THE NORTHERN COLORADO HEADWATERS WILDERNESS ACT OF 1998

HON. DAVID E. SKAGGS
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today The Northern Colorado Headwaters Wilderness Act of 1998.

This bill is inspired by the dramatic mountain beauty of Colorado. Its provisions have been tempered and refined by a process of review and comments by hundreds of Colorado citizens and local officials, and crafted to fit into the tapestry of Colorado wilderness legislation.

In Colorado we are experiencing one of the highest growth rates in the country. That growth brings with it ever greater demand for outdoor recreation, as well as more stress on our supplies of water and other resources.

As we face that growth and those pressures, it is especially timely and important that we deliberately and carefully set aside some special places to remain forever wild. As a very thoughtful and pragmatic county commissioner from my district describes it, we now are putting, and will continue to put, demands on our natural-resources checking account. As we try to accommodate those demands, it is important that we make some deposits in the savings account of our wildland heritage. That’s what this bill would do.

The areas this bill would protect include sweeping alpine tundra along the great Continental Divide; rich, deep old growth forests of fir, spruce, pine, and aspen; and crisp, sparkling mountain streams that flow from the edge of perennial snowfields and from deep mountain lakes.

They are places where you can witness the primal naturalness of the world and watch weather moving through one hundred miles of sky.

Their designation as wilderness will permanently protect them as habitat for elk, big horn sheep, mountain goats, native greenback cutthroat trout, bear, bobcat, and eagles.

As wilderness, these remarkable places will remain as refuges for our own sanity and inspiration, either because we visit them, or just because we take comfort in knowing that such places are there, and remain unspoiled.

Among the wilderness lands included in this legislation is the James Peak area, certainly the key single area in the proposal, comprising about half the bill’s total wilderness acreage. James Peak is a broad expanse of alpine terrain, about two-thirds above timberline. Roadless and virtually untouched by the century and a half of human activity and settlements around its flanks, James Peak offers unique backcountry recreational opportunities and the reassurance that a part of our natural heritage, near the homes of two million people, endures as it has since the last ice age.

Although this bill includes only half the James Peak roadless area suitable for wilderness designation—that portion east of the divide in the Congressional District that I am proud to represent—it is important to protect that portion now. Its designation will reflect the will of a majority of people who have contacted me about James Peak and the resolutions of support received from three counties and many communities near the area.

Discussions will continue on the ultimate level of protection for the portion of James Peak to the west, outside the scope of this bill. I hope these discussions will conclude in a compromise agreement on boundaries and designations that will keep a significant portion in wild condition, free from motors and permanent habitations.

The other areas included in this bill are additions to existing wilderness areas, at Comanche Peak, Indian Peaks, and Mount Evans. Their addition will not only expand the terrain protected as wilderness, but also enhance the values and features that led to the original designations.

It’s important to note at this bill, at 30,030 acres, includes one tenth of the roadless areas in our National Forests that were recently studied by the U.S. Forest Service. And while the bill would designate as wilderness more than the Forest Service recommended, it still is a very small part of the lands that qualify. We should protect this much, on which we have much agreement, now, while we can, leaving discussions about additional areas to another day.

I realize that this bill is introduced very late in this Congress, at a time when many other issues are seeking attention and time on the legislative calendar. Its timing, however, reflects the extensive discussions that I have had with so many knowledgeable and concerned citizens and officials at home.

Because of that time invested, this is a bill that reflects the broadest consensus of those who know and care about the issues. As such, it deserves prompt approval in the weeks remaining before adjournment.

AMERICAN GI FORUM—“EDUCATION IS OUR FREEDOM AND FREEDOM SHOULD BE EVERYBODY’S BUSINESS”

HON. RUBEN HINOJOSA
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend a proud salute to the members of the American GI Forum who have gathered to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the founding of this organization by the late D. Hector P. Garcia.

Dr. Garcia was an inspiration to all of us and his legacy continues through the work the members do in his name and in the name of the organization he founded. The American GI Forum, a family-oriented Hispanic veterans group, was conceived in Corpus Christi, Texas in the spring of 1948 after veterans raised concerns about their benefits and treatment. Dr. Garcia began fighting for the civil rights of many Americans—long before others joined the cause. He fought for civil, human and individual rights. His ideas were firmly planted in South Texas and in the Hispanic community nationwide. His efforts produced many of today’s Hispanic leaders and provided the foundation for tomorrow’s generation of leaders.

Today, this organization has more than 100,000 members and 500 chapters in 32 states and Puerto Rico. More than 1,000,000 Hispanic veterans have proudly served their country and earned recognition for their service.

The GI Forum continues to champion issues which impact the community including: access to health care for veterans, affirmative action, a fair and accurate census count, juvenile crime prevention, adolescent pregnancy prevention, and improving conditions in colonias.

Dr. Garcia’s legacy continues to be felt today as the organization looks into the future. He believed that education was the foundation for our future generations. Today, the American GI Forum is making a concentrated effort to educate and provide leadership development opportunities for young people.

The American GI Forum operates 50 glorious years and many accomplishments, but the best years are yet to come. The future years will result in the fulfillment of Dr. Garcia’s dream for a better tomorrow for all Americans.

THE SIGNING OF THE CREDIT UNION MEMBERSHIP ACCESS ACT

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, J.R.
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, President Clinton is scheduled to sign H.R. 1151, the Credit Union Membership Access Act, into law tomorrow, August 7, 1998, at 10:15 a.m., in a private ceremony in the White House Oval Office. As the chief sponsor of H.R. 1151, I rise today to praise Congress, the Clinton Administration and the credit union community for working together in a bipartisan matter to enact this important legislation.

With the enactment of H.R. 1151, the 1934 Federal Credit Union Act will be amended to preserve the ability of all Americans to join the credit union of their choice, and to ensure that the 73 million Americans who are currently members of credit unions in no way have their membership status jeopardized. Today, we celebrate a true victory for working, middle class Americans who need affordable financial services. Credit unions represent democracy in the work force. This bill improves consumer choice and allows for greater competition in the financial services sector.

Working people and consumers will continue to have access to the affordable financial services that credit unions have always offered.

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.
Mr. Speaker, on this historic occasion, I would like to recognize the California Credit Union League and Arrowhead Credit Union of San Bernardino for the vital role they have played in the national advancement of H.R. 1151. Without their extraordinary grassroots efforts, a swift congressional approval of H.R. 1151 would not have been possible. I hope we have every reason to celebrate this victory, and I praise them for their continued efforts to reach out to the underserved and to expand their contributions to the economy.

As a long-time supporter of credit unions in the United States, I have been honored to be an original cosponsor of H.R. 1151 and to have been able to join the credit union community in efforts to enact a bill that will preserve the rights of millions of Americans to join and continue their access to credit unions.

THE PASSING OF RABBI LEIBISH (LEOPOLD) LEFKOWITZ

HON. EDDOLPHUS TOWNS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on first blush, Rabbi Leibish (Leopold) Lefkowitz was a Talmudic scholar bearing in his heart the abundant gifts and miraculous fate of the Jewish people. This singular impression fades rapidly, however, on closer inspection. Who was this rabbi, mayor, community leader, businessman, philanthropist, friend? It was, of course, Leibish Lefkowitz. Rabbi Lefkowitz, the humble immigrant who came to these shores shortly after the Second World War and settled in New York with his wife, operating a crystal and gift shop on Manhattan’s Lower East Side, which soon turned into Crystal Clear Industries Enterprise, one of the largest crystal companies in the United States. Rabbi Lefkowitz, the intrepid educator, who was president of the 18,000 student Satmar educational system, United Talmudical Academy and Beth Rachel, educating children from kindergarten through post-rabbinical seminary. Rabbi Lefkowitz, the proud servant to his community, who was president of Satmar Congregation Yetev Lev of Williamsburg, Brooklyn, and founder of the United Jewish Organization of Williamsburg, a community service bureau of the utmost importance and indeed profound effectiveness. Rabbi Lefkowitz, the pioneer and “elected official,” who was founder and mayor of the Kiryat Joel Village in Monroe, New York, now with over 15,000 residents. Rabbi Lefkowitz, the generous philanthropist, who helped so many and gave so much, building organizations, homes, even cities. And, of course, Rabbi Lefkowitz the husband, father of two, grandfather of sixteen, and great-grandfather of forty-two.

As is clear, Rabbi Leibish Lefkowitz was a man of parts: many parts. And with his beloved Torah, or Old Testament, as his guide, the Divine as his inspiration, and perfecting the world as his goal, all these unique parts amalgamated into the extraordinary man that Rabbi Lefkowitz was, the true and deserving servant of God that he wished to be.

Since 1908, the residents of Smithtown have entrusted the clock tower in the Commons of Smithtown High School to emergency services personnel. On August 1, 1966, an emotionally distraught young man occupied the clock tower. A few minutes later, the clock tower was suddenly filled with the sounds of a high-powered rifle and began firing indiscriminately at the students below. Alice’s oldest son was one of the first individuals killed. Characteristically, she dealt with her grief by helping others.

From July, 1977 to June, 1978 Alice served as a member of the San Bernardino County Grand Jury. In the early 1980’s, responding to a desire to improve her own education, Alice enrolled in various courses at Crafton Community College. Despite a demanding academic schedule, she found time between classes to do volunteer work with Family Services in the community of Yucaipa, California. She was also a peer counselor with Ombudsman for the Aging during this period.

The 1990’s saw her focus return to children’s issues as she became an active volunteer in the Child Advocacy Division in the Department of Public Social Services for San Bernardino County. She was also very involved as a volunteer at the County Juvenile Detention Facility. She currently runs the canten at that facility, the proceeds of which are used to improve living conditions and provide recreational items for the young inmates.

Alice is also an active advocate for participation in the political process, both locally and nationally. She works tirelessly in getting out the vote and has served as an official delegate for her party on two occasions. Her contributions over the years can be summed up in one word: citizen. She embodies everything that word connotes, being involved and doing whatever she can to make her community a better place to live.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and our colleagues in recognizing the valuable and selfless contributions of Alice Ashton. Her lifetime commitment to assisting others is certainly worthy of our respect and it is only fitting that the House recognize her today.

A TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN SUPPORT FOR MOROCCO IS CRUCIAL

HON. HOWARD COBLE
OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago a letter was sent to President Clinton, signed by 90 members of the House and Senate, urging the President to “undertake all appropriate steps to strengthen U.S.-Moroccan cooperation.” I signed this letter because I strongly believe that we should stand by our friends in the world.

Morocco has for years been a loyal American ally in a region fraught with peril. It is a constitutional monarchy, a free and democratically-elected government. Led by King Hassan, Morocco is committed to free trade, privatization and a free-market economy. In the past year, there has been more than a 300-percent increase in direct investment from the United States.

Morocco would like to see our relationship grow—working together in the region and in mutually-beneficial trade development. We all know that the key to the future, especially for America’s economic health is to create more markets and greater stability for U.S. companies to expand around the world.

This is why American support for our ally Morocco is just as crucial today as it has been in the past.

A TRIBUTE TO THE SMITHTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT’S 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the U.S. House of Representatives to join my friends and neighbors in Smithtown, Long Island as we celebrate the 90th anniversary of the founding of the Smithtown Volunteer Fire Department.

Since 1908, the residents of Smithtown have entrusted their most precious possessions—their families—to the men and women of this historic department. That trust is well-earned, for Smithtown’s volunteer firefighters are devoted to their duties, courageously defending their family, friends and neighbors from all dangers. Compensated only by the satisfaction that their efforts save lives and protect property, these volunteers have answered every alarm for 90 years. I am proud and honored to count these brave firefighters and emergency services personnel among my friends and neighbors.
In 1990, there were 26 million errors in the census. About 8.8 million people were missed, a population almost equal to Michigan's. Most of those missed were poor people and minorities. The 1990 census was long, expensive, labor intensive, and inaccurate. Despite the increase in the cost, this count was the first one in recent history to be less accurate than the preceding census. We should not be satisfied with a means of testing that misses millions of people.

The Census Bureau has a comprehensive plan for 2000 that will produce the most accurate census in our history. The methods intended for the 2000 census are the same ones the government uses to calculate the unemployment rate and the GNP. The method, statistical sampling, has thus already received government approval in other important areas. There is no reason to believe that it would not be equally as effective for the Census.

In 1990, the census cost $2.6 billion. In 2000, the census will cost $7.2 billion if similar methods are used. This number could be cut to $4 billion, nearly in half, if statistical sampling were used. Why use all the additional funds on a method that has proven itself faulty and insufficient?

