 per year refundable tax credit for the primary caregiver of a spouse or those they can claim as dependents, and certain other low income individuals, who have long-term care needs. This is important, because the United States is the only developed nation that does not support family caregivers. There is no federal government program to help improve skills, provide respite; indeed, we do not generally demonstrate that we honor caregivers' love and loyalty. The tax credit we propose is admittedly not enough to pay for the financial sacrifices of caregivers who provide long-term care, but it will demonstrate support and respect for the significant commitment and contributions made by those who help loved ones to live well despite serious illness.

We have been so focused on learning how to prevent and cure diseases that we have all but abandoned interest in what occurs as those possibilities run out. Most people now die of long-term irreversible conditions like dementia, frailty, heart failure, emphysema, cancer, and stroke; yet there is very little reliable evidence about serious illness and the end of life. This legislation will help provide guidance that the medical community needs to respond more effectively to unique end-of-life challenges.

In order to begin laying the foundation for evidence-based reforms to health care, the second section of the bill authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to establish research, demonstration, and education programs to improve the quality of end-of-life care across multiple federal agencies.

Third, the bill authorizes the Department of Veterans Affairs to develop and implement programs to improve the delivery of appropriate health and support services for patients with fatal chronic illness. The Veterans Health Care System has been a leader in end-of-life care delivery and innovation, especially in advance care planning and pain management. This bill aims to support continued excellence through enhanced education and service delivery for this important care system that now serves so many disabled and elderly veterans.

Our nation will face major challenges in the next quarter century as baby boomers approach old age. We must ensure that people suffering from fatal chronic illnesses live out their lives in a dignified, comfortable, and meaningful way, and we must support and honor the invaluable work of caregivers.

HONORING ETHAN LINK FOR HIS
OUTSTANDING INVOLVEMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ethan Link of Gallatin, TN, for being selected as Gallatin High School's first YMCA Youth Governor.

Ethan has been involved in the YMCA Youth Legislature since the sixth grade. In 2001, at his freshman conference, he received the Outstanding Bill award for legislation con-

cerning DNA testing for death-row inmates awaiting execution. During his junior year, he received the Outstanding Bill award for a measure to create a death penalty review commission and served as the Senate Floor Leader. This year, he was selected to attend the Conference on National Affairs and to serve as the Youth Governor for 2004.

Ethan marked the highlight of the conference as meeting with members of the White House staff, representatives and senators from several states—including myself—members of the Washington media, Judy Schneider of Congressional Research Service and many other "inspiring speakers."

Another aspect of Ethan's involvement in public service programs is his participation in the Model United Nations Program. He has been involved with this program for 4 years. At the 2002 MUN conference, he served as Jamaica's ambassador on the Security Council. The following year, he served as China's ambassador, giving him a more powerful role. Ethan will serve as Security Council president in 2004.

I commend Ethan for his many accomplishments and awards, and wish him the best of luck in future endeavors.

29TH ANNIVERSARY OF TURKISH
INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my encouragement on behalf and to the international community for their continued efforts at resolving the Cyprus crisis. Twenty-nine years ago, without justification, and against international law, Turkish armed forces invaded the nation of Cyprus and today because of a lack of willingness from the Turkish Cypriot leadership; the international community's goal of attained peace is yet to be achieved.

I want to commend United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan for his committed efforts to resolving this issue. From the international community's perspective, on several occasions there has been an initiative to resolve this issue, and yet because of the unwillingness of the Turkish Cypriot leadership and specifically Mr. Rauf Denktash, negotiations have collapsed. The most recent negotiations held this past March shows a prime example of unwillingness on the Turkish side. During the negotiations, Republic of Cyprus President Tassos Papadopoulos, accepted the Annan Plan aimed at reunifying Cyprus. However, Mr. Denktash bluntly rejected the plan, therefore denying his own Turkish Cypriot citizens the right to vote on the issue. In early April, after the meeting, Secretary General Annan issued a report to the Security Council, firmly declaring that Mr. Denktash bears the sole responsibility that lead to the failure of the UN effort.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, there are several strong warnings in the form of protests for the UN peace process, that the Turkish Cypriot community does not support Mr. Denktash's obstructionist approach to governing their community.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge Congress to support the continued efforts of the United Nations led by Secretary General Annan, to bring

peace and the reunification of Cyprus, through talks between the international community and the Turkish Cypriot leadership. The world must hold the Turkish Cypriot Leadership and specifically Mr. Denktash responsible for their actions. If this issue is not resolved, the people of Cyprus will not be re-united. These are the same Turkish Cypriots who support the reunification of Cyprus and the same Turkish Cypriots who Mr. Denktash thinks he is leading. Let Mr. Denktash know, that if he does not endorse the UN peace process, he will be doing a great disservice to his own people.

I thank the Speaker for allowing me to address the House today to express my concerns to my fellow colleagues regarding this issue.

ELLIS ISLAND MEDALS OF HONOR
AWARDS CEREMONY—NECO
CHAIRMAN WILLIAM DENIS
FUGAZY LEADS DRAMATIC
CEREMONY

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

ELLIS ISLAND, NY, May 17.—Standing on the hallowed grounds of Ellis Island—the portal through which 17 million immigrants entered the United States—a cast of ethnic Americans who have made significant contributions to the life of this nation were presented with the coveted Ellis Island Medal of Honor at an emotionally uplifting ceremony. This year's event was dedicated to our armed forces.

This year's ceremony date coincides with that of National Armed Forces Day. As such, we would like to pay special tribute to the men and women serving in the U.S. armed forces both here and abroad. Several of our Medalists also serve in the armed forces; many more are honored veterans.

NECO's annual medal ceremony and reception on Ellis Island in New York Harbor is the Nation's largest celebration of ethnic pride. Representing a rainbow of ethnic origins, this year's recipients received their awards in the shadow of the historic Great Hall, where the first footsteps were taken by the millions of immigrants who entered the U.S. in the latter part of the nineteenth century. "Today we honor great ethnic Americans who, through their achievements and contributions, and in the spirit of their ethnic origins, have enriched this country and have become role models for future generations," said NECO Chairman William Denis Fugazy. "In addition, we honor the immigrant experience—those who passed through this Great Hall decades ago, and the new immigrants who arrive on American soil seeking opportunity."

Established in 1986 by NECO, the Ellis Island Medals of Honor pay tribute to the ancestry groups that comprise America's unique cultural mosaic. To date, approximately 2000 American citizens have received medals.

NECO is the largest organization of its kind in the U.S. serving as an umbrella group for over 250 ethnic organizations and whose mandate is to preserve ethnic diversity, promote ethnic and religious equality, tolerance and harmony, and to combat injustice, hatred and bigotry. NECO has a new goal in its humanitarian mission: saving the

lives of children with lifethreatening medical conditions. NECO has founded The Forum's Children Foundation, which brings children from developing nations needing life-saving surgery to the United States for treatment.

Ellis Island Medals of Honor recipients are selected each year through a national nomination process. Screening committees from NECO's member organizations select the final nominees, who are then considered by the Board Directors.

Past Ellis Island Medals of Honor recipients have included several U.S. Presidents, entertainers, athletes, entrepreneurs, religious leaders and business executives, such as William Clinton, Ronald Reagan, Jimmy Carter, Gerald Ford, George Bush, Richard Nixon, George Pataki, Mario Cuomo, Bob Hope, Frank Sinatra, Michael Douglas, Gloria Estefan, Coretta Scott King, Rosa Parks, Elie Wiesel, Muhammad Ali, Mickey Mantle, General Norman Schwarzkopf, Barbara Walters, Terry Anderson, Dr. Michael DeBakey, Senator John McCain, Rudy Giuliani and Attorney General Janet Reno.

Congratulations to the 2003 Ellis Island Medals of Honor Recipients:

Ruth J. Abram, President, Lower East Side Tenement Museum, Romanian/Irish/Prussian; Danny Aiello, Actor, Italian; Hon. Hagop S. Akiskal, Professor of Psychiatry, University of California at San Diego, Armenian; Hon. William Vollie Alexander, Managing Partner, Alexander & Associates, Scottish/English/Irish;

Menelaos Anastasios Aliapoulos, M.D., Medical Director, General Electric Company, Hellenic; Hon. Hushang Ansary, Parman Group, Iranian; Angela Susan Anton, CEO & Publisher, Long Island Community Newspapers, Czechoslovakian/Italian; William Austin, Chairman & CEO, Starkey Laboratories Inc., English; Robert P. Badavas, Chief Operating Officer, Atlas Venture, Hellenic; Peter Balakian, Professor, Colgate University, Armenian; Roger Ballou, President & CEO, CDI Corporation, English/Scottish/French;

Salvatore A. Balsamo, Chairman, Tac World Wide Companies, Italian; Peggy L.S. Barmore, Assistant to the President, NYSUT, African/Irish; Peter J. Barris, Managing General Partner, New Enterprise Associates, Hellenic; Anthony J. Bifaro, Assistant to the President, NYSUT, Italian; Michael Bolton, Bolton Music Company, Russian/English; Capt. Craig E. Bone, Commanding Officer & Commander of the Port NY & NJ, Coast Guard Activities, English/Irish/German; George Boyadjieff, Chairman, Varco International, Inc., Bulgarian/Russian; Albert A. Boyajian, President & CEO, Global Bakeries, Inc., Armenian; Albert A. Boyajian, President & CEO, Global Bakeries, Inc., Armenian; Roscoe C. Brown, Jr., President Emeritus, Bronx Community College—CUNY, African; Bishop William Brown, Pastor, Founder & Chairman, Salvation & Deliverance Church, South African;

John A. Canning Jr., President, Madison Dearborn Partners, Irish/Italian; Terrel L. Cass, President & General Manager, WLIW 21—NY Public Television, Irish/English; Myron Z. Chlavin, CEO, Desser Tire & Rubber Co., Austrian/Latvian; Msgr. Eugene V. Clark, Rector, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Irish/Dutch; Maj. Gen. Richard S. Colt, Commander, 77th Regional Support Command US Army Reserve, Scottish; Francis X. Comerford, President & General Manager, WNBC, Irish/Italian;

Leo P. Condakes, President, Peter Condakes Co., Hellenic; Alexander A. Conti, Financial Representative, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network, Italian; Thomas J. Corcoran, Jr., President & CEO, FelCor Lodging Trust Inc., English; Thomas M. Coughlin, President & CEO, Wal-Mart Stores & Sam's Clubs USA, Irish; Hon. Anthony J. Cutrona, Supreme Court Justice—NYS Supreme Court, 2nd Judicial Department, Italian;

Salvatore A. Davino, President, Fidelity Land Development Corp., Italian; Commander Carlos Del Toro, US Naval Forces, Cuban; Vincent DeMentri, Anchor/Correspondent, WPIX-TV, Italian; John E. Durante, President, Rockledge Equities, Italian; Umberto P. Fedeli, Jr., President & CEO, The Fedeli Group, Italian; Charles A. Feghali, President, Interstate Resources, Inc., Lebanese; John J. Flynn, President, IU Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers, Irish; Colonel Warren J. Foersch, Commander, First Marine Corps District—US Marines, French/German/Irish; Hon. James S. Gallas, US Magistrate Judge, US District Court—Northern District of Ohio, Eastern Division, Hellenic; Luther R. Gatling, President, Budget & Credit Counseling Services, Inc., African; Richard Goldstein, Chairman & CEO, International Flavors & Fragrances Inc., Russian; Hon. Joseph G. Golia, Associate Justice, Appellate Term, 2nd & 11th Judicial District, Supreme Court of the State of NY, Italian; John George Gonis, D.D.S., Chairman & President, Dental Associates, LTD, Hellenic; Andy Granatelli, Former CEO & President (Retired), STP Corporation, Italian;

James T. Hackett, Chairman, President & CEO, Ocean Energy, Inc., Irish/German; Val J. Halamandaris, Esq., President, National Association for Homecare & Hospice, Hellenic; Thomas E. Hales, Chairman, President & CEO, Union State Bank, Italian/Irish; Taek Sun Han, Founder & CEO, Han Yang Supermarket/Han Yang Cultural Center/Morning Glory Stationery World, South Korean; Michael J. Handy, Director, Mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs, African/English/Native American; Russell Hotzler, Interim President, York College, CUNY, Italian/German; Sayed Jemal Houssein-Afghani, Inc., Humanitarian, Afghan/English; Ronald C. Jones, Secretary, United Federation of Teachers, Italian;

Georgia Kaloidis, CEO, Diskal, Inc., Hellenic; Frank S. Kamberos, Former VP Operations, Treasure Island Foods, Inc., Hellenic; I. Pano Karatassos, Founder/President, Buckhead Life Restaurant Group, Hellenic; Bruce E. Karatz, Chairman & CEO, KB Home, Russian; Elaine Kaufman, President, Elaine's Restaurant, Russian; Stella Kim, Executive Vice President, By Design L.L.C., South Korean; Michael B. Kitchen, President & CEO, CUNA Mutual Group, Canadian; Thomas M. Lamberti, Esq., Partner, Putney, Twonbly, Hall & Hirson, LLP, Italian; Lou Lamoriello, President, CEO & General Manager, New Jersey Devils, CEO, NJ Nets, Italian; Henri Landwirth, Founder & Chairman, Give Kids the World & Dignity-U-Wear Foundation Inc., Belgian/Polish; Stewart F. Lane, President, Theatre Venture, Inc., Russian/Polish; A. Alexander Lari, Founder & Chairman, Claremont Group, LLC, Iranian; Denis Leary, President, The Leary Firefighters Foundation, Irish;

Chung Wha Lee, President, Lee Chung Wha Diamond Corporation, Korean; Howard H. Lee, President & CEO, World Journal, Chinese; Simon S. Lee, CEO & President, STG, Inc., South Korean;

James P. Lemonias, Chairman & CEO, Whitman Company, Inc., Hellenic; Lt. Gen. William J. Lennox, Jr., Superintendent US Military Academy, Scottish/Irish; Hon. Phil Leventis, State Senator, State of South Carolina, Hellenic; Michael Yi-Sheng Liao, VP/Chief Information Officer, GM Asset Management, Chinese; Tony Lo Bianco, Actor, Director and Producer, Italian; Richard A. Loughlin, Vice Chairman, Willis, Irish; Constantine S. Macricostas, Chairman, Founder, Photonics, Hellenic; Sheldon Harris Malinou, DDS, Assistant to the Director, Cabrini Medical Center, Russian/Ukrainian; Anastasios E. Manassis, President, Manassis Marketing Corp., Hellenic; Puzant A. Markarian, Principal (Retired), Arlington Textiles, Inc., Armenian; John L. Marks, Chairman & CEO, Mark IV Realty, Inc., Hellenic; Patrick F. Martin, Chairman, President & CEO, StorageTek, Irish; Stanley Matthews, Founder, Matthews Diner & Pancake House, Hellenic; Hon. Roslynn R. Mauskopf, US Attorney, Eastern District, New York, Czechoslovakian; Hon. James E. McGreevey, Governor—State of New Jersey, Irish; Raymond Melville, Assistant Business Manager, Local Union #3, I.B.E.W., Irish; Robert G. Miller, Chairman & CEO, Rite Aid Corporation, Russian/English; Veronica Montgomery-Costa, President, Local 372 NYC Board of Education Employees Union, African; Patrick J. Moore, President & CEO, Smurfit-Stone Container Corporation, Irish/Scottish/Swedish; Donal J. Murphy, President, D.J. Murphy Assoc, Irish;

Albin D. Obal, President, Condor Contracting Company, Inc., Owner, Midland Enterprises, Polish; James E. O'Connor, Chairman & CEO, Republic Services, Inc., Irish; James F. Orr, Chairman, President & CEO, Convergys Corporation, Scottish/Irish/English/German; Nacy Panzica, Chairman, Panzica Construction Company, Italian; Steven Peter Papadatos, President, Papadatos Associates PC Architects, Hellenic; Frank Pellegrino, Sr., CEO, Rao's Specialty Foods, Italian; Stan Pelofsky, M.D., President, Neuroscience Specialists, Polish; James Tung Chiang Pi, President, Pi Trading Company, Inc., Chinese; John Politis, President & CEO, Apartment Realty Group, Inc., Hellenic; Gerry Puccio, Sr., Founder, Rockleigh Country Club/CEO Carrington Real Estate & Investment Group, Italian;

Lewis S. Ranieri, Chairman, Hyperion Partners, LLP, Italian; Subash Razdan, Advisor, Procurement Advisory Council, Coca Cola Company, Indian; Paul V. Reilly, President, Chairman & CEO, Mail-Well, Inc., Irish; Mary Lou Retton, U.S. Olympic Gold Medallist, Italian; Richard Romanoff, President, Nebraskaland, Inc., Russian; E. John Rumpakis, Owner, N.E.W.S., Hellenic; Michael Schenkler, Publisher, Queens Tribune, Russian/Polish; Martin Scorsese, President, Cappa Productions, Italian; Myron P. Shevell, Chairman & CEO, New England Motor Freight Inc./The Shevell Group, Russian/German; David J. Shim, Chairman & CEO, Riverside Park, Inc./Kiku Restaurant Inc., Korean; Richard Silver-

man, Vice-Chairman, Fleet Bank N.A., Romanian/English; Hon. Nirmal K. Sinha, Commissioner Ohio Civil Rights, Assistant Director Department of Public Utilities, Columbus, Indian; Curtis Sliwa, Founder and President, The Alliance of Guardian Angels, Italian/Polish; Thomas A. Smith, President & CEO, Oglethorpe Power Corporation, Norwegian/Scottish/German; Ralph Snyderman, M.D., Chancellor for Health Affairs, President and CEO, Duke University Health System, Russian; Rajesh K. Soin, Chairman & CEO, Soin International, Indian; Hon. Maria Sotiropoulos, Protocol Officer, The White House/US Department, of State, Cypriot; Sy Sternberg, Chairman & CEO, New York Life Insurance Company, Romanian/Polish/Lithuanian;

Nicolas Tabbal, M.D., F.A.C.S., Plastic Surgeon, Manhattan Eye Ear & Throat Hosp-NYU, Lebanese; Hon. Patrick N. Theros, Ambassador, President & Executive Director, US Qatar Business Council, Hellenic; Demetrios E. Tsintolas, President, Tsintolas Realty Company, Hellenic; Ben Vereen, Vereen Productions, African; Nicholas S. Vidalakis, Co-Founder, Chairman & CEO, VFP LLC, Hellenic; Vuksan Vuksanaj, President, New York Travel Agency, Inc., Albanian; Mike Wallace, Senior Correspondent, CBS News/60 Minutes, Russian; Donald Washkewicz, President & CEO, Parker-Hannifin Corporation, Polish/Czechoslovakian; Hon. Jim Wright, Speaker of the House 1987-1989, Texas Christian University, Australian/Irish/Scottish; Jeffrey Yarmuth, President & COO, Sonny's Franchise Co., Russian/Polish; Pan A. Yotopoulos, Distinguished Professor, University of Florence, Hellenic; Xenophon Zapis, Radio Broadcaster, Zapis Communications Corporation, Hellenic; Detective Sergeant Wallace R. Zeins, Commanding Officer, Manhattan Night Watch, NYPD, Russian.

A TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF
CORAL SPRINGS, FLORIDA

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the City of Coral Springs, FL, as the residents celebrate the fortieth birthday of this "City in the Country".

Incorporated in July of 1963, Coral Springs was a master-planned city established in the northwest corner of Broward County on 5,000 acres of land which had previously been used for farming and cattle ranching activities. The developers envisioned a family oriented city with a population projected at over 50,000 residents living in small neighborhoods throughout the community. The first land sale was made on July 22, 1964. In 1965, an additional 5,000 acres was acquired, increasing the area within the city to 16 square miles. The city's first official resident, George Knobel, moved into his home on July 9, 1965. In 1971, the last large increase in land was given to the city bringing the total to 13,400 acres.

Anxious to create a beautiful and natural looking town, the developer, Coral Ridge Properties, immediately enacted strict landscaping and sign ordinances. These rules

have ensured that despite its growth, Coral Springs has maintained the ambiance that attracted so many of its residents, which now number over 116,000. In fact, as illustration of the strength of the sign restrictions, the Coral Springs McDonald's was the only one built without the famous golden arches.

Throughout its 40 years of existence, Coral Springs has seen its share of celebrities and firsts. In 1965, entertainer Johnny Carson helped with the second Coral Springs "Land Rush Sale" and bought 55 acres himself. Two U.S. presidents, President Ford and President Reagan have visited the city. In 1966, Coral Ridge Properties was acquired by Westinghouse Electric Corporation who viewed the new city as an "urban laboratory" to evaluate new products. In 1970, Westinghouse built the Electra Lab house which showcased new modern conveniences such as motion-detecting lights, electric kitchens and home security systems. Arnold Palmer stayed in the state-of-the-art home that year when he played in the Coral Springs Open. In 1982, actor Burt Reynolds filmed Smokey and the Bandit, Part 3, in Coral Springs.

In 1993, as growth accelerated, Coral Springs city government implemented a management program based on a business model with the goal of performing as a high performance municipal corporation, customer focused and quality-oriented. In 1997, Coral Springs became the first municipality to receive the Governor's Sterling Award for Corporate Excellence, modeled after the internationally acclaimed, Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence. In 2003, the City of Coral Springs became the first past recipient, public or private, to receive the award for a second time.

Today, Coral Springs is a premier South Florida community, known for its attractive neighborhoods, open spaces and parks, schools and youth programs. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent the City of Coral Springs in the U.S. House of Representatives and extend best wishes to the residents of Coral Springs as they celebrate their first 40 years.

IN HONOR OF THE MOSES AND
AARON FOUNDATION

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to a worthy organization, one committed to special children and their families. The Moses and Aaron Foundation's significant and enduring efforts deserve the highest praise, as do the philanthropists who have given of themselves to fulfill its mission.

The Moses and Aaron Foundation "Special Fund for Children" is dedicated to assisting children with disabilities and their families with a wide range of programs including social, physical, financial, and wheelchair assistance, as well as counseling and guidance.

It also provides scholarship funding to educational institutions, collects, purchases, and distributes clothing for children in need, and remembers them with presents at holiday time or when they are hospitalized.

In cooperation with Bally Fitness Centers and under the direction of its President Rabbi

Yaacov Kaploun and Executive Vice President Yehuda Kaploun, the Foundation has been able to establish 27 physical fitness and therapy centers and has arranged for sound and musical equipment in other institutions.

In conjunction with Downtown Film Productions, The Moses and Aaron Foundation produced "Chazak—A Testament of Strength," an award winning documentary highlighting the effect of music on special children. This monumental documentary serves as a vehicle to sensitize and educate the entire community on the needs of its special and outstanding citizens.

On Saturday night, August 9th, 2003, at the Monticello Raceway in Monticello, New York, the Moses and Aaron Foundation under the Honorary Chairmanship of Nobel Laureate Eli Weisel, will sponsor its seventh Summer "Chazak—Strength" concert paying tribute to special children. The guests of honor will be the special and outstanding children, some of whom will perform with the entertainers on stage.

The corporate and individual sponsors of the Moses and Aaron Foundation include Metropolitan Lumber, Bally Total Fitness, Cohen's & General Vision Services, CD Inc, Mr. David Buntzman, Mr. Jonathan Fleisig, Mr. Robert Gans, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gans, Mr. Avi and Dr. Laura Greenbaum, Mr. and Mrs. David Hirsch, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Rennert, Mr. Charles Rosenay, Mr. Eli Rothman, Mr. Mark Selden, and Mr. and Mrs. Neil Cohen. I recognize Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Stowe and Mr. and Mrs. Jules Cohen for their support for the Foundation, improving the quality of life of special children.

I also recognize the support given to the Moses and Aaron Foundation by Steve and Shirley Slesinger, who have brought a literary treasure into millions of young American hearts by bringing Winnie the Pooh and other characters to the screen and printed world, with particular credit to Shirley Slesinger Lasswell and Patti Slesinger for bringing to life one of the most adored bears in history.

The Moses and Aaron Foundation was founded in memory of Rabbi Dr. Maurice I. Hecht and Aaron Kaploun, both of whom led lives of exemplary community service. It is in this sentiment of communal dedication that the Moses and Aaron Foundation has devoted itself to serving the needs of a unique group in the community.

I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the Moses and Aaron Foundation, an organization which exemplifies the generosity of spirit in American society.

THE 29TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in the Hellenic Caucus in remembering the 29th anniversary of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus, which took place on July 20, 1974.

On that day, in clear violation of international law, Turkish forces invaded northern Cyprus expelling 200,000 Greek-Cypriots from their homes. Many of these Greek-Cypriots lit-

erally had to flee for their lives, taking what little belongings they could as paratroopers dropped from the sky.

Over 5,000 Cypriots were killed in the conflict, and to date 1,400 Greek-Cypriots are still missing. Today, Turkey occupies 37 percent of Cyprus, an island smaller than the State of Connecticut, with a force of 40,000 troops in a country of just under 1 million people.

Despite numerous United Nations General Assembly Resolutions urging Turkey to withdraw its forces, and the stationing of U.N. forces on the island, Turkey—in a further violation and disregard for international law—unilaterally declared the independence of the occupied territory of northern Cyprus in 1983. Aside from Turkey, no other country in the world has recognized the so-called "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus."

But in spite of the island's artificial division, Cyprus has managed to make considerable progress over the last three decades even as it continues to seek a peaceful resolution with Turkey. And now with a vibrant democracy and a robust economy, Cyprus is also poised to officially join the European Union next year and to bring the benefits of membership to all Cypriots.

Yet Turkey's intransigence continues. In November of 2002 U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan presented both Greek and Turkish Cypriot sides with a comprehensive new plan aimed at reunifying Cyprus in advance of the island's accession to the EU. Though by no means perfect, this plan was a good faith attempt to create a workable solution that was fair to both sides. Initially, negotiations based on the U.N. plan provided hope to many that the Cyprus problem could finally be resolved after 30 years, due to the personal commitment of the Secretary General.

However, it soon became clear that the leader of the Turkish-Cypriot side, Mr. Rauf Denktash, and the Turkish government were not fully invested in the negotiating process.

In a last ditch effort to salvage the negotiations prior to the signing of the EU accession treaty, Secretary General Annan requested both Mr. Denktash and the Cypriot President, Tassos Papadopoulos, to join him at the Hague last March to discuss placing the U.N. plan before the Cypriot people in a separate, simultaneous referendum. Although President Papadopoulos was ready and willing to do so, Mr. Denktash, with support from Turkey, rejected that proposal.

The international response to the rejection of a referendum by the Turkish side was clear and unanimous in its characterization of Mr. Denktash as the principal impediment to negotiating a solution that all Cypriots very much want.

The current relaxation of longstanding travel prohibitions by the Turkish-Cypriots does not make up for a strong commitment to a negotiated settlement. In many cases this has only helped to underscore the depth of feeling of many Greek and Turkish Cypriots who long for the chance to return to their homes and villages.

I hope that this will one day be possible, and I fully expect that once a settlement is concluded and Cyprus is finally re-united, that both Greek-Cypriots and Turkish-Cypriots will live together side-by-side in harmony.

But, today we stand in remembrance of those who were killed and those who were never found as a result of the illegal Turkish

invasion. I hope that if Turkey is truly serious about joining Cyprus and Greece in the European Union that it immediately and unconditionally withdraws its forces and demonstrates a true commitment to a negotiated settlement.

HONORING THE PEOPLE OF
LASALLE PARISH

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker I rise today to honor the people of LaSalle Parish for their tireless efforts to bring economic development to Northern Louisiana. Since I came to Congress, I have been working with local officials to encourage the Federal Government to use an empty prison located in the Town of Jena, Louisiana, and I have been impressed by their vigorous commitment to see their community prosper.

Recently, officials from the Department of Justice and the White House toured the LaSalle Correctional Facility to study the possibility of using this vacant prison as a place to detain illegal aliens or low-security Federal inmates. I had the pleasure of accompanying these officials on this tour and was personally impressed with the state-of-the-art, recently-constructed prison and its design. Furthermore, the prison is situated near two existing Federal prisons and a short drive from the U.S. Marshal's transportation hub in Alexandria. I believe its location and its design make the prison a logical choice for use by the Federal Government.

Mr. Speaker, I also wish to draw attention to two provisions contained in the Committee Report accompanying the Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Appropriations Bill we passed yesterday afternoon. These two provisions should benefit LaSalle Parish because they give the Federal Government the authority to use an empty private prison, such as the LaSalle Correctional Facility. One provision directs the Office of the Federal Detention Trustee to use existing state, local, and private detention space to house excess detainees; the other provision directs the Bureau of Prisons to use existing state, private, and local prison capacity to house excess BOP inmates. I want to thank my colleague from Louisiana (Mr. Vitter), the Vice Chairman of the Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary Appropriations Subcommittee for the strong support he has provided to these efforts.

Mr. Speaker, my colleague and I are working through both legislation and old-fashioned persuasion to get the LaSalle Correctional Facility back in use. This is a win-win situation for everyone involved. We can help our law enforcement agencies with their overcrowding problems and do so at a fraction of the cost it takes to build a new prison. Also, we can bring jobs and economic growth to Northern Louisiana. These provisions in the CJSJ Committee Report can really help us to re-open this facility, and I trust the two agencies will pay heed to this directive. I know my Louisiana colleagues in both the Senate and the House will join me in fighting to see that we make real progress on this issue, which is of such great importance to the honest, hard-working people of my district.

COMMEMORATING JULIE M. AUSTIN'S SERVICE WITH FOOTHILL TRANSIT JULY 24, 2003

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special recognition to Ms. Julie M. Austin. On July 30, 2003, the Foothill Transit Executive Board will wish a fond farewell to Ms. Austin, who is leaving her position as Executive Director of Foothill Transit and Vice President of Transit Management for ATC/Forsythe & Associates, Inc., a post she has held since 1997.

Foothill Transit was created in 1988, making it one of the largest public-private transit partnerships in the United States. Since this time it has delivered cost-effective, safe and efficient bus service to commuters and residents in the San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys, located in the eastern portion of Los Angeles County in southern California. Foothill Transit now operates on 32 routes with nearly 300 buses and almost 17 million annual boardings, a marked increase from the 9.5 million boardings at the time of the creation of the transit agency. As Executive Director, Ms. Austin is responsible for implementing Executive Board policies, developing policy recommendations and providing leadership and vision for the nationally recognized Foothill Transit.

Throughout her tenure with Foothill Transit, Ms. Austin has ensured that southern California commuters are provided with the safest and most efficient transit system possible. Under her leadership, the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) recognized Foothill Transit in 2001 with a "Bus Safety Gold Award," dubbing Foothill Transit the safest transit agency of its size. Foothill Transit was also named "Outstanding Transit System" of its size by APTA in 1993 and 1995. The Greater Los Angeles Chapter of the National Safety Council recognized Foothill Transit in 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998 and 2001 with first-place awards for its safety programs.

Ms. Austin was also instrumental in both expanding and modernizing Foothill Transit's mode of operations. In 2002, Foothill Transit opened a new era in fuel-efficient technology by beginning its conversion to a compressed natural gas (CNG) fleet with plans to have an all-CNG fleet by 2011. That same year, Foothill Transit opened its second operations and maintenance facility in Irwindale, joining its first agency-owned facility in Pomona, which opened in 1997.

She has contributed to the success of public transit in Los Angeles County as Director of Management Support from 1993 to 1995 at the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and as Senior Transit Analyst/Manager of Transportation Policy from 1989 to 1993 at the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission, where she oversaw a three-year evaluation of the Foothill Transit Zone. She also worked for the Southern California Association of Governments for three years and spent several years as a transportation consultant.

A resident of the City of Monrovia, California, Ms. Austin has a bachelor's degree in journalism from California Polytechnic State

University, San Luis Obispo. She is active in the American Public Transit Association (Legislative Committee), California Transit Association (Executive Committee), San Gabriel Valley Commerce and Cities Consortium Board, Women's Transportation Seminar, San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments Transit Committee, and West Covina Chamber of Commerce.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring this truly remarkable leader in the field of public transit and to wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

HONORING FALLEN HEROES OF OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

HON. MAX BURNS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. BURNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for this nation. During Operation Iraqi Freedom, Georgia's Third Infantry Division proudly led the way to Baghdad. The road to Baghdad, however, presented substantial challenges and, unfortunately, some of these brave soldiers will not return.

Today, I acknowledge this Congress' deep appreciation for lives that were dedicated to the safety and security of our citizens. The soldiers epitomized the best of our country through courage, selfless service, and honor. Their lives will be remembered by family and friends; their service will be appreciated by us all.

I pay tribute to Mrs. Chanel Pedersen and her daughter of Savannah, Georgia, who lost her husband Sergeant Michael F. Pedersen in the Iraqi conflict.

I pay tribute to Mrs. Meighan Adamouski of Savannah, Georgia, who lost her husband Captain James F. Adamouski in the Iraqi conflict.

I pay tribute to Mrs. Maria Forey-Aitken of Savannah, Georgia, who lost her husband Captain Tristan N. Aitken in the Iraqi conflict.

I pay tribute to Ms. Annette Hale of Savannah, Georgia, who lost her stepson Captain Edward J. Korn in the Iraqi conflict.

I pay tribute to Mrs. Jenna Cosbey Kaylor of Savannah, Georgia, who lost her husband Second Lieutenant Jeffrey J. Kaylor in the Iraqi conflict.

I pay tribute to the stepchildren and niece of Sergeant Keman Mitchell, who live in Hephzibah, Georgia, and lost their father and uncle in the Iraqi conflict.

Mr. Speaker, many families and friends mourn the loss of these and other lives lost during Operation Iraqi Freedom. I express my condolences to their families and friends and thank them for their dedication to a grateful Nation.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

HONORING MR. HARLEY COON OF BEAVERCREEK, OHIO

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Harley Coon who resides in

Beavercreek in the 7th Congressional District. I have had the honor of meeting Harley at different community events over the years, and it is very appropriate that he was honored today on Capitol Hill by the Korean War Veterans' Association on the 50th anniversary of the armistice that ended the Korean War.

At the age of 19, Harley Coon was captured on Nov. 17, 1950 while serving with the 25th Infantry Division in Korea. Over the next three years Mr. Coon suffered greatly as a prisoner of war from hunger, exposure, and brutal conditions in the various prison camps where he was detained.

On Aug. 31, 1953, Harley Coon was released to U.S. Forces after 33 months and four days of imprisonment. After the war, Coon became a successful businessman, never forgetting how lucky he was to be around to enjoy his freedom.

Coon was inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame for all his, commitment and caring in Ohio. He continues to travel nationally and internationally as the National President of the Korean War Veterans Association.

Harley received the Purple Heart, the Korean Service Medal with 10 battle stars, the U.N. Service Medal and the Presidential Unit Citation.

As the Congressman who represents Beavercreek in the U.S. House of Representatives, I offer my sincere congratulations to Harley Coon for this public recognition of his service to our country.

HONORING JOHN SEXTON OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate John J. Sexton of Chicago on his recent retirement from his position as Superintendent of the Meter Division of the City of Chicago's Water Department.

For the last 30 years, John Sexton has risen through the ranks with the City, from machinist, to foreman, to Assistant Superintendent of the Meter Division, and finally Superintendent. His dedication to his job and the city he loves is an example of why Chicago is known as "The City That Works."

John Sexton is very proud of the northwest side of Chicago, the area he has called home for his entire life, and of the Hiawatha Park neighborhood, the area where he and his wife have raised their family. John has been very active at the part and is a past president of the Hiawatha Boys Baseball Organization.

As church life plays such an important role in the lives of so many Chicagoans, John has been a member of several esteemed Northwest side parishes. He grew up in Presentation Parish, attended grammar school at St. Angela's and high school at St. Michael's. He currently is a member of St. Francis Borgia Parish.

The Northwest side has produced some of Chicago's finest leaders, and John Sexton has played an active part in the success of many of their careers. John's work in Chicago politics began when he was 16 as a precinct worker for former Alderman Thomas Casey. He is now a precinct captain in the mighty

36th Ward Regular Democratic Organization, working with Alderman William J.P. Banks and State Senator James A. DeLeo.

John would be the first to tell you that his family is his first priority, and they have provided support for all of his activities. He has been married for 31 years to his wonderful wife, Rosetta. His family also includes his daughter, Laurie Moran, and her husband Joseph, his son, John Jr., his daughter, Diana, and his sister Mary Kay Kuhter.

Mr. Speaker, I join with the people of Chicago in wishing John Sexton a happy and successful retirement, and wish him all of the best in the future.

TRIBUTE TO RINBAN KOSHO
YUKAWA

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Rinban Kosho Yukawa. Rinban of the Sacramento Betsuin is one of Sacramento's greatest citizen leaders. Rinban Kosho is retiring after forty-two years of wonderful service as an ambassador and teacher of Buddhism; Rinban Kosho will be retiring on August 31, 2003. As his friends and family gather to celebrate Rinban Kosho's numerous achievements, I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in saluting one of Sacramento's most respected and honorable citizens.

Rinban Kosho comes from a long line of Buddhist ministers of the Jodo Shinshu sect. A prominent branch in Japan and the faith embraced by the Buddhist Churches of America. Rinban Kosho's family has maintained a temple for about 250 years. Rinban Kosho's parents had immigrated to the United States, and he was born in Tacoma, Washington as the Depression started. In 1940, Rinban Kosho and his family moved to Japan, where they stayed until 1949. At the encouragement of his father, Rinban Kosho returned to San Francisco on his own to finish high school and junior college.

Rinban Kosho joined the U.S. Army and worked as an interrogator during the Korean War. Rinban Kosho's experience during the war affected him deeply, leading him to pursue a career in the ministry. After completing a seminary program in Japan, Rinban Kosho was ordained and assigned to the Sacramento church in 1961. During his first decade of service in Sacramento, Rinban Kosho served as a youth minister at a time when the baby boom was at its peak. At one time, Rinban Kosho had about 650 children enrolled in the Dharma School.

After his stint in Sacramento, Rinban Kosho worked at churches in Union City and San Jose before taking a five-year hiatus from the ministry to work in his brother's publishing business. The call to serve came back when Rinban Kosho was assigned to the Tacoma Buddhist Temple where his father had served.

In 1996 Rinban Kosho returned to the Buddhist Church of Sacramento. During his tenure, Rinban Kosho successfully made the Jodo Shinshu sect of Buddhism relevant to third and fourth generation Japanese Americans, as well as to other ethnic groups. Because of his great reputation as a minister,

mentor, teacher of the Dharma and his popularity as a caring friend, the Sacramento Buddhist Church has become the largest membership temple within the Buddhist Churches of America.

Rinban Kosho's unparalleled success in the ministry and in the community truly makes him one of Sacramento's most accomplished and treasured citizens. His commitment to help others is a shining example to everyone who follows his leadership. In his retirement, Rinban Kosho plans to return to his native Tacoma/Seattle area with his wife, Michiko. The Yukawas look forward to being near and enjoying the company of their children and their families.

Mr. Speaker, as Rinban Kosho friends and family gather for his honorary farewell banquet, I am honored to pay tribute to one of Sacramento's most honorable residents. His success are considerable, and it is great honor for me to have the opportunity to pay tribute to his contributions. I ask all my colleagues to join with me in wishing Rinban Kosho Yukawa continue success in all his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE VILLAGE AND
TOWNSHIP OF CALUMET, MICHIGAN
ON ITS SELECTION AS A
MICHIGAN MAIN STREET COMMUNITY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of historic Calumet, Michigan, which was named as one of four Michigan Main Street communities for 2003 in a statewide competition.

Calumet is in the northernmost part of my 1st Congressional District, halfway to the tip of the Keweenaw Peninsula. Between 1867 and 1884, Calumet alone produced half of this country's copper from the Calumet & Hecla Mining Company mines.

Parts of its historic downtown have formed an integral part of the Keweenaw National Historical Park, which tells the riveting economic and cultural story of the migration of miners and their families to the wilds of northern Michigan to work the copper range in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Recognizing the value of its historic resources and the economic benefits of the Main Street program, in January 2003 Calumet formed a steering committee and this spring submitted its application for the Main Street designation. A hallmark of the presentation was communitywide cooperation between public and private resources.

The managing director of the team from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation which administers the program said that out of literally hundreds of communities MEDC has worked with, Calumet's combination of public/private sector effort was very rare. As reported by the Houghton Daily Mining Gazette, the director described Calumet's presentation before an MEDC and Michigan State Housing Development panel in Lansing by saying, "[Calumet was] absolutely the top presentation we had in those two days . . . [It] left a buzz in that room."

Calumet had to come up with substantial seed money toward administrative costs, and it has done that through pledges from the Village of Calumet, Calumet Township, the Downtown Development Authority, Keweenaw National Historical Park and local businesses. Main Street program professionals will visit Calumet on a regular basis to work with local participants as they market Calumet's historical community and encourage economic development.

The aim of the program is to stimulate economic growth, and Calumet's successful application may result in a return of nearly \$40 for every dollar it spends, according to Main Street's 2001 national re-investment statistics. The program was developed by the National Historic Preservation Trust.

Calumet already has embraced the concept of preserving its historical resources. It welcomes and entertains the many visitors it receives every year with proudly preserved facilities such as the Calumet Theatre, the Upper Peninsula Fire Fighters Memorial Museum, Larium Manor and the Keweenaw Heritage Center at St. Anne's. The work that resulted in the Main Street designation is just one more example of Calumet's legacy of community effort in support of its history. Calumet already knows the value of sharing that history with visitors and scholars, and will bloom even more beautifully as a Main Street community.

I ask you, Mr. Speaker, and my Colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating everyone in Calumet who put their effort, heart and history into Calumet's selection as a Main Street community. I offer my heartiest congratulations.

With this honor, Calumet will move even more quickly to transform its downtown into a thriving, appealing Main Street center of commerce.

HONORING CHESTERFIELD SMITH

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Chesterfield Smith, a man of the highest principle, who in his long legal career has touched the lives of countless Floridians and left his mark on our state's and Nation's legal system.

After receiving a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart in World War II, Chesterfield returned to Florida to study law. He quickly rose to partner of Holland, Bevis and McRae and helped lead the firm through a successful merger with Knight, Jones, Whitaker and Germany in 1968. Under his watch, Holland & Knight LLP grew to become the Nation's eighth largest law firm.

Chesterfield had a passion for his work. Whether his client was rich or poor, as partner of Holland & Knight, he worked long hours fighting for justice with irrepressible conviction. Born and bred in a segregated society, Chesterfield was a leader in integrating the legal profession by hiring women and minorities.

In addition, Chesterfield, who strongly believed in the need to give back to one's community, pushed to incorporate pro bono work as regular practice for attorneys. Donating

countless hours of service to Floridians in need helped earn him the nickname "Citizen Smith," as well as the Laurie D. Zelon Pro Bono Award, which was presented to him in 2002 by Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg.

Chesterfield also served as president of the Florida Bar Association and chair of the Florida Constitutional Revision Commission, which drafted what became the new state Constitution of 1968. In 1997, former Gov. Lawton Chiles and the Cabinet, recognizing this work, named Chesterfield Smith one of the state's "Great Floridians."

However, Chesterfield may best be remembered for his service as president of the American Bar Association. Shortly after Chesterfield took the helm of the ABA in 1973, President Nixon dramatically fired special prosecutor Archibald Cox, assigned to investigate the Watergate scandal. The next day, Chesterfield became one of the first national leaders to publicly call for the President's resignation. In an ABA statement Chesterfield stated, "No man is above the law," and bravely refused to back down from the legal principles that he so cherished.

I am proud to have called Chesterfield a friend. I believe Justice Ginsberg said it well when she described Chesterfield as "among the brightest, boldest, bravest, all-around most effective lawyers ever bred in Florida and the USA." Chesterfield was a wonderful person.

On behalf of the Tampa Bay community, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Chesterfield's family. The people of Florida and of the Nation will always remember his enormous contributions.

CONGRATULATING THE CITY OF
PAWTUCKET, RI

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the city of Pawtucket, RI. The U.S. Conference of Mayors chose to profile Pawtucket as one of 28 cities exemplifying the nation's best small business practices. The city's Arts and Entertainment Initiative is an example of how government policies can encourage creativity, innovation, development and economic growth.

Pawtucket has been attractive to artists since Samuel Slater founded America's textile industry there in 1783. In 1998, Pawtucket created a 307-acre Arts and Entertainment District, which has gained nationwide recognition in four short years for being a great place to create and sell artwork.

The Pawtucket city government has encouraged artists to relocate by forgiving within the district sales tax for limited production works of art and state income tax for artists. In addition, studio space is available for one-third the rental rate of nearby Boston.

Mayor James Doyle has capitalized on the fact that artists fuel economic growth and has stated, "Some say a picture is worth a thousand words. But here in our City, we know that it's worth a lot more." The Rhode Island Statewide Planning Program estimates that for every three artists that relocate to Pawtucket, an additional two jobs are generated in the

state's economy. The Arts and Entertainment District is generating more than \$1 million annually for the statewide economy.

I am proud that a city in my state of Rhode Island has earned this distinction, and I hope that other cities follow Pawtucket's lead and develop innovative small business practices to contribute to economic growth.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform you that on House rollcall vote No. 429, the Foreign Operations Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2004, I intended to vote "aye", but inadvertently voted "nay". I would like this statement to be included in the appropriate section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE,
JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDI-
CIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY BONILLA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2799) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Fiscal Year 2004 Commerce, Justice, State and the Judiciary Appropriations Act. This bill includes funding which will help protect and strengthen the many communities in the 23rd district. I am particularly pleased that the report to accompany this bill includes language which will be beneficial to those communities which contract with the Federal Bureau of Prisons for the detention of inmates. The report originally included language encouraging the Bureau of Prisons to use existing state and private prison capacity to meet their bed space needs. At my request, this language was amended to add local prisons to the list of facilities which the Bureau of Prisons is directed to use. This small but important change will direct the Bureau of Prisons to take advantage of existing locally run detention facilities such as the Reeves County Detention Center. It is my sincere hope that the newest 1,000 bed facility at the Reeves County Detention Center will be utilized by the Bureau of Prisons to provide cost effective housing to federal prisoners. Use of this facility would be particularly beneficial to the Bureau given the low cost of housing inmates in this area. I thank Chairman FRANK WOLF for his attention to this matter which is of great importance to Reeves County and saves taxpayer dollars.

THE 29TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, twenty-nine years ago, on July 20, 1974, Turkish forces invaded the Republic of Cyprus and seized control of over one third of the island. As a Member of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, I rise today to remember that Cyprus remains divided by the green line, a 113-mile barbed wire fence that runs across the island, and partially occupied. Such division and occupation is harmful to both Greek and Turkish Cypriots: and must end.

