

study science, math, computer applications, and foreign language. This program has allowed hundreds of our teachers to improve their own skills which have been of great benefit to the thousands of students they have and will continue to instruct. In addition to these educational initiatives, Howard, both through the Foundation and personally, has generously supported cultural and health institutions throughout the Greater Hartford Area. His outstanding efforts on behalf of our teachers and public education system were recognized by both the Connecticut Commissioner of Education and the Connecticut State Board of Education and in 2002 he was honored by the Hartford Business Journal with their Accolades Award for Individual Giving.

I have often said that our communities would not be the same without those individuals who selflessly dedicate their time and energies to making them better places to live and work—individuals like Howard Fromson who has quietly touched the lives of many and made all the difference in our community. I consider myself fortunate to call him my friend and I know that sentiment is shared by many. Today, as he celebrates his 85th birthday, he also reflects on a lifetime of invaluable contributions and endless generosity—a legacy which is sure to inspire others. It is with my heartfelt congratulations and warmest wishes that I join his wife, Sandy; his children, Michele, Michael, Timothy, and Brett; his seven grandchildren; family and friends in this wondrous celebration.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 468 I was on the floor for this vote and others in series. My vote on H.R. 6095, Immigration Law Enforcement Act of 2006, did not register. I would have voted "yea."

IMMIGRATION LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Immigration Law Enforcement Act of 2006. This bill reaffirms the inherent authority of State and local law enforcement to voluntarily investigate, identify, apprehend, arrest, detain and transfer to federal custody aliens in the U.S. in order to assist in the enforcement of the immigration laws.

Presently, many cities are enacting so-called "sanctuary" policies, which prohibit local police from asking about a person's immigration status or reporting illegal aliens who commit crimes to immigration authorities for deportation. Passed in 1996, the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act forbids localities from preventing their police officers from asking for or reporting immigration

information to the Federal Government. Existing federal law says:

Notwithstanding any other provision of Federal, State or local law, a Federal, State, or local government entity or official may not prohibit or in any way restrict any government entity or official from sending to or receiving information regarding the citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual.

Despite this ban, some cities continue to prohibit their officers from asking about immigration status or providing information to the Federal Government. Make no mistake about it: This is a situation of local governments blatantly violating Federal law.

As a result, U.S. taxpayers pay to incarcerate illegal alien prisoners who are later released back onto the streets. Sanctuary policies tie the hands of local law enforcement officers and keep illegal aliens who commit crimes in our country, rather than deporting criminals according to U.S. law. These sanctuary policies have disastrous consequences.

Our State and local governments serve as the front line of defense against terrorism and criminal aliens. Every murder, every rape, every violent gang crime committed against Americans by illegal aliens is an utterly preventable crime. If we better enforce our immigration laws to keep criminals out, we will save lives. We must use the law enforcement resources we have, at every level, to enforce our laws, with the end result of making our Nation a safer place for our grandchildren to grow up in.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GRANITE CITY

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 100th Anniversary of the First Presbyterian Church of Granite City, Illinois.

In 1906, a major earthquake rocked San Francisco, President Theodore Roosevelt became the first American to win the Nobel Peace Prize, the Dow Industrial Average closed above 100 for the first time and the Wright brothers received a patent for their flying machine. Also in 1906, a growing group of Christians who had been meeting weekly in a local school organized the First Presbyterian Church of Granite City.

From the initial 25 members, the congregation had grown to 112 when the first service was held on Easter Sunday, April 15, 1906. The coming years would see continued growth, both in the size of the congregation and in the physical facilities. The church, on 2160 Delmar, in Granite City, was completed in 1916 and an educational wing was added in 1930.

Also, in 1930, a new organ was installed. That organ was replaced in 1951 and again in 1961. Music has always played an important part in the life of the First Presbyterian Church and that was further enhanced with the creation of two paid positions of organist and choir director in 1942. In 1993, the Grand

Concert Series was instituted which allowed the Church to extend its musical gifts to the community at large.

The 1990s saw even more changes for the First Presbyterian Church. A fire, in 1994, caused extensive damage and made it necessary to move services to a nearby church while the church could be restored. The resulting renovation brought about not only a beautiful new sanctuary but also a spirit of renewal for the church family. This spirit was further enhanced as First Presbyterian merged with Mitchell Presbyterian in 1998.

As the First Presbyterian Church has weathered the changes of the past 100 years, so has the neighboring community. In response to the changing conditions, First Presbyterian has initiated and joined in a number of programs to expand their ministry. A Vacation Bible School, summer drama camp, and an association with the United Congregations of Metro-East are but a few examples of this community outreach.

As much as they celebrate their past, the congregation of First Presbyterian Church looks forward to the future. Their strong commitment to their faith, their families and their community enables them to constantly strive for new ways to fulfill their mission, "Bringing People to Christ."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 100th anniversary of the First Presbyterian Church of Granite City and to wish the best to them for many years to come.

CHÁVEZ: OUTRAGEOUS AND OUTLANDISH

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the Boston Globe Editorial on Friday, September 22, accurately describes the antics of Venezuelan President Chávez at the U.N. He was simultaneously outrageous and outlandish, using the great forum of the U.N. General Assembly for a semi-coherent diatribe. He gave a clear example of why his support in elections in Latin America has been toxic to those who've received it. Recently, in Peru and in Mexico, being tied to Chávez by their opponents, accurately or not, was very damaging to presidential candidates.

I hope Americans will also make it clear to Chávez that his crudity and disrespect for democracy will find little support here.

DEVIL IN DISGUISE

The Bush Administration deserves to be criticized for many of its foreign policies, but Hugo Chávez is not the one to do it. By his intemperate and foolish remarks at the United Nations Wednesday and his continuing support for authoritarian regimes, the Venezuelan president has forfeited his claim to leadership in world affairs.

"The devil came here yesterday," Chávez said in reference to President Bush's speech of the day before. Chávez made the sign of the cross and engaged in other theatrics to provoke his audience of the U.N. General Assembly. George Bush was reelected with 50.7 percent of the vote in 2004 after a vigorously fought, unfettered campaign, and he will leave office without a fuss in 2009 after eight years. Bush can be called many things but not the ultimate embodiment of evil.