

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF MOTHER TERESA

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mother Teresa of Calcutta for her life-long dedication to the poorest of the poor. She did not do it out of obligation, but out of love and goodwill. On October 19, 2003, Mother Teresa will be beatified by Pope John Paul II in Rome.

Mother Teresa dedicated the majority of her life to helping the poorest of the poor in India. While supervising a school in Calcutta, Mother Teresa was faced with the suffering and poverty that was outside her convent walls. These images made such a deep impression on her that, in 1946, she received permission from her superiors to leave the convent school and devote herself to working among the poor in the slums of Calcutta.

In 1950, Mother Teresa, while doing her charity work, founded Missionaries of Charity, an order of nuns dedicated to serving the poor. Originally, the convent began with just 12 sisters; today, it has over 3,000 sisters in over 100 countries worldwide with 517 missions.

Mother Teresa's compassion for the suffering knew no boundaries and has served as an inspiration to the world. She fed the hungry, sheltered the homeless, and cleaned the wounds of those injured; but what is even more important is that she made them feel good, loved, wanted, and gave them back the dignity that poverty had taken away from them.

For her endless amount of volunteer work and selflessness, Mother Teresa was honored with the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979, an honor that she deserved for laboring in loving dedication. She was also acknowledged for her work in 1985 with the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Even late in her life, she continued to dedicate her time and energy to those who were in need. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mother Teresa for her selfless devotion and extraordinary contributions to the world community.

PERMANENT AUTHORITY FOR EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES FROM PAYING SUBSISTENCE CHARGES WHILE HOSPITALIZED

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2998, and am

proud to say that I am one of 239 Members who have cosponsored this bipartisan legislation. I commend my colleague from Florida, BILL YOUNG, for working with such diligence to bring this important legislation to the floor.

In 1958, Congress initiated a system of charging hospitalized members of the armed forces for subsistence costs. H.R. 2998 will exempt members of the armed forces, hospitalized as a result of armed conflict or engaged in hazardous service, from incurring this charge.

Although the FY 2004 Defense Authorization bill does put this exemption in place for 2004, H.R. 2998 amends Title 10 to make this exemption permanent. It is simply unfair and unjust that this additional burden is placed on the brave men and women who serve with such honor and distinction. This is, truly, the very least we can do for these brave men and women. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote in favor of this important change to Title 10.

REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON TAIWAN'S
92ND NATIONAL DAY ANNIVERSARY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of our largest trading partners, the Republic of China on Taiwan. On October 10, Taiwan celebrated the 92nd anniversary of its National Day. I wish to join my colleagues in the United States Congress in sending best wishes to the twenty-two million residents of this lovely island nation. I also commend President Chen Shui-bian and Vice President Annette Lu as they continue to lead Taiwan to greater economic prosperity at home and greater participation in international activities abroad.

Just like our 4th of July, October 10 marked the beginning of a fantastic story of economic, social and political success that has culminated in Taiwan becoming a vibrant democracy in the Pacific region. These are exciting times in the history of relations between the United States and Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, in commemoration of the 92nd occasion of the Republic of China's National Day, it is important to remember that Taiwan has a strong relationship with the United States, and we hope this relationship will continue to flourish and grow in the years to come.

MOTHER TERESA: A BEACON OF
HOPE FOR OUR TIME

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of her beatification by Pope John Paul II in Rome, Mother Teresa, one of the world's most recognized and admired human rights advocates, deserves this designation because of her dedication, her courage, and her love of all members of society, especially the poorest and most neglected. Throughout her life of tireless service, she inspired countless individuals by her example of unconditional love and devotion to the poorest of the poor. She was a living witness of true compassion and service. In fighting for the dignity of the destitute, she gave the world a moral model that bridged divides of culture and faith.

Mother Teresa taught us that to truly love one another, we must abandon ourselves and our selfish inclinations and give to others. As she so aptly stated: "By becoming poor ourselves, by loving until it hurts, we become capable of loving more deeply, more beautifully, more wholly." Mother Teresa's beautiful pure faith and love have left a rich legacy for people of all faiths and nationalities.

This is clearly illustrated by her words: "There is joy in transcending self to serve others." For Mother Teresa, the importance of her mission was not to achieve fame or fortune, but rather to embrace a life of quiet simplicity which would lead others to a deeper understanding of God and self. Through her dedication to the poor and neglected members of society, she exemplified true humility.

I was honored to be part of the official US delegation traveling with the First Lady to India for her funeral service, an experience which truly inspired me. As I gazed at the throngs of people in attendance, I realized the profound impact that this small, seemingly simple woman had on the entire world. Her message was simple. She sought not for medals or acclaim, but rather to make a tangible difference in the lives of our world's poorest and most downtrodden. She answered God's call, which is a simple one—to love with all one's heart and to act out of love in all that we do.

We have all been enriched by Mother Teresa's example.

IN HONOR OF THE MARYLAND DISTRICT 7 WIN OF THE 2003 BIG LEAGUE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Maryland District 7 Softball Team—this year's winners of the 2003 Softball Big League World Series.

• 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.

This softball powerhouse breezed through the tournament to win their fifth championship title in seven years at the Big League Softball World Series. In eight innings, Maryland defeated Puerto Rico in the Championship Game by a score of 3-1. I want my colleagues to know about the hard work ethic and determination these outstanding young athletes possess.

Mr. Speaker, this is a sports success story and fans were thrilled by the championship effort and heart displayed by these young women from Maryland. Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Maryland District 7 Softball Team on their triumphant season.

The Maryland District 7 Softball Team: Jamie Baden, Lacy Cochran, Kim Fowler, Heather Hall, Heather Holley, Carrie Higdon, Cory Karcesky, Amanda Mitchell, Caryn Moreland, Lindsey Preuss, Kelly Seger, Maris Smith, Danielle Sturman, Jamea Waltersdorff, Abbey Welch, along with coaches Andy Adams, and Mike Kriner and manager Tommy Morrison.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR.
SUZANNE INSOOK AHN

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, my colleague EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON and I would like to pay tribute to the memory of our dear friend and a remarkable woman from Dallas, Dr. Suzanne Insook Ahn.

Dr. Suzanne Insook Ahn was born in Pusan, South Korea and raised in the United States. Dr. Ahn's beginning was very humble. Her father, Chai Ho Ahn, had been scratching out a living for his wife and children. Their community was so impressed with his intellect they collected \$143 to send him to a local college to start him on his way to become a doctor. The family patriarch never forgot his neighbors and friends, and until his retirement, he often returned to the village loaded with donated pharmaceuticals to treat patients.

Dr. Ahn joined her father a few years later in the U.S., and quickly acclimated to her new home, learning to speak fluent English just eight months after her arrival. She was the top student in her class through junior high school, and participated in many activities including the school debate team. She became an accomplished pianist, and at age 17, she entered the North Texas Beauty Contest and won first alternate. Upon graduation from high school, she decided to pursue pre-medical studies at the University of Texas at Austin. She was also a graduate of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School.

Dr. Ahn was a co-inventor of 23 U.S. medical patents. She was the founder of a medical division of a Hi-Tech start-up, and served as its president for three years. She was the founder and president of Dallas Summit, a group of Dallas women in decisionmaking positions. Dr. Ahn served on many boards, including the Texas Air Quality Board, National Board of Girls Inc., Women's Center of Dallas, DeGolyer Library of Women of the Southwest, and the board of the Hockaday School.

Dr. Ahn has made it a habit throughout her life to demonstrate that Asian Pacific Ameri-

cans are not "foreigners," but proud Americans. She especially believed in the democratic process, supporting candidates in their elections and developing close long-lasting relationships with them.

Former Texas Governor Ann Richards appointed Dr. Ahn to the Air Control Board during her governorship. Dr. Ahn also became the youngest person, and only the second woman, ever to be appointed to the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners in its 100-year history.

Dr. Ahn also knew too well about the negative side of political participation. When President Clinton ran for his second term of office, the Republicans accused the Democrats of illegal campaign contributions, specifically from China. Auditors questioned any contributor with an Asian-sounding surname, including Dr. Ahn, about their contributions. She was infuriated and let her feelings be known to the national media.

Appearing on ABC's Nightline, Ahn recounted her own experience: "The questions that [the auditor] asked were: one, what is your reported income on your tax statement; two, what are your assets; three, are you an American citizen?"

The questions came with threats. The auditor told Ahn that if she did not tell them everything that she would be listed as uncooperative and her name would be released to the press.

"When white men violate campaign finance rules," she pointed out, "they pay a fine and nobody gets hurt. There is no maligning of the entire race. I think there is an incredible double standard here."

Last year, Ahn made a surprise appearance at the Asian American Journalists Association's national convention meeting in Dallas, where she presented the group with a \$100,000 endowment, the largest gift the organization has ever received.

Friends and family will miss Dr. Ahn. She leaves behind her husband, Dr. Steven Hays, a nephrologist, their 17 year-old son, Foster, and 14 year-old daughter, Kimberly.

We are privileged to have had the opportunities to work with Dr. Ahn. What was most amazing about her was the hard work and determination she had in helping others. Her unmatched passion and love for public service will be missed by many. We join the residents of the Dallas/Ft. Worth community in extending our condolences to her family. The Great State of Texas was fortunate to have had Dr. Ahn, and we all have been greatly touched by her courage and life's work.

on their shoulders, the responsibility and commitment to ensure our freedom and all the values that we hold so dear. By taking on this task, they have made countless sacrifices in their own personal lives and safety, and for that, we are deeply indebted.

Earlier this year, I had the opportunity to visit U.S. Army Soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. The soldiers I met are some of the most courageous men and women I've met in my lifetime. I listened to their stories, heard about their families back home and marveled at their dedication, bravery and commitment to serving our country. I hope and pray for their speedy recovery.

I also learned of some troubling information. Apparently, while soldiers are being hospitalized for wounds and injuries sustained while fighting for our country, they are billed for subsistence charges, i.e food costs, that they accumulate during their stay. The current daily rate for this "subsistence" charge is \$8.10. This may not seem like much, however we must consider that in many cases, wounds may be significant and constitute longer hospital stays. This translates to higher costs that under new law must be paid by the servicemen.

If enacted, this bill would amend current law to prohibit service members injured in training or in combat from being held responsible for paying for their food costs while hospitalized in a military facility.

We must thank our men and women serving overseas for their selflessness and bravery. We should treat them with respect and gratitude. We should not, however, welcome them with a bill for the cost of their food while they were hospitalized. The soldiers have already been asked to sacrifice a great deal—they have endured harsh conditions, separation from loved ones and at times, irreparable wounds and injuries. Thus, it is imperative that we show our utmost appreciation for the work that they do.

During my visit to Walter Reed, I could not help but marvel at the energy, tenacity and humility of these servicemen and women. These are some truly inspiring young men and women, performing with courage and distinction in tough circumstances. I urge my fellow colleagues to support H.R. 2998. We owe it to our troops, to honor their incredible sacrifices, and to let them know that the American people value their efforts and that we all stand behind them.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday October 7, and Wednesday October 8, 2003, I was overseas on an official congressional delegation trip to Iraq and unable to have my vote recorded on the House floor.

Had I been able to vote I would have voted the following: Rollcall No. 532: "yes"; Rollcall No. 533: "yes"; Rollcall No. 534: "no"; Rollcall No. 535: "yes"; Rollcall No. 536: "yes"; Rollcall No. 537: "yes"; Rollcall No. 538: "yes"; Rollcall No. 539: "yes."

PERMANENT AUTHORITY FOR EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES FROM PAYING SUBSISTENCE CHARGES WHILE HOSPITALIZED

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 2998. Half way around the world, American men and women in the service of this country have once again heeded the call of duty. They bear

CONGRATULATING CROWN POINT
LIONS CLUB ON THEIR 60TH AN-
NIVERSARY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I wish to congratulate the members of the Crown Point Lions Club as they celebrate their 60th anniversary. To commemorate this special occasion, the Crown Point Lions Club will be having an anniversary banquet on October 18, 2003 at the St. Matthias Hall in Crown Point, Indiana.

