

sprayed residual insecticides inside houses to repel mosquitoes from places where people sleep. Successful trials of a pediatric vaccine are being carried out, with the hope of a widely accessible vaccine available in 2010. Without the dedication of both governments and independent organizations, these amazing advances would not have been possible.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in calling attention to the plight of millions of families across the African continent, on this 2006 Africa Malaria Day, who needlessly get sick and become incapacitated missing school and work and in the worst cases die. The U.S. has rightly taken on a global leadership role in providing the financial resources and the scientific research to minimize malaria's heavy burden. We must continue to support those working to fight this disease and those millions whose lives can be immeasurably improved by ending malaria's costly human toll.

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH O'NEILL  
VERNER AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2006*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate one of my constituents and a South Carolina government agency for winning the prestigious 2006 Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Governor's Award for their contributions to the arts.

Mr. David Sennema of Columbia, South Carolina has been selected to receive a Lifetime Achievement Award. It is hard to have lived in South Carolina in recent years and not have been touched by Mr. Sennema's talent and leadership. In his capacity as the first general manager of the Columbia Music Festival Association, he developed and directed the South Carolina Philharmonic. As the Executive Director of the South Carolina Museum Commission, he was instrumental in planning and developing the South Carolina State Museum. Mr. Sennema also served as the first Executive Director of the South Carolina Arts Commission. His career has taken him around the country to universities and to arts organizations, including the National Endowment for the Arts. In his retirement, Mr. Sennema continues to impact the arts in South Carolina by serving on boards and commissions and writing and performing.

The South Carolina Department of Mental Health has been chosen for the Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Governor's Award in the Government category for its Art of Recovery program. This innovative program enables South Carolinians living with mental illness to exhibit and sell their artwork. More than 350 artists, who receive care from the South Carolina Department of Mental Health, have benefited from Art of Recovery during the five years since its inception. This program has helped erase the stigma of having a mental illness, and provided participants with a sense of pride and accomplishment.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Sennema and the South Carolina Department of Mental Health for their commitment to the arts. As an individual or an agency, we learn through these Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Governor Award re-

ipients that art has the power to inspire, to teach and to heal.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 513, 527 REFORM ACT OF  
2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 5, 2006*

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the so-called 527 Reform Act of 2005 (H.R. 513). This legislation singles out 527 organizations in an effort to undermine their fundraising and is a direct assault on free speech.

This legislation would change the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (FECA) to add 527 organizations in the definition of political committee. If enacted, this bill would suppress free speech and obstruct the efforts of grassroots organizations to encourage voter participation while doing nothing to address the culture of corruption in Congress.

I support the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act (BCRA) of 2002, which established balanced and effective strategies to achieve fairer elections. H.R. 513 is an unbalanced measure that favors corporate trade associations over independent advocates. For example, the bill would provide an unfair advantage to corporate interests by allowing them to continue spending unlimited and undisclosed dollars for political purposes while subjecting independent organizations, like citizens joining together to promote voter registration, to contribution limits and source restrictions.

H.R. 513 also removes all limits on national and state party spending for Congressional candidates in primary or general elections. This section of the bill is an unmasked attack on BCRA and clear evidence of the majority party's true intentions in advancing H.R. 513. The goal is not reform, but partisan advantage in political fundraising.

If we are serious about reform, there are several Democratic proposals that have been put forward to address the real problems facing this Congress. We should be reforming the Rules of the House in order to provide Members adequate time to review legislation before a vote. We should also be addressing the practice of travel on corporate jets and disclosure of fundraising by lobbyists. Unfortunately, the Republicans will not allow a real, comprehensive debate on this critical issue.

H.R. 513 is the majority party's cynical and underwhelming response and is clearly meant to distract attention from the real problems of corruption. I urge my colleagues to reject this bill and vote for a real package of reforms—changes that Congress needs and that Americans expect.

AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN  
ENTERPRISE FOR THE AMERICAS  
MULTILATERAL INVESTMENT FUND

SPEECH OF

**HON. JIM KOLBE**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 25, 2006*

Mr. KOLBE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4916 authorizing a replenishment of the Enterprise Fund for the Americas.

The Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) was created in 1993 as part of the 'Enterprise for the Americas' initiative to provide technical assistance in Latin American and Caribbean countries to stimulate innovation and economic growth. The objective of the fund is to use grants and investments to develop micro enterprises, build worker skills, strengthen environmental management and improve the functions of financial markets. I'm pleased to be able to say that the Multilateral Investment Fund has been a model of reform and transparency for other multilateral banks of reform and transparency. The Fund has aggressively embraced transparency in its work. It is on the front line of change in a development sector where indictments of ineffectiveness are most often heard.

Experience demonstrates that private sector development agencies can be a powerful and transformative development tool. In Poland and across central Europe these types of funds have helped build small and medium size businesses, created jobs, changed the economic environment and helped establish a middle class. Given the rapidly deteriorating political condition in Latin America, we need every arrow in our quiver if we are to demonstrate to countries in our hemisphere the inherent value of open market—both political and economic.

In the preceding 4 years, Congress provided almost \$72 million for the MIF. Although the U.S. has pledged \$150 million over the next six years for MIF II, meeting that commitment will depend on budget constraints and shifting spending priorities. There are many competing needs in the fiscal year 2007 budget and it will be no different in following budget years. It is, however, worth noting that our pledge has leveraged thus far an additional \$352 million from 36 other countries.

We need to be innovative in our development work if we are to increase trade and build small and medium size businesses. The Enterprise for the Americas Multilateral Investment Fund helps to achieve these goals. I support this legislation.

“WOMEN TIME NOW” IN THE U.S.,  
CARIBBEAN, LATIN AMERICA,  
AFRICA AND ELSEWHERE AS FEMALES TAKE OVER

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2006*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD an interesting and spell-binding editorial entitled “Women Time Now” that clearly recognizes the growing number of