

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO DR. SAMUEL J. PRISK

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 8, 2006

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge the distinguished career of Dr. Samuel J. Prisk, upon attaining the Boy Scouts of America's prestigious 2006 Silver Buffalo Award.

For nearly six decades, Dr. Prisk has dedicated his life to improving the communities in which he lived. On March 1, 1948, he began his career as a dentist in Livonia, Michigan. From October 1960 until June 30, 1987, he served with distinction as a member and officer of the Clarenceville School Board in Clarenceville, Michigan. To commemorate his commitment to exceptional community service, the Board created the Dr. Samuel J. Prisk Scholarship, an award given to high school students who have excelled in academics, community involvement, school spirit, and attendance.

Since 1986, Dr. Prisk has proudly served on the board of directors of the Methodist Children's Home Society, a non-profit volunteer-driven agency, which provides foster care, residential care, adoption, and literacy programs for children. During March 2006, he was recognized by the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association with an honorary membership for supporting high school sports for 43 years by providing medical services during games, and gathering the resources necessary to assist aspiring athletes.

For his extraordinary loyalty and invaluable contributions to youth, the Boy Scouts have bestowed upon Dr. Prisk the 2006 Silver Buffalo Award, Scouting's highest commendation. He has held positions at the national and region level and served the Boy Scouts Detroit Area Council as council vice president, council commissioner, council activities chair, council executive committee, district training chair, Scoutmaster, and Webelos leader.

Mr. Speaker, during Dr. Samuel J. Prisk's laudable career, he has demonstrated exemplary leadership and involvement in local schools, sports teams, and youth agencies. His legendary benevolence has improved the lives of countless children across Michigan. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his many years of loyal and dedicated service to our community and our country.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. MARC C. SAPERSTEIN

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 8, 2006

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Marc C. Saperstein, who was elected this past summer as president of the

New Jersey Association of Trial Lawyers of America (ATLA-NJ). Mr. Saperstein is more than qualified for this distinguished position. He currently practices law at Davis, Saperstein & Salomon, P.C. in Teaneck, New Jersey, which is located in my district.

Mr. Saperstein grew up in New York City. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Rutgers University in New Brnmswick, New Jersey and then completed a Juris Doctorate at Emory University School of Law in 1978. Mr. Saperstein has been admitted to the Bar of New York, New Jersey, Georgia in addition to the U.S. District Court, U.S. Court of Appeals, Second, Third and Fifth Circuits and the United States Supreme Court. He has been admitted as Pro Hac Vice Counsel in various complex litigation matters in the States of California, Florida, Louisiana and West Virginia. More importantly, Marc is a devoted husband to his wife, Shelly, and a caring father to his wonderful children, Gregory and Allison. I am proud to have such an excellent attorney and a fine man representing the New Jersey branch of ATLA.

Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate Mr. Saperstein on his impressive accomplishments and wish him the best of luck in his new position as president of the New Jersey Association of Trial Lawyers of America.

TRIBUTE TO JIM PADILLA

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 8, 2006

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Jim Padilla, president and chief operating officer of Ford Motor Company, upon his retirement.

Since Jim first joined Ford in 1966 as a quality-control engineer, he has worked tirelessly to maintain the company's position as a global leader in automotive quality. In 1976, Jim was promoted to the first of several management roles he would hold in product engineering and manufacturing. He served in a number of senior manufacturing, engineering, and management positions from 1992 to 1996, before being named president of Ford South America operations until 1998.

Jim became group vice president of global manufacturing in 1999. He then served as Ford president of the Americas from 2001 to 2002, which is responsible for all operations in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and South America. In April of 2005, Jim was promoted to chief operating officer of Ford Motor Company and chairman of Ford automotive operations. On February 1, 2005, Jim was named president of Ford Motor Company and elected to its board of directors.

For 40 years, Jim's commitment to quality, environmental consciousness, and innovation has helped keep Ford a premier automotive manufacturer. He is credited with revamping failing sectors of the company, such as the

Jaguar automotive line, and with successfully restructuring operations after the breakup of Autolina. A graduate of the University of Detroit-Mercy, he now serves on the university's board of trustees and has been named a fellow of the National Academy of Engineering.

Mr. Speaker, Jim's tireless leadership and vision of excellence has revolutionized Ford's automotive operations for four decades. As he enters the next phase of his life, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding his achievements and honoring him for his legendary service to our community and our country.

AMERICAN HORSE SLAUGHTER
PREVENTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 503) to amend the Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other equines to be slaughtered for human consumption, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 503, the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act.

Mr. Chairman, horses have served humans throughout history, carrying us on their backs to safety, tilling our fields, drawing wagons and carriages across the great plains and grand prairies, enriching our lives as friends and companions. But they have never served the people of the United States as a source of food. Yet today, American horses are being killed so their meat can satisfy the palates of overseas diners in Europe and Asia. Show horses, racehorses, wild horses, and family horses can all be destined for the slaughterhouse and exported as foodstuff to foreign lands.

