

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO ROMANIAN PRESIDENT EMIL CONSTANTINESCU

HON. MIKE PARKER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. PARKER. Mr. Speaker, for the RECORD I would like to submit a statement of tribute by my former House colleague David Funderburk to Romania's President who is visiting Washington this week.

A TRIBUTE TO ROMANIAN PRESIDENT EMIL CONSTANTINESCU ON THE OCCASION OF HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN JULY 1998

(By David Funderburk)

Emil Constantinescu has been described as Romania's "Vaclav Havel." There are many reasons why Constantinescu should be classed together with Vaclav Havel the Czech dissident hero of the communist era.

Admittedly as a friend of Constantinescu I am not a completely unbiased observer. And after spending two years living in Romania during the 1970's and four years during the 1980's in Ceausescu's time, I never thought I would see a democratic President of Romania. For a few years following the end of the Ceausescu I looked with skepticism on some of the transitional figures of the country. Also I wondered how many of those new voices who seemed to be jumping on the democratic reform and free market bandwagon were for real. Emil Constantinescu has proven that he is for real.

Emil Constantinescu is the first truly democratic President of Romania after 42 years of harsh communism and 7 years of stagnation following the demise of Nicolae and Elena Ceausescu.

Constantinescu is enlightened, well educated, pro-American, and a man of integrity with a historical sense of purpose for his people and their future.

The leading interwar political party—the National Peasant & Christian Democrats—emerged from the ashes of communism under the leadership of Corneliu Coposu, a giant figure who had been imprisoned under Ceausescu. Coposu, who was a national symbol of integrity and sacrifice for freedom, designated as the party's standard-bearer in both 1992 and 1996 the little known Geology professor and Rector of the University of Bucharest, Dr. Emil Constantinescu. During the transition period in Romania under Ilescu, Constantinescu gained political experience in his role as a leader of the opposition.

Romania's "Havel" Emil Constantinescu has in fact accomplished the following:

Led Romania to its first real democratic election victory in 1996 and peaceful transition with a platform incorporating the core values of Western civilization. And Constantinescu initiated the coalition Democratic Convention program called the "Contract with Romania."

Presided as a populist President living a spartan existence and working long hours in the midst of hardship for many workers in the country. He receives only a token salary and drives a small inconspicuous car without the motorcade fanfare of his predecessors;

Led an activist campaign to permanently tie Romania to the West, NATO and the U.S. (whose support Romania needs for its NATO aspirations). He has helped ensure that ro-

mania takes a leadership role in the Partnership for Peace collaboration. He helped lead the Romanians in giving U.S. President Bill Clinton in 1997 his biggest reception anywhere up to that time. And the same Romanians have indicated the highest level of support for NATO and partnership with America of any of the peoples of Eastern Europe;

Met with regional and other world leaders to demonstrate his determination to make Romania a peaceful island of stability in the volatile region. His outreach to the Hungarian minority and to neighboring Hungary as well as to neighboring Ukraine have been models of cooperation in the region;

Helped guide Romania through its most difficult economic crisis in the post-communist period by calmly accentuating the positive, and focusing on the big picture of Romania's goals of Western partnership and peace. His leadership has helped produce political stability and project optimism in the face of a not-always-supportive coalition government.

There is no doubt that Romania has some distance to travel before it's on a par with the West in terms of economic reform and even political stability. More needs to be done to make the investment climate attractive to U.S. companies and to complete the implementation of the economic reforms.

But change has been coming—gradually, steadily, inexorably. And most remarkably Romania has come a very long way since Ceausescu. Romania was left in about the worst possible position to reform with a Stalinist command economy, central planning and virtually no private sector.

The steady hand of Constantinescu's leadership has helped guide Romania as it goes through the toughest transition in Eastern Europe, without bloodshed, revolt or diversion from the NATO-integration course. Constantinescu is a visionary leader who focuses on the big picture of Romania's place in the world, and strives to help fulfill the dreams of ordinary Romanians to be given recognition, acceptance and respect by the West particularly by the U.S. Since we have the benefit of such a leader in Bucharest, we should move quickly during this visit to assist Constantinescu and Romania.

Washington—from the White House to Capitol Hill to the business community and media—has a special moment in history to do the right thing by this new Romania. Let's show our appreciation to President Emil Constantinescu and Romania and show our recognition for their historic longings, their geopolitical and strategic value to peace, and political stability in the region.

Let's take advantage of this special opportunity and welcome the new democratic President Emil Constantinescu—"Romania's Havel"—to Congress, the White House and America. It's something we will not regret.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, July 15, 1998 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

MANAGED CARE REFORM

The most important political issue today, and for the past decade, is health care. Sev-

eral prominent publications have identified health care as the defining issue of the 1990s. I agree. In meeting after meeting in southern Indiana I have noticed how persistently the question of health care comes forward in discussions. It is the issue that bubbles and seethes beneath the surface at all times simply because it is the most personal and real issue that touches the hopes and fears of every American.

POPULAR VIEWS ON HEALTH CARE

I find Hoosiers overwhelmingly want everyone to have access to health care services but they split on how to pay for that access. Hoosiers are usually skeptical of government action but I do not find them objecting to a prominent role for government to play in health care. They do not want a comprehensive plan like the one President Clinton proposed in 1994, but they do want to see the government assuring access to affordable health care, vigorously policing the providers of health care such as insurance companies, demanding more generous coverage from employers, and ensuring that their existing benefits are not cut back. Furthermore, they do not want to see any interference with the doctor-patient relationship.

When it comes to the issue of managed care, most people recognize that managed care plans have helped to hold down costs and provide preventive health care. But they also worry that managed care can sometimes interfere with the doctor-patient relationship and impede access to medical treatment. They want government to hold managed care plans accountable. The general view seems to be that Hoosiers will support tougher government oversight of managed care plans but they do not want the government to come in and take over health care.

MIXED SUCCESS

In light of widespread support for changes in the health care system, I am struck by the number of Hoosiers who say to me that they are quite satisfied with their own health care. Their personal experiences have largely been positive. They recognize the successes of the American health care system. Vaccination rates are up, premature births are down, more women are getting mammograms, and the move to managed care has saved billions of dollars in health care spending. They and their families are probably as healthy today as they ever were and for the most part they have affordable health coverage.

Nonetheless, underlying these successes is the fear that the system will not continue to work for them and be there in times of crisis. Hoosiers really worry about how they would handle a major illness, and they tell me again and again of acquaintances who were simply wiped out financially by a major medical problem. Many feel overwhelmed by the red tape and bureaucracy in today's health care system. They are uncomfortable that power has shifted in the health care system from the physicians to the insurance companies and managed care plan administrators.

CONGRESSIONAL OUTLOOK

President Clinton made health care a central theme of his first term in office when he

• 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.

put forward his sweeping health care proposal which featured universal coverage and a mandate on employers to provide health insurance for their employees. But his plan was decisively rejected and led, in large part, to the change of control in Congress in 1994. The Clinton health care proposal was rejected because people felt it was too massive, too complex, and its consequences too uncertain. The bill was about 1300 pages in length.

Although the rejection of Clinton's proposal made both the Congress and the President wary of comprehensive health care reform, the issue did not die. Today, members of Congress are keenly aware of the intensity of their constituents feelings on health care. The public is demanding better care for less money. They do not like the high cost of health care or the restrictions on its availability. They know the shortcomings in today's system: too many Americans, especially children, do not have adequate health care coverage; long-term care for older persons is unaffordable to most Americans; and many feel that managed care plans focus more on holding costs down than providing quality care.

INCREMENTAL REFORM

On health care, as on many issues, Americans are more comfortable with incremental steps and skeptical of massive changes in one swoop. For the next few years, my guess is that the Congress will proceed with improvements in health care on a step-by-step basis. That's what it tried to do two years ago with the Kennedy-Kassenbaum legislation which mandated portability in most insurance plans, enabling workers to change jobs and not be dropped for preexisting conditions, and last year when it expanded coverage for children.

In the Congress, both parties are proposing plans to patch up managed care with such measures as expanding a patient's ability to choose a doctor and to receive emergency care and to appeal plan decisions to a neutral third party.

It is quite possible that the Congress will approve this year a sensible, but modest, health care reform package which I would expect to support. The elements of the package would likely include new opportunities for patients to appeal to a neutral third party when their health plans deny them care, give more information to help them select doctors and health plans, provide women the right to see a gynecologist, guarantee emergency room access without prior approval from managed care plans, protect personal medical information, and allow doctors to discuss with their patients a full range of medical options.

CONCLUSION

We are in the midst of major changes in health care coverage. A decade ago, the majority of Americans received health care through traditional fee-for-service plans. Today most Americans receive their health care through managed care, usually through HMOs. Lower costs and a wider array of benefits, including prescription drug benefits, are often seen as advantages of managed care plans. As the reform debate goes forward it is important to build on the success of what is developing into a more efficient health care system, while improving both the quality of care and patient satisfaction with their health care services. My guess is that health care reform will be on the agenda of the Congress for many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO LISA MENDOSA

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lisa Mendosa. Lisa Mendosa, an accomplished woman of the '90s, has added the title of Community Relations Coordinator of Borders Books to her credit. Having worked in numerous fields, Lisa Mendosa is in many respects, considered a renaissance woman.

Lisa Mendosa has had an impressive career, yet still has much of her life ahead of her. In 1987, she was named one of America's top 100 women in Communications/Hispanic USA. In the same year she also won an award in the Associated Press television-radio competition. In 1989, she was named one of America's top 100 junior college graduates. In 1995, Lisa Mendosa received an Emmy Award for her coverage of the Leer Jet crash in Fresno.

Lisa Mendosa has also published a number of books on animals and children. She has a great love for animals and has raised two dogs from the age of eight weeks and studied their development for more than 8 years. Lisa Mendosa spent 17 years working in TV news researching, writing, producing and presenting thousands of news stories. At Channel 24, Lisa went from management to producer. After winning her Emmy, Lisa was offered a position by Channel 30, which she took. Currently, she is a Community Relations Coordinator for Borders Books. Today, she works harder than ever to establish a close community relationship with the Borders Book's staff.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to Lisa Mendosa. Already being an accomplished woman of the '90's and considered a renaissance woman, Lisa Mendosa continues to be dedicated to her work. Her dedication and exemplary efforts should serve as an inspiration to all. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Lisa Mendosa continued success for the future.

CONGRATULATING THE PARK RIDGE ROTARY CLUB

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Park Ridge (New Jersey) Rotary Club on its 70th anniversary. This group of business men and women is a cornerstone of public service in our community. Their dedication and hard work have helped groups ranging from the Boy Scouts to the handicapped. They help keep alive the old-fashioned value of neighbor helping neighbor—the type of value that makes a community a community.

The Park Ridge Rotary Club was chartered November 19, 1928, and held its first meeting December 14, 1928, at the Masonic Hall in Park Ridge. Of the 25 charter members present at that meeting, one—Charlie Grey—is still active at age 96. There are 63 members in today's club, which serves the Tri-Boro area of Park Ridge, Montvale and Woodcliff Lake.

The Rotary had its beginnings in February 1905, when Chicago attorney Paul P. Harris called three businessmen friends to a meeting. He proposed a club that would kindle fellowship among members of the business community and by the end of the year, the club had 30 members. The name Rotary was adopted because meetings were rotated among the members' place of business. Rotary Clubs were formed in San Francisco, Seattle, Washington, Los Angeles and New York in the next few years. By 1921, the organization was represented on every continent and the name Rotary International was adopted in 1922. Today, there are more than 24,000 Rotary Clubs with a membership of 1.1 million in 167 countries.

At the international level, Rotary is involved in many humanitarian projects, including educational grants for overseas study, a \$200 million program to eradicate polio worldwide, youth and group exchanges between nations to foster international understanding, hunger and health programs in developing countries, and financial aid to disaster relief programs.

At the local level, the Park Ridge Rotary is involved in a wide variety of community service programs. The Rotary distributes annual holiday food baskets to the handicapped, sponsors a holiday party for the handicapped, sponsors the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards and an exchange student program. It supports the Tri-Boro Ambulance, Meals on Wheels, the Park Ridge High School and Pascack Valley High School Interact Clubs, the Park Ridge and Montvale Eagle Scout Awards, the Park Ridge Public Library and many other organizations, events and programs.

The Park Ridge Rotary Club has helped make Park Ridge—along with Montvale and Woodcliff Lake—a better place to live, work and raise a family for 70 years. I join with my colleagues in the House of Representatives to wish the Club and its members many more years of continued success.