Mr. Chairman, no one listening to this is unaware that there has been a large effort on the side of the Majority to prevent statistical sampling from being used in the 2000 Census. One aspect of this effort is the current attempt to make only half of the census funds available for the time being. By denying full access to the census funds, members of this Congress are in effect paralyzing any sort of Census for 2000. Permitting only partial use of the monies allocated for the census is detrimental to whatever type of method is eventually used, statistical or otherwise. A census, of any sort, cannot be executed efficiently if all the funds are not available for the start up of the census now. It seems that many members of this Congress would prefer to have the census fail instead of having an accurate one. It is disgraceful that any Member would want to tamper with the accuracy of the census for their own political agenda. It is disgraceful that they would purposely ignore people of this country and compromise their fair representation by preventing an accurate census.

An accurate census helps Americans in every community. Every year, census data determines $180 billion dollars in federal spending. Census information help direct where the money goes for better roads and transit systems, schools, senior citizen centers, health care facilities and programs for children like Head Start and school lunches. If the census isn't accurate, local communities will be cheat-ed of their fair share.

I urge my colleagues to stop the antics that are plaguing this debate, and realize that they are harming the census, any census, by continuing to halt full funding. I ask my colleagues to realize that only a Statistical Sampling Census will provide the accuracy needed and provide an accurate picture of our nation's population and communities.

HONORING DR. IRWIN M. JACOBS, ARCHITECT OF THE WIRELESS WORLD

HON. RANDY “DUKE” CUNNINGHAM, OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to recognize my friend and fellow San Diegan, Dr. Irwin M. Jacobs, the founder, chairman and CEO of Qualcomm, is being honored this September with the 1998 American Electronics Association Medal of Achievement.

Everyone who uses a modern digital wireless telephone, with its advancements in reliability and sound quality, its low cost, and its wide range of features, owes Dr. Jacobs a debt of gratitude. He pioneered the “Code Division Multiple Access” (CDMA) technology that enables all of these attributes of the wireless world. This innovation and many others have powered Qualcomm from its founding in 1985 to the multi-billion-dollar industry leader, innovator, and major employer that it is today.

I also want my colleagues to have an idea of what kind of man Dr. Jacobs is in my community of San Diego. Just in the past year or so, Dr. Jacobs has made a major donation to the University of California, San Diego, to improve and expand its school of engineering. His commitment to better education, particularly in the areas of mathematics and sciences, extends to all levels. I was honored to participate in a forum he and Qualcomm helped sponsor recently that recognizes and rewards best practices in math and science education in local schools. And when the financing anticipated for necessary upgrades to Jack Murphy Stadium fell through, Dr. Jacobs and Qualcomm came forward with funds sufficient to do the job, and now the home of the Chargers and the Padres bears the Qualcomm name.

Let the permanent Record of the Congress of the United States note the many contributions Dr. Irwin M. Jacobs has made to the fields of engineering and telecommunications, to his community of San Diego, California, and to the world’s ability to communicate with one another clearly across a block or across the globe. I commend to my colleagues the following article from the San Diego Union-Tribune describing the honor that the AEA is awarding my friend and fellow San Diegan.

QUALCOMM BOSS TO GET AEA HONOR

Qualcomm Inc., the wireless communications company, founder, chairman and CEO of Qualcomm, is being awarded the 1998 American Electronics Association Medal of Achievement.

The award is one of the highest honors given by the electronics industry and goes to individuals for their overall contributions to the industry. Previous winners include Intel Chairman Andrew Grove, Ross Perot of Electronic Data Systems and William Hewlett and David Packard of Hewlett-Packard.

Jacobs, who co-founded Qualcomm in 1985, helped pioneer its trademark Code Division Multiple Access technology. He took the company from a start-up specializing in wireless data networking to a $3 billion digital wireless communications company. Qualcomm now has offices around the world.
and has grown to more than 30,000 employees.

"He is generally considered to be the primary catalyst in shaping the wireless technology industry and has long been recognized as a philanthropist and community leader," said William T. Arche, AEA president and CEO.

Success:

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, as Congress moves forward on consideration of spending for foreign affairs, I would like to draw attention to the successes of the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee (CRWRC) headquartered in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

In 1997, CRWRC received a USAID grant of $75,000 for a Development Education Project. In collaboration with the Water Foundation Institute (BFW), CRWRC used the money to fund a national event which linked international development organizations with U.S. leaders who were interested in public policy, sustainable development, and hunger. The event was a huge success.

The Gathering, which took place in Washington, D.C. in June of 1997, was preceded by a number of training materials and publicity brochures and newsletters. Participants were divided into one of three groups: Track I, which involved over 300 people who were interested in poverty and hunger and wanted to learn more; Track II, the "leadership corps" or those who expressed a higher level of interest and would apply the "multiplier effect" in their own regions after leaving the Gathering; and finally, Track III, the 10 foreign nationals who were development practitioners, working in partnership with CRWRC overseas.

Attendance at the Gathering exceeded expectations, drawing over 500 people. The conference was a time to share stories and learn from others. According to the increase in attendance, the conference, each of the three groups was impacted significantly by new information. The follow-up survey showed that Track II participants tripled in their learning and Track I showed a positive increase as well. In addition, the visiting international developers were able to learn about the democratic process in the U.S. and the possibility of creating their own action in their own countries.

Other evidence of learning appeared in the comments from participants after the Gathering:

From Jean Claude Cerin, a development practitioner from Haiti, and one of the international presenters:

There was a woman in my small group the first day of our meetings who felt forced to adopt international issues. [...] She said that’s not what she’s concerned about, she’s more interested in what’s happening in her own backyard. After going through the workshops and interchanges, she became so interested. She’s interested in the mailing list to publish talks of folks at the Track II workshops in her local newsletter, and to be in communication with international folks through email. She said, "I’m able to conceive creating funding and hosting the Track II section. It’s a milestone in raising awareness for me!"

Mr. Speaker, I would like to emphasize the positive aspects of this program and believe it shows how far public dollars can go to serve the world’s poor when coupled with private effort.

The Depository Institution Merger Pledge Enforcement Act (H.R. 4420)

HON. JOHN J. LAFLARCE
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. LAFLACIE. Mr. Speaker, we find ourselves in an era of mega-mergers among financial institutions, and the trend is likely to continue. There is some public concern about these mergers, and with a good reason. Diversified financial services companies offer real opportunities for consumers, including easier access to a larger array of financial services at lower cost. But they also carry risks: higher or hidden fees; intrusions upon consumer privacy; and indifference to community needs and concerns on the part of institutions with the tens of billions of dollars in assets.

Today I am introducing legislation intended to help ensure that these larger conglomerates remain responsive to community needs, fulfill their community reinvestment obligations and honor their own community reinvestment pledges.

As part of the regulatory approval process for merger applications, the banking and thrift regulators are required to consider the financial institution’s community reinvestment record. It is becoming increasingly typical for financial institutions to announce sizeable financial commitments to provide loans within low and moderate income communities in the context of these pending applications. These pledges must be more than public relation promises. They must be taken seriously by the regulators as well as the institution which makes them. Community groups and the public at large must have confidence in the integrity and meaningfulness of these pledges. The development of a mechanism for monitoring and enforcing these pledges is essential if they are to be pursued. But the public must have confidence as well, and the current regulatory oversight system does not provide that confidence.

These commitments have typically been for ten years and generally involve sizeable, but unspecified pledges of credit for affordable housing, business loans, consumer loans and investments in community projects. Yet current supervisory oversight does not focus on an institution’s lending and investment activities during one-year periods only, and seeks to determine whether the institution is meeting minimum required levels of community reinvestment, not the higher levels promised in these commitments. Several recent studies have found that even these routine CRA examinations have been inadequate and that CRA ratings are generally "inflated."

The capacity to monitor the higher levels of lending and investment committed to in conjunction with proposed mergers is difficult for the public and community groups to have confidence that the generalizations of these commitments will take concrete and positive shape within their communities if there is no way to monitor pledge implementation.

Some of the regulators have suggested that community organizations should enforce community investment pledges by banks. I fear that may be unrealistic as few such groups would have adequate enforcement capacity. Moreover, it is difficult to enforce commitments as highly generalized as some we have seen. Community groups are pressing for commitments that involve highly specific goals for improvement in specific types of lending in more narrowly targeted communities. That approach may have merit. Some institutions have taken it with substantial success, while others are strongly resistant.

My legislation attempts to strike a middle ground. The bill would direct the Federal banking regulators to develop and maintain procedures to monitor compliance with community investment pledges made by financial institutions. In addition, it would:

1. Require the regulatory agencies to notify institutions when commitments are not being met and make such non-compliance public;

2. Authorize the regulators to take an institution’s record of compliance with these pledges into account in any future decision-making regarding the institution.

The community investment pledges being made by financial institutions are becoming an integral element of the mega-merger trend. They must be taken seriously by the regulators as well as the institution which makes them. Community groups and the public at large must have confidence in the integrity and meaningfulness of these pledges. The development of a mechanism for monitoring and enforcing these pledges is essential if the public can have confidence without undue regulatory intrusion.

These pledges must be more than public relations devices. If public concern about the
wave of mega-mergers is to be assuaged, these commitments must show tangible results in local communities. I believe my bill will help accomplish that important objective, and I would welcome the support of my colleagues.

The text of the bill follows:

H.R. 4420

Sec. 1. Short Title.

This Act may be cited as the "Depository Institution Merger Pledge Enforcement Act".

Sec. 2. Enforcement of Commitments Made in Connection with Acquisition or Merger Applications.

Section 18 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1828) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(c) Enforcement of Merger and Acquisition Pledges.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Each appropriate Federal banking agency shall establish and maintain procedures for monitoring, on an ongoing basis, compliance by any insured depository institution, bank holding company, savings and loan holding company, foreign bank, or any affiliate of any such person with any pledge or commitment made by any such person in connection with the approval of any application by any such person under subsection (c), section 4, or 4 of the National Credit Union Act and Merger Act, section 3 or 4 of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, or section 10 of the Home Owners’ Loan Act, including any pledge or commitment relating to community lending and investment.

"(2) Report of noncompliance.—Whenever any appropriate Federal banking agency determines that an insured depository institution, bank holding company, savings and loan holding company, foreign bank, or any affiliate of any such person is failing to maintain compliance with any pledge or commitment referred to in paragraph (1) at any time during the effective period of the pledge or agreement, the agency shall:

"(A) notify the institution, company, bank, or affiliate of such determination;

"(B) shall publish a notice of such determination in the Federal Register;

"(C) noncompliance taken into account in connection with subsequent approvals.—If an appropriate Federal banking agency makes a determination of noncompliance under paragraph (2) with regard to any insured depository institution, bank holding company, savings and loan holding company, foreign bank, or any affiliate of any such person, the agency may take such noncompliance into account in making decisions in the future regarding the institution, company, bank, or affiliate.

A TRIBUTE TO THE MEDFORD, LONG ISLAND FIRE AND RESCUE VOLUNTEERS

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES
OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the brave volunteers of the Medford Fire Department for their valiant efforts to contain and extinguish a huge blaze at the Gershow Recycling plant in eastern Long Island, New York on July 23, 1998. I also commend the Medford Ambulance Corps volunteer members who worked tirelessly at the scene of the fire treating firefighters for smoke inhalation and heat exhaustion even as black smoke billowed around them.

A towering inferno erupted at the car recycling plant in Medford on that Thursday at around 3:45 p.m., emitting intense heat and flames until well into the next afternoon. The fire consumed tons of metal, petroleum and rubber fires from scrap automobiles measuring approximately two acres wide and 60 feet high. The Medford fire and rescue volunteers were first to arrive at the scene of the blaze and quickly unleashed torrents of water to prevent the fire from spreading to nearby homes and businesses.

The Medford volunteers were able to contain the inferno to the recycling plant site while awaiting mutual aid from 73 fire departments and emergency companies who responded to an Islandwide call for assistance. Thanks to the unrelenting efforts of the Medford firefighters, no one was seriously injured and no buildings or homes surrounding the recycling plant were damaged. Yet, the Medford Ambulance Corps, along with several other local emergency medical services, performed admirably in treating 36 firefighters for heat exhaustion, minor cuts and burns.

The quick response of the Medford fire and rescue volunteers ensured the containment of the blaze and kept the fire from resulting in tragedy. These volunteers work round the clock at perfecting their firefighting and emergency preparedness skills, and stand ready to help their neighbors at a moment’s notice. They deserve our praise and heartfelt thanks for another job well done.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring the brave volunteers of the Medford Fire Department and Ambulance Corps and to recognize their commitment and dedication to protecting the lives of my eastern Long Island constituents. We are truly blessed to count on these volunteers in our time of need.

PAYCHECK PROTECTION ACT

HON. MARK W. NEUMANN
OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. NEUMANN. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate this opportunity to briefly address the House about the Paycheck Protection Act. I regret that the campaign finance bill approved today does not effectively prevent organizations from forcing individuals to financially support campaigns. The Paycheck Protection Act authored by my friend from Colorado, Congressmen BOB SCHAFER, includes this fundamental principle of American democracy. Despite my concerns that the Paycheck Protection Act’s language as originally drafted may not apply this principle equally to unions and corporations, I remain supportive of Congressmen SCHAFER’s efforts. Congressmen SCHAFER has already made some improvements to the bill and I look forward to working with him in the future.