The Turkish invasion of 1974 claimed the lives of 5,000 Cypriots, expelled another 200,000 from their homes and took control of 37 percent of Cyprus's territory. Such human devastation is deeply saddening. I stand with the Cypriot-American community and the Hellenic-American community in condemning this black anniversary hope that a settlement to the Cyprus problem can be facilitated. I am pleased that the House of Representatives unanimously passed a resolution "to give any assistance necessary for finding a just and durable settlement for the Cyprus problem," but we must not stop working on this issue until Cyprus is reunited and Greek and Turkish Cypriots can live peacefully together.

TRIBUTE TO BOYNE CITY, MICHIGAN ON ITS SELECTION AS A
MICHIGAN MAIN STREET COMMUNITY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Boyne City, Michigan, which has been named one of four Michigan Main Street communities for 2003 in a statewide competition sponsored by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

Boyne City in northwestern Lower Michigan recognizes as its greatest downtown assets scenic water resources and historic turn-of-the-century architecture. With the comprehensive community-wide proposal it developed over a period of several years, Boyne City could not be a better candidate for the kind of downtown makeover that Main Street communities receive as part of this commercial revitalization program.

The seeds of Boyne City's application to be a Main Street community were planted about five years ago, when local resident Tom Johnson, of the Northern Michigan Economic Alliance, attended a national Main Street Program conference. Recognizing the value of its historic resources and the economic benefits of the Main Street program, in 1999 a collaborative Boyne City group including citizens, business people, the Downtown Development Authority and City representatives formed the Boyne City Main Street committee with the goal of becoming a Main Street community.

Boyne City's years of effort met with success on June 19, 2003, when MEDC announced that Boyne City was one of four

statewide winners in the very first year of operation of the Michigan program. Boyne City's selection was based on physical characteristics of the proposed Main Street area, the capacity of their downtown business organization and broad based support that evidenced willingness of the whole community to participate.

Along the way Boyne City had to commit to providing a minimum of \$35,000 per year for three years for a full time Main Street coordinator.

National and state experts who work with the Main Street program will make dozens of visits to Boyne City over the next three years to work with local participants as they develop ways to market Boyne City's historical downtown, encourage economic development, develop loft apartments with the assistance of the Michigan State Housing Development Authority and preserve and rehabilitate historic structures.

The aim of the program is to stimulate economic growth, and Boyne City's successful application may result in a return of nearly \$40 for every dollar it spends, according to Main Street's 2001 national re-investment statistics. The Main Street program was developed by the National Historic Preservation Trust.

With this honor, Boyne City will move even more quickly to transform its downtown into a thriving Main Street center of commerce and economic vitality.

I ask you, Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating everyone in Boyne City who put in the years of effort and community wide collaboration that made Boyne City a charter member of what I sincerely believe will be a long line of successful Michigan Main Street communities. I offer my heartiest congratulations.

IN HONOR OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Archdiocese of San Francisco on its 150th anniversary. When the Archdiocese was first established on July 29, 1853, it included all of Northern California. Joseph Sadoc Alemany, the first Archbishop of San Francisco, who served from 1853 to 1884, was a Dominican priest who was born in Spain and immigrated to the United States in 1840. Alemany initially was reluctant to come to California, but was told by Pope Pius IX, "You must go to California—Where others are drawn by gold, you must carry the cross."

In the first three decades of its history, the Archdiocese built an extensive system of schools, orphanages, hospitals, and homes for the elderly and other institutions of charity. These agencies could not have existed without the heroic efforts of the orders of women religious. By 1884, the Catholic Church was firmly established in San Francisco and Northern California. The Dominican Sisters, Notre Dame de Namur Sisters, Sisters of Charity,

Presentation, Sisters, Mercy Sisters, Sisters of the Holy Family and women in other Catholic religious congregations served a significant role in forming the safety net of social services and built a continuing legacy of Catholic education.

In the Teamsters' Strike of 1901, Father Peter Yorke placed the Church of San Francisco firmly on the side of working people, making impassioned speeches to thousands of workers. To those who questioned a priest's involvement in the labor struggle, Yorke answered, "As a priest my duty is with workingmen, who are struggling for their rights, because that is the historical position of the priesthood and because that is the Lord's command."

The Archdiocese of San Francisco has served as an anchor for numerous immigrant groups from Europe, Asia and the Philippines and Central and Latin America and the Archdiocese of San Francisco continues to serve the people of San Francisco, San Mateo and Marin Counties in parishes and institutions of enormous historical, cultural and social value to the Bay Area like the Mission San Francisco (Dolores) (1776), Mission San Rafael (1817), St. Francis Shrine (first parish in 1849); Mission Dolores School (1852); St. Mary's Hospital (1857); St. Matthew's Parish, San Mateo (1863) St. Vincent's School for Boys (1855); and especially the 93 parishes and missions serving Bay Area Catholics.

The Archdiocese of San Francisco continues its mission of education in San Francisco, San Mateo and Marin Counties in its 66 Catholic elementary schools serving 28,266 students, and its fourteen high schools serving 8,262 students.

The parishioners of the many parishes of the Archdiocese make contributions to the economic, cultural and civic life of the San Francisco Bay Area. I commend the leadership of the Archdiocese of San Francisco on this occasion of its 150th Anniversary and offer best wishes for many more years of service.

CALIFORNIA GREY BEARS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 30th Anniversary of an invaluable organization in my local community, the California Grey Bears. The Grey Bears is an organization of senior citizens, which encourages local seniors to contribute to their community while reaping the benefits of their work. The Grey Bears have been an integral force in the recycling movement in Santa Cruz County, keeping 11,000 tons of material out of landfills each year. They run a local thrift store, completely operated by senior volunteers, and each year they distribute over one million pounds of food to 2,100 local senior citizens.

They have instituted an outreach program to collect recyclables from businesses in the unincorporated areas of Santa Cruz County, and have also started a number of recycling projects at local landfill sites.

While donating their time and efforts, these seniors strive to combat loneliness while promoting self-reliance and prolonged independent living. The Grey Bears sponsor a number of gatherings each year, ranging from potlucks, and picnics, to Christmas parties. Through these events, local seniors can find much needed companionship. Additionally, they support other local charities with surplus food. Their commitment to Santa Cruz County is that no senior will go hungry.

The California Grey Bears has continuously worked for the past thirty years to effectively empower and ameliorate the lives of local seniors. Their accomplishments are truly honorable and the contributions they have made to their community are vital to the well being of a large number of people in Santa Cruz County.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF COURTNEY STADD

HON. TOM DELAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service of Courtney Stadd, who recently left his position as Chief of Staff and White House Liaison at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

As I tell my constituents who live in the Clear Lake area in Houston, Texas, where the Johnson Space Center is located, I greatly admire the dedication, genius and passion of the people who dedicate their lives in the pursuit of exploration.

Courtney Stadd exemplifies those qualities.

For over twenty-five years, in both the public and private sectors, Courtney has remained committed to the importance of American leadership in technology, aeronautics and space. I have known Courtney in his various space-related roles for several years and have always been impressed by his creativity and passion for space exploration.

Courtney has led a distinguished career. He served in senior policy positions in both the Reagan and previous Bush Administrations, where he played leading roles in developing U.S. space policies. In the private sector, he has been associated with pioneering efforts, involving the establishment of the commercial launch industry, the emergence of the high resolution commercial remote sensing industry and efforts to protect and foster commercial applications of the Global Positioning System.

In December 2002, Courtney was appointed by President George W. Bush to lead the NASA transition effort, ensuring an effective and smooth agency transition into the new Administration. He has served the President and nation well. Courtney has demonstrated strong, compassionate leadership, put the needs of the NASA workforce paramount and remained steadfast in his support for a strong space program.

We will miss Courtney as he turns to the next chapter of his career. He leaves a legacy of solid leadership behind him at NASA. I wish Courtney the very best in his future endeavors and look forward to seeing his next achievements.

VA-HUD APPROPRIATIONS

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I will offer a technical amendment tomorrow that calls on the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to submit a report to Congress reporting on resource sharing agreements for services, programs and facilities the department undertakes with the Department of Defense (DoD).

Every American knows that the face of health care has changed dramatically over the past decades. This is no less true for military and veterans' health care. It is clear from all the studies undertaken by the departments of Defense and Veterans' Affairs that the integration of health care services—where possible—will enhance the quality of care for the men and women who are serving our country today and those who served our Nation in the past.

My district is home to the North Chicago VA Medical Center and the Great Lakes Naval Hospital. During the last Administration, officials made two attempts to close the North Chicago VA Medical Center. On June 19, 2001, the VA released its Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) study. The CARES study developed four options to improve veterans health care in the Chicago area, each of which recommended the preservation of services offered at North Chicago. The CARES study also recommended increasing the level of cooperation between North Chicago VA and the Great Lakes Naval Hospital, located less than a mile apart.

Integration of the two medical facilities is both practical and also urgent in North Chicago, Illinois, where the Great Lakes Naval Training Center Hospital and the North Chicago Veterans Medical Center both sit underutilized and in such close proximity. Combining these two facilities in a state of the art, federal health care center will maximize the use of tax payer dollars, enhance the training opportunities for young naval medical corps personnel and, most importantly, bring the health care we promised these men and women into the twenty-first century. By directing the VA to report to Congress on the issues facing resource sharing, Congress will be able to better understand and utilize resource sharing agreements when moving forward with the cost shaving approach.

I have met with Secretary Principi and Secretary Rumsfeld to discuss enhanced cooperation and health care resources sharing between the DoD and the VA. Both secretaries are committed to providing our men and women in uniform, veterans and retirees with world-class health care in an efficient manner. Both agree that cooperation between the two agencies, when possible, will enable the departments to meet the growing needs of active and retired soldiers.

As an officer in the Naval Reserve and fellow veteran, I understand the sacrifices made by the men and women who wore their country's uniform. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

I would like to thank Chairman WALSH, ranking member MOLLOHAN, and the staff of the VA-HUD subcommittee for their help with this amendment. I hope to continue working with

them on this issue as this bill moves into a conference committee with the other body.

ROBERT A. BORSKI POST OFFICE BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2003

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the accomplishments of my dear friend and former colleague, Robert A. Borski. Today, we acknowledge his legacy with H.R. 2328 by designating a post office in his former district, the Robert A. Borski Post Office Building.

I've known Bob Borski for 25 years. He is a man who has always had the courage of conviction to fight for the City of Philadelphia. He is a man who spent 20 years "paving the way" for many people whose voices were not previously heard—how fitting that he was a member of the prestigious Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. He is a man that refused to be anything less than a tireless and forceful advocate for his community.

A role model to us all, Bob has spent his life as a public servant. Shortly after the completion of his educational pursuits, he became a member of the Pennsylvania State House. After three terms, he successfully won the bid for the Third Congressional District which encompassed Northeast Philadelphia, the River Wards, Society Hill and portions of Queen Village.

Bob Borski retired after 20 years of distinguished service to the Philadelphia area, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the United States of America. His mission has always been simple—to serve and represent the people of the great City of Philadelphia. I am proud and privileged to have had Bob as a colleague, a friend, and a mentor.

Although his tenure in the House has finished, Bob remains an active advocate for the City of Philadelphia and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania here in Washington, DC.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and all of my distinguished colleagues to honor Robert A. Borski with the passage of H.R. 2328.

SUPPORT FUNDING OF UNFPA, H.R. 1950: STATE DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATIONS**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to speak on the matter of the U.N. family-planning program or the UNFPA. Last year, President Bush cancelled three years' worth of funding to the UNFPA after allegations that the UNFPA's program in China violated the Kemp-Kasten law. This law prohibits the United States from providing funding to any organization that supports or participates in involuntary sterilization. In May of last year, President Bush sent his own three person team to China to investigate but even after they returned finding no evidence in sup-

port of these rumors, the President still cancelled funding to this much needed organization, endangering the lives of women across the globe.

Over the past 33 years, the UNFPA has provided more than \$6 billion in assistance to more than 160 countries for voluntary family planning and maternal and child health care. It has provided life-saving reproductive health services in over 150 poor countries around the world, but has not provided or paid for abortion services anywhere in the world. The UNFPA has actually worked to reduce the need for abortion by promoting voluntary family planning.

The fact remains that today nearly 600,000 die each year from causes related to pregnancy; 99 percent of these women are from developing countries. Many of these deaths could have been prevented by providing the means or information to choose the size and spacing of their families. And while contraceptive use has increased, there are 350 million women in developing countries who do not have access to a range of safe and effective family planning methods.

With the UNFPA program, it will provide reproductive health care, including family planning services but not abortion, to the world's poorest women. The loss of each year's funding will have a severe impact in the developing countries the UNFPA serves: \$34 million would prevent 2 million unintended pregnancies; nearly 800,000 abortions; 4,700 maternal deaths; nearly 60,000 cases of serious maternal illness; and more than 77,000 infant and child deaths. These numbers are astounding and certainly something I would want to prevent.

The evidence is clear: funding to the UNFPA must be restored. The UNFPA has time and time again proven to be a necessary organization ensuring the safety and well being of women and their families. It will continue to provide safe methods of contraception to women, giving them a choice with their health and with their lives.

HONORING AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR FROM THE GREATEST GENERATION**HON. WALTER B. JONES**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation aimed at honoring American Prisoners of War from the Greatest Generation.

Over two years ago, two of my constituents who were POWs during World War II in the Pacific Theatre approached me about awards they felt they should have received. The Japanese has imprisoned each of the men, one of whom was a survivor of the Bataan Death March. These men were beaten, tortured and starved—one weighed 70 pounds when he was liberated. After their release, each of them was awarded the Prisoner of War Medal because of their internment. However, despite the harsh and sometimes violent treatment received at the hands of their captors, neither received the Purple Heart.

Current law for POWs held prior to 1962 requires documentation from the camps or detailed statements from former POW commanding officers in order to be eligible for the

Purple Heart. But the Japanese, and later the North Koreans, certainly provided no documentation. Now when World War II and Korean war vets are dying by the thousands every day, it is becoming even harder to find survivors from specific camps.

The bill I am introducing recognizes the hardships borne by World War II and Korean war POWs by providing additional assistance to those who would have earned the award if they had today's record keeping. It requires the Department to provide some additional historical information from the period and gives them some benefit of the doubt with respect to injuries.

This legislation is not about lowering the standard for a sacred award—the Purple Heart. Instead it is about properly recognizing the realities of the horrible suffering endured in the Japanese and North Korean POW camps for a small number of surviving heroes.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION (APSA) CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend and congratulate the American Political Science Association on the occasion of having reached a milestone of 50 years of existence, 50 years of growth, and 50 years of providing opportunities for individuals to obtain first-hand experiences in learning about and being involved about and being involved in the art of public-policy decisionmaking. It has been my experience to have talented, energetic, and eager to learn individuals interact with me and members of my staff in a very professional and sincere way as we worked together in pursuit of mutual goal. I also take this opportunity to express my thanks and appreciation to the American Political Science Association (APSA) Congressional Fellowship Program for doing an excellent job of helping to prepare many of our future leaders. We thank you APSA and I yield back the balance of my time.

TRIBUTE TO THE MISCOWAUBIK CLUB ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a few minutes today to extend my heartiest congratulations to the members, past and present, of the Miscowaubik Club in Calumet Township, Michigan. On August 16th, 2003, the Miscowaubik Club will proudly celebrate 100 years of existence with an evening of music, dancing and, no doubt, storytelling about the club's rich history.

Named after an Ojibwe Indian word for "copper," the Miscowaubik Club was founded in January, 1903 as a social haven and ath-

letic facility for the executives of the Calumet & Hecla Mining Company and local businessmen, who were then placing their mark on the remote and spectacular Keweenaw Peninsula of Michigan. The club was modeled after the Tennis and Racket Club of Boston.

The period of the club's founding coincided with the heyday of community prosperity that accompanied the mining activity in Upper Michigan's copper range. At the peak of that activity between 1867 and 1884, Calumet & Hecla mines produced half of this country's supply of copper.

In 1903, 175 invitees paid \$36 in fees and dues to become charter members. Guest book logs show visits to the club from visiting celebrities, including boxers Jack Dempsey, Jack Sharkie, and Max Schmelling.

Present membership has recognized the changing times, and the club elected its first woman president in 1994.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my House colleagues join me in raising a figurative glass to toast the Miscowaubik Club on its 100th anniversary. I wish the club and its members a second happy century of social discourse.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MS. NICOLE JONES

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to congratulate Ms. Nicole Jones on her graduation from Harvard University, July 24, 2003:

Whereas, Harvard University, which celebrated its 350th anniversary in 1986, is the oldest institute of higher learning in the United States of America; and

Whereas, Harvard University has grown from nine students with a single master to an enrollment of more than 18,000 degree candidates, including undergraduates and students in ten graduate and professional schools; and

Whereas, Seven Presidents of the United States of America, John Adams, John Quincy Adams, Theodore and Franklin Roosevelt, Rutherford B. Hayes, John Fitzgerald Kennedy and George W. Bush were graduates of Harvard; and

Whereas, its faculty has produced nearly 40 Nobel laureates; and

Whereas, Harvard University continues to be recognized as one of the very best and most outstanding academic institutions in the world today; now therefore, be it resolved that I Danny K. Davis take this opportunity to congratulate my next door neighbor, Ms Nicole Jones on this outstanding milestone in her career; and be it further

Resolved, That I commend and congratulate my neighbors Mr. George and Ms. Jenny Jones, her proud parents, for the contributions which they have made to Nicole's nurturing and development. We all wish her well as she moves on to the University of Michigan Law School to make further preparation for a lifetime of service.

GOD BLESS YOU, JONATHAN DAVID ROZIER

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak of a brave young Dallas area resident, 2nd Lt. Rozier, who was killed in combat in Iraq on July 19, 2003. I am humbled and grateful that he was willing to make the ultimate sacrifice to this Nation.

He is our fallen hero. A grateful Nation should never forget that he had family, friends, and plans for the future. He was just 25 years of age, old enough to dedicate his life to protecting our country. The attack happened just three days after his birthday.

Lt. Rozier was born in Dallas. In 1991 moved his family to Katy, Texas. He is a graduate of the Texas A&M University with a bachelor's degree in economics, where he and his wife served in the Corps of Cadets together.

Lt. Rozier was a distinguished and decorated soldier. He earned a Bronze Star by bravely helping to rescue injured soldiers under fire, and by enlisting to serve our country in the armed forces he demonstrated his courage and sense of duty. Lt. Rozier made the ultimate sacrifice for all of us, and we all owe him immeasurable gratitude.

His uncle, a good and close friend of mine, former DeSoto Mayor Richard Rozier expressed to me the sadness of Rozier family the grief of those who knew and loved him, including his wife, Jessica and his son, Justin.

Mr. Speaker, Lt. Rozier will always be remembered by his friends, family and loved ones and will surely be honored by the entire constituency of the Dallas/Forth Worth Metroplex community for his bravery and heroism.

I join with this House and with the people of Dallas/Forth Worth Metroplex and Americans all across the country in saying God bless you, Jonathan David Rozier. And God bless America.

PASSING OF PAUL BERNAL, PUEBLO INDIAN ELDER

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, the Taos Pueblo and Native Americans across the country are mourning the loss of an elder, statesman, and military veteran. I rise today to pay tribute to this extraordinary man, whose death is a great loss not only for all Indian Nations but also for the entire country.

Paul Bernal, a Taos Pueblo leader in the fight for religious freedom, died this month at the age of 92. Also known as "Pa chal ma," or Deer Catcher, Paul was an activist who devoted his life to returning control of the Sacred Blue Lake to his Pueblo.

In creating the Carson National Forest in 1906, President Theodore Roosevelt carved away thousands of acres of Taos Pueblo land. This land, viewed as sacred by the Indians, surrounded and included Blue Lake, a vital religious shrine in Pueblo religion. Sixty-four

years passed before the United States returned the land to the Indians.

According to Pueblo tradition, the Taos tribe was created out of the sacred waters of Blue Lake. The lake, a place of ritual worship and historical importance, was under U.S. Forest Service control beginning in 1906. Instrumental in the fight for the return of Blue Lake and the surrounding wilderness, Paul, served as the key interpreter for news reporters and government officials.

Returning the lake to the tribe was strenuously opposed by some powerful opponents: U.S. Senator Clinton Anderson, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Forest Service. Under the Anderson proposal, jurisdiction would have remained with the U.S. Forest Service, which the Pueblo considered insensitive to their religious beliefs.

In 1966, Taos Pueblo turned down \$10 million and land concessions from the federal government to settle the dispute.

My father, Stewart Udall, former Secretary of the Interior, championed the cause of returning Blue Lake to the Taos Pueblo. He met many times in the 1960's with Paul Bernal and other members of the Pueblo. My father has said many times that Paul Bernal was the "most effective leader in the fight to win back Blue Lake."

As Secretary of Interior in the 1960's, my father testified every two years before House and Senate committees to advocate for the return of Blue Lake.

In 1970, when Senator Anderson was ill and ailing but still in the Senate, an extraordinary bipartisan group of senators—Barry Goldwater (R-AZ), Fred Harris (D-Okla), and George McGovern (D-S.D.)—came together to pass the Blue Lake legislation.

President Nixon signed the legislation into law on December 15, 1970. Reflecting on his career, Richard Nixon later said that making the bill law was, "one of the most significant achievements of my administration."

Paul was a respected tribal elder, an icon whose knowledge and experience carried the native-rights movement forward for many decades. He served as Taos Pueblo tribal secretary for 24 years. He was also humble and gracious in sharing credit for restoring tribal control of the lake. During a celebration in August 1971, Paul was asked about being the leader of such a monumental struggle. His reply, "No one man. All together. The governor, the council, all the people."

I was honored to have known this distinguished man, and his death is a great loss for all of us. However, I am certain Paul would not have wanted his death to create a void where his work is concerned. We can all learn from this accomplished man and continue his work for Native American sovereignty and spiritual integrity of the land. There could be no better tribute to such a man as Paul Bernal.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
IN SUPPORT OF DESIGNATION
AND GOALS OF HIRE A VETERAN
WEEK

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, as our nation honors and supports the ongoing efforts of our

troops in Iraq and prays for the safety of all of our uniformed men and women still in the Gulf and Afghanistan, now is also an opportune time for Congress to do more to help our nation's new and old veterans in need. To this end, I am introducing legislation to urge the establishment of a "National Hire a Veteran Week" and to urge a presidential proclamation calling upon employers, labor organizations, veterans service organizations, and federal, state, and local governmental agencies to employ more veterans.

In spite of the best efforts of the U.S. Departments of Defense, Labor, and Veterans Affairs, imposing barriers continue to impede many deserving veterans from securing employment and achieving self-sufficiency. Unfortunately, many veterans struggle to find jobs, even with opportunities for increased training and education offered through government programs. Little more than half of our nation's veterans are employed today. Most startlingly, according to the 2000 Census, nearly 20 percent of Gulf War veterans are unemployed.

Moreover, it is troubling and shameful that so many of our veterans who risked their own lives to defend our freedom can't find jobs and must endure homelessness and lives of poverty after they return home. Indeed, American veterans comprise one-third of the homeless male population in America, while an estimated 250,000 veterans live on our city streets. In fact, the number of homeless Vietnam War veterans today exceeds the number of service persons who died during that war.

Mr. Speaker, even as we tend to the well-being of our men and women currently on active duty, we cannot forget those who have already served their country and deserve more assistance in moving to the next phase of their civilian lives. A presidential proclamation of "National Hire a Veteran Week" would provide an effective and more focused way to do more to help all of our veterans find good jobs and ensure better living standards for themselves and their families. I hope that all of my colleagues will support this legislation and will take one more step to help repay the debt we owe to all of our nation's defenders. I also hope it can be promptly enacted and signed into law in the next few weeks.

CELEBRATING NEW YORK'S
DOMINICAN DAY PARADE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of New York's oldest celebrations of Dominican culture, Manhattan's Dominican Day Parade.

The annual parade, which once ran through the heart of Washington Heights, has grown to become one of August's most anticipated celebrations of cultural and ethnic pride on New York's Sixth Avenue.

This year's parade on August 10th not only comes on the heels of the Dominican Republic's hosting of the 14th edition of the Pan-American Games, it also kicks off Dominican Heritage Week in New York City. From then to August 16th, New Yorkers of all ages will get a chance to learn about some of the ways in which this vibrant community is transforming the Nation.

We have begun to hear of Dominicans and Dominican-Americans in the context of stars like baseball slugger Sammy Sosa, designer Oscar de la Renta, and Miss Universe 2002 Amelia Vega. However, there are hundreds of Dominican professionals and an increasing amount of Dominican students that are blazing trails in government, law, science, and technology. They understand that they stand on the shoulders of not only the sacrifices that their parents have made but also on the achievements of members of other freedom-loving people.

In many ways, their journey is similar to other immigrant groups that have landed on our shores. But make no mistake, the people of the Dominican Republic have a style all their own. They are part of the wonderful mosaic that is America whose continuing empowerment can only help this country reach its full potential as a democracy.

HONORING HOUSTON WALES—INTERN
IN MY WASHINGTON, DC
OFFICE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Mr. Houston Wales, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in national government.

Houston will be a freshman in the fall at the University of Missouri-Columbia and has distinguished himself as an intern in my Washington office by serving the great people of the 6th District of Missouri. Houston joined my staff for the 108th Congress as part of the House of Representatives intern program at the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C., a program designed to involve students in the legislative process through active participation. Through this program, Houston has had the opportunity to observe firsthand the inner workings of national government and has gained valuable insight into the process by which laws are made.

During his time as an intern in my office, Houston has successfully demonstrated his abilities in the performance of such duties as conducting research, helping with constituent services, and assuming various other responsibilities to make the office run as smoothly as possible. Houston has earned recognition as a valuable asset to the entire U.S. House of Representatives and my office through the application of his knowledge and skills acquired prior to his tenure as an intern and through a variety of new skills he has acquired while serving the people of Missouri and our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Mr. Houston Wales for his many important contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives during the current session, as well as joining with me to extend to him our very best wishes for continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

HONORING MARGARET ELDER

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Margaret Elder, a teacher at Anaheim High School for being selected as one of 32 teachers tapped for Disney's annual American Teacher Awards.

The 32 selected teachers are chosen from a field of over 185,000 from across the nation.

Award winners are selected for their innovative approaches to teaching that are above and beyond the standard school curriculum.

In these tough economic times, as teachers work with limited resources and many programs in our schools being hurt by budget cuts and lack of proper funding, it is particularly inspiring to have teachers like Ms. Elder in our schools.

It is my privilege to congratulate her on this accomplishment. Our educational system and our teachers are our most important asset and we must support them: Not just for our children, but for our future.

AMERICAN INDIAN TRUST FUND
MANAGEMENT REFORM ACT
AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2003

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join our colleague Congressman MARK UDALL in introducing the "American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act Amendments Act of 2003." This bill is a sound proposal for the reform of the management of assets and funds held in trust by the United States for individual Indians and federally recognized Indian tribes.

For well over a century the Federal Government has been the trustee of funds generated from leases on Indian lands. For almost as long, the Federal Government has been charged with mismanaging these funds. To this day tribal and individual Indian account holders cannot be assured that the balances the Department of Interior claims are in their accounts are accurate.

Much attention has been given to the Cobell v. Norton class action lawsuit which was filed in 1996 on behalf of some 300,000 individual Indian money account holders. But regardless of what happens in this case, the current management and administration of Indian trust lands and trust funds by the Department of the Interior (DOI) is inadequate and must be reformed.

Enactment of this bill would elevate trust fund management within DOI, affirm trust standards, and ensure Indian tribes have a greater management role over their assets and funds. These are all elements needed for reform of the system as determined by the Task Force on Trust Fund Reform, the Intertribal Monitoring Association and the National Congress of American Indians.

I commend Mr. UDALL for introducing this important bill and thereby starting the trust fund reform discussion in the House of Representatives. I remain open to other legislative

proposals and am committed to working with Indian country towards true reform and protection of Indian trust funds.

HONORING THE TOWN OF
CUMBERLAND GAP, TENNESSEE

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the historic town of Cumberland Gap, Tennessee as they celebrate their 200th anniversary of postal service.

Cumberland Gap has long been a place of historic passage. In pre-Colonial America, the Gap served Native Americans as a pivotal crossing for their trading and hunting routes through the Appalachian Mountains. Later, Daniel Boone and his 29 "axe men" blazed a 208 mile trail into central Kentucky providing a route for pioneer families to travel west. During the Civil War, Cumberland Gap gained military significance, becoming known as the "Gibraltar of America" and the "Keystone of the Confederacy."

Today however, in the age of flight, travelers through Cumberland Gap come not to get through the mountains, but to escape into them. The natural beauty of the surrounding area and the Gap's rich cultural history make it a popular destination for travelers of all ages and interests. From hikers to historians, people continue to be drawn to the "gap between the mountains."

Time has almost stood still in the small Appalachian town of Cumberland Gap. As you walk through the quiet streets, you are greeted with architecture from the late 1800's and the 1920's. The streets are snap shots from the past, illustrating the progression of history even through today. The town's rich history, quiet charm and natural beauty are especially appealing for cultural tourism.

Just as the historic parade marched through the Gap for more than 200 years, the procession is not yet finished. Today the town of Cumberland Gap, the natural starting point for an journey into the Cumberland Gap National Park, is a haven for day hikers, adventure hikers and cycle enthusiasts. Whether you are seeking history, culture or adventure, Cumberland Gap is always a great place to be.

On July 19, this historic town celebrates 200 years of postal service with a day of interpretive presentations of what life was like in the early 1800's including "living history" exhibits throughout the town. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to join them on this important day and I wish the town of Cumberland Gap many years of continued success.

CELEBRATING THE 14TH EDITION
OF PAN-AMERICAN GAMES IN
THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 14th edition of the Pan-American games, this year to be held in Santo

Domingo Dominican Republic, from August 1st to August 17th.

Since 1951, the games have carried the Olympic spirit of trying to build and strengthen international cooperation through friendly, but no less intense, competition between the countries of the Western Hemisphere. In a time when we are engaged in a global struggle against terrorism, poverty and disease, the sight of some of the region's best athletes coming sharing the same stage peacefully gives the world hope that our current struggles are just a prologue to better days.

This year's games are also a source of pride to Dominicans all over the world, especially those who live in my district's neighborhood of Washington Heights. While putting on an event of such magnitude is a challenge for any nation, there is no doubt in my mind that the world will be treated to a world-class celebration full of the best of Dominican culture. It is also a chance to sow the seeds of future economic development by showing the world that any stage can shine brightly from Santo Domingo.

So it is with great enthusiasm that I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating all the participants and organizers in advance for all their achievements and hard work. Let us hope that the Pan-American Games' motto, loosely translated as "The American spirit of friendship through sports," not only lasts beyond these two weeks in August, but also extends beyond sports and the island of Hispaniola into the hearts of all of the world's citizens.

HONORING STEPHANIE MCCRAY—
INTERN IN MY WASHINGTON, DC,
OFFICE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ms. Stephanie McCray, a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in national government.

Stephanie is a senior public policy studies major and economics and religion minor at Duke University and has distinguished herself as an intern in my Washington office by serving the great people of the 6th district of Missouri. Stephanie joined my staff for the 108th Congress as part of the House of Representatives intern program at the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C., a program designed to involve students in the legislative process through active participation. Through this program, Stephanie has had the opportunity to observe firsthand the inner workings of national government and has gained valuable insight into the process by which laws are made.

During her time as an intern in my office, Stephanie has successfully demonstrated her abilities in the performance of such duties as conducting research, helping with constituent services, and assuming various other responsibilities to make the office run as smoothly as possible. Stephanie has earned recognition as a valuable asset to the entire U.S. House of Representatives and my office through the application of her knowledge and skills acquired

prior to her tenure as an intern and through a variety of new skills she has acquired while serving the people of Missouri and our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ms. Stephanie McCray for her many important contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives during the current session, as well as joining with me to extend to her our very best wishes for continued success and happiness in all her future endeavors.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ST. JOSEPH BALLETT COMPANY IN SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the St. Joseph Ballet Company in Santa Ana, California, for receiving the 2003 Coming Up Taller award.

The Coming Up Taller award recognizes programs that involve students in the arts and humanities.

The St. Joseph Ballet Company offers 42 dance classes every week, provides one on one tutoring with students at the University of California, Irvine and along with assistance in the college admission and financial aid process.

St. Joseph is more than just a dance program. They have been teaching children about dance, self-discipline, and the importance of academic excellence for over 20 years.

Children are given a sense of accomplishment, motivation in all aspects of life and an education that goes beyond standard core curriculum.

In these difficult economic times for education, I am pleased that there are still programs like St. Joseph's Ballet that provide invaluable tools to prepare our children for the future.

PHARMACEUTICAL MARKET ACCESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Gutknecht bill.

I have always argued that while the reimportation safety-issues are of paramount importance, they are not insurmountable.

This bill includes many of the safety-provisions I've been calling for in my bill H.R. 2652, the "Internet Pharmacy Consumer Protection Act". In fact, when I first looked at the reimportation language included in the GOP prescription drug bill, I was glad to see many of these safety provisions included—until I noticed the ironic "poison pill" provision found in this language that would give the HHS Secretary the power to kill reimportation. The Gutknecht bill would remove this "poison pill" provision.

I have questioned the FDA in the past as to why they have refused to follow their own

safety guidelines when importing prescription drugs for U.S. consumers under the "personal use" exemption. I have not received a satisfactory answer from the FDA and I've concluded that their decision to ignore their own guidelines was based on politics rather than public-safety. I was further convinced of this fact when I received highly unusual lobbying call from the FDA against this bill last week.

The truth is, this bill will force the FDA's hand—they can and they will be required to implement a safe reimportation program within six months.

The lobbying campaign by the Pharmaceutical Industry in opposition to this legislation has been very distasteful—many of the tactics they employed were just plain dishonest. Americans continue to pay prescription drug prices that are 30 to 300 percent more than in European and other industrialized nations including Canada. This bill will finally force the most profitable industry in the world to give American citizens some relief from this outlandish price discrimination.

Thank you Mr. Speaker and I yield back the balance of my time.

HONORING ELISHA GRAY

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, one hundred and thirty-three years ago, a man named Elisha Gray helped found the picturesque Chicago suburb of Highland Park, Illinois in my district. This extraordinary man was not only a pioneer in developing Chicago's North Shore, but also a prolific inventor.

Born in 1835 in a small Midwestern town, young Elisha Gray grew up among humble surroundings. Following the death of his father, he took on a part time job at the age of 12 in order to help support his family. Mr. Gray paid his way through college by using his boat building skills, acquired in his early years, to make specialized equipment for the science departments at Oberlin College.

Although he considered a life in the ministry, Mr. Gray always knew that his true calling was in engineering. In 1867, he received his first patent, capturing the interest of the Western Union Telegraph Company. Mr. Gray would have a lifetime association with the company. Soon after in 1870, Mr. Gray co-founded the firm of Gray and Barton, then relocated the company, named Western Electric Manufacturing Company, in the Chicago area.

While working in Chicago, Mr. Gray helped found the town of Highland Park, one of the many fine suburbs located today within my 10th Congressional District of Illinois. At home, Mr. Gray worked tirelessly on his inventions and scientific breakthroughs. In 1876, he filed a caveat, or a preliminary patent application, for an invention soon to be called the telephone. A. Edward Evenson, Gray's biographer and author of *The Telephone Patent Conspiracy of 1876*, believes that Mr. Gray's caveat predated that of Alexander Graham Bell's well known patent, which was filed on the same day. Regardless, Mr. Gray is undoubtedly a contributor to the vast body of science that underscored the modern uses of the telephone.

Throughout a life dedicated to the pursuit of technological prowess and the scientific advancement of mankind, Elisha Gray patented over 50 inventions in the United States. Besides his contributions to the telephone, Mr. Gray is most noted for his work on the first commercially successful fax machine, the Tel-autograph. Businesses and homes throughout the world are indebted to Mr. Gray's early work on this now widely used technology.

Elisha Gray also led the field in scientific publications and academic achievements. He wrote four books. He was a lecturer and professor at his alma mater, Oberlin College, and received a number of honorary degrees.

The entrepreneurial spirit of Mr. Gray must not pass unnoted. His Chicago area firm helped foster the growth of greater Chicagoland and Northeastern Illinois. In recognition of a life dedicated to the improvement of mankind, Mr. Gray received numerous awards, including the French Legion of Honor Medal, France's highest award. Elisha Gray should be honored as a man who not only founded one of my district's cities, but who, from that bucolic place, invented many things that we take for granted today.

HONORING THE DOMINICAN RESTORATION DAY HOLIDAY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very important national holiday in the Dominican Republic, Restoration Day or El Día de la Restauración, celebrated annually on August 16.

Although the Dominican Republic declared its independence from Spain in 1821, it wasn't until February 27, 1844, that they established constitutional self-rule. However, years later a series of internal events led a faction of government to call on Spain to reclaim their former Caribbean colony. With the United States in the middle of its own civil war, the Dominican people were left to their own resources to wage another battle for their country's freedom. Starting on August 16, 1863, nationalists launched a counteroffensive against the Spanish crown, ultimately leading Spain to withdraw from the island of Hispaniola on March 3, 1865.

For Dominicans, August 16 is a second Independence Day, a lasting symbol of the dedication of their community to be free. In the Dominican Republic, it has been, among other things, the traditional day when victorious candidates assume the presidency. In the United States, the day serves as a cultural holiday around which many hold concerts, festivals and other celebrations. In my own city of New York, there is a grand parade down Sixth Avenue, from 36th to 56th Streets. This year, it also marks the end of Dominican Heritage week, a time when New Yorkers of all ages get an opportunity to learn about this vibrant Latino community.

So I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this holiday with Dominicans all over the world. The success of our current democracy in many ways depends on us never forgetting the sacrifice of those who have fought for the cause of freedom and peaceful self-rule all over the world.

HONORING SARAH RICE—INTERN
IN MY WASHINGTON DC OFFICE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ms. Sarah Rice, a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in national government.

Sarah is a senior political science major at Northwest Missouri State University and has distinguished herself as an intern in my Washington office by serving the great people of the 6th District of Missouri. Sarah joined my staff for the 108th Congress as part of the House of Representatives intern program at the United States Capitol in Washington, DC, a program designed to involve students in the legislative process through active participation. Through this program, Sarah has had the opportunity to observe firsthand the inner workings of national government and has gained valuable insight into the process by which laws are made.

During her time as an intern in my office, Sarah has successfully demonstrated her abilities in the performance of such duties as conducting research, helping with constituent services, and assuming various other responsibilities to make the office run as smoothly as possible. Sarah has earned recognition as a valuable asset to the entire U.S. House of Representatives and my office through the application of her knowledge and skills acquired prior to her tenure as an intern and through a variety of new skills she has acquired while serving the people of Missouri and our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ms. Sarah Rice for her many important contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives during the current session, as well as joining with me to extend to her our very best wishes for continued success and happiness in all her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO DR. BILL MADIA

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, just over 3 years ago, the University of Tennessee-Battelle team took over the contract to operate the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, TN. Our Lab Director, Dr. Bill Madia will soon be leaving ORNL to take a new position. I would like to take a moment today to recognize Bill's tremendous accomplishments and thank him for all he has done in East Tennessee.

Bill came to ORNL with over 25 years of experience in research and research management, with more than 15 years leading public and private research labs. That experience is evident in all the recent successes of ORNL, including receiving the laboratory's first-ever "outstanding" rating for overall performance from the Department of Energy for fiscal year 2002.

Under his watch, the construction of the Nation's largest civilian science project, the Spall-

ation Neutron Source, has moved forward on time, on budget and on scope. Adjacent to SNS, atop Chestnut Ridge, is the site for the Center for Nanophase Materials Science, the first of DOE's Nanoscience centers. Another new facility is the recently completed Center for Computational Sciences, one of the world's most modern computer laboratories.

Along with these examples of cutting edge major research user facilities, Bill tackled the needs of a laboratory that dated back to the Manhattan Project. In June 2003, only 16 months after breaking ground, ORNL celebrated completion of the first of 12 new facilities in the Laboratory's ambitious modernization program. The new buildings represent an unprecedented partnership among the private, state, and federal sectors. This unique effort can be attributed to Dr. Bill Madia.

In the Oak Ridge community, Bill Madia has been active in promoting economic growth and providing leadership in the role that science and technology can play in education, the workplace, and our daily lives. He has served on the boards of the Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce, East Tennessee Economic Council, and the Tennessee Technology Development Corporation. He has also been supportive of the next generation of scientists by supporting funding for high school science laboratories and the University of Tennessee's Academy for Math and Science.

Mr. Speaker, Bill has contributed mightily to the Lab's success during his tenure in East Tennessee. I am pleased he will continue his commitment to the lab and our community by serving as a member of the UT-Battelle Board of Directors. In my judgment, he is by far the greatest, most innovative "lab director" in the United States. He is my personal friend and I will miss him very much.

However, because of his amazing vision and tireless work, the people of Oak Ridge, East Tennessee and the Nation face a brighter, more prosperous future. I would like to thank Dr. Bill Madia for his remarkable leadership and extraordinary commitment to the great state of Tennessee.

CONGRATULATING MS. ADA
SANDERS ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor Ms. Ada Sanders, who has recently retired from 30 years of teaching primary school in the state of Wisconsin.

Ada Sanders was originally hired as a substitute teacher but after demonstrating her immense talent and love of teaching, she was quickly hired as a full time teacher. In Ms. Sanders' 30 years devoted service to third and fourth grade students in Stevens Point, WI, she taught for 18 years at the Madison School and spent her last 12 years at the Bannach School.

Her caring demeanor and loving devotion to students has allowed her to touch the lives of many. Ms. Sanders is not only an extraordinary individual, but a role model to all.

Mr. Speaker, Ada Sanders deserves this special recognition for her 30 years of devotion to America's children. I wish her much success in all of her future endeavors.

SCHOOL READINESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2210) to authorize the Head Start Act to improve the school readiness of disadvantaged children, and for other purposes:

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 2210, the Republican Head Start reauthorization bill. This legislation tears at the heart of successful early childhood development services in the United States that have been in place since 1965.

Across the Nation, Head Start has helped to combat poverty and provide children with an enriched social, academic, and healthful base before kindergarten. In my own northern Michigan communities, Head Start has long provided valuable services to the 5,598 children and their families enrolled in 148 programs throughout the 1st Congressional District.

I am dismayed H.R. 2210 provides only a 2.9 percent increase over the last year in the already under-funded Head Start programs—barely keeping up with inflation, and I have very serious concerns about several of its provisions.

In particular, the bill completely fails to support Head Start teachers. These dedicated professionals earn about half of what typical kindergarten teachers make. Yet, H.R. 2210 only provides about \$400,000 for teacher salaries and education next year—more than \$300 million less than needed in fiscal year 2004. Funding for the following years is no better—\$2 billion less than needed over the next 4 years.

To add insult to injury, H.R. 2210 increases teacher credential requirements so that 50 percent of Head Start teachers must have a Bachelor's degree by 2008. But the bill provides almost no money to help teachers advance their education, and it doesn't pay to increase teachers' salaries after they earn a Bachelor's degree! What incentive does that provide for quality teachers to remain dedicated to Head Start programs?

I am also concerned about block grant provisions in the bill. Shifting program money to state block grants, even in the eight test states, could allow states to change the Head Start program in substantive ways that may jeopardize the successes Head Start programs have long achieved. It is a pilot program as proposed, but as we all know these pilot programs tend to grow.

In the name of so-called "reform", H.R. 2210 allows selected states to increase Head Start class size and the child-to-staff ratio; decrease parental involvement; hinder disability assessment and treatment; and eliminate comprehensive health care services like vision, dental, and mental health screenings. Moreover, the Republican Head Start bill lets the eight test states move funds currently intended for local Head Start agencies to other pre-school and child care programs that may not offer the same critical services on which children and families depend.

Head Start has made a valuable contribution to the education of our Nation's children,

and I will do everything possible to protect these locally designed and administered programs in northern Michigan.

I urge my colleagues to vote no on H.R. 2210. Vote no to dismantling Head Start.

FLORINE WARDEN'S 85TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, on August 26, Mrs. Florine Warden will be celebrating her 85th birthday. Her story is one of success. From the coalfields of West Virginia she has endlessly battled to preserve the liberties of her community. As her birthday approaches I wish to thank Mrs. Warden for the extraordinary effort she has put into our State.

Thomas Jefferson once said, "none deserve better than those who contribute to the amelioration of that form (government)." Mrs. Warden's life has been one of great service and citizenship. She has dedicated her life to voicing her opinion and striving to improve our form of government. Those who reside in Southern West Virginia know of her unwavering dedication to encouraging others to become active citizens. She has fought diligently on the political battlefield at the grassroots level. She brings a special enthusiasm to her community and the State of West Virginia. She has donated her time to improve and enhance our political process.

Mrs. Warden has spent countless hours working for the underprivileged. From picket lines to food drives, Mrs. Warden is a force for the less fortunate. She has sought to better her community by working as a booster for local high schools and colleges. This amazing woman has also devoted her time to the West Virginian Department of Highways, as well as the Department of Natural Resources. She has worked for the State, but more importantly for the people of West Virginia, which she cares for so dearly. She has worked tirelessly for the United Mine Workers of America. She is the true embodiment of the Mother Jones's mantra, "Mourn the dead, and fight like hell for the living."

Mrs. Warden's hard work has not gone unnoticed. Her many honors include the Distinguished West Virginian Award, the Beautification Award "Make West Virginia Shine," and an induction into the Democrat Hall of Fame. Just last year I was at hand when Mrs. Warden was presented the labor award in the 17th Annual Celebrate Women Awards. With these awards, the word of her hard work has spread from Southern West Virginia to the rest of the State, and across our great Nation. In her amazing eighty-five years, she has been dedicated to promoting labor services in West Virginia and with her hard work she is irreplaceable in the political world. She has continually fought for the betterment of our form of government. I agree with Mr. Jefferson and feel that none deserve better than Mrs. Warden.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 227: H. Res. 159. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 228: H. Res. 195. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 229: H.R. 1465. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 230: S. 222. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 231: S. 273. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 232: S. 763. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 233: H. Amdt. to H. J. Res. 4. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 234: Final passage of H. J. Res. 4. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 235: Motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 231. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 236: on agreeing to H. Res. 257. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 237: Motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 177. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 238: Motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 201. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 239: H.R. 1954. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 240: H. Amdt. 154 to H.R. 760. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 241: Motion to Recommit to H.R. 760. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 242: final passage of H.R. 760. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 243: On Ordering the Previous Question for H. Res. 256. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 244: H. Res. 258. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 245: H. Res. 258. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 246: on passage

of H.R. 1474. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 247: S. 222. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 248: S. 273. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 249: H.R. 1610. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 250: H. Con Res. 162. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 251: S. 763. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 252: H. Res. 263 to H.R. 2143. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 253: H. Res. 263 to H.R. 2143. Had I been present, I would have voted "No."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 254: H. Amdt. 159 to H.R. 2143. Had I been present, I would have voted "No."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 255: Passage of H.R. 2143. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 256: H. Res. 252: Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 257: On ordering the previous question for H.R. 2115. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 258: On agreeing to the rule for H.R. 2115. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 259: On passage of H. Con. Res. 110. Had I been present I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 260: On passage of H.R. 1320. Had I been present I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 261: H.R. 2350. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 262: H. Amdt. 5 to H.R. 2115. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 263: H. Amdt. 4 to H.R. 2115. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 264: On passage of H.R. 2115. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 265: H. Res. 269 to H.R. 1115. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 266: H. Res. 269 to H.R. 1115. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 268: H. Amdt.

