

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.