RAIL SERVICE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1998

HON. JERRY MORAN
OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, rail transportation has long played an important role in shaping the American landscape. In recent years, however, the land for railroads made for difficult situations for shippers, railroads, and farmers looking to move their grain to export markets.

RAIL SERVICE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1998

HON. JERRY MORAN
OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to authorize the employment of doctors of chiropractic as full-time health care professionals by the Department of Veterans Affairs and establish a permanent division of chiropractic services in the Veterans Health Administration. Joining me as original cosponsors of the bill in the House are Representatives PAUL KANJORSKI, DALE KILDEE, BOB FISHER, JIM MCDERMOTT, THOMAS MANTON, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, JOSEPH KENNEDY, LUIS GUTIERREZ, ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, GEORGE BROWN, MARTIN FROST, and CHARLES RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I am very happy to have the support of one of the top choices for back problems in adults because of its effectiveness and low cost. Chiropractic offers veterans a drugless, non-surgical option—an option that is a much-needed addition to the care available through VA.

In virtually all other areas of the Federal health-care delivery system, Congress has recognized the role of chiropractic care, thereby ensuring that beneficiaries have a voice in choosing health care options that are best for them. My legislation will provide veterans the same ability to make health care choices that best address their specific needs.

It is time to end this long-standing inequity in federal health-care programs and give veterans a real choice in their health care. Our veterans deserve no less.
Following the deregulation of the Staggers Act, a dramatic shift has occurred in the rail-road industry in Kansas. Class I railroads have gone from operating over 6,500 miles of track in 1986 to 3,800 miles today. Short line carriers now have over 30% of the track in Kan-sas and make up an even greater percentage in the First Congressional District. Kansas still ranks fourth in the nation with over 5,500 miles of rail; however, we have lost nearly 700 miles of track through abandonments just since 1991.

These changes have left Kansas with fewer Class I railroads and back-to-back years where large harvests have crippled the grain trans-portation system in Kansas. While no single solution exists to cure all of the problems fac-ing the industry, the federal role in regulating this industry can and should be improved.

The Surface Transportation Board (STB) is responsible for approving railroad mergers, approving abandonments, and mediating rate disputes. The agency is currently being con-sidered for reauthorization. Earlier this year, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee held a series of hearings on the state of the railroad industry and the regu-latory functions of the STB.

As a result of those hearings and my own experiences in dealing with the railroad situa-tion in Kansas, I am introducing legislation aimed at improving the ability of the STB to address the critical transportation issues fac-ing rural America.

Specifically, this legislation would:
- Reduce the likelihood of additional abandon-ments by providing states an other small rail-roads an additional year to acquire an aban-doned line;
- Provide an expedited rate case procedure;
- Provide direction to the STB to devote re-sources to promoting competition and reason-able rates; and
- Direct the STB to place a priority on improv-ing the economic viability of abandoned lines.

Maintaining an efficient transportation sys-tem has long been a key to the success of U.S. agriculture. As agriculture becomes more export dependent, rail transportation is more important than ever. As a member of the Rail-road Subcommittee of the House Transpor-tation Committee, I am eager to work to improve rail transportation.

The changes proposed in this bill would as-sist in solving the current rail transportation issues by quickly resolving shipper complaints and taking steps to ensure that over the long haul, rail transportation remains an option for America’s agricultural producers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to support this legislation and urge its early con-sideration and passage.

CRIME DOES NOT PAY ACT

HON. TOM BLILYE OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to introduce the Crime Does Not Pay Act on behalf of Margie Nolan Cowles of Richmond, Virginia. Margie Nolan Cowles wrote a letter to the editor of the Richmond Times-Dispatch de-crying the fact that criminals were receiving payments from injuries received during the commission of a crime. I agreed and have in-troduced the Crime Does Not Pay Act to cor-rect this injustice. This legislation prevents convicted felons from collecting damages for injuries incurred while committing the felony. It closes a loophole that permits criminals to get rich while committing a crime.

For example, in California, a jury awarded more than $100,000 to Brian Forrett, a career criminal who broke into a home and tied up the residents. He then fired at one of the resi-dents and missed, and shot at the other resi-dent, blinding him. Brian Forrett was shot by police officers while trying to escape and is now re-ceiving $26,183 from each of the four officers that fired on him while he serves a 32-year prison sentence for robbery.

It is not right that criminals can receive dam-ages when they are injured in the commission of a felony. This is a travesty of justice and this bill will prevent such miscarriages of jus-tice in the future. I look forward to earning the support of my colleagues and the American people for this legislation because Crime Does Not Pay and my legislation will correct this in-justice.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, J U S T I C E, AND STATE, AND J U DI CIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

SPEECH OF HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS OF MARYLAND
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, August 5, 1998

The House Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4276) making appro-priations for the Departments of Com-merce, Justice, and State, the Judici-ary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to the Commerce-Justice-State Appropriations bill.

There are many reasons for my opposition to this bill.

First and foremost, is the atrocity of this body's inability to pass the Molohon amend-ment to restore full funding for a fair and accu-rate census.

At this time, however, I would like to add-dress a matter which has not been discussed on the floor: The dramatic reduction in funding in the bill for the Small Business Administra-tion.

The bill reduces funding for the Small Busi-ness Administration's regular operating ex-penses by 27 percent, or $75 million less than the President's request.

The Committee directs that reductions should come from "overhead" functions and primarily headquarters staff.

According to the SBA, this reduction "would literally shut down the Agency."

The cut is so extreme that, if enacted, it would result in the elimination of more than 1,200 Federal employees, or 40 percent of SBA's workforce.

But the situation gets worse! The Committee Report language on the funding cuts prohibits staff reductions from SBA district offices.

However, of the approximately 3,000 Fed-eral employees of the SBA, 2,000 are located in district offices.

In other words, even if the SBA eliminated every employee in its DC headquarters, it would still not generate the savings required under the legislation!

Thus, whether intended or not, this appro-priations bill will de-fund the SBA.

Mr. Speaker, the many programs operated by the SBA are critical to the people of my district and I am sure, to those of every Mem-ber of this Congress.

The SBA helps to ensure that America's small business opportunities are available to the majority of Americans.

America’s 22 million small businesses em-ploy more than 50 percent of the private work force, generate more than half of the nation’s gross domestic product, and are the principal source of new jobs.

In Maryland, SBA programs to encourage the establishment and growth of small busi-nesses have proven invaluable:

In 1997, through its 7(a) program, the SBA made over 750 loans to Maryland small busi-nesses, totaling over $149,000.

The SBA’s Small Business Investment Com-pany program financed over $19 million for Maryland small businesses in 1997, and

The SBA microlending program in Maryland fi-nanced over $190,000 toward African American small businesses and $160,000 to 100% women-owned small businesses in 1997.

I hope that the Appropriations Committee did not actually intend to de-fund this vital agency and that this funding situation will be addressed in conference committee.

In addition to my concerns regarding the general operating budget, I am deeply trou-bled by the low funding levels for several key SBA programs.

Two of these programs, the National Wom-en’s Business Council and the Women’s De-velopment Projects, have been addressed by my colleagues Representatives MILLENDER-McDONALD and SANDERS in two amendments which receive my full support. I thank my col-leagues for their efforts.

However, there are at least two additional programs that were under-funded in this bill that are of particular concern to me and my constituents:

The 7(i) Minority Enterprise Development program, for which the President requested $9.5 million, was provided just $2.6 million; and

The HUB Zone program, enacted last year, for which the President requested $4 million, was provided only $2 million.

Just two weeks ago in Baltimore, Aida Alva-rez, Administrator of the SBA, signed an agreement with the Maryland Minority Con-tractors Association reaffirming SBA’s commit-ment to double the number of SBA-guaran-teed loans to African Americans.

Mr. Speaker, the many programs operated by the SBA are critical to the people of my district and I am sure, to those of every Mem-ber of this Congress.
Additionally, Baltimore is the home of dozens of HUB Zones or “Historically Under-utilized Business Zones.” The HUB Zone Empowerment Contracting Program was enacted into law as part of the Small Business Reauthorization Act of 1997. The program encourages economic development opportunities throughout the establishment of preferences for award of Federal contracts to small businesses located in these areas.

Such a program has immense potential to aid the residents of my district—both business owners and the employees they hire. I would hate to think that after my colleagues demonstrated their wisdom in enacting the HUB Zone legislation, that just one year later they would provide inadequate funding to fully enact the program.

My constituents contact my office daily to learn of SBA programs that can assist them in their attempts to gain financial self-sufficiency and independence. I urge the conference committee to fully fund both the Minority Enterprise Development and the HUB Zone Programs.

Mr. Speaker, I am not sure what the Republican majority meant to accomplish when it so dramatically under-funded the SBA and restricted those funds in a manner that would cause the elimination of virtually the entire SBA headquarters staff.

I therefore urge the members of the conference committee to act with a clear head and a clear conscience when they consider restoring full funding to the SBA.

FOREST TAX RELIEF ACT
HON. MARY BONO
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to announce the introduction of the Forest Tax Relief Act, an important bill to let all our citizens enjoy the forests free from burdensome taxes.

I am proud to announce that I have co-authored this bi-partisan bill with my dear colleague, Representative Lois Capps (D-CA). Due to enabling legislation passed by a previous Congress, the United States Forest Service has implemented a new pilot project charging daily users a per car fee to park on public lands. Dubbed the “Adventure Pass” by the U.S. Forest Service, this is nothing but a new tax on using public lands. Many of my constituents question the fairness and merits of this tax, and I share their concern. This tax goes against the concept of experiencing our national forests. We must encourage people to visit, not discourage them from doing so. When tourists go elsewhere, it hurts small businesses and it hurts our efforts to educate individuals on the importance of protecting this precious national resource. This tax serves as a barrier to working families, hikers, nature lovers and all those desiring access to our national forests.

I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this effort to return the forests back to the people.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF
HON. SAM GEJDENSON
OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 4, 1998

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3790. The major beneficiary of this bill will be the National Digital Library. The “profits” from the bill will go to make millions of items available freely on the internet by the year 2000. It is a most fitting goal as the Library of Congress celebrates its 200th birthdays in the year 2000. The Library will be using the world’s most advanced technology for further education of all our citizens.

Already more than 500,000 items from the Library’s incomparable collections relating to American history are on line, including Civil War photographs, presidential papers, documents relating to the civil rights movement, and women’s suffrage. Nearly 62 million transactions are now being handled by the Library’s on-line services.

These services are used by students, scholars and the general public in the U.S. and around the world. The Library’s web site has been called a “publicly and privately financed funded taxpayers dream” by Wired Magazine and an “internet hit” by the New York Times.

We have more than the 290 co-sponsors required to bring this bipartisan bill to the floor. I applaud the Library and urge all my colleagues to support this worthy bill.

BIOMATERIALS ACCESS ASSURANCE ACT

SPEECH OF
HON. ANNA G. ESHTO
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 1998

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support H.R. 872, the Biomaterials Access Assurance Act. The broad consensus of support that the bill now enjoys is the result of many months of hard work by many, especially the bill’s sponsor, Representative George Gekas.

“Biomaterials” are the raw materials that are used to make medical implants and devices. Examples of biomaterials include silicone, polyester, urethane, and polycarbonate. These materials have hundreds of non-medical uses, but their use in medical devices is one of the most important.

Despite having no role in the design, testing, or production of implantable medical products, biomaterials suppliers are exposed to millions of dollars in litigation costs from product liability suits. Courts have overwhelmingly found biomaterials suppliers not liable, but the costly litigation quickly overwhelms the relatively small financial benefits of selling to the medical device market. For this reason, many biomaterials suppliers no longer sell their products for medical use.

H.R. 872 would limit the liability of biomaterials suppliers to instances of genuine fault. It provides expedited dismissal for biomaterials suppliers, without extensive discovery or other legal costs, in product liability suits where plaintiffs allege harm from a medical implant.

Without congressional action, patients will lose access to life-enhancing and life-saving implantable medical devices and small device manufacturers will close their doors.

Passage of this legislation is critically important for the future of Millions of patients and the medical device industry. Anyone that uses a medical device or knows someone that uses a medical device should be heartened by the action of the House today. This bill is a victory for consumers and ensures that the United States’ leadership in medical technology innovation will continue.

In closing, I want to emphasize how important it is that this bill remain narrow in scope. As written, it addresses a specific, well-documented public health problem. Any effort to expand the scope of the bill by our colleagues in the other body to include broader product liability reforms will seriously endanger passage this year.

On behalf of the patients who depend on medical technology, we cannot afford to let that happen.