197 to H.R. 1. Had I been present, I would have voted "no".

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 331: Motion to recommit with instructions to H.R. 1. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 332: Final passage of H.R. 1. Had I been present, I would have voted "no".

Mr. Speaker, due to family reasons, I was unable to vote on Rollcall No. 333: On passage of H.R. 2417. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

PHARMACEUTICAL MARKET
ACCESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this legislation because it will provide our seniors and all American consumers the relief they need from skyrocketing drug prices through safe, FDA-approved prescription drugs reimported from Canada and Europe.

And I am pleased that a broad bipartisan coalition has come together to advance this important measure.

Currently, the same exact prescription drugs purchased in Canada and Europe cost only a fraction of the prices charged in the U.S.

This does not make sense when a number of our seniors must choose between spending their limited income on food or taking on their daily dosage of a prescribed medication.

Some have raised concerns about the safety of importing prescription drugs from outside the United States.

As a nurse, I am always concerned about safety and doing no harm.

This bill takes important steps to actually improve the safety of prescription drugs through:

State-of-the-art technology to prevent tampering with the packaging (the same type of technology used by the Dept. of Treasury to secure our currency);

Strict inspections by wholesalers to test each shipment;

And by allowing only FDA-approved drugs from FDA-approved facilities into the country.

Further, the legislation's enforcement authority is clear and very strong—Manufacturers or importers can be heavily fined or even face up to 10 years in prison for failing to comply with safety requirements.

The plain fact is that more than one million Americans already purchase their medicines from outside the American market and there has not been one reported death or illness from Americans taking such products.

Mr. Speaker, reimportation is a common-sense thing to do. It is probusiness, pro-consumer and it's a safe and effective way for Americans to pay less for prescription drugs.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting "yes" for this legislation, our seniors can't wait.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF DOMINICAN BASEBALL PLAYERS
TO THE ECONOMY OF THE
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take this time to highlight some of the contributions that baseball players of Dominican decent are making not only to America's national pastime, but also to communities in the Dominican Republic.

It isn't long into SportsCenter or any other sports highlight show before one notices that some of the game's greatest contemporary players hail from the DR. Perennial All-Stars like Sammy Sosa, Pedro Martinez, Alex Rodriguez and Manny Ramirez, joined now by youngsters like Odalis Perez, Albert Pujols, Carlos Delgado, Alfonso Soriano and Miguel Tejada, are redefining the game by challenging long-established records and moving the bar of excellence higher than many would have imagined.

Baseball has a long established tradition in the DR, showcasing Negro-League stars like Satchel Paige and Josh Gibson in winter league games at a time when the color-line barred African-Americans from playing with white players in America. And these new stars know that they follow in the footsteps of major league trailblazers like Felipe Alou, Joaquin Andujar, George Bell, Rico Carty, Tony Fernandez, Pedro Guerrero, Juan Marichal, and Jose Rijo.

However, what makes these ballplayers different from athletes of the past is that they can afford not only to be positive role models of behavior, but also economic role models of philanthropy. According to Major League Baseball, the 79 Dominican major league baseball players earn a combined salary of \$210 million. Like many immigrants, they send money directly home to family members. However, they also contribute to the local economy by building homes, investing in business ventures and making contributions to charities based in their hometowns.

Their success in the major leagues has also brought in Major League Baseball as a partner in the island's economic development. According to a recent study, MLB has created 1,200 jobs, with \$14.7 million going directly to the country through the operation of 30 baseball academies that are all looking to find the next diamond in the rough. These are academies that not only provide services, but also buy from local merchants, which has lead to the creation of as many as 900 new jobs.

Success in baseball is not based on the play of one player but on the efforts of the entire team. These Dominican athletes know that the best way that they can truly honor the sacrifices of their family and friends is making sure that they give back with both their hearts and their wallets. Collectively, they and other Dominicans around the world are helping to shatter the myth that some people are forever destined to be the recipients of handouts and hand-me-downs. That with an investment of faith and money, talent can surface to change a game—and the world.

WE MUST WORK TOWARD WINNING
AND SUSTAINING PEACE IN IRAQ
AND AFGHANISTAN

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, since President Bush declared an end to major combat operations on May 1, 2003, we continue to have loss of life of our brave service men and women in Iraq at a rate of one per day.

Just look at the figures—491 wounded and 93 killed. We've lost 7 soldiers in the last week alone.

Why? Because the administration failed to adequately plan for post-war peacekeeping in Iraq. And experts are beginning to warn that the window for postwar success is closing.

We need to make a decision—and we need to do it quickly—about increasing the end strength of our military. Two days ago, the Pentagon announced that our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan should expect one-year deployments.

We are walking a very fine line on having enough troops to support our missions around the globe, especially Iraq and Afghanistan.

Asking our troops to stay for longer and longer tours is not the answer. Our troops are stretched thin, and we must start talking about doing everything in our power to win and sustain the peace.

BILL TO REFORM AMERICAN INDIAN TRUST FUND MANAGEMENT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing a bill to provide the basis for reforming the way the federal government discharges its responsibilities regarding the assets and funds it holds in trust for federally recognized Indian tribes and individual Indians.

The bill is also sponsored by Representative RAHALL, the Ranking Democratic Member of the Resources Committee, and is identical to a measure being introduced in the Senate by Senators MCCAIN, DASCHLE, and JOHNSON. It is based on a bill (S. 175) they introduced earlier, with revisions that reflect comments and suggestions from a number of tribes and others who have interest and expertise in this subject, including representatives of the Great Plains tribes, the Native American Rights Fund, the National Congress of American Indians, and the InterTribal Monitoring Association.

We are introducing the bill today in the interests of contributing specific legislative proposals for consideration as part of what we hope and expect will be a bipartisan effort to develop legislation to resolve many of the problems in this important part of the duties of the Interior Department.

As we all know, Mr. Speaker, the Interior Department's management of Indian trust funds is the subject of deserved criticism and

ongoing controversy. Last week, during debate on the Interior appropriations bill, the House was told that Chairman POMBO has indicated his commitment to having the Resources Committee work on resolving problems associated with that management—a commitment we welcome. Our bill is intended to be part of that effort.

Our bill includes two major changes to the 1994 American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act, the underlying law governing Indian trust funds management.

First, it elevates the importance of Indian trust management and other Indian affairs within the Interior Department by establishing the position of Deputy Secretary for Indian Affairs, to oversee the Bureau of Indian Affairs and all aspects of the management of Indian trusts.

There would no longer be an Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs. The current Office of Special Trustee for American Indians would be abolished, with the duties of the Special Trustee being transferred to the new Deputy Secretary, who would be in charge of a new Office of Trust Reform Implementation and Oversight. In addition, there would be clear legislative affirmation of the fiduciary standards to be applied to the management of Indian trust funds and assets.

Second, the bill strengthens provisions for Indian tribes to participate in the management of trust funds and assets, based on successful self-determination policies. Toward that end, the bill would authorize a Tribe to use authority under existing law to manage trust funds and assets, without terminating the trust responsibilities of the Interior Department.

To further assess the way the Interior Department performs its fiduciary and management responsibilities with respect to Indian Tribes and individual Indian beneficiaries, the bill would establish a special 12-member Commission, with four members appointed by the President, two each appointed by the Majority and Minority leaders of the Senate, two each appointed by the Speaker and the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives. The bill specifies that a majority of members must be representatives of federally-recognized Indian tribes (at least one of whom must be the beneficiary of an individual Indian trust fund account). The Commission will choose one of its members to chair its proceedings.

The bill requires the Commission to review and assess Federal laws and policies relating to the management of Indian trust funds and to provide Congress a report about their conclusions and recommendations within three years after the Commission's first meeting.

Finally, the bill includes specific and detailed provisions to make clear that its enactment will not limit any of the findings, remedies, jurisdiction, authority, or discretion of the courts in the Cobell v. Norton litigation and that no funds appropriated to carry out an historical accounting of the individual Indian trust funds are to be used except as may be provided in an order of the court in that case entered after the date of the bill's enactment.

Mr. Speaker, I am convinced that the time has come for Congress to directly address the problems associated with this subject. The bill we are introducing today is not intended to either whitewash or redress past wrongs, and it will not forestall the courts from resolving matters properly before them. Instead, it is intended to take an important first step toward

a better future for the Indian tribes and individuals in whose behalf the government is duty-bound to act.

For the benefit of our colleagues, here is a section-by-section outline of the bill:

OUTLINE OF "AMERICAN INDIAN TRUST FUND MANAGEMENT REFORM ACT AMENDMENTS ACT"

SECTION 1: Short Title—provides a short title for the bill.

SECTION 2: Definitions—amends section 2 of the American Indian Trust Fund Management Act of 1994 to provide definitions of the terms "audit," "tribal government," "trust asset," "trust funds," and "trustee."

SECTION 3: Responsibilities of Secretary—amends section 102 of the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 so as to clearly specify the responsibilities of the Secretary of the Interior with respect to accounting for Indian trust fund balances and with respect to other aspects of carrying out the trust responsibility of the United States.

SECTION 4: Affirmation of Standards—amends Title I of the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 by adding a Congressional affirmation of the standards for proper discharge of the trust responsibility of the United States.

SECTION 5: Indian Participation in Trust Fund Activities—amends the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 to explicitly authorize an Indian tribe to use authority provided under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to manage trust funds and trust assets without terminating the trust responsibility of the Secretary of the Interior or the trust status of the funds and assets involved.

SECTION 6: Deputy Secretary for Indian Affairs—amends the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 to establish the position of Deputy Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs, to specify the duties of the Deputy Secretary, and (effective upon appointment of the Deputy Secretary) to abolish the Office of Special Trustee for American Indians and transfer its functions to the Deputy Secretary.

SECTION 7: Commission for Review of Indian Trust Fund Management Responsibilities—establishes a Commission (with four Members appointed by the President, two each appointed by the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate, and two each by the Speaker and the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives) to assess the federal government's fiduciary and management responsibilities with respect to Indian tribes; specifies a majority of Commission members must be representatives of federally-recognized tribes (and at least one must be an individual beneficiary of an Indian trust account); requires the Commission to report its conclusions and recommendations to Congress and the Departments of Interior and Treasury within 32 months after Commission's first meeting.

SECTION 8: Regulations—directs Interior, in consultation with interested Tribes, to issue regulations to implement the bill.

SECTION 9: Effect of Act—States that nothing in the bill will limit the findings, remedies, jurisdiction, authority, or discretion of the courts in the Cobell v. Norton litigation; provides that no funds appropriated for an historical accounting of individual Indian trust funds shall be used except as provided in an order of the court in that case entered after the enactment of the bill.

PHARMACEUTICAL MARKET
ACCESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, it is a disheartening reality in our country that the current administration refuses, so adamantly, to give seniors a real opportunity to obtain prescription drugs at a reasonable cost.

In times like these, when the economy is uncertain and prescription drug prices are soaring, it is essential to be creative in finding an affordable and effective way for Americans to obtain the drugs they so desperately deserve. H.R. 2427 gives our seniors, and other consumers, a tool they need to purchase life-saving drugs.

How many seniors are currently disabled by an illness that they cannot afford to treat with the drugs that their European counterparts can purchase for between 30 and 300 percent less? There are too many, and Congress cannot stand by and watch them suffer.

I know that my constituents in the Fourteenth District are suffering as a result of this government's inability to take meaningful action. A year ago, I co-released a report, detailing the outrageous prices seniors face when purchasing prescription drugs. For Prilosec, an ulcer and heartburn medication, a senior citizen in New York will pay on average \$144.60 per month. The same drug in Canada costs \$53.17. That is a 172% difference.

Zocor, which is one of the most common cholesterol-reducing drugs in the country, costs almost three times as much in New York City as it does in Canada. These are just two examples of the outrages our citizens face every day.

The Gutknecht bill will greatly reduce the cost of prescription drugs, and it will also ensure that imported medications will be safe for all seniors. H.R. 2427 mandates the use of greater technology to prevent the importation of counterfeit drugs, and it requires each shipment of drugs to be tested appropriately.

Twenty-two percent of Americans who are prescribed medication are unable to fill their prescriptions. This is an unacceptable statistic, one that my colleague's bill would take great strides to ameliorate.

America's seniors and consumers are afflicted by a disease: the absurd overpricing of prescription drugs. The fight against this epidemic must begin today. Vote "yes" on the Gutknecht bill, and let's give Americans a fighting chance.

COMMEMORATING THE TURKISH
INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, today, we sadly commemorate the 29th anniversary of the Turkish occupation of Cyprus. Over one quarter century ago, more than 200,000 Cypriots were driven from their homes and forced to live under foreign occupation. Today, the legacy of this tragedy is the enormous Turkish

military presence in Cyprus and the ongoing mystery of the fate of those who have disappeared. The occupation has gone on for far too long. We must strive for reunification, and we must achieve it soon, so that all Cypriots can benefit from Cyprus's new stature on the world stage.

Cyprus is well on its way to full EU membership—by this time next year it will be official. And, while Turkish Cypriot leader Denktash has continued to throw up roadblocks in front of a formal settlement, it seems the people of Cyprus are fed up with living on a divided island. We have been inspired by the stories of peace and kindness that have emerged from the opening of the borders—an opening that has taken place without the violence Mr. Denktash so stridently predicted. We all know that while leaders may make peace agreements, people make peace—and that is what we have witnessed in Cyprus.

As Ranking Democrat on the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, it has been an honor to fight to achieve a substantial earmark for Cyprus each year. This assistance demonstrates our commitment to the people of Cyprus and our recognition of their struggle. These funds support measures aimed at reunifying the island and reducing tensions and promoting peace between the people of Cyprus. I believe this earmark sends a strong signal to the people of Cyprus that the United States is unflinchingly committed to realizing the goal of a reunified Cyprus. As the appropriations process continues, I will work to ensure the earmark once again reaches its traditional level of \$15 million.

We must work together to keep up the pressure on Turkey to end its occupation of Cyprus and to allow the Cypriot people to live in peace and freedom. This year, more than ever, we must not let the opportunity for a resolution to this conflict pass.

IN HONOR OF THE 41ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Trinidad on the forty-first anniversary of her Independence and the 169th anniversary of emancipation in Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean.

Trinidad and Tobago and the U.S. have long enjoyed a prosperous relationship that has hinged upon interests in investment, trade, and regional security. Often noted for holding one of the largest and most elaborate Carnival celebrations in the world, there is much to know about how this small island nation evolved and has come to be such a great friend to our nation.

Trinidad was settled by the Spanish a century after Columbus landed there. The original inhabitants—Arawak and Carib Indians—were largely wiped out by the Spanish colonizers, and the survivors were gradually assimilated. Although it attracted French, free Black, and other non-Spanish settlers, Trinidad remained under Spanish rule until the British captured it in 1797. During the colonial period, Trinidad's economy relied on large sugar and cocoa plantations.

Tobago's development was similar to other plantation islands in the Lesser Antilles and quite different from Trinidad's. The smaller island of the pair, Tobago became known first as Tavaco, then Tabagua, then as Tobago. This was the name given by its tribal people who used a long stemmed pipe in which they smoked a herb called Vcohiba, known today as tobacco.

During the colonial period, French, Dutch, and British forces fought over possession of Tobago, and the island changed hands 22 times—more often than any other West Indian island. Tobago was finally ceded to Great Britain in 1814. Trinidad and Tobago were incorporated into a single colony in 1888.

Trinidad became an oil economy in the 20th century. Oil was discovered in the Guayaguayare, Point Fortin, and Forest Reserve areas in Trinidad. Over time oil and oil related exports came to dominate the economy.

The establishment of U.S. bases on the island in 1941 in exchange for 50 destroyers which at the time was sorely needed by an overstretched Britain, resulted in the construction of numerous roads. Additionally, the G.I.s injected American culture and money into a stagnant economy and shifted the focus of the country from Britain to the U.S.

In the 1950s, the British sponsored the West Indies Federation as a potential post-colonial model, in the belief that most of the Caribbean islands would be unable to survive politically or economically on their own. The Caribbean peoples thought otherwise and the Federation collapsed in the early 1960s.

In Trinidad and Tobago a movement was being born in the 1950s. After receiving his Ph.D. and serving as assistant professor at Howard University, Eric Williams returned to Trinidad and Tobago and formed the People's National Movement (PNM), a political party of which he became the leader. In September of 1956, the PNM won the national elections and he became the chief minister of the country from 1956 to 1959, premier from 1959 to 1962, and prime minister from 1962 to 1981. During his term as prime minister, Williams led Trinidad and Tobago into full independence within the Commonwealth in 1962. Eric Williams is considered the father of Trinidad and Tobago. He died in office on March 29, 1981.

After its 1962 independence, Trinidad joined the United Nations and the Commonwealth. In 1967, it became the first Commonwealth country to join the Organization of American States (OAS). A U.S. embassy was established in Port of Spain in 1962, replacing the former consulate general. Today, the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago remains a stable government with close ties and a working relationship to the United States.

Evidence of government stability is represented in the fact that U.S. investment in Trinidad and Tobago exceeds one and one-quarter billion dollars. In addition, Trinidad and Tobago is becoming the leading importer of liquefied natural gas to the U.S. It also is active in the U.S.-initiated Summit of the Americas process and fully supports the establishment of the Free Trade Area of the Americas.

With a population of 1.2 million people and the size of the state of Delaware, Trinidad and Tobago maintains strong relations with its Caribbean neighbors as well. As the most industrialized and second-largest country in the English-speaking Caribbean, Trinidad and To-

bago has taken a leading role in the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM), and strongly supports CARICOM economic integration efforts.

The two countries also share its people and culture. There are large numbers of U.S. citizens and permanent residents of Trinidadian origin living in the United States. These individuals keep strong cultural ties to their country of origin. About 20,000 U.S. citizens visit Trinidad and Tobago on vacation or for business every year, and over 2,700 American citizens are residents. In addition, Trinidad like carnivals are held in numerous cities across the U.S. with a major celebration occurring in Brooklyn every Labor Day of which Trinidadians have played an integral role in sustaining.

The Trinidadian, Jessie Wardell was responsible for obtaining the first street permit to celebrate Carnival outdoors on Lenox Avenue in Harlem. Trinidadian, Rufus Gorin, moved the Carnival to Brooklyn where he paired with the Trinidadian, Carlos Lezama, and formed the West Indian American Day carnival Association (WIADCA), which for over thirty years has participated in attracting millions of people to New York to participate in the largest Carnival celebration in the U.S.

I take great pleasure in reflecting upon the magnitude of Trinidad and Tobago's contribution to New York City, our nation, and the world and expressing my personal appreciation for the association I have had with her people over the years. I salute the republic of Trinidad and Tobago and her accomplishments and ask that you join me in honoring her as she celebrates her 41st Anniversary.

HONORING EDGAR B. "PETE" DOWNS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Edgar B. "Pete" Downs on his 60th birthday and for his dedication to the wine industry of America. Pete will be celebrating his birthday on August 10, 2003.

Pete has been involved in the wine industry for over 30 years. His interest in wine was refined when he studied and received his Bachelor of Science in Fermentation Science at University of California, Davis in 1973. He specialized in enology, the study of wine, and brewing studies. This education led him to becoming a winemaker for several top wineries in California. In 1992, he became the General Manager of Lakeport, Edmeades and Vinwood, three of the wineries in the Kendall-Jackson family. His success with these wineries led to his promotion to be Vice President of Government Affairs of Kendall-Jackson Wine Estates.

Pete's involvement not only with the winery, but with members of the industry on every level has led him to be one of the most successful Vice Presidents of the wine industry in the United States. Pete is a board member of the American Vintners Association, the Family Winemakers of California and a professional member of the American Society for Enology and Viticulture. He is also Chairman of the Congressional Wine Foundation and active in Washington, DC wine efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Edgar B. "Pete" Downs on the occasion of his 60th birthday and his significant and steadfast national and international efforts to promote the wine industry of America.

SCHOOL READINESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2210) to authorize the Head Start Act to improve the school readiness of disadvantaged children, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this legislation.

Mr. Chairman, this legislation changes the goal of Head Start from a level playing field for disadvantaged children and their parents to an undefined goal of school readiness. By creating block grants, this measure turns Head Start over to states, but without any of the current requirements related to high quality and comprehensive services that have made the program successful.

While states and localities, such as Nassau County, New York which I represent, are facing their own budget crunches, this legislation will only do further harm to school budgets.

Head Start is an important program for nearly 1 million low-income children and their families throughout the country and on Long Island. Throughout its 35-year history, Head Start has created not only high performance standards, but also a comprehensive system of evaluation and monitoring to guarantee that these standards are met.

The Head Start system for accountability reviews programs once every three years to ensure that the integrity of federal dollars is protected and that our nation's poorest children do not miss a single opportunity to grow and develop.

Head Start's accountability reaches far beyond the typical monitoring done in state pre-school programs. A team totaling as many as 25 reviewers spend a week reviewing every aspect of a Head Start operation, including: the curriculum; family and community partnerships; human resources; program development; teacher qualifications and professional development; physical and mental health; disability services; and language and cultural appropriateness.

The new assessment in this legislation is a narrow one that only collects the data from a direct test of children's knowledge.

This test only asks questions related to literacy, language, and numbers. Child development experts agree that a single direct assessment does not produce quality data on learning.

Using this type of test to hold programs accountable could create a host of harsh results—such as the temptation to only enroll children who face few barriers to learning or to recruit children who will test well—and potentially leaving out children who desperately need Head Start services.

This is especially true for those students with language barriers or learning disabilities. As someone with a learning disability, I know first hand how hard it was to overcome education obstacles. I was lucky enough to come from a very supportive family, but not all children are as lucky.

Head Start is a success and historically has enjoyed bipartisan support. Unfortunately, with today's legislation, this would be for the first time in its 35-year lifetime that Head Start would be considered without strong bipartisan support. Although we should continue to improve the program, we should do nothing to dismantle it. Unfortunately, I think we are headed down that road today, and that is why I urge the defeat of this bill.

UNITED STATES-CHILE FREE
TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT, H.R. 2738 AND
UNITED STATES-SINGAPORE
FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT, H.R. 2739

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have the opportunity to vote for these two trade agreements, H.R. 2738 and 2739. I firmly believe that these trade agreements will provide exciting opportunities for the United States, including U.S. agricultural producers. For example, under the Chile agreement, more than three-quarters of U.S. farm goods will enter Chile duty-free within four years, and all tariffs will be phased out within 12 years. Many North Dakota agricultural products, such as soybeans, durum wheat, feed grains, corn, and potatoes will have greatly improved market access.

I am not, however, without concern regarding these, or future trade agreements. Chile and Singapore are examples of countries with laws that reflect core international labor principles. As such, the "enforce your own" laws provision that is included in these agreements is tolerable, although it would be preferable to have additional and independent enforcement mechanisms. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said of many of the countries and regions with which the United States is in the process of negotiating trade agreements.

For this reason, I will not support future agreements that do not open markets for United States agricultural products; that do not require adoption and enforcement of the basic prohibitions on exploitive child labor, forced labor, discrimination, and guarantee the right to associate and bargain collectively; or that provide greater rights for foreign investors than Americans in the United States. I look forward to working with my colleagues and the United States Trade Representative in ensuring that these important ideals are honored.

SCHOOL READINESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2210) to authorize the Head Start Act to improve the school readiness of disadvantaged children, and for other purposes:

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this misguided legislation.

The father of Head Start, Dr. Edward Zigler, once said, "Learning is not a purely cognitive enterprise—children learn better when they have good physical and mental health and have families whose own needs are met." I could not agree with him more.

The Head Start program merges literacy activities with lessons in good nutrition, vision screenings, and proper hygiene. It also recognizes the need to bring parents into the developmental process by providing them with support services in and out of the home, such as access to comprehensive health care and social workers, peer counseling, and parenting programs.

As a mother and grandmother, I know that it takes a lot more than basic reading skills to get our children prepared for learning. A kid's emotions, personality, and social surroundings are just as important as their I.Q. when first entering school.

Under this bill, however, instead of providing comprehensive family support, eight states could divert the funding to reading and language development-only programs—leaving behind the parental involvement and health components that are key to Head Start.

If the goal was to truly promote reading excellence, then we could expand and increase our investment in programs like Reading First, Literacy Through School Libraries, and Reading Is Fundamental.

Unfortunately, that is not what this proposal is about. Rather, it is a subtle acknowledgement that the Republican Congress has not fulfilled its promise to supersize the federal government's education budget. By giving states the right to divert this funding into education programs, Head Start will be likely be used to makeup for the funding shortfalls for the No Child Left Behind Act's programs.

My colleagues, our kids need balanced meals before, during, and after school. They need comfortable, clean clothing in order to learn. And they need safe, structured, and encouraging environments in which to study. Head Start teaches parents these lessons, while also providing our kids with the right tools and motivation to learn.

What happened to the saying—"if it's not broken, don't fix it?!" This program has a proven track record for effectiveness.

While I strongly support the provisions in the bill that improve teacher quality, create accountability measures, and increase Head Start's focus on educational skills—we simply cannot make the drastic changes that will eliminate the very initiatives that keep Head Start strong. I urge my colleagues to join me in fighting to maintain the critical nutrition and health components of Head Start by voting against this bill.

HONORING DUANE OSBORN

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor an individual from my district who is a true American hero, Duane A. Osborn. He is an ordinary man with an extraordinary story. Unless you are a friend or a family member you won't recognize his face, or ever have heard of his name. But there are millions of Americans like him—Americans who have sacrificed so much for our country and do not receive nearly enough recognition in return for their service. On this, the 50th Anniversary of the Signing of the Armistice of the Korean War, I'd like to introduce you to one of many forgotten warriors in a forgotten war.

Duane A. Osborn was born in Wapato, WA on May 30, 1934. In June of 1952, shortly after his 18th birthday, he enlisted in the United States Air Force with the 8th Division. Before he was sent to the Korean War he married Donna Elder.

From 1950 to 1953, the United States joined with United Nations forces in Korea to take a stand against what was deemed a threat to democratic nations worldwide. During the Korean War era, 6.8 million Americans served on active-duty and 1.8 million soldiers served in the Korean theater during the three-year period of hostilities. During the war, 36,940 service members made the ultimate sacrifice and lost their lives.

At war's end, millions of American veterans returned to a peacetime world of families, homes, and jobs—and to a country reluctant to view the Korean War as something to memorialize. But to the men and women who served, the Korean War could never be a forgotten war.

In October of 1955, following his service, Duane returned home to Washington state and settled in an unincorporated area that would become the city of SeaTac in my district. He worked building county roads until an accident in September of 1973 rendered him a paraplegic.

Duane's hardship duty in Korea had prepared him to meet this difficult physical challenge and in 17 years of participating in the National Veterans Wheelchair Games, he has won 100 gold, silver, and bronze medals—proving again and again his courage, commitment and dedication, as well as his passion for living.

Duane continues to contribute to his community and country as a board member of the Northwest Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America where he volunteers his time to make my district and Washington state more accessible for people with disabilities. He works tirelessly to ensure that all Americans are given the opportunities to live their lives to the fullest.

It is the regular men and women like Duane who honorably answered their country's call to duty and went to Korea over fifty years ago today that we must also remember. Countless Americans never won medals, never were labeled "heroes," yet they tirelessly fought for the causes they believed in—freedom and country.

Now home as proud veterans, these individuals know that freedom is not free, they know

the costs and they continue to fight anonymously for liberties at home as they serve their communities, once again volunteering to make life better for all of us.

I thank Duane A. Osborn and the millions of other Korean War veterans for their contributions to my community and my country, both during that War and now at home, and I ask that we remember his service and the service of so many other ordinary, inspiring individuals today.

HONORING THE YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Yosemite Association for celebrating 80 years of service to Yosemite National Park and the Park's visitors. To honor the anniversary, a special event will be held in front of the Yosemite Museum in Yosemite National Park on August 4th, 2003.

The Yosemite Association is a non-profit support group that has contributed more than \$10 million to aid park programs in Yosemite. Established in 1923, the Association was the first cooperating association in the national park system and currently has a roster of over 9,000 members. The Yosemite Association has served as a model for almost 70 similar organizations that have been established throughout the country.

The Association has helped support numerous projects throughout the years. In 1925, they used donated funds to help build the Yosemite Museum. They also started an active publishing program. The Yosemite Association began publishing educational materials to improve the study of natural and human history in Yosemite and has expanded to produce award-winning books and maps. Other activities of the Yosemite Association include the operation of bookstores in park visitor centers, a program of outdoor courses, several wilderness-related initiatives, and educational programs. They also donate funds to the National Park Service to support education, research, and environmental efforts in Yosemite.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to congratulate the Yosemite Association on its accomplishments and contributions over the past 80 years. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing the Yosemite Association many years of continued success.

IN HONOR OF THE 41ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF JAMAICA

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Jamaica on the forty-first anniversary of her Independence and the 169th anniversary of emancipation in Jamaica and the Caribbean. I take pleasure in reflecting upon the magnitude of Jamaica's contribution to New York City, our nation, and the

world and expressing my personal appreciation for the association I have had with Jamaica and its people over the years.

I have been privileged to know and work with all of the Prime Ministers of Jamaica since my election to the Congress, beginning with Prime Minister Michael Manley's appeal for assistance to prevent retaliation by the U.S. Government in response to a justified increase in the royalty paid by U.S. aluminum companies for the exploitation of Jamaica's bauxite. I was privileged to work with Jamaican leaders in the creation and expansion of the Caribbean Basin Initiative which has in the last twenty years significantly increased the trade and commercial relationship between the U.S. and Jamaica and I continue to work in support of the Jamaican government's efforts to obtain U.S. government recognition of the need for special and differential treatment of small economies in the negotiation of the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas.

Jamaica has produced extraordinary leaders from Marcus Garvey to Alexander Bustamante to Norman and Michael Manley who have significantly contributed to the historical global struggle for freedom, self-determination and human rights. I salute Jamaica on this anniversary and the great legacy it has created for us all.

TWENTY-NINTH BLACK ANNIVERSARY FOR CYPRUS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor and privilege to commemorate the 29th anniversary of the 1974 illegal Turkish invasion of Cyprus.

I have commemorated this day each year since I became a Member of Congress, and although the occupation has continued for almost three decades, there are signs that progress is being made.

PSEKA (The International Coordinating Committee Justice for Cyprus), The Cyprus Federation of America (an umbrella organization representing the Cypriot American community in the United States), SAE (World Council of Hellenes Abroad), and The Federation of Hellenic Societies, are all primarily located in the 14th Congressional district, which I am fortunate to represent. These individuals have refused to believe that peace will not come to Cyprus, and they have been strong advocates against the division of Cyprus and the human rights violations perpetrated by the Turkish army in Cyprus.

The fundamental fact is that the continued presence of Turkish troops represents a gross violation of human rights and international law.

Since they invaded Cyprus in July of 1974, Turkish troops have continued to occupy 37 percent of Cyprus. This is in direct defiance of numerous United Nations resolutions and has been a major source of instability in the eastern Mediterranean.

I support President Bush, like his predecessor President Clinton, in saying that true human rights are the goal of the U.S. Government.

A unified Cyprus would promote stability, both politically and economically, to the entire Mediterranean region.

Now is the time for a solution.

More than 20 years ago, (in 1977 and 1979) the leaders of the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities reached two high-level agreements which provided for the establishment of a bi-communal, bi-zonal federation.

For the last 29 years, there has been a Turkish Cypriot leader presiding over a regime recognized only by Turkey and condemned as "legally invalid" by the U.N. Security Council in resolution 541 (1989) and 550 (1984).

Cyprus has been divided by the green line—a 113-mile barbed wire fence that runs across the island.

In April 2003, the Turkish occupation regime partially lifted restrictions on freedom across the artificial line of division created by Turkey's military occupation.

Since then, hundreds of thousands of Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots have crossed the line, to visit homes and areas of their own country that were inaccessible to them for nearly 30 years.

With 35,000 Turkish troops illegally stationed on the island, it is one of the most militarized areas in the world.

This situation has also meant the financial decline of the once rich northern part of Cyprus to just one quarter of its former earnings.

The occupation of Cyprus is perhaps the single most destructive element of Turkey's fiscal and foreign policy.

We now have an atmosphere where there is no valid excuse for not resolving this long-standing problem.

Cyprus signed the Accession Treaty to the European Union on April 16, 2003 at which time President Papadopoulos pledged that the Greek Cypriot community and his government will "continue the efforts to reach a solution to the Cyprus question both before and after Cyprus joins the EU" in May 2004.

Of course, it would be desirable if a negotiated settlement to end the Turkish occupation and reunite the island were to be achieved prior to that date, Cyprus' EU accession will go forward regardless of a settlement. EU membership for Cyprus will clearly provide important economic, political, and social benefits for all Cypriots, both Greek and Turkish alike. This is why both sides must continue to negotiate.

There are also signs of a new climate of cooperation between Turkey and Greece. More has been achieved in the past several years than in many before.

The U.S., the EU, Greece and Cyprus have all acted to accommodate Turkish concerns, and it is time for Turkey to complete the peace process in good faith.

And make no mistake about it, if Turkey wants the Cyprus problem resolved, it will happen.

It will take diligent work by both sides, but with U.S. support and leadership, I am very hopeful that we will reach a peaceful and fair solution soon.

Twenty-nine years is too long to have a country divided. It is too long to be kept from your home. It is too long to be separated from family.

We have seen many tremendous changes around the world. It is time for the Cypriots to live in peace and security, with full enjoyment of their human rights.

I hope that when I speak in Congress on the same subject next year, that freedom and unification will have been achieved.

In recognition of the spirit of the people of Cyprus, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Cyprus Federation of America, and in solemnly commemorating the 29th anniversary of the invasion of Cyprus. I hope that this anniversary will mark the advent of true freedom and peace for Cyprus.

Finally, I would like to say goodbye to a good friend and colleague Cyprus' Ambassador to the United States, Mrs. Erato Marcoullis. After nearly five years of service in our nation's capital, Ambassador Marcoullis will be leaving in August to assume a high-level post in the Foreign Ministry in the Cypriot capital of Nicosia. We will miss her, but next year I hope to join together and celebrate a unified Cyprus.

Long Live Freedom.

Long Live Cyprus.

Long Live Greece.

INTRODUCTION OF THE AMERICAN MANUFACTURING WORKS ACT OF 2003

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 2908, American Manufacturing Works Act of 2003.

This bill will assist American manufacturing in four significant ways. It will establish an Undersecretary of Commerce for Manufacturing and Technology heading the Manufacturing and Technology Administration; it will create a manufacturing research and implementation program; it will provide full funding for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership program; and it will promote and fund education programs for manufacturing technicians.

Manufacturing is the primary source of productivity growth in our country. This sector remains critical to the nation's future prosperity and security. Yet U.S.-based manufacturers are facing a crisis today—a crisis marked by a steep decline in business investment, a sluggish global economy, and increased competition from low wage countries.

The American manufacturing sector has been hard hit by these forces, but neither this Congress nor the Administration has risen to meet this challenge in any direct way. The manufacturing sector has experienced 32 consecutive months of job losses, totaling 2.3 million jobs—fully 90 percent of the total jobs lost during this period. Although recent manufacturing statistics are mildly positive, the current manufacturing recovery is the weakest on record. Our manufacturing base remains fragile.

I think the federal government needs to take action now to respond to this crisis and to sustain our manufacturing base.

This is essential because despite significant job losses, manufacturing still employs 16.5 million people. Manufacturing contributes roughly 17% of GDP and provides 71% of our exports. Manufacturing funds 67% of our nation's total R&D investment. In addition, manufacturing companies are major customers for information and communications technology.

But if our manufacturing base continues to decline, the effect will be devastating not only

in terms of individual job losses, but also in terms of the ripple effects that will be felt throughout our economy.

In short, we can't afford to stand idly by and watch our manufacturing base disappear.

The bill I am introducing today isn't based on trade policy or philosophical theory. It's based on the practical recommendations of manufacturing experts, industry associations, and labor unions—recommendations that can be acted on now to produce results in a very short time.

First, this bill creates a point of interaction for manufacturers in the Department of Commerce. Rather than creating a whole new bureaucracy, this bill restructures the Department of Commerce's Technology Administration to emphasize manufacturing as well as technology issues. This bill creates a Manufacturing and Technology Administration, headed by the Undersecretary of Manufacturing and Technology. An Assistant Secretary for Manufacturing will aid the Undersecretary for Manufacturing and Technology to develop a federal manufacturing agenda.

This legislation also creates a Manufacturing Advisory Board to provide guidance to the Undersecretary and to the National Institute of Standards and Technology regarding the manufacturing community's needs. The Manufacturing Advisory Board will be comprised of industry and industry association representatives, federal agencies with manufacturing initiatives, manufacturing experts, and labor representatives. This group will provide an array of views from the complete spectrum of our manufacturing base.

The bill also authorizes a significant research and implementation program for manufacturing. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is authorized to develop a program along the lines of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) that will focus on manufacturing technologies. In addition, NIST's Advanced Technology Program is authorized to develop a focused program on manufacturing technologies.

The bill also authorizes funding for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program. This successful program leverages federal, state and private investment to assist small- and medium-sized manufacturers across the nation in meeting their increasing challenges.

One of the most critical elements of our manufacturing base is to have a technically trained workforce. To help develop this workforce, the bill leverages the National Science Foundation's (NSF) successful Advanced Technological Education Program to include preparation of students for manufacturing jobs. In addition, the bill authorizes funding for the Manufacturing Skill Standards Council to develop performance standards to certify job skills for manufacturing workers.

Mr. Speaker, the time is past for more studies on the challenges facing our manufacturing base. That has already been done, and recommendations have been made. This bill offers some concrete actions to help ensure the future health of our manufacturing base. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation.

UNITED STATES-CHILE FREE
TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMEN-
TATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, despite serious reservations, I will support the U.S. Free Trade Agreements (FTA) with Chile and Singapore. I support these agreements because I believe Chile and Singapore are valuable economic partners and strategic international allies. I have serious concerns, however, that the agreements also have a number of provisions that, while acceptable in the case of Chile and Singapore, set bad precedents for the future.

Chile and Singapore are important markets for U.S. products and investment. As anchors of trade in Southeast Asia and Latin America, they are advanced economies with political openness and a growing middle class. The FTAs before us today are valuable because they offer a reduction of barriers to trade in financial services with Singapore, which is the largest U.S. export sector in Asia, and strong market access for U.S. goods in Chile.

The agreements have strong intellectual property protections to fight the theft of copyrighted work and bold new measures to challenge digital and online piracy. These measures will help protect the driving force of creativity and innovation that has made entertainment and information technology the fastest growing sectors and the biggest exporting industries in the United States and in California.

At the same time, the agreements unfortunately include provisions that set the wrong tone for the future of U.S. trade policy.

I am concerned, for example, that because the U.S. Trade Representative's (USTR) model for automatic across the board tariff reductions in agriculture includes tobacco, the FTAs with Chile and Singapore could lead to an increase in cigarette consumption. Similarly, in the area of services, I am concerned that more exceptions should have been made for public utilities in order to safeguard government authority to protect consumers in the event of a crisis.

I am deeply disappointed that the Administration refused to include the U.S.-Jordan FTA standards that require the enforcement of environmental laws and the adoption of labor laws consistent with the five core International Labor Organization (ILO) standards. While laws in Chile and Singapore may already meet these standards, the omission sends a wrong message that the basic principles of international workers rights and environmental protection are slipping from the U.S. trade agenda.

I am also disappointed that the Administration did not use the Chile and Singapore FTAs as an opportunity to explicitly clarify that the investor-to-state provisions of the agreement do not give foreign companies greater rights than U.S. investors have under U.S. law. Even though the definition of expropriation in the Singapore and Chile FTAs is narrower than NAFTA, more changes are necessary to fix this distorted mechanism. Experience tells us that it is being abused to challenge U.S. regulatory and environmental law.

Moreover, I strenuously object to the FTAs' grant of extended monopoly periods to pharmaceutical companies, during which they will face no competition from generic drugs. Many people describe these protections as a simple extension of the Hatch-Waxman legislation that applies to the American market to our trading partners, but this is a serious distortion of the bill I co-authored. Hatch-Waxman was passed to overcome existing regulatory barriers in the U.S. market to the approval of low-cost generic drugs. In exchange for this new authority, the law provided specified periods of exclusive marketing and patent extensions to pharmaceutical companies, allowing them to recoup development costs. The length of any exclusive marketing period, during which no generic version could be marketed, was tied to the degree of innovation represented by the drug.

As a co-author of Hatch-Waxman, I cannot emphasize enough that this carefully balanced legislation represented a tailored solution to a specific regulatory problem in the United States. By adding these provisions to trade agreements, the USTR is heedlessly extending the exclusive marketing periods of Hatch-Waxman (and, in some cases, even more generous exclusive marketing periods) to other countries whose generic drug markets and health-care regulatory systems may look nothing like those in the United States. Although the impact of these protections may be limited in developed countries like Chile and Singapore it would be devastating in other countries that lack affordable and available life saving medicines and endure dangerous health epidemics.

In voting for this legislation, I want to make it clear that the Chile and Singapore agreements should not be adopted as "cookie-cutter" prototypes for other FTA's currently being negotiated. The economic, social, and political diversity of Central America, Morocco, Australia, and the other countries slated for inclusion in the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas and the Southern Africa Customs Union are simply too diverse to be forced in the Chile and Singapore mold.

International trade has the potential to raise the standard of living and quality of life for millions of people around the world. To achieve this, however, we must work for progressive, forward-looking agreements that not only expand markets, but protect worker and consumer rights and the environment. What is acceptable for Chile and Singapore will not be adequate in other countries. We must negotiate future FTAs to ensure that our citizens and our trading partners have the opportunity to experience the full benefits of free and fair trade.

RECOGNIZING THE NOSOTROS
ORGANIZATION

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Nosotros Organization, the nation's oldest Latino performing arts organization, which has been serving the Latino community since 1970. Through the leadership of founder Ricardo Montalban and President

Jerry Velasco, the Nosotros Organization has worked to improve the image of Latinos through the entertainment industry by promoting Latino employment in front of and behind the camera and by providing educational opportunities for Hispanics in the performing arts.

Among its many functions, the Nosotros Organization offers theatre productions and theatre workshops to foster the creativity and talent of young Latinos and Latinas. Annually, the Nosotros Organization recognizes Hispanic leaders through the Golden Eagle Award, presented to those individuals who are committed to community service and work to fulfill the Nosotros mission. These awards are essential to raise funds to maintain the organization as a self-sustaining, financially independent arts organization. I had the pleasure of attending a recent Golden Eagle Award ceremony and was pleased to observe the tangible results of this organization's contribution to the Hispanic community and to the performing arts.

I am honored to acknowledge Nosotros and to commend the organization for its exemplary work and service in advancing diversity in the arts and promoting Hispanic leadership.

TRIBUTE TO FIESTA DAY IN LONG
ISLAND, NY

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to the Third Annual Fiesta Day at the Hampton Classic Horse Show in Long Island, NY, which will take place on August 29, 2003. This important event is eagerly anticipated by the Latino community of Long Island each year. It is a wonderful celebration of the noteworthy contributions of the Latino community to the horse industry in the United States.

First held in 2001, Fiesta Day developed after a few thoughtful members of the Long Island thoroughbred industry made the effort to recognize the dedicated Latino grooms for the thousand-plus horses that compete at the classic. After further discussion, it was agreed that a broader format for Fiesta Day would be more appropriate for an area of Long Island that is showing tremendous growth in its Latino population.

Mr. Speaker, today Fiesta Day reaches out to the entire Latino population of Long Island and offers special educational programs, cultural activities including music and horse-related performances from several Latin American countries, and special food booths that reflect the diversity of Latino cuisine. The Day also includes an on-field ceremony to honor leading members of different segments of the Latino community—local, regional, and national—with special recognition given to one outstanding horseman of Latino descent for his or her contributions to the horse industry.

In addition to the celebratory events of the day, the management of the Hampton Classic encourages the event's 75 corporate sponsors to staff booths promoting diversity in the workplace and to outline employment opportunities for qualified members of the Latino workforce.

Mr. Speaker, without the thousands of Latinos who work with the thoroughbred industry, this multi-million dollar establishment

would come to an immediate halt. They serve as jockeys, trainers, blacksmiths, grooms, exercise riders as well as cooks, vendors and suppliers. Often unrecognized, they are the proverbial backbone of this industry.

Fiesta Day is a great opportunity not only to celebrate the contributions of these hard working Latino Americans to the horse industry but to celebrate the growth of the Latino community in this nation. Accordingly, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Fiesta Day.

**MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY NURSES
HELPING TO FIGHT HIV/AIDS IN
AFRICA**

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, the AIDS pandemic threatens stability, future economic growth and development throughout the world, particularly in Africa. Yet, nurses are an underutilized resource in HIV prevention and the care of those in Africa who suffer from AIDS. Marquette University's College of Nursing and the U.S. Agency for International Development recognize the important and unique role nurses and primary health care workers can play in this effort. They have collaborated to enhance nursing skills in the treatment and prevention of HIV/AIDS in Kenya.

I wish to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD an article that appeared in the Summer 2003 issue of Marquette Magazine, which highlights positive impact Marquette University has made in training Kenyan health care workers to treat Kenyans infected with HIV/AIDS.

HELPING HANDS

MARQUETTE PROGRAM PUTS NURSES ON THE
FRONT LINE OF THE WAR ON HIV/AIDS IN KENYA

(By Kristen M. Scheuing)

In 1997, Sister Genovefa Maashao appealed to then-dean of Marquette's College of Nursing, Dr. Madeline Wake (now university provost), for help in dealing with the AIDS epidemic that was consuming her native Kenya. At Wake's invitation, Sister Genovefa came to Marquette to receive instruction in HIV/AIDS prevention and patient care. When she returned to her hometown of Voi, she was the only HIV/AIDS-trained health-care professional in a community of some 300,000 people, 20-40 percent of which were presumed to be infected.

