

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 4, 1998

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, because of a death in my family, I was absent for roll call votes 377, 378, and 379. If I had been present for these votes, I would have voted "yes" on all three.

IN HONOR OF RAY SHIPP

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 4, 1998

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mr. Ray Shipp, Americanism Chairman for the Garden Grove Elks Lodge in Garden Grove, California.

Mr. Shipp grew up in Corpus Christi, Texas. In 1950 he enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserves. After his discharge in 1952, Mr. Shipp began working for the Long Beach Naval Shipyard where he worked in defense contract administrative services for 39 years.

Mr. Shipp has lived in Garden Grove for 42 years. As a member of the Garden Grove Elks Lodge, he is responsible for many projects including his role as publicity chairman for the Lodge. In addition to his public relations duties, Mr. Shipp devotes much of his time to youth oriented activities, such as Pop Warner football and Little League.

As the current Americanism Chairman for the Garden Grove Elks Lodge, Mr. Shipp is responsible for the following programs: National Patriotism Week, displaying the American Flag 24 hours a day, Flag Day Ceremonies, Heritage Corner display at City Hall, Police and Firefighters Night, Sixth Grade Flag Essay Contest, Lodge Americanism Brochure Competition, and the Flag Retirement Program. This year the Garden Grove Elks Lodge won first place in the National Lodge Americanism Brochure Competition!

Over the years, Mr. Shipp has devoted many years of hard work and has shown his loyalty to the United States of America, first as an employee of the federal government, and currently, as a volunteer for the Elks Lodge, promoting Americanism and upholding the symbol of American freedom, the American Flag.

I ask you all to join me today to salute Ray Shipp who has set an excellent example, through his deeds and actions, of what it means to be a true American.

EMERGENCY FARM FINANCIAL RELIEF ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 3, 1998

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of S. 2344, the Emergency Farm Financial Relief Act. But I do so with a word of caution.

This legislation would allow certain farmers who have been hit hard by disastrous weather and crop disease to receive their 1999 Freedom to Farm market transition payments on October 1, 1998. It is important, however, that we not fool ourselves into thinking that this is a cure-all.

While the farm economy desperately needs this money, all this bill really does is permit needy farmers to receive the payments they would normally use to pay for their Spring planting early. The real question is, what happens next Spring?

While this bill is a first-step to help the depressed agriculture industry, this bill does not address the basic discrimination built into the 1996 Farm Bill. Instead it just postpones the inevitable. Unlike producers of most other commodities, dairy farmers did not receive seven-year transition payments. Like those other commodities, dairy is being asked to reform its outdated system and compete on the world market without the benefit of these payments.

Dairy prices are very volatile and the industry is undergoing tremendous structural change. Unfortunately, while I am happy to help hard-pressed farmers of other regions, I am very disappointed that this Congress is incapable of helping the American dairy farmer. This bill is yet another instance which points out the inequity of this country's agriculture policy.

Mr. Speaker, when considering farm emergency assistance, this Congress must not forget the plight of the American dairy farmer.

HONORING 4-H PROGRAMS AND GOLD STAR RECIPIENTS

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 4, 1998

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, the Brazoria County 4-H will hold an awards program on the 14th of August and this is a very important event Mr. Speaker. For those of us who were raised on farms and who represent agricultural communities it is well known how important an organization 4-H truly is.

Head, Hand, Hearts and Health, these are the "4-H's" and they are truly indicative of what this organization is all about. One of the primary missions that this organization undertakes is agricultural education. Earlier this year I introduced a bill which would exempt the sale of livestock by those involved in educational activities such as FFA and 4-H from federal income taxation. By making young men and women who participate in these activities hire a group of tax accountants and attorneys we are sending the wrong message. Young people who sell livestock at county fairs and the like should be rewarded for taking self initiative and allowed to keep the money they've earned to help pay for their education or to re-invest in other animals to raise. My bill would eliminate the current policy of forcing these youngsters to visit the tax man. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the following winners of the Gold Star, the highest award possible at the county level, for achievements in competition at state levels, leadership ability, community service and years of service. They are: Deidrea Harris,

Josh Weber, Amanda Tacquard, and Allison Sauer. Again, I want to commend these young people for their achievements.

WOMEN'S PROGRESS COMMEMORATION ACT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 4, 1998

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to announce the introduction of the Women's Progress Commemoration Act, an important bill to help our nation preserve the rich heritage of the women's movement.

Last month, this country marked the 150th anniversary of the first Women's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, New York. Thousands of Americans traveled to Seneca Falls to participate in this celebration. We were honored to have First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton help us inaugurate this anniversary, as well as having high-ranking women in government like Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala participate in other aspects of the celebration. It is now our duty to ensure that the legacy of this event is not simply a week of activities, but a lifetime of education, preservation, and restoration.

Mr. Speaker, for too long, sites central to the history of the women's rights movement in our nation have been neglected. Important sites like the Susan B. Anthony House in Rochester, the Elizabeth Cady Stanton House in Seneca Falls, or the M'Clintock House in nearby Waterloo were neglected for years and are in need of restoration. Our nation is in danger of losing an irreplaceable chapter in our history if these sites are not identified and preserved.

I am therefore pleased to introduce the Women's Progress Commemoration Act. This legislation will establish a 15-person commission to review sites of historical significance to the women's movement. The commission is directed to identify sites important to the women's rights movement and make recommendations for their preservation. Within one year of its formation, the commission will provide the Secretary of Interior with a list of sites deserving recognition and in need of preservation. It will also recommend actions to rehabilitate the sites to protect for future generations the historical legacy of the movement.

I am proud to have Representatives CAROLYN MALONEY (D-NY) and LYNN WOOLSEY (D-CA) as original cosponsors of this legislation. Senators CHRISTOPHER DODD (D-CT) and TED STEVENS (R-AK) have introduced a companion bill with 18 bipartisan cosponsors.

As Susan B. Anthony herself noted, "Men have been faithful in noting every heroic act of their half of the race, and now it should be the duty, as well as the pleasure, of women to make for future generations a record of the heroic deeds of the other half." I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this effort to preserve the history of the women's rights movement.