PROMPT COMPENSATION ACT OF 1998

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss an issue that is extremely important, private property rights. All of us have heard from constituents in our districts who are frustrated with the process by which the government provides compensation to landowners for the private property it acquires. As you know, the federal government obtains private property for all types of reasons, from community and infrastructure development to environmental concerns. Unfortunately, it is common for this process to take several years, during which, the property owner is discouraged from conducting any type of development or improvement activity upon their land. It is for this reason that I will soon be introducing The Prompt Compensation Act of 1998.

Currently, the federal government has two alternatives available in acquiring private property. The first is termed as a "straight condemnation" procedure where a landowner receives notification that a federal agency has requested the Justice Department to file a complaint in condemnation in an attempt to

acquire their property. The complaint is filed with the district court of the district where the land is located and the appropriate compensation is ascertained. Once this process is completed, the federal government is afforded the option of paying this amount and assuming the title of the land or moving for dismissal, in which case, the title of the property remains with the original owner. It is important to remember that during this process, the landowner's opportunity to conduct any type of development is severely limited, depriving these individuals of time, revenue and, in some cases, overall value in their land.

The second alternative is termed a "quick-take" procedure where the title of the property is immediately transferred to the federal government and an amount, which the government presumes the land is worth, is provided to the owner. Normal protocol is then followed, a condemnation complaint is filed and the court determines just compensation. If this amount is more than that originally provided, the federal government is required to pay the difference with interest.

The Prompt Compensation Act of 1998 will require the federal government to provide just compensation to the property owner within 90 days or forfeit its interest. In other words, this legislation will simply make the "quick-take" procedure the only option available to the federal government. The Prompt Compensation Act of 1998 will require the federal government to strongly consider all viable alternatives before attempting to acquire new land and prevent landowners from losing valuable time in developing their property. I urge all my colleagues to become a cosponsor of this bill and to strongly consider the significant impact this legislation will have in curbing the taking authority of the federal government, while at the same time, strengthening the private property rights of America's landowners.

IN PRAISE OF INGHAM COUNTY'S
EFFORTS TO REDUCE TEEN
SMOKING

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the outstanding work of the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and the Ingham County Health Department in restricting the sale of tobacco to minors. The Ingham County Board of Commissioners passed an ordinance effective January 1, 1993 requiring that tobacco could only be sold through establishments licensed by the county. For violations, the Health Department can issue citations and for repeated violations have the license to sell tobacco revoked.

These enforcement provisions are similar to many used for enforcing liquor laws in communities which have been very effective in curbing the sale of liquor to minors. The possibility of losing a license to sell liquor or tobacco for a violation of law has proven to have a significant impact on the business community's self monitoring activities.

In 1992, 78% of minors who attempted to purchase cigarettes in Ingham County were successfully able to make a purchase. In other words, only 22% of all minors were refused

the sale. Since the ordinance was instituted in the county in 1993, that number has declined dramatically. In a recent investigation conducted in Ingham county, 85% of all minors who attempted to purchase cigarettes were denied the sale. These are impressive statistics that I would like to see repeated across the nation.

The war against teen smoking will only be successful if it is fought on many fronts. Tough, comprehensive laws must be passed at the federal level. And, we must work in partnership with states and local governments if we are to be successful. I encourage state and local governments across our country to join the fight and follow the example set by Ingham County by instituting laws in their communities that prevent minors from purchasing cigarettes. I commend the efforts of the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and the Ingham County Health Department for making a bold effort to improve the health and welfare of our community's youngest citizens.

BALINT VAZSONYI: TRUE
AMERICAN

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Dr. Balint Vazsonyi as a true American. Balint Vazsonyi knows first-hand what it means to live in fear, as he has done so under Nazi occupation then under Communist oppression in his native Hungary.

Overcoming the barriers to human expression put up by authoritarian states, Dr. Vazsonyi has since become a world-renowned concert pianist, and a well-respected historian and ultimately a United States citizen.

Dr. Vazsonyi, or just plain "Balint", is a regular op-ed contributor to the Washington Times as well as several other newspapers around the country. He sits on the boards of many community groups and is the Director of the Center for the American Founding. As a child he lived under Nazi terror and as an adolescent he participated in the Hungarian uprising against the Soviet occupiers.

Balint's musical career is well known. He received his Artist Diploma at Budapest's famed Liszt Academy. Just recently, the Hungarian Embassy in Washington, DC presented him a gala piano recital in celebration of the 50th anniversary of his first concert appearance in Hungary. Balint also has a Ph.D. in history.

I highly recommend to my colleagues, and all Americans, his new book, "America's 30 Years War: Who is Winning?" Drawing on his own life experiences he describes how our hard-won freedoms are gradually being eroded. Vazsonyi traces the essence of what makes America unique, from the Founding until today, and exposes how ideas imported from European socialist states are undermining America's distinct political and moral culture.

In a witty and personal style, Balint documents how the founding principles of the rule of law, individual rights, secure ownership of property and common American identity are being deliberately supplanted by the alien notions of group rights, forced redistribution of private possessions, and multiculturalism.

In "America's 30 Years War: Who is Winning?" Dr. Vazsonyi shows, with unmistakably clarity, how every time we move away from America's founding principles we move toward the failed model of European socialism.

Please take time to read this seminal and through-provoking book.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Dr. Balint Vazsonyi on his many accomplishments and I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him many more years of success.

SOCIAL SECURITY

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, July 8, 1998 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

SOCIAL SECURITY REFORM

In recent months, much attention has been focused in Congress on the status of the Social Security program. Following President Clinton's State of the Union address this past January in which he recommended that saving Social Security be a top priority, reform proposals have become a hot topic. The most widely discussed proposals include investing some of the Social Security Trust Fund in the stock market, adding a meanstest requirement, or enacting a combination of tax cuts and benefit reductions.

SUCCESSSES OF SOCIAL SECURITY

Social Security is not only a very popular program but has also proven to be an extremely successful program in providing a safety net for our nation's elderly.

Since the program began under President Franklin Roosevelt in 1935, Social Security has provided benefits to generations of workers and their families, with the number of beneficiaries over the last half century in excess of 160 million Americans. With almost 92% of Americans over the age of 65 receiving Social Security benefits, this program provides nearly universal coverage. In Indiana, over 960,000 Hoosiers are beneficiaries, covering over 17% of our state's population. Therefore, Social Security has played, and continues to play, an important role in the lives of many beneficiaries and their families.

In addition to serving as a broad safety net for millions of Americans, Social Security is also the largest anti-poverty program. By some estimates, half of our nation's elderly (about 18 million people) would live in poverty if Social Security did not exist. Last year, two-thirds of the elderly in America were provided benefits from Social Security that represented at least half of their income. Social Security is more than simply a retirement program. More than a third of benefits go to widows or widowers, children, and the disabled.

LONG-TERM SOLVENCY

Social Security is our largest domestic social program. In 1996, the benefits paid out exceeded \$347 billion. Social Security has been able to pay these benefits with great efficiency. Administration costs for Social Security are about 1% of benefits, compared to the 12-14% that is typical for private insurance plans. But while the program has operated with relative efficiency over the years, there still remain significant challenges to the long-term financial health of Social Security. In particular, the impending increase in the number of retirees and the increase in

the life span of Americans both present other sets of challenges for the long-term solvency of Social Security.

The Social Security Trust Fund is currently solvent and is projected to remain solvent well into the next century. But the long-term changes in the workforce will place a major strain on its ability to pay full benefits for the baby boomers' retirement. Social Security will be able to pay all promised benefits including cost-of-living adjustments until the year 2032. After 2032, the trust fund will still be able to pay 75% of promised benefits. Thus if no adjustments are made between now and then, the trust fund will experience a shortfall, but will not be exhausted. Our current economic prosperity, and projected budget surpluses, though, offer a great opportunity to act now to avert the depletion of the trust fund.

REFORM PROPOSALS

The reform debate is focusing on three broad approaches to shore up Social Security.

Incremental reform: The first approach is to make modest adjustments to the existing program by reducing benefits and altering the taxation of benefits. For example, the working period over which a retiree's benefits are computed could be increased from 35 to 38 years. By taking into account the additional three years, a worker's earlier, and usually lower-paying, employment years would figure into her wage history, thereby lowering the level of benefits. Another proposal on the benefits side calls for adjusting the consumer price index so that it more accurately reflects the rate of inflation. On the tax side, the income threshold for taxation of Social Security benefits could be raised. Currently, only beneficiaries with incomes above certain annual thresholds, \$32,000 for married couples and \$25,000 for single people, owe taxes on their benefits.

Means-testing: A second basic approach to reform entails means-testing Social Security. This approach would involve reducing payments to beneficiaries who earn more than a specified income threshold. Advocates of means-testing argue that Social Security was designed to protect the elderly from financial adversity in old age, and that benefits could be reduced for those who are better off and have less of a need for benefits. Critics respond that means-testing might transform the public's perception of the program from one that benefits everyone to one that serves only low-income beneficiaries. This opens up the possibility of undermining the broad political base of support for the program.

Privatization: A third approach is to privatize the Social Security system. The main proposal would establish a system of Individual Retirement Accounts. These accounts would allow workers to invest their savings directly into higher yielding assets than government securities. Most proposals which include some type of private account would maintain a minimum level of benefits, lower than today's benefit level, while allowing an additional amount to be invested in the stock market. Both components would continue to be financed by payroll taxes. One major advantage of privatization would come from the potential higher returns that beneficiaries could obtain from the stock market. A down turn on the market, on the other hand, presents significant risks for any privatization plans.

CONCLUSION

Social Security has been a very successful program. The program provides nearly universal coverage of American workers and their dependents, as well as helping a significant number of the disabled and children. The program is progressive in offering larger

benefits relative to lifetime earnings for lower earners than for higher earners. It is an efficient program and is an important means to eliminating poverty. The program, however, clearly requires reform so that we can provide benefits to future generations of retirees. The challenge will be to enact reforms which build on the successes of the program, enjoy broad public support, and put the program on firm financial footing for generations to come.

J.J. "JAKE" PICKLE FEDERAL BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. LAMAR S. SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H.R. 3223, a bill designating the J.J. "Jake" Pickle Federal Building in Austin, Texas.

Though Jake has been out of office for 5 years, his former constituents and fellow Texans still call on him and respect him because they all know what everyone knows about Jake—he really cares.

Throughout his 30 years in Washington he never forgot who sent him or why he was there—to make the lives of his constituents and all Americans better.

Of course no building named after Jake would be complete without the words "Howdy, Howdy" inscribed over the entryway! Surely he is the quintessential Texan.

All of us—Republicans and Democrats—continue to admire and appreciate Jake Pickle.

THANK YOU TO THE CREW OF "JOHN C. STENNIS"

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces stand guard in defense of our vital interests in the Persian Gulf. These dedicated men and women stand ready to respond to the latest crisis in the Middle East with the most advanced and capable weapons systems available. A few months ago as the United States prepared to strike Iraq, the news media flooded the airwaves with stories about our military personnel in the Gulf. After the crisis, the media left but thousands of our soldiers, sailors and airmen remained—on guard and at their posts.

One of the most difficult assignments in the Gulf is service at sea aboard the many naval vessels that ensure the U.S. retains a unilateral ability to defend our interests in a crisis. Much of the work is long, tedious and boring but let us make no mistake about it—the fate of the world's economy and our national security depend on these men and women in uniform.

I want to take this moment to thank the men and women of our armed services who are currently serving in the Gulf for their dedication to duty and their commitment to their

country. I also want to send a specific thank you to the crew of the U.S.S. *JOHN C. STENNIS* (CVN 74) who form the backbone of our commitment to Gulf security. Under the able leadership of the Battlegroup Commander, RADM Ralph Suggs, the ship's Commanding Officer, Captain Douglas Roulstone, and the Executive Officer, CDR Wade Tallman, our newest aircraft carrier and pride of the fleet is the reason why Saddam Hussein and the Iraqi leadership are kept at bay. These Navy leaders took a brand new ship and crew and welded them into a team that is now a cornerstone in our nation's security.

A member of my staff recently served with this crew as they prepared for the Gulf. He reminded me that long after CNN and the other networks left the Gulf, our people in the nation's sea service remained on duty in the Gulf. While I cannot read the names of the whole crew, I wanted to send a special thank you from the Congress to the ship's intelligence staff who are the eyes and ears of the Battlegroup, watching any threat which may intend harm for America and her allies. In specific, I want to thank the following sailors for their service.