Astounded by the numbers and inspired by a recent presidential declaration of war on HIV/AIDS in this country, the College of Nursing felt compelled to join Sister Genovefa's mission to harness the epidemic in Kenya.

Under the direction of Karen Ivantice-Doucette, Nurs '79 and '95, clinical assistant professor of nursing, and Margaret Murphy, clinical associate professor of nursing, a revolutionary 4-year program was designed that would put the skill and knowledge in the hands of those who actually administer the majority of care in Kenya: nurses and non-physician health-care workers, not doctors.

In collaboration with the U.S. Agency for International Development, the program will create a self-sustaining supply of caregivers trained in HIV/AIDS care and prevention in Kenya. The project was lauded at a January 2003 press conference by President George W. Bush, who cited the Marquette program as an example of how faith-based organizations can be successful partners with government agencies in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

As part of the first phase of the program, 12 nurses were recruited from various Kenyan governmental, health-care and educational institutions and brought to Marquette last spring for five weeks of intensive training. The nurses returned to Kenya to train other caregivers who will, in turn, train others. After four years more than 300 health workers will have been trained, directly enhancing the health-care infrastructure for more than 10,000 people.

Of the estimated 60 million people living with HIV/AIDS worldwide, nearly 80 percent are in Africa. The program aims to re-establish human dignity to those infected with the virus through the initiative of nurses.

**CENTRAL NEW JERSEY RECOGNIZES AND HONORS THE LIFE
OF JULIA BAXTER BATES, FIRST
BLACK STUDENT AT DOUGLASS
COLLEGE**

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the courage, career and commitment of Douglass College's first black student, Julia Baxter Bates. Ms. Bates died earlier this month at the age of 86 after a distinguished life.

Julia Baxter Bates became the first black student admitted to what is now Rutgers University's Douglass College due to her courage, her resolve, and thank goodness, due to a fortunate error. In 1934, Ms. Baxter Bates sent her application, along with the required photograph, to the Admissions Office of Douglass College. In reviewing her application, an admissions officer mistook Bates, a light-skinned black woman, for a white woman, and invited her to interview. At that interview, administrators suggested she attend a school where she would be "more comfortable." At this moment, Ms. Baxter had a choice. She chose the more difficult path. With determination and courage and the assistance of her father, she convinced administrators to let her stay.

Displaying resolve and purpose, Ms. Bates succeeded in the face of intolerance. In 1938, she graduated magna cum laude. When she could not get her teaching license because no school district would let her student-teach, she earned a master's degree at Columbia University and began teaching English and American literature at Dillard University in New Orleans.

In response to her continued encounters with racism, Ms. Baxter Bates left the field of education and entered the world of legal justice and social activism. She joined the staff of the New York headquarters of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the NAACP. There she spent a quarter-century helping form the research sector that later wrote the winning brief in the now-famous *Brown v. Board of Education*. She considered her involvement in *Brown v. Board of Education* her greatest achievement.

Bates returned to education in 1965 at Columbia's School of Social Work to work on urban education, and a few years later she finally became a New Jersey schoolteacher, in Newark. In 1984, she joined Essex County College as an administrator.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Julia Baxter Bates for her long career of social change

and her commitment to education. From the courage and perseverance of individuals such as Julia, the institutions and the attitudes of our society progress. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing one of New Jersey's most significant daughters.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

July 24, 2003: Rollcall vote 443, on the motion to recommit on H.R. 2210, the School Readiness Act, I would have voted "no"; and Rollcall vote 446, on the motion to instruct conferees on the Tax Relief, Simplification and Equity Act, I would have vote "no."

HONORING GERRY L. NANNENGA

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Gerry L. Nannenga for his lifelong contributions to the labor movement. This is a very special pleasure, as I have known Gerry for the better part of two decades and have seen firsthand the efforts of his dynamic accomplishments on behalf of the community. On Thursday, July 31, 2003, the Indiana Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights will salute Gerry for his dedicated work, serving the union members in the State of Indiana as Executive Secretary-Treasurer. Fortunately, Gerry will have the opportunity to continue his distinguished career in the labor movement, as he is being promoted to serve the needs of working carpenters nationwide.

Gerry Nannenga has dedicated a substantial portion of his life to the betterment of union members and the community of Northwest Indiana, as well as the entire State of Indiana.

Gerry's distinguished career in the labor movement has made the community and the State of Indiana a better place in which to live and work. For more than 28 years, Gerry Nannenga has served as a member of Local 1005 of the Carpenters Union. Additionally, Gerry served as Business Manager of the Northwest Indiana District Council of Carpenters and Millwrights, as well as, past President of the Northwest Indiana Federation of Labor. Gerry has always devoted his career toward the expansion of labor ideals and fair standards for all working people.

While Gerry Nannenga has dedicated considerable time and energy to his work with the Indiana Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights, he has always made an extra effort to give back to the community. He has served on the Indiana State Building Trades Executive Board and the Lake Area United Way Executive Committee. Additionally, in 1998, Governor Frank O'Bannon appointed him to the Indiana Port Commission.

Although his work and community service put extraordinary demands on his time, Gerry

has never limited the time he gives to his most important interest, his family. He and his wife, Deborah, have three children: Staci, Christopher, and Samantha.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Nannenga for his professional achievements and his many years of dedication to the betterment of our community. We in Northwest Indiana are truly thankful to have someone of Gerry's talents on our team. His work in the labor movement provided workers in Indiana opportunities they might not have otherwise had. Gerry Nannenga's leadership has and will continue to keep the region's labor force strong and help keep America working.

TAX TREATMENT OF MOTORSPORTS

HON. J. D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, today I am joined by Congressman JEFFERSON and eleven of our colleagues in introducing legislation that would clarify the tax treatment of motorsports properties under current law.

The IRS has created various categories of depreciable assets and assigned various depreciable lives to each. Since at least 1962, the IRS has listed "entertainment facilities" as one such class, and has excluded racetracks from its definition. However, in 1974 the IRS established a new category of assets called "theme and amusement facilities" that included a portion of the old entertainment facility category, but also expanded the types of assets that qualify as theme and amusement facilities. While retaining the exclusion of racetracks from the "entertainment facilities" category, the IRS dropped the exclusion from the theme and amusements category.

Since that time, the racetrack industry has relied on the theme and amusement facility category for depreciating investments. While it has varied over the years, today the depreciation period is seven years.

These taxpayers have made significant investments based on their reasonable reliance on the depreciation period for theme and amusement assets. Now, many years later, after many tax audits and reviews of tracks and track owners across the country, the IRS is questioning the right of motorsport facilities to be treated as theme and amusement assets.

Motorsports entertainment facilities have a tremendous positive economic impact, both regionally and nationally. Racing promotes travel and tourism, and for some venues, a race week or weekend significantly boosts the local economy by drawing tens of thousands of fans. The building and upgrading of these facilities is a capital-intensive activity—and taxpayers who make these investments deserve certainty in the manner in which our tax laws allow investments to be written off.

This clarification of the Internal Revenue Code will recognize the long-term reliance of this large and growing industry on a broadly accepted interpretation of tax law. The legislation will also provide the owners of motorsports entertainment facilities with the certainty they need to make new investments. I urge

my colleagues to support this important and needed legislation.

SHELBYVILLE CHAUTAUQUA CENTENNIAL

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the citizens of Shelbyville, Illinois and their celebration of the Shelbyville Chautauqua's Centennial. The Chautauqua Auditorium is on the National Register of Historic Places, and on August 6th, the town will be celebrating the building's 100th birthday.

In the late 1800's and early 1900's, thousands of people would gather in Shelbyville every August for the 2-week celebration known as the Chautauqua. It was the event of the summer, and families from around Central Illinois drove miles by horse and buggy to attend. The Chautauqua started off as a kind of community tent meeting where people who lived miles apart would gather, share news, and visit for this one time every year.

Then, in 1903, the Shelbyville Chautauqua Auditorium opened in Shelbyville's Forest Park. The one-of-a-kind structure boasts a huge, round auditorium that is free of interior support posts that would obstruct the audience's view, instead relying on a unique series of beams in the ceiling. It is the largest building of its kind anywhere in the world.

With the new auditorium, the event transformed from a community tent meeting into a larger event where families came to hear many of the famous speakers and entertainers of the time. Presidential candidate William Jennings Bryan, evangelist Billy Sunday, and future President William Howard Taft all had turns taking the platform in Shelbyville.

The Shelbyville Chautauqua closed down in 1930, but the memories live on in events such as this Centennial Celebration. The Chautauqua brought a sense of community to the area that is unknown in our day, but with events like this, that sense is returning. I wish the people of Shelbyville the best in their celebration of a truly historic building that exemplifies what was so right about community life in the early 1900's.

IN HONOR OF EVE BUTLER-GEE, HOUSE JOURNAL CLERK, ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE HOUSE

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I want to call to the attention of the House the impending retirement of Eve Butler-Gee, the Journal Clerk of the House, who is a resident of the 10th District of Virginia. According to research by the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress, Eve is the first woman Journal Clerk in the history of the U.S. House of Representatives.

She began her professional career in the House in her early 20's. She went on to work for a charitable foundation in the middle of her

working life, then returned to the House in 1987 as the Minority Enrolling Clerk of the House, appointed by then Minority Leader Bob Michel of Illinois. She served in that position for eight years, before her appointment in 1997 as Chief Journal Clerk.

Eve and three assistant clerks are responsible for keeping the Journal of the House proceedings at the rostrum on the House floor. As you know, Mr. Speaker, the House Journal is the official record of the parliamentary proceedings of the House and is mandated to be kept pursuant to Article 1, Section 5, of the United States Constitution. The first order of business of each day, following the prayer by the House chaplain, is the vote on the Chair's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The Journal Clerk's office also publishes the Journal of each session of Congress for use as a reference for the House parliamentarians, Members of Congress, regional libraries, state governments and the general public. During Eve's tenure, the publication of the House Journal has been brought up-to-date and publication procedures modernized.

During her time at the House rostrum, Eve has been a witness to history as the House voted on the Gulf War resolution and a presidential impeachment, authorized the use of force in Iraq, and grieved a gunman's killing of two U.S. Capitol Police officers. She was also in the Capitol when it was evacuated during the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and like all offices on Capitol Hill, she had to deal with concerns raised by an anthrax attack.

Both Eve and her husband, Tom Gee, are active in the Episcopal Church. Eve serves on the Vestry and as head verger at the Church of the Holy Comforter in Vienna, Virginia, while Tom is director of lay liturgists. After her retirement, Eve plans to be a volunteer verger at the Washington National Cathedral. She also looks forward to spending her retirement years traveling, pursuing interests in writing and community theater, and enjoying the company of her family, including her daughter and son-in-law, Lora and John Williams, and grandson, Evan, welcoming a new grandchild expected in December.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire House—members and staff—we express our deep gratitude to Eve for her public service career and wish her the best in her retirement.

THE REAL MEANING OF RESPECT

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my opposition and my outrage over the rule designed to govern the debate over the FY04 VA-HUD Appropriations bill. This rule, by not allowing two amendments to be made in order, severely restricts the ability of this body to take care of its obligations. These two amendments, one by Representative SMITH of New Jersey and Representative EVANS of Illinois would have increased the funding for veterans' health care to the level that we promised in the budget resolution passed earlier this year. The other, by Representative EDWARDS of Texas, would

have provided an additional \$2.2 billion for VA medical care by reducing the recently-passed tax cuts for taxpayers with yearly incomes in excess of a million dollars. Both amendments were shut-down by the Rules Committee on a party line vote. I am shocked that the House Republican leadership would make such a choice, but I am not surprised.

Repeatedly, we have seen the Republicans in this body choose to break their promises to millions of Americans so that they can give tax cuts to the already wealthy. They passed a Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations bill that left millions of children behind by failing to live up to their promise to provide enough funding to ensure that every child would receive a decent education. And now my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have turned their backs on veterans so that they can give their rich friends a slap on the back. I have heard my colleagues from the other side of the aisle speak at length about their deep respect for the service our veterans have performed for our country. But, I must ask if breaking promises to our veterans is the Republican way of showing them that respect. Is it respectful to mouth the words of respect while allowing our veterans to wait months for doctors' appointments and pay more for services?

These amendments offered a very clear choice: would you rather provide enough money to ensure that veterans receive decent healthcare services or would you rather provide massive tax cuts that benefit millionaires? Who really cares about our nation's veterans? Who is really concerned about the people who have honorably served our country? Our veterans can not afford any more empty respect. I ask my colleagues to put the money where their mouths are and make the financial commitment to get veterans and their families the benefits they deserve.

I urge my colleagues to vote against this rule, to work to fulfill our obligations to our veterans and to show them our real respect.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF REBECA RANGEL

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rebeca Rangel, a strong willed, intelligent and dedicated individual who I have been fortunate to have on my staff for close to two years.

Rebeca began in my office as a Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Fellow where she worked on a variety of issues, and acted as my liaison to the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. While in my office, she impressed me with her maturity and the ability to quickly grasp ideas. This is why when her fellowship ended, I did not hesitate to offer Rebeca the position of Legislative Aide. In this capacity, she dealt with issues on Cuba, banking, housing and Hispanic issues.

Showing her aptitude and insight by constantly challenging and questioning the issues brought before her, Rebeca quickly progressed in my office to the position of Legislative Assistant. With this promotion came additional responsibilities. Rebeca took on edu-

cation, budget and women's issues. She assumed these responsibilities with style and grace. Working tirelessly on issues that are close to my heart and hers, Rebeca has played a key role in helping me to promote bills such as H. Con. Res. 177, honoring Dolores Huerta Resolution, the Multi-Cultural Domestic Violence Prevention Act and the Domestic Violence Courts Assistance Act. Rebeca has also been a tireless worker in my efforts to shed light on the unsolved rapes and killings of young women and girls in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.

As Rebeca leaves my office to pursue her Masters degree at Harvard University, I wish her the best of luck. Through the course of these two years, she has been an integral part of my office and I have no doubt that she will accomplish anything she sets her mind to. "El futuro pertenece a quienes creen en sus propios sueños. As Eleanor Roosevelt said, "The future belongs to those who believe in their own dreams."

UNITED STATES-SINGAPORE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, despite serious reservations, I will support the U.S. Free Trade Agreements (FTA) with Chile and Singapore. I support these agreements because I believe Chile and Singapore are valuable economic partners and strategic international allies. I have serious concerns, however, that the agreements also have a number of provisions that, while acceptable in the case of Chile and Singapore, set bad precedents for the future.

Chile and Singapore are important markets for U.S. products and investment. As anchors of trade in Southeast Asia and Latin America, they are advanced economies with political openness and a growing middle class. The FTAs before us today are valuable because they offer a reduction of barriers to trade in financial services with Singapore, which is the largest U.S. export sector in Asia, and strong market access for U.S. goods in Chile.

The agreements have strong intellectual property protections to fight the theft of copyrighted work and bold new measures to challenge digital and online piracy. These measures will help protect the driving force of creativity and innovation that has made entertainment and information technology the fastest growing sectors and the biggest exporting industries in the United States and in California.

At the same time, the agreements unfortunately include provisions that set the wrong tone for the future of U.S. trade policy.

I am concerned, for example, that because the U.S. Trade Representative's (USTR) model for automatic across the board tariff reductions in agriculture includes tobacco, the FTAs with Chile and Singapore could lead to an increase in cigarette consumption. Similarly, in the area of services, I am concerned that more exceptions should have been made for public utilities in order to safeguard government authority to protect consumers in the event of a crisis.

I am deeply disappointed that the Administration refused to include the U.S.-Jordan FTA standards that require the enforcement of environmental laws and the adoption of labor laws consistent with the five core International Labor Organization (ILO) standards. While laws in Chile and Singapore may already meet these standards, the omission sends a wrong message that the basic principles of international workers rights and environmental protection are slipping from the U.S. trade agenda.

I am also disappointed that the Administration did not use the Chile and Singapore FTAs as an opportunity to explicitly clarify that the investor-to-state provisions of the agreement do not give foreign companies greater rights than U.S. investors have under U.S. law. Even though the definition of expropriation in the Singapore and Chile FTAs is narrower than NAFTA, more changes are necessary to fix this distorted mechanism. Experience tells us that it is being abused to challenge U.S. regulatory and environmental law.

Moreover, I strenuously object to the FTAs' grant of extended monopoly periods to pharmaceutical companies, during which they will face no competition from generic drugs. Many people describe these protections as a simple extension of the Hatch-Waxman legislation that applies to the American market to our trading partners, but this is a serious distortion of the bill I co-authored. Hatch-Waxman was passed to overcome existing regulatory barriers in the U.S. market to the approval of low-cost generic drugs. In exchange for this new authority, the law provided specified periods of exclusive marketing and patent extensions to pharmaceutical companies, allowing them to recoup development costs. The length of any exclusive marketing period, during which no generic version could be marketed, was tied to the degree of innovation, I represented by the drug.

As a co-author of Hatch-Waxman, I cannot emphasize enough that this carefully balanced legislation represented a tailored solution to a specific regulatory problem in the United States. By adding these provisions to trade agreements, the USTR is heedlessly extending the exclusive marketing periods of Hatch-Waxman (and, in some cases, even more generous exclusive marketing periods) to other countries whose generic drug markets and health-care regulatory systems may look nothing like those in the United States. Although the impact of these protections may be limited in developed countries like Chile and Singapore it would be devastating in other countries that lack affordable and available life saving medicines and endure dangerous health epidemics.

In voting for this legislation, I want to make it clear that the Chile and Singapore agreements should not be adopted as "cookie-cutter" prototypes for other FTA's currently being negotiated. The economic, social, and political diversity of Central America, Morocco, Australia and the other countries slated for inclusion in the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas and the Southern Africa Customs Union are simply too diverse to be forced in the Chile and Singapore mold.

International trade has the potential to raise the standard of living and quality of life for millions of people around the world. To achieve this, however, we must work for progressive,

forwardlooking agreements that not only expand markets, but protect worker and consumer rights and the environment. What is acceptable for Chile and Singapore will not be adequate in other countries. We must negotiate future FTAs to ensure that our citizens and our trading partners have the opportunity to experience the full benefits of free and fair trade.

RECOGNIZING THE 29TH ANNIVERSARY OF TURKEY'S INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, as a proud member of the Hellenic Caucus, I rise today to recognize the 29th anniversary of Turkey's invasion of Cyprus. On this occasion, we mourn those who lost their lives and remember the barrier created in 1974 that still exists today. The island remains divided between the Turkish Cypriots and the Greek Cypriots, despite attempts by the United Nations for a reunification settlement. I thank Mrs. MALONEY and Mr. BILIRAKIS for their ongoing leadership in the Hellenic Caucus and for bringing much-needed attention to issues of importance to the Hellenic community.

The European Union has invited Cyprus to enter its membership next May, and on July 14, 2003, the Greek Cypriot parliament unanimously approved the bid to join. At this point in time, only pertains to the Greek Cypriot part of the island, since the Turkish Cypriot part is not formally recognized by the European Union. Shortly after Cyprus agreed to join the European Union, the Turkish Cypriot authorities opened the borders and allowed Cypriots to cross over the line for the first time in 30 years. This past April was the first time that Cypriots from either side were able to travel through the 120-mile barrier, which continues to be guarded by U.N. peacekeeping forces, since the invasion in 1974. Despite this step forward, the nation remains divided.

Along with my colleagues, I will continue to put pressure on the Bush Administration to help Cyprus work toward a peaceful solution. Although relations between the Turkish and Greek Cypriot sides have recently thawed, there is still a long way to go to reunification. The U.N. settlement cleared a path for all of Cyprus to unite once again, to share in the European Union's prosperity, and to end military zones. Now with just the Republic of Cyprus poised for EU membership in 2004, the divide between the two sides may grow without a push for future negotiations.

Rauf Denktash, the Turkish Cypriot Leader, has proven to be the biggest hindrance to reunification talks. He has ignored the calls from the majority of his own people who want reunification, and would rather fight for a two-state confederation, which is not supported by the Greek Cypriots or the United Nations. He has even stood in the way of his people's democratic choice by not allowing them to take part in a referendum on the decision of whether or not to join the European Union. Elections for the Turkish Cypriot authorities are expected in November, and I hope the will of the Turkish Cypriots will be heard.

The U.S. must continue its role in supporting negotiations so that there is still potential for all of Cyprus to join the EU. It has been a long, hard road, but with support from the United States, the European Union, and the United Nations, a reunification of Cyprus is still possible. We should heed the words of the Greek Cypriot President Tassos Papadopoulos on this special anniversary: "we are determined to try, until the end, in a peaceful manner and through negotiations, to end the invasion and occupation. The people should be brave, patient, and work hard."

UNITED STATES-CHILE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the U.S. free trade agreements (FTAs) with Chile and Singapore. I do so, however, with serious reservations, and appreciate this opportunity to explain my concerns.

Critics of the Chile and Singapore trade agreements assert that these FTAs contain inadequate labor protections, and specifically note that they include only one labor rights provision that is enforceable through dispute resolution proceedings. While it is accurate that the Chile and Singapore agreements would subject only the "enforce your own laws" standard to dispute settlement, critics of these agreements are well aware that this is only the case because Chile and Singapore's labor laws currently exceed the International Labor Organization's (ILO) five core labor standards, and both countries (especially Chile) have strong, effective labor movements. Similarly tough labor laws and movements did not exist in Mexico during consideration of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and in Jordan during consideration of the U.S.-Jordan FTA. Consequently, NAFTA and the Jordan agreement needed multiple enforceable labor standards included in them.

Opponents of these trade agreements fear that the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) will use the Chile and Singapore agreements as templates for future FTAs. I strongly believe that each free trade agreement should be examined on its own merits, and do not believe that these agreements should be used as templates for future trade agreements. The treatment of workers varies widely from country to country; accordingly, the numbers of enforceable labor standards in future trade agreements need to change to fit the particular circumstances of the parties involved in each agreement.

The USTR has indicated its intention to complete negotiations on the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) by the end of this year, and, as both a member of the Ways and Means Committee and a member of the full House, I will be closely following the progress of these negotiations and the final terms of the agreement. Failure to include significant enforceable labor standards in CAFTA, which includes several Central American countries with disgraceful working conditions

and histories of virtually nonexistent enforcement of labor statutes, will doom this agreement. I will vigorously oppose a weak Central American Free Trade Agreement, and will oppose any other future trade agreements that reward countries with poor labor conditions.

During my time in Congress, I have worked hard with my colleagues from both parties to ensure that core labor standards are both protected and enforced. In 2002, partly in response to serious concerns regarding labor protections in the Trade Promotion Authority Act, I voted against granting fast track authority to the President. I believed then, and continue to believe, that fast track authority contains within it the potential to adversely affect American workers through the loss of domestic jobs in Texas and across the country.

In general, I believe that many of our industries in Texas and the country at large, such as agriculture, financial services, telecommunications, and computers, can benefit from available and fair markets in other countries. Access to foreign markets for U.S. goods and services, however, must be balanced with a concern for domestic industries that are most threatened by uneven trade agreements. I have too often witnessed the downside of trade agreements that allow subsidized foreign imports to overwhelm domestic products such as steel and softwood lumber, which are significant sources of jobs for thousands of East Texans. My qualified support for the U.S.-Chile and U.S.-Singapore free trade agreements is based largely on my belief that these agreements will benefit American exports while not threatening domestic industries in America.

As Congress seeks to influence future trade negotiations and agreements, I will continue to work with my colleagues to craft trade deals that are fair to American workers, working people across the world, and our domestic industries.

HEALTH CENTER WEEK

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, the week of August 10 through August 15, 2003, is "Health Center Week" in Peekskill, New York. Let me urge our citizens to recognize the important contributions of the Hudson River Community Health Centers in safeguarding health and improving the quality of life for the people of Peekskill.

Hudson River Community Health is a private, nonprofit corporation that provides high-quality, comprehensive primary health care to uninsured and medically underserved people in Peekskill, New York.

Hudson River Community Health has made great strides in expanding access to affordable health disparities while empowering the community to address special needs and decrease the cost of illness through preventative strategies.

Hudson River Community Health has improved the health status of Peekskill promoting health awareness and providing primary care and preventive health services of the highest quality to reduce preventable deaths, costly disabilities, and communicable diseases.

Hudson River Community Health serves as a vital safety net delivering care to Peekskill patients annually, regardless of insurance status or ability to pay, and contributes to the health and overall economy of the community with health services, jobs, leadership and investment.

Hudson River Community Health promotes 100 percent access and zero health disparities to help achieve primary care for all people.

The people of Peekskill are right to recognize this wonderful asset to our community. Let us applaud their fine work. Our citizens look forward to a better future because of the Hudson River Community Health Centers.

A TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN JOHN M. HOLMES, U.S. COAST GUARD, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding officer of the United States Coast Guard. Captain John M. Holmes has devoted almost three decades of his life in service to his country. Captain Holmes has excelled in his many assignments over the years in the Coast Guard, assignments which are as far ranging, varied and contemporary as the Service itself.

Captain Holmes' assignments include: Chief of Operational Intelligence, Seventh Coast Guard District in Miami, Florida; Operations Officer, Coast Guard Group, Seattle, Washington; Overseas Inspection Supervisor, Marine Safety Office, Honolulu, Hawaii; Chief of Compliance, Office of Marine Safety, Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, D.C.; and Commanding Officer, Marine Safety Office, St. Louis, Missouri.

The experience, commitment and professionalism which Captain Holmes brought to the Service proved its value in assignments as Coast Guard Liaison to the Governor of American Samoa; staff officer for the United States Ambassador to the Government of Singapore; State Department delegate to the International Maritime Organization, London, England; and as Deputy Chief, Office of Congressional Affairs, Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, D.C.

It has been under the most demanding circumstances that, as Commanding Officer, Marine Safety Office, Los Angeles-Long Beach, Captain Holmes has demonstrated the finest qualities of a military officer. The events of September 11, 2001, and the aftermath of those attacks on our country, presented Captain Holmes with challenges far beyond those faced by any previous Commanding Officer at this unit. Captain Holmes immediately initiated a series of skillfully coordinated actions in order to establish a robust, comprehensive maritime homeland security presence for this vital port complex, the largest and busiest in our Nation.

Expertly directing port security operations and carefully balancing security and safety with commerce, Captain Holmes achieved an unprecedented level of interagency cooperation with city, county, state and federal agencies that led the Nation in coordinated oper-

ations and planning. Establishing joint agency boarding teams, high-risk vessel water escorts, on-board Sea Marshals of high-risk vessels, and tighter port security boarding procedures, he moved without delay on September 11, 2001 to insure the continuation of maritime commerce and the confidence of the shipping community. Many of Captain Holmes' innovative methods were adopted Pacific-wide by the Coast Guard and will no doubt find their way to ports worldwide as we seek to enhance global maritime security.

This most distinguished Coast Guard officer, with his wife Carol, has two children, Lucas and Ava. They are as proud of him as I, for he has provided all of us a shining example of all that is good and honorable in the American military.

Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Homeland Security Committee, I have had the distinct pleasure of working directly with Captain Holmes and seeing first-hand his professional expertise, commitment to his personnel, and dedication to his country. His stewardship in serving our Nation will long be remembered, and should serve as a model for all of us in the years to come. As he sets his course for new challenges, I'm sure my colleagues will join me in saluting John Holmes, and thanking him for a "job well done"—for the maritime community, for California, and for America.

INTRODUCTION OF THE KEEP AMERICA SECURE ACT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, if we are to maintain the most advanced military force, with the most advanced weaponry, we must have a dedicated stream of domestically produced parts. Regrettably, today this simply is not happening. We can blame it on the reluctance of the Department of Defense to "Buy American" or on the dearth of domestic electronic component producers. Either way, our armed forces dependence on foreign parts has major security ramifications. From missiles to computers, much of our crucial defense and homeland security equipment relies on sophisticated electronic components to function. We must act now to eliminate our reliance on foreign electronic components in our defense systems.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I am taking a bold step to keep America secure and rebuild our domestic electronics sector. I am introducing the "Keep America Secure Act," legislation that directs the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to purchase electronic components, including computer chips, communications devices, and guidance systems, that are manufactured in the United States. As an active member of the Defense Industrial Base Caucus, I see this bill as the perfect complement to ongoing efforts to enhance the "Buy American" requirement so that at least 65 percent of DoD equipment contains U.S.-made parts. My bill would go even further—requiring all component parts for all DoD and DHS equipment to be Made-In-America.

During the first Gulf War, the United States was forced to turn to Japan—not once, but on

three separate occasions—for essential parts in the production of the Patriot Missile. Similarly, when Operation Iraqi Freedom began in March, a Swiss company stopped shipments of a crucial guidance system component for U.S. smart bombs. Both these incidents could have resulted in U.S. forces being in harm's way without necessary tools to defend themselves. Fortunately, neither incident caused threats to our troops, but they clearly demonstrate the need to protect our production supply lines from being cut, especially in times of war.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, as one who is very concerned about the state of domestic manufacturing, I strongly believe that the Keep America Secure will help re-ignite our high-tech sector. Over the last two years, our economy has lost 2.6 million manufacturing jobs. The Keep America Secure Act would help promote the remaining U.S. high tech firms. We need to rebuild the domestic electronic components industry, and this bill will help us do it.

As our troops continue to rebuild Iraq and our first responders focus on homeland security, Congress must make a commitment to rebuilding our domestic manufacturing base and to ensuring that our courageous defenders continue to have the best equipment available. And as our economy suffers, let us give the manufacturing sector a needed shot in the arm. Unless the Congress stands up and puts a halt to it we will eventually be at the mercy of any adversary who controls the manufacture of our weapons or critical components of our weapons.

Mr. Speaker, in the days to come, I will look to my like-minded friends, on both sides of the aisle, to get action on this vital measure. I say to my colleagues: let's work together to keep America secure.

INTRODUCTION OF A HOUSE RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNMENT TO PURCHASE FAIR TRADE CERTIFIED COFFEE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a group of my colleagues to introduce the Fair Trade Coffee Resolution. This resolution calls on the Legislative Branch and the Executive Agencies of the Federal Government to make fair trade coffee available at their events and food service venues. It also directs the Congress to provide information to the public about Fair Trade coffee. Last year, the House of Representatives passed H. Res 604, recommending that the Congress adopt a global strategy for resolving the coffee crisis. Since then we have not taken any legislative steps to do what we recommended. This small piece of legislation requires very little on our part and yet would promote efforts to give a decent standard of living to small coffee farmers around the world.

The current coffee crisis has driven coffee prices down to a hundred year low. On top of that, small farmers are at the mercy of ruthless middlemen and are not even receiving the fair market price. These middlemen take advantage of small farmers who have no other

way to sell their coffee. Millions of small farmers are cheated out of their fair share of income as they receive as little as 1 percent of the final retail price of their coffee. This meager price is nowhere near enough to support their families and their communities. Instead of having enough money to spend on food, education and health care, coffee farmers are being thrust into a cycle of debt and poverty. The situation is so bad that some farmers have turned to producing cocaine and opium to support their families while others have given up in despair and even committed suicide.

As a major purchaser of coffee, the United States has a responsibility to ensure that small coffee farmers are being adequately compensated for their work. And here in Congress we should do our part to ensure that we pay a fair price for the coffee that is purchased for our own use. If companies like Starbucks and Dunkin' Donuts can successfully offer fair trade coffee in their stores, there is absolutely no reason why the federal government cannot do so as well. While fair trade coffee is already served in some of the House of Representatives cafeterias we need to do more to send a signal to the rest of the country.

The fair trade economic model is a unique way of providing small farmers with a living wage that has been proven to work. Coffee is fair trade certified when: (1) Coffee importers agree to purchase from small farmers included on the international trade register; (2) farmers are guaranteed a minimum "fair trade price" of \$1.26 per pound for their coffee; (3) coffee importers provide a certain amount of credit to farmers against future sales to help the farmers stay out of debt to middlemen; (4) importers and roasters agree to develop long term relationships with producer groups that cut out the coffee middlemen.

Small farmers are certified to be producing fair trade coffee if they are organized into democratic cooperatives and use environmentally friendly and sustainable growing methods.

The development of these criteria has made the fair trade economic model a viable solution to the coffee crisis. Both major coffee trade associations, the National Coffee Association of U.S.A. and the Specialty Coffee Association of America have recognized this fact. So have numerous universities around our nation. UC Berkeley, Harvard and many others have already enacted policies promoting the sale of fair trade coffee on their campuses. It is time that Congress recognized that fair trade coffee is one step in solving the humanitarian emergency caused by the coffee crisis.

By providing \$1.26 per pound for coffee, fair trade certification provides small farmers with enough money to sustain their families and be able to contribute to their communities. Furthermore, by cutting out the middlemen, the price of fair trade coffee for consumers is the same as any other specialty brand of coffee. Besides being comparable in cost to other specialty coffee it is also comparable in taste. Fair trade coffees from all over the world have won awards such as Food & Wine Magazine's "Best Coffee" award and 1st place in the Greater Philadelphia Tourism Board's Blind Coffee Tasting for 2002 competition. With comparable cost and taste compared to other coffee, it is hard to justify not purchasing fair trade coffee. Seeing how there is more than 165 million pounds of fair trade coffee being

produced and only 35 million pounds being sold, there is plenty of it. All that needs to be done is to create an awareness of the benefits of fair trade coffee among the public and this resolution does exactly that.

This resolution sends an important message to the American public about the willingness of our Federal Government to aid poverty stricken farmers in other countries. We set an example for the rest of the country to follow by recommending that the Legislative Branch and the Executive Agencies make fair trade coffee available for all events and at all our government food service venues. Taking this small step on our part can go a long way toward helping thousands of small coffee farmers around the world. I urge my colleagues to support passage of this resolution.

IRAQ'S WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, on April 8, 2003, the Congressional Liaison Office of the United States Marine Corps, came to my office to notify me of the death of First Sergeant Edward Smith, age 38, who was killed in the line of duty while participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom. On April 4, 2003, 1st Sgt. Smith was shot in the head while engaging with enemy forces in Iraq. He died on April 5, 2003 in Doha, Qatar as a result of his wounds.

My colleagues, Sgt. Edward Smith was not only a soldier, but a father, husband and son. According to the Defense Department, Smith was the ninth soldier from the Illinois area to die in Iraq. Sergeant Smith, a career soldier, was nearing the end of a 20-year military career and was anticipating retirement when he sustained his fatal wound. Born and raised in Chicago, Edward Smith graduated from CVS High School, moved to Anaheim, California in the 1980s, where he married and raised a family. He leaves behind a wife and two sons in California and a mom and dad and friends in the Chicago area. All of our thoughts and prayers are with Sergeant Smith's family.

Mr. Speaker, as this House begins a month-long district work period, we are still waiting for the answer to the question: Where are the weapons of mass destruction? Where are the weapons for which 1st Sergeant Edward Smith, and so many others, gave their lives?

With each passing day, the American people and I, continue to wait.

TRIBUTE TO JERRY CLARENCE PARKS

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I'm writing to express my condolences on the recent demise of the late Jerry Clarence Parks. Indeed, words are so inadequate at this time to personify my sadness. However, I hope that my humble prayers would somehow assuage the pain that now burdens the Parks family.

Indeed, the passing away of a good and faithful steward who toiled and sacrificed his life for countless people and this grateful community provides us with the sobering thought of the dignity of the human spirit and the fragility of life. Amidst the sorrows, however, let us remind ourselves that it is precisely during times like this that we must find the hope and assurance in Christ's words when He promised us: "I am the Resurrection and the Life; he who believes in me, even if he dies, shall live." For those of us bonded together in the Christian Faith, we firmly believe that Jerry's life has not ended; it merely changed for the better.

I pray that the Parks family anchors itself on these words. And while we remember Jerry Parks, his loyalty and commitment to the members of the Bible Baptist Church, the City of Miami Retired Fire and Police Association and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, let us thank God for having let him grace our lives with the full measure of his love and devotion to the ideals of Christian stewardship and caring for the less fortunate members of our society.

May God comfort Beverly Parks, his daughter and his family and loved ones with the blessed assurance of His love and peace in this period of bereavement.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 2815, LEGISLATION EXPANDING AND MAKING PERMANENT THE EXPENSING OF ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION COSTS

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, I introduced bipartisan tax legislation with the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. WELLER, and the gentlewoman from Connecticut, Mrs. JOHNSON, to expand and make permanent the expensing of environmental remediation costs of America's brownfields.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines brownfields as abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion, redevelopment or reuse is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. Estimates of the number of brownfield sites range from 500,000 to a million. In general, these sites face a paradox: they are generally not eligible for remediation funding under the Superfund program because they pose a relatively low public health risk while, at the same time, developers may avoid them because of significant cleanup costs thereby stalling economic development.

The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 included a tax incentive to address this concern and help spur the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields in distressed urban and rural areas. Under the brownfields tax incentive, environmental cleanup costs are fully deductible in the year they are incurred by the developer, rather than having to be capitalized. This incentive has helped to bring thousands of abandoned and under-used industrial sites back into productive use, providing a foundation for neighborhood revitalization, job creation, and the restoration of hope in our nation's cities and distressed rural areas.

Unfortunately, this provision of the tax code is set to expire at the end of 2003. At a minimum, Congress must extend this provision for several more years. A better approach, however, an approach supported by the Bush administration in fact, would be enactment of the Weller-Becerra-Johnson legislation which would make this common-sense tax incentive a permanent part of the federal tax code. In addition, the bill would modify current law by amending the recapture provision and modestly expanding the class of substances that can be expensed to include petroleum, a contaminant commonly found at brownfields sites.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation. Its passage will ensure the continued availability of this valuable tool for improving the livability and economic prospects of blighted, decaying communities and reclaiming idle land for more productive uses.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FUGETSU-DO AND THE KITO FAMILY

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fugetsu-Do, a family-run bakery in my Congressional District, who this year celebrates its 100th anniversary.

In 1903, Seiichi Kito and his family began working in a small shop to produce batches of mochi, manju, and other Japanese sweets. This burgeoning business, however, was unexpectedly closed in 1942 when Executive Order 9066 forced the Kito family to relocate to an internment camp in Heart Mountain, Wyoming.

Like countless other Japanese American families, the Kitos endured dehumanizing and often cruel living conditions—including brutally cold and windy winters and scorching summers. Yet despite these hardships, Mr. Kito and his son Roy, a pastry chef, gave comfort to their fellow internees by creating dessert from their meager sugar rations.

At the end of the war, the Kito family returned to Los Angeles where Roy and his wife reopened the doors of Fugetsu-Do, overcoming great financial obstacles.

Today, Brian Kito—youngest son of Roy and Kazuko Kito and grandson of Seiichi—continues the legacy of Fugetsu-Do as head of the family business. Brian continues his family's tradition of community loyalty as an active member of the Little Tokyo community. Several times a year, he demonstrates to youngsters in the community how to make the tasty treats sold in his shop and he coordinates a citizen safety patrol in Little Tokyo with the Los Angeles Police Department.

As part of Fugetsu-Do's 100th anniversary celebration, more than 150 members of the Kito family will come together for a family reunion in Little Tokyo from August 7th through the 12th. It is my pleasure to welcome them to my congressional district and to express my best wishes for a successful reunion.

For a century, the Kito family's dedication to the values of hard work and meticulous care in confectionary production has led Fugetsu-Do to much success.

Mr. Speaker, the 100th anniversary of Fugetsu-Do is yet another milestone in the rich history of the Kito family, the Little Tokyo community, and the City of Los Angeles and I join them in celebrating this wonderful legacy.

MEDICARE PAYMENT UPDATE FOR CERTIFIED-NURSE MIDWIVES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, there are approximately 2 million women with disabilities in the Medicare program. The Agency for Healthcare Policy and Research reported that these women are without appropriate access to primary care services. Their average time between gynecological visits was 10–12 years. They were also less likely than the general population to have received a recent mammogram. Certified Nurse-Midwives and Certified Midwives are qualified through their unique training to deliver the appropriate health services to this population.

Research studies have shown that special populations seek out care from midwives and that their health outcomes are improved. The Medicare program reimburses Certified Nurse-Midwives at 65 percent of the physician fee schedule, resulting in an average payment of only \$14 per annual exam. Midwives who serve these women are forced to subsidize care with their own money or turn away patients because they cannot afford to operate at a financial loss. Like physicians, skyrocketing professional liability premiums for midwives are leaving no monies to subsidize care. Congress has not provided an update in payment of midwifery services since 1988.

The legislation that I have reintroduced today with my colleague, the gentleman from Michigan, Mr. UPTON, increases the level of reimbursement to 95 percent of the physician fee schedule. This amount is based on studies using the relative value methodology. Additionally, Certified Nurse-Midwives serve as faculty members of medical schools. For over 20 years, they have supervised and trained residents. This legislation clarifies the fact that midwives who are medical school faculty members may bill for Medicare Part B services in accordance with CMS residency training regulations. The bill also includes technical corrections that will clarify the reassignment of billing rights for midwives who are employed by others and recognize that Certified Nurse-Midwives and Certified Midwives have hospital admitting privileges. I urge you to support this legislation, which is in the best interest of women with disabilities across this Nation.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO FACILITATE YAVAPAI RANCH LAND EXCHANGE

HON. RICK RENZI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, along with Congressman J. D. HAYWORTH, I rise today to in-

roduce the Northern Arizona National Forest Land Exchange Act of 2003. This legislation facilitates a land exchange in northern Arizona of private land within the Yavapai Ranch for Forest Service land in the northern portion of the state.

Mr. Speaker, in the past few months, I have received many letters and phone calls in support and in opposition to this exchange. I have visited and toured the Yavapai Ranch and witnessed first hand the beauty of this unique property. Bringing the Yavapai Ranch into federal ownership is in the best interest of the public, and the Forest Service has indicated that it would otherwise be unable to afford to acquire these parcels.

This legislation accomplishes many goals in northern Arizona. First, it provides the City of Flagstaff with the opportunity to acquire land to expand and improve Pulliam Airport. In addition, this legislation will allow the City of Flagstaff to develop a new city park and recreational areas and obtain ownership of land near their water treatment plant. This is critical to the City of Flagstaff's future by providing economic development and affordable housing.

The Northern Arizona National Forest Land Exchange Act will also allow the City of Williams to acquire land for its well sites, water storage tanks and wastewater facility and drinking water treatment plants. In addition, this will provide Williams with the opportunity to expand their airport, the municipal golf course and the town park.

In the Verde Valley, this bill provides Camp Verde with a unique opportunity to acquire land for open space to protect their view shed. The Camp Verde Fire District will be provided with land adjacent to Interstate 17 for an emergency response and urgent care facility for faster response. A planned development along Interstate 17 will provide Camp Verde with additional tax base and job opportunities.

A residential development in Clarkdale and Cottonwood will diversify the housing market and provide new lands to their tax base. I have ensured that language in this legislation ensures that water conservation and water use restrictions must be met for any future development.

Finally, this legislation ensures that five summer camps have the opportunity to acquire the land and benefit from full ownership and management of this land. Included in this exchange are Young Life Lost Canyon Camp, Friendly Pines Camp, YMCA Sky Y Camp, Temple Beth Israel's Camp Charles Pearlstein and the Roman Catholic Church of Phoenix Patterdell Pines Camp.

Mr. Speaker, I have held several town halls and town meetings in the district to discuss the many issues clouding this exchange. First, this exchange provides Camp Verde with land for open space for their view shed, but it is my understanding that plans are already underway to construct an interchange that would affect the view shed in the Verde Valley.

Second, this legislation addresses the water concerns associated with this exchange. Language is included to ensure that developments comply with water use and water conservation requirements. Covenants will limit the amount of water use to sustain the current zoning at 2 houses per acres. In addition, any development must comply with the State of Arizona's surface and groundwater laws.

Finally, this legislation addresses the issue of federal permittees that may be affected by

this exchange. Under the Federal Land Policy Management Act, a permittee shall receive a "reasonable" compensation from the federal government if an action by the federal government, including disposal, cancels the permit. My goal in including this language is to properly address the possible hardship and injustice that could occur as a result of this exchange.

Mr. Speaker, my intent in introducing this legislation is to assist communities in northern Arizona in providing affordable housing and economic opportunities, while preserving the pristine areas of our forests for wildlife and recreation. The introduction of this legislation today represents another step in the legislative process. As a whole, this exchange will benefit the public, the many communities and camps in northern Arizona that will receive opportunities for future economic development, and the natural beauty of the Yavapai Ranch.

HONORING THE GROUNDBREAKING
FOR THE NEW CLARK COUNTY
REGIONAL CANCER CENTER

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to a very positive development in health care for the residents of Springfield and Clark County, which are in the 7th Congressional District of Ohio. Federal, state and local officials and representatives from our two local hospitals are set to break ground on a new outpatient regional cancer center.

For years, I had heard from local health care providers and residents about how frustrating it was not having a local modern facility to perform outpatient cancer treatments.

With two outstanding health care centers already available in Springfield, it seemed strange to many people who needed basic oncology services to have to drive to Dayton, Columbus or even Cincinnati.

Traveling long distances to receive cancer treatment can be burdensome for a patient and his or her family, especially if they are elderly or have mobility problems.

I was able to work with my good friend Congressman RALPH REGULA of Navarre, who is the Chairman of the Labor/Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee, to secure \$1 million in federal funds for the establishment of this outpatient regional cancer center.

This funding helped to lay the groundwork for the construction of this new facility to improve the level of health care for the citizens of Springfield and Clark County.

This effort is a true public-private partnership that has brought together Mercy Health Partners, The Community Hospital, the Ohio EPA and the federal EPA.

Until that great day when there is a simple and affordable cure for the scourge known as cancer, it is vitally important that communities like Springfield have the best possible infrastructure to provide care.

This new cancer center will have a key role to play in our health care community and I was pleased to be able to support this worthwhile effort in Congress.

As the Congressman who represents Springfield and Clark County in the U.S.

House of Representatives, I offer my sincere congratulations on this great achievement and look forward to the day when we will be able to dedicate the finished facility.

SCHOOL READINESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2210) to authorize the Head Start Act to improve the school readiness of disadvantaged children, and for other purposes:

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Chairman, Head Start works just fine the way it is. Why the Republicans want to change something that has been proven to work, just to put their name on it, is just ridiculous. Head Start works fine just the way it is. One of my constituents, Eddie Moore, and all of his brothers went on to college after being in Head Start. He also went on to play professional football and now he is an extremely successful business man.

