

The terrorists who are in a battle against us resent the very rights and openness of society that I believe are what make this country great. We must remain vigilant in defense of the ideals and principles upon which this nation was founded, and the American people must be able to trust their government not to abuse their basic rights.

I urge my colleagues to vote no on this legislation.

POSTAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND
ENHANCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 22) to reform the postal laws of the United States:

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 22, the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act.

The Government Reform Committee, of which I am vice-chairman, has held hearings and briefings on postal reform for several years now, and I am glad to see our efforts come to fruition today.

The United States Postal Service has been forced to cut back on its service due to serious financial challenges. H.R. 22 is an effort to modernize our Nation's postal laws for the first time in 35 years. It is intended to help ensure the United States Postal Service can survive in an increasingly competitive marketplace.

Due to the increasing use of electronic forms of communication, such as email, first-class mail volume is declining, but postal addresses are increasing. In lieu of simply increasing rates, an entire reform of the postal service is necessary.

H.R. 22 would require the Postal Service to operate in a more business-like manner by creating a modern system of rate regulation, establishing fair competition rules and a more powerful regulatory commission.

H.R. 22 will also promote both price stability and pricing flexibility. Giving the Postal Service pricing flexibility will allow USPS to price its core mail products in a way that keeps them competitive and, quite literally, in the mail. By limiting the amount of future postage rate increases, however, the bill also takes an important step towards encouraging the Postal Service to increase mail volume and keep the mailbags full while giving mailers predictability and stability.

Universal postal service should be the first and foremost goal of reform. This can only be accomplished if the financial and operational crisis facing the United States Postal Service is met with innovative and bold action.

HONORING COLONEL BILL GUINN

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Bill Guinn, Commander of

Letterkenny Army Depot in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. Colonel Guinn, hailing from San Bernardino, California has served for an unprecedented 3 years as Commander of the base.

July 29th 2005, will complete his command duty, after which he will undoubtedly enter into yet another endeavor that will highlight his talents as a true patriot and courageous defender of freedom. He has commanded the 123rd Main Support Battalion, 1st Armored Division in Bosnia, Croatia, and Germany, and has been honored with the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit Medal, the NATO Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster.

During his tenure Colonel Guinn supported NATO missions in Bosnia of utmost importance for the Implementation Force and Stabilization Force. During his time in Bosnia, Colonel Guinn was given the task of supporting and protecting units and outposts spread across the terrain assigned to Task Force Eagle, of NATO. This would prove a perilous job, as much of the land was still active with mines.

With unwavering courage and spirit, Colonel Guinn deployed his troops on numerous occasions through dangerous territory in order to defend and support others, all in the name of protecting freedom and liberty. After 26 months of tough command duty, Colonel Guinn was chosen to attend the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. He spent the year furthering his already vast knowledge and expertise in military service.

This education would come in handy in June of 1999, when he assumed responsibility of coordinating the United States' support in the fledgling nation of East Timor. A daunting task, the region was strife with civil unrest and armed conflict due to its newly found independence. In addition to the civil aggregation, matters were made more complicated due to the fact that National Command Authority did not want the United States to lead the mission. However, due to Colonel Guinn's impeccable diplomatic ability and statesman attributes, he was able to plan and execute the first major deployment of contracted support to military forces. The mission was a success due to the Colonel's personal involvement from inception to conclusion, and helped to create a more stable region.

In July of 2002, Colonel Guinn took command of Letterkenny Army Depot in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. At the time of his entrance, Letterkenny was at a point of its lowest workload and staffing levels in history, due to his expertise, skill and command, Letterkenny's workload, efficiency and output as more than doubled. His superior military ability, strong patriotism, and unyielding sense of duty give me great pride in calling him one of my constituents. The citizens of Chambersburg would join me in giving him my proud congratulations on his vast accomplishments.

HONORING MR. CARL RICCOBONO

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mrs. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding educational leader, Carl Riccobono.

Today, The Creative Coalition and The American Federation of Teachers honor Mr. Riccobono with a 2005 Spotlight Award for Teaching Excellence.

The Creative Coalition is the leading non-profit, nonpartisan, social and public advocacy organization of the arts and entertainment community. Founded in 1989 by prominent members of the creative community, The Creative Coalition is dedicated to educating and mobilizing its members on issues of public importance, primarily public education, the First Amendment, arts advocacy, and runaway production. Headquartered in New York City, The Creative Coalition also has offices in Washington, DC, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

The Creative Coalition's partner in presenting this award, The American Federation of Teachers, represents 1.3 million teachers, paraprofessionals and other school-related personnel, higher education faculty and staff, healthcare workers, and state and local government employees.

Joining Mr. Riccobono in Washington, DC, to accept his award is one of his former students, actor and member of The Creative Coalition, Steve Buscemi. Mr. Buscemi was a student in Mr. Riccobono's fourth grade class at Shaw Avenue Elementary School, a public school in Valley Stream, New York, over 30 years ago. Mr. Riccobono profoundly influenced Mr. Buscemi as well as countless other students over the past three decades. He has shown a tremendous commitment to the field of teaching.

I join Mr. Riccobono's family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating him today on this achievement and wishing him well. I also recognize both The Creative Coalition and The American Federation of Teachers for their dedication in promoting public education. Public schools and the teachers in them play an essential role in the guidance of our children and shaping of our future. As such, I commend The Creative Coalition and The American Federation of Teachers for their support of public schools and for honoring the achievements of educators like Mr. Riccobono.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENT
OF LUKE A. HOICHEVAR

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Luke A. Hochevar on being chosen by the Los Angeles Dodgers as the 40th pick in the 2005 Major League Baseball draft. Being drafted by a Major League Club is a rare accomplishment achieved by only about 1,500 high school and college ballplayers across the country each year. To be selected in the first five rounds means this talented young man is considered one of the top 150 or so prospects in the entire nation.

Luke was born September 15, 1983 in Denver, Colorado, to Brian and Carmen Hochevar. He has one brother, Dylan, and a sister, Britany. Mr. Hochevar attended Fowler High School in Fowler, Colorado, where he was coached by his father. He was drafted by the Los Angeles Dodgers in the 39th round following his senior season of 2002. Luke, however, chose to attend the University of Tennessee and play baseball there.