CDR Paula L. Moore, LCDR William P. Hamblet, LCDR Cecil R. Johnson, LT Claudio C. Biltoc, LT Wayne S. Grazio, LT Constance M. Greene, LT Amy L. Halin, LT Michael C. McMahon, LT Michael S. Prather, LTJG Jason S. Alznauer, LTJG Kwame O. Cooke, LTJG Joe A. Earnst, LTJG Ben H. Eu, LTJG Neil A. Harmon, LTJG Kevin J. McHale, LTJG Alexander W. Miller, LTJG Eric C. Mostoller, LTJG Kevin E. Nelson, LTJG John M. Schmidt, ENS Curtis D. Dewitt, ENS Joseph M. Spahn, CWO2 Robert G. Stephens, ISCS(SW) Mary B. Buzuma, CTIC Andrea C. Elwyn, CTRC(SW/AW) Leroy Dowdy, ISC Nancy A. Heaney, PHC(AW) Troy D. Summers, CTO1 William L. Beitz, IS1 Janice E. Bevel, CTR1 Theresa L. Covert, CTR1 Charlene Duplantier, PH1 Lewis E. Everett, CTA1 Jennifer L. Fojtik, IS1 Matthew E. Hatcher, CTM1(SW) Susan C. Kehner, IS1(AW) Kevin E. King, CTT1 John E. Schappert, CTT1 Marx A. Warren, CTR1(SW/AW) Kevin R. Webb, PH1(AW) James M. Williams, CTR2 Francis E. Algiers, IS2 Zachary C. Alyea, PH2 Clinton C. Beaird, IS2 Brandon G. Brooks, DM2 Chad A. Dulac, IS2 Sean M. Fitzgerald, PH2(AW) Brain D. Forsmo, CTR2 Sarah A. Fuselier, IS2 Brent L. George, IS2 Richard M. Gierbolini, IS2 Christopher S. Holloman, CTR2 Kevin J. Hubbard, PH2 Leah J. Kanak, CTI2(NAC) Paula C. Keefe, IS2 Angel Morales, IS2 Matthew W. Nace, CTI2(NAC) Eric S. Newton, CTO2 Milton T. Pritchett, IS2 Richard J. Quinn, IS2 Lee E. Redenbo, CTR2 Michael A. Santichi, IS2 Bryan S. Stanley, IS2 Mark A. Szygula, PH2(AW) Jadye A. Theobald, CTI2 Sarah A. Vogel, PH3(SW) Robert M. Baker, IS3 Gere L. Beason, IS3 Michael J. Barrencea, PH3 Richard J. Brunson, CTO3 Michael H. Buxton, PH3 Jomo K. Coffea, IS3 Terry D. Cooper, IS3 Trinity A. Durrell, CTR3 Angel Garay-Guzman, CTR3 George W. Hall, PH3 Sandra Harrison, CTO3 Yacha C. Hodge, IS3 Mark T. Kenny, CTT3 David E. Kozacek, PH3 Michael L. Larson, PH3(SW) Stephen E. Massone, CTI3 Dennis M. Paquet, IS3 Christopher P. Petrofski, IS3 Christopher D. Ross, IS3 John C. Shirah, CTT3 Gus Smalls, PH3 Alicia C. Thompson, CTM3 Jonathan R. Thompson, PH3 Kevin R. Tidwell, CTR3 Malina N. Townsend, IS3 William T. Tyre, CTR3 Thomas J.

Wilgus, PH3 Robin R. Williams, ISSN Sa,uel J. Abernathy, PHAN Emily A. Baker, ISSN Kevin L. Bolden, CTRS N Stacey L. Bowman, ISSN Daniel F. Cady, ISSN Charles E. Fischer, ISSN Gene H. Gregory, ISSN Stephen W. Hedrick, AN Thomas E. Kossman, CTOS N Melissa A. Oliver, PHAN Jamie Snodgrass, ISSN Michael D. Spiller, ISSN Arther C. Twyman, ISSN Travis L. Veal, PHAR James A. Farraly, and PHAR Quinton D. Jackson.

In August, we plan to welcome these fine sailors and their crewmates back to the United States at their new home port in San Diego, California. Until then and on behalf of the whole Congress, I want to thank the crew of the *JOHN C. STENNIS* and their families for their pride, service and dedication to their country. God Speed and come home safely.

ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
DENTAL RESEARCH

HON. HENRY BONILLA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the National Institute of Dental Research. NIDR was established in response to the deplorable oral health of our recruits during World War II. As the third oldest institute of the prestigious National Institutes of Health, NIDR was entrusted with a leadership role designed to improve and promote the oral health of the American people.

In this capacity, NIDR supports biomedical and behavioral research in its laboratories and in public, private and academic research centers throughout the nation. The far-reaching results of these efforts have greatly improved the oral health status of the nation and reduced America's dental expenditures by \$4 billion annually.

While NIDR continues to support research to further understand and prevent conditions that lead to tooth loss, its focus has broadened over the years to embrace studies of the entire craniofacial-oral-dental complex. Critical areas of investigation include infectious diseases, such as HIV/AIDS; inherited diseases; oral cancers; and autoimmune diseases. There is avid interest in studying tissue repair and regeneration and the interactive roles of various factors involved in the generation of craniofacial-oral-dental diseases.

I commend the National Institute of Dental Research on its accomplishments over the past 50 years. I am confident that over the next 50 years, NIDR will continue to greatly improve America's oral health through its outstanding oral health research.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BOB
HOULDING, SR.

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bob Houlding, Sr., for being recognized as the 1998 Senior Farmer

of the Year. Mr. Houlding has been dedicated to providing services to the agricultural community of Madera County since the 1920's and is very deserving of this honor.

Mr. Houlding's family connection to Madera goes back to the 1800s. Bob Houlding, Sr., is the son of William and Ludema Houlding. William Houlding came with his family from Nebraska to Madera in 1891. Bob Houlding, Sr.'s brothers are Frank, Bill and Vigil, and he has a sister, Ludema (Houlding) Weis.

Mr. Houlding started school in 1922 at Howard School, the year it was built, and graduated from Madera High School in 1934. In 1939, Bob Sr. joined the Army Air Corps to serve his country, staying in until 1946. He initially signed up for a three-year hitch, but just as his first tour was nearing its end, World War II broke out and he continued to serve. In the Air Corps (later the Air Force) he worked as an engineer, repairing B-24s and B-29s in places such as New Orleans, LA; Riverside, CA; Kansas; and the Aleutian Islands.

In 1942 he married Mildred Sonier. After marrying, the couple raised three sons, Bob Jr., Jerry, and Mike. Mr. Houlding continued to farm once he returned to Madera, growing cotton, alfalfa, wheat, and potatoes. As the years passed, Bob Houlding, Sr., involved his sons in the family business and now together they own 3,500 acres in Madera and on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley. His grandchildren and their spouses are also involved in farming. All of the grandchildren are graduates, current students, or have aspirations of attending Cal Poly—San Luis Obispo.

Mr. Houlding began by farming row crops, but since 1976, has moved into growing tomatoes, cotton, wheat, and almonds on the west side of Madera and Fresno counties. Mr. Houlding's action plan for farming has always been to diversify the kinds of crops he grows and to use modern farming techniques such as micro-sprinklers. Mr. Houlding has been a great proponent of reduced pesticide usage through the introduction of predator insects and of water conservation through the installation of drip and sprinkler irrigation systems.

Mr. Houlding has always been supportive to his community and of youth involvement in agriculture. He was a member of the board of directors of the Golden State Gin, a member of the Trade Club, and a charter member of the Reel and Gun Club.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate Bob Houlding, Sr., for receiving the Senior Farmer 1998 Award for Madera County. I applaud Mr. Houlding's dedicated service to, and leadership of, the agricultural community. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Houlding many more years of success.

IN MEMORY OF SISTER ADELAIDE
CANELAS

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my condolences to the family of Sr. Adelaide Canelas, whose recent passing has meant a loss to her family, her friends, and the entire State of Rhode Island.

It is with the deepest respect for her life's work, and in her memory, that I offer this resolution for the RECORD.

SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF SISTER ADELAIDE CANELAS

Whereas, Sister Adelaide Canelas, S.S.D. of Our Lady of Fatima Convent in Warren, R.I., died unexpectedly on Saturday, July 11, 1998; and

Whereas, Born in Lisbon, Portugal, a daughter of the late Eusebio and Albertina (Vazco) Canelas, Sister Adelaide entered the congregation of the Sisters of St. Dorothy in Lisbon in 1937 and was missioned to the United States in 1948; and

Whereas, After receiving a Bachelor's degree in Education, she taught in New Bedford, East Providence, Newport, and Bristol, at St. Francis Xavier School, St. Elizabeth School, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel School. In 1973, she dedicated herself to helping immigrants, especially the poor and under privileged; and

Whereas, Among the many programs Sister Adelaide worked with were Citizens Concerned for Human Progress, Coalition for Consumer Justice, R.I. Azorean Relief Fund and the George Wiley Center. She was also a member of the St. Vincent De Paul Society of St. Francis Xavier Church and was employed by them as Social Action Coordinator and Senior Aide of Self Help Inc.; and

Whereas, A very unique and determined individual, Sister Adelaide didn't exactly fit into the Pre-Vatican mold religious women were supposed to fit. She had strong convictions and was very stubborn, way ahead of her times; and

Whereas, Her determination was never more evident than when she met family after family, desperately poor and in need. She began by researching groups involved with helping poor people and went from there. Between transporting, fighting, picketing, finding jobs, and spending time in jail, Sister Adelaide put common sense and logic before the bureaucracy which was stifling her efforts to put food on their tables and clothing on their backs; and

Whereas, This "Robin Hood of Rhode Island" brought color to our lives, along with laughter, love, and kindness and we know that she has found a place in God's heart. Godspeed, Sister, and may you hear God say to you, "Come my beloved into the heavenly court for you have found the gift I value most—compassion and love for all in need, enter into my Heavenly Kingdom" now, therefore be it

Resolved, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations hereby extends its sincerest condolences on the passing of Sister Adelaide Canelas and also extends condolences to her sister, Gloria; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be and he is hereby authorized and directed to transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Gloria Canelas.

CIVIC PARTICIPATION

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, July 1, 1998 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

CIVIC PARTICIPATION

One of our country's most noteworthy characteristics has been the variety of organizations to which Americans belong, like

churches, PTAs, unions, fraternal organizations, service clubs, and political parties, just to name a few. A belief in the power of collective action has shaped the history of our nation from the American Revolution to the civil rights movement. Alexis de Tocqueville, who studied American life in the 1830s, wrote that "Americans of all ages, all stations in life, and all types of disposition are forever forming associations." I am always impressed by how these organizations bring out the energy and talents in people. Every problem in the country I encounter is being addressed and ameliorated by some group.

But I am concerned about declining involvement of citizens in the community. In recent decades, many traditional community organizations have suffered declines in membership and participation. For example, the number of volunteers for the Boy Scouts and the Red Cross has dropped substantially since 1970; labor union participation has dropped by half since the mid-1950s; the League of Women Voters, Jaycees, and Lions have all seen double-digit drops in membership levels in the last 20 or 30 years. Anyone who has worked in an enterprise that depends on volunteers knows how difficult it is to recruit and keep them.

Several possible explanations for this change have been suggested. Some say that stagnant wages and a rapidly changing economy, coupled with the movement of women into the labor force, mean that citizens don't have the time to devote to community causes they once did. Americans now tend to move more often, hindering their ability to put down roots. In addition, adults are marrying later, divorcing more, and having fewer children than they did a generation ago—significant factors given that married, middle-class parents are the most likely to be civically involved.

Others note that technology, particularly the advent of the TV, has dramatically changed the way we spend our leisure time. Instead of going to a dance at the local lodge or gathering at the coffee shop, we may watch a movie on the VCR or log on to an Internet chat room. Technology allows us to spend less time in face-to-face contact with our neighbors. Americans' civic involvement seems to parallel the change in leisure activities. Although traditional civic organizations are less popular now, other groups, like the Sierra Club and the American Association of Retired Persons, have grown in recent years. For many, though, membership consists primarily of paying dues and reading a newsletter, rather than attending regular meetings and planning events. Many professional associations have also grown, and for some of us the workplace has supplanted the neighborhood as our primary focus for social interaction.