The Crown Point Lions Club is a part of Lions International, which is the largest service organization in the world and includes over 1.4 million members throughout more than 193 countries. The mission of the Lions Club is "We Serve," and the Crown Point Lions Club has selflessly given their support to the Northwest Indiana community, especially the people of Crown Point, in many ways. The Club has given financial support to 30 local organizations and schools, as well as contributed to seven state, national, and international programs. During Easter and Thanksgiving, the Lions donate food to those in need. They have provided sight and hearing testing machines to many local schools, helped the Crown Point Girls Softball Team get lighting for their field, as well as contributed to the good of the community by providing a Braille computer to a local student who is blind.

Throughout the past 60 years, the members of the Crown Point Lions Club have offered their dedication and support to their noble cause of serving their local community. Each year the Lions Club helps many local students obtain hearing aids and eyeglasses. Also each year they give a \$1000.00 scholarship to a local student whose educational concentration is in hearing and sight related areas. This year, the Crown Point Lions Club is helping the community build a pavilion at the Lake County Fairgrounds.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating the members of the Crown Point Lions Club on the 60th anniversary of their noble organization. These giving and selfless individuals continue to dedicate their time and unrelenting efforts to serve their local community, as well as all of Northwest Indiana. It is their great desire for helping others that makes their organization and efforts such a motivating force in the First Congressional District, and I am proud to represent them in Washington, D.C.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. SARAH
JOSEPHA HALE

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of Mrs. Sarah Josepha Hale of Newport, New Hampshire, a community I represent in Congress. As November approaches, I am reminded of Mrs. Hale's out-

standing contributions to American society and literary culture, including her lasting legacy as initial sponsor of our national Thanksgiving Day.

Mrs. Hale overcame 19th century social adversity to become the first female editorialist in American History. During her tenure as editor of the American Ladies Magazine and later Godey's Ladies Magazine, Mrs. Hale acted as an advocate for women's right to equality of education, property, and wages. She was also a successful novelist and poet, penning the classic "Mary Had a Little Lamb," as well as a devoted single mother of five children.

During the Civil War, Mrs. Hale took an active role as an advocate for the creation of a "Day of National Thanksgiving." Knowing that President Washington had originally called for a Thanksgiving Day in 1789, she pressed for its reinstatement as a day for all Americans to come together and celebrate as a nation. Following the horrors exhibited at the Battle of Gettysburg, President Lincoln chose to accept her suggestion, and proclaimed the last Thursday in November of each year a day of national celebration.

In this, the 140th year since the Thanksgiving Holiday was established, please let the record reflect our commemoration of Mrs. Hale's achievements. In a period of crucial national challenges, her life of personal service should be a model for all citizens seeking to make positive contributions to our great society, and I am proud to represent her legacy here in Congress.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
DAN LEACH

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Dan Leach has exhibited tremendous courage and heroism in rescuing others; and

Whereas, Dan Leach entered a burning house to rescue the homeowner without any selfish regard for his own well-being; and

Whereas, Dan Leach has been honored with the Ohio Fire Service Citizens Award for Heroism by the 2003 Ohio Fire Service Hall of Fame;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District in recognizing Dan Leach for his courage, commitment and sacrifice.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MASTER
SERGEANT DENNIS TAKESHITA

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Master Sergeant Dennis Takeshita on his retirement from the Hawaii Air National Guard and thank him for 37 years of outstanding service to our Nation.

Master Sergeant Takeshita served on active duty with the Air Force from 1966 to 1972,

and he served in the Hawaii Air National Guard until October 1 of this year. During that time, Master Sergeant Takeshita received many citations and awards for his high level of performance and commitment to duty. He is a veteran of Vietnam and served in Operations Allied Force, Noble Eagle, and Enduring Freedom.

Throughout his years of service Master Sergeant Dennis Takeshita demonstrated a spirit of steadfast patriotism, leadership, and professionalism. He embodies the qualities of honor, love of country, and dedication to the core values of the United States Air Force. He set a high standard of performance that challenges each and every one of us to give our very best in whatever we undertake.

We join today in saluting Master Sergeant Dennis Takeshita for 37 years of dedicated service. Mahalo, Dennis, and best wishes for the future.

VETERANS BENEFIT ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2297, the Veterans Benefits Act of 2003; however, I cannot in good conscience cast my vote for this measure without expressing my serious disappointment in the leadership of this House and its continuing refusal to fulfill the promises this Nation has made to its bravest and most loyal citizens—our veterans. As a result of the War on Terror, we have troops deployed at points all over the world. In the name of freedom and liberty, we are in the process of creating more veterans, yet we cannot do justice by our Nation's current veterans.

I refuse to remain silent while Congress puts forth a bill that does not go nearly far enough to help the men and women who risked life and limb at our government's request. H.R. 2297 does not fulfill the promises that our Nation made to provide for health care, education, housing and burial rights for the brave soldiers who fought our battles. This Republican Congress has paid lip-service to veterans' issues, but they follow up their patriotic rhetoric with legislation that can only be described as an insult. I am disappointed that the President and the Republican leadership of the House have on more than one occasion characterized funding for veterans benefits as a drain on our economy. The so-called Republican leadership refuses to live up to its obligations, including the elimination of the profoundly unfair disabled veterans' tax, also known as Concurrent Receipt.

The Disabled Veterans Tax is shorthand for a practice whereby the retirement pay earned by veterans with service connected disabilities is reduced dollar for dollar by the amount those veterans receive in disability payments. To put it more bluntly, our Nation's veterans—the men and women who fought to preserve the freedoms we all enjoy—are forced to pay their own disability compensation. Veterans with service-connected disabilities are the only Federal employees subject to this offset and are essentially given no additional pay for their sacrifice.

The perpetuation of the Disabled Veterans Tax is just one example of how we have let our veterans down. It is unconscionable that those who have fought for this country are relegated to second class status. The fact of the matter remains that when America makes a promise to those who wear the uniform, that promise should be kept. Military retirement pay is just compensation for a career of honorable service. By contrast, compensation for service-connected disability is designed to assuage the veterans' suffering, pain, and lost future earning power.

I am confident that this bill will get overwhelming support from the Members of this House, because it gives veterans some relief; however, it is not the best that we can do. I will support this bill, because it is right that we provide for the men and women who so valiantly fought for us.

That said, I cannot help but ask why those who so often wrap themselves in the American flag and the language and symbolism of patriotism for political gain refuse to be real patriots and stand up to the President's threat to veto a repeal of the Disabled Veterans Tax.

Why is it that we can spend our country deep into debt by giving tax cuts to the richest one-percent and building infrastructure in foreign lands—while at the same time creating new veterans—but we still can't find sufficient money for education, veterans' health care and an elimination of the Disabled Veterans Tax? There is too much left undone. Sadly, despite its noble goals, this bill leaves many promises unmet and that is just plain wrong. It is time to fulfill our commitment to the Nation's veterans. We can do better than this, and I hope that in the future we will do better than this.

How can America hope to retain its military might if we continually refuse to fulfill our promises to the servicemen and women who came before; the men and women who bravely served our country in its darkest hours, our Nation's veterans? Who will carry the banner of the American ideals and protect this great land, if this government lets fighting men and women fall by the wayside?

Those who fought in two World Wars, in Korea, in Vietnam, in Iraq and every conflict before and in between kept their promise to this great Nation. They served us in the name of freedom, and they served us well. The next time the opportunity to do right by our veterans presents itself, I hope that the Administration and my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will not diminish the greatness of these United States but rather will ensure that their deeds match their rhetoric in helping us keep America's promise to its veterans.

HONORING SSM HEALTH CARE IN WISCONSIN

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the nation's leading providers of health care. The role of SSM Health Care in Wisconsin and throughout the country is deserving of a prestigious award.

SSM Health Care is being honored as one of the esteemed recipients of the 2002

Malcom Baldrige National Quality Award, the Nation's premier award for performance excellence and quality achievement given by the National Institute of Standards and Technology within the Department of Commerce. This is the first time in history a recipient has been named in the health care category.

SSM Health Care offers a wide range of medical services centered around the values of compassion, respect, excellence, stewardship, and community. We all benefit from SSM Health Care taking such an active role in our community. By engaging in great technological advances, community projects and charity care, as well as a continuous exploration into medical research, SSM Health Care has demonstrated true leadership and exceptional skill.

With the increasing aging population in Wisconsin, SSM Health Care has been an important provider of quality medical services, including acute care and nursing home facilities to my constituents. I join the National Institute of Standards and Technology as they recognize SSM Health Care with the Malcom Baldrige National Quality Award.

HONORING VETERANS ON VETERANS DAY

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, it is a tremendous honor for me to recognize and pay tribute to the men and women of New Mexico on Veterans Day who have served in the Armed Forces. This solemn occasion, commemorated by the ceremony at the New Mexico Veterans Memorial on November 11, 2003, celebrates the hearts and souls of our veterans who have chosen to make military service an enduring commitment in their lives. This commitment, borne out of a strong sense of duty and patriotism to our principles and to our citizens, has never wavered. Our service men and women have always accepted the hardships imposed on them by their responsibilities, and have been willing to meet any challenge or risk in order to see their missions accomplished. This unwavering loyalty and willingness to serve our country must be commemorated for future generations to remember, and to know that it is because of our veterans that our country continues to remain strong and free.

This Veterans Day also marks the 50th anniversary of the cessation of hostilities of the Korean War. The Korean War was fought under conditions that could only be described as brutal and harsh. Despite the difficulty of their orders, the terrain and the fighting conditions, our men and women in uniform performed with tremendous courage and dignity. Their actions during conflict stand as a testament to the strength of our Armed Forces, and our country's resolve to overcome oppression and tyranny in the world.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating these exemplary New Mexicans and the examples of heroism and courage they have displayed by their commitment to America.

TRIBUTE TO RON POAST

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a person who is a gifted artisan. Mr. Ron Poast is one of our nation's rare makers of the Hardanger fiddles. Mr. Poast's skill in this art has brought him nationwide acclaim.

Ron has recently been awarded the National Heritage Fellowship Award. This very prestigious award was presented to only 16 artists from across the nation.

The Hardanger fiddle is recognized as the national instrument of Norway. Norwegian cultural influences are prevalent in Mr. Poast's hometown of Black Earth, as they are in much of Wisconsin. Ron's passion for the Hardanger was shaped by his Norwegian-American parents and his grandfathers who were both fiddlers. The Hardanger fiddle has a dragonhead scroll, four bowed violin strings, and five sympathetic understrings that produce a unique droning sound. Before shipping each handcrafted fiddle that he makes, Ron carefully "plays it in" to make sure that it has the right distinctive sound. In addition to his rare talent with the Hardanger, he also makes fine banjos, violins, mandolins, and guitars.

Ron has received wide recognition for his excellence in this craft. At the national level, he was recognized by the Smithsonian Folklife Festival. The Wisconsin State Strings Museum Hall of Fame named him Master Luthier of the Year in 1992, and former Governor Tommy Thompson nominated Mr. Poast for the National Living Treasure of the United States Award. When I served in the Wisconsin State Legislature, a photograph of Mr. Poast's great craftsmanship graced the cover of the State of Wisconsin Telephone Directory, a listing of thousands of state employees and their agencies. In 2000, Ron was given the opportunity to display his beautiful instruments internationally at the Chiba People's Days festival in Makuhari, Japan.

Mr. Speaker, I join the National Endowment for the Arts in recognizing Mr. Poast's achievements and congratulate him as he accepts the National Heritage Fellowship Award.

QUICK THINKING EIGHT-YEAR-OLD

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I bring to your attention the heroic actions of Annalisha Labastida, an 8-year-old girl who called 911 and stayed calm while her dad had a seizure on Interstate 40.

While driving with her dad on Interstate 40, young Annalisha took action when her father had a seizure and blacked out. She maneuvered the truck to a safe stop on the side of the freeway and called 911 for help. She was able to give clear and accurate directions to the emergency operator, which allowed Albuquerque Police to respond quickly to the emergency.

Without Annalisha's quick thinking there could have been a major accident where lives

may have been lost. Instead everyone came out okay. No one ever told Annalisha what to do if her dad blacked out but she seemed to know exactly what to do to save his life. The consequences of this event could have been tragic however; Annalisha acted heroically and prevented a disaster.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me and all residents of New Mexico in honoring and thanking Annalisha Labastida.

CELEBRATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE ANDERSEN LIBRARY AT
THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Andersen Library at the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater. The library's tradition of excellence well deserves recognition.