24TH ANNIVERSARY OF TURKEY’S INVASION OF CYPRUS

SPEECH OF
HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 3, 1998

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise again today to protest the Turkish invasion of Cyprus. Even though the international community has condemned the Turkish government’s action as a brutal violation of international law, Turkey has yet to comply with international pressures and remains one of the most militarized in the world to recognize the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus as a sovereign entity. Since 1974, the United Nations and other international organizations have repeatedly attempted to find a solution to this dispute, but the border separating the Cypriot and Turkish forces remains one of the most militarized in the world. Currently, over 30,000 troops retain control over the northern third of the island. Tensions remain high in the region, and, with the recent Turkish threats of military action, the prospects for a peaceful solution in the near future have been furthered reduced.

The invasion of 1974 marked not just a defeat of Cypriot military forces, but the beginning of a policy of Turkish ethnic cleansing.
Massive portions of the Greek Cypriot population were dislocated, exposing them to the threats of starvation and poverty. The Turkish invasion did not solve the political disputes that had already fueled factionalism and ethnic hostility in Cyprus, but only intensified the animosity between Turkish and Greek Cypriots. As recently as 1996, increased hostility along the buffer zone led to the injury and death of several soldiers. Strides toward gradual demilitarization remain essential to reducing tension in this delicate situation.

I applaud the Clinton Administration's efforts to find a peaceful solution to this conflict. Recent visits by Richard Holbrooke, U.S. Presidential Envoy for Cyprus, underscore the United States' commitment to furthering political stability in the region. I implore the President to recognize that violence should not be used to resolve this most recent crisis. United Nations-sponsored negotiations should recommence immediately. The United States must make it clear that it is willing to use foreign aid, sanctions, and its power as a member of several international organizations in order to compel a resolution to this conflict.

While preventing violence is our immediate priority, our underlying goal of a lasting and constructive peace on Cyprus remains at the forefront of several international organizations in order to secure any type of lasting solution. This United States' commitment to furthering political stability in the region is at a time in its history when the words "domestic tranquility" and "general welfare" seem to signify things of the past. The American Federation of Labor and Congress of工业企业, especially, common defense. I believe—I know—that the guns that are available today do none of these things. I believe that our forefathers would agree, because I refuse to think that the intentions of the ones who wrote the Constitution was to put lethal weapons in the hands of any person who wanted one. That is not "a well regulated militia." No, their intention was to ensure the safety and freedom of us, our posterity.

I propose that we follow the words of the preamble and of our constitution. I propose that we take a step to make our nation safe again, for me and for the children I want to have some day. I propose we remove the guns from our streets, our homes and our hands. CONGRESSMAN SANDERS: Thank you very much.

STATEMENT BY ABE KLEIN REGARDING CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

ABE KLEIN: The issue I am choosing to bring up today is that of campaign finance reform. Among many, one cause attributed to the violence is the easy availability of guns. And that is a tremendous issue, and I believe that the easy availability of guns is really quite a simple process, to some extent, for getting people elected to the smaller, local levels, including in Vermont, our state Congress and the senate, as well. But once you go beyond that, it is really a different story, and it takes a lot of money for people to get elected to office, as I am sure you are aware of. CONGRESSMAN SANDERS: Tell me about it. Yes, I know.

ABE KLEIN: You are the only person in the entire Federal Government of our nation who has been elected without the monetary support of the Democratic or Republican party. And that is the requisite amount of money required for people to attain office is really limiting who can be elected to office and who can hold power in our country, and the other real issue behind this problem is that, though people can get elected with the support of the democratic and republican parties, both of these parties get a large amount of their support from large corpora-
tions throughout the country. It seems to hold a really evident influence on the poli-
cies of our nation, and I think to the deter-
riment of the American people.

The one I am working with, there was a proposal, and there have been many proposals since 1974 when the first campaign finance reform was enacted after the Nixon administration, but that particular proposal left a lot of gaps, including allowing organizations or PACs, these PAC organizations, PACTS, to gather money for political activities without restrictions. And a number of people in the Congress, including you, have attempted to reprimand that with new proposals, to no success.

I really wanted to bring that issue up as a discussion, because I feel that it is really limiting the viewpoints and the opinions of people in Congress, and who can get elected to Congress. I mean, people continue to work on it, but it really—I don’t know—I think that, at some point, maybe with large amounts of support, it could be brought up as an issue for serious debate, and it could be really brought into a forefront, and it needs to be done in a manner by which it is not a sickening black speech, and I think that is a serious issue as well, because a lot of people claim that their ability to spend money for political elections is representing their free speech, and any limits on their ability to spend money is therefore infringing on their First Amendment. I am not sure I guess I am not sure. I have found any ways out in who and how much money can be spent, or who can contribute money to select people to federal office without infringing on their First Amendment. THE COURT: Abe, thank you very much.

STATEMENT BY BRIDGET GUFLFOY, MICHAEL HASTINGS, KATE CHARLESBOIS AND MANDY COLLIERS REGARDING VIOLence IN THE SCHOOLS

BRIDGET GUFLFOY: We are going to be talking about violence in schools. And so a real important question to be asked initially is: Has the violence actually increased over the last few years, or several years? And it seems very obvious that it has increased, but there is a surprising lack of evidence and information about it. The last official national study was done in 1970, and, since then, there has been no national one to compare to, compare results. The only ones that have been done have been in smaller local settings. So all we can do is really speculate, based on studies to compare violence over the years.

In 1978, 13 percent of students reported being attacked, and 4 percent of those needed medical attention. And in 1989 of 31 Illinois public high schools, 8 percent of students reported being attacked, 8 percent of those had been cut, and 4 percent shot. And in a 1990 report, several students said that they had carried a weapon to school within a month before the survey. So with these more informal reports, it seems clear that the violence in schools is just very surprising and almost disturbing that there have been no studies, because it seems like there is a lack of interest. It is also very interesting that, in the 1978 report, students reported 22 times the number of attacks and robberies that their principals and teachers reported, and it just is a shame, because it seems like people are trying to cover up the problem here, it will make it a lot more difficult to actually get to the bottom of it and help it.

Violent children are usually victims of abuse themselves, and psychological studies have shown that child abuse is invariably connected with child violence. KATE CHARLESBOIS: As Bridget was saying, there is a direct relation between child abuse and violence among teenagers. And recently, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch which stated that the number of reported child abuse cases is the lowest in 15 years. However, it has also been reported that cases that are not reported to be much more violent than ever before, which may be in relation to why there is much more guns and shootings happening, rather than fights in schools.

So we feel as though there is a real need for both more child abuse programs as well as an increase in the availability of these programs. And also, as a criticism for this problem, if I could just read a quote from Jimmy Foster, who is the Mayor of Pearl, Mississippi, where, on October 1st of ‘97, there was an article in the Jackson Advocate which quoted him and wounded seven others. And he said: "You know the old cliche, it happens to somebody..."
Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of the 'Superior Die Set Corporation, one of the nation's oldest family-owned corporations, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year.

This American success story traces its roots to a 23-year-old Polish blacksmith, Kasimir J. ‘Casey’ Janiszewski, who bid farewell to his mother and father in 1910 and left Poland for the United States. Ten years later he arrived in Milwaukee, home of his new bride, and soon established Superior Tool & Die Company.

As the family tree grew, so did the fortunes of the company. Casey Janiszewski’s sons, Alphonse, Casimir H. and Edward, became key executives in the company. Casimir Janiszewski, also nicknamed ‘Casey,’ became president in 1968 and served the company for 55 years—longer than any family member—until his retirement in 1981.

His sons, Casimir J. and Frank J., took executive positions in the mid-1980s and in 1991 were named CEO and President, and Executive Vice-President, respectively, in the firm.

Superior Tool & Die Company for 55 years—longer than any family member—until his retirement in 1981.

Ronald S. Cooper, one of our area’s most distinguished business professionals, has spent his career at Ernst & Young, one of the world’s largest accounting firms. Ron currently serves as a Senior Partner in the firm’s New York City office, where he leads the firm’s Practice Development Group and is responsible for developing and implementing programs to enhance the firm’s global reach.

Ron has been a leader in our community, serving on the boards of several local organizations, including the Community Foundation of Greater New York, the Long Island Council of the United Way, and the United Way of Long Island. He has also been a mentor to many young people, providing them with guidance and support as they pursue their goals.

Ron is widely respected for his knowledge of corporate operations, debt structure, and finance. He is a leader in his field and is recognized for his ability to diagnose and solve complex business problems.

Ron is a true leader, and we look forward to his continued success and contributions to our community.
In his philanthropic and community activities, Ron applies the same attributes of tenacity and perseverance that have created countless successful ventures which have produced a rich blend of social institutions that serve to invigorate the Long Island community. As Past chairman of the Long Island Campaign Cabinet of UJA-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, he oversaw an annual budget campaign that raised $17,000,000. He is Vice-President of the Long Island Philharmonic as well as Treasurer and Board Member of the Long Island Association. In addition, he provides guidance and leadership to other major Long Island-based organizations that include the Long Island Better Business Bureau, the Nassau County Museum of Art, the Board of Directors of the Institute for Community Development and the Council of Overseers of the Tilles Center of C.W. Post College of Long Island University.

Ron’s constant giving of himself to the community has blessed us with business and cultural opportunities. Moreover, in his role as Chairman of the Long Island Regional Board of the League of B’nai B’rith, he has come to view a model of understanding and compassion that readily emerges as a yardstick by which all such efforts must be measured. His unique talent for understanding and humanity have earned him great recognition and honor. Among these many accolades are the Long Island Distinguished Leadership Award, the Distinguished Community Service Award of the Anti-Defamation League of B’nai Brith, the Brotherhood Award of the National Conference of Christians and Jews and the Frank Novell Human Relations Award of the American Jewish Committee.

Mr. Speaker, as Ron Cooper now looks toward retirement and happily spending those innumerable hours of leisure he has promised to his wife, Marcia, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our appreciation for the years of devoted, selfless service he has rendered to the residents of Eastern Ohio and myself. I ask my colleagues to join the residents of Eastern Ohio and myself in remembering Shelly McPeck Kelly’s courage, loyalty and service to her country.

HONORING TECHNICAL SERGEANT OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE SHELLY McPECK KELLY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY
OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary constituent, Shelly McPeck Kelly. Shelly was tragically killed in a plane crash with Commerce Secretary Ron Brown in 1996. Shelly McPeck Kelly was an outstanding citizen who devoted a lifetime to helping those in her community and country, and she has been missed by all those who knew her.

Throughout her life, Shelly McPeck Kelly was a model citizen. She was loyal and devoted wife. As the proud parents of two children, she and her husband shared many wonderful memories. Shelly served faithfully in the United States Air Force as an airplane stewardess. Her hard work paid off by achieving the rank of Technical Sergeant. Shelly should also be commended for her service to the United States during the Bosnian Peacekeeping Operation.

On August 15, 1998, Shelly will be remembered by her family and friends as they plant a tree in her memory. I ask my colleagues to join the residents of Eastern Ohio and myself in remembering Shelly McPeck Kelly’s courage, loyalty and service to her country.

HON. JOHN E. ENSIGN
OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. Speaker, just a few weeks ago, Iran test fired the Shahab-3 missile. Intelligence estimates by the CIA and the Israelis proved to be correct. This missile will likely have a range of 930 miles putting Israel’s security in jeopardy. But this is not an issue for our closest friend in the Middle East, this is an American issue because it affects global security and our thousands of troops that are based in that critical region. Iran’s stockpiling of chemical and biological weapons and acquisition of nuclear technology make the situation even more dire.

There are two ways for our government to prove its commitment to dealing with this critical issue. The first is sanctioning entities that aid in Iran’s missile development. I, like a majority of the House, cosponsored the Iran Missile Proliferation Sanctions Act (IMPSA), and it passed this body 392 to 22. Last week the President followed Congress’ lead and strengthened an existing executive order by...
placing sanctions on 7 Russian entities. We must keep a close watch on this and remain vigilant on the issue of Iran’s acquisition of weapons of mass destruction and the weapons to deliver them. President Clinton will be traveling to Russia in September, and if the legislation is still needed, we should bring up IMPSA for vote inside.

Another way to counter the Iranian threat is by strengthening our closest ally and outpost in the region. In September, when we return to Washington, we will vote on the Foreign Operations Appropriations bill which contains Israel’s annual $8.5 billion in aid. I have voted for this bill in the past because I believe that foreign aid, when used wisely, is an important instrument in American foreign policy.

This year, I again intend to vote for aid for Israel, and I want to draw special attention to what makes this bill so special and historic. Based upon Prime Minister Netanyahu’s pledge to a joint meeting of Congress two years ago, Israel has started to reduce its request for aid. Imagine an aid-receiving nation saying it does not need as much money—well it’s happening this year.