Why civic involvement matters: Communities benefit in a number of ways from the active involvement of citizens. First, citizens come to feel a greater stake in the community's welfare. I visit many schools in southern Indiana every year, and it is clear that one of the strongest factors in the quality of the school is the involvement of the parents. Many anti-crime programs have become successful only because citizens came together to address the problem.

Second, civic organizations have always sought to address problems the government didn't or couldn't solve. Voluntary efforts continue to play a huge role in the provision of services to needy Americans—from food banks to pre-school programs. Americans have always been suspicious of big government, but they also have a strong sense of compassion. Civic organizations allow them to reach out to those who need help.

Third, civic participation can act as a buffer against the potent forces of individual-

ism—which sometimes devolves into selfishness—and allow us to exercise other important values, like cooperation, altruism, and negotiation. I often find Americans emphasizing freedom almost to the exclusion of responsibility, and expressing their gratitude for being citizens of the best country in the world while failing to perceive the need to fulfill the duties of good citizenship. Civic participation can remind us that along with the individual liberties we prize comes responsibility to seek the common good. Working with others toward a shared goal also helps build bonds of trust, thus serving as an antidote to cynicism.

Fourth, civic participation also fosters participation in the political process. In southern Indiana the people who come to my public meetings are often also the same people who are active in civic organizations. They take seriously their right and responsibility to participate in government. And the skills of negotiation and compromise learned through civic involvement are the lifeblood of democracy.

Conclusion: Fortunately, we still have many groups that have a remarkably salutary effect, channeling the energy and talents of individuals into public service for the betterment of the community. Civic participation is not obsolete, but an essential part of improving the quality of life in the nation. Americans, I believe, retain their desire to help their families and communities, but they must do it within the realities of two-career families, hectic lifestyles, and rapid changes in the economy and in their careers.

We have to work to strengthen civil society. Ultimately, this will depend not on government, but the acts of individuals. We do have to be sensitive to the way in which government can impinge on the activities of civil society and to the manner in which the workings of our government and economy can disrupt the good efforts of individuals and families. Dismantling the government is not the answer, but neither is more government. Both a prudent but limited role for government and a strengthened civil society are needed.

I am not suggesting that we could or should try to turn back the clock to the 1950s, or that all hope is lost. A recent poll of young adults showed high levels of interest in public service. We should, however, think about ways to reinvigorate civic life in light of the realities of the 1990s, and try harder to find ways to encourage Americans to become full participants in the civic life of the nation.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION REAUTHORIZATION

SPEECH OF

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 1998

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in favor of this bill to reauthorize the National Science Foundation.

I am particularly pleased that this bill is finally moving to completion. I know that my late husband, Walter Capps, worked on this legislation last year and I share his dedication to ensuring the continuation of the good work of NSF. I want to commend and to thank Chairman SENSBRENNER and my colleague from California, Mr. BROWN, for their outstanding work on this legislation.

This bill authorizes \$3.8 billion for Fiscal Year 1999 and \$3.9 billion in FY2000 in fund-

ing for the NSF, worthy and much needed increases in funding for math and science research. This bill also contains a provision to encourage the NSF to donate equipment to schools to enhance science and math programs. I believe strongly that we must ensure that all of our schools have access to the latest in high tech equipment to give our kids the skills they need to compete in the 21st century.

I have spent my professional life in the fields of health care and education. I know full well the value of research in these areas and can personally attest to the value of math, science and engineering education in our schools. In my district, for example, the University of California, Santa Barbara, has received numerous NSF education grants. One of the grants helped fund a 4-year Teacher Enhancement program to assist 750 K-8 math teachers in several local counties. California Polytechnic State University, in San Luis Obispo, has done some great work on math curriculum development and building interactive math models on the Web with NSF grants.

Much is said today about the need to educate our children for the increasingly competitive environment of the 21st century. I agree with that viewpoint. However, I also believe that education inspires individual and personal growth, which inevitably leads to a more civilized and prosperous society. That is also what these NSF programs achieve. The National Science Foundation's mission to sponsor research and encourage new thinking in education is a critical element for our economic growth as we move into the 21st century.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO GENERAL GEORGE WILLIAMS

HON. FRANK RIGGS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say a special thank you to Brigadier General George "Nick" Williams, U.S. Air Force, for the complete professionalism he always displayed while Commander of the 60th Air Mobility Wing (AMC) at Travis Air Force Base, California.

During his two years at Travis, Brig. Gen. Williams has overseen a great deal of change. One of our most vivid memories of his tenure as base commander, will be the massive construction program that is making Travis the showcase of the Air Force.

Especially noteworthy has been his emphasis on projects which have improved the quality of life of the troops he was responsible for. He has overseen the completion of over \$140 million in infrastructure improvement projects, including: A modern maintenance squadron building; a fire station; a state-of-the-art KC-10 hangar; a KC-10 simulator facility; four squadron operations buildings; a first class Health & Wellness Center; two Child Development Centers; five improved dorms; sixty-two military family housing units; a new officer and enlisted club; and, the largest BX in the Air Force. He has also helped to plan an ambitious expansion of the commissary schedule for next year.

Running the largest wing in AMC is a daunting task. Brig. Gen. Williams made an incredible contribution to the defense of the Nation. He maintained the highest operations tempo in AMC, with over 600 departures per month. He also had the highest command departure reliability rates for the two major weapon systems based at Travis—the C-5 at 83%, and the KC-10 at over 94%. This was accomplished, while facing a serious management challenge concerning pilot manning. The Travis Team flying units lost more than a third of their pilot manning in a matter of 18 months.

Under Brigadier General Williams tenure, Travis led participation in Southern Watch, Joint Endeavor, Deny Flight, Desert Strike, Guardian Assistance, Joint Guard, Decisive Endeavor, AEF 97-2, AEF 97-3, Deep Freeze, Centrazbat, Phoenix Scorpion I & II. Stellar performance on all South West Asia contingencies and Air Expeditionary Force deployments earned Travis an unprecedented AMC/CC full ORI credit in 1998.

Brigadier General Williams led the Travis Team to 14 trophy wins during Phoenix Rodeo international air mobility competition, including "Best C-5 Wing" and "Best Airlift Wing;" an "Excellent" Nuclear Surety Inspection; 15 AF Aircrew Standardization Evaluation Visit "best seen."

I am pleased and privileged to have worked with this outstanding officer. I consider him a friend. As he heads to Scott AFB to become Director of Plans and Programs at Headquarters, Air Mobility Command, I wish him and his wife, Mary Ann, a successful assignment and a THANK YOU for a job well-done.

TRIBUTE TO FLOOD VICTIMS OF LAWRENCE COUNTY, TN

HON. VAN HILLEARY

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. HILLEARY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to send my thoughts and prayers out to the citizens of Lawrence County in my district in Tennessee.

On Monday evening, a strong storm dumped four inches of rain on the County within an hour, which set off a devastating flash flood which killed at least two people and left an estimated 15,000 people in Lawrenceburg and the outlying areas without drinking water and sewage service. As of Wednesday morning, two people are still missing, and 123 homes were damaged or destroyed by the flood.

I went to Lawrence County yesterday afternoon to meet with local officials, survey the damage and offer any help I could. I'm hopeful that federal disaster aid will be approved, and I urge my colleagues to support our cleanup effort any way they can.

Unfortunately, my emergency trip to Lawrence County prevented me from being present for floor votes in the House of Representatives on Tuesday night. I regret not being able to be in Washington for those votes, but when there is an emergency or disaster in my district which affect my constituents, that's where my responsibilities lie.

I want to close by once again sending my prayers out to everybody who has had their lives affected by the horrible flood. Hard times

bring out the best in people and communities, and I know Lawrence County is already pulling together to get back on its feet as soon as possible.

RECONCILIATION IN GUYANA

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, in December 1997, the people of Guyana, exercising their strong support for democracy went to the polls to vote for a new President. In numbers reportedly as high as 88 percent of the electorate they cast their votes and elected the candidate of the People's Progressive Party/Civic or PPP. This election which was observed by representatives of the international community, including Americans, was judged to be free and fair. Despite the transparency of the overall election, there were some problems involving the counting of certain ballot boxes. As a result, the newly elected government of Guyana asked the nations of CARICOM to conduct an impartial audit to determine if the alleged irregularities in the vote count were of a fraudulent nature as to cast doubt on the outcome of the election.

Recognizing the extremely important process of democracy of Guyana, as demonstrated by the election, the House International Relations Committee marked-up and adopted a Resolution introduced by our Colleague from New Jersey, DONALD PAYNE. This resolution congratulated the people of Guyana for their strong expression of support for democracy, expressed support for the CARICOM audit, called on both the PPP and the People's National Congress (PNC) to abide by the outcome of that audit and to commit to peace and stability in the post-election period. Subsequently, the House overwhelmingly passed this resolution.

On June 2, the CARICOM audit was completed and declared that the recount of the more than 400,000 ballots cast, varied only slightly from the original results. Thus, the election of President Jagan was determined to be fair.

Today, however, Guyana is in the midst of a civil disobedience campaign led by the supporters of the opposition PNC. Despite the fact that PNC Presidential candidate Desmond Hoyte said that he accepted the results of the audit, he has stated that acceptance did not mean that his party accepted Mrs. Jagan as President. Fair enough. But ever since, Mr. Hoyte and his followers have been engaged in a systematic anti-government movement which has employed violent mob protests, arson and physical assaults on representatives of the government, the PPP, and even the press to vent their frustration at their electoral loss. Unfortunately, these actions are close to constituting a direct threat to democracy in Guyana.

Mr. Speaker, the feuding parties in Guyana must stop the violence, accusations and name-calling and must begin a period of reconciliation for the stability of the nation and the good of the people. The opposition leader, Mr. Hoyte should accept his electoral defeat, publicly call for an end to the mob violence and assume the role of opposition leader in the

halls of the political arena rather than in the streets. The PNC members of the Guyana National Assembly who have refused to take their seats and allow the business of the country to go forward should assume their democratic responsibilities and make their case through the legislative process. For her part, President Jagan should appoint, in consultation with the opposition, the Constitutional Reform Commission called for in the Herdmanston agreement of January, 1998. This Commission should consist of representatives of all political parties and a broad range of citizens which would review the major issues of disagreement, disparity and discrimination within the country and which would make recommendations to the National Assembly for action. And finally, the leaders of the PPP and PNC in the Assembly should appoint a joint committee of their own to establish a dialogue on the major issues the country needs to address with respect to political and economic reform and then to work with each other through the legislative process to enact necessary changes.

In sum, Mr. Speaker, democracy in Guyana must prevail and must grow stronger. In any truly democratic society, there are those who win elections and those who lose and the losers must peacefully respect the wishes of the electorate, however distasteful, and take up their role of the opposition in a statesmen-like manner and work with the government to provide a more stable, strong and prosperous nation for all the people.

Reconciliation must happen now so that Guyana can move forward in the true sense of a free and democratic nation.

RECOGNITION OF UPPER SANDUSKY, OH, SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer my congratulations to the community of Upper Sandusky which celebrated its sesquicentennial. This celebration is a time to reflect on the attributes which have made Upper Sandusky the strong city it is today, while focusing on the stepping stones of the future to ensure continued growth and prosperity.

What officially became known as Upper Sandusky in July, 1848, was once an area occupied by the Wyandott Indians. This location was attractive to the pioneers that arrived after the Wyandotts moved Westward because it offered fertile land and all the opportunities of starting a new life without traveling to the new frontier out west.

While keeping up with the expansion of the village, the early leaders and citizens of Upper Sandusky began to build churches, schools, libraries, a courthouse, and a post office. Furthermore, railroads, bridges, roads, and a phone system were all in place by the mid 1850's which aided the rapid development of the area. Following this pattern of growth, Upper Sandusky was the first village in Wyandott County to be granted a city charter in 1966.

Contributing to the vitality of Upper Sandusky was the early establishment of an industrial base. While the surrounding area was

ideal for agriculture, the village also had brickmakers, steam pump works, cabinet making, and saw mills, just to name a few. Today, Upper Sandusky continues its tradition of being a rich agricultural and industrial center.

Even more important than the growth of commerce has been Upper Sandusky's tradition of community based values. Much of this can be attributed to early German Irish immigrants to the area who trusted in God and esteemed ones family. I know the positive effects of a small town that values each of its citizens. There is a feeling of security and reassurance that comes from calling your community your home; a place where your neighbors, classmates, coworkers are not only your friends, but become an extension of your family. Continuing to develop in an enriching environment, I have no doubt that Upper Sandusky will prosper for another 150 years.