Opened on February 25, 1953, the Andersen Library exemplifies the high standards of education valued by the Wisconsin state university system. Throughout its tenure, the library has served the Whitewater community, professors, and students alike in a variety of important capacities. One of the more notable among these capacities has been the library's accumulation of volumes. In 1953, the Andersen library opened its doors with 41,000 volumes. Today, the collection has grown to an impressive 2 million documents including a variety of print, audio-visual, and electronic files. It has been through this accumulation that the outstanding staff has been able to fulfill the library's mission to provide quality research, service, and teaching facilities to the Whitewater community.

Commitment to service is also well demonstrated by the library's annual reception and exhibit of works recognizing UW-Whitewater faculty and staff for their scholarship and creative achievements. Now in its fifteenth year, the program's fascinating exhibits recognize employee work in all media, including print, paint, and photograph.

The library's dedication to service and education is highlighted by the life achievements of its namesake, Harold G. Andersen. Mr. Andersen, a lifelong Whitewater resident and graduate of the class of 1917, was one of the many individuals who committed time and energy to the library's opening. In particular, Mr. Andersen helped move the collection with then-university President Robert C. Williams from the old site to the new library on what I can only imagine was a cold February day.

Perhaps the original dedication program said it best when stating that the Andersen Library was "planned with an eye to the future." Indeed, the library's past, present, and future are vital to the Whitewater community and deserve recognition.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICARE
PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICE NE-
GOTIATION ACT

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, Hubert Humphrey once said, "The moral test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; and those who are in the shadows of life—the sick, the needy, and the handicapped." Right now we are failing this test.

America has over 40 million elderly and disabled Americans who rely on prescription medication to maintain their way of life. Over the past few years, prescription drug costs have skyrocketed and a prescription drug benefit plan for seniors is long overdue. Many seniors are faced with the choice of paying for the medications they need or paying for the food on their table and the heat in their home. This is not a choice they should be forced to make. The Federal Government should not be turning its back on those who have done so much for this country.

A prescription drug benefit should come under the traditional Medicare program that seniors know and are comfortable with, not placed in the hands of HMOs and private insurers. The experience with Medicare+Choice HMOs leaving Connecticut is proof that private insurers will not buy into this program, at least for an extended period, because drug costs are risky and expensive to cover and because it is not actuarially feasible for them to make a profit. But don't take my word for it, listen to the words of Chip Kahn, former president of the Health Insurance Association of America. He said, "I don't know of an insurance company that would offer a drug-only policy like that or even consider it." He went on to say that it would be like "insuring against haircuts."

Prescription drug prices are virtually unregulated in the United States, as opposed to most other nations. Internationally, seniors pay dramatically less for prescription drugs, while pharmaceutical companies are leaving other countries to enjoy the largely unregulated market in the United States. Nations like Canada are no longer developing innovative drugs. In the European Union, health care quality is diminishing and investors are wary of EU pharmaceutical companies because of the uncertainty of profits due to price controls. Thus, American seniors are shouldering the burden of pharmaceutical research and development for the entire world.

The real problem lies in the cost of prescription drugs. American seniors pay drastically more than in any other place in the world. A solution needs to be identified that reduces this burden without stifling the innovative research that sets America's health care industry apart from the rest of the world.

I believe the solution lies in an idea that is already being used by the Federal Government. Prescription drug prices have been successfully lowered for seniors enrolled in the Department of Veterans Affairs health care system. The secretary leverages the power of the VA purchasing population (6.9 million peo-

ple) to negotiate substantially lower drug prices. The VA also makes heavy use of generic drugs and mail order purchasing. An investigation by the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services in 2001 found that the VA paid, on average, 52 percent less for a list of 24 drugs than did Medicare.

The legislation I am introducing today, the Medicare Prescription Drug Price Negotiation Act, would allow the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in conjunction with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense, to negotiate the prices of prescription drugs purchased by the Federal Government and by Medicare recipients. By using this successful model, seniors will be able to realize actual savings in their prescription drug costs.

As I noted earlier, the United States is the home of major pharmaceutical innovation, due in part to its largely unregulated market. I think that it is vitally important for the United States to maintain its preeminence in this area and my legislation would require the Secretaries to take into account the goal of promoting the development of breakthrough drugs in negotiations with manufacturers. Pharmaceutical companies should be rewarded for their innovative work and their role in improving the lives of so many Americans. However, American seniors should not be the only ones shouldering this burden. I believe it is incumbent on the Federal Government to step in and provide some relief to seniors, many of who live on fixed incomes, who rely on these drugs to maintain their quality of life.

Additionally, my legislation creates an ombudsman within the Department of Health and Human Services to ensure that savings are being passed along and resolve disputes between the manufacturers, sellers, and purchasers of prescription drugs. Additionally, the Secretary will be required to report to Congress regarding the effectiveness of this act in achieving reduced prices for Medicare beneficiaries.

We now have an opportunity to pass the test Vice President Humphrey handed down to us. My legislation would provide seniors with the relief they need without stifling American innovation and the creation of lifesaving medications. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation and treat those in the twilight of life with the respect they deserve.

TRIBUTE TO MOTHER TERESA OF
CALCUTTA

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mother Teresa of Calcutta and to recognize the many contributions she has made to the world. She knew no limits in her caring for other people. She offered unconditional love while asking for nothing in return.

Born in Albania on August 26, 1910, Mother Teresa decided to become a Roman Catholic sister in 1928. She went on to create a religious order based on caring for the sick, disabled, or dying, whether it was a gutter in Calcutta, under a thatched roof in Africa, or in an apartment complex in Harlem.

Mother Teresa is one of the most magnetic figures in the history of the world. Wherever she went, crowds followed in hope of seeing her or hearing her speak. When she did speak, it was with great humility, employing simple yet moving phrases.

Few people in the history of the world have done more to help their fellow human beings than Mother Teresa. She was truly the ultimate example of what it means to be a caring person. I ask my fellow Members of Congress to join me in formally paying tribute to the many contributions of Mother Teresa.

RECOGNIZING PROFESSOR
CLINTON N. HEWITT

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the distinguished Professor Clinton N. Hewitt, a renowned lecturer, author, and community activist. Throughout his professional career he has been committed to serving education and his community alike.

Professor Hewitt is a proud native of Virginia and a graduate of the Virginia Public School System. He holds undergraduate degrees from Virginia State University and Michigan State University. Furthermore, Professor Hewitt has earned a graduate degree in Landscape Architecture at Michigan State University and has completed the Institute of Education Management Program at Harvard University. Currently, Professor Hewitt is a full-time faculty member at the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture at the University of Minnesota. Before deciding to teach full-time he served as the Associate Vice President for planning at the University of Minnesota for nearly thirty years. It was there that he managed the planning, design, and construction of facilities with funding well over one billion dollars. In addition, Professor Hewitt is the past president of the Society for College and University Planning (SCUP), an organization recognized nationally and internationally as the leader in prompting the practice of comprehension planning in higher education.

Professor Hewitt has been recognized for his achievements on many occasions. He has received SCUP's Founders Award for Distinguished Achievement in Higher Education Planning, as well as its Distinguished Service Award. Professor Hewitt has also received the American Institute of Architecture Minnesota Honor and Special Awards for leading its Minority Scholarship Program in 2000 and the Distinguished Service to Higher Education Planning, Torch and Shield Award. He has been given memberships to Alpha Kappa Mu National Honorary Society, Beta Kappa Chi Honorary Science Society, Kappa Phi Kappa Professional Education Fraternity, and Sigma Lambda Alpha Honor Society in Landscape Architecture. In 1987, Professor Hewitt spread his community service internationally when he was one of eleven delegates of U.S. College and University Facilities Administrators who were invited to visit China to examine common problems and develop facilities management programs.

Beyond Professor Hewitt's extraordinary professional career, he has given back much

to his community. He serves on the Board of the University of Minnesota YMCA, the Minnesota Architectural Foundation Board, and the Board of Directors of Hope Community. He is a member of the Minneapolis University Rotary Club, NAACP, and the American Association for Higher Education.

Mr. Speaker, Professor Hewitt has been an asset to the betterment of higher education. His contributions have been great and selfless to those around him. I ask that my colleagues rise and join me in honoring Professor Clinton N. Hewitt.

ADOPTION PROMOTION ACT OF
2003, H.R. 3182

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3182, the Adoption Promotion Act of 2003. As we approach the holiday season, our thoughts are often filled with happy family memories. Thousands of families across this great country have relied on adoption for added joy in their home. I am pleased to support the Adoption Promotion Act of 2003 and the included incentives for each state to promote adoption and find families for the thousands of children who would prosper with a stable family. As a husband and proud father of three children, I can attest to the joy they have brought, and continue to bring, into my life.

According to the 2000 Census statistics, 19,733 children have been adopted in Kansas, 3 percent of children under 18 years of age. I am pleased that only 4 states have a higher adoption rate.

Adoption is a satisfying choice and one which spans generations. Chuck Knapp, a member of my staff, was adopted. His mother was also adopted, and he and his wife are proud parents of two sons, one of whom is adopted. His example is testament to the benefits of adoption.

We need to do a better job of encouraging adoption and holding each state's adoption agency accountable to timely work applications. We can all be grateful for someone who has come into our lives through this beautiful choice. For me, I have gained a friend and a fabulous member of my staff.

It is with great anticipation that I support this bill for its benefits are greatly needed as America continues to foster her families. I thank Representative Dave Camp for introducing this important bill and I would like to encourage my colleague to join me in voting "aye" for H.R. 3182.

HONORING THOMAS HOBBS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Thomas Hobbs, on his receipt of the Bronze Star Medal with Combat V. This long delayed award recognizes the incredible heroism and dedication to service dis-

played by Thomas Hobbs when he served his country in South Vietnam more than 30 years ago.

In 1970 Thomas Hobbs was serving as a Specialist 4 with Recon Team 1, Company E, 3rd Battalion, 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade. Specialist Hobbs was participating in a multi-team ambush of communist forces in the Suoi Ca Valley when Recon Teams I and 2 of Company E engaged a much larger enemy force. Team 2 was pinned down by enemy fire, with several of its own members wounded. Specialist Hobbs, without thought of his own safety, left the perimeter of Team 1 to bring aid and additional firepower to Team 2. With his help, Team 2 was able to survive the communist attack. Without his bravery, Team 2 would have been overrun, and the long list of Americans sacrificed in the defense of freedom would have been even longer.

I learned of this act of heroism when I received a letter from Ken Burbank, one of the men in Team 2 whom Thomas Hobbs helped save. For more than 30 years, he had remembered the brave soldier who had come to the aid of his unit that dark and dangerous night, and continued to look for Thomas Hobbs so he could thank him for saving his life. I was pleased to recommend to the Army that they honor Thomas Hobbs for his bravery, and I look forward to being able to present him with his award. All Americans should keep the courage and self-sacrifice of Thomas Hobbs, and the men and women who follow in his footsteps today, in mind when enjoying the freedoms he fought so bravely for.

HONORING DR. MICHAEL ZIRPOLO

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to honor Dr. Michael A. "Mike" Zirpola upon his retirement after nearly forty-five years of practicing medicine in the State of California since his graduation from the University of California. Mike has distinguished himself throughout his career as a dedicated family practice physician who has ministered to thousands of his patients, without regard to whether they could afford the necessary patient care by relying on his independent medical judgment as opposed to non medical determinations.

Dr. Zirpola is nationally known and recognized by both civilian and military pilots for his years of dedication to his additional specialty as a Class I FAA Airmen Medical Examiner, during which he has examined and certified thousands of pilots and ensured the safety of civil aviation by adhering to the highest standards of examination for the certification of pilots.

Dr. Zirpola has played an important role in air passenger and pilot safety during his medical practice and membership in the Civil Aviation Medical Association, American Academy of Air Traffic Control Medicine and Aerospace Medical Association. He has enjoyed the respect and recognition of many active and retired military pilots during his years of practice for his patriotism. Though he is retiring from his general medical practice, he will continue to devote his medical examination efforts to

the certification and safety of United States' pilots.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Dr. Zirpolo's decades of contributions to air traffic and pilot safety, and commend this Doctor and Medical Examiner approach that has marked his exceptional years of practice.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF JEANNINE LORAE MARTINEAU

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jeannine Martineau, a board member in the Lake Elsinore Unified School District and the outgoing President of the California School Boards Association. Jeannine Martineau is an exceptional community leader and citizen of Lake Elsinore.