Israel has made dramatic economic strides over the past two decades including the privatization of most of its industries. As a friend and supporter, the United States helped in Israel’s economic gains. Now Israel is telling us that they feel comfortable phasing out all of their economic aid over a ten year period. However, based upon the continued threats in the region like Iran, Israel does need continuing military assistance which I will continue to support. I am also pleased that it looks as though this year’s Foreign Operations Appropriations bill will hold spending level to that of Fiscal 1998.

IN TRIBUTE

SPEECH OF HON. WES WATKINS OF OKLAHOMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 28, 1998

Mr. WATKINS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to have in the Congressional Record a prayer I received from Chaplain James Paul Maxwell from Shawnee, Oklahoma. When Reverend Maxwell learned of the tragic deaths of Officer Chestnut and Detective Gibson he composed a beautiful prayer and asked that I share it with Congressmen DeLay. After reading the prayer myself, I was so moved that I composed a beautiful prayer and asked that I have it printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. We come to You, leaning on Your love for understanding and direction.

Lord we pray for all law enforcement officers. Give them Your protective care and wisdom to respond in courage to perform their duties with firmness and with love. We long for the final victory over sin and evil and sorrow in this world and pray that You will give us determination and faith to take our stand for righteousness in our land. Thank You Lord for laying down Your life for us that we might have life and have it more abundantly. Lift us up through this darkness of evil that we might praise You in Jesus Name. Amen.

Chaplain James Paul Maxwell, Shawnee Police Department, Shawnee, Oklahoma.

HONORING FRIENDS OF DIALYSIS DAY

HON. ADAM SMITH OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. ADAM SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to declare a day of recognition on August 16, 1998, for the Friends of Dialysis Day. Everyone who participates in this important day is taking an essential step in helping to increase awareness of kidney disease and the need for organ donation. We all know that organ donations save lives, and increasing the number of donors throughout the country could potentially save the life of a loved one for many families in our community and throughout the nation. I hope by declaring this Friends of Dialysis Day we can increase the willingness to donate organs by friends and members of our community.

The citizens of my district have participated in the Friends of Dialysis Day through an annual golf tournament. Participants, including patients, transplant recipients, family members, and family members, come together to raise money for this important cause. I urge other communities around the country to follow their example and help promote organ donation.

I commend all who have taken up this important fight and I hope we can all work together to continue to increase the awareness of kidney disease and the need for organ donations in our communities.

SOCIAL SECURITY

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, as we move into the 21st century, we must address the issue of Social Security. When I support privatizing the system which would allow Americans to more fully control the financial aspects of their retirement years, I realize we must have a national debate on the issue. In an effort to contribute to the discussion, I would recommend that my colleagues read this following column written by Jose Pinera as it appeared in the European edition of the Wall Street Journal on June 25, 1998.

[From the Wall Street Journal Europe, June 25, 1998]

A WAY OUT OF EUROPE’S PENSION CRISIS

(By J ose Pinera)

On the wall of my office in Santiago, Chile, I have a map of the Americas with South America sharply facing toward the top and the United States and Canada at the bottom. Visitors often look puzzled, then exclaim, “Oh, they’ve hung your map upside down.”

“No,” I say, “it’s just a different way of looking at the world.” I often think of that simple statement whenever I’m asked about Chile’s crisis-ridden pension systems can fixed.

Reform is possible, I reply, if people are willing to look at the world in a different way. Most importantly, individuals will need more power to provide for their own retirement—and the government’s role must be scaled back. We’ve accomplished this in Chile, where there were seven lean models, is being seriously considered in the United States. In the meantime, the system has already spread to several other nations around the globe.

Beneath its veneer of egalitarianism, Europe’s present pension systems are hideously unfair to tens of millions. Most young workers can look only to receiving less and less when they themselves retire. Many under-40 members of the working population face on income support to make ends meet in the next few decades, even though they pay up to 20% or more of their income in social security taxes.

SIMPLE YET RADICAL

Part of the problem is demographics. Europe’s state pension systems are based on the so-called pay-as-you-go (Paygo) principle. That means that the pension contributions of today’s working populations are passed through immediately to today’s retirees. This system worked half-a-century ago in a world where there were seven or more workers to one retiree, where there were seven or more workers to one retiree, where the United States and Canada had great-fearing that the system would collapse, yet without the financial and hence with only seven workers to one retiree.

This system worked half-a-century ago in a world where there were seven or more workers to one retiree, where the United States and Canada had great-fearing that the system would collapse, yet without the financial and hence with only seven workers to one retiree.

As a result, the financial burdens will become enormous. Pension contributions in Germany, for example, are now 30% of earnings, and the government has just increased the VAT to finance the cost of pensions. And that is just the beginning. In France, pension contributions may have to double to 40% of earnings. But higher payroll taxes lead to even higher unemployment and thus fewer contributions to the pension system.

At the same time, the pensions will be reduced. European governments have already begun doing so, for example, by increasing the retirement age.

Meanwhile, every pressure group grants to cut the best deal for its members. Thus we see that Italian civil servants retire in their early 50s and that French truck drivers can end their working lives at 55. Does anyone seriously believe that such a system can survive in the 21st century?

Twenty years ago my country faced a similar crisis. Chile had created a state pension system in 1925 and by then the brink of bankruptcy, life with special privileges and burdened by high payroll taxes.
EMPOWERING WORKERS

The PSA system has other benefits. For example, if the 18-24-year-olds were to adopt this system, they would not lose their pension rights if they left a job in one country for a job in another. Interestingly, had the government made a change from Paygo to an investment-based retirement system for its own workers, Harvard University economist Martin Feldstein has estimated that the value of future benefits to the American economy of privatizing Social Security pensions could reach $7 trillion. It is difficult to think of any other policy," he recently wrote, "that could produce such a substantial permanent rise in the standard of living of the vast majority of the population." Europe could also derive a similarly huge benefit.

I cannot emphasize enough that the PSA is not a solution of the political right or left; it is a solution that works with excellent results for themselves, their families, their dependence on the state for their old-age income, and the state for its own pensions. But it does not a solution of the political right or left; it is a solution that works with excellent results for themselves, their families, their dependence on the state for their old-age income, and the state for its own pensions.

The PSA system changes the very notion of what it means to retire. For example, Chile no longer has a right legal retirement age. People can retire whenever they want, as long as they have sufficient savings in their accounts. They can take their savings or find out how much to deposit in order to retire at a given age.

The companies are regulated by the government and there's also a safety net: the state guarantees a minimum pension if the worker's savings fall short. The PSA system changes the very notion of what it means to retire. For example, Chile no longer has a right legal retirement age. People can retire whenever they want, as long as they have sufficient savings in their accounts. They can take their savings or find out how much to deposit in order to retire at a given age.

The government supervises the investment companies, and of course the fund managers themselves keep a constant watchful eye on the accounts.

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To all who say it cannot be done, my reply is twofold: it has been done, and—considering the ruinous state of Europe's pension systems—taking the European economy of privatizing Social Security pensions could reach $7 trillion. It is difficult to think of any other policy," he recently wrote, "that could produce such a substantial permanent rise in the standard of living of the vast majority of the population." Europe could also derive a similarly huge benefit.

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country, two systems' model is undemocratic, power is exercised from the top down, not from the bottom up. This runs completely counter to the democratic reunification bloc's goal.

Hence, we further advocate that:

First, although there will be only one China in the future, at present there is "one country, two systems." The ROC government possesses the inherent right of the 21.8 million people on Taiwan. It is also necessary to preserve the achievements of democratic reform in the ROC. In particular, the ROC's tangible success in realizing democracy fully demonstrates that Chinese people are capable of implementing democracy. We are pleased to see that the mainland authorities continue to propose the "Taiwan experience." The ROC government has spared no effort to establish democratic entities. The ROC government has therefore taken the "Taiwan experience." The ROC government has therefore taken the ROC's well-intentioned expectations, but they have stepped up the promotion of a Taiwan policy that seeks to "limit (our) foreign relations, suppress (our) military, and bind (our) economy (to theirs)"). This has hindered and obstructed the development of normal cross-strait relations.

Second, the reunification of China should proceed in a gradual and orderly fashion. When the conditions are ripe, success will come naturally. When the conditions are ripe, success will come naturally. The pace of democratization on the Chinese mainland and the improvement of cross-strait relations will decide the progress toward peaceful reunification.

Third, prior to reunification, the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan should possess the inherent right of the 21.8 million people on Taiwan. In fact, the accumulated experience over decades of the Republic of China on Taiwan is an asset that can be used to resolve cross-strait relations and preserve stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

Fourth, in light of the needs for survival and development, the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan should participate in international activities as they did in the fifties and sixties. This way, the people on both sides will have equal opportunity to contribute to the international community.

Fifth, Taiwan and the mainland should expand exchanges and enhance the prosperity of both sides. Cooperation should replace antagonism; fruitfulness should displace animosity. In this fashion, a propitious foundation can be laid for the future peaceful reunification of China.

Finally, the two sides should pursue full communication on the principles of equality and mutual respect in order to resolve differences and seek common ground. They should hold consultations based on the reality of the Taiwan issue and the state of cross-strait relations. In this context, the "Taiwan experience" can be of great value.

However, under the concerted efforts of its government and people, the Republic of China has overcome the obstacles and built the world-acclaimed "Taiwan experience." Today, the ROC stands as a top-ranking nation in terms of gross national product, per capita income, economic growth rate, foreign exchange reserves, total trade volume, total outbound investment, and level of technological development. The ROC is also a rare example in modern history; one that was able to successfully achieve democratization while maintaining economic development and social stability. Thus, it is my hope that this new leadership will pragmatically face up to the global trends of democracy, globalization, and information in the 21st century, and demonstrate the broad-mindedness and vision necessary to bring about a new era of reciprocity and mutual trust between Taipei and Peking, thereby achieving win-win for both sides.

In fact, the accumulated experience over decades of the Republic of China on Taiwan in the areas of political, economic and social development would serve as a more valuable reference for the Chinese mainland than that of any other country. In particular, the ROC's tangible success in realizing democracy fully demonstrates that Chinese people are capable of implementing democracy. We are pleased to see that the mainland authorities continue to propose the "Taiwan experience." The ROC government has spared no effort to establish democratic entities. The ROC government has therefore taken the "Taiwan experience." The ROC government has therefore taken the ROC's well-intentioned expectations, but they have stepped up the promotion of a Taiwan policy that seeks to "limit (our) foreign relations, suppress (our) military, and bind (our) economy (to theirs)"). This has hindered and obstructed the development of normal cross-strait relations.

Moreover, we look forward to even more active efforts on the part of Peking to bring about a new era of reciprocity and mutual trust between Taipei and Peking, thereby achieving win-win for both sides.

In the larger perspective, the "Taiwan experience" represents not only the cooperative fruits of the 21.8 million hardworking people on Taiwan, but also a valuable asset for all Chinese people. It is the developmental experience achieved by Chinese people, with Chinese knowledge, on Chinese soil and by Chinese compatriots. This experience is the building block of the Chinese nation. We are willing to share this experience with our fellow compatriots on the mainland. We hope that with such success in democratization and the development of cross-strait relations, the improvement of cross-strait relations will continue to grow stronger. Only by allowing the enhancement of ROC-U.S. relations, the improvement of cross-strait relations, and the development of ROC-PRC relations, can we ensure peace and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region.

The ROC has spared no effort to establish mutual trust and enhance positive interaction between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait. Although three years ago Peking unilaterally suspended bilateral consultations between the two sides, Taipei has never abandoned hope for dialogue. In April of this year, the Straits Exchange Foundation and the Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Strait held talks and reached an agreement to have Mr. Koo Chen-fu visit the Chinese mainland this autumn. It is our hope that the two sides will take advantage of this opportunity to engage in a frank exchange of views in order to resume institutional consultations and finalize a feasible blueprint for the improvement of bilateral relations and the democratic reunification of China.

Ladies and gentlemen: Since the day it was founded, the Republic of China has faced innumerable challenges. Since the government relocated in Taiwan, the ROC has existed for a long time by working in an environment that is difficult, not only by military threats and diplomatic isolation. However, under the concerted efforts of its government and people, the Republic of China has overcome the obstacles and built the world-acclaimed "Taiwan experience." Today, the ROC stands as a top-ranking nation in terms of gross national product, per capita income, economic growth rate, foreign exchange reserves, total trade volume, total outbound investment, and level of technological development. The ROC is also a rare example in modern history; one that was able to successfully achieve democratization while maintaining economic development and social stability. Thus, it is my hope that this new leadership will pragmatically face up to the global trends of democracy, globalization, and information in the 21st century, and demonstrate the broad-mindedness and vision necessary to bring about a new era of reciprocity and mutual trust between Taipei and Peking, thereby achieving win-win for both sides.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CASS BALLenger
OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. BALLenger, Mr. Speaker, last night, during consideration of H.R. 4276, the Departments of Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 1999, on roll call vote 398, the Heyffy amendment, I was recorded as voting “aye” but intended to vote “no”.