CONGRATULATING THE BUEHLER
CHALLENGER AND SCIENCE CENTER

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to draw the attention of my colleagues to the Buehler Challenger and Science Center in Paramus, New Jersey. This is a highly educational facility that provides excellent hands-on learning opportunities for thousands of young people. It is a wonderful example of how to make learning fun!

The Buehler Challenger and Science Center was dedicated September 6, 1994. It is a mockup of the NASA space shuttle and its control centers and allows students who dream of the stars to come as close to space flight as they can without leaving the ground. In the process, it teaches a myriad of lessons about science, math, thinking, problem-solving, teamwork and self-confidence.

The center is named for Emil Buehler, an aviation pioneer whose experience ranged from the biplanes and dogfights of World War I to the beginnings of the shuttle program before his death in 1983.

This center presents the young people of New Jersey with a taste of the many challenges in science and technology that await them as we enter the 21st Century. The children who visit this center will see advances in science and technology during their lifetimes we cannot begin to imagine. Our children are our future and this center helps ensure their future is a bright one.

Students who have taken the Buehler center's "fantastic voyage" are transported into a whole new world. And, like astronauts returning from space, they bring back with them invaluable knowledge about themselves and the world around them. This knowledge will help them aim for the stars as they pursue new heights in math, science and technology.

Inspiring children through facilities such as this is essential to initiate and maintain interest in technology among our young people to enable them to meet the demands of citizens will face in the next century. This is essential to maintain our position in the global economy of the future.

Unfortunately, but true, many children decide as early as elementary school that they

have no interest in science. Too many believe they can't "do" science or that math is "too hard." The result, according to some estimates, is that America will have a shortage of half a million chemists, biologists, physicists and engineers by the year 2000. The Challenger Center is helping reverse that trend. Fortunately, these same students are fascinated by space subjects, especially astronauts. This unique, hands-on experience can raise students' expectations of success, foster in them a long-term interest in math and science, and motivate them to pursue careers in these fields.

It is only natural that the Challenger Center can be a way to reach students uncertain about science. Since the inception of the space program, NASA and the nation's education system have traveled parallel paths. They share the same goals—exploration, discovery, the pursuit of new knowledge and the achievement of those goals is interdependent. NASA depends on the education system to produce a skilled and knowledgeable work force. The education community, in turn, has used the space program to motivate and encourage students to study science, engineering and technology.

If the United States is to remain at the forefront of space science and aerospace technology and research, then we must provide students with the skills they will need in a highly complex and technical workplace. The next generation of science and technology achievements can only be as good as the education and challenges we give our children in those subjects today.

The children who visit this center today could easily turn out to be the scientists of tomorrow. Who knows what discoveries they will make or new technologies they will develop? Their work could be as dramatic as the airplane was to our grandparents or the space shuttle to us.

Even for those who don't enter the world of science, this center offers an insight into the technological world around them. If we think it's vital to be computer literate today, imagine the skills that will be required in another generation.

An important aspect of this challenge to learn is that some believe the United States is no longer challenged. With the demise of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War, we no longer have the type of outside challenge that pushed us to the moon. Remember, it was the insult and shock of Sputnik that led President Kennedy to launch the space program.

If we are not to be challenged by another nation, we must challenge ourselves. We must make a commitment to go where no one has gone before, to explore and learn and never be satisfied that there are no challenges left to meet.

Today I'd like to challenge our young people to continue the record of meeting challenges that our nation has exhibited in the past. The Buehler Center is part of the highway to a future where the American thirst for knowledge will keep our nation the world's leader in science and technology.

THE U.S. AND PANAMA BEYOND
1999

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, over the July Fourth district work period some very disturbing and disheartening news reached us regarding negotiations between the United States and Panama as to the presence of the United States in Panama beyond 1999. And now, our State Department is about to inform the Government of Panama that talks may just be over. This could be a mistake and both sides should agree to take a time out and enter into a cooling off period.

As my colleagues know, next year, on December 31, 1999, the Panama Canal Zone will be turned over to Panamanian control and all United States forces are to withdraw from that nation. However, for over a year, the United States and the Government of Panama, largely at the suggestion of the Panamanian President, Perez Balladares, have been negotiating a compromise which would permit a limited number of U.S. military personnel to remain in Panama.

The negotiations were over the creation of a new multinational anti-narcotics center which would be located at the Howard Air Force Base. Under the agreement, which was largely completed last January, some 2,000 U.S. military personnel would be permitted to remain in Panama to staff the center which would provide regional air surveillance, intelligence information and direct counter-narcotics assistance to nations participating in the center. At the time, there was a good deal of optimism expressed by both sides that the agreement would satisfy each nation's specific needs. Panama would see the end of U.S. control of the Canal and would gain what it considered its final and total national sovereignty. The U.S. would retain a presence in Panama while not appearing to be retaining a strictly defined military base. For the United States, the retention of a small military profile in Panama would allow us to maintain our commitment to the preservation of democracy and stability in Central America and to continue the fight against the drug trade essentially in region. For Panama, the continued presence of U.S. personnel would serve as a confidence builder for foreign investors and those concerned over the future security of the canal.

Interestingly, Panamanian public opinion seemed to favor such an agreement for largely the same reasons.

Unfortunately, and despite the initial optimism, the agreement now appears to be in serious jeopardy as both sides seem to be having difficulty deciding what it is they really want. The Government of Panama, for its part, can't seem to make up its mind as to whether it really wants a continued U.S. presence beyond 1999 or for that matter, a counter-drug center on its territory. All of this is wrapped around internal political and Presidential politics with President Perez Balladares unable to determine whether such a center helps or hurts his standing within his own political party and whether it hurts or helps his reelection chances.

The United States, for its part, cannot seem to decide whether it wants a military base or

an anti-narcotics center in Panama. The whole premise for supporting an anti-drug center was to reassure those in this country that wanted the U.S. to remain in Panama that it was possible to do so and to avoid the controversy within Panama of retaining a bona fide military base in that country beyond 1999 and in violation of the Panama Canal Treaties. A multinational, anti-drug center seemed to fit the bill with at least a wink and a nod. Even the other nations of the region, while supporting the concept of an anti-narcotics center, were not about to sign on if the center was simply a cover for a U.S. military base.

Yet, the negotiations have broken down at least in part due to the Clinton Administration's insistence that it be allowed to conduct additional operations out of the center which are more closely associated with military operations than counter-narcotics operations. One can argue the finer points of search and rescue or humanitarian resupply, but to insist on them being part of a non-military base, anti-drug center, does give the Panamanian government a legitimate issue to argue over. It seems that both sides could compromise on this issue. The U.S. side could temporarily drop its insistence on the inclusion of other missions and just work on the anti-drug center, provided of course that the anti-drug center is the priority. The Government of Panama could commit, preferably in a side note, to take up the question of the other missions once the anti-drug center agreement is finalized, if it really wants such a center in Panama.

Mr. Speaker, the bottom line is that both sides must determine what it really wants. President Balladares must face the voters. The Clinton Administration must face the American people. If the drug center is that important, and in many respects it is. And if the ability to retain some element of the U.S. military in Panama beyond 1999 is a political necessity, and it could be, then the Administration must decide the price in throwing away this opportunity solely because we may not be able to write into the agreement whether or not search and rescue training can be conducted once in a while in Panama over the next twelve years.

A TRIBUTE TO ERIC BACHMANN

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the life of Eric Bachmann, a remarkable young man who was working to preserve an important chapter in our nation's history. Tragically, Eric died on Saturday, July 11, one day before his 27th birthday.

Eric was the Assistant to the President and CEO at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. He also helped us develop the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Act which will be signed into law soon. As we move forward to promote racial cooperation, we will continue to be motivated by Eric's spirit.

Eric graduated from Texas Tech in 1993 with a degree in history. Eric then moved on to the National Conference for Community and Justice (formerly the NCCJ), before beginning

his service as an official of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center.

Healing the wounds of racial and social injustice was one of Eric's true passions, and he admired those who worked for freedom. These ideals led him to work diligently to honor the courage of those involved with the Underground Railroad.

Eric was loyal and dedicated. He served his community and country through his good work. All of us in Cincinnati will miss him as a colleague and friend.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for rollcall 266 on Wednesday, June 24. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on passage of H.R. 4103, the fiscal year 1999 defense appropriations bill.

THE FREEDOM AND PRIVACY RESTORATION ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Freedom and Privacy Restoration Act, which repeals those sections of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 authorizing the establishment of federal standards for birth certificates and drivers' licenses. This obscure provision, which was part of a major piece of legislation passed at the end of the 104th Congress, represents a major power grab by the federal government and a threat to the liberties of every American, for it would transform state drivers' licenses into national ID cards.

If this scheme is not stopped, no American will be able to get a job; open a bank account; apply for Social Security or Medicare; exercise their Second Amendment rights; or even take an airplane flight unless they can produce a state drivers' license, or its equivalent, that conforms to federal specifications. Under the 1996 Kennedy-Kassebaum health care reform law, Americans may even be forced to present a federally-approved drivers' license before consulting their physicians for medical treatment!

Mr. Speaker, the Federal Government has no constitutional authority to require Americans to present any form of identification before engaging in any private transaction such as opening a bank account, seeing a doctor, or seeking employment.

The establishment of a national standard for drivers' licenses and birth certificates makes a mockery of the 10th amendment and the principles of federalism. While no state is forced to conform their birth certificates or drivers' licenses to federal standards, it is unlikely they will not comply when failure to conform to federal specifications means none of that state's residents may get a job, receive Social Security, or even leave the state by plane? Thus, rather than imposing a direct mandate on the

states, the federal government is blackmailing states into complying with federal dictates.

Of course, the most important reason to support the Freedom and Privacy Restoration Act is because any uniform, national system of identification would allow the federal government to inappropriately monitor the movements and transactions of every citizen. History shows that when government gains the power to monitor the actions of the people, it eventually uses that power to impose totalitarian controls on the populace.

I ask my colleagues what would the founders of this country say if they knew the limited federal government they bequeathed to America would soon have the power to demand that all Americans obtain a federally-approved ID?

If the disapproval of the Founders is not sufficient to cause my colleagues to support this legislation, then perhaps they should consider the reaction of the American people when they discover that they must produce a federally-approved ID in order to get a job or open a bank account. Already many offices are being flooded with complaints about the movement toward a national ID card. If this scheme is not halted, Congress and the entire political establishment could drown in the backlash from the American people.

National ID cards are a trademark of totalitarianism and are thus incompatible with a free society. In order to preserve some semblance of American liberty and republican government I am proud to introduce the Freedom and Privacy Restoration Act. I thank Congressman BARR for joining me in cosponsoring this legislation. I urge my colleagues to stand up for the rights of American people by cosponsoring the Freedom and Privacy Restoration Act.

J.J. "JAKE" PICKLE FEDERAL BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 1998

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tip my hat and pay tribute to former Congressman Jake Pickle for his service to the state of Texas and the people of the 10th Congressional District. Jake Pickle served with distinction and honor during his 31 years in Congress. I consider it a great privilege to have served with him. I now find it an honor to support H.R. 3223 which names the Federal Building in Austin, Texas, as the J.J. "Jake" Pickle Building. The bill has my wholehearted support and the man has my deepest respect.

Jake Pickle's legacy extends far beyond the naming of a building in his honor. His legacy lies in his many years of public service and the millions of Americans who have been touched by his devotion and dedication. Jake Pickle was an independent minded man who never shied from a fight, but who was always ready to listen to a problem and lend a helping hand. Jake Pickle looked beyond partisan politics to help insure that Social Security is solvent today and that the elderly have Medicare. He was instrumental in a wholesale reform of the tax code and in fostering government programs that spurred small business and created jobs for working families.

Jake began to develop his political expertise at the University of Texas at Austin where he served as student body president. His political journey began in the early 1930s when he became a friend and political ally of Lyndon B. Johnson. Jake Pickle was a student of the New Deal era which taught that a person has an individual responsibility and that the government should be responsible for its citizens.

Jake Pickle answered the call of his country and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. After the war, Jake returned to Austin and was a business partner in a local radio station. He maintained his political ties, stayed involved in the community and continued to practice his philosophy of individual and governmental responsibility.