Ms. Martineau has a distinguished record of service throughout her community and the State of California. She has served on the California School Boards Association for the past 12 years. She was a member of the association's delegate assembly and served as a regional director since 1992. This year Ms. Martineau was named chair of the Cities, Counties, and Schools Partnership.

Jeannine has also been a model of personal involvement. She has been active in many community organizations including the Elsinore Woman's Club, Elsinore Valley Human Services Commission and was named 2003 Tri-County Youth Services Volunteer of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to personally thank Ms. Martineau for her service to her community and wish her good fortune in the future.

VETERANS BENEFITS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2297, the Veterans Benefits Act of 2003. This bill contains a number of measures for our Nation's veterans. Among those is a provision that will expand the Montgomery G.I. Bill program, a tried and true program that helps our veterans achieve their education goals. H.R. 2297 strengthens the program by authorizing educational assistance for on-job training in certain self-employment training programs.

Another provision in this bill allows a re-married surviving spouse of a veteran to be buried next to the veteran in a national cemetery, based on the original marriage. An across-the-board prohibition on remarried spouses of veterans' burial eligibility is unfair to many of the dedicated women and men who spent years supporting their veteran spouse. A change in this policy is only fair.

Finally, this bill eliminates the requirement that a prisoner of war be held for 30 days or more to qualify for presumptions of service-

connection for psychoses, anxiety disorders, frostbite residuals, and other diseases. Some of our bravest veterans are plagued by these life-changing sicknesses, and they deserve fair and just compensation.

As a member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, I strongly support strengthening benefits for our Nation's veterans, who have fought so bravely to protect our country. I am proud to be a cosponsor of H.R. 2297 and urge my colleagues to support its passage today.

CONGRATULATING MAGEE RIETER FOR 11TH STRAIGHT HONOR FROM GENERAL MOTORS

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Magee Rieter Automotive Systems of Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania for winning the "Supplier of the Year" award for quality and service for the 11th consecutive time from General Motors Corporation. I ask that my colleagues pay tribute to Magee Rieter, its President and Chief Executive Officer Mike Katerman and all the employees for winning this International recognition.

Not only is this the 11th straight award for Magee Rieter and its employees, they now have the distinction of being the only company in all of North America to earn the honor for so many consecutive years. Each year, less than 100 companies out of 30,000 win this distinction. Additionally, only one other company in the world can match this incredible record of quality.

As Mr. Katerman puts it, Magee Rieter manufactures the highest quality fabricated floor carpet and acoustical systems. General Motors is their largest customer.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege and honor to represent a company that has been internationally recognized for its commitment to quality, service, technology and its pricing. It is equally rewarding to represent employees who are acclaimed for their hard work and ingenuity.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association (PSNA) which is celebrating its 100th anniversary on October 17, 2003.

PSNA first met in 1903 with the purpose of supporting Pennsylvania's nurses, and the association quickly worked to establish standards of licensure and education. In its 100 years of service, PSNA has transitioned from a graduate nurses association to a union and finally to a professional organization representing all registered nurses. Through its responses to changing times PSNA has shaped the nursing profession. In its early days, PSNA

advocated for the profession and for women. During times of national crisis the organization has provided support to those who needed it. In the days after the tragic events of September 11th PSNA coordinated volunteers willing to provide nursing care to the victims of the terrorist attacks.

Registered Nurses play a vital role in the delivery of quality and effective healthcare. PSNA continues to take a leading role in a changing industry. I congratulate the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association on its 100 years of service and support to Pennsylvania's Registered Nurses, and wish them many more years of continued success.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 6, ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 2003

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentlewoman for offering this motion to instruct, and I would like to offer my strong support.

The fact that we are here today debating this motion shows just how offtrack the Energy Conference has gone. When the gentlewoman offered this same language as an amendment to the House Energy bill it passed by voice vote because it was so popular. Now, a conference being led by Republicans is not allowing Democratic conferees to participate. And now they are stripping some of the most important and popular provisions from the bill.

Let's call this what it really is. This "Inventory" that members from the other side of the aisle say is so necessary is a sham. In fact, the Minerals Management Service already conducts a survey every 5 years, and the latest assessment was done in 2000. Taking an inventory of what lies beneath the sea floor is not like taking an inventory of office supplies. It requires a careful process that takes into account the delicate ecosystem that the Outer Continental Shelf comprises.

The point of removing this important provision in conference is not to conduct an "inventory," but instead it is to open up the Outer Continental Shelf for big oil companies to drill for oil. We all know where the oil is, and they can't wait to get in there and drill. Such drilling would put our coastal communities at needless risk.

My district is comprised of some of the most beautiful coastline in the world. From Gualala Point to the San Francisco Bay, my constituents depend on this beautiful coastline, and I do not want to see oil on our beaches or animals killed by irresponsible drilling.

Instead of expanding drilling, we should be exploring new ways to create clean and renewable energy sources. I urge conferees to add more funding for developing, implementing, and expanding renewable energy programs instead of senselessly opening up our Outer Continental Shelf to big oil companies.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote for this motion to instruct. Let's send a clear signal that the Energy conference should not take place in secret and disregard the wishes of the American people.

MARRIAGE PROTECTION WEEK

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. FRANKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of President Bush's designation of this week as "Marriage Protection Week." I commend the President for his exemplary leadership in the vital effort to preserve and strengthen America's families.

It is with complete respect to the Constitution as—according to George Washington—"the guide which I will never abandon," that I feel compelled to speak on behalf of a federal marriage amendment.

Judicial recklessness has become the breeding ground for challenges against the institution of marriage. Recent court decisions, like *Lawrence v. Texas* have set a dangerous precedent. Sadly, America's courts continue to abuse their power by legislating from the bench, and usurping the will of the people. I am concerned that the state laws that define marriage between a man and a woman are in jeopardy of being struck down by the court's total disregard for the law as it is written.

However, there is good news concerning the sanctity of marriage from my home state of Arizona. Recently, a three-judge court-of-appeals panel in Arizona upheld a 1996 state law that defined marriage as the union of a man and a woman. They said in their decision [and I quote], that "the fundamental right to marry protected by our federal and state constitutions does not encompass the right to marry a same sex partner." Here, the courts simply read the state and federal constitutions as they are written, and applied them without prejudice.

Across the Nation, support for House Joint Resolution 56, "The Federal Marriage Amendment"—a constitutional amendment defining marriage as a sacred institution between a man and woman—is rapidly growing. A recent poll taken by the Associated Press showed that 54 percent of Americans are in support of a constitutional amendment that would define marriage as a union between a man and a woman. This same poll showed that 53 percent are also opposed to so-called "civil unions." House Joint Resolution 56 is coming close to obtaining 100 cosponsors, and support for the sanctity of marriage is building on both sides of the aisle. I commend my friend and colleague from Colorado, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, for having the courage to introduce H.J. Res. 56. It is my hope, that this body will take a bold stand and defend the definition of marriage as the sacred union of a man and a woman.

Thank you Mr. President, for your leadership.

HONORING MAYOR SAMSON

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Dave Samson, the late Mayor of Sunny Isles Beach. Mr. Samson was not only an exemplary civic leader, but a great

Floridian, and a caring husband, father and grandfather.

Since retiring in 1972 as a business owner in Chicago, Samson promptly moved to South Florida. Always eager to assist his fellow citizens and be active within the community, Samson became involved in many civic affairs, as he assumed the position of president of his condominium association. Eventually, Samson was recognized as the leader of Miami-Dade County's Citizens Advisory Committee. In 1997, Samson led a successful campaign to incorporate the 3-mile-long strip in northeast Miami-Dade County, and he became the founding father of Sunny Isles Beach. He also spearheaded a large-scale movement to remake a sleepy area of low-rise motels built along Collins Avenue in the 1950s into a dream city of soaring condominium towers.

Not to be forgotten, Mayor Samson, the one and only Mayor of Sunny Isles Beach, was devoted to his family, his work, and his community. He was a remarkable man who was still working hard on his city's vision at age 88, up until his death this past weekend.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed an honor to stand here today and remember the life of an exemplary citizen of South Florida, one who devoted himself to his constituents, friends and family, and always sought a better quality of life for his community. His legacy will surely last a lifetime. Mr. Samson is survived by his wife, Marion, with whom he recently celebrated his 64th wedding anniversary, sons Michael and Stuart, and seven grandchildren.

RECOGNIZING THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF DAN CORSON

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dan Corson, who will retire next month as a member of the Boulder, Colorado City Council.

Elected to the Council in 1997, Don has had a notable career in public service.

Dan graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Miami University in Ohio, received a Master of Arts degree from the University of Denver, and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Colorado Law School. He clerked for Judge Luis Rovira in Denver District Court and worked as an attorney in civil litigation.

As a member of Colorado Preservation, Inc., the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Historic Boulder and the Colorado Heritage Area Partnership, Dan has been a strong contributor to saving Colorado's history. Dan also served as a member of the City of Boulder's Planning Board and the City Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board, and shared his expertise to benefit the community and the state.

Dan now serves as the local government liaison for the Colorado Historical Society, working with citizens and local government officials interested in establishing historic preservation commissions by offering technical advice, drafting ordinances and resolutions and offering training regarding conducting meetings, preservation law and design review. Dan

also administers grants to both local governments and the Historic Preservation Fund grants from the National Park Service.

Committed to providing progressive leadership on the City Council, Corson worked diligently to forge a strategy to find more affordable housing for Boulder citizens, while tightening the city's budget during difficult economic times. He also supported the largest purchase of open space in the city's history.

With the unique combination of public, private and nonprofit experience, Dan Corson has been an admirable public servant committed to bringing wisdom and innovative ideas to city government.

On behalf of the residents of Boulder, I thank him for his service on the Boulder City Council and wish him well in all his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE DESPLAINES VALLEY NEWS ON ITS 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding organization from my District on the south side of Chicago, Illinois. I would like to honor the Desplaines Valley News in celebrating 90 years of service to its community this year.

Founded as "the People's Paper" on October 13, 1913 by A.S. Bushkevitz in Lemont, Illinois, The Desplaines Valley News now serves twelve suburbs southwest of Chicago and provides circulation to the communities of Argo-Summit, Bedford Park, Bridgeview, Brookfield, Countryside, Hodgkins, Indian Head Park, Justice, Lyons, McCook, Willow Springs and the LaGrange Highlands.

This neighborhood newspaper has provided uninterrupted news coverage on local, state, and national events every week for the past nine decades. Since 1986, the John C. Noonan family has been dedicated to publishing the Desplaines Valley News. Currently, the Noonan family distributes the weekly publication to subscribers both through newsprint and the internet.

I would like to pay tribute to the Desplaines Valley News, as it is a shining example of the ideals under which our nation was founded.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Desplaines Valley News for the many years it has provided services to the community and wish them the very best in the years yet to come.

RECOGNITION OF THE BROOKPORT LIBRARY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize Brookport Library located in Brookport, Illinois.

I recently visited the Library and wanted to share their story with you.

The Brookport Library was established in 1991 by the Brookport Betterment Committee (BBC) Inc.

The Library was housed in an area of the old Brookport Grade School, which was leased by the school district for \$1 per year. With no water or heat, except for a kerosene heater located close to the librarian, the Library remained at this location until 1997.

At this time, the old school building was demolished, and the books, along with everything else, went into storage.

In March of 1998, papers were signed and once more the Library had a home, 103 East Third Street. The old house had charm but it wasn't long before it began bulging at the seams.

In the meantime, some very generous donations were made which were earmarked for a building, and in April 2002, the BBC purchased the building known as the Hohman Building located at the corner of U.S. 45 and Seventh Street.

Following some major remodeling, the Library opened for business on November 4, 2002.

The Library relies solely on donations and volunteers, so if anyone is interested in helping the Brookport Library, please contact the Library or any board member.

I want to especially thank Judy Askew, the chairman; Ann Douglas, secretary/head librarian; Leah Slayden, treasurer; and Rosemary Hohman and Barbara Call for the work they continue to do to make this library such a special place.