On May 28, President Clinton issued Executive Order (13083) intending to provide a uniform policy for the federal government to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. The order amended an Executive Order signed in 1969 by President Richard Nixon which prohibited discrimination in federal employment “because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin * * *.” The new order does not create any new enforcement rights for discrimination based on sexual orientation since such enforcement rights must be passed by the Congress. The Heyffy amendment would have prohibited any federal funds from being used to implement or enforce Executive Order 13083.

I have always strenuously opposed discrimination of any kind. I believe that employment opportunities should be given on the basis of ability and therefore feel that one’s sexual orientation should play no part in hiring, promotion or firing decisions. Accordingly, I intended to vote against the Heyffy amendment.

GOVERNMENT DISCRIMINATION IN GERMANY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. NEY, Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my support to the House Resolution that expresses the House’s concern with respect to government discrimination in Germany based on religion or belief, particularly against United States citizens.

Government discrimination against members of minority groups, including American citizens, solely because of their religious beliefs, is occurring in Germany at the federal, state and local level. All acts have been documented in the last five State Department Human Rights Reports, United Nations Reports, and the most recent reports of the State Department Advisory Committee on Human Rights. Despite attempts of our State Department to address the issue with the German government, it is only getting worse.

Because of a strong grass roots movement in this country by people of faith who are committed to ending religious persecution, Congress with respect to government discrimination in Germany based on religion or belief, particularly against United States citizens.

I would also like to call the Chairman’s attention to the work of the OECD Development Center. Over the years, the OECD Development Center has served as a bridge between OECD nations and emerging economies around the world. The Center’s reputation as an “honest broker,” along with its commitment to promoting market-opening reforms, makes it an excellent resource to policy makers in developed nations and developing countries alike.

Mr. Chairman, the OECD and the OECD Development Center are important to U.S. international economic interests. I am hopeful that their important work will continue.
Baha’is comprise the largest religious minority in Iran today. Unfortunately, little has changed for the Iranian Baha’is since the time the faith was founded. Although the U.S. State Department reports that exile is not a tool presently used to persecute Baha’is, Baha’is in Iran are subject to ongoing, egregious violations of their human rights.

Since the Iranian Revolution in 1979, over 200 Baha’is have been executed by the government solely for their religious beliefs. It is important to note that Baha’is have never engaged in any illegal activity nor participated in any form of opposition to the Iranian government. In fact, one of the basic tenets of the Baha’i faith is obedience to the civil law in the country where the adherent lives and the Baha’i in Iran have followed the tenet to the letter. When Iranian law was changed to effectively forbid the administration of the Baha’i Faith by elected groups and require the disbanding of Baha’i schools, the Baha’i of Iran compiled, although these steps are a major impediment to the continued vitality of the Baha’i community in Iran.

Since the founding of the faith, Baha’is have been persecuted to varying degrees. Unfortunately, there are disturbing new signs that we may be entering a period of increased persecution. On July 21, the Government of Iran executed Ruhollah Rowhani, a Baha’i from the northern Iranian city of Mashad. He was arrested over ten months ago and charged with converting a Muslim to the Baha’i faith. He was held in solitary confinement without access to lawyers or his family. Then, after a sham trial in which he was deprived of the right to offer a defense, he was sentenced and killed.

A further cause for alarm over this heinous act is the fact that fifteen other Baha’is are currently in detention in Iran and three may face imminent execution. It is unclear whether or not these men—each charged with religious crimes—will be put to death, but three have been found guilty and are essentially in the same position Mr. Rowhani was immediately prior to his execution.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of Iran clearly marches to the beat of its very own drummer. Nevertheless, I cannot see one single reason the Iranian government would execute Mr. Rowhani and threaten the lives of other Baha’is at a time when the outlook is more promising than it has been in a long time for an exploration of the possibility of a gradual move toward normalization with the rest of the world community. The Iranian authorities must be made to realize that the U.S. Congress, the administration, and the world community consider the Baha’is and other religious minorities as one of the crucial yardsticks to treatment of Baha’is and other religious minorities in Iran.

INTRODUCTION OF INDIAN TRUST FUND JUDICIAL PROCEDURE ACT

HON. GEORGE MILLER
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce, by request, the Indian Trust Fund Judicial Procedure Act on behalf of the Intertribal Monitoring Association (ITMA). Earlier this session I introduced legislation to address the Indian trust fund problems as proposed by the Administration.

The legislation I am introducing today would set up a temporary court to address claims against the United States regarding tribal trust funds. A Special Master would be appointed and staffed to get as much information as possible together on all trust fund accounts and activity in order to come up with a formula to then apply to each account for restitution.

The problems with the Indian trust fund accounts are one I have worked on for much of my time in Congress. It is complex and controversial. I believe that this legislative approach by the ITMA and its member Indian tribes will continue the debate begun with the Administration’s approach on how to come to a resolution regarding the Indian trust fund accounts held by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

WASHINGTON WELCOMES THE TAOTAO TANO DANCERS

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD
OF GUAM
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, on July 18, 1998, I was delighted to co-host an event with the Smithsonian showcasing the impressive talents of Guam’s Taotao Tano Cultural Dancers. For their first performance in Washington, D.C., the dancers traveled many miles to perform in the Meyer Auditorium at the Smithsonian’s Freer Gallery of Art. Newcomers, as well as those familiar with and native to Guam, the Taotao Tano have the opportunity to share in Guam’s cultural heritage. Some of us were even invited to go onstage with the dancers and learn some of the steps of the batusi, a native dance influenced by the Spanish. Under the guidance of choreographer Frank Rabon, the dancers also took the audience back in time by revitalizing ancient dances, chants and songs from prior to Euro-American colonization. Colorful and authentic costumes enhanced the women’s graceful movements and strong voices. The intense energy and well-honed skills of the male performers impressed everyone in attendance that evening.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the Taotao Tano Cultural Dancers for their lively and engaging performance, as well as to thank the staff members of the Guam Council of Arts and Humanities (CAHA) who facilitated the event. These individuals were: CAHA Staff: Ms. Jackie Balbas, Mr. Vid Quitoianio, and Mr. Paul Cruz.

Performers: Mr. Frank Rabon, Choreographer, Mr. Ryan Aquigui, Ms. Maxine Bigler, Mr. Frank Cruz, Mr. Darrell Lujan, Mr. Dominic Mendiola, Ms. Eileen Meno, Ms. Renati Narcis, Mr. Art Pangelinan, Mr. Angel Pares, Mr. Jonathan Paulino, Mr. Eric Reyes, Ms. Judene Salas, Mr. David San Luis, Ms. Rosanna San Luis, Mr. Brian San Nicolas, and Ms. Bobby Tainatongo.

Having received the invitation from the Guam Society of America to come to Washington, the Taotaoto dancers were fortunate to receive their continued support upon arrival. Under the leadership of President Lou Barrett, the members of the Guam Society opened their hearts and their homes to the dancers in order to ensure a pleasant stay and help them travel throughout the city.

With less than a week to make this performance a reality, I am indebted to the Office of the Governor of Guam for finding the funds to support the dancers. I also extend my heartfelt gratitude to two members of the Smithsonian, Mr. Franklin S. Odo, Counselor of the Provost, and Ms. Stacye Suyat, Program Associate of the Office of the Provost, whose prompt efforts in securing a venue for the performers were invaluable given the time constraints to which we were subject. I also wish to thank Ms. Lucia Pierce, Head of the Education Department at the Sackler Gallery of Asian Art, and Mr. Michael Wilpers, Public Programs of the Freer Gallery, for their aid in finding a performance space for the dancers.

It was truly a privilege to collaborate with such dedicated individuals. It is my hope that future events which promote Guam’s culture and arts will be as warmly received as the performance of the Taotaotao Cultural Dancers.

ADDRESS OF JOHN BRADEMAS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS

HON. TIM ROEMER
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, one of my distinguished predecessors as Representative in Congress of the Third District of Indiana is my friend, Dr. John Brademas, now President Emeritus of New York University.

John Brademas is also, by appointment of President Clinton, Chairman of the President’s Committee on the Arts and the Humanities. On July 18, 1998, Dr. Brademas delivered an address to delegates attending the National Conference of Academic Deans in which he discussed the recommendations of the President’s Committee contained in “Creative America,” the Committee’s report to the President, with recommendations for strengthening support for these fields in our country.

Dr. Brademas also spoke of the significant role of the nation’s colleges and universities in teaching the arts and the humanities. References beginning on page 11 will find Dr. Brademas’ remarks in Memphis of interest.
I am for several reasons honored to have been invited to the University of Memphis to address this distinguished company tonight. You may be surprised to learn that I have a special connection with this city. Some 52 years ago, I first came to Memphis en route to the Millington Naval Air Training Base where I went through boot camp. Soon thereafter, still in a sailor suit, I went next door to Oxford, Mississippi, and as a Naval Officer candidate, spent my freshman year at the University of Mississippi, Ole Miss, a fascinating experience.

I add that one of the consequences of my time at Ole Miss was that last fall I had the great honor of delivering the principal address, on the Town Square in Oxford, at the centennial celebration of the birth William Faulkner.

From Oxford, Mississippi, I went on to Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Harvard where I took my B.A. and did a year of graduate study. Next it was three years at the other Harvard, where I earned my Ph.D. with a dissertation on the anarcho-syndicalist movement in Spain.

In 1963, I returned to my hometown, South Bend, Indiana, where I taught at Notre Dame, and in 1964 won the Democratic nomination for Congress from the Third Indiana District. I lost that race, by half a percent. In 1966, I ran as an anti-war candidate to Adlai Stevenson in his second presidential campaign. He lost again that year, and so did I, but on my third try, in 1968, I was elected and then ten times re-elected, to the United States House of Representatives.

In the House I served on the Committee on Education and Labor where I took part in rewriting the national legislation on education during those 22 years, from 1959 to 1981, to assist schools, colleges and universities; the arts and the humanities, libraries and museums; and to provide services for the elderly and the handicapped.

MEMBER OF CONGRESS

During my last four years in Congress, I served as Majority Whip of the House, that is, the leader of the Democratic Caucus. Leadership, responsible for counting votes and pressing my fellow Democrats to support the positions of the Speaker, then Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, Jr.

You will understand from this chronology that I served in Congress during the Administrations of six Presidents, three Republicans: Eisenhower, Nixon and Ford; and three Democrats: Kennedy, Johnson and Carter.

In some ways, the most gratifying years of my service were those of the "Great Society" of Lyndon Johnson, during which, among other measures, we created the Elementary and Secondary Education Act; Head Start; college student aid; the National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities, of all of which I served as Majority Whip of the House, that is, the leader of the Democratic Caucus. Leadership, responsible for counting votes and pressing my fellow Democrats to support the positions of the Speaker, then Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, Jr.

And, of course, it was during the Johnson presidency that Congress passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, both of which I strongly supported, motivated in part, I must note, by my year in Mississippi.

In my last ten years in the House, I chaired the subcommittee with jurisdiction over the NEA and NEH, the subcommittee that also produced the laws that created what is now the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

In 1980 as a Democrat representing a basically Republican constituency in Indiana, I was defeated in Ronald Reagan's landslide victory over President Carter.

The late President Reagan was elected President of New York University, the nation's largest private university, centered on Washington Square in the Heart of Greenwich Village.

For eleven years, from 1981-92, during which period, I think it fair to say, my colleagues and I transformed what had been a regional—New York, New Jersey and Connecticut—commuter school into a national and then into an international university. Indeed, it was more than that. It became the superpower of the NEH, an American institution that has been making to America's schools, colleges, universities, libraries, museums, archives, public television and radio stations another cultural influence of the first order.

And so after life as a legislator, I joined your ranks and became an academic administrator.

I must tell you, however, that everything I learned as a practicing politician on Capitol Hill proved immediately applicable at the University—making speeches, raising money, resolving conflicts, wrestling with big egos.

And although now president emeritus of NYU, I continue to be deeply engaged in issues that affect the institutions of learning and culture in our country.

In 1994 I readily accepted President Clinton's invitation to chair the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities. The President's Committee is composed of 40 persons, 27 from the private sector and 13 heads of Federal agencies with cultural programs, and our mission is to encourage support, from both government and the private sector, for the arts and the humanities in American life.

Slightly over a year ago, the President's Committee issued a major report, Creative America, warning that the entire structure of support, both public and private, would be endangered unless we reversed the trend of Federal budgets. I am pleased to say that, in response to the concerns that Congress had inflicted on the two Endowments as well as by proposals to eliminate Federal funding altogether, I am now scheduled to vote on appropriations for these agencies. I hope very much, therefore, that you will all get in touch—and do so urgently—by your legislators, to tell them the arts and the humanities are endangered by the draconian cuts of approximately 40% that Congress had inflicted on the two Endowments as well as by proposals to eliminate Federal funding altogether.