Head Start is one of the most important education programs for low income children, and it is tragic that the House Republican leadership is set on dismantling it. The plan is not just to completely underfund the program, but to block grant the funding!

You know, Head Start kids are very prepared and do better in school than low-income children who don't receive Head Start. It's been proven that Head Start narrows the readiness gap between Head Start kids and children from the more affluent side of the tracks. Head Start should help children arrive at school more ready to learn—and it does just that—very successfully.

My best advice to the Republican leadership is: if it ain't broken, don't fix it, and more importantly, don't brake it! I strongly urge a "no" vote on this bill.

SCHOOL READINESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2210) to authorize the Head Start Act to improve the school readiness of disadvantaged children, and for other purposes:

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2210, the Majority's plan to reauthorize the Head Start program. While this bill makes a number of bipartisan improvements to the program, I am gravely concerned that the block grant pilot project included in this plan is the first step toward dismantling the successful Head Start program that we know today.

Over the last few months, I have traveled throughout North Dakota and heard compelling stories from Head Start teachers, volun-

teers and parents attesting to the success of this program in my state. More than just teaching children valuable early literacy skills, the program also encourages self-confidence, spontaneity, curiosity and self-discipline in its young pupils. In addition, Head Start recognizes the important role of parents and families in a child's empowerment by focusing on the educational, vocational and material needs of the entire family. While these aspects of the program are not easily quantified, they greatly enhance future learning potential, as well as overall development.

The plan before us today gravely endangers these comprehensive services that are—in my view—key to Head Start's success. Block granting Head Start to the states would result in a patchwork of untested state preschool programs across the country, many of which may lower educational standards, minimize comprehensive services, and provide less oversight and accountability. As it stands now, there is not a single state preschool program in the country that provides comprehensive services in accordance with Head Start standards. Equally alarming, states that are struggling with their own budget crises right now may be tempted to divert scarce Head Start dollars toward other programs once placed in their hands.

Mr. Speaker, I am convinced that we have a real opportunity with this reauthorization process to effect some positive changes for this exceptional program. We should concentrate on proposals that improve and build upon this tried-and-true program—like increasing access or enhancing teacher qualifications. I urge my colleagues to join me in taking steps to ensure the integrity of this program as the reauthorization process moves forward.

TRIBUTE TO MR. BRYAN DE-
BATES—TIME WARNER CABLE
CRYSTAL APPLE TEACHER
AWARD

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bryan DeBates, an inspirational and loving teacher in San Antonio, Texas. As a 5th grade teacher at Timberwilde Elementary School, Bryan DeBates dedicates his life to the success and education of his students. His outstanding work in the classroom was recognized by Time Warner Cable and given the Crystal Apple Teacher Award.

Each year, Time Warner Cable honors 20 classroom projects and the teachers who develop them with the Crystal Apple Teacher Award. This award recognizes outstanding teachers who create learning experiences using cable technology. Mr. DeBates' project involved a space experiment that used electrical circuits to repair and operate a space station. Thanks to the innovation and creativity of Mr. Bryan DeBates many 5th grade students learned how electrical circuits work within the confines of a space station.

Time Warner Cable seeks ways to support the educators and institutions that help shape our nation. Time Warner Cable strives to enhance the level of education in the classroom by expanding the power of cable television's

21st century technology and high-quality programming to teachers, students, and parents both inside and outside the classroom. It is remarkable to see how teachers like Bryan DeBates can use this technology to make this possible.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to honor Bryan DeBates. It is the perseverance and dedication of teachers like him that will lead our youth to a brighter future.

SCHOOL READINESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2210) to authorize the Head Start Act to improve the school readiness of disadvantaged children, and for other purposes:

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Chairman, nearly 4 decades ago, a program was introduced that would forever change the lives of more than 20 million American disadvantaged children and their families. The achievements of Head Start have become so legendary that I thought it was secure. I was wrong.

Instead of directly funding community-based Head Start programs, the School Readiness Act would allow some states to receive "block grant" funding. States could then use their own untested standards, avoid federal quality oversight, diminish services, weaken the role of parents, and shift money to shore up sagging state budgets.

I have seen examples of the positive impact of Head Start throughout Maine. At a meeting earlier this year, for example, a Head Start father movingly told of his struggle with illness and unemployment; he firmly believes that his children are thriving despite this hardship primarily because of their enrollment in Head Start.

At the same meeting, a graduate of Head Start credited her own success—being the first in her family to gain an advanced degree—to the program.

Another Mainer wrote to me about her son, whose many medical problems at birth led his doctor to predict he would be severely mentally disabled. Enrollment in Early Head Start provided the early intervention that vastly improved his prospects.

National studies confirm that Head Start works: the gap is narrowed significantly between Head Start children and other children in vocabulary and writing skills; once in kindergarten, they continue to make substantial progress in language and math skills. Head Start graduates are less likely than similarly situated children to repeat a grade, require special education, or be charged or convicted with a crime. They are more likely to complete high school and college and earn more as adults than those who did not have the benefit of this program.

Head Start benefits all Americans in the long term. Numerous studies show that for every dollar spent on Head Start, taxpayers save \$4 to \$7 in the future due to lower education, crime and welfare expenses. Yet, the President's budget for Head Start does not

even keep up with the rate of inflation, let alone provide enough funding to serve all eligible children.

If it ain't broke, why does the Administration want to "fix" it? The track record of Head Start and those who benefit from its services are evidence that there is no need to restructure the program. We should instead address its real financial needs: to fully fund this program to provide the greatest assistance for low-income children and their families.

I urge my colleagues to vote for the Democratic substitute which will expand access to the program for more eligible children, improve teacher and program quality and strengthen the overall program. H.R. 2210 would simply undermine a program which has been a major success.

OFFSET OF FEDERAL TAX REFUNDS FOR STATE AND LOCAL TAX DEBTS

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to be introducing legislation that would establish a federal tax refund offset program for state and local governments. Specifically, this program would require the federal government to withhold refunds from those individuals and corporations that still owe state or local government tax obligations.

Today, the reverse situation exists. A number of states allow their own state agencies, local governments and the Internal Revenue Service to submit a list of delinquent taxpayers. The state then matches these delinquent accounts against taxpayers who may qualify for a state tax refund. If a match is found, the state reduces the refund by the amount of the delinquency and remits the funds to the claimant. These programs have proven to be low-cost and highly effective. Congress recognized the effectiveness of these programs and directed the Internal Revenue Service to establish a similar program to cover claims by other federal agencies, as well as for past-due child support obligations. In 2000, Congress expanded the program by directing the Treasury Department to accept claims by states for income tax obligations.

The legislation I am introducing today builds on these successful programs by permitting local governments to participate. The local governments could submit their outstanding tax debts to the Department of the Treasury for an offset against any federal tax refund, just as federal agencies and states do now. This legislation would also permit a claim to be made for any legally enforceable tax obligation owed to the state or local government.

In an era of tight state and local government budgets, it is patently unfair to have the tax-paying citizenry bear the costs and burdens of those who do not pay their fair share. As President Kennedy recognized, "[t]o the extent that some people are dishonest or careless in their dealings with the government, the majority is forced to carry a heavier tax burden." (April 20, 1961) The legislation that I am introducing today will provide a means to help distribute that burden more equitably.

I urge my colleagues to support it.

REGARDING THE MIDDLE RIO GRANDE EMERGENCY WATER SUPPLY STABILIZATION ACT OF 2003

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. I rise today to introduce the "Middle Rio Grande Emergency Water Supply Stabilization Act of 2003," a bill amending the Flood Control Act of 1948 with respect to the Middle Rio Grande Project to authorize programs for water conservation and control of phreatic vegetation, and for other purposes.

On June 12, 2003, the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the Federal District Court's opinion determining that the Bureau of Reclamation "has the discretion to reduce deliveries of water . . . comply with the Endangered Species Act."

This lawsuit affirmation rekindled the passionate debate about how we use our water resources, about the sustainability of our current water practices, and whether we are using our water wisely.

This is a very difficult situation for everyone involved. Some have painted the situation as a crisis, as a people versus fish issue. Others state that this "crisis" should be taken as an indication that it is time to recognize the bottomline of the matter: water is a scarce commodity in New Mexico and should be treated accordingly.

In an effort to find a common-sense approach to sustainable water management in New Mexico and the west, I engaged in extensive discussions with the major stakeholders in the San Juan/Chama water dispute, and shared my concerns directly with United States Department of Interior Secretary Gale Norton, the person ultimately responsible for enforcing the 10th Circuit ruling.

As a result of these conversations, I am introducing legislation today that will address our outmoded water principles and practices.

First, the bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to contribute to a long-term solution for the Middle Rio Grande River in the State of New Mexico by preventing, reducing, or eliminating wasteful depletion of waters. This would entail the establishment of a water supply stabilization program at the local level. Under this program, the Secretary would provide financial and technical assistance to promote and encourage the adoption and implementation of water conservation measures within the Rio Grande Basin in New Mexico.

To accomplish this, the Secretary would enter into cost sharing and other agreements with the State and other entities including organizations, municipalities, Indian Tribes and Pueblos, and individuals, who use agricultural or municipal and industrial water from the Rio Grande River and its tributaries in New Mexico, including water supplied directly or indirectly from the Middle Rio Grande Project or the San Juan-Chama Project. These collaborative agreements will result in localized decisions regarding sustainable water management along the Rio Grande.

Second, the bill encourages the implementation of water conservation measures that will improve water quantity and water quality conditions needed to support a sustainable, living

river environment within the Middle Rio Grande Basin, and will result in conservation, recreation, and other public benefits.

Third, the bill sets a goal to achieve, within three years of the date of enactment of this legislation, quantifiable improvements in irrigation efficiencies through the incorporation of measures such as lining canals and ditches, and the use of low-flow or drip irrigation systems and other modern hydrological technologies.

Fourth, the bill directs the Secretary to cooperate with the State of New Mexico, water use organizations, and affected landowners to develop and implement a comprehensive program to identify, remove, and control salt cedar vegetation in the flood plain of the Rio Grande River and its tributaries, and to replant and reestablish native vegetation if appropriate.

Fifth, the bill authorizes grants for basic research on technological solutions for accessing new sources of water including, but not limited to, desalinization, and the purification of brackish and other types of unpalatable water. Furthermore, the bill authorizes grants for basic research to increase water efficiency. For example, Los Alamos National Labs, located in my district, is working to improve technology so that less water will be required in manufacturing computer microchips. And, the bill authorizes funds to conduct studies to quantify the water needs, requirements and rights of tribes and pueblos in the Middle Rio Grande Basin.

Finally, the bill confirms the original intentions of Congress as set forth in the Colorado River Storage Project Act of 1956, and the San Juan-Chama Project Act 1962. These Acts set forth the principle purposes underlying the furnishing of federal water supplies in New Mexico, including water for municipal, domestic, and industrial uses, and for the conservation of, and I quote from the original authorizing legislation, "the scenery, the natural, historic, and archaeological objects, and the wildlife" on lands affected by the project, and "to mitigate losses of, and improve conditions for, the propagation of fish and wildlife."

We are in the midst of a very serious drought, and in New Mexico and across the west. Our water resources are over-allocated, and an exploding growth in population is stretching these resources to the limits. This situation is compounded by a water infrastructure that is inefficient, outdated, and insufficient to meet our current needs.

My bill deals with these realities and many other crucial issues. It sets up incentives to conserve our water resources and develop collaborative solutions at the local level. It restores and protects the Rio Grande River and the surrounding Bosque, and encourages technological solutions for new sources of water and methods to harness such technology to increase water efficiency.

Considering the above, if we do not focus collaboratively and make every effort possible to conserve our water, I believe that New Mexico, and similarly situated western states, will continue to confront similar, if not worse, water scarcity problems indefinitely. We need greater and more conscientious efforts on the part of water users to conserve this precious commodity. And, these users must become more accountable for water waste. My bill provides the incentives to conserve our water resources to ensure that all New Mexicans will have water to use in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I introduce this legislation as a first step to solve a critical problem. We need to act now to ensure sustainable water management and conservation in New Mexico. I invite and welcome the support of my colleagues in the New Mexico Congressional Delegation as we continue to confront this problem together.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER PRIVACY AND IDENTITY THEFT PREVENTION ACT OF 2003"

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, use of Social Security numbers is rampant. When Social Security numbers were created in 1936, their only purpose was to track a worker's earnings so that Social Security benefits could be calculated. But today, we literally have a culture of dependence on Social Security numbers.

Businesses and governments use the number as the primary way of identifying individuals. All of us know how difficult it is to conduct even the most mundane transactions without having to provide our Social Security number first. It's no wonder identity theft has become the fastest growing white collar crime.

Worse yet, terrorists, including those responsible for the September 11th attacks, misuse SSNs in order to assimilate into our society.

Barely a day goes by without hearing more examples of the truly devastating effects of identity theft. Just this month, at a Ways and Means Subcommittee on Social Security hearing, we learned about a widow whose husband died in the September 11th attacks on the World Trade Center—an illegal immigrant used her deceased husband's Social Security number to get a driver's license and to work. We also heard about individuals whose credit was ruined, who were arrested for crimes they did not commit, and who spent years and hundreds or even thousands of dollars out of their own pockets trying to clear their names because of identity theft often facilitated by obtaining the individual's Social Security number.

Concerns about identity theft are increasing dramatically. According to the Federal Trade Commission, identity theft is the number one consumer complaint—amounting to 43 percent of complaints received in 2002. In fact, my state, Florida, is sixth in the nation in the number of identity theft victims per 100,000 people.

Clearly, there is need for a comprehensive law to better protect the privacy of Social Security numbers and protect the American public from being victimized. Today, I re-introduce the "Social Security Number Privacy and Identity Theft Prevention Act of 2003," which is similar to bipartisan legislation introduced during the last Congress. In the public and private sector, the bill would restrict the sale and public display of Social Security numbers, limit dissemination of Social Security numbers by credit reporting agencies, make it more difficult for businesses to deny services if a customer refuses to provide his or her Social Security number and establish civil and criminal penalties for violations.

Based on the thoughtful comments we have received, this new legislation reflects a small number of fair and appropriate modifications, including the following:

In response to concerns about potentially preventing necessary disclosures of the SSN and the impact on businesses, customers, and the economy, the U.S. Attorney General will be able to authorize the sale, purchase and display of SSNs only when necessary and with restrictions to assure the Social Security number would not be used to commit fraud or crime and to prevent risk of individual harm.

Based on feedback from employee benefit plan administrators, the legislation makes clear that sale and purchase of Social Security numbers does not include its submission for administering employee benefits.

In response to concerns regarding vulnerabilities in the Social Security Administration's process of issuing Social Security numbers, the bill tightens controls by requiring a photo ID; raising the standards for issuing Social Security numbers to babies; and restricting reissuance of Social Security number cards.

In response to concerns about the need for stronger, clearer penalties for SSN misuse, the legislation provides enhanced criminal penalties for repeat offenders and for misuse associated with drug trafficking, crimes of violence, and terrorism. The legislation provides criminal penalties for Social Security employees who sell Social Security numbers or cards, as well as for individuals who sell their own Social Security number to another.

Congress must act to protect the very number it requires each of us to obtain and use throughout our lifetime. Providing for uses of Social Security numbers that benefit the public while protecting these numbers from being used by criminals, or even terrorists, is a complex balancing act. This bill achieves that balance by ensuring Social Security numbers are assigned accurately, exchanged only when necessary, and protected from indiscriminate disclosure. I urge Members to co-sponsor this important legislation.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION'S CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, today it is my honor to commend the 50th anniversary of the American Political Science Association's Congressional Fellowship Program. This program provides academic political scientists, journalists, and members of the executive branch invaluable learning experiences about how Congress works from the inside. In turn, the fellows bring their unique professional expertise and fresh perspectives to Congressional offices.

When I first arrived in Congress back in 2001, an APSA fellow, Amy Black, worked in my office and helped me research and write legislation. Amy's work was a great benefit to our office, and her time in my office gave her new insights for her teaching and academic research. I hope other Members will avail

themselves of this excellent opportunity to benefit from the many ways APSA fellows can contribute to their offices.

I congratulate APSA for the past half a century of providing an innovative learning experience, and look forward to many more decades of this important cooperative effort.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE 29TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE TURKISH
OCCUPATION OF CYPRUS

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 29th anniversary of the Turkish invasion and occupation of northern Cyprus. On July 20, 1974, Turkey invade Cyprus and Turkish forces occupied more than one-third of the island nation, in clear violation of international law.

Today, thousands of Turkish soldiers, armed with the latest weapons, are stationed in the occupied area, making it one of the most militarized regions in the world.

Eighty-five thousand Turks have been brought over from Turkey to colonize the occupied area with the aim of changing the demography of the island and controlling the political situation. The Greek Cypriot community that remains enclaved within the occupied villages continues to live under conditions of oppression, harassment, and deprivation. For 29 years, divided by a 113-mile barbed wire fence that runs across the island, Greek Cypriots were prohibited from visiting the northern Turkish-occupied towns and communities where their families had lived for generations.

Since 1974, the United Nations has been trying to encourage a solution to the Cyprus problem. U.N. Secretary Kofi Annan has sponsored proximity talks between the President of Cyprus, Glafcos Clerides, and Rauf Denktaş, the self-proclaimed leader of the occupied area. Unfortunately, those talks were suspended due to Denktaş's abrupt departure from the negotiating table.

In January 2002, U.N.-sponsored direct negotiations between the Greek and Turkish sides finally resumed. Later that year, Secretary-General Annan presented a comprehensive new plan aimed at reunifying Cyprus. Unfortunately, unlike the Government of Cyprus, which promptly accepted the Annan Plan as a basis for negotiations, the Turkish side rejected the plan. Furthermore, the newly elected Cypriot President, Tassos Papadopoulos, accepted Annan's proposal to submit the U.N. proposal to a referendum. Denktaş, however, rejected a referendum, thereby denying the people in the occupied areas a chance to determine their future.

Mr. Speaker, the United States has a national interest in fostering peace and stability in the eastern Mediterranean region. We as a nation cannot continue to pretend our NATO partner is not in clear violation of international law for its continued illegal occupation of its neighbor.

We in the United States pride ourselves for our respect for fundamental freedoms. Human rights norms are the cornerstone of U.S. foreign policy. The war on terrorism and our efforts to restore democracy in Afghanistan and

Iraq are centered on those principles. As we lead international efforts to rout out terrorists and dictators that usurp fundamental principles of justice and human rights, we should remain committed to finding a just and durable settlement to the Cyprus problem. An important first step to that commitment is our strong opposition to Turkey's 29-year occupation of Cyprus.

IN HONOR OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SPORTS ILLUSTRATED AND AMERICA'S SPORTS ILLUSTRATED: 50 YEARS, 50 STATES, 50 SPORTS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Sports Illustrated, as they celebrate 50 years of being America's most respected and popular sports publication. I also stand to recognize America's Sports Illustrated. 50 Years, 50 States, 50 Sports, a yearlong, nationwide celebration building on the premise of sports being an enormous force for good and a major catalyst in giving Americans a sense of community.

Sports Illustrated is one of the most respected voices in sports media, a magazine that consistently sets the national agenda for debate and discussion. This magazine is an original American brand that each week tells us about ourselves through the prism of sports.

Time Inc. founder Henry Luce's dream that, "America will have a great National Sports Weekly" officially became a reality on August 16, 1954, with the launch of Sports Illustrated. In the years that have followed, Sports Illustrated has lived up to Luce's lofty notion. Americans turn to Sports Illustrated for a definitive word and the defining photographs, for the most in-depth analysis in sports.

Let us support Sports Illustrated as they launch their nationwide multi-media program: America's Sports Illustrated. 50 Years, 50 States, 50 Sports. This nationwide celebration consists of weekly state-specific sections in the magazine and four special 50th issues; a grassroots mobile marketing tour that will visit sporting events that are unique to the state being visited; a comprehensive and interactive web presence; and a community sports outreach program to enhance the quality of sports in America's communities through the YMCA of the USA and the National Recreation and Park Association. Let us commemorate America's most respected and popular Sports publication on their Golden Anniversary.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Sports Illustrated as it turns 50 in 2004 and celebrates its anniversary with the most ambitious initiative in the history of the magazine.

THE RAILROAD COMPETITION ACT
OF 2003

HON. RICHARD H. BAKER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. BAKER. Mr. Speaker, today I am joined by Representatives CHRIS JOHN, DAVID VITTER, and EARL POMEROY to introduce the Railroad Competition Act of 2003, a bill designed to restore a measure of competition to our nation's freight rail marketplace. This bill, I believe, captures the true intentions of railroad deregulation.

Like all Americans, Mr. Speaker, I want our national railroad industry to remain the most efficient in the world. Indeed, our railroad system is a model for other national systems. My home state of Louisiana in particular relies heavily on efficient railroads to deliver product to market and provide the feedstock for our manufacturing base. Without reliable rail service, Louisiana—and all of America—would be economically hamstrung.

Congress deregulated the railroad industry in 1980 when it passed the Staggers Act. This law revitalized the industry, built efficiencies in the system, and bolstered the railroads as a critical component to America's transportation infrastructure. As Chairman of the Louisiana House Committee on Transportation and Highways, I observed closely the implementation and success of the Act.

However, one lingering element of the Staggers Act provides for "differential pricing," which in effect allows railroads to "price gouge" customers served by a single railroad in order to help make up for revenue that is lost to customers served by more than one railroad. In other words railroads can overcharge a customer where the railroad is a monopoly to help recover the revenue it loses in a competitive, multiple-railroad environment.

Prior to the Staggers Act, the federal government administered the finances of railroads by imposing price controls. But by allowing railroads to institutionalize price gouging, are we not continuing the practice of price controls? Indeed, is differential pricing the thriving legacy of regulatory control? I believe it is. I assert that differential pricing is no more "deregulation" than the artificially imposed government price controls that existed before 1980.

I do not believe Congress intended to institutionalize price gouging when it passed the Staggers Act in 1980. Rather, the Staggers Act was an attempt to revive an important industry in America's economy. It was not enacted to allow the industry to thrive at its customers' expense. When the 108th Congress reflects back on the success of the Staggers Act, we can indeed take pride in "getting it right." Congress achieved its goal of resuscitating the ailing railroad industry, but Congress did not intend to sustain the life of this industry at the growing, unfair expense of other industries.

When Congress passed the Staggers Act in 1980 there were over 40 Class I railroads competing for business. Today, after over 50 mergers and consolidations there are only 7 Class I railroads in North America and four of them control over 95 percent of the railroad business.

This unprecedented consolidation has led to whole states, regions and entire industries becoming captive to a single railroad. This level of concentration and the lack of competition it has brought were never envisioned by Congress in the 1980 Act.

Over this same period the agency that administers rail law, the Surface Transportation Board, has produced rulings, which have skewed the freight rail market place to the point that it is now a Federally protected monopoly. Railroads are operating within the law, but that law is outdated given the current number of railroads and market conditions of the new century.

Mr. Speaker, as you may know, Louisiana industry is in dire straits. Every month companies announce closures, lay offs, and moves—depriving our economically struggling state of hundreds of important jobs. When these jobs are lost, so are the workers' pensions, salaries, and health benefits. When hundreds of jobs are lost, it affects other small businesses that rely on workers to keep them viable.

Though Louisiana industry faces many financial challenges, premier among them is the cost to do business—and aside from energy supply, the most expensive cost of business is the artificially inflated rates imposed on Louisiana companies that, through no fault of their own, exist under a railroad monopoly.

Mr. Speaker, this situation is not exclusive to Louisiana. It exists in West Virginia, North Dakota, Idaho, Georgia, Florida, Montana, Minnesota—in fact, Mr. Speaker, there is not a state in the union free from this blemish on the free enterprise system.

The bill we are introducing today will truly match the deregulation goals of the Staggers Act with the tried and true American tradition of a competitive free market.

Our bill takes deregulation to a higher level by fortifying healthy market competition. The bill would remove artificial protections maintained by an outdated policy which allows freight railroads to operate in an atmosphere which no other business in the country enjoys—including exemption from anti-trust law.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all pro-market, pro-consumer, pro-deregulation, pro-fairness, pro-jobs, pro-economy, pro-transportation, and pro-railroad Members to join me in completing the deregulation goals of the Staggers Act of 1980 by cosponsoring the Railroad Competition Act of 2003.

THE RAILROAD COMPETITION ACT OF 2003

Clarification of National Rail Policy: Clarifies that the STB has the following primary objectives: (1) ensuring effective competition among rail carriers at origins and destinations; (2) maintaining reasonable rates in the absence of effective competition; (3) maintaining consistent and efficient rail transportation service for rail shippers, including the timely provision of rail cars; and (4) ensuring that small carload and intermodal shippers are not precluded from accessing the rail system.

Requirement that Railroads Must Quote Rates to Their Customers: In order to increase rail customer access to competition, railroads must quote rates between any two points on their systems where freight movements can originate, terminate or be transferred, when requested by the customer.

Arbitration of Certain Rail Rate, Service and Other Disputes: Provides final offer arbitration (baseball arbitration), at the choice of the non-rail party to a dispute, for all rail rate matters and other disputes at the STB involving a railroad change.

Removal of "Paper Barriers": Prohibits including paper barriers in future sales or leases of rail line to short line or regional railroads and allows the STB to invalidate such provisions that have been in existence for 10 years.

Removal of "Anti-Competitive Conduct" Test from Terminal Area and Switching Agreements Policy of ICC/STB: Changes the "antitrust" test added in mid-1980s by the former Interstate Commerce Commission to the statutory "public interest" test included in the terminal area and switching agreement provisions of the ICC Termination Act.

Tri-Annual DOT Study of Extent of Rail-to-Rail Competition.

Areas of Inadequate Rail Competition: On petition of a state, the STB may declare all or part of a state to be an area of inadequate rail competition. Special rail customer remedies apply in such areas.

Rail Customer Advocacy Office Established at Department of Agriculture.

THE HORN IN PERIL

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following document for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From the Financial Times, June 17, 2003]

THE HORN IN PERIL

When is a "final and binding" decision reached by a neutral body of legal experts open to negotiation? The international community is facing this question in the Horn of Africa, where the regional giant Ethiopia has rejected as "unacceptable" a Border Commission ruling on its border with tiny Eritrea.

The outside world was appalled when two of Africa's poorest countries went to war in 1998. It heaved a sigh of relief when both governments agreed, after losing at least 70,000 lives, to submit their frontier to international arbitration. But Ethiopia's rejection of the unanimous decision reached by a Border Commission sitting in The Hague has raised the prospect of, at worst, a new war and, at best, an indefinite stand-off.

External donors sympathise with the tricky position in which the ruling places Meles Zenawi, Ethiopia's prime minister. Undermined by hardliners in his own party, Mr. Meles is also resented by ordinary Ethiopians who have never accepted the independence of Eritrea, their former coastal province. Foreign governments know that losing Badme, the settlement that was the flashpoint for the war, represents a symbolic humiliation for the prime minister. They also nurse a certain distaste for an authoritarian Eritrean government that has jailed domestic dissenters and closed down the private press.

But if international arbitration were easy for losing parties to swallow, wars would never occur in the first place. If the Border Commission's decision on Badme were to go unenforced, Eritrea could reconsider its prompt pull-out from the contested Greater Hanish Island, allotted by an international court to Yemen in 1998. Nigeria could continue to defy the International Court of Justice's ruling last year that the oil-rich Bakassi Peninsula belongs to Cameroon. "Might is right" must not become the deciding principle in territorial disputes across Africa, where so many colonial borders cut across cultural and ethnic lines.

Ethiopia's rejection comes at a time when both countries are appealing for millions of dollars in food aid to alleviate a four-year drought. The failure to settle the border dispute will not come cheap. Maintaining a 4,000 strong United Nations buffer force has already cost about \$500m (euro 420m), which could have been better spent feeding starving rural families.

Donor countries cannot sit idly by while positions harden to a point where future compromise becomes impossible. While there is an understandable reluctance to use humanitarian aid as a bargaining chip, they should leave Ethiopia in no doubt that longer-term development aid is at risk. And they should firmly spell out this link before Ethiopia's ruling party conference takes place this autumn, when Mr. Meles risks being boxed in by the impassioned nationalistic rhetoric of his colleagues. There is far more at stake here than the relationship between Ethiopia and Eritrea.

COMMENDING THE JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL BOWLING ASSOCIATION

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Japanese American National Bowling Association (JANBA). From its noble inception to oppose discrimination after World War II, JANBA continues to be a forum for social interaction and friendly competition for its thousands of members throughout the United States.

After internment in World War II, Japanese Americans trying to return to a life of normalcy discovered bowling as an engaging social pursuit. The sport quickly became a popular pastime with many joining bowling leagues and competitions. However, a restriction against Japanese Americans on the national stage was quickly realized.

In 1947, Mr. Rokuro "Fuzzy" Shimada was planning to bowl in a Santa Clara bowling league. However, he was denied acceptance due to the league's "whites only" membership policy set by the American Bowling Congress (ABC). In objection, the National Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) Nisei Bowling Tournament was birthed later that year. The selected venue was Salt Lake City, Utah, the headquarters of the National JACL at that time. Despite its inaugural year, the tournament was able to attract nearly 300 participants.

Admirably, Mr. "Fuzzy" Shimada was inducted into the ABC Hall of Fame as a Pioneer in 1997, after the discriminatory rules were absolved in 1951.

From 1947 to 1973, the National JACL Nisei Bowling Tournament was held annually at multiple locations across the United States. Then in 1974, the Japanese American National Bowling Association was spawned when it was agreed by the JACL Advisory Board of Bowling to form a separate organization from the JACL. Mr. Ozzie Shimada acted as the president pro tem for the first year.

The Annual JANBA Tournament has continued its heralded traditions passed down from the JACL. Recently, the 2003 JANBA tournament was held in San Francisco. Over 800 men and women bowlers of all ages enjoyed

competing in multiple tournament formats during the weeklong event.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Japanese American National Bowling Association (JANBA) for its courageous beginnings to oppose segregation in the aftermath of World War II and providing a venue for social interaction and friendly competition for fellow Americans.

EDUCATORS HONORED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two faculty members of the College of Southern Maryland who have been honored by the Association of Community College Trustees. Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Elaine Ryan, is the recipient of the 2003 Chief Executive Officer Award and Professor Bill Morton is the recipient of the 2003 Faculty Member Award.

Mr. Speaker, the ACCT awards program is very competitive at a national level. This program annually recognizes the contributions made by trustees, chief executives and faculty members. The association is a non-profit educational organization of governing boards, representing more than 6,500 elected and appointed trustees.

Being selected the recipient of the 2003 Chief Executive Officer award is a great honor and privilege. Dr. Ryan has devoted over thirty years to the College of Southern Maryland and in 1998, was appointed the college's third president. She is the first female to hold such responsibility at this college. Under her leadership, the community college has become a regional institution serving three counties with four campuses. According to the 2003 Maryland Higher Education Commission Report on Retention, Transfer and Graduation Rates, the College of Southern Maryland ranked first in the State for the highest four-year graduation and transfer rates among Maryland community colleges for its first-time, full-time entering freshman class of 1998. This is a significant achievement for the college. Dr. Ryan, as CEO, no doubt has had a very active part in making the college as successful as it is today. She is admired and respected for her administrative ability, intellect, and love of her community. She is very active in her community serving on the Governor's Information Technology Board, the Southern Maryland Workforce Investment Board, the Charles County's Vision in Teamwork and Leadership organization and the Board of Directors for the Maryland Mentoring Partnerships, as well as many other community organizations. She is a role model for many young people in the community and has been nationally recognized for her efforts in education.

No college can be successful without the intelligent and caring men and women who strive everyday to make a difference in the lives of today's youth. Having professors who love to teach students is what makes a college the best that it can be. Professor Bill Morton has been recognized by the ACCT for his innovative instruction in accounting, econom-

ics and management. He is a pioneer in his field, utilizing distance learning through broadcast and video-based telecourses, interactive television, online courses, and cooperative education. He has devoted thirteen years to educating youth at the College of Southern Maryland. He believes that the only way to teach students is to reach students. Morton integrates his own life lessons into his teachings by drawing on his fifteen years of military and private sector experience. In 2000, the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (Region 2) awarded Morton the Teaching Excellence Award. For the past two years, the faculty at CSM selected the professor to receive the Faculty Excellence Award. Morton's expertise in his subject, positive attitude toward his students, and passion for teaching draw admiration from his peers and pupils alike.

On this day, I would like to recognize these individuals for their achievements in the field of education. Teaching is one of the most important professions in our Nation today and it is important to recognize those outstanding teachers for educating our Nation's youth and inspiring them to succeed in life. Dr. Elaine Ryan and Professor Bill Morton have worked hard to achieve this outstanding award presented by the ACCT. Their dedicated service to the College of Southern Maryland, to their profession and to their community has benefited and enriched the lives of so many. Southern Maryland is fortunate to have such committed professionals and we all thank and congratulate them for a job well done.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF LODGE NO. 83 IN LEBANON, MISSOURI

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to recognize the 150th anniversary of the Laclede Lodge No. 83 of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in Lebanon, Missouri. The Freemasons of this lodge have worked diligently and provided many hours of community service in Lebanon and Laclede County.

Lodge No. 83 was chartered in 1854 and the first Master of this lodge was Dr. I.W. Greenstreet. The lodge was first located on Wood Street in "Old Town" Lebanon. Currently the lodge is located at the corner of Second and Madison Streets in Lebanon.

The Laclede Lodge and its members have stood the test of time. From the beginning, the lodge had to survive a Civil War and hardships from local congregations who did not understand the mystic brotherhood. Today the lodge thrives in a wonderful community and gives back to that community at every turn.

Mr. Speaker, the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons can be proud of the 150 year history they have in Lodge No. 83 and with the Lebanon and Laclede County communities. I know the Members of the House will join me in congratulating Lodge No. 83 for 150 years of fine service.

HONORING OUTSTANDING TEACHERS IN THE 5TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I am privileged to honor some of the most treasured individuals in the Fifth Congressional District of Texas, our public school teachers. As a product of the public school system, from kindergarten to graduate school, I am especially proud to recognize the work of teachers in my district.

Public school teachers are unsung heroes who labor tirelessly in the classrooms and on the playing fields. They are the backbone of our education system in Texas and truly worthy of high praise in this chamber.

While you will never find a teacher on a Fortune 500 list, teachers train and educate the men and women who become leaders in our nation's economy, government, and houses of worship. Teachers push our children to learn and make a contribution to our communities, and all too often they do so without the thanks that they so richly deserve. Public school teachers are some of our communities' most valued leaders.

Many school districts in the Fifth District of Texas honor their Teachers of the Year, and today I am pleased to showcase several individuals whose care, dedication and hard work have earned them that special recognition. They include: Nancy Bagwell—Dallas ISD; Paula Conditt—Malakoff ISD; Jason Cunningham—Malakoff ISD; Lisa Cunningham—Richardson ISD; Shannon Hansel—Palestine ISD; Joy Hounsel—Sunnyvale ISD; Betty Mendoilea—Elkhart ISD; Nancy Northcutt—Palestine ISD; Jennifer Pugh—Malakoff ISD; Cindy Smith—Malakoff ISD; Rick Urbanczyk—Richardson ISD; Ann Wilson—Mabank ISD.

Mr. Speaker, these teachers have gone above and beyond the call of duty. I thank them for their service to our children and our future.

UNITED STATES-CHILE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to express my concerns regarding both the Chile Free Trade Agreement and the Singapore Free Trade Agreement.

While, I support free trade with Chile and Singapore in principle, this agreement is a serious erosion of the noble position we stood up for in prior agreements in regards to upholding labor rights. I recognize that free trade has the potential to provide an opportunity to expand markets for U.S. goods and services. However, if we do not first guarantee fair trade; we do not have free trade.

Fair trade agreements are an important way to maintain the United States' leadership in

upholding fundamental human rights. By entering into free trade agreement with countries that already abide by labor standards equivalent to our own, we can prevent the exploitation of the weak, the uneducated, the poor, and others. Children should not be working 60 hour weeks in unsafe factories for pennies a day. Not one person in this Congress wants that to happen, but unfair trade agreements mitigate these abuses to occur by ignoring the opportunity to set minimum standards.

This is not to say that either Chile or Singapore do not abide by the five core, internationally-recognized, labor rights. However, the so-called "enforce your own labor protections" provisions in the Chile and Singapore Agreements are dangerous templates for future negotiations. The maintenance of minimal labor standards must be insured through explicit requirements outlining our expectations for workers' protection. Not only have we not defined labor standards in these current agreements, we have also not given ourselves a means to address any violation of labor rights in the future. This is simply unacceptable.

The negotiation of the U.S.-Jordan Free Trade Agreement sought this explicit protection for workers. The Chile and Singapore Free Trade Agreements are a definite step in the wrong direction in regards to labor rights. As a nation, we have continuously stood up for the rights and protection of all workers. We cannot sacrifice workers and their protection to save a buck on a pair of shoes simply because they are somewhere around the world. We must factor in the cost of abdicating our responsibility to protect both our workers and workers the world over. Without explicit protection for laborers it is not free trade because there is no price for human dignity.

Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate that I come here to oppose these agreements. Congress gave away its ability to amend trade agreements last year and, therefore, the only option I have to express my opposition to the labor rights provisions is to vote against the trade agreements in whole. Therefore, I will oppose these agreements and urge my colleagues to vote them down.

HONORING SAM HALPERT AND
JOHN DEEGAN

HON. PETER DEUTSCH
OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pleasure to honor Mr. Sam Halpert and Mr. John Deegan of Pembroke Pines, FL, distinguished civil servants, contemporary American heroes, and great Floridians.

Now more than ever, our nation needs strong leaders—leaders who can be relied upon to protect the public from a growing number of natural disasters, the spread of terrorism, and crime in our city streets. Mr. Halpert and Mr. Deegan exemplify the types of heroes that describe a quarter century of service to local communities and to our country. Through hard work and effort, they have protected the South Florida community and its citizens for over a combined total of 50 years. Mr. Halpert, who began his career fighting fires as a volunteer in the 1970s, has most recently served as the city's fire marshal. Mr.

Deegan began his service to South Floridians as a paramedic, and now he is to be commended upon his retirement as the division chief in charge of emergency medical services.

Although Halpert and Deegan pursued different paths, they remained bound by their shared commitment to community welfare. Since 1978, Pembroke Pines has experienced tremendous growth from about 14,000 to 160,000 residents. Surely, with this immense growth in population comes the enormous responsibility of protecting its citizens. Instead of viewing this growth as an obstacle, Halpert and Deegan saw providing care and services to all Pembroke Pines' residents as a challenge, and they ensured the utmost quality in fire protection and emergency medical services.

Upon their retirement, I am pleased to take this opportunity to celebrate their amazing service to Broward County. Clearly, dedicated citizens such as these individuals serve as an example to us all, highlighting the extent to which fellow citizens are actually everyday heroes. Though the Pembroke Pines Fire Department and EMS will surely miss their commitment and service, each man has left an indelible impression on their respective institutions that will last a lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly a special occasion for me to honor Mr. Halpert and Mr. Deegan, who have embodied community leadership and strength as upstanding Floridians for over 25 years.

HONORING PETE JIMENEZ

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to a courageous and dedicated veteran of our state, Pete Jimenez of Pueblo, Colorado. As a member of the Army's infamous E Company in World War II, Pete gallantly served, protecting our freedoms on the field of battle. Pete is the newest recipient of the Croix de Guerre, a medal given by the President of France for uncommon heroism, valor, and bravery during battle. Pete has also been named a Knight of the Legion of Honor. This is the most prestigious of French military awards, and past recipients include President Ronald Reagan, President George Bush, and Secretary of State Colin Powell. I would like to join my colleagues in congratulating Pete and recognizing his deeds here today.

Pete will receive these commendations for events that took place throughout World War II, but particularly on September 17, 1944. On this day, Pete voluntarily took command of a patrol whose mission was to enter the city and knock out an enemy 20mm embedded cannon that was holding up the Allied advance. They were also told to investigate a vast underground structure that was possibly holding an American prisoner of war. In the destruction of the 20mm cannon, Pete single handedly killed two German soldiers while exposed to enemy fire. As Pete approached the underground structure, his squad encountered a number of enemy soldiers. After a significant struggle, they accepted the surrender of a 200 man

fighting force positioned inside the structure. Due to the ferocity of Pete's squad, the enemy believed they were under attack from a much larger force and threw down their weapons.

This is just one of the many heroic events that Pete Jimenez participated in during World War II. As the war ended, Pete was decorated with several medals, representing the valor and courage he displayed. He would go on to receive the World War II Victory Medal, four Bronze Stars for participation in the Normandy, Northern France, Central Europe, and Rhineland campaigns and two Bronze Stars for heroism and valor. Pete would also receive the Good Conduct Medal and the Purple Heart, as Pete was wounded five times in battle.

Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues here today in congratulating Pete and in recognizing this prestigious honor. This recognition to Pete for the work he did for our country is long overdue, and I am proud to bring his achievements to the attention of this body of Congress today. Congratulations and thanks again, Pete, for your many years of hard work on behalf of the United States.

DR. DONALD M. TOPPING

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the late Dr. Donald M. Topping of Huntington, West Virginia, who passed away at the age of 73 on June 29, 2003. He will be remembered for his contributions in preserving the Chamorro culture, especially his work with the Chamorro language of Guam and the Northern Marianas.

Dr. Topping leaves behind his wife, Priscilla Topping, and his children Miles and Lee Minh Topping, Jason Kesolei, Dee Johnson and Leslie Jensen. He also leaves behind eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Dr. Topping was Professor Emeritus of Linguistics at the University of Hawaii. He was also a founding member of the department. Dr. Topping was also responsible for co-founding the Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii in 1993. He served as its president until 2003 and received the Ho'omaluhia, or Peacemaker award, for advocating drug policy reforms on Hawaii. Dr. Topping was also the director of the Pacific and Asian Linguistics Institute from 1969–1974 and director of the Social Science Research Institute from 1974–1996.

Dr. Donald Topping was considered a modern pioneer of the Chamorro language and was the main voice for modernizing the Chamorro language through his work on the reference grammar and the orthography. As an English professor at the former Territorial College of Guam, Dr. Topping taught himself the Chamorro language with the help of friends and neighbors in an effort to help his students learn English. He went on to author the books, *Spoken Chamorro*, in 1969; *Chamorro Reference Grammar*, in 1973; and the *Chamorro-English Dictionary*, with Pedro Ogo and Bernadita Dungca, in 1975, which put the Chamorro language into written form.

Dr. Topping's work demonstrated that the Chamorro language had very unique features that could be best understood as an Austronesian Language rather than the popular misconception of Spanish origins. His

work with the Bilingual Education Project was unprecedented in the efforts to protect the precious culture of the Chamorro people through their language. His genius and contributions to the Chamorro language as well as all the languages of Micronesia cannot be overstated.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I would like to extend our condolences to the family of the late Dr. Donald Topping. The people of Guam will always be grateful for his work with the Chamorro language. It is through the work of a man like Dr. Topping that a greater understanding and appreciation of the cultures of the world can be gained.

MILITARY RETIREE SURVIVOR
COMFORT ACT

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Military Retiree Survivor Comfort Act. This legislation is a simple provision aimed to provide a small amount of relief to surviving beneficiaries of military retirees.

As my colleagues may be aware, federal regulations require the Defense Finance Accounting Service (DFAS) to terminate payment of the retired pay upon notification of the retiree's death. Once the surviving spouse or beneficiary notifies the finance center, DFAS then electronically withdraws the entirety of the last payment from the deceased retiree's checking account. Then several weeks later, the retiree's beneficiary will receive a check in the mail containing a pro-rated portion of the military pay for the days for which the retiree was still living.

The current process rightfully and sensibly seeks to only pay military retirees for when they are alive, but it can and often does have an adverse impact on the retiree's beneficiary. Many of these surviving spouses or caregivers are living on fixed incomes. When the retirement pay is deposited, they use those funds to pay things like rent, medical expenses, or other living expenses. Automatically withdrawing those funds can inadvertently cause rent checks to bounce and place great additional financial strain on a beneficiary when they are already faced with great loss and the prospect of additional costs associated with the military retiree's death.

In many respects, a military spouse has provided equal service and sacrifices as the military members themselves. While they may not face the perils of combat, they often raise families alone, endure long separations, and provide a mutual safety net for other military families. This legislation seeks to recognize that sacrifice by forgiving the overpayment made to the surviving beneficiary if that beneficiary has a joint bank account with the military retiree. In order to offset some of the minimal cost, the recipient receiving the overpayment would forgo the first month of Survivor Benefit Plan payments. The individual amounts will be small, but they will provide great comfort to those who are already losing much.

In closing, I would like to thank the Fleet Reserve Association for their great assistance in working with me on this legislation. They are dedicated advocates for military personnel

and their families, and this is just one more example of their efforts. I look forward to working with the Fleet Reserve Association and many other colleagues in seeing enactment of this legislation.

PHARMACEUTICAL MARKET
ACCESS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight in strong support of H.R. 2427, a bill that will help lower the cost of prescription drugs for our seniors. I applaud the efforts of Representatives EMERSON, GUTKNECHT and EMANUEL to get this bill to the floor for a vote.

For many years now, I have supported adding a prescription drug benefit to the Medicare program. While I have strong concerns about the bill that passed the House last month on this subject, I am hopeful a good final product can be worked out with the Senate that will indeed give prescription drug relief for our seniors. This bill tonight is an important part of that effort. While helping seniors with the costs of their drugs is critical, we must also take steps to lower the cost of prescription drugs.

It is no secret that U.S. seniors pay far more for the same drugs than seniors in Canada, Europe and other parts of the world. For example, the same prescription for Prilosec costs \$112 in the U.S., but only \$59.00 in Canada and \$49.25 in Europe. H.R. 2427 would allow the reimportation of U.S.-produced drugs into the U.S. to take advantage of these lower prices.

However, the pharmaceutical industry is desperate to maintain its ability to force seniors to pay the highest possible prices for prescription drugs. Seniors in the U.S. should not have to supply the profit margin for the prescription drug industry. Too many people have to make the choice between eating dinner and buying their medicine. Too many people are cutting their pills in half to make their prescriptions last longer. We can do something about that by passing this bill tonight.

Mr. Speaker, the Senate prescription drug legislation contains a reimportation provision. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation so it can be included in the final version of the Medicare prescription drug bill. By conservative estimates, we can save our seniors \$630 billion over the next decade by passing this legislation. Our seniors deserve equity with seniors elsewhere in the world. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 2427.