REVISED VERSION OF BILL TO FACILITATE ACQUISITION OF MINERAL RIGHTS AT ROCKY FLATS

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing a revised version of a bill to facilitate the acquisition by the Federal Government of mineral rights or other non-Federal interests in lands that are located within the boundaries of the Rocky Flats site in Colorado.

The bill is cosponsored by my Colorado colleague, Representative BEAUPREZ. It is based on H.R. 2653, which I introduced earlier this year, but includes a number of changes reflecting suggestions by Representative BEAUPREZ. I greatly appreciate his support for this measure.

BACKGROUND

In the 1950's, the Federal Government bought land at Rocky Flats for use as a production facility for nuclear-weapon components. However, the purchase did not include all the mineral rights, some of which remained in private ownership.

Production at Rocky Flats ended more than a decade ago. Since then, the Department of Energy, through its contractors, has been working to have the site cleaned up and closed.

ROCKY FLATS WILDLIFE REFUGE ACT

In 2001, Congress passed legislation I sponsored with Senator WAYNE ALLARD to guide the future of Rocky Flats. Under that legislation—the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge Act of 2001—once the cleanup and closure are accomplished, most of the land at Rocky Flats will be transferred from the De-

partment of Energy to the Department of the Interior and will be managed as a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

The refuge act includes some provisions related to the non-Federal minerals—primarily sand and gravel—at Rocky Flats. It says “nothing in this [law] limits any valid, existing . . . mineral right” except for “such reasonable conditions on access . . . as are appropriate for the cleanup and closure of Rocky Flats and for the management of the refuge.” And it says that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between DOE and Interior is to “address the impacts” mineral rights “may have on the management of the refuge, and provide strategies for resolving or mitigating these impacts.”

These provisions were included in the refuge act in order to make clear that while these mineral rights are to be respected as private property, future development of the minerals could have adverse effects on the land, wildlife habitat, and other values of the future wildlife refuge. That is why Congress directed the agencies to consider these potential future effects and work to find ways to mitigate those impacts.

So far, however, the Energy and Interior Departments have not been able to agree on what to do about the minerals, and the MOU has not been completed.

I think the best way to handle this would be for the Federal Government to acquire the minerals. However, neither DOE nor Interior has made this a priority, and the current budgetary situation places constraints on such acquisitions.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The Udall-Beauprez bill is intended to make it more feasible for the Interior Department to acquire some or all of the minerals. It would do that by giving the Secretary of the Interior two additional methods (either instead of or in addition to purchase for cash) for completing such acquisitions—

(1) by giving “credits” that could be used instead of cash to pay for oil and gas leases on the Outer Continental Shelf; and

(2) by allowing federal lands or minerals anywhere in the country to be exchanged for the Rocky Flats minerals (under current law, such exchanges can only occur within the same State—Colorado lands/minerals for other Colorado lands/minerals).

The bill has no compulsory provisions. It would not require that any of the non-Federal interests at Rocky Flats be acquired by the government. It also would not require anyone to accept anything other than cash for any interests that the government may acquire—any transaction involving the new “credits” or any exchange could take place only with the concurrence of the party selling minerals to the United States. It would merely provide the Interior Department with new tools—in addition to those it already has—for such acquisitions.

In addition, the bill includes a provision to make clear that the Federal Government cannot expand the Rocky Flats site by obtaining any non-Federal lands or interests in lands that are outside the site's boundaries except with the consent of the owners of those lands or interests.

In developing the original bill, I sought and obtained technical assistance from the Interior Department, gave careful consideration to comments from local governments and others in Colorado, and made revisions to earlier

drafts of the legislation in response to points raised in those comments.

Mr. Speaker, this bill—the “Rocky Flats Minerals Acquisition Act”—is narrow in scope. However, I think it can assist in successful implementation of something that is very important for all Coloradans—the establishment of the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge. I think it deserves the support of every Member of the House.

For the information of our colleagues, here is a short outline of the revised bill:

OUTLINE OF REVISED ROCKY FLATS MINERALS ACQUISITION BILL

BACKGROUND

When the ongoing cleanup of the Rocky Flats site is completed, it will be closed and most of the site will be transferred to the Interior Department for management as a National Wildlife Refuge. Within the site's boundaries there are some privately-owned mineral rights (primarily sand and gravel). Federal acquisition of at least some of these mineral rights would further sound management of the site as a wildlife refuge. However, the current budgetary situation makes it difficult to complete such acquisition.

The purpose of the bill is to provide the Interior Department with two additional tools to assist in the acquisition of mineral rights or other non-Federal property at Rocky Flats:

Authority to provide “credits” (instead of or in addition to cash) that could be used for bonus bids or royalties for mineral leases on the Outer Continental Shelf; and

Authority to provide eligible BLM lands (or interests) anywhere in the country in exchange for the interests acquired at Rocky Flats (waiving the current requirement that exchanges must be within the same State).

SECTION-BY-SECTION OUTLINE

Section 1

(1) provides a short title: “Rocky Flats Minerals Acquisition Act”;

(2) includes findings regarding the status of Rocky Flats and the desirability of Federal acquisition of mineral interests within its boundaries; and

(3) states the bill's purpose as being to facilitate acquisition of non-Federal interests at Rocky Flats by authorizing the Interior Department to use credits or interests in certain public lands—provided that the owners of the acquired lands or interests concur—instead of or in addition to cash.

Section 2

(1) authorizes the Interior Department to use appropriated funds, credits (with the concurrence of the party transferring lands or interests to the United States), exchanged lands or interests therein, or any combination of these, to acquire mineral interests or other non-Federal interests at Rocky Flats;

(2) defines “credits,” making clear that they can only be used for bonus bids or royalty payments for oil or gas leases on the Outer Continental Shelf, can be transferred, and must be used within 10 years of their issuance;

(3) specifies that while exchanges can involve BLM lands or interests in any State, only lands or interests identified as suitable for disposal under current law can be transferred to private ownership through such an exchange;

(4) specifies that no lands or interests therein outside the exterior boundaries of Rocky Flats can be acquired by the United States for the purposes of the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge Act except with the consent of the owners of such lands or interests;

(5) provides that interests acquired by the United States under the bill will be managed

as part of the wildlife refuge and cannot be developed or transferred out of Federal ownership; and

(6) specifies that the bill adds to the Interior Department's existing authority and does not reduce any authority the Department already has.

THANK YOU, COLONEL DAN BECK

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Colonel Dan Beck for his valuable service to our nation. As he retires from the North Carolina Air National Guard, Colonel Beck's dedication to country and state is exemplary. I am proud and honored to call him a friend.

Graduating from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte Colonel Beck was commissioned in the North Carolina Air National Guard as a Second Lieutenant in 1979. He faithfully served the 145th Civil Engineering Squadron for over a decade and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 1992. A short time later, Colonel Beck was appointed Commander of the 145th Mission Support Squadron and in 1994 assumed the position of Headquarters 145th Support Group Commander.

Serving an illustrious and impressive military career, Colonel Beck accomplished a great variety of tasks, to include commanding the first Air Force Engineering Deployment into Israel, commanding the North Carolina Joint Air/Army Task Force to Homestead, Florida in support of Hurricane Andrew relief efforts, and presiding over the multi-million dollar acquisition of C-130 H-3 aircraft.

After completing the International Strategic Studies program at Air University-Maxwell Air Force Base in 1997, Colonel Beck was selected as the first member of the North Carolina Air National Guard to participate in the Capitol Hill Fellowship program. Dan served as a Legislative Fellow to Congressman W.G. "Bill" Hefner and handled defense, transportation and emergency management issues for Congressman Hefner. While on staff, Colonel Beck learned and experienced first hand how the legislative process works. He became an invaluable asset to Congressman Hefner's staff and has used his knowledge ever since to help me and the entire North Carolina delegation. He has been an effective and true advocate for the North Carolina National Guard, thoroughly understanding the legislative process.

As Colonel Beck's Fellowship came to a close, he returned to his roots and accepted a position with the North Carolina National Guard. In 1999 he became Deputy Chief of Staff to the Adjutant General for Air Force and Air National Guard. Dan has advised on many State and Federal issues and has continued to promote the North Carolina National Guard in Congress, working closely with me and my staff and others.

As Colonel Dan Beck takes the next step forward in his professional career, I wish him, his wife Trudy and two sons Sterling and Cooper all the best. I have enjoyed working with Dan the past several years and thank him deeply for his friendship and service to North

Carolina and the United States of America. May God bless Colonel Dan Beck and his family.

A TRIBUTE TO MG ZANNIE O.
SMITH, U.S. ARMY

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today and honor Major General Zannie O. Smith of the United States Army. On October 16, 2003, Major General Smith retired after serving the people of this great nation for over forty years.

Zannie Smith was a decorated officer, who spent his career ensuring that the freedoms the United States holds dear are protected. Throughout his illustrious career, Major General Smith was honored with the Defense Superior Meritorious Service Award, the Legion of Merit with five Oak Leaf Clusters, the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, four awards of the Vietnam Service Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal. He is a Master Parachutist and has been awarded the Ranger Tab, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, and the Air Assault Badge.

After holding a variety of command positions, Major General Smith was assigned to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, as Deputy Commanding General of the XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg in 2001. Our United States Army would not be as illustrious and formidable without the dedication and determination of Major General Smith. We owe Major General Zannie O. Smith our sincere appreciation for his over forty years of committed service to our nation. His devotion to the people of the United States should serve as an example to us all.

May God bless him and his family, and may God bless this great nation.

RECOGNIZING THE PUBLIC
SERVICE OF SPENCER HAVLICK

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Spencer Havlick, who next month will retire from membership on the Boulder, Colorado, City Council.

Elected to the council in 1982, Spence has had 21 years of distinguished public service.

Born in Oak Park, Illinois and raised in Green Bay, Wisconsin, he received his B.A. Degree from Beloit College, his M.A. from the University of Colorado in limnology and his Ph.D. in environmental planning and water resource management from the University of Michigan.

He became the Assistant Dean and Director of the College of Environmental Design at the

University of Colorado in Boulder in 1975. His research and teaching focus on natural hazard mitigation, the citizen's role in the planning process, and the impact of urbanization on the environment. He has written on ecology and design and is preparing another book on transportation management and traffic calming.

He has taught at the University of Michigan and Murdoch University in Western Australia, consulted for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Information Agency.

With this outstanding academic background, Spence has been a champion of the values that embody the spirit of Boulder. His commitment to defending these values made him a distinctive member of the council.

A passionate environmentalist, Spence had a two-decade struggle with transportation problems and worked diligently to promote public transportation, rail service between Denver and Boulder, bicycle paths, city open space and pedestrian walkways.

In his role as professor of environmental design at the University of Colorado, Spence encouraged his students to adopt Boulder's environmental values. He urged students to give up their cars, get more exercise and walk or use alternative transportation.

A top vote getter in all his elections, Spence promoted a strategy to find more affordable housing, worked on growth management, led the effort for the largest purchase of open space in the history of Boulder and worked to streamline the city's budget in tough economic times.

Spence's civic commitment is demonstrated through his service on the City Council Environmental and Transportation Committees, as an Eco-cycle block leader, and as a Commissioner for the Boulder Urban Renewal Authority.

The City Council of Boulder, Colorado, has been fortunate to have had Spencer Havlick as a member for the past 21 years. On behalf of Boulder's residents, I wish him well as he continues to pursue his commitment to a better community and state.

COMMEMORATING THE RETIREMENT OF MR. LARRY L. CRUTSINGER, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF SAN ANTONIO YMCA

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Larry L. Crutsinger, the President and Chief Executive Officer of the YMCA for Greater San Antonio and the Hill Country. After thirty-three years of service, Mr. Crutsinger has announced that he is retiring from the YMCA.

I would like to join the YMCA in recognizing him for his service to the YMCA movement and its mission to put Judeo-Christian principles into practice through programs that build a healthy spirit, mind, and body. Through his dedicated service and leadership, Mr. Crutsinger has helped the YMCA establish both local YMCA branches and set national

YMCA precedents in program innovation to meet the changing needs of children, teens, and families in local communities.

The YMCA has become the largest non-profit provider of after school child care that supports working families with the care, education, and recreation for their children after school and during school holidays. The San Antonio YMCA child care system has been recognized as a model by the Texas Legislature.