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The Executive Director of the President's Committee is yet another person whose name will be known to you, Harriet Mayor Fulbright, widow of the great Arkansas— and American—statesman and an authority on arts policy in her own right.

"CREATIVE AMERICA"

Now I have mentioned Creative America, the report to the President—and the country—which the First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton, who is Honorary Chair of the President's Committee, presented at the Library of Congress last year. Our report contains over fifty specific proposals for generating both public and private support.

Our recommendations are subsumed in several categories. We call for:

1. A renewal of American philanthropy for the arts and the humanities;
2. An assessment of the nation's preservation needs and a plan to protect our cultural legacy;
3. A public-private partnership to digitize cultural materials to make them available through new technologies;
4. A series of measures to strengthen education in the arts and humanities;
5. Gradual increases in funds for the NEA, NEH and Museum Services program to raise from the current level of 85 cents per capita to $2 per capita by 2000; and
6. A national forum on enhancing knowledge of other cultures, including international educational and cultural exchanges.

In the first instance, our Committee called on the President to help the nation realize this ambitious agenda by leading what we called the "Islenium Initiative."

I am pleased to say that President Clinton and the First Lady enthusiastically endorsed the "Millennium Initiative."
our proposal and have created a White House Millennium Council to enlist the aid not only of the cultural agencies but virtually the entire range of Federal agencies and cabinet departments. President Clinton eloquently challenged the nation to embrace the next century and new millennium as an opportunity, in the President’s words, “to honor the past and imagine the future”.

I can report too, that the President has been especially generous in providing additional resources for the arts and the humanities. Beyond asking Congress to increase the level of funding for NEA and NEH from $98 and $110 million respectively to $136 million each, he has announced a plan to provide another $50 million annually for the next three years to preserve America’s cultural heritage.

MILLENIUM INITIATIVE

As part of their Millennium Initiative, the President and First Lady have also acted to enlist more private support to preserve our cultural legacy. I was among those present on Monday of this week at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of American History where the President and Mrs. Clinton launched a White House Millennium project, “Save America’s Treasures”. You may have read that the American fashion designer Ralph Lauren helped kick off this effort by donating $13 million to restore the original Star Spangled Banner, the flag that flew over Fort McHenry in Baltimore Harbor and inspired Francis Scott Key to write our national anthem.

And you have also probably seen this week on television pictures of the First Lady visiting historic sites like the home of Thomas Alva Edison in New Jersey and the New York Public Library, where the Women’s Rights Movement was born.

In short, the White House is providing the leadership we asked in Creative America.

Now one of the areas where our report has not, in my view, received enough attention will, I think, be of particular interest to you. Let me quote from Creative America: “We find that institutions of higher education constitute a crucial, but often overlooked, part of the cultural infrastructure. Although America’s universities provide the overwhelming majority of support for research and teaching in the humanities, the humanities are often found in second or third place on the list of priorities. And find few external sources of funding. Support for the humanities and for liberal arts education generally is eroding as universities reallocate their resources to the market, and shift resources to vocational courses and to departments that attract substantial research dollars.”

My colleagues on the President’s Committee and I have called on both the private sector and on arts and humanities organizations to do their part in reversing these trends. We find that private giving, while declining, is still the most pronounced in the humanities. In 1996, in preparation for our report to President Clinton, the President’s Committee examined the giving of private foundations. We established our findings in a separate report entitled, Looking Ahead: Private Sector Giving to the Arts and the Humanities. We observed that private contributions to the humanities were meager and becoming more so each year.

When we issued Looking Ahead, grants to the humanities for all purposes accounted for less than one percent of all foundation giving, and that figure has been declining since the early 1990s. The most generous foundation for the humanities, private foundations gave no more than $100 million to the humanities in the early 1990s, and our estimate in 1996 was $90 million.

Still, with its budget slashed nearly in half, the National Endowment for the Humanities, at $110 million, remains by far the largest single source of funds for the humanities in the United States.

It is clear, then, as we said in Creative America, that the arts and the humanities require public and private support for the humanities.

THE HUMANITIES

When in 1981 I was inaugurated as thirteenth president of New York University, one of my pledges was to strengthen the liberal arts. I made this commitment because I believed then, and still do, that it is through the humanities that America’s colleges and universities provide society its most valuable resource: people who can think logically and write lucidly. It is the arts and the sciences that prepare people to know the world equipped to practice their professions but also to act as intelligent, creative and honorable human beings.

Ideas and imagination are the province of the humanities, and a liberally educated person should be prepared to tackle complex problems, develop a critical perspective and be open to new concepts and experiences. Learning how to learn, one of the fruits of a liberal education, endows individuals with the flexibility and power to pursue their interests, needs and ambitions change.

There is still another reason a humanistic education is important. Since the Golden Age of Greece when my father was born in Greece and that I was the first native-born American of Greek origin elected to Congress—what we now call liberal learning has been expected to contribute to the development of an individual’s sense of civic responsibility. Certainly, no democracy can survive unless those who express their choices wisely. And the American democracy cannot survive unless we as citizens rely on the processes of reason, accommodation and civil discourse—processes made possible only with an educated populace.

I must mention another area where Creative America identified a vital activity carried out by many colleges and universities, including some represented here tonight. Said our report: “In addition to their indispensable role in supporting humanities scholars, colleges and universities are increasingly the employers of artists and writers, providing them salaries, offices, rehearsal spaces, studios, and access to audiences. In many communities, and are often the leading cultural centers. For example, colleges and universities now sponsor nearly one-third of all performing arts events.”

To the best of my knowledge, no one has adequately catalogued the full extent of university support for the arts. It would not be easy to quantify such support as so much of it comes in the form of in-kind donations. Yet I think it evident that the nation’s artistic as well as scholarly and intellectual life depends on a significant degree on what happens in our colleges and universities.

Given this largely unrecognized support, it might seem unrealistic for us to ask the academic community to do more. But, in Creative America, our Committee did just that.

First, we called upon higher education to redouble its efforts to help our schools improve both the arts and the humanities, and we offered several specific recommendations to improve teacher training. For example, we asked our colleges and universities to build more humanities and foreign language offerings into their general education requirements and in providing all elementary school teachers with some training in the arts.

And I know, and I know at the point, that arts education is essential to developing audiences for the arts. And we know, too, that education in the arts helps students develop a capacity for creative thinking that is transferable to other subjects. So my colleagues on the President’s Committee and I have called on all universities and colleges, and their educational partnerships formed by some universities, cultural institutions and school districts. To illustrate, Yale University and the public schools of New Haven have for 20 years to strengthen teaching in the city’s schools. The Yale-New Haven Teacher Institute brings college faculty and school teachers together to develop material in the humanities and sciences and to discuss issues chosen by the teachers.

There is another recommendation in Creative America that represents a challenge—and an opportunity—for our colleges and universities. Our report asserted that “international artistic and scholarly exchanges” are more important than ever in a world in which ideas, information and technologies travel freely across national borders. We urged Congress to restore funding to international exchange programs, in particular the Fulbright and Arts America programs, and pressed the Administration to double its commitments and the humanities as a “crucial component of American foreign policy”.

Certainly the American economy is linked to international markets, as the current troubles in Asia demonstrate, and as a global political power, the United States has a vital interest in supporting our schools, colleges and universities that enhance our knowledge and understanding of other nations, cultures and languages. To single out our countries very much in the news right now, I would assert that most Americans, including Members of Congress, know very little about three of the largest nations in the world, India, China and Pakistan. Yet knowledge about and understanding of other countries are essential if the United States is to have informed and capable leaders for the next Millennium.

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

International education, I confess, has been a concern of mine for many years. A generation ago, in 1966, I authored—and President Lyndon Johnson signed into law—the International Education Act, to provide Federal funds to colleges and universities in the United States for teaching and research abroad. Other countries have long recognized the importance of these programs. The United States for teaching and research abroad, the Congress failed to appropriate the money to implement the statute and I believe the nation—of course, not for that reason alone—has suffered in our ignorance of such places as Vietnam, Iran and Central America.

Certainly as president of New York University, I worked to strengthen the University’s offerings in the international field. Already powerful in the study of French civilization, we established the Alexander S. Onassis Center for Hellenic Studies and the Casa Italiana Zerilli-Marimó. We founded the Skirball Department of Hebrew Studies at our School of International and Cultural Studies, a Center on U.S.-Japanese Business Relations, and a Center of New York University, for the study of modern Spain, its economics, history and politics, and the Spanish-speaking world, generally.

So I hope that you as academic deans will on your respective campuses give attention to the development of programs for the study of other countries. Let me, indeed, urge all of you to read Creative America and determine which of its over...
50 recommendations may relate to your own institution.

Before I conclude these remarks, I want to add one more exhortation. In addition to all the specific recommendations I have cited, I must tell you that what we most need from you is leadership. I am sure that all of you, deans and community leaders alike, attained your positions precisely because your colleagues and neighbors recognized your abilities.

Here I want to draw on my own background in Congress and public life generally to say that the value of higher education and in the cultural community more broadly is that we have not always made our voices heard.

In this respect, I call your attention to a recent story in The Chronicle of Higher Education about ‘the higher education lobby.’ The story quotes Rep. John Kasich of Ohio as saying that ‘Higher education couldn’t organize itself if it was to save the world.’

Although the article paints a slightly better portrait of our efforts, it also underlines how silent so many in the arts and the humanities have been on issues vital to their future.

IMPORTANCE OF COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITIES

You need to speak up, especially on matters, such as student aid, crucial to every college and university. You need to make the case to your elected representatives in Washington and in your state capitals that public support for our institutions of learning and culture is absolutely essential. As I trust I have made clear, education has been a central preoccupation of my life—as student, teacher, legislator and university president.

For all of the problems confronting America’s higher education, for all the legitimate criticisms directed to it, I would assert as strongly as I can that America’s colleges and universities are among the glories of our nation. Indeed, it is not too much to say that indispensable to our strength of America’s institutions of higher learning.

And surely it is true that indispensable to sustaining and strengthening the arts and the humanities in our country are our colleges and universities.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH M. MCCADE
OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4276) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

Mr. MCCADE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in unequivocal opposition to the Hutchinson amendment. It unfortunately turns the country toward the darkness of yesterday’s night of oppression.

We speak of a time when the king rules by fiat, and could not be questioned, no matter how oppressive or heinous his conduct.

And so it was till that magnificent new beginning in 1215 on the plains at Runnymede, when King John was forced to submit to the rule of law.

So too, at Philadelphia in 1776 when the Founding Fathers penned the Declaration of Independence and began writing the Constitution, all intended to limit governmental power in the quest for liberty.

So it is today when you are called on to vote on the Citizens Protection Act.

For the same question is asked: Should the Department of Justice and its employees be subject to the rule of law in the same fashion as all other citizens of this nation, or should they be given the right to decide, like monarchs of old, when and if the universal law applies to them?

But the executive department has the arrogance to proclaim their right to enact law and to decide as if in a separate government how and if the law shall apply to them.

Listen to this language the Department of Justice wrote and tried to enact (in the 104th Congress, in the other body, in “crime” bill S. 3):

Sec. 502. Conduct of Federal Prosecutors

Notwithstanding the ethical rules or the rules of the court of any State, Federal rules of conduct adopted by the Attorney General shall govern the conduct of prosecutions in the courts of the United States.

The Department is so wrong in its thinking that all 50 States, though their chief justices, condemn the department’s position, the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals unanimously found against them, the American Bar Association and the leading professional legal organizations join in the unanimous disapproval.

Most importantly, 200 members of this body have voiced their disapproval, by co-sponsoring the legislation which is included in this bill as the McCade-Murtha amendment.

Tell the lawyers at DOJ to abide by the same ethics rules which govern all other lawyers. Vote against the Hutchinson amendment. That’s title 1 in the bill . . . not difficult to understand.

Neither is title 2. Just as we acted to reform the IRS, today we set about reform in the Department of Justice.

Most people at the Department are fine motivated citizens. As is always the case, this legislation is required to protect citizens of our Nation against predatory actions of rogue employees, out of control, and acting inimically towards citizens and therefore the Nation at large.

Where there is injustice to one of us, there is injustice to all of us.

And the power, for good or evil is without peer.

In 1940, then Attorney General and later Supreme Court Justice Robert H. Jackson counseled the 2nd annual conference of U.S. attorneys.

Listen to his words:

The prosecutor has more control over life, liberty and reputation than any other person in America. . . . If the prosecutor is obliged to choose his cases, it follows that he can choose his defendants. Therein is the most dangerous power of the prosecutor: that he picks people that he doesn’t like, rather than pick cases that need to be prosecuted. With the law books filled with a great assortment of crimes, a prosecutor stands a fair chance of finding—at least a technical violation of some act on the part of almost anyone. In such a case, it is not a question of discovering the commission of a crime and then looking for the man who has committed it. It is a question of picking the man and then searching the law books, or putting investigators to work, to pin some offense on him.