SCHOOL READINESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2210) to authorize the Head Start Act to improve the school readiness of disadvantaged children, and for other purposes:

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Chairman, Head Start is one of the semiannual innovations in education in the history of America. The bill before us, the School Readiness Act of 2003, is not as catastrophic as its critics tonight are suggesting. No program, however successful, is immune to improvement. On the other hand, the kind of demonstration block grant approach included in this legislation could over time transform Head Start programming in such a way as to weaken the federal nexus and allow states discretionary authority that could, in the name of seeking higher standards, actually diminish those standards.

Of particular concern to me is that the bill authorizes the removal of certain civil rights protections that have historically accompanied virtually all federal programs. I have voted in the past to allow religious organizations in their religious pursuits to be exempt from certain federal mandates, but organizations using federal funds for secular missions should not be allowed to operate outside the scope of the laws that apply to everyone else.

The irony of removing civil rights standards from Head Start programs is that Head Start is an opportunity initiative disproportionately aimed at disadvantaged kids. The message of removal of civil rights protections from Head Start programs is that kids would be asked to work hard but not expect to work here.

Under Title 1 of the School Readiness Act, there are certain quality improvements called for that were consensus in the committee and are acknowledged as steps forward by both sides in the debate this evening. The principal controversy relates to the block grant approach in Title 2 and on this subject, I support the amendment of Representative George Miller of California which embraces the Title 1 provisions of the bill but remolds Title 2 to more closely parallel the way Head Start services are currently provided.

My sense is that this evening's Floor debate has been rife with rhetorical excesses on both sides, but while I am convinced of the good will of the bill's architect, Mike Castle of Delaware, I share the reservations of experts in the field about the approach the majority proposes. While all federal programs deserve to be reviewed with an eye to improvement, the case for structural change of the kind envisioned in this legislation is unconvincing.

Head Start is an American success story. It deserves the respect of this body.

TRIBUTE TO CHESTERFIELD
SMITH

HON. KATHERINE HARRIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, this nation lost one of its greatest lawyers, leaders, and statesmen last week. Chesterfield Smith was not only my neighbor and friend; he was a role model and an icon of probity, integrity, and decency.

Chesterfield Smith set the bar for anyone who aspires to a legal or public service career. His model of leadership, vision, and strength of character had an enormous impact upon my family. He sought the truth, regardless of the political consequences. His dedication to our nation's justice system rightly earned him

recognition as "America's Lawyer" and as "the conscience of the legal profession."

Reared in the Southwest Florida town of Arcadia, Chesterfield Smith served his country heroically in World War II, earning the Bronze Star while fighting with General George S. Patton's 3rd Army in Europe. Following his discharge with the rank of major in 1945, he returned to his native Florida to attend law school at the University of Florida.

He began his law practice with the firm of Treadwell & Treadwell in Arcadia, joining the firm of Holland, Bevis, & McCrae in the neighboring community of Bartow one year and one-half later. Achieving the status of partner in record time, Chesterfield Smith began to build what would become the nation's eighth largest law firm upon a foundation of skilled professionalism, unassailable ethics, and dedicated public service.

In 1964, the Florida Bar recognized Chesterfield Smith's extraordinary leadership abilities by electing him its President. He was appointed Chairman of the Florida Constitutional Revision Commission in 1965, where he challenged and defeated the grip on power of the "Pork Chop Gang," a group of rural Florida legislators who had dominated Florida's state government through the repugnant device of malapportionment.

The entire nation became familiar with Chesterfield Smith's courage and unwavering commitment to principle during his presidency of the American Bar Association in 1973 and 1974. Stating his reasoning simply but powerfully through the words "no man is above the law," he issued the first public call for an investigation of President Nixon's role in the Watergate break-in.

While his potent sense of justice helped steer our nation through a period of great peril to our Constitution, Chesterfield Smith's fundamental sense of right and wrong helped guide his beloved Florida through the turmoil of the civil rights movement. He served as an outspoken opponent of segregation, while transforming his law firm into a model of diversity.

In 1997, Governor Lawton Chiles formally recognized Chesterfield Smith as a Great Floridian. In 2002, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg presented Smith with the Laurie D. Zelon Pro Bono Award, describing him as "among the brightest, boldest, bravest, all-around most effective lawyers ever bred in Florida and the USA."

Mr. Speaker, as we mourn the passing of this great American, may the light of his passionate commitment to the legal profession, to our nation, and to humanity at large continue to animate our dreams and aspirations as public servants.

BARBARA CRITTENDEN SCHOTT

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Barbara Crittenden Schott of Detroit, Michigan, who passed away in her home in Riverside, California on June 13, 2003 at the age of 90. Her unselfish efforts to better the lives of those around her will be remembered through her dedication and commitment to numerous volunteer organizations.

Barbara was the wife of the late General Wes Schott and mother of the late Christopher D. Schott. She is survived by her son, Kenneth and daughter-in-law, Marian Castro Schott of San Diego, California. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Derreth Schott Painter of Herndon, Virginia, Gwendolyn D. Schott of Hickory, North Carolina, and Charles Wesley Schott III of Escondido, California and four great-grandchildren.

Barbara Schott will be remembered for her volunteer work which began in 1940 with the American Red Cross. She was a tireless volunteer in both the military and private sectors, especially medical services organizations. Barbara served on the board of directors for both the Fort Worth and Roswell Good Neighbor Council. She also established the Arlington Ladies, a military wives club, and the Air Force-wide Dependents Assistance Program, now referred to as Family Services. But the people of Guam will especially remember Barbara for actively promoting broader military interaction with the civilian communities on Guam.

Barbara will also be remembered for her efforts to advance the Fine Arts. Her cultural contributions include the Guam Arts Society, the Children's Theater Guild, the Achievement Rewards for College Scientists, the Costume Club of Los Angeles, and the Auxiliary of the Neighborhood Youth Council. Barbara was also an active member in the Los Angeles and Santa Monica Pi Beta Phi Club.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I extend our condolences to the family of Barbara Crittenden Schott. Her selfless love of humanity will serve as an example for us to model our lives after.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL
RAILROAD HALL OF FAME IN
GALESBURG, ILLINOIS

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to introduce a Resolution that would recognize the National Railroad Hall in Galesburg, Illinois.

The American Railroad industry has enjoyed a long history in this country. Its impact on the economy, science, technology, national defense, and our national lifestyle is immeasurable. For that reason, a private group has gathered in Galesburg, Illinois to create a National Railroad Hall of Fame. The mission of the Hall of Fame focuses on the men and women whose ingenuity and labor built, developed and maintained one of our nation's greatest forms of transportation. They are building this to remind us of the history of this industry and to inspire us to continue the American ingenuity that developed our railroad system.

For 2001, they introduced the first inductees. The people that they recognized were George Pullman, Sanford Fleming, and Louis Menk, all of whom provided enormous contributions to the success of the railroad industry. Instead of focusing on the founders of the industry, the inductees come from three eras in railroad history: Birth & Development 1800–

1865, Golden Era 1866–1945, and Modern Era 1946–Present. In highlighting all these periods, the Hall of Fame seeks to show the continuing growth of the railroad industry.

Currently, the National Railroad Hall of Fame in Galesburg is simply looking for Congressional recognition. The same thing that they have been doing since 1995, when I first introduced this resolution. It is high time that we recognize this self-funded, self-directed program for the contribution that it is bringing to preserving the history of this mighty industry and therefore this nation.

HONORING HOWARD CASH AND
GENE CODES CORPORATION

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and celebrate President Howard Cash and the employees of Gene Codes Corporation on their inexhaustible efforts and immense accomplishments in identifying the remains of those killed at the World Trade Center in New York on September 11, 2001. Over the course of the past few years, Mr. Cash and the Gene Codes employees have proven themselves to be truly amazing under some of the most challenging circumstances imaginable.

On September 26, 2001, Mr. Cash and his employees responded to a call to service when the New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner requested that the Gene Codes Corporation assist in the process of identifying the victims of the World Trade Center terrorist attack. The challenge was to create software capable of matching DNA extracted from thousands of remains at Ground Zero to the list of close to 3000 missing persons. Motivated by the anguish caused by the horrific attacks on our country, the Gene Codes staff unanimously agreed to undertake a complex project that was proving to be impossible using current technology. Moreover, Gene Codes decided to complete the project at cost. As a consequence, the Corporation suffered its first unprofitable quarter in eight-and-a-half years.

As thousands of families anxiously awaited the results, the entire technical staff began working solely on the Trade Center project, thus committing to extremely long hours and a great deal of emotional wear and tear. The employees' inexhaustible labor and long hours epitomize the indomitable spirit and unity of the American people. The precision and effectiveness of their software, Mass Fatality Identification System (M-FISys), embodies the limitless dedication and expertise of the Gene Codes staff.

Howard Cash and his corporation have been at the forefront of commercial bioinformatics developments since 1984. Former Michigan Governor John Engler appointed Howard Cash to the Michigan State Commission on Genetics, Privacy and Progress in 1997. In addition, Gene Codes was named one of the Future 50 of Greater Detroit in 2002. Howard Cash's leadership, patriotism and perseverance earned him the title of Entrepreneur of the Year in 2002 by both the New Enterprise Forum and Ernst &

Young, and Person of the year in the Genome Technology All-Star Awards. Furthermore, in 2003 Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm nominated Gene Codes Corporation for the National Medal of Technology.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and all of my colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Howard Cash and his employees on their accomplishments and in wishing them many more years of success and service. The selfless acts of this amazing group of people should be commended. Through their teamwork, dedication and perseverance, these men and women have truly shown the nation what it means to be a hero.

SUPPORT OF THE AMERICORPS PROGRAM

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the AmeriCorps program and in support of an increase in funding for this important initiative. AmeriCorps engages our citizens in service to meet the nation's critical needs in the areas of education, public safety and environmental protection. AmeriCorps enlists 50,000 people nationwide, 1,400 of whom serve in Massachusetts. As you know, the program faces a serious financial crisis and without additional funding, 20,000 new service member positions will be cut and hundreds of programs will be at risk.

The other body has already added additional funding in its version of the Supplemental Appropriations bill. The House needs to act today to preserve this successful program. Without the full \$100 million in additional funding, the service programs as well as the volunteers and communities that rely on them will be devastated. Teach for America and Habitat for Humanity will see a dramatic decrease in participants and the infrastructure of many programs in my district including, Just a Start, City Year and Youth Build, do not have the resources to sustain any cut to their budget. These important programs respond to the needs of communities and my district relies heavily on these AmeriCorps services. AmeriCorps members tutor children, serve as mentors for teens, renovate low-income housing, immunize children against preventable diseases, and restore parks. They work with community leaders and provide services to Head Start children, high school students and senior citizens. With a loss of funding, communities will no longer be able to provide these essential services.

While I remain concerned with the recent accounting errors and mismanagement by the Corporation for National and Community Service's executives, I do not believe we should punish thousands of volunteers for the mistakes made by the Corporation's leadership. These destructive cuts come at a time when our nation is depending on AmeriCorps service members to meet critical education, safety, homeland security and health needs. My district counts on AmeriCorps volunteers and we should be proud of their service. Let's fully fund AmeriCorps.

FIRST RESPONDERS
ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, protecting the security of our communities requires that we have an adequate number of first responders, who form our first line of response to any terrorist attacks. But right now, there are law enforcement agencies all over the country who are being forced to turn back federal grants to hire additional law enforcement officers because they do not have the money to cover the local requirement.

During a time when our nation seems its most vulnerable and under its greatest threat, we have the responsibility to ensure that everyday Americans are safe and secure. We must protect and defend our cities at home during these troubling times by investing in first responders and providing local law enforcement with adequate manpower and resources to prevent any future attacks.

The Universal Hiring Program (UHP) is one of several programs developed by COPS to increase the number of officers on the beat. This program enables interested agencies to supplement their current sworn forces through three-year federal grants. Under current law, these grants cover up to 75 percent of the approved entry-level salary and benefits of each newly hired additional officer position over three years. There is a maximum of \$75,000 per officer over the three-year grant period. A minimum 25 percent local match is required.

Although current law does allow for waivers of the local matching requirement may be requested under UHP due to extreme fiscal hardship, these waivers are rarely granted. One city in my district, Salem, Oregon, has had to decline four COPS Universal Hiring Program grants this year because they were unable to come up with the matching funds required by the program. Considering the budget crisis is resulting in police layoffs, this money is needed now more than ever to ensure that police agencies have the first responders needed to keep our communities safe and protect our homeland.

I am introducing legislation that would provide for a temporary two-year waiver of the local matching requirement for the Universal Hiring Program COPS grants. The maximum contribution of the federal government would also be raised to \$150,000 over the three-year grant program. Finally, my legislation would waive the retention requirement during this two year waiver, so that law enforcement jurisdictions can hire officers without worrying about how they will pay them once the money runs out.

This legislation would provide law enforcement agencies with the resources they need to meet federal homeland security mandates during this time of increased threats and budget crises. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the First Responders Enhancement Act.

SCHOOL READINESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2210) to authorize the Head Start Act to improve the school readiness of disadvantaged children, and for other purposes:

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Chairman, I rise to address the proposed overhaul of the Head Start program. Created in 1965 as part of President Johnson's "Great Society," Head Start is a program that successfully extends educational opportunity to disadvantaged children across the country.

Recently, the President called into question the successes of this program, saying that Head Start is merely, "working OK." While I agree with the President that there is always room for improvement, I think he needs to take a closer look at the remarkable track record of this program.

Head Start has a long and proven record of success: Head Start narrows the achievement gap between disadvantaged and other children; Head Start children show IQ gains compared to children who are not in the program; and Head Start children are much more likely to graduate from high school and college.

Head Start has effectively opened doors and improved the quality of life for 20 million kids over its 38-year history.

Yet, today we consider a bill that threatens to cripple this successful program. I would like to take this opportunity to remind my colleagues across the aisle that a vow to "Leave No Child Behind" means that you can't turn your back on those who need your support the most.

By creating a system of block grants, this bill means that there is no longer a guarantee that federal money will go towards Head Start programs, leaving the burden on the states. In these times of economic hardship, there is a very real possibility that these funds could be diverted to fill holes in tight state budgets, leaving Head Start and our children with nothing.

A recent survey of state funded preschool programs confirms these fears. This study found that when states managed their own preschool programs they frequently failed to provide the same level of services as those required by Head Start.

I would like to applaud President Bush for his call to improve the quality of teaching in Head Start programs by putting a qualified teacher in every classroom.

But I would also remind the President that this is a meaningless promise unless he and the Congress can supply the estimated \$2 billion needed to attract and pay more highly qualified teachers. The last thing the states need now is another unfunded mandate.

Head Start is one of our nation's great success stories. It has a proven track record, and what we should be doing is expanding it and giving it stronger support, not the opposite.

For the sake of the one million kids nationwide, 42,000 Illinoisans and 469 children in my district who depend on Head Start annually, I urge you to vote "no" on the bill.

TRIBUTE TO HER EXCELLENCY
ERATO KOZAKOU-MARCOULLIS,
THE AMBASSADOR OF CYPRUS
TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the most distinguished members of the diplomatic corps here in Washington, Her Excellency Erato Kozakou-Marcoullis, the Ambassador of Cyprus to the United States. Sometime next month, Ambassador Marcoullis will be leaving Washington, after nearly five years of service to her country in our nation's capital. The Ambassador will be assuming a major, high-level post in the Foreign Ministry in the Cypriot capital of Nicosia.

It is with mixed feelings that I come to the floor today to make this statement. In my capacity as co-chair of the Hellenic Issues Caucus, I have had the great honor and privilege of working with Ambassador Marcoullis. I have come to regard her not only as a determined, effective and articulate advocate for her country, but also as a friend. As the former co-chair of the Congressional Women's Caucus, I have always felt a particular bond with Ambassador Marcoullis, who is one of what is still unfortunately only a handful of women ambassadors here in Washington. So, for these reasons, I am sad to see the Ambassador go.

Still, I am extremely encouraged to report that the Ambassador has received an important diplomatic promotion. When she heads back to Nicosia, Ambassador Marcoullis will be in charge of the Division at the Foreign Ministry that has responsibility for what is generally known as the Cyprus Problem—the tragic division of Cyprus that began 29 years ago with the Turkish invasion of that Mediterranean island nation. Indeed, in commemoration of the anniversary of the Turkish invasion, which took place July 20, 1974, a number of my colleagues in this House have joined me in making statements of remembrance, as we do every year around this time.

During her five years here in Washington, there have been many important achievements for Cyprus, and in U.S.-Cypriot relations. Last year, after years of hard work, the Ambassador signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the State Department regarding the protection of antiquities from Cyprus. Last year also witnessed the signing of the U.S.-Cyprus Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty, bringing into force the reciprocal law enforcement treaty between the two nations. After the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Cyprus was among the first nations to express its solidarity with the U.S. Since then, Cyprus has taken many substantive steps to target the perpetrators and collaborators of terrorism, in close cooperation with the U.S.

In April of this year, Cyprus signed the Treaty of Accession to the European Union, one of the most important achievements in the modern history of Cyprus. Cyprus will become a full member of the EU next May. It was during the tenure of Ambassador Marcoullis that U.S. foreign policy on Cyprus began to move in the direction of helping drive Cyprus' admission into the EU, particularly during the Clinton Administration through the work of Ambassador Richard Holbrooke, with whom Ambassador

Marcoullis worked very closely. I am pleased that the Bush Administration has continued to support this policy. Indeed, Ambassador Marcoullis has worked very closely with top officials of the current Administration to keep relations on track in a wide variety of areas.

Of course, the one area where we have not witnessed significant progress is in ending the ongoing Turkish military occupation of Cyprus. This is certainly not for lack of effort by the Ambassador or her fine staff at the Embassy in Washington. Nor is it the fault of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, which has continued to negotiate in good faith to end the division of Cyprus. The fault lies with Turkey and with the occupation regime. I again urge my colleagues in Congress to continue working with me and many of our colleagues, on a bipartisan basis, to help convince Turkey to end its illegal occupation of one-third of Cypriot territory.

One of Ambassador Marcoullis' greatest achievements has been simply to sustain and enhance up the visibility of the Cyprus issue. Cyprus is a relatively small country, but it is at the center of a region of great importance to the U.S. and the Western Alliance. Ambassador Marcoullis has been tireless in her efforts to elevate the awareness of these issues. Owing in large measure to her efforts, it is now an issue that is regularly addressed by the White House, the State Department and Congress.

Ambassador Marcoullis presented her credentials to President Bill Clinton on September 10, 1998. In addition to her many responsibilities here in Washington, she is also accredited as High Commissioner to Canada, Guyana and Jamaica and Ambassador to Brazil. Throughout her distinguished diplomatic career, she has served as Ambassador to a number of European countries, as a Member of the Permanent Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations, as Consul of Cyprus in New York, and at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the First Political Division, dealing with the Cyprus Problem and as Director of the Office of the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ambassador Marcoullis has devoted particular attention to political, human rights and women's issues.

A native of Limassol, Cyprus, she is a graduate of Law and of Political Science/Public Law (University of Athens, Greece) and holds a Ph.D. in Sociology and Political Science (University of Helsinki, Finland). She is married to Dr. George Marcoullis, an Associate Professor of Medicine at New York Medical College, specializing in Oncology/Hematology. Their son Panos is a graduate of the University of Michigan.

Earlier this week, The Washington Times newspaper, in its "Embassy Row" column, reported on a dinner in honor of Ambassador Marcoullis hosted by Ambassador Arlette Conzemius of Luxembourg, who presented her credentials to President Clinton in 1998 on the same day as Mrs. Kozakou Marcoullis. They began an immediate friendship and helped organize the female ambassadors' caucus. Ambassador Conzemius congratulated Ambassador Marcoullis for maintaining Cyprus' high profile in Washington, saying "What you did for your country, the progress, the success. It's great to see what has been accomplished." Those words would be echoed by many here on Capitol Hill, where Ambassador Marcoullis was well known and well respected.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, we will miss Ambassador Marcoullis. But it is encouraging to know that she is going back to Cyprus to take a leading role in facing the Cyprus problem. This is a woman who's going to make a difference. I'll miss her, but I have complete confidence in her ability to manage this problem; I congratulate her on this diplomatic promotion; and I look forward to working with her for the peaceful reunification of Cyprus.

IN HONOR OF ENOLA MAXWELL

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep personal sadness that I rise today to pay tribute to one of San Francisco's most beloved and admired social activists. Enola Maxwell passed away on June 24th at the age of 83. Enola lived an impassioned life, advocating for freedom and justice on behalf of people of all races, ethnicities, and ages. In living her life, Enola Maxwell changed countless people's lives for the better. I extend my deepest sympathies to Enola's daughters Sophie and Barbara; thank you for sharing your mother with us. She brightened our lives with her strength, her courage and her grace.

Ruth Passen, longtime friend and associate of Enola, wrote a beautiful obituary in The Potrero View, of which she is the editor. She captures Enola's essence and our feelings for her so well that I am privileged to share her words about "the Heart of Potrero Hill."

"She was the anchor for a whole neighborhood—the backbone of a community—known as "mom" by many, both young and old, and called Miz Maxwell by everybody else. Whoever assumes her role as the Executive Director of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House will be the beneficiary of an extraordinary legacy but will be challenged to follow in her footsteps.

She was born on August 30, 1919 in Baton Rouge, La. to Clemus and Lena Dundy. After separating from Clemus, Lena moved to San Francisco and in 1949 Enola, together with her two children, joined her. They lived in several neighborhoods, including the Haight Ashbury, before moving into the government-owned public housing project on Carolina Street and 18th Street, known as the Carolina Projects, where they were living when Enola's third child, Sophie, was born. (The Potrero Hill Middle School was built on the site in 1971.) Potrero Hill old-timers will remember Enola's mother as the proprietor of the Little Red Door, a popular thrift store on 18th Street.

Enola supported her family by working a variety of jobs; she kept house with one family for several years, and was an employee of the U.S. Postal Service for a time.

Her activism began as a member of the Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council where she met Sue Bierman and others who have remained lifelong friends. The council was successful in stopping a movement to build a freeway through Golden Gate Park. This first exhilarating venture into community activism changed the course of her life. She got a leave of absence from the Post Office and joined the Civil Rights March on Washington in 1968. After that experience she wanted to

do more. She was "bitten by the activism bug," said daughter Sophie Maxwell.

Enola decided that she could help people from a pulpit, and enrolled at the San Francisco Theological Seminary in San Anselmo. She made history by being the first woman—and first black person—to be named as lay minister at the Potrero Hill Olivet Presbyterian Church on Missouri Street where she served from 1968 to 1971.

She wanted a church where people could feel comfortable and free. She foresaw a gathering where people and new ministers could talk about activism; she helped coin the name Street Ministers.

Her tenure at the Olivet provided the opportunity to put into action her dream of the Street Ministries, and she established a coffeehouse in the church's basement where ongoing dialogues about activism, and music flourished. In 1972, she was hired to be the Executive Director of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House affectionately known as the Nabe—the first black person hired for any position at the Nabe. The Neighborhood House was established in the early 1920s by the Presbyterian Church.

Her instincts and down-to-earth good sense led her to initiate programs to help the community's youth, as well as to embellish services that the Nabe had offered Potrero Hill residents for more than 50 years. The Potrero Hill Neighborhood House was designated as Historical Landmark No. 86 in 1977 during Enola's tenure.

Enola was a compassionate leader in the civil rights movement, on women's rights issues, and as a peace activist. The walls of her office at the Neighborhood House are covered with plaques and awards honoring her services not only to the Potrero Hill neighborhood, but also to San Francisco residents city-wide and to the many organizations in which she played active roles.

Enola was feisty and fiery and caring. At times she was the only black woman in organizations that were primarily white. That didn't matter. What she offered any group with whom she worked was honesty in making sure that justice was the manifest result of their group efforts. She once remarked that "fear and hate are the most dangerous things because they take away your freedom."

Besides serving on many civic commissions, Enola was also on the founding committee and longtime member of the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday celebration, and several committees organized through the Mayor's office. She received a Congressional Award from Congressman Phillip Burton, and I appointed her to the Senior Internship Program in Washington, D.C.

In 2001, the Potrero Hill Middle School was renamed the Enola D. Maxwell Middle School for the Arts. Enola had always spent time working with the schoolteachers and administrators. She was deeply honored by the name change and referred to the school as "my school."

It is an honor to stand before the House today to celebrate the life of this remarkable woman. The legacy of her service to and compassion for the San Francisco community will endure for generations.

RAYMOND ANTHONY AGRICOLA

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Raymond Anthony Agricola who celebrated his 80th birthday on July 12th. Mr. Agricola was stationed in Guam during World War II as a U.S. Naval Aviator.

After Mr. Agricola left the Navy, he returned to Guam to work for Pan American World Airways. While working for Pan Am, Mr. Agricola continued to establish memorable relationships with our local people. Guam continues to hold special memories for Mr. Agricola. Even after he returned to the mainland, he continued to remain close to the friends he had made on Guam and became a member of the Guam Society of America.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I want to say, Si Yu'os Ma'ase to Raymond Agricola for his service to our island and wish him a very special Happy 80th Birthday.

LACK OF ADHERENCE TO DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES UNDERMINES FREE MARKET ECONOMICS IN RUSSIA

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention of the House of Representatives an article in the Washington Post on July 10, 2003 entitled, "The Big Shakedown on Russian Business." This article by Masha Lipman, editor of the Moscow Carnegie Center's Pro et Contra Journal, exposes a pattern of arrests and investigations of prominent business executives in Russia. Calling this behavior by Russian security agencies "shakedown justice", Masha Lipman makes a strong case that "this mock justice compromises the credibility of the Russian President when he pledges that Russia is a lawful state."

One of the key factors in the development of a nascent democracy, like Russia, is the rule of law, as it underpins all aspects of the society. If Russia, or any other country for that matter, is to attract investment or create an environment conducive to business growth, it must be clear that investments and entrepreneurial activity will be protected under a system governed fairly and equitably according to the law.

The arrests and investigations described by Masha Lipman send precisely the wrong signals about Russian free-market economics, democracy, and the rule of law. Perceptions about a hostile business climate in Russia could have a chilling effect on foreign investment in Russia at a time when the country's economy is rapidly improving. I urge my colleagues to read this important article and join with me in urging the Russian government to take affirmative actions to support and uphold, and not to undermine, free market principles and democracy in Russia.

I submit the article by Masha Lipman into the RECORD at this point.

[From the Washington Post, July 10, 2003]

THE BIG SHAKEDOWN ON RUSSIAN BUSINESS

(By Masha Lipman)

MOSCOW.—Mikhail Khodorkovsky is an oil magnate and, by most accounts, Russia's wealthiest man. He is also having some difficulty with law enforcement. Late last week he was summoned to the chief prosecutor's office for interrogation regarding the activities of some of his associates. Of course, this kind of thing isn't unique to Russian business executives; Westerners have seen many important people led away in handcuffs over the years. But in the case of Khodorkovsky's associates and other prominent business executives here, it's not so much a matter of the rule of law as it is of what might be called shakedown justice. This mock justice compromises the credibility of the Russian president when he pledges that Russia is a lawful state. It is also detrimental to Russia's economic development. It threatens to stultify the country's efforts to attract badly needed foreign investment.

Several cases have been opened recently against people associated with Khodorkovsky's big and successful oil company, Yukos. The allegations include embezzlement, fraud and murder. Two people are in jail, one of them being Platon Lebedev, a billionaire and a co-holder of Yukos's controlling stake. Yesterday the prosecutor's office was also reported to be examining an alleged case of tax evasion by Yukos. (Also yesterday, the U.S. Embassy in Moscow formally asked the Russian government to explain its investigation of Khodorkovsky, according to a senior U.S. diplomat.) Theories abound as to what may be behind the shakedown, or *nyezd*, as this action is being commonly referred to in the media and among professional analysts. Nobody among them believes that the case against Lebedev, or any of the other cases related to Yukos, is a purely legal matter. In attacking Khodorkovsky and his company, the prosecutor's office and the state security agency, the FSB, appear to be acting on orders from somebody with huge political clout.

Khodorkovsky believes that Yukos was picked as a target because it's a world-class company and, especially after its recent proposed merger with another Russian oil giant, a tasty morsel attractive to a number of people in this country. Ultimately, Khodorkovsky claims, this is a struggle for power "between different wings in the inner circle of Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin." He offers no details to back up this allegation, but there is no doubt that whoever is attacking him would have to be very highly placed.

Early in his tenure as Russia's president, Putin announced as his guiding principle the "dictatorship of the law." But at the same time, the prosecutor's office and the FSB were used by the Kremlin to attack Putin's nemesis, media tycoon Vladimir Gusinsky (for whose company, I should note here, I worked for a time). The campaign against Gusinsky and his associates lasted more than a year and included various intimidating actions: raids by masked security agents, searches, arrests and investigations. The cases mostly fell apart, but the tactics worked: Gusinsky was forced to leave Russia, and his media business was ruined. Similar methods were used against another business tycoon, Boris Berezovsky, who currently lives abroad. As a result, people who felt they weren't getting their fair share of the goodies saw the benefits of "hiring" law enforcers to improve their position against a competitor, or just to extort money.

Igor Yurgens, vice president of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, a group of business tycoons, said in a recent interview that his organization gets "dozens

or hundreds" of calls from provincial businessmen who complain of similar—if much more small-time—shakedowns. They tell stories of visitors calling on local businessmen and informing them that their businesses had not been properly registered some nine years before. The unfortunate entrepreneur then has a choice of paying the extortionists money or facing "variants," which means, according to Yurgens, "the use of law enforcement bodies with the purpose of redistributing property." In a similar fashion, Khodorkovsky's attackers may hope to rectify what they believe has been unfair distribution of the oil business or, for that matter, of political power.

Khodorkovsky may still be able to defend himself and defeat his attackers. He claims the president feels no hostility toward him. Because Putin is sure to be reelected next year, Khodorkovsky said, the current struggle is about "who's going to be in the second echelon of his team." If Khodorkovsky's guess is right and it is indeed a faction in the Kremlin—not the president himself—going after him, his connections, money, reputation and skilled advisers may be enough to repel the attack. But however this affair turns out, it will have little if anything to do with proper judicial procedure. The general understanding in Russia is that in cases such as this, the ultimate decision is made not in the courtroom but at the top level of the Kremlin.

Certainly one would think that Putin would be concerned if indeed his top aides are using law enforcers to engage in self-seeking pursuit of power and wealth. But there is an even more important reason why he should worry about this sort of thing. Putin has for some time emphasized the need to lure foreign capital to Russia. He has not had much success. During his grand visit to Britain recently, the Russian president did his best to tout his country's "favorable conditions for investors." The question is: How interested are foreign investors going to be when they see that even a world-class business cannot feel secure in Russia or expect to get justice in a court of law?

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN WAR

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commemorate the courageous men and women who served our country in the Korean War. On this 50th Anniversary of the end of the Korean War, it is my pleasure to honor and bear witness to those who fearlessly fought for our nation.

On July 27, 2003 the nation will solemnly reflect upon the dedicated, selfless, patriotic service of those great Americans who, at times of great peril, risked their lives, so that this great nation shall not perish from the earth. Through their service, they kept America strong and protected our way of life. Today, it is with great pride and patriotism that we remember these American heroes for their gallantry and bravery, for their roles in our community and their service to an eternally grateful nation.

Abraham Lincoln stated it plainly when he notably remarked that soldiers purchase liberty

with "the price of their blood." We, the American people, are all the heirs of freedom paid for with the blood of patriots. This great nation will not forget the service of our soldiers, of our disabled veterans, of our POWs, and, most certainly, we do not forget our MIAs and families they represent. The men and women of our Armed Forces answered the call to service with courage, conviction and bravery.

We should never forget our obligation to these heroic men and women who courageously served the freedom loving people of the United States and throughout the world. Sometimes forgotten and often ignored, these patriots have been unable to get much needed care from the government that they inexhaustibly served. While it is imperative that we remember the service of our nation's veterans, it is equally incumbent upon decision-makers to ensure that our government meets its commitment to all of our veterans. I pledge today that I will continue to fight, as I have during my entire career, to ensure that these veterans get the care they were promised and to which they are entitled. We will make certain that the flame of memory never dies.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise to join me in extending the appreciation of the U.S. House of Representatives to the remarkable men and women who valiantly served in the Korean War for their brave and outstanding service to the United States of America. There is no more noble a cause for an American than to actively participate in the defense of our nation and its values. May God bless the defenders of our freedom both living and fallen.

TRIBUTE TO REAR ADMIRAL GARY ROUGHEAD

HON. KATHERINE HARRIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize and congratulate an outstanding Naval Officer, Rear Admiral Gary Roughead, upon his completion of more than two years of distinguished service as the Department of the Navy's Chief of Legislative Affairs for the United States Congress. I am honored as Admiral Roughead's United States Representative to commend his extraordinary achievements on the Navy's behalf from May 2001 thru August 2003 as well as his unparalleled devotion to our great Nation.

A 1973 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Admiral Roughead became one of the Navy's finest Surface Warfare Officers. Through his tremendous leadership and vision, he navigated the Navy's legislative agenda through the tumultuous events following September 11, 2001, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. This accomplishment alone has established Admiral Roughead's place in history.

Due to his incredible mastery of military issues and the legislative process, however, he also ensured favorable Congressional consideration of several high profile matters, such as Readiness and Range Preservation Initiatives (RRPI), DD (X)/ LCS, Vieques, and the

Navy/Marine Corps Intranet. Additionally, Admiral Roughead nurtured strong personal bonds with many Members of Congress and their staff members, while positively impacting the Navy's current and future size, readiness and capabilities through the outstanding counsel and strategic insight that he provided to the Secretary of the Navy and to the Chief of Naval Operations.

Rear Admiral Roughead was recently nominated for an appointment to the rank of Vice Admiral. In connection with this promotion, he will be assigned as Commander, Second Fleet and Commander, Striking Fleet Atlantic, in Norfolk, VA.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Admiral Roughead continued success and fulfillment as he undertakes this new challenge. I know that my colleagues in the House join me in saluting this fine Naval Officer, who embodies the integrity, skill, and professionalism for which we venerate our brave men and women in uniform.

PHARMACEUTICAL MARKETING ACCESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2427 to allow affordable prescription drugs to be sold in this country. American consumers continue to pay drug prices that are 30 to 300 percent more than in Europe and other industrialized nations and this is wrong.

The citizens of the 3rd District of North Carolina are like the citizens across this nation—they are looking to the Congress for help—prescription drugs in this country must be more affordable.

H.R. 2427 would allow individuals, pharmacists and wholesalers in America access to FDA approved drugs from FDA approved facilities in industrialized nations.

Studies show that over 50 percent of our nation's current drug supply comes from FDA approved laboratories overseas; the only difference is that American consumers do not benefit from the lower prices available in these foreign countries.

Those outside of Congress who are opposed to this bill have spent millions of dollars to keep American consumers from benefiting from H.R. 2427. In my opinion they have taken the low road in this debate.

Mr. Speaker I will close by saying that the citizens of America have the right to have access to affordable prescription drugs. The costs of research and development by pharmaceutical companies should not be on the backs of American consumers.

Like President Reagan said, "markets are more powerful than armies." Allow for prescription drug importation and let the R&D costs be borne by all the countries who are benefiting from these drugs.

It is my sincere hope that we can pass this legislation.

PHARMACEUTICAL MARKET
ACCESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, consideration of H.R. 2427, the Pharmaceutical Market Access Act of 2003 involves a mosaic of liberal, conservative and moderate concerns which make the case for passage compelling.

From a liberal perspective it is clear that America's social fabric is being wrenched as many of our citizens confront drug costs they cannot meet. From a conservative perspective it is apparent that the current system involves the placing of restraints on trade that a country dedicated to free markets should philosophically find untenable. And from a moderate perspective, it is troubling that the worldwide cost of pharmaceutical research is borne disproportionately by the American consumer with the consequence that the cost of drug development, which is paid for by the American taxpayer through support of institutions like NIH and the American consumer through prescription drug prices, has come to represent one of the largest foreign aid programs in history.

The question is whether the cost of drug research and development should be borne on an even basis by all countries or almost exclusively by the U.S. consumer.

There are, of course, issues of safety raised by this measure before the House, but they will exist whether or not this legislation passes. Indeed, it may arguably be claimed that there is a greater incentive for counterfeiting drugs in a circumstance where American prices are inflated relative to those in other countries.

In addition, enormous safety concerns arise when individuals cannot afford the drugs they need and these must be taken into account in any equation attempting to balance all elements of the safety problem.

Critics of opening up trade in prescription drugs properly note that the bill under consideration does not provide increased resources for the FDA to adequately inspect overseas drug production and sales. It is my strong sense that there is consensus in this body that Congress must address this issue and provide the FDA with greater resources should this legislation pass.

Mr. Speaker, the cost of prescription drugs is not an issue exclusively for those who require them. Prescription drug are a significant component of healthcare costs in this country and this high cost of American healthcare is one of the factors incentivizing companies to invest and in many cases relocate abroad.

Bringing down drug costs is thus a jobs issue for all Americans as well as a cost concern for those individuals who rely on particular medicines.

Mr. Speaker, the pharmaceutical industry deserves our respect for having made scientific breakthroughs that have been of life-saving significance to countless individuals. The revolution in sophistication of drug treatment is just beginning, and care must be taken not to radically erode the industry's research base, but the pharmaceutical industry should not be more protected from market forces than other industries.

Protectionism is generally counter-productive, but seldom has a set of laws designed to provide a protective cocoon for an industry proven more cost disadvantageous for the public. I know of no industry which has such a substantially higher price structure in this country than abroad. Indeed, the genius of the American marketing structure is that there is virtually no processed commodity that cannot be bought cheaper here than abroad. The singular major exception is prescription drugs.

The most effective antidote to this market malady is competition. The public interest requires adoption of the Pharmaceutical Market Access Act of 2003.

SCHOOL READINESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2210) to authorize readiness of disadvantaged children, and for other purposes.

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2210 the School Readiness Act. This is a bad bill that will bring significant changes to one of our nation's greatest success stories: the Head Start program.

The Head Start program was established in 1965 as part of the War on Poverty. The program was created to give low-income youth an opportunity to receive quality preschool education, so that they would not enter kindergarten at a disadvantage. In addition to preschool classes, Head Start also emphasizes medical, dental, and mental health; nutrition; and parent involvement.

Since its inception, the program has grown and undergone some modifications, but has remained a federal program, with federal standards, and with funds provided to the local Head Start programs.

This bill proposes to change that. It will end Head Start as we know it by weakening educational standards and threatening to dismantle the effective and high-quality Head Start program that has helped more than 20 million children and their families.

While the bill would make quality improvements to Head Start that I support, virtually all of these improvements, as well as the existing quality requirements, would be undone by turning Head Start over to the States in the form of a block grant.

Under the block grant, states are not required to follow the Head Start performance standards. I fear that this will weaken educational standards, by increasing class size, increasing child-teacher ratio, shortening program duration, cutting off three-year-olds from services, and using unproven curricula. In addition, there is no guarantee that the pilot programs will maintain the comprehensive services, including elimination of parent classroom involvement, health and mental health screenings and services, adult literacy services, vision and dental services, and health and nutrition education, that have made Head Start so successful.

Mr. Chairman, I support Head Start, but I cannot support this bill. It takes a giant step

backwards in providing vital services to our Nation's most precious assets, our children. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting no on this bill.

NINO JOACHIM TOLENTINO, 31ST ANNUAL SCRIPPS HOWARD REGIONAL SPELLING BEE CHAMPION (GUAM), 76TH ANNUAL SCRIPPS HOWARD NATIONAL SPELLING BEE PARTICIPANT (WASHINGTON, DC)

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Nino Joachim Tolentino for winning the 31st Annual Scripps Howard Regional Spelling Bee on Guam and his advancement to the 76th Annual Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee in Washington, DC where he proudly represented our island.

Nino's spelling bee victory on Guam allowed him to compete nationally. At the national spelling bee, Nino successfully advanced to the third round. Although he was not ultimately victorious, Nino will walk away with an incredible experience, and a knowledge of the definition of "farouche", the word he spelled to propel him into the second round.

Nino is an eighth-grader at Santa Barbara School in Dededo, Guam. Nino has aspired to compete in the National Spelling Bee since placing third in his fifth grade regional competition. By studying the origin of words, their definitions and its pronunciation, Nino devised his own method for spelling new words. Additionally, the support of Santa Barbara School, particularly his vice principal and coach, Sister Maria Rosario Gaité, helped Nino prepare for competition. Nino's success illustrates the importance of dedication and commitment in pursuing goals.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I want to commend and congratulate Nino Tolentino for his accomplishments. Guam celebrates with Nino's mother, Joy Tolentino, and the faculty, staff and students of Santa Barbara School, in acknowledging his achievements. I look forward to Nino's continued success in the future.

STATE CHILDREN'S HEALTH
INSURANCE PROGRAM

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank Chairmen TAUZIN and BILIRAKIS for working in the true spirit of bipartisan cooperation on this issue. We have developed a compromise to protect health care coverage for hundreds of thousands of children under the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP).

The SCHIP program was enacted in 1997 and currently provides health care coverage to approximately 4.3 million children. But there have been some growing pains: the state funding allotment mechanism has not worked perfectly and as a result, some states have

been left with excess funding and others with too little.

Nearly \$1.2 billion of funding intended for children's health insurance coverage was returned to the Treasury over the past few years—not for lack of need, but as a result of these problems with the funding allocation.

Our bill will first preserve the \$1.2 billion in funds for states to use through fiscal year 2004.

In addition, the bill extends for one additional year the availability of \$1.5 billion in SCHIP funds from fiscal years 2000 and 2001 allotments, thereby allowing 50 percent of each year's unspent money to be retained by states that have not used their entire allotment.

The remaining 50 percent of unspent money would be distributed to states that have spent all of their respective year's allotment.

Finally, the bill will allow certain states to use a portion of their unspent funds for children covered through Medicaid.

I again thank the Chairman for his efforts to move this legislation forward and protect health care for children under SCHIP. I hope that the Senate will act quickly so that we can get this bill to the President's desk and expedite the flow of needed funding for children's health care.

NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS
BURIAL FAIRNESS ACT OF 2003

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. I rise today to introduce the Native American Veterans Cemetery Act of 2003. This bill would make all Native American tribes eligible to apply for state cemetery grants. Under the current law, only states are eligible for veteran's cemetery grants. Supported by the Navajo Nation, the largest federally recognized tribe, this bill would not give preference or special exceptions to Native American tribes that apply for the state cemetery grants. It would simply allow tribes to apply for grants to establish, expand or improve tribal veterans cemeteries.

In addition to a resolution adopted by the Navajo Nation Council, the New Mexico and Arizona state legislatures have both passed memorials urging Congress to adopt this measure. New Mexico is home to almost 9,800 Native American Veterans, making it one of the top five states in the country with regard to its Native American veteran population. I believe it is time that Native American veterans who have served our country so honorably are allowed to pursue a decent, dignified resting place on their tribal lands.

HONORING MARCUS GARVEY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor, recognize and celebrate the anniversary of his birth on the 16th of August and to praise Marcus Garvey for his seminal contribution to the civil rights movement.

Marcus Garvey, born in rural St. Ann's Bay, Jamaica rose from the humblest of beginnings to attain international stature. He brought African nationalism and pride to the oppressed African-American community. In doing so, he challenged mainstream white America and predominant racist stereotypes. The passion and fervor with which the African-American community responded to Marcus Garvey's arrival indicated the boiling energy and pride that existed but without leadership. Marcus Garvey provided that leader, took pride in his skin color, and demanded that others do the same. In doing so, he energized a generation of African-Americans and laid much of the groundwork for the civil-rights movement.

In 1914, Garvey formed the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) and the African Communities League (ACL) while studying in England. In doing so, Garvey sought "to work for the general uplift of the Negro peoples of the world." At its peak, in 1922–1924, Garvey's movement encompassed over 8 million proud followers. Through the hundreds of UNIA chapters throughout the world and the newspaper *Negro World*, Garvey encouraged and worked for economic success and political influence for his followers. He urged people of African descent to create their own businesses and to wield the influence that accompanies personal wealth. He refused the notion that African-Americans could not succeed as entrepreneurs in the mold of Rockefeller and Carnegie. Such notions were novel and exciting for oppressed minorities around the world.

In what would prove to be a fatal mistake, Mr. Garvey organized a steamship company called "Black Star Line." Garvey designed his company to realize his dream of a powerful African nation built on the foundations of black culture and independence. The fundamental principle of Garvey's repatriation to Africa movement was one of pride. He wanted people of African descent to celebrate themselves and raise their culture to international prominence. Garvey awakened, energized and cultivated the modern nationalist movements that eventually opposed European colonial domination and began African self-determination.

Garvey sought to combat the racism and the stigma of black skin that had seeped into the culture of his own people. He made black dolls for black children and called for separate black institutions under black leadership. Mr. Garvey's pride and his activism threatened white America, and J. Edgar Hoover quickly took notice. After failing to uncover any evidence of subversion, Marcus Garvey was arrested and convicted of mail fraud relating to "Black Star Line." His sentence was eventually commuted, and Garvey was deported to his native Jamaica.

Considering that Marcus Garvey spent only 10 of his 52 years in the United States, his impact on our culture was phenomenal. The ideas that Mr. Garvey espoused were not necessarily phenomenal in their originality, but Mr. Garvey's charisma and rhetorical excellence forced not only African-Americans, but mainstream America, to listen to his message. While I encourage my colleagues to reexamine H. Con. Res. 74, exonerating Marcus Garvey, I've risen today so that Mr. Garvey's legacy and his contributions to racial equality are not forgotten.

I would like to share with you an Op-ed that I wrote in March of last year in support of H. Con. Res. 74.

In 1987, the centenary of Marcus Garvey's birth when I first introduced legislation to exonerate the great civil rights leader, the *New York Times* cited a study of J. Edgar Hoover's role in Garvey's prosecution:

"Hoover saw the blacks and the reds as a larger conspiracy. The new Negro movement, which Garvey symbolized, Hoover saw as a terrible threat to the American way."

Even then, in 1987, Hoover remained a near sacrosanct figure in Washington, not yet fully exposed as a bully who wielded the power of the nation's preeminent law enforcement organization. Today, the late former director of the FBI is widely discredited as a power-hungry blackmailer of U.S. presidents and a hateful bigot and slanderer of Martin Luther King who shied away from prosecuting organized crime while doing everything in his power to intimidate and undermine leaders of civil rights anti-war movements of the 1960's.

As Hoover's reputation declines—a pending bill in the U.S. House of Representatives would strike his name from FBI headquarters in Washington—Garvey's is rising. Last year's PBS documentary on Garvey placed his name among the giants of American 20th century Black history.