Mr. Crutsinger has been honored as one of San Antonio's outstanding creative minds for leadership in the development of programs for children and his advocacy for youth. His charitable career has resulted in the creation of three major branch YMCAs, and the expansion of program services and partnerships to serve over 61,000 members and program participants.

Together, with 900 staff and over 5,000 volunteer members in the YMCA movement, Mr. Crutsinger developed the teams and resources to deliver before and after school Y School age summer day camp sites; two residential camping sites; and nine Y Teen sites in this ten-county region; and all in the effort to build strong kids, strong families and strong communities today and tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Larry Crutsinger for his hard work and dedication to the YMCA and the people it has served over the years, and my distinct pleasure to wish him the best in his retirement.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO MRS. AUDREY LOTT ON THE OCCASION OF HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Audrey Lott is an incredibly bright woman whose life reflects both the spirit and struggles experienced by African-Americans in the United States. This Saturday, October 18, Mrs. Lott will celebrate her 100th birthday.

Mrs. Lott is the granddaughter of a former slave who was a messenger for General Grant in the Civil War. Mrs. Lott grew up in Washington, DC and attended pharmacology school while in her 20's. For a time, she worked for Simmons Pharmacy at 21st & L Streets in Washington. She left her job after a few years to stay at home and care for her mother. After her mother passed, Mrs. Lott worked as a housekeeper. In fact, Mr. Speaker, she once served tea to Mrs. Bess Truman and Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. In the early 1960's, Mrs. Lott moved to Tiffin, Ohio, which is in my congressional district. Her son, Grant C. Taylor, soon followed.

Mrs. Lott and her family have sacrificed much but contributed greatly to the United States. Mrs. Lott is a grand, intelligent lady, an avid reader of a variety of fiction, and a dear, true friend to many. It is in that spirit that I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Mrs. Audrey Lott on the occasion of her 100th birthday celebration. Our communities are served well by having such honorable and giving citizens, like Mrs. Lott, who care about their well being and stability. We wish her all the best as we pay tribute to one of our nation's finest citizens.

RECOGNIZING THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF FRANCOISE POINSATTE

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Francoise Poinsatte, a member of Boulder City Council, as she retires in November from her seat on the Council. I would like to thank her for the many contributions she has made to ensure that the City of Boulder remains a very special place to live.

A graduate of the University of Notre Dame, Francoise received her teaching license in French and Fine Arts from the University of Colorado. She has taught in public schools in the Boulder Valley and in Jefferson and Douglas counties. She has been a member of the Transportation Advisory Board from 1993 to 1994, and has served on the Regional Transportation Task Force from 1997 to 1998.

Elected in 1999, at a time when the City of Boulder faced many challenges, Francoise tackled the issues of economic stability in declining budgetary times. Partnering with other council members, Francoise was able to increase the city's financial reserves from two to fourteen percent to prepare for unexpected financial crises.

As a former teacher, Poinsatte fought to support and expand strong educational and human service programs in the city, while keeping a close eye on the costs and quality of the services provided to the community. She has advocated for social and economic diversity, affordable housing, and improved facilities for the homeless.

Francoise's ongoing commitment to a healthy environment for Boulder's citizens made her a leader on alternative transportation options in the area, which included bike paths, walking trails, well-planned bus routes and citizen-friendly transportation plans. She has contributed to the vitality of downtown Boulder by her dedication to reducing traffic congestion, air pollution, and fuel consumption. Her city has recently been recognized nationally as one of the best workplaces for commuters.

Boulder is also known for being one of the most environmentally friendly cities in the United States, and Francoise and her colleagues on the Council enhanced this reputation through investment in additional open space, recycling programs, and a strong citizen education program. As a member of the Boulder Urban Renewal Authority, she has helped oversee plans for the development of the new St. Julien Hotel at 9th and Canyon, as well as the rejuvenation of Crossroads Mall.

With a keen sense of citizen responsibility and a talent for blending her past experience with a desire to serve the public good, Francoise Poinsatte has been an outstanding member of the Boulder City Council and city government. I ask my colleagues to join me in praising her public service, and I wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO CARL D. ASHLEY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer condolences to the family of my good friend Carl D. Ashley. Carl was indeed a role model a good provider, a good husband, a good father, grandfather, uncle, a good friend to all of those who needed a friend, a good citizen and a great American.

Mr. Speaker, as I listened to speaker after speaker at the funeral testify and extol the virtues of Carl, I sat in amazement, young lawyers, doctors and other successful young people talked about the impact Carl had on their lives. He was not a professional teacher and yet he taught, he was not a psychologist and yet he gave counsel, he was not a clergyman and yet he preached a great gospel. He was a lover of people and he displayed that love each and every day of his life.

I met Carl in the early 1960's when we both worked at the post office, a job from which Carl retired. While we did not see each other on a regular basis our friendship maintained itself and bloomed. Carl married a great lady and they were able to raise a wonderful family, taught to achieve, accomplish and to be actively engaged in all aspects of life, including politics, Carl was a judge of election and took his politics seriously.

I extend heartfelt condolences to the family of Mr. Carl D. Ashley and thank God for having been able to know him and to see firsthand his efforts to help make the world a better place in which to live. Carl served his country in Vietnam and continued to serve until his death. May his soul rest in peace.

NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month and in commemoration of the over five hundred years that America has been enriched by Hispanic culture. This year, from September 15th to October 15th, we have the opportunity to honor the myriad contributions the 37 million people of Hispanic origin currently living in the United States have made to our great country, and we have the responsibility and pleasure of recognizing and remembering the many gifts of Hispanic Americans.

An exemplar of the contributions to the culture of our society made by Hispanic Americans is Celia Cruz, the "Queen of Salsa" who passed away this July in her home in Fort Lee, New Jersey which is located in my Congressional District. Born in Havana, Cuba, Celia Cruz fled to the United States to free herself from the brutal dictatorship of Fidel Castro. With a genuine love of life and passion for family and friends, Celia Cruz represented the true spirit of Hispanic Americans through her music.

Hispanic Americans comprise 14 percent of the total U.S. population and have contributed

to American society in innumerable ways. From literature and art to business, science, academia and government, Hispanic Americans have significantly and so positively impacted American culture. Among other great examples are Carlos Gutierrez, Chairman and CEO of the Kellogg Company since 2000, NASA Astronaut Ellen Ochoa, and former Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson. Each of these men and women has touched the lives of countless people of all races, religions, and ethnicities across the United States. It is with honor and gratitude, Mr. Speaker, that I ask all my colleagues to join me in celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month.

RECOGNIZING THE PUBLIC
SERVICE OF LISA MORZEL

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lisa Morzel, a retiring member of the Boulder, Colorado, City Council for her eight years of service to the Council and the community.

As a research geologist, Lisa has brought a great deal of knowledge about the topography of the Rocky Mountain region to complex land use decisions made by the Boulder City Council. She has also developed some expertise on the geology of Yellowstone National Park and the special volcanic dynamics of this region—especially the floor of Yellowstone Lake.

Her careful consideration of the development of many multi-faceted projects brought important insight to projects such as the development of a National Wildlife Refuge at the Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons facility, which will benefit the region's citizens for decades to come.

Through a commitment to thoughtful resource allocation, Lisa and the Boulder City Council were able to increase the City's financial reserves from two to fourteen percent, to cover unexpected crises. This was a critical measure, as this will help the City get through this current difficult economic situation.

During her tenure on City Council, Lisa was a partner in creating many improvements for pedestrian access throughout the city. Boulder has one of the most environmentally conscientious communities in the county and with the enhancement of bike paths, hiking trails and open space, the city provides a citizen-friendly environment.

Lisa was also a leader in recycling, and supported creation of the Boulder County Recycling Center and other efforts to promote recycling. Due in part to her efforts nearly half of waste that would otherwise end up in landfills is now recycled.

Lisa is a strong proponent of affordable housing in the city, and encouraged the Council to adopt new policies to ensure an adequate supply of affordable housing in the community.

Lisa has already promised to remain involved in these and other important community issues after her term on Council ends. Her dedication to the city is to be commended. On behalf of Boulder's residents, I applaud Lisa for her years of commitment to public service.

TRIBUTE TO GEN. T. MICHAEL
MOSELEY

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, today I am honored and privileged to recognize one of the finest officers in the United States Air Force, recently promoted General T. Michael "Buzz" Moseley.

For the past two years, General Moseley has served with distinction in one of the most demanding Air Force positions: Commander, Ninth Air Force, Air Combat Command, which is headquartered in my district in Sumter, South Carolina. In that post he also served as Commander, United States Central Command Air Forces, United States Central Command. During his tenure, he prosecuted two of the most successful air campaigns in modern history, raising the bar for the optimum employment of air and space power in joint armed conflict.

Following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States, General Moseley took command of U.S. Central Command's air component. In this role, he provided air and space power for the Command's 25-nation area of responsibility that reaches from the Horn of Africa, across Iraq and Afghanistan, to the southern states of the former Soviet Union. At the peak of Operation Enduring Freedom, General Moseley directed over 11,000 combat sorties responsible for destroying over 4,600 Taliban and al Q'aeda targets—in support of our nation's war on terror. When U.S. forces had the terrorist organizations and their supporters on the run, the Central Command's focus shifted to sustaining our efforts to bring relief to the long-oppressed Afghani people. In the initial humanitarian phase, nearly 200 airdrop sorties were flown, delivering 2.4 million daily rations and nearly 1,900 tons of blankets and rice.

Following the successes of Operation Enduring Freedom, General Moseley was called upon to provide General Franks, now the former Commander of U.S. Central Command, with air power guidance and expertise as the planning and preparation intensified for military action that would eventually remove the tyrannical regime of Saddam Hussein. From logistics to civil engineering, readiness of personnel to sensitive theater engagement with friendly foreign allies, the air component's methodical preparation for Operation Iraqi Freedom was simply spectacular. The logistical train paved the way for the employment of nearly 30,000 air-to-ground weapons and air refueling offloads totaling more than 417 million pounds of fuel—enough to keep a Boeing 737–300 airborne for almost 12 years. As the logistical buildup steadily progressed, civil engineers and contractors were busy executing over 350 million dollars in facility upgrades at our friendly host nations' airfields, bolstering their ability to support the pending wartime taskings.

Employing thoughtful and polished diplomacy, General Moseley negotiated basing rights at 24 Arabian Gulf airfields and overflight rights for the coalition's 1,800 aircraft and over 1,350 cruise missiles, assets that were pivotal to conducting the air campaign on terms favorable to American and Coalition na-

tional security interests. At the peak of hostilities against the former Iraqi regime, nearly 55,000 United States Air Force personnel were deployed under General Moseley's control. These preparatory actions led to the successful execution of the coalition's overwhelming effort to free the people of Iraq from the clutches of Saddam Hussein. In overthrowing the regime, aircraft from our Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps was coupled with the air power of our coalition allies from the United Kingdom and Australia to execute the most successful air campaign in history. During the course of the 21-day campaign, General Moseley directed 41,000-plus sorties and was responsible for striking nearly 20,000 Iraqi targets—an astounding feat that is a testament to General Moseley's impeccable combat leadership.

To this day, the outstanding men and women of the United States Central Command Air Forces continue to support Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, promoting and maintaining American interests in the region and reconstructing two pivotal countries where our efforts must not fail. While the majority of our air and space force have returned home from the Middle East and Central Asia, over 17,000 airmen remain deployed. They are serving under the most arduous conditions in Southwest Asia, defending the victories of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. The continued sacrifices of these great Americans carries on our Nation's commitment to the security and prosperity of the region.

I was truly pleased with the President's recent nomination and the United States Senate's confirmation of General Moseley for his fourth star. It is exceptionally well-deserved, and I want to offer my congratulations to him; his wife, Jennie; their son, Greg; and their daughter, Tricia. I am proud to represent my fellow South Carolinians—citizens who have understood the meaning of sacrifice since the formation and creation of the United States—in thanking General Moseley and his family for their selfless dedication, commitment, and sacrifice.

General Moseley is a credit to both the United States Air Force and the United States of America. I wish him the best of luck in his assignment as Vice Chief of Staff, Headquarters United States Air Force. I am confident of his continued success in his new position and look forward to seeing him back here in our Nation's capital.

HONORING LATINO SERVICE MEN
AND WOMEN DURING NATIONAL
HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month and to recognize the longstanding contributions that the Latino community has made and continues to make through their participation in the armed forces.