He brought that philosophy with him to Washington when he took his seat in the U.S. House of Representatives in December 1963, less than a month after LBJ assumed the presidency. Jake immediately got to work for the country and the constituents of his Hill Country congressional district.

Jake Pickle cast important ground breaking votes for the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. These votes were politically difficult for a new member from the South, but Jake Pickle made the right decision.

Jake served on the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, where he was a leader on many important issues and willing to take a stand for working families. He worked tirelessly on Social Security reform and on programs that provided a better life for this nation's senior citizens.

I am proud to have served in this House with Congressman Jake Pickle. His service to the State of Texas and the people of the 10th district will be remembered for many years to come. It is appropriate and quite fitting that the federal building in Austin is designated in Jake Pickle's honor.

GENERAL MOTORS EXPORTS
AMERICAN JOBS

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, GM, America's largest auto manufacturer, is embroiled in a costly and expensive showdown with the United Auto Workers. The strike is expected to cost GM around \$1 billion in second quarter profits. This strike has nearly paralyzed GM's North American operations.

Since NAFTA was signed into law by President Clinton, GM has aggressively shifted manufacturing jobs to places like Silao, Mexico. That's not the only GM plant in Mexico. At last count, GM has one car assembly plant, two truck assembly plants and 29 parts plants in Mexico employing a total of 70,000 Mexican workers. Unfortunately, it is not too far of a jump to conclude that these 70,000 jobs in Mexico came at the expense of 70,000 American workers.

GM contends that these cost-saving measures are necessary for it to stay competitive in this global economy. In the unrelenting drive to fatten the bottom line, GM has thrown American workers to the side of the road.

Free trade does not equal fair trade, especially when American working families suffer

the consequences of our misguided trade policies that throws American workers out of work and only fattens the multinational corporations' bottom line. Corporations are in the black with record profits while American workers stand in the unemployment lines.

The UAW is right on target in placing this at the core of their negotiations with GM. It is a valid issue that is of vital concern to all American workers in the manufacturing industry. I believe that it is fair to say that the outcome of this strike will highlight what is to come in the future. Will multinational corporations continue to move their manufacturing operations to foreign nations? Will they continue to export American jobs overseas?

I urge my colleagues to consider these questions as this chamber is expected to consider MFMs for China and fast track renewal authority later this year. With foreign trade equal to 30 percent of our gross domestic product, it is inextricably intertwined with our national economy. The dream of global free trade has been marred by realistic facts: the spiralling U.S. trade deficit, stagnant wages, and the export of American jobs.

Wake up, America! It's time we stop this relentless, blind march toward the so-called "global economy" and embrace effective trade policies, and yes, perhaps even industrial policies, that will ensure a rising standard of living for the American people and protect vital economic interests. We can—and we must—do more for American workers by embracing trade policies that embraces American workers.

It's time to stop representing the multinational corporations and time to start working for the American people.

IMPROVING COST RECOVERY FOR
THE COAST GUARD'S INTER-
NATIONAL PATROL

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, in the "Year of the *Titanic*," I rise to salute the brave men and women of the United States Coast Guard who are engaged in important life-saving work of the International Ice Patrol. The Ice Patrol is headquartered in my district of Groton, Connecticut.

As a direct result of the sinking of the *Titanic*, the Ice Patrol was established in 1914 as part of the International Maritime Organization's first convention of the Safety of Life at Sea. Over eighty years later, icebergs still pose a significant threat to commercial navigation. The Coast Guard Ice Patrol program provides a vital and internationally-recognized contribution to maritime safety.

The Coast Guard uses C-130 aircraft equipped with side-looking airborne radar to overfly North Atlantic shipping lanes during the annual "ice season." Radar observations are combined with ocean current and water temperature information to produce computer-generated predictions of the southern-most limits of floating ice for each day of the season. The resulting information is broadcast on open radio frequencies to all ships transiting the North Atlantic.

The great circle route past Newfoundland and Nova Scotia is the shortest distance to

North America from all European and Mediterranean ports. Operators of commercial vessels save tens of thousands of dollars per year in fuel costs and voyage time by relying on the Coast Guard's radio broadcasts to determine how far north they may safely sail and at what speed. In addition, knowledge of ice zone limits over time allows ships to pass farther north than they would otherwise travel. Without this information, voyages would take longer and be more expensive.

Ice Patrol activities cost the U.S. Coast Guard an average of \$3.5 million per year, not including fixed capital costs. Under a 1956 International Maritime Organization financial support agreement, the U.S. Government collects and tabulates national flag and tonnage data, bills other parties to the Agreement, and remits collections to the U.S. Treasury.

When the Agreement about costs was established, most maritime nations which used the North Atlantic routes were located in the North Atlantic region or were flag states with large amounts of traffic on the route. The seventeen current members of the Agreement are: the United States, Greece, Germany, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, the United Kingdom, Spain, Norway, Canada, Panama, France, Italy, Sweden, the Netherlands, Japan and Poland. The Agreement operates on the honor system: membership is voluntary, and, because it involves safety of life at sea, the information generated by the Coast Guard is broadcast to all North Atlantic mariners free-of-charge.

In recent years, the 1950s-era handshake approach has become inequitable for paying members. In short, it is no longer fair. Non-contributing countries represent a growing share of North Atlantic shipping, and as a result, the seventeen Agreement members are becoming increasingly unwilling to pick up all non-member costs while using a shrinking share of the service. Currently, only about 53 percent of the total benefiting tonnage belongs to vessels flagged to contributing states. The remaining 47 percent is flagged to ships that use the service but do not pay. I would call them "free riders." The United States must pay almost \$250,000 per year more than it would pay if every nation contributed its fair share.

Another growing problem is the accumulated debt to the United States by member countries who are not settling their Ice Patrol accounts. Liberia, which dropped out of the agreement in 1990, still owes \$1.9 million in pre-1990 arrearages. All told, current and former Agreement members owe the U.S. Treasury over \$7.3 million. Unfortunately, this balance continues to grow every year.

At a meeting of member states in late 1996, there was a unanimous consensus that the Ice Patrol is a valuable navigation safety service which should be continued. There was also general agreement that the financing system was not working, due to the increasing use of the service by non-contributing states. Members authorized the United States to explore other collection options. Accordingly, the United States Coast Guard intends to raise the issue at the next meeting of the International Maritime Organization later this month. They will be seeking changes in the agreements that would permit the U.S. to recover all costs of the Ice Patrol on an equitable basis.

Mr. Speaker, for the record, I would like to lend my full support to the efforts of the Coast

Guard and other U.S. government agencies engaged in the provision of this valuable safety service. I also encourage the Administration to continue vigorously its efforts to replace the current inequitable financing system with one that reflects national costs more closely tied to the benefits enjoyed by the users involved.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOROUGH OF RARITAN, SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of the Borough of Raritan, Somerset County, New Jersey, as they commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the incorporation of their community. While Raritan has been incorporated as a self-governing municipality for only fifty years, its history dates back to the 1600's.

The Borough of Raritan is situated on the river bearing the same name, about one mile southwest of Somerville, New Jersey. Early records indicate that in 1846 or 1848 a group of residents gathered to decide upon a name for the village. After some discussion, it was decided to name the village after the Raritan River.

As we look back in time, we find a place rich in history and culture. In 1734, George Middaugh, one of the early settlers, built a tavern at the corner of Glaser Avenue and Granetz Place. This tavern became the first meeting place for the colonists of the village of Raritan. One of the oldest historic houses in Somerset County is also located in Raritan. The Central Railroad of New Jersey, with the first bridge built across the Raritan River, provided excellent transportation for the citizens of Raritan.

In 1844, there were four houses and a gristmill in Raritan. The first store was opened by J.V.D. Kelly, who owned the gristmill. The first Sunday School was established in 1845 in the blacksmith shop on Somerset Street, owned by John A. Staats. Religious services were held for several years at private residences by members of different denominations until the building of the old school-house on Wall Street.

During the ministry of Gulliam Bertholf, and while he was on a missionary tour of north-west New Jersey, the First Reformed Church of Raritan was formed. Records indicate that written material of the church was in the Dutch language and the first record, dated March 8, 1699, is of the baptism of the children of Jeronimus Van Neste, Cornelius Theunissen and Pieter Van Neste. In 1872, a group of people united and formed the Methodist Church and in, 1854, St. Bernard's Church was established.

The year 1850 saw the opening of a new post office for the residents of Raritan. The population of the village at that time was approximately 2,240 people. Additionally, the first school-house was 25 by 36 feet, and two stories high. In December 1871, the school and lot were sold to the Methodist Society. This is just a glimpse of Raritan's development as a community.

The Borough of Raritan also has a very special place in our nation's history. Raritan

has become a landmark of freedom and independence. The Reformed Church is proud of the fact that General George Washington spent the winter of 1779 in a home in Raritan. Another historical fact notes that, in 1778, General Lafayette made his headquarters in the "Cojeman House" in Raritan.

Raritan gave its all to the World War I effort and the sacrifice of the people was acknowledged by the United States Congress when they decided that a ship be built and named after the Borough. The S.S. Natirar (Raritan spelled backwards), was launched at Wilmington, Delaware in 1920. This was a high honor bestowed upon a town, but Raritan received another distinction when President Warren G. Harding signed the Treaty of Raritan at the home of United States Senator Joseph S. Frelinghuysen of Raritan on July 20, 1921, officially ending World War I.

During World War II, thousands of citizens from Raritan also served with distinction and honor and one in particular is remembered each year. Marine Sergeant John Basilone was awarded the first Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroic actions on Guadalcanal. He was later killed in Iwo Jima in 1945. Today, his memory is celebrated by the annual Basilone Parade, held each September.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and our colleagues, in congratulating the citizens of the Borough of Raritan as they celebrate this historic milestone.

A SALUTE TO THE WOMEN'S RIGHTS MOVEMENT

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 150th anniversary of the Women's Rights Movement.

In Seneca Falls, New York in the summer of 1848, the first convention of American women was held. It was there that the women of America officially began their struggle toward empowerment. On the 150th anniversary of the landmark Seneca Falls convention, the history of the United States is indelibly marked with the amazing accomplishments of its women. As Congress prepares to salute the women of our nation on this important anniversary, I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate 150 years of women's achievement.

The Seneca Falls participants, led by women's rights pioneers Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, shared a hopeful vision of the future of women in America. The women came together to demand fair treatment in every aspect of American life. In their Declaration Sentiments, the Seneca Falls women offered a new vision of equality in America: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men and women are created equal."

As women's leaders fought for equal property and voting rights, American women busily achieved in other areas. In 1872, Charlotte E. Ray became the first American woman to graduate law school. In 1916, Jeannette Rankin of Montana became the first woman elected to the Congress of the United States. In 1920, women celebrated a major victory as the 19th Amendment was signed into law, guaranteeing the women of America the right to vote.

American women have displayed remarkable talent in almost every imaginable field of endeavor. Authors such as Louisa May Alcott, Harriet Beecher Stowe, and Toni Morrison have contributed great works to American literature. In 1932, Amelia Earhart became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean; fifty-two years later, Dr. Kathryn Sullivan became the first woman to walk in space.

One hundred and fifty years after the Seneca Falls convention, we see just how far women have come in America. Today, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg both sit on the Supreme Court, and Secretary of State Madeline Albright is the first woman to hold that prestigious office. I salute those women, past and present, who fought and continue to fight to achieve their goals of freedom.

THE GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1998

HON. JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Graduate Medical Education Technical Amendments Act of 1998. This bill addresses the serious, albeit unintended consequences of reimbursement changes for Graduate Medical Education residency programs, particularly rural family practice residency programs, resulting from the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

Various adjustments in the Graduate Medical Education program (GME) resulted from last year's Balanced Budget Act (BBA). In an attempt to reign in costs and address a nationwide glut of physicians, reimbursement levels have been capped for all hospitals, including those in rural and underserved areas. While there may be an overabundance of physicians willing to serve in cities like Boston or New York or Los Angeles, towns like Lewiston in my district in Maine lack an adequate number of physicians, especially family practice physicians. The bill that I am introducing with the support of Congressman ALLEN will ensure that rural areas maintain the flexibility needed to react to primary physician shortages. This legislation also clarifies the definition of rural facilities allowed "special consideration" under the GME reimbursement caps. These changes are essential for my state, and for many others around the country.