Marcus Garvey was one of America's great Black leaders and in the early 1920's he was wrongfully prosecuted and imprisoned on charges of mail fraud. It is time high time that the Congress of the United States of America recognizes this injustice and clear his name.

Born in St. Ann's Bay, Jamaica, August 17, 1887, Garvey epitomized the strength and pride of the people of the Caribbean. Garvey was virtually self-taught, reading voraciously from his father's extensive library. By 1910, and when residing in Kingston, he quickly established himself as a spellbinding orator and political organizer.

Garvey's philosophy and accomplishments challenged the myths of inferiority that demeaned people of African heritage in the 1920s. When lynching of Black men was commonplace, when house burning by Southern Klansmen and northern rioters were routine when theories of white supremacy were acceptable and notions of equality subversive, Marcus Garvey preached racial pride and economic independence.

He raised more than one million dollars from thousands of investors in the United States, the Caribbean, Africa and Europe to establish the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) and his well-known Black Star Line steamship company. The Black Star Line was established to purchase ships to initiate trade with and eventually carry New World Blacks to Africa. Indeed, one of Garvey's most important legacies was his internationalism, his recognition that the struggles of the Black people of America were linked by blood and history to the quests for independence by people of color around the world.

Garvey's success inevitably drew suspicion of an ambitious J. Edgar Hoover, who ordered the surveillance and infiltration of Garvey's UNIA. When evidence of subversion failed to turn up, Garvey was indicted on a business offense. Garvey's trial was a mockery of justice. The charges were confused, the evidence flimsy, and the judge biased. To make matters worse, Garvey insisted on defending himself.

In 1923, Garvey was convicted of mail fraud and sentenced to five years in prison. His appeals to higher courts were promptly denied. Numerous petitions for Presidential pardons signed by thousands of the very people whom he was accused of defrauding were rebuffed.

Garvey's prosecution was one of this nation's great miscarriages of justice. This fact has been well documented by Prof. Robert

Hill, editor of the Garvey papers at UCLA, historian John Henrik Clark and others.

Yet, the government has held firm in its conviction that Garvey was a "menace," as he was described by the young J. Edgar Hoover, who made Garvey one of his first targets, as FBI director. Among his last was Martin Luther King, a philosophical successor to Garvey, who was branded a "communist," wiretapped and hounded by the aging Hoover.

It may be difficult to comprehend today, but in the racial climate of the 1920's, Garvey success was his greatest liability. At a time when Black people were stigmatized as intellectually inferior—and were economically more disadvantaged than today accomplishments of the magnitude achieved by Garvey were immediately and almost universally dismissed as fraudulent. But as Garvey's mystique has grown, so too has our understanding of the wealth of his contributions and his historical importance as the trailblazer for the great civil rights leaders who followed.

In the United States, where he lived for 10 of his 53 years, Garvey inspired hundreds of thousands of Black American supporters with hope for a better future. Today, he stands out in the pantheon of Black America's greatest and most controversial leaders. But in the records of the U.S. Department of Justice and the Federal Courts, Garvey remains ex-convict number 19359.

Almost 75 years ago, Marcus Garvey was released from Atlanta Federal Penitentiary, his sentence commuted by President Calvin Coolidge. Deported to his native Jamaica, Garvey died 13 years later, and entered history as that nation's preeminent hero. As a role model to millions of common people in the Americas and the Third World, he would inspire the independence movements that liberated colonial Africa.

Despite the harassment and the weakness of the evidence against him, Garvey's prosecution may have been inevitable in the 1920's. But by unbiased standards, the charges were not substantiated and his conviction was not justified. We cannot overturn the verdict but we can prove that times have changed and that we now know better.

SCHOOL READINESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2210) to authorize the Head Start Act to improve the school readiness of disadvantaged children, and for other purposes:

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Chairman, I rise tonight in opposition to H.R. 2210, the School Readiness Act of 2003. Head Start has provided a strong foundation for millions of children over the past 38 years. The program was created in 1965 to help young children become more academically prepared for school and to encourage healthy families. Head Start, which currently assists over 900,000 children, is the only major federal effort to provide comprehensive social and educational services. Head Start targets the nation's poorest children, those living in families at or below the federal poverty level as well as children with disabilities and special needs. It emphasizes not only children's cognitive development but

also their social, emotional, and physical development and encourages strong parent involvement.

H.R. 2210 reauthorizes the Head Start program through Fiscal Year 2008. While the measure seeks to improve the school readiness by increasing the focus on academic performance, the bill's authorization provides only 2.9 percent more than the FY03 appropriation, just barely enough to cover inflation. I have other serious concerns with this reauthorization legislation. In particular, H.R. 2210 changes current law to permit religious organizations who run Head Start programs to discriminate in hiring employees based on religious affiliation. The bill also establishes a demonstration program that permits eight states to integrate their own preschool programs with the federal Head Start programs. This is the first step in a concerted effort by the Majority to block grant Head Start and take oversight away from the federal government. I believe block granting will weaken performance standards and ultimately could lead to a dismantling of the entire program.

As a strong supporter of Head Start, I believe we should be focusing on ways to build upon the success of the program by strengthening school readiness, improving program quality and accountability, and expanding access to more eligible children. For that reason, I support the substitute offered by Representative MILLER. The substitute strengthens Head Start's focus on preliteracy, language and pre-math skills while improving teacher quality by requiring 50 percent of Head Start teachers to have bachelor's degrees by 2008 and prohibiting new hires without associate's degrees after 2005. The Miller proposal creates salary and scholarship funds to ensure Head Start teachers are able to remain with Head Start for several years. Most importantly, it expands access to all pre-school students, expands access to Early Head Start and increases the flexibility of Head Start programs to meet community local needs.

During a time where there is a lot of talk about "Leaving No Child Behind", let's truly stand up for the children who need our help the most. The research is clear—children who participate in Head Start arrive at school better prepared than low-income children who do not participate in the program. This high quality program must be preserved—it works and it works well. It is illogical to cut funding or weaken this proven program. I urge my colleagues to vote against H.R. 2210 and for the Miller substitute to ensure that vital, comprehensive services remain available to all Head Start participants.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL TERRORISM REDUCTION ACT

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, throughout our history, America has been a country committed to justice. In the wake of an 1837 mob lynching of an abolitionist newspaper editor, our great leader Abraham Lincoln urged his fellow Americans to "let reverence for the laws . . . become the political religion of the nation," to let legislatures and

judges chosen by the people, rather than lynch-mobs motivated by passion and hatred, decide important issues. In the end, Lincoln's philosophy was vindicated. Our nation remains united, and we are committed to the rule of law.

But there is a minority of Americans who refuse to abide by this covenant. They believe the rule of law does not apply to them, and in the forests and communities of Oregon and the Western United States, their actions are a rapidly growing problem.

Oregon has seen a growing number of incidents of environmental terrorism. I have traveled to the site of one of these, a Boise Cascade building that was burned down by the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) on Christmas day a couple of years ago.

While environmental terrorists claim that they don't want to harm people, they need to sit down with the volunteer firefighters who were roused from their beds early on Christmas morning to fight the blaze they started.

You see, the way incendiary devices used in arsons work, the buildings targeted by environmental terrorists often fall in very quickly, and we are extremely lucky that none of the brave women and men who fight fires have been seriously hurt or killed in one of these blazes.

In 2001, poplar trees involved in a research project at Oregon State University were destroyed by a group expressing concern about genetically modified organisms. The ironic thing about this is that the trees were involved in research designed to prevent genetically modified organisms from spreading into the wild—a goal which the saboteurs probably support.

Unfortunately, neither side in the battle over the environment has a monopoly on the use of violence—both environmentalists and those who oppose increased protections of our natural resources have resorted to illegal tactics to advance their causes.

Federal land managers have been harassed, intimidated, and threatened by those who are opposed to environmental protections. For example, in 1997 ranchers in New Mexico threatened to kill Forest Service employees enforcing protections for endangered species.

Let me be clear: using violence or intimidation in the name of a political cause is wrong. In a democracy, we fight for change at the ballot box and in the halls of our legislatures, not with pipe bombs and incendiary devices.

I strongly urge my fellow colleagues to ensure that our local, state, and federal law enforcement officials are effectively upholding the law. That said, environmental terrorism poses additional challenges for the law enforcement community.

It is a well-know fact that very few environmental terrorists have been caught. These groups have no formal organization, and they act in small terrorist cells, which are autonomous from one another.

Because these crimes are investigated with limited resources and manpower, local law enforcement officials have little success in successfully closing these cases.

For the second Congress, I am attempting to reverse the current situation by sponsoring the Environmental Terrorism Reduction Act. This bill would provide federal assistance where it is needed most, at the local level.

This legislation would require the Attorney General to establish a national clearinghouse

for information on incidents of ecoterrorism, with the hope that investigators stay ahead of the curve in preventing additional acts of terror.

In addition, it would establish the Environmental Terrorism Reduction Program in the Department of Justice. This program would authorize the Attorney General to designate any area as a high intensity environmental terrorism area. After making such a designation local law enforcement agencies could access federal funding to assist them in solving and preventing these types of crimes in the future.

This program is similar to the Department of Justice's High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area program (HIDTA), which has been extraordinarily useful in Oregon and other states in helping make our communities better places to live.

I ask my colleagues to join me in this goal, and to support the Environmental Terrorism Reduction Act.

SCHOOL READINESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2210) to authorize the Head Start Act to improve the school readiness of disadvantaged children, and for other purposes:

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 2210. If you're looking for a way to dismantle a proven, beneficial, effective program, then this bill is for you.

The Head Start program has been a success for nearly 40 years. During that time, it has served over 20 million children. In fact, there are members in this House that were Head Start children who attest to the program's success. Instead of passing this bill, which could potentially increase class size, cut off services to 3-year-olds, and eliminate crucial health services, we should be improving Head Start by fully funding it.

Thousands of children in my district attend the Head Start program. To be exact 3,023 children in Northern New Mexico could be affected by this bill. Of those children, 86 percent live in families that have incomes below the federal poverty line. Ninety percent receive basic health care and are twice as likely as other low-income children to receive basic medical care. We have 60 Head Start centers in my district, and 162 classrooms. Passage of this bill means an unknown future for these children. Will the quality of their education be put in jeopardy? Will they continue to receive medical care? Will their teachers be hired on a discriminatory basis?

We must not ignore the successful history of the Head Start program. If we really want to improve the program, we should fully fund the program to expand access to all eligible preschoolers, improve access to Migrant and Seasonal Head Start, improve teacher quality by requiring that more teachers get bachelor's degrees, and enhance Head Start's focus on pre-literacy, language, and pre-math skills.

Groups in my district that oppose passage of this bill include the Jicarilla Apache Nation,

the Pueblo of Isleta, and the Pueblo of Acoma. National groups opposing this bill include the NAACP, the National Education Foundation, the ACLU, the Coalition Against Religious Discrimination, the National League of Cities, and Catholic Charities USA, among many others. This long and diverse list is proof of the many problems with this bill.

I cannot conclude my statement without expressing my concern that this is a disturbing pattern for the Majority on education. Numerous programs—Head Start, college aid, public school education—are in danger of being dismantled. I will continue to defend programs that are proven to work, fight to fully fund those programs, and oppose efforts to dismantle them. This bill is no exception and I urge a no vote.

IN SUPPORT OF THE YEAR OF THE
KOREAN WAR VETERAN RESOLUTION,
H. CON. RES. 212

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 212, the Year of the Korean War Veteran resolution, and I commend its sponsor, my colleague, Congressman SAM JOHNSON of Texas.

The resolution marks the final year of the United States' 50th anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration and the 50th year of the Armistice.

We celebrate the Armistice which ended the War, but we do so with the knowledge that no formal peace treaty was ever signed, and that only a fragile peace has endured across the tense demilitarized zone dividing North and South. The conflict, so aptly called "the Forgotten War," took 54,000 American lives. Another 103,000 Americans were wounded, 5,000 were missing in action, and 7,000 were held as prisoners of war. The sacrifices of America's fighting men and women transformed Korea into a thriving economic partner of the U.S. and a powerful front-line democracy against the tyranny of communism.

Fifty years after the end of hostilities, the guns across the border are still silent, but the region and the world are increasingly fearful of the possibility of a new war on the peninsula. With the announcement of its nuclear capability by the government in the North, not only the U.S., but our friends in the region—Japan, China, Russia, and particularly South Korea, are now searching for ways to diffuse an impending crisis.

North Korea's intentions are not entirely understood, but the country's militancy are clearly worsened by its poverty and isolation. The situation requires a skillful hand in dealing with a government that sometimes seems motivated by desperation.

I encourage President Bush to work with our allies in the region in pursuing negotiations and a peaceful resolution of a growing crisis. Threats and intimidation will not succeed in our dealings with North Korea.

FINANCIAL AID SIMPLIFICATION
ACT OF 2003

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, today, along with Congressman BUCK MCKEON and 13 additional bipartisan cosponsors, I introduced the Financial Aid Simplification Act of 2003. This bill stands to make applying for financial aid significantly easier for students and families.

The process of applying for the Pell Grant and other student financial aid is unnecessarily complicated. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is a one hundred-plus question, extremely complicated form that creates an unnecessary barrier to students applying for aid.

The bill directs the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance, which provides advice and counsel to Congress and the Secretary of Education on student financial aid matters, to conduct a thorough study, within two years, of how to streamline the aid process and make it easier for students. Within one year after the study is completed, the Secretary of Education must implement the recommended changes.

The Committee's goals will include significantly reducing the number of questions on the FAFSA, simplifying the language used on the form itself, revising the needs analysis formula to reduce the administrative burden for students, higher education institutions, and the federal government, and allowing certain students to be fast-tracked through the application process when they have already provided financial information to the federal government by qualifying for other forms of federal financial assistance.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, the Financial Aid Simplification Act of 2003 requires the Secretary of Education to make special efforts to notify students who qualify for free lunch or food stamps of their eligibility for the maximum Pell Grant. This bill will go a long way to help American families gain access to higher education. I strongly encourage my colleagues to support this important legislation.

ARTICLE BY AMBASSADOR
ASMEROM

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call to the attention of the House of Representatives an article by Girma Asmerom, Ambassador of Eritrea to the United States. His article celebrates July 4th, American Independence Day, and discusses the challenges of the young independent nation of Eritrea. Highlighting Eritrea's developing democratic system and successful campaign to stamp out corruption, Ambassador Asmerom states that his people seek "trade and investment, not handouts from our partners and taxpayers." I thank Ambassador Asmerom for his kind words during July, the month we celebrate America's independence, and wish the people of Eritrea well in the days ahead.

I submit the article by Ambassador Asmerom into the RECORD at this point.

[From the Metro Herald, July 4, 2003]

A TALE OF TWO INDEPENDENCE DAYS

(By Girma Asmerom)

When Americans celebrate their Independence Day on July 4, they commemorate 227 years of struggle to create a free and prosperous society. The fruits of that struggle are here around us, to observe and to enjoy.

America did not emerge from British colonial rule fully formed as a complete, liberal, democratic state. The outcome of the American Revolution was not a foregone conclusion on July 4, 1776, and even after the peace treaty with Britain was signed in 1783, it was unclear whether the 13 colonies along the eastern seaboard would continue to exist in harmony.

The American Constitution (1789) and the Bill of Rights (1791) laid the foundations for a free society. But bumps along the road were sure to come, and they did. The Alien and Sedition Acts of 1798 threatened the freedoms guaranteed by the First Amendment (freedoms not fully clarified through the judicial process until after World War I). The War of 1812 threatened a loss of independence through invasion by the former colonial power, Great Britain. And although the Declaration of Independence clearly stated that "all men are created equal," slavery did not end until the U.S. Civil War was fought and half a million Americans died in it.

Every American, no doubt, can relate a favorite story from American history that shows how, through trial and error, the United States has evolved—through blood, sweat, toil, and tears, as Winston Churchill put it in another context—making Independence Day celebrations that much more precious.

Imagine, then, what it must be like to live in a country that has been independent of foreign domination for only a few years—to be precise, twelve years.

That is what it is like for my country, Eritrea. After successive colonization by Turkey (1557–1865), Egypt (1865–1884), Italy (1890–1941), Britain (1942–1952), and Ethiopia (1952–1991), we commemorated 12 years of independence just a few weeks ago, on May 24.

Tor three relentless decades, the Eritrean people fought for independence against Ethiopian occupation and incredible odds without any assistance from governments or outside forces. We achieved self-determination through a U.S.-supervised referendum in 1993. We are developing a democratic system in keeping with the values of our people and with their full support. We have indeed taken measures to protect our national security, as is our right—indeed, our obligation to our people. We are proud of the achievements of our country over a little more than a decade.

In that time, Eritrea has challenged the scourge of developing countries, government corruption, which is, admittedly, endemic in much of Africa. I am happy to report that the U.S. Department of State pointed out in 1998: "Corruption is not a significant barrier or hindrance to investment or trade in Eritrea." The distinguished Canadian journalist, Peter Worthington, added: "... while [Eritrea is] the world's newest independent state (1993) and one of Africa's poorest countries, it's also the safest, least corrupt, most self-reliant."

Like the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, Eritrea has spent the past dozen years emerging from the strangulation of Soviet-backed Ethiopian occupation. Like the United States in its formative years, six years after its independence, under the pretext of border conflict, Eritrea suffered inva-

sion by its former colonial overlord (Ethiopia), leading to the death of 120,000 Ethiopians and 19,000 Eritreans, as well as displacement of countless families. This war also brought massive economic destruction to both countries.

One of our major challenges is the current unprecedented famine. This is a temporary situation brought about as a consequence of a complete failure of rains last year, in addition to the dislocation resulting from Ethiopia's invasion. To overcome these circumstances, the Government of Eritrea and its people, with the assistance of the international community, are exerting relentless efforts. More can be done, of course, but we are doing the best we can with limited resources.

Success will come. We have as our model Eritrea's achievements in public health. The U.S. Agency for International Development notes: "Despite Eritrea's rank as one of the poorest countries in the world, it ranks 31st in healthy life expectancy." Eritrea has one of Africa's lowest rates of HIV/AIDS infection, only 2 to 2.5 percent; it has eradicated polio; and in 2002, it reduced malaria in children under five by half.

Eritreans, dedicated to their tested vision, as a matter of policy refuse to look for foreign economic assistance to bring economic development. We seek trade and investment, not handouts from our partners and taxpayers. Eritrean-Americans living in communities across the United States are natural lines of communication between our two countries and peoples, encouraging further engagement and future U.S.-Eritrean commercial ties.

Americans have much to celebrate on the Fourth of July. We Eritreans take this opportunity to salute and congratulate the American people on their Independence Day.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FRANK MARTINEZ

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress today to recognize Frank Martinez for his courageous act which saved the life of Kelly McNeil. The Carnegie Hero Fund Commission awarded Frank a Bronze Medal in recognition of the risk and valor he displayed in this selfless act. I am proud to join my colleagues here today in applauding Frank for his heroic action.

Kelly McNeil was fishing on San Luis Lake with his family when he suddenly fell from his boat into the lake. After an unsuccessful rescue attempt by Kelly's son, Frank swam 600 feet out into the lake to rescue Kelly. Frank proceeded to position Kelly on his back to keep him above water and then made his way back to shore. Thanks to Frank's heroism, Kelly recovered quickly after receiving treatment for hypothermia.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Frank before this body of Congress today. His brave act serves as a reminder to all Americans of the courage upon which our great nation is founded. I congratulate Frank on the prestigious award that has been bestowed upon him and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF STUART FINLEY

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my good friend, Mr. Stuart Finley.

Present-day Northern Virginia is characterized by swaths of economic and residential growth, traffic, and the frenetic pace of those eager to get ahead. But amid this hustle and bustle lies the unique community of Lake Barcroft—a place that holds a special place in my heart and in the hearts of all of those lucky enough to have lived along its shores.

Lake Barcroft is a man-made lake located in the vicinity of Seven Corners area of Northern Virginia, offering an oasis of peace and tranquility in an otherwise busy suburban region. As with many such places, the work of a few dedicated souls has been instrumental in creating and maintaining the special flavor so many now enjoy.

Stuart Finley was such an individual. A man whose dedication and industry were instrumental in making Lake Barcroft the special place it is today, and without whom the lake might not even exist.

Over a span of almost fifty years, Stuart dedicated innumerable hours to projects involving the lake. He was an early president of the Lake Barcroft Community Association, then later served as chairman of the engineering committee. But through the numerous positions with different organizations, perhaps the most fitting title for Stuart was "community problem solver." Be it organizing dredging projects or the purchase of the lake itself, Stuart was intimately involved.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, as a resident of Lake Barcroft, I wish to express my gratitude to Stuart Finley and pay tribute to his lifetime of community service. Northern Virginia is a better place due to his efforts, and I appreciate this opportunity to express my regret at his passing.

IN RECOGNITION OF JULY 26 DAY—LIBERIAN INDEPENDENCE

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to mark the 156th anniversary of Liberian independence. On July 26, 1847 a young African American man from Virginia named Joseph Jenkins Roberts declared the colony of Liberia in West Africa an independent republic. The anniversary of this great day provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the history and progress of this nation. The recent civil strife and the impending humanitarian disaster add a sense of urgency to our thoughts.

In 1820, the American Colonization Society founded the Republic of Liberia, with a grant from President James Monroe as a place to send free Black Americans. Over the years, freed slaves and their offspring continued to settle in this small West-African state. In 1847, the people of Liberia declared their independence. They gave their country a flag and a

constitution modeled on that of the United States.

However, independence did not spell the end of Liberia's close historical links with the United States. American companies, such as the Firestone Rubber and Tire Company, have played an important role in shaping the Liberian economy. Liberia has been an important political ally of the United States. During the two World Wars, the republic allowed the United States to station troops on its soil. As the Cold War reached its peak, a mutual defense pact was signed and the United States built communications facilities to relay a "Voice of America" signal throughout the continent.

Unfortunately, the progress that Liberia made over the years has been spoiled by over a decade of civil war. The war has claimed the lives of 300,000 people, and has recently intensified, causing a humanitarian disaster on a large scale. A half of the population has been forced to flee their homes. Disease, death and destruction have become everyday elements of Liberian life.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure my colleagues in the House will agree that immediate action is imperative in Liberia. Every day that we delay intervention, more lives are lost. The people of Liberia call out for our help. We have a moral obligation to act. Plans for a multinational peacekeeping force led by the United States in conjuncture with troops from the United Nations and the Economic Community of West African States have been suggested. I am pleased to note that the President announced this morning that the United States will be positioning our military forces off the coast of Liberia to begin the process of assisting in this situation. My only hope is that this offer of assistance will soon be translated into practical concrete aid.

Let us give the people of Liberia something to celebrate this Independence Day. Let us help this great people recover the liberty from which their country takes its name. Let Liberia live!

IN RECOGNITION OF DIANE FURNAS, NEWLY ELECTED CHAIRWOMAN OF THE BOARD OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FEDERAL CREDIT UNIONS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Diane Furnas, chief executive officer of Southwest Airlines Federal Credit Union in Dallas, TX. Ms. Furnas has recently been elected Chairwoman of the Board of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU).

Ms. Furnas' dedication to the credit union movement is illustrated by her thirty years of service to the credit union community, including more than 27 years in her current position as the CEO of Southwest Airlines FCU. Ms. Furnas has spent the last three years as the Vice-Chair of NAFCU and she is the first woman elected to chair the NAFCU Board.

Throughout her tenure at Southwest Airlines FCU, Ms. Furnas has worked diligently to ensure her credit union's 28,000 members have

access to high quality financial expertise. As a member of the Board at NAFCU, Ms. Furnas has been equally diligent in advocating the goals of the credit union community as a whole. From financial literacy to predatory lending and identity theft, Ms. Furnas has ensured that America's 82 million credit union members have a voice here in the nation's capitol. I am certain she will carry on that good work in her role as Chairwoman of NAFCU.

NAFCU is the only national trade association that exclusively represents the interests of America's federal credit unions and Ms. Furnas will—no doubt—serve with distinction in her new post. I would like to congratulate Ms. Furnas on her election and wish her the best of luck.

ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, as the House prepares to go out on recess, I leave dumbfounded by many of the actions this House has taken in these last days. Last night, this Republican led House took the first steps in the destruction of an important program whose aim is to help the children of low income parents be better prepared to succeed when they go to school and ultimately succeed in their lives. Instead of making these changes that can only hurt this program, we should have been working together, regardless of party, to strengthen a program that has served so many children so well for almost forty years. Many in this House talk a great game about being "Compassionate Conservatives". What they did last night to Head Start was neither.

If this was the only mistake we were going to make this week, it would be one thing. Yet today, this House is poised to step up its attack on the lives and hopes of our most precious resource, the young people of this country. President Bush often speaks about the need to expand another program that directly benefits many of our younger constituents. That program is AmeriCorps.

President Bush often speaks about his respect and devotion to the concept of national service. Indeed in his last two State of the Union addresses and in numerous speeches around the country, this president has urged Americans to devote time and energy to community projects. In issuing this challenge he pledged his best efforts to expand government programs of national service.

It is difficult to understand how the main instrument of such service—the AmeriCorps program—could possibly be allowed to shrink on his watch. Indeed, the program is wildly popular among many local and faith-based agencies that often place AmeriCorps workers to help organize and coordinate local volunteers. We know that governors and mayors of both parties praise AmeriCorps daily. When President Bush was Governor Bush he often praised AmeriCorps.

Yet today, this House will be asked to approve a supplemental spending package that contains no additional funding for AmeriCorps. I wonder why President Bush has not used his

leadership skills to convince his Republican colleagues that having a vibrant, properly funded AmeriCorps is indeed vital to our national interest.

If these two actions were not bad enough, today we will vote on a bill that dramatically skimps on programs for Americans who have answered our country's call to arms, our proud veterans. We should never break our promises to veterans. This VA-HUD Appropriations bill will not meet our veterans' needs. Its increase from last year is \$1.4 billion, and does not even keep pace with hospital inflation or the growth in the numbers of veterans enrolled.

Mr. Speaker, I wonder if my fellow Americans know that an average of 200,000 veterans are forced to wait six months or more for an appointment at Veterans Administration hospitals. Some even die before they get to see a doctor. A new report, released by the American Legion this month reminds this Congress that veterans are waiting six months or more for medical care, as the overburdened Veterans Affairs health system fails to keep pace with an ever growing demand. All members of this House should be ashamed to face veterans when we return to our districts for considering this awful budget for our veterans.

Even the President's own Task Force to Improve Health Care Delivery for Our Nation's Veterans acknowledged the problem, stating "there is persistent concern about the inability of VA to provide care to enrolled veterans . . ."

The President's Task Force also noted that "the Federal Government has been more ambitious in authorizing veteran access to health care than it has been in providing the funding necessary to match declared intentions."

The VA-HUD bill that we will consider today contains a very disappointing but not surprising outcome for housing programs. Appropriators assert that if anyone is to blame it is HUD for an inadequate request, but Congress approved the budget request after hearing from advocates that the Department's request was inadequate.

This bill provides inadequate funding to address rising housing costs and the increasing number of low income people who are unable to afford a home. Funding for the Housing Choice Voucher program will not fully fund all vouchers currently in use. Two of the President's much-touted initiatives were not fully funded: The American Dream Downpayment initiative received only \$125 million of the \$200 million the President had requested, and his Samaritan Housing Initiative received no funding at all.

While public housing programs would receive slightly more than what the President requested we know that the funding needed for capital needs remains wholly inadequate, given the \$20 billion estimated backlog in capital needs.

I am happy that the HOME production and rental assistance program was increased by \$77 million from last year's funding level. Unfortunately, the committee lacked the funds needed to match the Administration's request of \$2.2 billion, instead funding the program at \$2.064 billion.

Mr. Speaker, in this time of increasing unemployment and economic turmoil, more people need our help in making certain that they have the opportunity to live in a home they can afford. Yet for some reason, this House is

unwilling to face reality and provide adequate funding to address this nation's housing needs.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps it is time for Congress to adjourn for the August recess. This way we can be assured that this Republican led House will not be able to inflict anymore of its "Compassionate Conservatism" on America.

Sadly, President Bush's promises to America are just talk, not action. He should be ashamed.

HONORING FRED MACHADO

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fernando "Fred" Machado for being selected as this year's Ag One Foundation Community Salute honoree. An event will be held in his honor on Saturday, August 23rd in Easton, California.

The Ag One Foundation was formed more than twenty years ago to raise funds to provide scholarships and grants for the CSUF College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. California Dairies is the naming sponsor of the event honoring Fred. The funds will be used to create an endowment in Machado's name, giving priority to students coming from the dairy industry.

Fred began as a tenant farmer and agricultural laborer during his early years. He now operates a 1,500-cow dairy and 730-acre farming operation that includes almonds, grapes, prunes and field crops. Machado is known for his long and devoted service to California agriculture which is why he was chosen for this honor. Through his work Fred has shown vigor and allegiance to agriculture, his community, and his country.

Machado has been given many honors and awards for his commitment to agricultural causes. He was appointed to serve on the USDA's Agricultural Trade Advisory Committee during the Regan Administration where he worked with committee members on major trade agreement negotiations. Fred received the Distinguished Service Award from both the California Farm Bureau Federation and the Fresno County Farm Bureau. Machado has also received recognition for his service on the boards of directors of the National Milk Producers Federation, Challenge Dairy, and Danish Creamy.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fred Machado for his lifelong commitment to agriculture and his community. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Fred many years of continued success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN SAFETY ACT OF 2003

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, since colonial days, Stonington Borough has been tied to fishing. Today it is the home to Connecticut's

only commercial fishing fleet, and I am proud to be its congressional representative.

Commercial fishing continues to rank as one of the most hazardous occupations in America. According to the United States Coast Guard and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the annual fatality rate for commercial fishermen is about 150 deaths per 100,000 workers.

In order to increase the level of safety in the fishing industry, the U.S. Coast Guard require all fishing vessels to carry safety equipment. Required equipment can include a life raft that automatically inflates and floats free should the vessel sink; personal flotation devices or immersion suits; Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRB); visual distress signals; and fire extinguishers.

When an emergency arises, safety equipment is priceless. At all other times, the cost of purchasing or maintaining life rafts, immersion suits, and EPIRBs must compete with other expenses such as loan payments, fuel, wages, maintenance, and insurance. Meeting all of these obligations is made more difficult by a regulatory framework that uses measures such as trip limits, days at sea, and gear alterations to manage our marine resources.

Commercial fishermen should not have to choose between safety equipment and other expenses. That's why I am introducing the "Commercial Fishermen Safety Act of 2003," which would provide for a tax credit equal to 75 percent of the amount paid by fishermen to purchase or maintain required safety equipment. The tax credit is capped at \$1,500 and includes expenses paid or incurred for maintenance of safety equipment required by federal regulation. Sens. Susan Collins (R-ME) and John Kerry (D-MA) have introduced identical legislation in the Senate.

The Commercial Fishermen Safety Act of 2003 could improve safety by giving commercial fishermen more of an incentive to purchase and care for safety equipment. I ask my colleagues to join me in helping commercial fishermen protect themselves while doing their jobs.

URGING FCC TO ADOPT NEUTRAL COMPETITION RULES

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. REYES. Speaker, since the passage of the 1996 Telecommunications Act, the cable industry has invested more than \$75 billion of private risk capital nationally, or about \$1,000 per customer. These investments—including \$45 million by Time Warner Cable in the Sixteenth District of Texas alone—have transformed cable's one-way video delivery system into a two-way interactive digital platform that offers consumers new competitive services—digital video, high-speed Internet access, cable telephony, and interactive and high-definition television.

Competition for residential high-speed Internet is here. Consumers today can choose among a variety of wireless and wire line providers. Cable's lead in the marketplace is due to its early investment in cable modem technology, aggressive marketing, generally lower prices and a consistently positive online experience for customers. I am proud that when

Time Warner Cable launched Road Runner high-speed online service in El Paso in 1998, it was the first Road Runner launch in Texas, and the eighth in the nation. Time Warner provides free cable modems to the schools and libraries in its communities, as do many cable operators, ensuring that our young people benefit directly, even if they do not have access to computers at home. Cable is a proactive player in the effort to address the Digital Divide.

Cable was the first industry to aggressively upgrade its networks to offer broadband Internet access to consumers at home, thereby creating the first real alternative to the much slower dial-up modem systems offered by local phone companies. Cable's rapid deployment of its always-on, high-speed Internet product spurred phone companies to offer competing DSL technology, a broadband data technology that was invented over a decade ago.

Cable has taken an early lead in the investment and marketing of cable service, but there are a number of other providers in the broadband marketplace. Consumers today have access to an expanding choice of broadband providers, including wireless, satellite and alternative broadband suppliers.

According to a March 2003 report in Cable Datacom News, the cable modem and DSL residential customer total reached approximately 16.7 million in the U.S. at the end of 2002, out of an estimated 105 million who have access to broadband service. Of the 15 percent of residential customers currently purchasing wireline broadband service, approximately 67.4 percent are cable modem customers and 32.6 percent are DSL customers. Others purchase broadband service from providers of fixed wireless, satellite or other technologies. Every broadband provider has the same ability and opportunity to sell service to the remaining, large group of untapped potential customers and need not take a customer from another provider in order to gain one.

I urge the FCC to adopt rules that ensure the existence of true, head to head facilities-based competition for all types of communications services, especially voice telephony and broadband.

HONORING MERYL FEREN

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mrs. Meryl Feren, a great Floridian, a caring wife and mother, and a charitable activist. Originally from Bronx, NY, Mrs. Feren moved to Sunrise, FL in 1980 and soon began a noted career in business and charity services.

Mrs. Feren, the wife of current Sunrise Mayor Steve Feren, made an indelible impression upon the South Florida community. The couple first met while studying at Queens College in New York City, and soon married and moved to South Florida. Since arriving to Sunrise, Meryl Feren started a successful mortgage-foreclosure research business. Her business expertise and ability to work with others garnered her the respect of many in the business community.

In addition to being an accomplished professional, Meryl Feren always took time to assist in her husband's political campaigns and public service as well. Her husband knew he could always rely on her for advice, enthusiasm on the campaign trail, and an undying commitment to his goals in public service. Besides campaigning for Mayor Feren, Meryl was a board member of the West Broward Democratic Club, where she volunteered in numerous community initiatives.

Mrs. Feren's charity work included helping out with Kids Crusaders, an organization for abused children. Also, Feren always found time to help an organization known as City of Hope, a fundraising group that sought money to fund a California research hospital that studies illnesses such as cancer. Clearly, Mrs. Feren placed a priority on volunteering her time for worthy causes, and she set out to assist others in need.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed an honor to stand here today and remember the life of an exemplary citizen of South Florida, one who remained devoted to her fellow neighbors and family, and always sought a better quality of life for her community. Her legacy as a wife, mother, and activist for a number of causes will surely last a lifetime. Mrs. Feren is survived by her husband Steve Feren; son Adam Feren; her mother, Anne Mallin of Sunrise; and a sister, Lori Mallin of Sunrise.

HONORING DR. JAMES L.
WILLIAMSON

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the distinguished career of Dr. James L. Williamson. At Baylor University in my hometown, he is not just a teacher, but he is also a mentor and an exemplar of professionalism upon the educational landscape. His service in the development of educational leadership, founded in the principle of integrity and manifested in research and the identification of best practice, continues to positively impact children. His passion for education has directly resulted in a growing association of principals, superintendents, and other school leaders who mirror his model of servant leadership. As a beacon of guidance and hope, Dr. Williamson has dedicated his life to creating a covenant between intellectual scholarship and the call to serve in building foundations for learning, leadership, and life. That is why I rise today to honor the dedication and service Dr. Williamson has given to both Baylor University and to the education profession.

CONTINUOUS RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
CONCERNS IN ARMENIA

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise in my capacity as Chairman of the Helsinki Commission to voice concern over Arme-

nia's refusal to register select religious groups and the continuing harassment of certain religious communities, actions which violate Armenia's commitments to religious freedom as a participating State in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Honoring the commitments enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act and subsequent OSCE documents would ensure Armenia upholds the freedom of the individual to profess and practice religion or belief, alone or in community with others.

With respect to registration, Armenian law requires all religious communities and organizations, other than the Armenian Apostolic Church, to register with the government. Obtaining registration is critical if a religious community wants to carry out basic functions, like renting property, publishing newspapers or magazines, broadcasting programs on television or radio, or officially sponsoring the visas of co-religionists or visitors.

To acquire registration, a petitioning religious organization must obtain an "expert opinion" from the government, in which four questions from Article 14 of the Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations Act must be affirmatively answered: (1) Is the religion based on a historically canonized holy book? (2) Does its faith belong to a system of modern worldwide religious church communities? (3) Is it of a purely spiritual orientation, not created for the pursuit of material goals? (4) Does it have at least 200 believing members, not including minors? A negative finding by the government on any of the four questions will terminate the registration application.

This type of approval system is extremely problematic, as it places the government in the role of determining what is or is not a religion, allowing it to make highly subjective decisions. For example, the government refuses to recognize the Jehovah's Witnesses as an official religion, despite having more than 6,000 Armenian members. Other small groups, including approximately 50 Baptist communities, are unable to pass the numerical threshold, so are not qualified to apply for registration. As a result these groups are indiscriminately denied basic rights enjoyed by those which have the government's stamp of approval.

Last September, Prime Minister Andranik Markarian reportedly stated that the Armenian Government must curb the activities of minority religious communities, even if these actions violate Council of Europe obligations. Mr. Speaker, considering this type of bias, I urge the Government of Armenia to revamp the registration process to prevent arbitrary or politicized decisions. Abolishing the registration requirement and ensuring any system facilitates, rather than hampers, the free exercise of religious freedom for individuals and communities, by methodically granting legal status to groups which seek registration would help bring Armenian policy into conformity with OSCE commitments.

Even more alarming is the Armenian Government's continued imprisonment of conscientious objectors, particularly from the Jehovah's Witnesses faith. According to the State Department's 2002 Annual Report on International Religious Freedom for Armenia, military and civilian security officials subject Jehovah's Witnesses who refuse to serve in the military to harsh treatment, because their refusal is seen as a threat to Armenia's sur-

vival. One particular example is the case of Araik Bedjanyan, sentenced on July 2nd to 1½ years in a labor camp for refusing military service. Mr. Bedjanyan was sentenced under Article 75 of the criminal code, for "evasion of active military service." There are currently 24 Jehovah's Witnesses serving sentences for being conscientious objectors on religious grounds. Suren Hakopyan and Artur Torosyan, whom police arrested in Yerevan on July 3, are currently awaiting trial along with six others for their refusal to serve in the military. Seven more Jehovah's Witnesses are reportedly under house arrest for the same "crime." Despite Article 75 being replaced by Article 327 in the new criminal code, the amendment only reduces the potential sentence from three years to two.

One of the conditions for Armenia's admission to the Council of Europe in January 2001 involved the adoption of a law on alternative military service conforming to European standards within three years. However, while drafts continue to circulate, no laws have been passed that provide for alternative civilian service outside the framework of the army. In the meantime, conscientious objectors continue to receive harsh sentences. Should the Armenian Parliament pass such a law, the service length should not be punitive in nature, but rather be comparable to military service requirements.

As Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I urge the Armenian Government to abide by its OSCE commitments regarding religious freedom. Armenia should overhaul its registration scheme, dropping the registration requirement, and liberalize its system for bestowing legal personality to religious communities and organizations. Furthermore, all Jehovah's Witnesses currently imprisoned for "evasion of military service" should be unconditionally freed, and a law in line with Council of Europe standards for alternative military service should be passed as soon as possible.

RETIREMENT OF EVE BUTLER-
GEE, CHIEF JOURNAL CLERK

HON. JIM RYUN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to stand before you today to honor Mrs. Eve Butler-Gee, a Virginian by birth but a Kansan by marriage, on her 20 years of service in the House of Representatives. Eve's husband, Tom, was raised in Leavenworth, Kansas, and his mother, Gertrude, still lives there as a constituent of mine. In addition to seeing Eve on the House floor, we have run into each other at social events as we are both members of the Kansas Society.

In 1987, Eve was appointed as the Minority Enrolling Clerk of the House by Minority Leader Bob Michel. In 1995, she became the first woman appointed as Chief Journal Clerk of the House, and in this position she has faithfully served for the past 8 years.

Eve's many years of service were performed with character worthy of praise and emulation. Her attentiveness and thoroughness were proved by successfully fulfilling her duties as Journal Clerk, duties which require great attention to details. Her initiative, enthusiasm, and resourcefulness were proved by

her promotion to Chief Journal Clerk. And her dependability, endurance, faithfulness, and loyalty were proved by her 20 years of selfless public service to the House of Representatives.

Not only does Eve serve others at her job, but she also actively serves others in her private life as well. She is Head Verger of the Church of the Holy Comforter in Vienna, Virginia, and she has recently been invited to serve as Volunteer Verger at the National Cathedral. Also, Eve plans on returning to her activities in the community theater, which she has been unable to participate in due to the demanding schedule of the House.

An ancient Hebrew Proverb teaches that, "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches." To earn the "good name" spoken of in this Proverb, one must be committed to utmost integrity. Eve's unwavering commitment to integrity has rewarded her with a "good name." Moreover, Eve's shining inner character allows her to leave the House with truly significant "riches" worth far more than money or wealth—a legacy of 20 years of honorable service and an unscathed reputation of utmost integrity.

IN TRIBUTE TO EVE BUTLER-GEE,
HOUSE JOURNAL CLERK, ON THE
OCCASION OF HER FORTHCOMING
RETIREMENT

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, the hard-working, dedicated employees who sit here on the dias behind the Well of the House are the heart and soul of this institution. Their sacrifice and service are the glue that enables the House to proceed with its business and that helps all of us to serve our constituents and the American people.

On a daily basis, the employees who sit on the dais are an invaluable resource to all of us who are privileged to serve in the House of Representatives. They serve all of us, without regard to party. Every day that the house is in session, and certainly when we have weeks as lengthy and as challenging as this one, we all surely have to admire the selfless devotion to service that keeps the House staff at their posts working to serve all of us.

Whether it is two or three o'clock in the morning during a heavy legislative week, or simply recording the proceedings on a routine Suspensions Monday, no matter what the challenges may be, our reading and journal clerks are always here to assist us and serve this institution.

It is all too rare that we say thank you for their hard work, their patience, their good humor, and their devotion to this body. Today, however, is a very special occasion and I want to take this time to thank and salute one of the giants of the staff of the House.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank and pay tribute to the House's Chief Journal Clerk, Eve Butler-Gee, who will be retiring when we adjourn at the end of this legislative week for our Summer recess. According to the Congressional Research Service, Eve is the first woman Journal Clerk in the history of the House of Representatives.

Ms. Butler-Gee and her three Assistant Journal Clerks are always on duty at the rostrum to ensure that the House meets its constitutional responsibility to maintain an official record of the parliamentary proceedings of the House. Eve has done a great deal to modernize Journal procedures and enhance the professionalism of the Journal clerks.

Eve began her professional career in the House while in her early twenties. She left the House in the middle of her working years to work for a charitable foundation, and then returned to the House in 1987 when then Minority Leader Bob Michel appointed her as the Minority Enrolling Clerk of the House.

In her tenure as the Journal Clerk, like all those who have preceded her and all those Clerks who will follow her, Eve has been a witness to history, to events of great joy, those of great sadness, events that often truly have changed the shape of our world. What remarkable stories she will take with her as she concludes her service!

I could use my time to review more of Eve's professional accomplishments, but those of us who are privileged to know her, and to experience her wisdom, her humor, her warmth and friendliness, know that Eve is so much more than her resume.

Eve has been a good friend to all of us and a person whose service has brought great credit upon this institution. I understand that Eve intends to spend her retirement traveling, enjoying her family, pursuing her interests in writing and community theater, and continuing active service with the Episcopal Church.

I value Eve's ability and her diligent service greatly. What I value even more is the friendship and warmth that she brought to all of her contacts with me, and, I know, with so many other Members.

So I conclude simply by saying: Thank you, Eve for your pioneering service, for your professionalism, and for your friendship. I wish you well and know that the future will continue to hold great things for you. Congratulations and Godspeed in your retirement.

ON THE FCC'S RULING CONCERNING
UNBUNDLED NETWORK
ELEMENTS

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, when Congress enacted the Telecommunications Act of 1996, it created three ways to spur telecommunications competition—the interconnection of competing networks, use of parts of competitors' networks, called unbundled network elements (UNEs), and the resale of the incumbents' retail services. Congress intended that UNEs and resale, or wholesale, prices be set to equal the retail cost, minus the avoided costs of not having to sell to the public, such as advertising.

However, when the Federal Communications Commission wrote the rules, it set rates for UNEs at a bizarre below-cost rate called TELRIC. Furthermore, the FCC allowed competitors to put all the UNEs together into a platform, called UNE-P. For all intents and purposes, UNE-P and resale are the same product. While the Congressionally mandated

rate for this service amounts to about a 20% discount, the FCC-created UNE-P price can have a discount of up to 55%.

In February, the FCC reviewed its UNE rules and decided to keep the current UNE-P regime for the mass market. This was an unfortunate decision. Business plans built on regulatory arbitrage rarely last, they witness reciprocal compensation and are certainly not going to create new investment and new innovation. If the FCC wanted a truly competitive telecommunications market, based on sound economic principles, with strong companies and resulting jobs, it should have eliminated the UNE-P regime for the mass market in February.

IN HONOR OF JACK WITTEN

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Jack Witten, a man with a distinguished record of military and private sector service. Mr. Witten's career has spanned decades and encompassed a number of notable accomplishments in the field of aeronautical engineering. Mr. Witten has also had an accomplished personal life that I am sure his seven Eagle Scout grandchildren can attest to.

It was Charles Lindbergh's 1927 flight over the Atlantic Ocean that initially sparked Mr. Witten's interest in aviation. After that historic flight, Mr. Witten began spending much of his time observing local airport hangars and taking in Army air shows and national air races in his boyhood home of Illinois. He spent many a Saturday afternoon hitchhiking to the hangars and air shows with his cousin Tom.