New census data reports that the Hispanic community, which numbers almost 40 million, is now the largest minority group in the United States. As such, Latinos influence everyday

life in the United States through their participation in every sector of our society including business, the arts, sports, government, medicine and education. Of particular significance during these trying times, is the rich history of patriotism and sacrifice that the Latino community has made by serving proudly and with distinction in every major U.S. military conflict and in all branches of our armed services.

From the minutemen of the American Revolution to today's enlisted men and women in Iraq, the Latino community has a deep-rooted tradition of service in the U.S. military. Today there are 109,487 Latinos on active duty, representing approximately 9.5% of all active duty personnel. Latinos represent 9.7 percent of the Army, 10.5 percent of the Navy, 13.9 percent of the Marine Corps, and 3.4 percent of the Air Force.

Latinos have been recognized for their valor and bravery in some of this country's most important military confrontations. One of the greatest sources of pride among the Latino community is the 39 Medals of Honor awarded to Latinos in recognition of their valor. They are the largest single ethnic group, in proportion to the number who served, to earn this prestigious award.

During the American Revolution, soldiers from Spain, Cuba, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic fought alongside the colonists for independence. Cuban women donated their jewelry to aid the colonists, helping to finance the Yorktown Campaign.

In World War One, Latino soldiers were decorated with the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, the French Croix de Guerre, the Victory Medal with three bars, and the Purple Heart. During the Second World War, up to 500,000 Latinos served bravely—eleven receiving the Medal of Honor. Of particular mention is the story of Marine PFC Guy "Gabby" Gabaldon who single-handedly captured over 1,000 enemy soldiers in the summer of 1944, more than anyone else has in the history of military conflicts.

During the Korean War, the 65th Infantry Regiment—a Puerto Rican regiment—was given special recognition for participating in nine major campaigns, capturing 2,086 enemy soldiers, and killing 5,095 enemy combatants. Individual members of this regiment were awarded four Distinguished Service Crosses and 124 Silver Stars. My family and I had personal acquaintance with a Korean War hero from my neighborhood in Boyle Heights when I was growing up in Los Angeles. Private First Class Eugene Obregon was awarded the Medal of Honor for sacrificing his life to save that of a wounded comrade.

Fourteen Hispanics were awarded the Medal of Honor for bravery during the Vietnam War. Navy Lt. Everett Alvarez became the first American prisoner of war (POW), and remained so for over 8 years, the longest confirmed POW in American history. The last American to leave Vietnam was Senior Master Sergeant Juan J. Valdez, who served at the U.S. Embassy in Saigon and departed by helicopter on April 30, 1975.

When Iran held 52 American hostages in 1980, the Ayatollah offered to release all minorities. Marine Corporals Lopez and Gallegos refused, instead stating, "I am an American—I am a U.S. Marine, I will be the last one to leave," invoking the spirit of American patriotism above all else.

Today, as we wage the war on terror in Afghanistan and Iraq, the Latino community con-

tinues to prove its commitment to America by serving proudly and with honor. They remind all of us, that there is no better way to demonstrate devotion to your country than the willingness to make sacrifices for it. Through their service in the armed forces thousands of brave individuals in the Latino community have proven their love and dedication to our American values of liberty and freedom for all.

As we recognize the Latino community during National Hispanic Heritage Month, I want to thank the service men and women, both past and present, for their commitment and sacrifices to our country. They truly embody the spirit of pride and community that Hispanic Heritage Month is designed to celebrate.

RECOGNIZING THE COLORADO
PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH
GROUP

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Colorado Public Interest Research Group (CoPIRG) on the celebration of its 30th anniversary of operation in Colorado. This outstanding nonprofit organization has been recognized as one of the state's strongest grassroots groups devoted to advocacy, action and results.

In an effort to advocate for Colorado's citizens, CoPIRG's current programs focus on affordable health care, consumer protection, environmental advocacy, and the strengthening of our democracy.

The cost of health care and prescription drugs are soaring and senior citizens and the uninsured are paying a disproportionate share of their incomes for their basic health care needs. CoPIRG, through its surveys, is advocating for Congressional reforms and urging our state government to develop buying pools to benefit those on fixed incomes and without employment most impacted by these spiraling costs.

Coloradans have many areas where they need more personal and consumer protection. Through comprehensive reports each year prior to the holiday-giving season, Public Interest Groups across the nation have targeted unsafe toys in retail stores and on the Internet. For the past 17 years, these reports have led to over 100 recalls and prompted the passage of a federal toy labeling law in 1994.

Investor protections were highlighted last year when CoPIRG advocated for consumer privacy laws to protect credit card numbers from theft. This year, CoPIRG is working to strengthen laws governing the accounting industry in Colorado and increase funds for investigations and other reforms.

Targeting corporate fraud, a CoPIRG backed law helped create an independent oversight system to ensure that audit firms aren't subject to conflicts of interest. Through a research report, consumers can reduce their banking fees through better knowledge of industry charges. In 2001, predatory lending practices were exposed through CoPIRG's research, leading Colorado's Attorney General to file civil suits against offenders, the first such action in the nation. In another national first, Colorado passed a law to provide con-

sumers with free annual credit reports upon request.

On the front lines of environmental and public health protection, CoPIRG has fought to strengthen air standards, reduce pollutants that cause global warming, smog and increase respiratory diseases such as asthma. In a campaign to keep our water clean and safe for drinking and recreation, PIRGs nationally are working to enforce toxic regulations on corporate violators.

In an effort to protect our nation's coastlines, Public Research Interest Groups across the nation are advocating to leave wilderness areas free from oil and gas drilling. As one of the country's largest source of pollution, fossil fuels continue to be harmful to the nation. PIRGs across the country are working to support the use of renewable sources of energy through education and advocacy. With the motto, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, CoPIRG and other affiliates are building environmentally sound alternatives to keep our nation clean and safe for all its citizens.

Fighting for Colorado's citizens, CoPIRG has partnered with Colorado Common Cause, the League of Women Voters of Colorado, the Colorado Environmental Coalition and other advocacy organizations to direct a county by county effort to expand voter participation through Colorado Citizens' Voice. Using training workshops, the coalition supports citizen involvement in government decisions and works for meaningful reform on critical issues.

Through comprehensive reports and releases, CoPIRG keeps voters informed of campaign contributions, compiles statistics on campaign financing trends and continuously advocates for campaign finance reform and the protection of initiative process in Colorado.

For the past thirty years, Colorado and the Rocky Mountain West has been the proud home of Colorado Public Interest Research Group. For their many accomplishments on behalf of its citizens, we commend their service and wish them many years of future success.

RECOGNIZING AUGUSTINE
GALLEGO DURING HISPANIC
HERITAGE MONTH

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, which commemorates the numerous contributions that Latinos make to our country. It is my privilege today to recognize an extraordinary individual who shapes the future every day through his valuable work, San Diego Community College District Chancellor Augustine Gallego.

In his 14 years as Chancellor, Augustine "Augie" Gallego has earned a reputation as a national leader in higher education. He is the immediate past chair of the American Council on Education (ACE). Change Magazine recently named him as one of the 21 most influential higher education senior leaders in the United States. Locally, he is known for bringing together business leaders, community members, and politicians to find solutions for challenges within the educational system.

Chancellor Gallego is a positive role model for young people within the Latino community and beyond who are unsure about pursuing post-secondary education. The story of Augie's decision to go to college is inspirational. As a young man, Chancellor Gallego found work digging ditches. One day while digging, he looked up and noticed college students nearby. That moment served as an epiphany; Augie realized he did not have to dig ditches for a living. He decided to attend college.

Chancellor Gallego truly embodies the mission of the San Diego Community College District of providing an accessible, high quality learning experience that responds to the unique needs of local communities and student populations. In his capacity as chief executive officer of one of the largest community college districts in the United States, he led the development of numerous innovative programs, including public and private partnerships to more effectively and efficiently serve students and the community. Among his many accomplishments, Chancellor Gallego has facilitated community college transfer to California's four-year public colleges, and developed opportunities for students to intern and work at local businesses.

All of Chancellor Gallego's endeavors show a profound appreciation, understanding, and passion for community colleges and their role in the economic development, work force training, and education of a community. He respects the unique backgrounds and needs that each student brings to the classroom. The diverse community college population includes "breakthrough students" who are the first in their family to go to college, nontraditional students returning to school to obtain skills to help them either re-enter or advance in the labor market and students experiencing financial hardship. Community colleges represent hope and provide opportunities for many in San Diego County. Chancellor Gallego has helped turn those hopes into reality for thousands of San Diegans.

A vocal advocate for students, Chancellor Gallego has brought attention to the impact of California's education budget reductions. Funding decreases translate into increased class size, fewer classes, less financial assistance and, ultimately, lost potential for the community.

As Hispanic Heritage Month draws to a close, I am proud to recognize Chancellor Augustine Gallego's steadfast commitment to improving the quality of education. Through his service in the San Diego Community College District, he has opened the doors of opportunity to a generation of students.

CAPTAIN DURWARD LANG: 50
YEARS OF REMARKABLE SERVICE

HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, in August, 2003, Durward Lang retired as the Captain of the Fire Department of Buxton, Maine. Captain Lang's extraordinary service to the town began a half a century ago. He has held every rank from firefighter to Chief, and has been instrumental in many of the department's pro-

gressive changes. His contributions are remarkable in many respects, and reflect the can-do spirit of a man who has given his all to his community.

For example, Durward purchased a used ladder truck on his own, refurbished it in his garage, and gave it to the Town of Buxton for \$1. Not to be deterred, when the truck failed to pass inspection in 2000, he served on the committee formed to purchase another ladder truck.

Durward and his wife, Janet, also started the town's emergency dispatch service in their kitchen. They hired people to man the phone 24 hours a day. The service is now the 911 center for the Town. The Langs also ran the town rescue service together, spending many days and nights helping residents in trouble.

Fortunately, Durward has been persuaded to remain in service. Since his retirement as captain, he has served as a fire truck driver. I join the people of Buxton in thanking Durward and Janet Lang for their countless hours of service, and the model of civic involvement that they have established for all to emulate.

RECOGNIZING TAIWAN'S 92ND NATIONAL DAY

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, as a longtime supporter and proud member of the Taiwan Caucus, I would like to recognize and congratulate Taiwan on its 92nd National Day, which it celebrated on October 10, 2003. Taiwan has made many significant accomplishments during its brief history. It is a true friend to the U.S., and one of our major trading partners.

Taiwan is one of the largest export markets for many U.S. states, including New York. With a population of 23 million, the island of Taiwan is the world's 12th largest economy and our eighth largest trading partner. These economic ties have strengthened our bilateral relationship.

Taiwan is a thriving democracy, supportive of political freedoms and human rights. Its constitution guarantees citizens freedom of assembly, expression and association, freedom of religion, and freedom of the press. Taiwan conducts free and fair elections, and is home to more than 90 political parties.

I applaud Taiwan's commitment to upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights, and the Declaration and Action Program of the 1993 Vienna Conference on Human Rights. I thank Taiwan for providing humanitarian assistance to Afghan refugees, and for its generous contributions to the International Community. I fully support Taiwan's efforts to rejoin the United Nations and join the World Health Organization.

As we celebrate Taiwan's 92nd National Day, we recognize the strong relationship between our countries and commit ourselves to see this relationship continue to flourish and grow in the years to come.

DEFENSE PRODUCTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, no one questions the need for the Federal Government to obtain the necessary resources to fill its constitutional role of providing for the common defense. However, the federal government must fulfill this duty in a manner that does not conflict in any way with the Constitution or endanger republican government. The Defense Production Reauthorization Act (DPA), which gives almost unchecked power to the executive to interfere in the economy in the name of "national security," fails both of these standards. In fact, when I inquired at the sole hearing the House Financial Services Committee held on this issue as to which section of the Constitution authorized such sweeping grants of power to the Executive, I was greeted by silence from the "expert" witnesses!

Under this bill, the President is given authority to void private contracts in order to ensure that federal defense priorities, as determined by the executive, are met. The only limitation on the President's judgment is a requirement that he submits a series of "findings" to Congress. The Executive also has what appears to be unchecked authority to use financial incentives such as loan guarantees, direct loans, and purchase guarantees to ensure production of items he determines are in the national interest.