This trade in horsemeat is hidden from most Americans and the industry wants to keep it that way. To quote the operations manager of a horse slaughterhouse located in Canada:

Talking about horses is kind of a scary thing, especially in the West, where people think it's more of a pet than protein. When anybody starts writing about horses, everybody gets up in arms. Every time we say anything about horse in the paper, there's always an uproar, so I don't want to talk about it.

Mr. Chairman, it has been reported that most of the horses that end up being slaughtered are brought in by jobbers who serve as middlemen for the slaughterhouses. These jobbers readily purchase as many horses as possible at livestock auctions around the country and haul them to the plants to be butchered. Many horses are sold at auction by irresponsible owners seeking an easy means

• 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.

to dispose of animals they no longer want. Others, however, are consigned by caring owners who simply have no idea of the fate awaiting the animals.

Additionally, hundreds—perhaps thousands—of horses are stolen each year. Horse thieves make fast money by unloading their stolen bounty to jobbers or slaughterhouses, which typically kill and process the animals within 24 hours, making it virtually impossible to trace and recover the stolen animals in time.

Currently, there are foreign-owned slaughterhouses operating in the United States that slaughter horses for human consumption. They are Beltex Corporation in Ft. Worth, Texas; Dallas Crown in Kaufman, Texas and Cavel International in DeKalb, Illinois. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, 65,976 horses were slaughtered in 2004, up from 50,564 the previous year. In addition, thousands more horses are transported under deplorable conditions across our borders to Canada and Mexico to face a similar fate.

Conditions of transport can be brutal. It is not unusual for horses to be hauled for more than 24 hours without rest, water or food in trailers that provide little protection from the elements. Many horses—sick, lame, pregnant or blind—are in distress even before being loaded.

Once at the slaughterhouse, the suffering gets worse. Horses are left for long periods in tightly packed trailers, subjected to further extremes of heat and cold. In hot weather, thirst is acute. Downed animals are unable to rise. All the horses are moved off forcibly when it's time to unload and hurried through the facility into the kill box. In the face of these deplorable conditions, including overcrowding, deafening noise, and the smell of blood, the horses typically become desperate, exhibiting fear typical of "flight" behavior—pacing in prance-like movements with their ears pinned back against their heads and eyes wide open.

Despite the Federal mandate that horses be rendered unconscious before being put to death, many horses are killed alive by re-

peated blows to the head with captive bolt pistols. While writhing in pain, the coupe de grace is administered by a slit of the throat. The dead animal is then processed for shipment overseas and destined for a foreign dining table.

Mr. Chairman, I support this legislation because I do not wish to sanction the abuse of another noble creature of the American West. The magnificent buffaloes that at one time roamed the Great Plains were killed by too many settlers and pioneers for sport when they should have been used the way they were by Native Americans—for food and clothing and fuel. How ironic it is that horses—magnificent, powerful, graceful, and athletic—are being used for food instead of sport and husbandry.

Mr. Chairman, I support H.R. 503 because it bans the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other equines to be slaughtered for human consumption. This is not a fitting end to the animal that has played such an important role in defining American character and culture. I urge my colleagues to join me in protecting an enduring symbol of the West and the favorite animal of Americans everywhere. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 503.

TRIBUTE TO DICK AND GINI
BRITTON

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 8, 2006

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Dick and Gini Britton as they celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary, September 4, 2006.

Dick and Gini are a loving couple committed to improving the lives of Michigan citizens.

Over the years, their friends and family have watched as their friendship blossomed into a

relationship of mutual respect, love, and fulfillment. It began during the mid-1970s, when their friends Mike and Mary Sedlak arranged a dinner date for the couple-to-be. Soon, a relationship ensued, Dick and Gini fell in love, and they married on September 4, 1976.

Their first home was in Dearborn, Michigan, where they lived with their dog, Erin. By the end of the decade, the couple had moved to Commerce Township and bore their first child, Michelle, in 1980. In 1985, their second daughter, Bridget, was born and the family moved to Northville Township a year later.

Dissatisfied with the Northville Township Board of Trustees, Gini decided to make a difference by entering public service; she was elected to the Board in the early 1990s, where we initially met. Her dedication to the citizens of Northville continued even after moving to Oxford, Michigan, during the spring of 1999. For several years after they moved, Gini still ordered the local newspaper, the Northville Record, to maintain her awareness of Northville current events. Currently, Gini serves as a political consultant for the Oxford Rotary and member of the Oxford Women's Club. In addition, Dick is a member of the Knights of Columbus and has loyally worked at the manufacturing representative firm, Terry Barr Sales, for 30 years. Last year, as Gini battled breast cancer, Dick supportively stood by her side through chemotherapy and at every major consultation or procedure until she defeated the disease.

Mr. Speaker, this loving family has touched the lives of so many individuals across Michigan. Gini Britton's legendary commitment to promoting effective governance is a testament to her moral and compassionate character. For three decades, Dick and Gina have shown an unwavering and selfless dedication to their family, their friends, and to each other. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary and in honoring them for their years of unfaltering service to our community and our country.