In 1938, Mr. Witten quit his steeple-jacking job and joined the Navy Reserve. He was put on active duty at the Wright Reynolds Airport in Glenview, Illinois almost immediately. There, he and his fellow reservists maintained a fleet of 26 aircraft and trained a reserve squadron of 400 men. During the course of his service in the Navy Reserve, Mr. Witten instructed, developed, and reorganized training programs in aircraft maintenance and engineering for both pilots and ex-GI's.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Witten has also spent much of his career serving our area through his work for the Navy Bureau of Aeronautics at the Pax River Naval Air Station. Mr. Witten first came to Pax River in 1943, just six days after the air station was commissioned. He was able to realize his dream of both working and living on the Atlantic Coast when he and his family later moved to St. Mary's County. During his time at Pax River, Mr. Witten helped to establish aeronautical maintenance engineering as both a term and function.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Witten has had a number of other notable accomplishments throughout his distinguished career. He created the Aircraft Maintenance Officer category of military service, established the annual meeting of the Depot Aeronautical Engineering Superintendents, revised contract requirements for military hardware design changes, and conducted materials review of new aircraft designs. Mr. Witten also instituted the use of improved aircraft testing techniques and devices, such as the spectrographic analysis of engine oil to detect failing engines, now in worldwide use by

all militaries, and the use of high visibility paint to prevent collisions. Additionally, Mr. Witten made major revisions to the standard design specifications for naval aircraft to increase safety and reliability and to reduce maintenance man-hours.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Witten's lifetime of achievement and service deserves recognition. I know the members of the House will join me in thanking Mr. Witten for over 60 years of service to the military and to our local area. I rise now to congratulate him on this tremendous record of achievement.

TRIBUTE TO SGT 1ST CLASS
CHRISTOPHER R. WILLOUGHBY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, Sgt. 1st Class Christopher R. Willoughby of Phenix City, Alabama, died this past Sunday in Baghdad. Sgt. Willoughby was a member of the Army's 221st Military Intelligence Battalion based at Fort Gillem, Georgia, and was killed when the vehicle he was riding in rolled over. He is survived by his wife Jeanine and his two sons, Blake, 9, and Collin 16 months.

Chris Willoughby always wanted to serve his country, Mr. Speaker. An Auburn University graduate, Willoughby had just begun a promising new career in accounting when his National Guard unit was called to active duty. Like every other soldier, he dutifully left behind his young family to serve our country overseas.

Words cannot express the sense of sadness we have for his family, and for the gratitude our country feels for his service. Sgt. Willoughby died serving not just the United States, but the entire cause of liberty, on a noble mission to help spread the cause of freedom in Iraq and liberate an oppressed people from tyrannical rule.

We will forever hold him closely in our hearts, and remember his sacrifice and that of his family as a remembrance of his bravery and willingness to serve.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the House's remembrance on this day.

MEMORIALIZING MR. DANIEL
VILLANUEVA HERNANDEZ

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of a dedicated public servant, Daniel Villanueva Hernandez. Mr. Hernandez's unexpected passing on June 6, 2003 ended a life committed to his community, social justice, and most importantly, his family. The Bay Area has indeed lost an extremely great lawyer, who advocated for the rights of the less fortunate. His work and legacy will continue through the many lives he touched.

Born in 1944 to Ignacio and Maria Hernandez in Texas, Daniel traveled with his family across the Southwest as migrant farm workers. Every summer, his family would trav-

el to Santa Clara County to pick prunes. From his experience as a migrant worker, he learned the values of hard work, determination, and the importance of education.

It was his father who made certain all nine children, including Daniel, graduated from high school. Daniel exceeded his father's dreams by attending San Jose State University, where his activism flourished, and he became a fiery leader. Daniel's goal during his life was to ensure others had access to the same opportunities he enjoyed.

At San Jose State University, Daniel started the organization called Student Initiative. As the leader of this organization of Latino students, Daniel became a leading voice for the rights of minorities. At this time in history, our country was engaged in the Vietnam War. Many of his friends were being drafted into the combat, and it was clear to Daniel that the underprivileged were not given equal treatment. Daniel did not stand on the sidelines. With passion and conviction, he organized students and led demonstrations against the war.

Knowing the importance of education, Daniel worked on enabling more Mexican American students to attend college. Through his creation of another organization, the Mexican American Student Confederation, he brought 200 students into the college system in one year alone.

Emboldened with the desire to make a difference, Daniel brought together students from different campuses across California to fight against discriminatory practices. He spoke out on the issues of poverty, civil rights, and affordable housing, and on many occasions, he civilly disobeyed laws that were unjust to Mexican Americans and the less fortunate.

Daniel reached out beyond the college campus, in order to work with United People Arriba. Through the organization, he helped bring a medical clinic and 193 affordable housing units to the predominantly Latino East Side of San Jose.

It was through the encouragement of his wife, Jessie Serna, that he decided to pursue a career in law. He had the ability and the heart to truly make a difference. He attended and earned his law degree from Golden Gate University.

During the 22 years he practiced law, Mr. Hernandez would represent the poorest people, and would take on the most difficult of cases. To him no case was hopeless. Knowing that a person was imprisoned falsely was a matter Mr. Hernandez could not accept. He made certain his clients were equally represented before the court of law.

In addition to decades of service fighting to protect the rights of the less fortunate, Daniel dedicated countless hours to the Mexican American community through his services as a community activist and mentor. He was, for example, an effective advocate for the Pro Bono Project. The Pro Bono Project allowed future lawyers to contribute their services to the poor in need of legal services. Mr. Hernandez was a mentor to many future attorneys through his service with the Pro Bono Project.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of a friend. I have had many opportunities to meet with Mr. Hernandez, and what amazed me most about him was his dedication and determination to help others. The passion and love he had for public service will be missed by all of us. The Bay Area was fortunate to have Mr. Hernandez as an activist, family

man, and friend. I am personally fortunate to represent a district that Mr. Hernandez touched with his courageous works.

CONGRATULATIONS TO KFLR ON
THE OCCASION OF THEIR 25TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, American Founder Benjamin Rush once said, "The only foundation for a useful education in a republic is to be laid in religion. Without this there can be no virtue, and without virtue there can be no liberty . . ."

Listener-supported KFLR has been educating and communicating the gospel of Jesus Christ to listeners throughout Arizona for 25 years. The commitment of Family Life Radio to communicating the message of Christianity through the spoken word and through music has been unwavering. Each day KFLR strikes a chord of hope in many listening hearts that will continue to resonate throughout eternity.

I could never count the moments listening to KFLR that have dispelled discouragement and lifted my own heart. Family Life Radio truly is a family in Arizona, and I have been profoundly blessed to be part it.

Congratulations, KFLR, on your silver anniversary. May you continue to shine for another 25 years in such a way that "all may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL MARINA
DAY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 323, honoring the goals and ideals of National Marina Day.

In every State in the country, marinas provide millions of Americans the opportunity to enjoy our greatest national treasure, our waters.

Marinas today are working with their communities to increase knowledge of the importance of our rivers, lakes, and oceans in our communities, and to provide opportunities for people from all areas and walks of life to experience our waterways firsthand.

The Marina Operators Association of America has designated August 9, 2003 as National Marina Day, and is using this opportunity to encourage Americans to learn more about their waterways and how they can be enjoyed safely while protecting the environment.

Across the country, marinas employ more than 140,000 people at more than 12,000 locations.

Marinas are often at the center of efforts to convert underused waterfronts into exciting cultural, recreational, and commercial areas that highlight the potential of a community.

National Marina Day exists to highlight these contributions, encourage community

celebration of their waterways, and to facilitate ways to make our waterway environments healthy, safe, and accessible for future generations.

In my own State of Nevada, which is erroneously thought of as being just a desert State, the marinas at Lake Mead and along the Colorado River provide hundreds of thousands of people, not just the opportunity to relax and enjoy their vacations, but the opportunity to take a trip in time, from the ancient canyon walls of the Colorado River to the twentieth century wonder of the Hoover Dam complex, to the exciting resort community of Laughlin, Nevada.

I recently wrote a letter to the Secretary of the Interior asking her to support improvements to the boat ramps and adjacent facilities on Lake Mead to attract more users to this magnificent body of water.

I am pleased to be the sponsor of this bipartisan resolution, and look forward to its passage by this House. I urge all my colleagues to lend it their support.

GREEK-TURKISH COOPERATION

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member rises to commend the governments of Greece and Turkey for the agreement that they have reached on confidence-building between their armed forces.

On Wednesday, Lord Robertson, the Secretary General of NATO, announced that the two NATO member countries have reached agreements on cooperation between their national defense colleges and on exchanges of military personnel for training purposes.

This Member is pleased to note that the talks between the two countries are expected to continue, with the aim of reaching further confidence-building measures.

Mr. Speaker, this Member commends Secretary General Robertson and the Greek and Turkish governments for this initiative.

CONSTANTINO BRUMIDI'S BICENTENNIAL IN 2005

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, today, on Constantino Brumidi's 198th birthday, I have introduced a resolution which will honor, in conjunction with his bicentennial in 2005, the life and work of this Italian immigrant who spent 25 years painting, decorating and making beautiful the United States Capitol.

In January of 2005, the Capitol Visitor Center is scheduled to open, marking the largest expansion ever to the United States Capitol. I am introducing this resolution now in order to have time to coincide what will be a momentous occasion with the 200th anniversary of Brumidi's birth. Mr. Speaker, I believe it is fitting that we celebrate the opening of the CVC while concurrently honoring the man who sacrificed so much to adorn this very building with such beauty.

Constantino Brumidi was born almost 200 years ago in Italy and lived there until 1850, working as an artist in Rome and the Vatican where he had many commissions, including a famous portrait of Pope Pius IX. In 1852, due to political upheavals in Rome, Brumidi immigrated to the United States and immediately applied for citizenship. From then on, he dedicated the rest of his life to making the United States Capitol one of the most impressive structures in our great Nation.

In 1865, Brumidi spent 11 months dangerously high atop the Capitol Rotunda laboring on his masterpiece, "The Apotheosis of Washington," in the eye of the Capitol dome. Six years later he created the first tribute to an African-American in the Capitol when he placed the figure of Crispus Attucks at the center of his painting of the Boston Massacre. And in 1878, at the age of 72 and in poor health, Brumidi began work on the Rotunda frieze, which chronicles the history of the United States.

Constantino Brumidi's life and work exemplifies the lives of millions of immigrants who came to the United States, who came here to escape adverse conditions in their native lands, who through their skills and hard work bettered their lives and the lives of their children, while immensely enriching the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I urge prompt consideration of this resolution.

OFFSET OF FEDERAL TAX RE- FUNDS FOR STATE AND LOCAL TAX DEBTS

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to be introducing legislation that would establish federal tax refund offset program for state and local governments. Specifically, this program would require the federal government to withhold refunds from those individuals and corporations that still owe state or local government tax obligations.

Today, the reverse situation exists. A number of states allow their own state agencies, local governments and the Internal Revenue Service to submit a list of delinquent taxpayers. The state then matches these delinquent accounts against taxpayers who may qualify for a state tax refund. If a match is found, the state reduces the refund by the amount of the delinquency and remits the funds to the claimant. These programs have proven to be low-cost and highly effective. Congress recognized the effectiveness of these programs and directed the Internal Revenue Service to establish a similar program to cover claims by other federal agencies, as well as for past-due child support obligations. In 2000, Congress expanded the program by directing the Treasury Department to accept claims by states for income tax obligations.

The legislation I am introducing today builds on these successful programs by permitting local governments to participate. The local governments could submit their outstanding tax debts to the Department of the Treasury for an offset against any federal tax refund, just as federal agencies and states do now.

This legislation would also permit a claim to be made for any legally enforceable tax obligation owed to the state or local government.

In an era of tight state and local government budgets, it is patently unfair to have the tax-paying citizenry bear the costs and burdens of those who do not pay their fair share. As President Kennedy recognized, "[t]o the extent that some people are dishonest or careless in their dealings with the government, the majority is forced to carry a heavier tax burden." (April 20, 1961) The legislation that I am introducing today will provide a means to help distribute that burden more equitably.

I urge my colleagues to support it.

PHARMACEUTICAL MARKET ACCESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight in opposition to H.R. 2427, the so-called Pharmaceutical Market Access Act.

The high cost of prescription medicines is one of the most serious issues facing our seniors. Proponents of H.R. 2427 claim that if we would simply open our borders to medicines that are imported from other countries our problem would be solved. Unfortunately, the solution is not that easy.

I have consistently voted against unsafe importation measures because they subject consumers to medicines that may have been altered or are cheap imitations of medicines approved by the Food and Drug Administration. The bill before us seriously threatens the safety of U.S. consumers; therefore, I will vote against it.

Safety is the ultimate issue in this debate. H.R. 2427 would allow for the importation of prescription medicines from other countries without any assurance that those medicines are safe. The 106th Congress enacted legislation that would allow importation but only if the Secretary of Health and Human Services certifies those medicines are safe. But neither former Secretary Shalala nor Secretary Thompson has been able to do this. The Canadian government also recently stated that it cannot and will not assure the safety of the medicines exported to the U.S. Additionally, consumers will not be able to depend on their local pharmacies to screen their medicines. Importing medicines from foreign countries is the wrong prescription for America.

There are other ways to help lower the costs of medicines. Together Rx is an initiative developed by seven of the world's largest pharmaceutical companies to provide seniors and other eligible Medicare patients with access to savings on over 170 medicines using just one discount card. The card is free and requires patients to merely fill out an easy-to-understand registration form to qualify. Once approved for Together Rx, patients may fill their prescriptions at any pharmacy they choose and get a discount immediately at the register. This initiative, which is honored at almost every pharmacy in the U.S., has already saved nearly one million Medicare patients almost \$100 million since its inception.

Instead of supporting risky plans like importation, we should encourage seniors to take

advantage of initiatives, like Together Rx, that are safe, effective, and proven to provide Medicare patients with medicines at lower cost.

But Mr. Speaker, if the House really wants to address the issue of high drug costs, it would pass a real prescription medicine benefit for our seniors. The Congress needs to enact a prescription medicine plan that is simple, comprehensive, and a part of Medicare. I am hopeful that in conference we are able to come together in a bipartisan manner and pass a real prescription medicine benefit. That is part of the solution to this problem.

The bill before us is a threat to the safety of America's drug supply and its consumers. I urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 2427 and the motion to recommit.

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER ARNOLD STRICKLAND, CORPORAL JAMES CRUMP AND DISPATCHER LESLIE MEALER

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, June 7, 2003 the City of Fayette, the Fourth Congressional District and the State of Alabama lost three public servants in a senseless act of violence. Officer Arnold Strickland, Corporal James Crump and Dispatcher Leslie Mealer. These men were performing their duties inside the Fayette Police Department when they were tragically struck down.

Arnold Gunther Strickland was a veteran law enforcement officer with twenty-three years of experience with other departments in West Alabama and nearly three years with the Fayette Police Department.

James Eddie Crump was a 1994 graduate of the Tuscaloosa Law Enforcement Academy and had served in law enforcement for nine years, including over six years with the police department in his hometown of Hamilton and nearly three years in Fayette.

Leslie Franklin Mealer, better know as "Ace," had a fifteen year association with law enforcement in Fayette County. He served as a Reserve Deputy for the Fayette County Sheriff's Department, Reserve Officer with the Town of Berry Police Department, Dispatcher for the Fayette County Sheriff's Department and Dispatcher for Fayette County E-911.

We live in a world today that puts our police officers in harms way each and every day. More and more, these brave men and women find their lives at risk. The uneasy feeling that washes over their families as they do their jobs is heightened when such a tragedy occurs.

I wish I could offer some words that would comfort the loved ones left behind. Three families have had their hearts broken. Officer Arnold Strickland, Corporal James Crump and Dispatcher Ace Mealer were assets to their community. They were sons, husbands, fathers and friends. They were citizens and Americans who gave back to their community and had so much more to offer, so much more to give to make the world a better place. They made the ultimate sacrifice and we honor them today.

I am grateful to Officer Strickland, Corporal Crump and Dispatcher Mealer for their cour-

age, dedication to duty and the protection they provided to the citizens of Fayette. As Fayette Mayor Ray Nelson has said, "These three men gave their ultimate sacrifice, but not in vain. They died doing what they loved best, and they gave their best." They will always be heroes.

PHARMACEUTICAL MARKET
ACCESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, this legislation is designed to lower the high prices for prescription drugs in this country by allowing Americans to import from twenty-five developed countries including Canada and most of Western Europe. Prescription drug costs are significantly lower in these countries than they are in the United States. Drug companies have been charging more to Americans, I think, because we have been willing to pay.

But it is not right to expect American consumers to subsidize prescription drug prices for other industrial countries. By holding American consumers in a captive market, prices for drugs here have been able to climb an average of 77 percent above prices found in other countries.

Because of the huge difference between what Americans pay for prescription drugs here and what they can pay just across the border, these drugs are already making their way to Michigan by the busload. This bill will simply expand access to increased savings for all Americans and require FDA to ensure the authenticity and safety of these products.

The Medicare Prescription Drug bill we passed last month did nothing to address the skyrocketing costs of prescription drugs, and simply committed the government to picking up part of the tab. Unfortunately, this means that Americans can now get fleeced by these costs as both consumers and taxpayers. Opening up drug prices to an international market while limiting purchases to drugs approved by the FDA and produced in FDA approved facilities will help assure safety and help keep costs down.

MULTIEMPLOYER PENSION
SECURITY ACT OF 2003

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation, the Multiemployer Pension Security Act of 2003, which will strengthen and protect the defined pension benefits of thousands of workers.

Of the nearly 44 million working men and women who participate in defined benefit pension plans almost ten million people, approximately 25 percent of all those who have defined benefit pensions, participate in multiemployer plans. These plans are managed under a wholly different structure than single-employer plans. Although recent policy debate

has focused primarily on single-employer plans, in introducing this legislation today, I intend to broaden the pension debate to include the very important issues facing multiemployer plans.

Multiemployer pension reform legislation is necessary and overdue. The bold, structural reforms of the Multiemployer Pension Security Act will provide the millions of active and retired workers who participate in these plans with the long-term security of knowing their promised benefits will be funded and safeguarded.

People have spoken of the "perfect storm" that has ravaged funding levels in single-employer pension plans. Stock market losses, a sluggish economy and record-low interest rates have combined to create serious underfunding problems. Those events have impacted multiemployer plans also, but the issues for multiemployer plans are much broader than just a dip in the Dow. There are fundamental weaknesses in the system and structure under which these plans operate. For example, one key difference between single-employer plans and multiemployer plans is that there is no minimum funding level required in multi's. While a weakening single-employer plan will trigger remedial action, the same threshold is not present for multiemployer plans. Losses can continue until there is simply no more money and no more time, and benefits cannot be paid. The Multiemployer Pension Security Act of 2003 will correct this deficiency in current law.

The lack of adequate, minimum funding standards is just one of the many weaknesses of the multiemployer pension plan system which this legislation will correct. Not only do multiemployer plans lack the regulatory "stop-loss" measures of single employer plans, participants do not currently have the assurance of insurance. When a multiemployer pension plan fails, or when a company participant in a multiemployer plans goes bankrupt, there is no Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to rely on because multiemployer plans do not fall under the same PBGC structure. This legislation will address that and give men and women of multiemployer plans the same governmental oversight provided to participants of single-employer plans.

I am introducing the Multiemployer Pension Security Act because we, as a nation, must address these issues now to prevent further deterioration of these plans and to assure that promised pensions are available to existing retirees and to current participants when they retire. We cannot focus only on single-employer plans; we are also responsible to the almost ten million men and women in multiemployer pension plans. I urge my colleagues to review this legislation and join with me to urge its passage.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DAVID KELLY

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a House Resolution extending the condolences of the United States House of Representatives to the family of Dr. David Kelly.

Dr. Kelly died on July 18th in an apparent suicide. The day before, he appeared in front of the House of Commons' Foreign Affairs committee where he was questioned about the role in the controversy between the British Broadcasting Corporation and the government of the United Kingdom over a British intelligence dossier on Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

Dr. Kelly's professional integrity and dedication to finding the truth earned him great respect both at home in Great Britain as well as among his international colleagues. Between 1991 and 1998, Dr. Kelly played an essential role in the efforts of the United Nations Special Commission to dismantle Iraq's banned chemical, biological, and ballistic programs.

His professional integrity and dedication to finding the truth made the world safer for all of us.

[From *The Guardian*, July 24, 2003]

WHAT DAVID KELLY KNEW: THE KILLING OF SADDAM'S SONS WON'T DIVERT ATTENTION FOR LONG FROM THE SPECIOUS REASONS GIVEN FOR INVADING IRAQ

(By Richard Norton-Taylor)

Uday and Qusay are killed and the delighted British and American governments suggest that Iraq will be a safer place. Yes, Iraqis may well feel safer. And—with the dictator's brutal sons out of the way for ever—more confident about continuing the resistance against the American occupiers.

Shortly before their deaths were announced, Richard Gephardt, Democrat presidential hopeful, delivered a blistering attack on Bush's foreign policy which was driven, he said, by "machismo" and "arrogant unilateralism". Bush, he continued, had treated US allies "like so many flies on America's windshield". He added: "Foreign policy isn't a John Wayne movie."

The attack on the villa where Saddam's sons were hiding might be seen as driving home the point. Instead, the announcement that they had been killed by US troops in a shoot-out is welcomed by Tony Blair as "great news".

Jack Straw was more circumspect. He said the death of what he called "extremely unpleasant psychopaths" would bring relief for the Iraqi people. But he added: "I am not rejoicing. I mourn the death of anybody, but it has to be said that it is a very great relief for all Iraqis."

Both the prime minister and the foreign secretary seized the opportunity to remind us about the brutality of Saddam's regime. This was something many of us pointed out more than 15 years ago. But then, Straw says, there was a Conservative government and, anyway, Iraq was at war with Iran. It was as though they were mightily relieved that attention had been diverted away from the increasingly damaging controversy over what weapons of mass destruction, if any, Iraq possessed when Bush and Blair decided to invade the country, and from the death of David Kelly in particular.

And it was another welcome opportunity to remind us of the nature of the Saddam regime. Uday and Qusay, Blair told journalists yesterday, were responsible for the torture and killing of thousands of Iraqis. That is not, of course, what we were told we were going to war for and is not the legal justification the attorney general gave for it. Never mind; let's milk the deaths of Saddam's sons as much as possible and hope the dictator soon shares their fate.

But Dr Kelly's death will continue to haunt the government. The man described by Blair after his death as a "fine public servant" was dismissed, before it, by those in

Whitehall battling with the BBC as some kind of middle-ranking expert, pretty marginal in the general scheme of things.

In fact, he was a central figure in the government's continuing quest for evidence of banned weapons in Iraq. He had recently been to Iraq to advise the US-led Survey Group of scientists (including former UN inspectors damned so recently by Washington as incompetent), which Bush and Blair so desperately hopes will come up with credible evidence which could give them a post-hoc justification for war. It is a tragic irony that Kelly will not be able to continue the work. A fellow expert on biological and chemical weapons familiar with Iraq described Kelly yesterday as a "real loss—he knew the place so well, the individuals so well, he's not somebody you could easily replace".

Kelly was one of the toughest and most effective Unscop weapons inspectors in Iraq in the 1990s. He was convinced Saddam Hussein had possessed weapons of mass destruction. As a senior adviser to both the Ministry of Defence and Foreign Office on the threat posed by chemical and biological weapons he had to have access to up-to-date intelligence to do his job.

So when he told journalists he had misgivings about the government's now largely discredited September dossier it was extremely significant. If MPs on the Commons foreign affairs committee had bothered to listen to the substance of what he told them instead of scoring points in the battle between the government and the BBC—of which Kelly was a victim—they too would have heard important evidence.

Kelly told the committee there was only a 30 percent chance that Iraq had chemical or biological weapons. That Iraq could deploy them within 45 minutes of an order to do so—"ready" was the word Blair used in the dossier's foreword—was "highly unlikely", Kelly told the MPs. Between issuing orders and firing the weapons was a "long process", he said. He should know.

We are now told that what MI6's agent, an Iraqi brigadier-general, said when he was re-activated—conveniently, shortly before the September dossier was published—was that the Iraqis had a command, control and communications system (presumably bombed out of existence in the first days of the war, if not before) that would have enabled Saddam or his close military associates to contact commanders in the field within 45 minutes authorising the use of WMD. That does not mean deploying them, let alone having them "ready".

Kelly was a serious and senior source highly respected by his peers. These did not include the armed forces minister, Adam Ingram, who—after Kelly took the conscientious decision to admit to a senior MoD official that he had talked to the BBC reporter, Andrew Gilligan—told the world that "action has been taken against him accordingly". Challenging the BBC to rule out the scientist as the source, Ingram said: "Hopefully, that would allow Dr Kelly to carry on with his career in the MoD."

With such threats hanging over him, it is scarcely surprising if he was under stress before he gave evidence to the committee—even more so after he told the MPs he was not Gilligan's main source. That, too, was not what the MoD wanted him to say.

The world, let alone Iraq, would really have been a safer place had David Kelly been allowed to do his job. Some people in Downing Street and the MoD have a lot to answer for.

HONORING THE CAREER OF
MTSU'S HAROLD SMITH

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding career of Harold C. Smith, the director of Student Unions and Programming at Middle Tennessee State University, my alma mater. After 35 years of service to the university and its students, Harold has decided to retire.

Harold first came to the MTSU campus in my hometown of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, in 1963 as a student. From that point on, Harold was a fixture on campus and in the community. During his remarkable tenure at MTSU, Harold brought thousands of special events to the campus. Concerts featuring everyone from Elvis Presley to Garth Brooks have provided entertainment for scores of students and Middle Tennessee residents. Countless movies, seminars, festivals and everything else entertaining have also come to the campus as a result of Harold's dedication to his work.

Not only did Harold provide the entire region with entertaining events, but he also taught thousands of MTSU graduates how to succeed as a professional in the entertainment industry. Harold's style and approach to the business were key to his ability to bring top-notch entertainment to Middle Tennessee. And those same attributes endeared Harold to all who worked with and learned from him.

Harold's commitment and dedication to the university are unsurpassed. The MTSU community will sorely miss his influence and enthusiasm. I congratulate Harold for his untiring devotion to MTSU and its students. And I wish him the very best in his well-deserved retirement.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RICK MERRI

HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note the upcoming celebration of the 60th birthday of Mr. Rick Merri of Sacramento.

I have known Mr. Merri for many years. I have had the pleasure of being involved with the Merri family since the early 1980s. I have had the honor of conducting the marriage ceremony of his eldest son Rick Jr. I have had the privilege of coaching and playing soccer with each of Mr. Merri's three sons. I say with some measure of pride that I was a contributor in making each of these three young men into contributing members of our American society.

Mr. Merri has been a quiet and effective participant in various youth activities in and around Sacramento for at least two decades. He has consistently lent his insights and initiative to making our community better for those that come behind him.

He has not been alone in this effort. Paulette Merri has stood alongside him at every step of the way and provided valuable course corrections at every step. These two Americans, as a team, without regard to recognition

or reward, have over the course of their lives strived to provide a safe and healthy and improving community for their three sons and many neighbors and friends. Truth be told, it is hard to distinguish where the efforts of one of these individuals ends and the other begins. They are emblematic of so many other Americans across this country.

August 9, 2003, will mark the occasion of the 60th birthday of Rick Merri. Rick and Paulette have done a remarkable job in successfully raising three sons, who now are each making their own way and mark on our country. It is fitting and appropriate that we wish Rick Merri the very best wishes on the occasion of his 60th birthday. Happy birthday, my friend.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY MAGDALEN IN HAZEL PART, MICHIGAN

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 75th anniversary of the parish of St. Mary Magdalen in Hazel Park, Michigan. The history of St. Mary Magdalen is one that reflects a deep dedication of the community at large and its parishioners. Volunteers worked for decades to create not only a place of worship, but an institution.

In 1928, the Catholic Church established a new parish in the growing community of Hazel Park. The first Mass of St. Mary Magdalen Church was held in the Odd Fellows Hall on Christmas Day of that year. Less than one year later, on Easter in 1929, St. Mary Magdalen Parish occupied their first new building.

In 1932, the Sisters of Christian Charity arrived from Wilmette, Illinois. They worked hard to ready themselves for the first school classes to start in September of that year. Their first school buildings were purchased from the Clawson Board of Education, dismantled and reassembled in Hazel Park by men from the community donating their time.

The Parish continued to grow, the first hall was built in 1933 using second-hand and recycled lumber. In 1958 the present church was completed, followed three years later by the convent. The next decades saw the establishment of a number of important traditions in the church. The first Fall Festival, now an annual event, was held in September 1971.

Surely, since its establishment 75 years ago, St. Mary Magdalen Parish has continued to grow, flourish and serve the community of Hazel Park. It is indeed my great honor today to recognize those who have made it all possible.

TRIBUTE TO THE MICHIGAN AGRIBUSINESS ASSOCIATION ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Michigan Agri-Business Asso-

ciation on the august occasion of its 100th year of service to agricultural producers in Michigan.

On June 25th, 1903, in the gymnasium of the Y.M.C.A. building in Battle Creek, Michigan, the Michigan grain dealers met to organize the Michigan Grain Dealers Association. This was the first step on the Association's journey to becoming the industry-wide Michigan Agri-Business Association which today is indispensable to Michigan agricultural businesses.

Along the way, as the Grain Dealers Association added to its membership, it changed its name to indicate that hay producers and dealers, animal feed manufacturers and dealers, and fertilizer, ammonia and seed businesses had all come on board. It became the Michigan Agri-Business Association on June 11, 1990.

Today, the Association provides educational programs and member services to its individual members. Its public relations and legislative efforts include a newsletter to all members, trade shows, educational programs and up-to-date information and advice on all state and federal legislation that affects agriculture in Michigan.

Agriculture is a multi-billion dollar business in Michigan. Agricultural producers and dealers in Michigan are some of the most advanced in the country, because they know that efficient and effective use of natural resources and technological tools are how to provide a better product and a better industry.

Mr. Speaker and my colleagues in the House of Representatives, I invite you all to join me in applauding the Michigan Agri-Business Association and all its members in commemoration of the Association's 100th anniversary.

GIVE PARENTS SECURITY AND CHILDREN SAFETY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill that would help prevent needless death and injury of young children. My bill would require that infant and toddler products are tested before they reach the marketplace. This bill is long overdue.

Many consumers believe that, because a product is on a shelf, it is safe. This is not always true. In most cases, manufacturers are not even required to test the safety of children's products, including baby carriers and high chairs, before putting them on the market. As a consequence, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), an average of 65 children under the age of five die each year in incidences associated with nursery products. Furthermore, an estimated 69,500 children under the age of five were treated in U.S. hospital rooms in 2001 for injuries associated with nursery products.

Unfortunately, issuing a voluntary recall once one or more children have been hurt often becomes the only way to know if a product is unsafe. This is unacceptable. Parents and caregivers must have assurance that when they buy a product, it will be safe. Therefore, this bill would not only require the

CPSC to issue mandatory safety standards for infant and toddler products, but it would require the testing and certification of these products by an independent third party.

Parents should not have to worry that the products they buy will threaten their children's health and safety. Nor should parents have to wait until they hear on the news that the carrier or crib or high chair that they use has been recalled before they become aware that their child could be in danger. Children's products were recalled, on average, nearly two times per week in 2002 and they accounted for over 11 million individual units. Instead of using recalls as the answer, we should require that the CPSC take steps to ensure that products do not present safety hazards to our children.

I would like to recognize and thank Kids In Danger, an organization in Chicago dedicated to protecting children, for their invaluable input and expertise on children's product safety. It is past due that we give parents the security they deserve and children the safety they need. This bill will accomplish those goals.

150TH CELEBRATION OF MITCHELL, INDIANA

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mitchell, Indiana, on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of its founding. On September 29, 2003, the City of Mitchell will celebrate the establishment and naming of the town of Mitchell after Ormsby McKnight Mitchel.

The origins of Mitchell, Indiana dates back to the beginnings of the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad. George Cochran, a merchant from Cincinnati, wanted a more direct route to ship his merchandise, having previously shipped goods via the Mississippi River. On September 29, 1853, Cochran purchased the land that would become Mitchell from local landowner, John Sheeks. Shortly thereafter, Cochran contracted Ormsby McKnight Mitchel to survey a new route for a railroad to run through the land. As a part of the deal, Mitchel requested the new town be named after him. The second "l" in Mitchell would be added later due to a typographical error.

Mitchell developed as a "railroad town." Mitchell remained mostly agricultural until the early 1900s. There were several small manufacturing enterprises in town, but in 1902 Lehigh Portland Cement Company opened its first plant, changing the town from agricultural to industrial. Lehigh Portland Cement Company remains one of the area's largest employers. Mitchell is also home to Dana Corporation as well as Regal Beloit who are major employers in the community today.

Mitchell is a place where a sense of small town charm can be felt through its historic buildings and shops in the downtown area. The town of Mitchell is known for its production of cement, which has been used to build the historic downtown buildings and sidewalks where residents gather to share persimmon pie and cobbler with family and friends at the annual Persimmon Festival. In the early 1990s, the downtown area of Mitchell was designated a Historic District.

Most notably, Mitchell was the hometown of U.S. Astronaut Virgil "Gus" Grissom. NASA selected Grissom as one of the original seven Mercury astronauts in 1959. Grissom was one of three astronauts who perished in a fire in the early days of the Apollo program. The citizens of Mitchell have dedicated a memorial to his memory.

I am pleased to join with the citizens of Mitchell in celebrating its 150th Anniversary. I am pleased to give special recognition to Jeff Routh and the members of the Mitchell Chamber of Commerce, as well as those others who made it possible for present and future generations to enjoy the history of Mitchell through their research.

ASHLEY RUCKERT

HON. DAVID VITTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. VITTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and congratulate Ashley Ruckert. This week Ashley was unanimously selected as the Outstanding Player at the Louisiana High School All Star volleyball match in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She had 11 kills and eight digs to help the East team win the match.

Her volleyball career began at Sacred Heart Academy in New Orleans where she had four outstanding seasons on the Varsity team, all of which the Rosary took home the state title.

Ashley earned All-State, All-District, All-Metro and All-Orleans as a junior. She was named to the All-Tournament Team at the Louisiana State Championships twice and was a member of the Clarion Herald Elite Volleyball Team. A four-year letter winner and team captain, Ruckert was named Most Valuable Player at the recent State Championship.

Her athletic pursuits will continue at Elon University in North Carolina where she has received an athletic scholarship to play I-A volleyball for the Phoenix.

Ashley's athletic accomplishments are the result of her dedication, commitment and self discipline. Although known in the New Orleans area for her volleyball prowess—she is a very well rounded person. She balances well her extracurricular activities, academics and community service. Ashley is a wonderful example of the best and brightest in Louisiana. Her parents, John and Ellen Ruckert are to be commended.

Again, congratulations Ashley and best of luck in your future pursuits.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF SCOTT MAINE

SPEECH OF

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Scott Maine of Palm Beach Gardens, Florida for being named the South Florida Sun-Sentinel's Class 6A-5A-4A Player of the Year.

A pitcher for the William T. Dwyer Community High School baseball team, Scott Maine

has proven himself to be a local athletic star while playing on the field. Having some of the best statistics in the county, Scott appropriately refers to himself as a "power pitcher." A credit to his hard work and dedication, Scott plays at an exceptional level. While some baseball players would be lucky to achieve an earned run average, or ERA, of as low as 2.00, Scott finished his senior season with an ERA of 0.10.

This past season, players on opposing teams were unable to produce much offense when facing the arm of Scott Maine. Having a repertoire of pitches, Scott's ratio for strikeouts to walks is 7.5:1. A ratio that places Scott far and above his fellow competitors.

Dwyer High School's baseball coach, Tony Gullo, considers Scott's arm to be one of his Godgiven tools. In fact, Scott's pitching is so valuable to the team that a pitch count was recorded during the 2003 high school season. For every game, Scott would throw up to sixty-five pitches, departing from games around the fourth or fifth innings.

This past spring, as the athletic season came to an end, and as the graduating seniors accepted their diplomas, Scott Maine departed Dwyer High School a legend. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent such an outstanding young man and extend my best wishes to Scott Maine as he begins a baseball career.

RECOGNIZING SKIPPACK
TOWNSHIP'S 300TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Skippack Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania on its 300th Anniversary.

What began as a Mennonite community organizing the Lower Skippack Mennonite Church in 1702 is now a beautiful, mostly residential community known for an exceptional quality of life. The township has a history that dates back to the earliest years of our nation and was a camp and resting place for George Washington and his troops on more than one occasion.

The township as we know it today was created in 1886 when Perkiomen and Skippack, established from Mathias Van Bebber's purchase of land from William Penn in 1702, was divided into two townships. Skippack was comprised of three villages: Creamery, Lucon and Skippack. The area was heavily agricultural and dominated by Mennonite owned lands. The principal community is Skippack village located at the junction of Routes 73 and 113.

Two land acquisition programs had a tremendous impact on the makeup of the township. The first was the establishment of the Pennsylvania State Correctional Institution at Graterford in 1927. The second was the establishment of Evansburg State Park in 1970. These two sites occupy nearly half of the township's acreage, dedicating it to public use. In addition to Evansburg State Park, which lies along Skippack creek and provided countless recreational activities, there are two other parks. Privately owned Hallman's Grove pro-

vides a baseball field and pavilion to the community and a plot of land given to the township by J. Hansell French, Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture from 1935-1939 is used by local scout groups.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing Skippack Township for 300 years of history, heritage and service.

RECOGNIZING CHESTERFIELD
COUNTY, VIRGINIA, FOR THEIR
CONTINUING SUPPORT OF OUR
MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chesterfield County, Virginia for their continuing support of our men and women in uniform.

Chesterfield County rests between the James and Appomattox Rivers and is a total of 446 square miles. Its location offers a unique blend of suburbia and the options of driving to our nation's capital, Virginia's beautiful beaches or the scenic Blue Ridge Parkway.

The citizens of Chesterfield County not only share a beautiful community filled with spirit and values. They also share a sense of honor, duty and commitment through their support of Virginia's reservists.

It came to my attention in February 2003 that Chesterfield made a commitment to those working for the County—a promise to compensate those called up for duty as part of the Reserves. When a reservist is mobilized, and leaves his or her civilian job, their military salary is almost always much lower than their civilian salary.

Prior to the war in Iraq, there was an effort by military organizations to get the word out to their members that might be asked to serve in the war—that word was "save up now to help your family in the future." But, often, the small amount of time between hearing of a possible call-up of your unit, and preparing to leave is not enough to organize family finances. Families of those called to serve at a moment's notice often find themselves in a dire financial situation.

The citizens of Chesterfield wanted to take care of the 53 reservists and their families. Together, in a community-wide effort, the county decided to make up the difference in salary for the reservists who been asked to serve in support of Iraqi Freedom. I can't think of a better way to honor our men and women in uniform, who sacrifice so much in the name of freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Chesterfield County as they share in the duty of those serving our country. Most of us only speak of helping the troops fighting for freedom each day, the people of Chesterfield County translated those words into actions. As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, and as a citizen of this great nation, it is an honor and a privilege to represent the people of Chesterfield County, true patriots of our country.

TRIBUTE TO THE KOREAN WAR
VETERANS CITRUS CHAPTER 192

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Korean War Veterans Citrus Chapter 192 and all the brave men and women who answered the call to duty during the Korean War.

Sunday, July 27, commemorates the 50th Anniversary of the Armistice signing that officially ended hostilities in the war torn nation.

This conflict enlisted the services of 6.8 million American men and women between 1950 and 1955. Despite the enormity of this effort, many who served regrettably feel that their sacrifice has been forgotten by a nation in the murky fog of time.

I commend the Veterans of Citrus Chapter 192 for their efforts to memorialize their comrades in arms who paid the ultimate sacrifice. On Saturday, July 26, the Korean War Memorial will be dedicated at the Citrus County Court House. This marker will serve as a reminder to our nation of the surviving Korean War Veterans, as well as the POW's and MIA's who never returned.

SCHOOL READINESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2210) to authorize the Head Start Act to improve the school readiness of disadvantaged children, and for other purposes:

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2210, the School Readiness Act, because, on balance, this legislation will not benefit vulnerable children and families in Connecticut.

Since its inception in 1965, Head Start has been helping low-income children in Connecticut start kindergarten with the skills necessary for success. The program not only prepares children for school by providing a solid foundation in cognitive learning and socialization skills, but also makes them "ready to learn" by providing comprehensive health, dental and nutritional services. By focusing on the whole child, Head Start children start school more eager and able to learn.

I do not support the School Readiness Act because in my judgment, the state demonstration project contained in the bill could dilute the comprehensive services and parental involvement Head Start children depend on. The bill's loosely-defined performance standards give states overly-broad flexibility to meet federal guidelines. Consequently, vulnerable children and their families may not be guaranteed the services necessary to overcome barriers to success, or the same level of services they currently receive.

There are a number of laudable provisions in H.R. 2210 which will strengthen and improve Head Start. I support efforts to raise

academic standards and improve teacher quality to ensure children are given every opportunity to be productive students and citizens. Unfortunately, H.R. 2210 does not guarantee that vulnerable children will continue to receive the type and scope of services necessary to start kindergarten ready and able to learn.

Early childhood is a critical time for children to develop the physical, emotional, social and cognitive skills they will need for the rest of their lives. A child who enters school without these skills runs a significant risk of starting behind and staying behind. We must ensure all children have an unfettered start and an equal opportunity to achieve in both school and life.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to oppose any reduction in Head Start standards, accountability and performance.

THANKING MRS. EMMA RICHARDSON FOR HER SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of her retirement in July 2003, we rise to thank Mrs. Emma Richardson for 19 years of outstanding service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Emma began her career at the House working as a Programmer Analyst and then was promoted to a Senior Programmer Analyst. In that capacity Emma has served this great institution for the last 19 years as a valuable employee at House Information Resources (HIR) within the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer. Emma has made many significant contributions in the development of the Office Equipment System, Furniture Resource Center system, and in the implementation of bar code technology for Office Systems Management (OSM).

Emma was also an invaluable team member in the development and implementation of the Fixed Assets and Inventory Management (FAIMS). FAIMS is a mission critical system used by the Chief Administrative Officer to collect, record and report official financial information on Fixed Assets, and report on Accounts Payable, Purchasing and General Ledger activities. Emma has been a customer-oriented employee who consistently took pride in delivering products to customers on a timely basis, with great attention to detail and has displayed great passion for her work. Emma has dedicated herself to ensuring that the needs of the House Support Services, House Information Resources and the Office of Finance are met by FAIMS. Emma's extensive knowledge of the inventory process and her excellent relationships with her customers have been invaluable in deploying FAIMS.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to Emma for her many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. We wish Emma many wonderful years in fulfilling her retirement dreams.

TRIBUTE TO HARRY COLEMAN

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a good friend and an outstanding humanitarian, Harry Coleman. After ten years of service, Harry will be stepping down as President of the North Hills Community Coordinating Council (CCC).

Harry's leadership has been crucial to the success of the North Hills Community Coordinating Council. Under his guidance, the North Hills CCC successfully fought for the removal of barricades around the Columbus Street area that protected drug trafficking. Following the 1994 Northridge earthquake, Harry led the CCC in working with elected officials and government officials to expedite the repair of dilapidated and high crime areas; his diligence and steadfast determination helped turn post-earthquake ghost towns into thriving, safe communities. After considerable effort, Harry and the North Hills CCC persuaded the city of Los Angeles to purchase land that ultimately became North Hills Community Park.

Although Harry was born in Rochester, New York, he made Southern California his home early in life and has done much for our community ever since. For example, he has served on the Committee for Patient Education at Sepulveda's Veterans' hospital, applying his unique knowledge of hospital bureaucracy from his days as Vice President of Sales at General Hospital and his personal experience as a veteran.

Harry's hard work was instrumental in the ultimate construction of the Therapeutic Fitness Center, a veteran's gym. Harry monitored every detail of the project with tenacious vigilance, inspired other veterans to stand up for themselves, and was the leading voice in the struggle for its rehabilitation. This gym is an important place where camaraderie, friendship, and healing thrive for those who have given so much for our country. He and I worked very closely together to make this happen, and it is clear that without Harry the gym might never have been reconstructed.

Harry was the Chairman for Lowman-Miller Schools Fund Raising Committee for Handicapped Children, a member of the Community Policy Advisory Committee, and he served in leadership positions in countless other organizations. He genuinely cares about people and has dedicated himself to public service ever since he "retired" at the early age of 34.

Even during his leisure hours, Harry has shared his knowledge and talents with the rest of the world. Harry is listed in the Guinness Book of World's Records for taking the longest trip in history, traveling around the world in a VW camper for a total of 143,776 miles, visiting 113 countries, and meeting with 14 heads of state in two years. He shared his journey with all of us by filming and producing a two-hour documentary, "Around the World on Wheels." He revealed his travel secrets in his book, "Camping Out With Your Van or Minibus." Closer to home, Harry has also been involved in over 150 chili cookoffs, organizing competitions whenever he can, and sharing his award winning recipes.

Harry's great effectiveness as a community advocate was at least doubled upon his marriage to our former colleague in the House of

Representatives, former Congresswoman Bobbi Fiedler. The two of them are a formidable force. I am proud to count both Harry and Bobbi among my friends and I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting this wonderful man as Harry concludes his service as President of the North Hills Community Coordinating Council.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to exhaustion, I mistakenly voted on rollcall vote 445. I should have voted "nay."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I missed the following vote, rollcall No. 436, H.R. 2738. Had I been present I would have voted "yea"

on the United States-Chile Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act.

UNITED STATES-CHILE FREE
TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, the Chile and Singapore Free Trade Agreements and related implementing legislation were put before the House this week. These agreements are far less objectionable than other free trade agreements of major economic importance which the United States has enacted in the last decade.

Viewed by themselves their disadvantages do not greatly exceed their advantages. These agreements are objectionable more for what is not in them than for what is in them. They will not in any event do much to decide our economic future.

What is left is symbolism. I used this opportunity to hopefully reduce slightly what has been interpreted as round of applause for our

current trade policy by the House of Representatives this week.

Our current trade policy has produced the largest trade deficits in history. Our current accounts deficit for 2002 was \$503 billion, our trade-in-goods deficit, about \$485 billion. However you measure the deficit, it is now about 5 percent of GDP. At the beginning of the 1990s it was 1/5 of one percent of GDP. And our deficit has doubled in just about the last 3 years.

How far into the future can this continue—5 years, ten years? Either we will recognize this crisis in the middle years of this decade and take radical action, or we face an economic debacle, perhaps by the end of this decade, or certainly during the next.

The best reason to vote against these two trade agreements is that they represent a slight readjustment of two deck chairs as the Titanic approaches the iceberg. Whether the chairs will now be positioned in a slightly more auspicious manner during the few minutes before the iceberg is struck, or whether their adjustment puts the chairs in a slightly less auspicious position, is hardly the point.

I voted "no" on these trade bills. Lets shake our trade policy-makers out of their stupor and work on trade and economic policies that will put us back on track, and put Americans back to work.