Congress appears to have no ability to perform any real oversight of a Presidential action under the DPA. In fact, my office has been informed by the Congressional Research Service that past Presidents may have invoked the DPA without even submitting the required findings to Congress!

The wide grant of unchecked power to the Executive runs counter to the intent of the drafters of the Constitution. The Founders carefully limited the executive power because they recognized that an executive with unfettered power was a threat to liberty. In recent years we have seen administrations of both parties undermine the Constitutional separation of powers via enhanced reliance on executive orders and unilateral decision-making. The Defense Production Reauthorization Act provides Constitutional blessing to this usurpation of power, and not just in areas clearly related to national defense. For example, the DPA has been used to justify federal interference in the energy market. It is an open question what other exercise of federal power could be justified as related to defense. For example, federal education programs has been justified on the grounds that an educated population is vital to national defense, so perhaps a future president will use DPA to impose a national curriculum!

I am also concerned that this bill violates the Fifth Amendment's takings clause. In particular, DPA allows the government to seize private property by interfering with the performance of private contracts in order to give priority to military production. This action reduces the value of the affected parties' proprietary interests, and thus is a taking, requiring the government to provide just compensation to the affected party. The Fifth Amendment intends to assure that the government does not

unfairly burden one group of citizens in carrying out its constitutional functions. By not providing for just compensation, DPA allows the executive to unfairly burden one group of citizens for costs that the Constitution requires be shared among the entire population.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, the Defense Production Act gives the executives unchecked power to meddle in the economy, flying in the face of the original constitutional structure and endangering the very liberty it claims to protect. Therefore, I must oppose this bill.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL
LATINO AIDS AWARENESS DAY

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize October 15 as the first ever National Latino AIDS Awareness Day. On this day, in over 100 cities throughout the United States, Latino leadership will sponsor a variety of activities raising awareness of the state of AIDS among Latinos.

For the past twenty years, AIDS has posed a formidable threat to Latino communities and families. As of December 2001, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates there have been 149,742 cumulative Latino AIDS cases in the United States. Latinos in the United States have been disproportionately affected by the AIDS epidemic. Although Latinos comprise 14 percent of the population in the United States, they account for 20 percent of all those living with AIDS. Furthermore, Latinos are over represented in the number of new HIV infections and AIDS cases. Two groups in particular, Latinas and Latino youth, have been acutely affected. The rate of Latinas with AIDS as a proportion of all Latino AIDS cases has climbed from 15 percent in 1990 to 23 percent in 2000. Latino teens make up 15 percent of the national teenage population but account for 21 percent of new AIDS cases.

In Los Angeles County, an estimated 52,000 men, women, and children are living with AIDS. In 2000, Latinos comprised 41.8 percent of AIDS cases LA County. A rather heartbreaking reality is that in Los Angeles, nearly half of all newborns with HIV are Latino. And as of December 31, 2001, in my community of the San Gabriel Valley, there are 1,121 people living with AIDS.

As the nation's largest and fastest growing ethnic minority group in the United States, addressing the impact of HIV/AIDS in the Latino community takes on an even greater significance in the overall effort to improve our nation's health. National Latino AIDS Awareness Day is a time for our nation to recognize the needs of communities of color and embark on a more proactive fight against AIDS. We must do more than just talk about AIDS. We need to put real action behind our words and good intentions, particularly by adequately funding programs like the Minority AIDS Initiative and increasing emphasis on disease prevention.

These are starting statistics and we must remember that behind these statistics are human faces and human lives, those of our sisters and brothers, mothers and fathers, and

our colleagues and friends. On this first National Latino AIDS Awareness Day, I ask that we remember those who have lost their lives to AIDS, show compassion toward and support for those currently living with the disease, and pray for all families and communities whose lives have been touched in some way.

UNIVERSAL 4-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN TO D.C. AND NATION-WIDE

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing today the Universal Pre-Kindergarten and Early Childhood Education Act of 2003 (Universal Pre-K) to begin the process of providing universal, public school pre-kindergarten education for every child, regardless of income. The bill is meant to fill the gaping hole in the President's No Child Left Behind law, which requires elementary and secondary school children to meet more rigorous standards while ignoring the preschool years which can best prepare them to do so. My bill would provide a breakthrough in elementary school education by taking a step at the federal level to provide initial funding and, using such funding, to encourage school districts themselves to add a grade to elementary schooling at age four as an option for every child.

The Universal Pre-K Act responds both to the needs of parents for educational childcare and to the new science showing that a child's brain development, which sets the stage for lifelong learning, begins much earlier than previously believed. However, parents who need child care for their pre-K age children are rarely able to afford the stimulating educational environment necessary to ensure optimal brain development. Universal Pre-K would be a part of school systems, adding a new grade for 4-year-olds similar to 5-year-old kindergarten programs now routinely available in the United States. The bill would eliminate some of the major shortcomings of the uneven commercial day care now available and would assure qualified teachers and safe facilities.

Because of decades of refusal by Congress to approve the large sums necessary for universal health coverage, the Universal Pre-K Act encourages school districts across the United States to apply to the Department of Education for grants to establish 4-year-old kindergartens. Grants funded under Title IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) would be available to school systems which agree in turn to use the experience acquired with the federal funding provided by my bill to then move forward, where possible, to phase in pre-kindergartens for all children in the school district in regular classrooms with teachers equivalent to those in other grades as part of their annual school district budgets.

The success of high quality Head Start and other pre-kindergarten programs combined with new scientific evidence concerning the importance of brain development in the early years should mandate the expansion of early childhood education for all of our children. Traditionally, early learning programs have been available only to the affluent and to lower income families in programs such as Head

Start. The goal of the Universal Pre-K Act is to bring the benefits of educational pre-K within reach of the great majority of American working poor, lower middle class, and middle class families, most of whom have been left out.

In a letter to Congress opposing private school vouchers, City Council Member Kathy Patterson suggested that instead of vouchers, Congress should fund a number of unfunded D.C. public school priorities, including Pre-K education for all 4-year-old children. She said that although universal 4-year-old Pre-K was a top D.C. priority, the city has been able to provide this schooling to only half of its children from local tax revenue.

Compare the cost of day care, most of it offered today with an inadequate educational emphasis, at an average cost of \$6,171 per year to the cost of in-state tuition at the University of Virginia, which costs \$6,150 per year. Yet, more than 60 percent of mothers with children under age six work. That proportion is rapidly increasing as more mothers enter the labor force, including mothers leaving welfare, who also have no long term access to child care.

Considering the staggering cost of daycare, the inaccessibility of early education, and the opportunity earlier education offers to improve a child's chances in life, four-year-old kindergarten is overdue. The absence of viable options for working families demands our immediate attention.

TRIBUTE TO MILDRED COLEMAN
HOLLOWAY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a Texas leader in civil rights, who after 91 years, passed on Friday. Mildred Coleman Holloway.

Throughout her career, Mildred was a trailblazer among African-American women who fought tirelessly for equal rights in an era when blacks were still required to pay a poll tax to vote.

Originally from Waco, Texas, Mildred attended Samuel Huston College, which later merged to become Huston-Tillotson College. For more than 40 years, Mildred was a Democratic Party icon in Texas.

Mr. Speaker, this great leader spent much of her time in Austin fighting for equal opportunity for all people.

She was instrumental in the founding of three politically powerful groups in Austin and the state of Texas, the Texas Coalition of Black Democrats, Black Austin Democrats, and the United Political Organization.

Mildred Coleman Holloway was a trailblazer and champion of minority rights in Texas. She was not just a leader in Texas politics but an inspiration to all of us in the Texas delegation. I am certainly proud to have known her and learned from her example.

I will miss her caring spirit. The people of Texas and her friends and colleagues in Austin and throughout Texas will miss her. Although she is no longer with us, Mildred Holloway will fondly be remembered for her courage, determination, humility, and devotion to public service.

RECOGNIZING THE CRUSADE
PROGRAM**HON. DAVID E. PRICE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States—affecting an estimated 62 million Americans. It is increasingly evident that we must become more vigilant in preventing and treating this serious illness. I am pleased today to share with my colleagues a nationwide quality improvement initiative that is headed by researchers at Duke Clinical Research Institute in my district and involves leading cardiologists from around the country, including another prominent research institution in my district, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

CRUSADE (Can Rapid Risk Stratification of Unstable Angina Patients Suppress *AD*verse Outcomes with *E*arly Implementation of the

ACC/AHA Guidelines) is studying cardiovascular care in hospitals around the nation and adherence to the American Heart Association (AHA) and the American College of Cardiology (ACC) acute coronary syndrome guidelines. These treatment guidelines help doctors who evaluate and treat patients arriving in emergency departments with serious heart conditions, known as unstable angina or non-ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (heart attack), and those undergoing procedures to clear clogged arteries.

The CRUSADE program has found that many doctors and hospitals are not following the ACC/AHA treatment guidelines and reports significant under-use of other recommended therapies that can improve patient outcomes. CRUSADE has determined that heart patients are faring significantly better at hospitals that follow the guidelines. As Dr. Eric Peterson, the principal investigator for the CRUSADE initiative states, “Our mission is to not only document non-adherence but to actually change the behavior of healthcare professionals and help patients.”

Historically, national efforts to prevent heart attacks have focused on the 600,000 acute myocardial infarction patients—and over time these initiatives have made a tremendous impact in decreasing mortality rates for patients around the country. I would like to urge the agencies at Department of Health and Human Services that are responsible for research, quality, and hospital-based initiatives to expand our cardiovascular programs to include the early heart attack population that the CRUSADE program seeks to assist. There are approximately 1.4 million patients in the U.S. in this category, and they are at higher risk for death than the smaller number of patients who are treated aggressively and tracked by our current federal programs.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that researchers at Duke University and UNC-Chapel Hill have undertaken this important fight to save more lives from heart disease, and I congratulate the cardiologists and emergency medicine physicians across the country who are participating in this important program.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, October 16, 2003 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

OCTOBER 20

2 p.m.
Aging
To hold hearings to examine confronting family elder abuse. SD-628

OCTOBER 21

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold a closed briefing regarding ongoing military operations and areas of key concern around the world. SR-222

10 a.m.
Finance
To hold hearings to examine tax shelters, and the role of the Federal Government relative to the buying and selling of tax shelters. SD-G50

Governmental Affairs
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-342

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine intellectual diversity. SD-430

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine criminal terrorism investigations and prosecutions relating to national security. SD-226

2:30 p.m.
Foreign Relations
International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine U.S. energy security relating to West Africa and Latin America. SD-419

OCTOBER 22

10 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine counterterror initiatives in the terror finance program and organization of terror groups for funding and future U.S. responses. SD-538

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-430

Indian Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of David Wayne Anderson, of Minnesota, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior; to be followed by a business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SR-485

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Janice R. Brown, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. SD-226

OCTOBER 23

Time to be announced
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine pharmacy compounding. SD-430

9:30 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
Business meeting to consider S. 994, to protect human health and the environment from the release of hazardous substances by acts of terrorism. SD-406

2 p.m.
Finance
To hold hearings to examine company owned life insurance. SD-215

OCTOBER 28

10 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine certain health issues. SD-430

OCTOBER 29

10 a.m.
Indian Affairs
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be followed by a

hearing on the Tribal Self Governance Act Amendments of 2003. SR-485

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the New Freedom Commission Report. SD-430

OCTOBER 30

10 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Aging Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine financial abuse and exploitation. SD-430

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Water and Power Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine S. 1097, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to implement the Calfed Bay-Delta Program. SD-366

3 p.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine Senator Frist's Report on Africa. SH-902

CANCELLATIONS

OCTOBER 17

9:30 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
Business meeting to consider S. 1066, to correct a technical error from Unit T-07 of the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System, S. 1643, to exempt certain coastal barrier property from financial assistance and flood insurance limitations under the Coastal Barriers Resources Act and the National Flood Act of 1968, S. 1663, to replace certain Coastal Barrier Resources System maps, S. 1669, to reauthorize the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act, and the nomination of Michael O. Leavitt, of Utah, to be Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. SD-406

POSTPONEMENTS

OCTOBER 21

10 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings to examine S. 1565, to reauthorize the Native American Programs Act of 1974. SR-485