The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 places a cap on the number of residents "in the hospital" as of December 31, 1996, as opposed to the number of residents enrolled in the GME program. Due to instances of residents on leave from the hospital or in training at ambulatory care facilities in the base cost reporting period, many hospitals are facing a lowered cap. This cap does not reflect the true number of residents enrolled in their programs. The problem is acute for family practice residency programs, which rely heavily on site training of their residents.

Also lost in the GME reimbursement changes in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 is the definition of rural programs given flexibility under the cap. Clarification is needed in order to recognize the innovative programs

being established in many districts in which urban institutions provide a "rural track", training residents to serve in rural communities. The definition of facilities allowed "special consideration" under the cap restrictions should be expanded to include programs that are targeting rural communities, even if the hospital itself is located in a non-rural area. Many small community hospitals offer only one residency program, and these are primarily family practice programs. Those hospitals with only a single residency program should be exempt from the cap in order to allow the facilities the flexibility to adapt to the needs of their community.

Another shortfall of the GME reimbursement changes effects new primary care residency programs which were in the process of expanding their programs to meet the needs of their rural communities when the Balanced Budget Act became law. The published interim final rule arbitrarily utilizes August 5, 1997 as the date by which all new residency programs had to fill their allocation of residency slots. There are programs that were recently accredited which did not have time to meet their full allotment of residency slots. For this reason, the legislation I am introducing today would change the cut-off date to September 30, 1999. These developing programs should be allowed to come to fruition.

Mr. Speaker, similar legislation has been introduced in the other body of my colleagues and friend, Senator SUSAN COLLINS. I ask that Members of the House examine how their rural residency programs will be affected by the GME changes mandated by the Balanced Budget Act, and that they support this legislation which seeks only to give rural communities an opportunity to meet the health care needs of their citizens.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN E. LOBBIA

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, a good friend is retiring in Michigan and I wanted to share a letter that the Michigan delegation sent to John Lobbia, CEO of Detroit Edison Company.

MR. JOHN E. LOBBIA
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, The Detroit Edison Company, 2000 2nd Avenue, Detroit, Michigan

DEAR MR. LOBBIA. On behalf of the entire Michigan Congressional Delegation, it is a great honor for us to wish you a long, healthy, and happy retirement. Congratulations on the completion of an outstanding career.

Under your guidance, Detroit Edison has emerged as a national leader, known for its quality, competitiveness, and innovation. More than two million Michigan homes and businesses count on Detroit Edison for their energy needs. Your success at meeting those demands has helped to power Michigan through its economic renaissance and emerge as one of the nation's most successful states.

But we recognize that many of the milestones of your career occurred outside Detroit Edison. Your unwavering support for a number of civic and community organizations has left an indelible mark on our state. Clearly, your caring and support of our community runs deep—the mark of a true leader.

Again, congratulations on your many years of service to Detroit Edison and to Michigan. With respect and admiration we remain,

Very truly yours,
FRED UPTON,
Member of Congress.
JOHN DINGELL,
Member of Congress.

HONORING LAKESIDE FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Lakeside Family and Children's Services on their Seventy-fifth Anniversary. Lakeside Family and Children's Services has been a shining example of what a community together can accomplish and what effect the selfless service of individuals can have on children.

On October 1, 1998 Lakeside Family and Children's Services will celebrate this special anniversary. The Gala Dinner will be held at the New York Hilton Hotel and Towers, and will celebrate the "Jewels of Lakeside," the children and the families that it serves.

Three individuals deserve special recognition for the care and love they have shown as foster parents. Rufina Rodriguez, Felix and Ingrid Simeon have each provided warm loving homes to children and are being honored by Lakeside for the tremendous service that they have performed. Nothing can be more difficult than to open your life to a child and act as a parent for a short time. Giving your entire heart to the child, who in many cases has gone without the love of a parent for far too long, is one of the most trying experiences an individual can face. Rufina, Felix and Ingrid must be commended for their accomplishment, and for the love that they have given to such deserving children.

Seventy-five years is a very long time for an organization to maintain a high quality service, yet Lakeside Family & Children's Services has accomplished just that. Lakeside was a beacon of light to countless children during the darkest hours of the Depression, a home to children while the world was torn by war, and a launching pad for children today as they reach the 21st century.

When Lakeside first began in 1923 it was an orphanage, providing a home to children who had lost their parents and had no family to turn to. Orphanages played a very important role in that era as many children were left by parents who had to search for work and eke out an existence during one of the darkest times in our nation's history.

Today Lakeside Family and Children's Services provides so much more. Lakeside matches children to foster parents so that a child can have the feeling of a real home. For many fortunate children Lakeside is able to find adoptive parents who take a child in as their own. Lakeside also provides adolescents with group homes and greater chances for independent living. As Lakeside has grown, so have the options available to the children it serves.

Lakeside has also become an active service to children with disabilities. Today, Lakeside

offers residential alternatives for mentally retarded and developmentally disabled children. This specific service shows how the role Lakeside has undertaken has grown over 75 years. Lakeside Family and Children's Services has adapted to the community as our needs change. Today it is as critical to the youths in our community as it was 75 years ago.

Lakeside Family and Children's Services must be commended for the superb job that it has done for our society. Life has changed in many ways over the last 75 years, but one thing has remained constant, the need for caring individuals. Our children are the most vulnerable to the dangers of our society, and are in critical need of the services provided by Lakeside and organizations like it throughout our nation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join in honoring Lakeside Family and Children's Services and foster parent honorees Rufina Rodriguez, Felix and Ingrid Simeon. We should encourage more individuals to be like them and to help extraordinary organizations like Lakeside.

REMARKS CONCERNING RULE 30 OF THE FEDERAL RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE AND RESTORATION OF THE STENOGRAPHIC PREFERENCE

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation that will restore the stenographic preference for depositions taken in federal court proceedings. This bill is similar to S. 1352, which Senator GRASSLEY sponsored on October 31, 1997.

For 23 years, Rule 30 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure permitted the use of non-stenographic means to record depositions, but only pursuant to court order or the written stipulation of the parties. In December of 1993, however, the Chief Justice submitted a recommendation pursuant to the Rules Enabling Act that eliminated the old Rule 30 requirement of a court order or stipulation. The revision also afforded each party the right to arrange for recording of a deposition by non-stenographic means.

When representatives of the Judicial Conference testified on the subject in 1993, they could not provide the Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property with a single justification for their recommendation. As a result, the Subcommittee unanimously approved legislation, H.R. 2814, to prevent implementation of the change. The full House of Representatives followed suit by passing the bill under suspension of the rules on November 3, 1993.

It is my understanding that the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts and Administrative Practice also held hearings on Rule 30 during the 103d Congress. I believe the members who participated in those hearings received testimony which generated concerns about the reliability and durability of video or audio tape alternatives to stenographic depositions. Then and since, court reporters have complained of increased difficulty in identifying speakers, deciphering unintelligible passages, and reconstructing accurate testimony from

"blank" passages when relying on mechanical recordings. In contrast, information was also submitted at this time which suggested that the stenographic method will become even more cost-effective in the future as a result of improvements in recording technology.

These findings from the 103d Congress were confirmed last term when the Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property again conducted its own hearing on H.R. 1445, the precursor to the bill I am introducing today; and later, when the Committee on the Judiciary reported H.R. 1445 to the full House.

Mr. Speaker, I have never entirely understood why Rule 30 was changed in the first place. Like many others, I have found that experience is the best teacher; and it has been my experience that no one in my district was displeased with the application of the law prior to 1993. I visit my district frequently and maintain good relations with members of the bench and bar, and not one attorney or judge ever complained about the operation of Rule 30 to me before 1993.

I am pleased to continue my ongoing support for reinstating the pre-1993 law on Rule 30 by sponsoring this bill.

STARR SUBPOENAS THE PRESIDENT'S MEN WHO STAND IN THE LINE OF FIRE

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, today we have learned that the Independent Counsel Ken Starr has issued a new subpoena for the testimony of Special Agent Larry Cockell, a plainclothes Secret Service officer who is in charge of the President's personal security detail. This new turn in Mr. Starr's endless investigation raises an important question: why didn't he subpoena this plainclothes agent earlier this year before he went to court over whether the Secret Service should give confidential information to the grand jury.

Perhaps Mr. Starr was concerned that the court might take a different view of his arguments against the Secret Service's privilege if it knew the full scope of his intentions with respect to questioning the Secret Service. It is disturbing that two courts have had to examine the issue of a secret service privilege without being informed that Mr. Starr also intended to question plainclothes Secret Service agents in addition to the uniformed Secret Service agents.

Plainclothes Secret Service agents are unique in that they enjoy intimate access to the President and are responsible for his physical safety in public crowds and other places where the risk of harm is the greatest. In the event of an assassination attempt, they are truly in the line of fire.

Seeking to question those agents raises a different set of issues which the courts have not yet been confronted with. Mr. Starr's latest subpoenas frustrate the orderly judicial resolution of the important issues raised by his unprecedented requests for the testimony of uniformed Secret Service agents.

The Secret Service argument in support of a privilege against testifying seems more reasonable than Starr's argument that the attor-

ney-client privilege did not survive the death of the client. In both cases, there was little available precedent and the arguments were based on policy considerations. If Starr's attorney-client privilege argument was not frivolous and deserved Supreme Court review, it must be said that the Secret Service's sincere arguments in support of their protective function is just as legitimate.

It seems Mr. Starr is determined to deny the Secret Service the same opportunity for Supreme Court review that he has sought for himself. He has already forced the Secret Service to seek a stay of his subpoena in court while it pursues its request for judicial review.

It has been reported that Starr may ask Secret Service personnel to testify about conversations between President Clinton and his attorney Robert Bennett concerning the Paula Jones case. This would create a potentially tragic Catch-22 situation in which the Secret Service has an obligation to guard the President, but Mr. Starr argues that their presence eliminates the President's attorney-client privilege. It is unreasonable, unfair and unprecedented for Mr. Starr to force the President to compromise his Secret Service protection in order to receive confidential advice from his private attorney.

To its credit, the Secret Service strongly believes that their duty to protect the President is far more important than Mr. Starr's inquiry into what any of them may or may not have witnessed in the course of carrying out their responsibilities.

It is unseemly and inappropriate for Mr. Starr to continue to force the Secret Service to forego the judicial review that it believes is absolutely appropriate in order to carry out its mission of protecting the President. Mr. Starr got to go to the Supreme Court on his privilege issue and he lost. Why doesn't the Secret Service, which is trying to protect the life of this and future Presidents, get to go to the Supreme Court? What Mr. Starr is trying to do with this latest subpoena is to get the testimony he wants before the arguments about privilege can reach the Supreme Court. This new subpoena is a tactical maneuver to avoid the full judicial review of these issues of enormous national importance. They are legal maneuvers that violate a fundamental sense of fairness and are really unnecessary to the execution of his statutory responsibilities.

It is obvious to everyone that any further review will be handled in an expeditious manner, just as the courts have already done. A fair-minded prosecutor would welcome a complete Supreme Court review of the privilege asserted by the Secret Service and efforts to thwart such review only serves to increase the doubts that many have about the legitimacy of this investigation.

A TRIBUTE TO MIDDLE SCHOOL 45

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, on July 7, 1998 while the House was in recess, I had the privilege of receiving, in my district office, a group of thirteen students from Middle School 45 who won first place in the K-8th grade cat-

egory in the National Chess Tournament held in Phoenix, Arizona from April 30 to May 2. I am submitting for the RECORD some remarks I made during their visit.

It gives me great pleasure to be with such a wonderful group of gifted and talented South Bronx students from Middle School 45. Oscar Bedoya, Ariel Uriarte, Bianey Morillo, Rafael Ortiz, Eliexer De Jesus, Joel Nolasco, Juan De Jesús, Jorge Pérez, Trung Nguyen, Sarun Sin, Trung Bui, Granit Gjonbalaj and Reasy Suon, under the leadership of coach Félix López, you won first place in the K-8th grade category among 62 teams who participated in the National Chess Tournament held in Phoenix, Arizona from April 30 to May 2.

You have demonstrated an outstanding skill, for which you have become role models in our community. We are proud of your accomplishments and I hope that you will continue succeeding in chess and also in academics. I also encourage you to take full advantage of the possible opportunity that some universities offer to chess champions to earn scholarships for their higher education. You are terrific examples for future chess players.

I would like to applaud teachers César Solís and Georgina Pierre for being with us today but, more important, for their tireless work in helping these students reach their potential.

I also would like to commend the National Scholastic Chess Foundation for sponsoring the chess program at Middle School 45, which includes weekly chess classes for 500 students. Their teaching and support were invaluable for what you have achieved.

I have the privilege of representing the 16th district of New York where Middle School 45 is located, and I am delighted by your chess team's success.

All of us here congratulate Middle School 45, the administration and faculty, and you, the students whose ambition and hard work will make this great institution a tremendous source of pride and success for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Middle School 45, to the administration and faculty, and to the students whose ambition and hard work will make this great institution a tremendous source of pride and success for years to come.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2676, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE RESTRUCTURING AND REFORM ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act Conference Report (H.R. 2676).

Continuously, I hear from my constituents who ask this Congress to address ways to simplify filing, and improve IRS customer assistance and service. I have long advocated that the IRS should be overhauled to better serve taxpayers and run more like a business. I believe that the Conference Report we are voting on today effectively addresses these concerns.

This landmark legislation establishes an independent review board which will oversee

IRS administration, management and execution of IRS laws, which should help the agency run more effectively. Six of the nine members of this review board will come from the private sector with expertise in customer service, federal tax laws and organizational development. The remaining three members would be the Secretary of the Treasury, the IRS Commissioner and a representative from the National Treasury Employees Union (NTEU). Their goal will be to recommend options which will improve overall effectiveness in customer service.

I also want to highlight several provisions of the Conference Report which are aimed at protecting taxpayers rights. This bipartisan Conference Report now places the burden of proof on the IRS rather than the taxpayer in tax disputes that come before a U.S. Tax Court judge. This agreement also requires the IRS to make available to taxpayers clarifications, definitions and explanations on a variety of matters. Also falsification or destruction of documents, or violating the civil rights of a taxpayer will now result in the dismissal of the individual responsible, and will permit taxpayers to sue the government if any of these charges can be proven.

Often, I hear from my constituents that filing federal taxes is too complex, and as a former small business owner I agree that filing federal taxes is unnecessarily confusing and time consuming. The Conference Report addresses this concern by calling on the Secretary of the Treasury to establish an electronic commerce advisory group policy that promotes paper-less filing. Under the Conference Report, the advisory group will study ways to increase taxpayer use of electronic filing and work on a plan to meet the goal of 80 percent electronic filing by 2007. I am especially pleased that this tax simplification provision was included in H.R. 2676.

This bill, which requires the IRS to be more accountable to all taxpayers, is a step in the right direction. Let us move forward on the widespread agreements that exist to substantially reform the IRS. That is why I urge my colleagues to vote for passage of this Conference Report today.

HOMEOWNERS PROTECTION ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Homeowners Insurance Protection Act which will amend the Truth in Lending Act and stop the abusive practice of overcharging homeowners for private mortgage insurance.

Private mortgage insurance has given millions of Americans the opportunity to become homeowners. This is a valuable service that mortgage industry provides, however, most homeowners are unclear about their rights under this insurance. Many Americans believe that private mortgage insurance insures them, when in fact it insures the lender while the homeowner pays the premium. As the practice stands, homeowners who have paid off 20 percent of their loan no longer need the insurance, but they do not realize it and continue to pay the premium throughout the life of their mortgage. In some cases, 20 to 30 extra

years of payments. For an individual who pays \$350 per year on a 30-year mortgage, that can mean paying an extra \$7,000 to \$10,000 of unnecessary premiums.

This legislation will bring about two simple reforms. It will require full disclosure of a homeowners' right to cancel the insurance once they have down 20 percent on their home. It will also require the mortgage lenders to inform consumers at least once a year of their cancellation rights. Both of these requirements must be provided by the creditor at no extra cost to the consumer.

This bill will protect the rights of homeowners from overpaying unnecessary premiums while maintaining the important role of private mortgage insurance in promoting home ownership. Accordingly, I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

COLUSA BASIN WATERSHED INTEGRATED RESOURCES MANAGEMENT ACT

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues know all too well, some of our most contentious public policy debates concern the management of natural resources. We have all spent many, many hours arguing over conflicting economic and environmental needs, especially in the West.

Fortunately, a new approach to natural resources management has emerged. It emphasizes compatibility rather than conflict. It relies on consensus to develop solutions. It seeks to provide multiple benefits to the environment and to urban and rural communities.

The Colusa Basin Watershed Integrated Resources Management Plan embodies this new approach. It is a comprehensive water management program that will provide flood protection and increase surface and groundwater supplies while enhancing wetland and riparian habitat for wildlife in a million-acre watershed in the Sacramento Valley of California.

I am pleased today to introduce the Colusa Basin Watershed Integrated Resources Management Act, which will authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in this innovative program.

Over many decades, devastating floods have repeatedly struck the Colusa Basin, resulting in the loss of life and costly damages to public and private property. In 1995, the Basin suffered an estimated \$100 million in flood damage. Flooding in early 1997 again caused serious losses, and today the region is counting the cost of flooding caused by recent storms.

Local authorities know that reducing peak storm flows is the key to preventing widespread damage. A few years ago, they began to bring together representatives of the agricultural and urban communities, environmental interests, and state and federal agencies to develop a plan that would control peak storm flows, increase water supplies and enhance the environment.

The initial plan was outlined in October 1993, a reconnaissance study was completed the following year, and a stakeholder's task force conducted a series of public workshops to identify goals for the program. What emerged from this collaborative process is a

plan for construction of several small-scale, environmentally-sound flood control and groundwater recharge projects. Site selection and environmental analysis for these projects are underway.

The legislation that I am introducing today will authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial assistance to the program in the form of cost-sharing with local authorities. The Colusa Basin Watershed Integrated Resources Plan is strongly supported by local governments, and it is compatible with other federal environmental restoration and water management programs in the region.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

“EVERYONE WINS WITH THE
A.D.A.!”

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 1998

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise to celebrate the eight anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the most sweeping nondiscrimination legislation since the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The Americans with Disabilities Act (A.D.A.) has opened doors for 49 million Americans, providing hope that they will one day achieve complete social and economic integration. To celebrate this achievement, hundreds of people will gather in San Diego's Balboa Park on July 25, 1998 as part of our region's Disability Independence Day.

The theme of the San Diego observance is apt—“Everyone Wins with the A.D.A.!” The A.D.A. has created jobs and ensured access to public buildings—basic human rights that should be guaranteed to all Americans. We have all benefited, now that people with disabilities can access the workplace, can shop at their local stores, and can visit museums and other public places. We no longer have to be ashamed, now that government buildings or health care centers are open to all citizens. And we can all feel protected—because any one of us could become disabled at any time.

Although Congress passed this historic law that prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities, the real heroes are the women and men who fought for the most basic rights in the years and decades before the A.D.A. was passed and those who have challenged the capacity of their communities' infrastructure since its passage. Disabled Americans continually demonstrate how successful people can be once barriers are knocked down!

The victory of the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act belongs to thousands of disabled Americans in San Diego and all over the nation, who fought a courageous and commendable fight along with their families, friends and advocates. But the celebration belongs to all Americans because we now have the ability to celebrate together!

As a society with the promise of equal access for all, we must unite to root out areas where this promise is not yet a reality. In honor of Disability Independence Day, let us rededicate ourselves to ensuring that, truly, “everyone wins with the A.D.A.”

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, July 16, 1998, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 17

10:30 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Financial Institutions and Regulatory Relief Subcommittee
Housing Opportunity and Community Development Subcommittee

To hold joint hearings to review a report on the Real Estate Settlements Procedure Act and the Truth in Lending Act from the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Federal Reserve.

SD-538

JULY 21

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine discretionary spending activities within the Department of Transportation and the Department of Commerce.

SR-253

10:00 a.m.

Budget
To hold hearings to examine issues associated with implementing personal savings accounts as part of social security reform.

SD-608

Labor and Human Resources
To hold hearings on S.766, to require equitable coverage of prescription contraceptive drugs and devices, and contraceptive services under health plans.

SD-430

JULY 22

9:00 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine how the Year 2000 computer conversion will affect agricultural businesses.

SR-332

Environment and Public Works
Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD-406

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine China's missile transfer issues.

SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SD-366

Finance

To hold hearings to examine new directions in retirement security policy, focusing on social security, pensions, personal savings and work.

SD-215

Judiciary

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Department of Justice's implementation of the Violence Against Women Act.

SD-226

Labor and Human Resources

Business meeting, to mark up S. 1380, to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding charter schools, S. 2112, to make the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 applicable to the United States Postal Service in the same manner as any other employer, and S. 2213, to allow all States to participate in activities under the Education Flexibility Partnership Demonstration Act.

SD-430

Indian Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Resources Committee on S. 1770, to elevate the position of Director of the Indian Health Service to Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services, and to provide for the organizational independence of the Indian Health Service within the Department of Health and Human Services, and H.R. 3782, to compensate certain Indian tribes for known errors in their tribal trust fund accounts, and to establish a process for settling other disputes regarding tribal trust fund accounts.

SD-106

10:00 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings on S. 2161, to provide Government-wide accounting of regulatory costs and benefits, and S. 1675, to establish a Congressional Office of Regulatory Analysis.

SD-342

2:00 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 2136, to provide for the exchange of certain land in the State of Washington, S. 2226, to amend the Idaho Admission Act regarding the sale or lease of school land, H.R. 2886, to provide for a demonstration project in the Stanislaus National Forest, California, under which a private contractor will perform multiple resource management activities for that unit of the National Forest System, and H.R. 3796, to convey the administrative site for the Rogue River National Forest and use the proceeds for the construction or improvement of offices and support buildings for the Rogue River National Forest and the Bureau of Land Management.

SD-366

JULY 23

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings on S. 2238, to reform unfair and anticompetitive practices in the professional boxing industry.

SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold oversight hearings to examine the results of the Arctic National Wild-

life Refuge, 1002 Area, Petroleum Assessment, 1998, conducted by the United States Geological Survey.

SD-366

Governmental Affairs

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

To hold hearings to examine the problem of telephone cramming—the billing of unauthorized charges on a consumer's telephone bill.

SD-342

Special on SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE YEAR 2000 TECHNOLOGY PROBLEM

To hold hearings to examine the Year 2000 computer conversion as related to the health care industry.

SD-192

2:00 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 2109, to provide for an exchange of lands located near Gustavus, Alaska, S. 2257, to reauthorize the National Historic Preservation Act, S. 2276, to amend the National Trails System Act to designate El Camino Real de los Tejas as a National Historic Trail, S. 2272, to amend the boundaries of Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site in the State of Montana, S. 2284, to establish the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site in the State of South Dakota, and H.R. 1522, to extend the authorization for the National Historic Preservation Fund.

SD-366

3:00 p.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings on the nominations of Patrick T. Henry, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Carolyn H. Becraft, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, and Ruby Butler DeMesme, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower, Reserve Affairs, Installations and Environment.

SR-222

JULY 27

1:00 p.m.

Special on Aging

To hold hearings to examine allegations of neglect in certain California nursing homes and the overall infrastructure that regulates these homes.

SH-216

JULY 28

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine why cable rates continue to increase.

SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the March 31, 1998 Government Accounting Office report on the Forest Service, focusing on Alaska region operating costs.

SD-366

10:00 a.m.

Special on Aging

To continue hearings to examine allegations of neglect in certain California nursing homes and the overall infrastructure that regulates these homes.

SH-216

JULY 29

9:00 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold oversight hearings on the Department of Agriculture's progress in consolidating and downsizing its operations.

SR-332

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.

SR-253

10:00 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Business meeting, to mark up S. 1405, to provide for improved monetary policy and regulatory reform in financial institution management and activities, to streamline financial regulatory agency actions, and to provide for improved consumer credit disclosure.

SD-538

JULY 30

9:00 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to review a recent concept release by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission on over-the-counter derivatives, and on related proposals by the Treasury Department, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

SD-106

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Communications Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine international satellite reform.

SR-253

SEPTEMBER 10

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Communications Subcommittee

To resume hearings to examine international satellite reform.

SR-253

OCTOBER 6

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs on the legislative recommendations of the American Legion.

345 Cannon Building

POSTPONEMENTS

JULY 21

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 1964, to provide for the sale of certain public land in the Ivanpah Valley, Nevada, to the Clark County Department of Aviation, and S. 1509, to authorize the Bureau of Land Management to use vegetation sales contracts in managing land at Fort Stanton and certain nearby acquired land along the Rio Bonita in Lincoln County, New Mexico.

SD-36