To protect the constitutional right to liberty of our citizens, title 2 sets a series of standards, clear, unambiguous and self evident. They set guidelines for DOJ employees which must be met. They are neither controversial nor hostile. Unless, that is, you consider it hostile to be directed not to lie to the court: Alter evidence; Influence witnesses to color their testimony; Fail to release information that would exonerate a person under indictment; Impede a defendant’s right to discovery; Leak information during an investigation; Mislead a court as to the guilt of any person; or

In the absence of probable cause seek the indictment of any person.

All of these standards are in fact court decisions which found specific improper conduct by the DOJ.

Let me quote from just one court decision, U.S. v Taylor, in which the court found that employees of the DOJ had convicted citizens of our country on perjured testimony.

We should all be familiar with this case before we vote . . . after the finding of perjury, the judge of course freed the citizens from jail, their lives ruined, reputations destroyed, chewed up by corrupt power.

The employees responsible for the false conviction on tainted testimony were punished, punished by DOJ with 5 days suspensions, and 6 months probation. A 5-day suspension.

Because of cases like this, section 2 of the bill also sets up a review process to afford a citizen a process which will limit not eliminate corrupt uses of power, and by limiting government powers, enhance the liberty of every citizen of this country.

And we must do so . . .

I conclude with a statement by Justice Brandeis:

Decency, security and liberty alike demand that government officials should be subjected to the same rule of law that are commands to the citizen. In a government of laws, existence of the government will be imperilled if it fails to observe the law scrupulously. . . . Crime is contagious. If the government becomes a lawbreaker, it breeds contempt for law; it invites every man to become a law unto himself; it invites the people to mock at the legal authority of the government... To declare the law in the end justifies the means—to declare that Government may commit crimes in order to secure the conviction of a private criminal—would bring terrible retribution. Against that preposterous doctrine this Court should resolutely set its face. (Olmstead v. U.S., 1928).
This year, the New York Assembly overwhelm-
opposed public health measures such as part-
ounced early. And federal, state and local laws,
those who are infected to lead longer and
munities of color are now the fastest growing
on the rights of those infected to the detriment
HIV would be treated as a civil rights issue in-
populations most at risk, it was decided that
in helping to curtail other contagious diseases
health practices which have been successful
from AIDS in the short period since the dis-
illness and may have infected others unknow-
are already sick with AIDS-related disease. By
they have been infected for some time and
procedure to notify those who may have been ex-
only 30 states have enacted HIV notifi-
cations, and most do not mandate a duty to notify, most inconsistency,
of those exposed to HIV do not find out until
have been infected for some time and
While every state is required to have a pro-
measurement, given the huge medical and social costs
HIV by a past or present partner be notified.
Partner notification is extremely important to
disease control because it is the only timely
infection. It is the standard public health procedure for cur-
tailing the spread of virtually all other sexually
transmitted diseases and has been credited in
part for the fact that syphilis cases in the U.S.
have dropped to the lowest levels in U.S. history.
Partner notification essentially requires two
steps. The first is to counsel all infected indi-
viduals about the importance of notifying their
partner or partners that they may have been exposed.
The second is for their doctor to for-
ward the names of any partners named by the
infected person to the Department of Health
where specially trained public health profes-
sionals complete the notification.
In all cases, the privacy of the infected is—
and must be—protected by withholding the
name of the infected person from the partner
being notified. Because names are never re-
vealed, the infected retain their anonymity.
Partner notification has proven to be highly
effective and there is no evidence that partner
notification programs discourage individuals
from seeking testing because it is the only timely
way to alert those in danger of infection. It is
the standard public health procedure for cur-
tailing the spread of virtually all other sexually
transmitted diseases and you have no right to
virus which causes AIDS, you have no right to
been unknowingly exposed to HIV, the deadly
vaccine appear to be on the horizon.
spend on prevention and research, more than
million Americans are believed to be infected
from AIDS in the short period since the dis-
however, partner notification programs were suspended and replaced with extraor-
dinary privacy protections in the hope that
such an approach would encourage high risk
individuals to come forward and be voluntarily
tested. Because of this decision, if you have
been unknowingly exposed to HIV, the deadly
virus which causes AIDS, you have no right to
know that your life may be in danger—even if
can care that can prolong their lives and stave off
illness and may have infected others unknow-
ly.
Due to this abhorrent policy, it is not shock-
ing that nearly 400,000 Americans have died from
AIDS in the short period since the dis-
ease was discovered in 1981 and another one
million Americans are believed to be infected
with HIV today. And despite billions of dollars
spent on prevention and research, more than
40,000 new infections are estimated to occur
each year in the United States and no cure or
vaccine appear to be on the horizon.
We do, however, now enough about the
virus to prevent its spread, but the response of
the federal government and the public health
community has contributed to the growth of
the epidemic. From its onset, proven public
health practices which have been successful
in helping to curtail other contagious diseases
were abandoned in our efforts against HIV.
Due to the unfair stigmas associated with the
populations most at risk, it was decided that
HIV would be treated as a civil rights issue in-
stead of a public health crisis. As a result, our
response has been based almost exclusively on
the rights of those infected to the detriment
of the uninfected.
But times have changed. Women and com-
unities of color are now the fastest growing
casualties of HIV. New drug therapies have
been developed that offer hope for many of
those who are infected to lead longer and
healthier lives, especially when they are diag-
nosed early. And federal, state and local laws,
including the Americans With Disabilities Act
have been enacted to protect the civil rights of
the affected.
Due to these changes, many who initially
opposed public health measures such as part-
ner notification have now reconsidered. Just
this year, the New York Assembly overwhelm-
ing passed legislation, which is now state law,
which would mandate notification of those who
may have been exposed to HIV. Even civil lib-
ertarians such as Senator Ted Kennedy have advocated partner notification. In 1990, Sen-
ator Kennedy, stating that “there is a duty to warn,” proposed HIV partner notification legis-
lation, which was later abandoned.
The HIV Partner Protection Act gives Con-
gress another opportunity to enact this impor-
tant procedure which would alert those at risk
and save lives. This bill introduced by Rep.
Gary Ackerman (D-NY) would guarantee that
everyone who is infected with HIV receives
appropriate counseling for preventing infecting
others and information regarding treatment to
protect their own health. It would also protect
those who seek HIV testing by forbidding in-
urance companies from discriminating against anyone who receives a test for HIV,
regardless of the results. But most importantly,
the HIV Partner Protection Act would require
that anyone who may have been exposed to
HIV by a past or present partner be notified.
Partner notification is extremely important to
disease control because it is the only timely
way to alert those in danger of infection. It is
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FOOTNOTES

1 Chris Norwood, “Mandated Life Versus Manda-
tory Death: New York’s Disgraceful Partner Notifi-
cation Record,” Journal of Community Health, vol.
20, No. 2 April 1995, Page 164.
2 Norwood, page 169.
3 Tracey Hooker, HIV/AIDS Facts to Consider: 1996,
4 Norwood, page 164. Lifetime treatment cost data
presented by the Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention at the 12th World AIDS Conference in
5 Nina Berstein, “When Women Aren’t Told,”
February 3, 1996.

WELL DESERVED TRIBUTES FOR
GUILLERMO MUNIZ

HON. GEORGE MILLER
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I
know that all Members of the House of Rep-
resentatives want to join me and the Contra
Costa Community in saluting one of the most
dedicated and generous men I have ever
known, Guillermo “Bill” Muniz, who will be
honored today at a public ceremony. This week-
end for his outstanding contributions to youth
and the future of our region.
Bill is a legend. His New Mecca restaurant
is a legend. His generosity to children, to ath-
etic teams, to his community of Pittsburgh, to
education—the list is virtually endless—is the
stuff of legend. For three decades, Bill Muniz
has operated more than a restaurant. The
New Mecca serves as his control center for a
never-ending, community-wide program of
supporting schools and volunteers, sports
teams and a remarkable cross-section of
northern California.
Bill’s generosity is as fabled as his enchi-
ladas and burritos, and just as gratifying. No
one asked Bill to donate thousands of meals
for church fundraisers or to feed workers
clearing the Bay Bridge after the Loma Prieta
earthquake; no one asked him to feed the
volunteers at the Polly Klauss Foundation.
Bill pitched in because he loves his commu-
nity. It is with that same spirit that he has
catered the local professional sports teams
that now consider New Mecca dinners a major
advantage of being located in the Bay Area.

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nity. It is with that same spirit that he has
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that now consider New Mecca dinners a major
advantage of being located in the Bay Area.

For years, a lunch at the New Mecca with
friends has been my tradition on Election Day,
and on those occasions as on any other day
that you enter this deceptive storefront in
downtown Pittsburg, the restaurant is a hive of activity, with counter and booths packed and overflowing, waitresses racing through the crowd, and presiding over it all with an enor-
mous smile on his face, Bill Muniz, who is never too busy to talk about his plans for his community's future. He works hard, and he

"I go to schools, I talk about the opportuni-
ties they have," Bill is quoted as saying. "I be-
lieve in dreams. I also believe people have to
work for them." And he has worked hard, since arriving more than 30 years ago from Guadalajara where he was an internationally recognized businessman. He worked, as a boy, in canneries, in a chocolate factory and elsewhere before becoming the owner of the New Mecca in the 1960s and building it into a legendary institution in downtown Pittsburg.

So it is fitting that this weekend, the public square near the New Mecca will be dedicated to Bill Muniz, whose efforts have brought thou-
sands of people to downtown Pittsburg and helped revitalize an entire city. And it is also appropriate that the Chicano Latino Acad-
emies Reaching Out (CLARO) will be naming its new computer center in nearby Brentwood for Bill in honor of his dedication to children, education and the community.

This is far from the first time Bill has been recognized for his civic contributions. He has been Pittsburg's Man of the Year (1978), UCSSO Mexican American of the Year (1980), original member of the Contra Costa Hall of Fame (1988), Hispanic Chamber of Com-
merce Member of the Year (1992), City of Concord Commendation (1995), California State Senate Commendation (1995), and many more awards and recognitions. In 1995, the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors de-
clared November 3 "Bill Muniz Day" to recog-
nize his longstanding service to our community.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members to join in saluting a man who has lived the Amer-
ican Dream because of his own hard work and community spirit, and who now is doing so much to make that dream a possibility to oth-
ers who are prepared to follow his example. He is a truly special and gifted man whose public enthusiasm for his community is as great as his personal modesty. I am lucky to
call Bill my friend, and that is a genuine honor I share with thousands who will join to honor him for his many contributions and services.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE SERVICE WOMEN OF GUAM ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOMAN'S ARMED SERVICES INTEGRATION ACT OF 1948

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute in the name of equality, in the name of justice and in the name of opportunity. Fifty years ago, Presi-
dent Harry S. Truman issued an executive order, desegregating the U.S. Armed Forces and signed into law the Women's Armed Serv-
ices Integration Act. This monumental piece of legislation was the realization of, at the time, a one hundred year struggle for women's rights. It began in 1848 with the "Declaration of Sentiments" in Seneca Falls, New York where women for the first time congregated together to discuss women's rights. Their im-
mediate cause was achieved in 1920, when women were granted suffrage—the right to vote and participate in the American political process. In the 1920's women were asserting their rightful place in the workforce and began to embrace their independence in unimagin-
able ways. Yet, women were still not accepted as full fledged participants among the social and cultural fabric of American life. They were still treated as second-class citizens, in the workplace. Women were given minimal or permitted entry into high executive positions, law schools and medical schools.
The onset of the Second World War, flood-

ed the work place with tens of thousands of women eager to help the war effort by labor-
ing in the factories producing valuable war supplies and armaments. These patriotic women showed America their superb abilities in tackling jobs that were previously performed only by men. Through their efforts, these pio-
néering women laid the seeds of the modern women's movement by forcing America to conform the double-standard in basic civil and social rights. There were many women who sacrificed much for the war effort by participat-
ing in the WAACS, the WAVES and the USO. Some women even volunteered for the haz-

ardous work of flying as test-pilot (WASP's) for new fighter aircraft or agents for the Office of Strategic Service (OSS). Many were nurses, codebreakers, truck drivers, and clerks. Most served at home but there were many who were assigned to front line areas. They risked their lives in the same combat zones as their male counterparts and in some cases died while performing their essential du-
ties.

After the war, these courageous women were told to return to the homes and kitchens of America. The ironic injustice of helping to defeat oppression overseas and yet be denied equity at home did not pass un-noticed. With the force of history held in the balance, Presi-
dent Truman's executive order and Senator Margaret Chase Smith's Women's Armed Services Integration Act were both signed into law. The act authorized regular and reserve status for women in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps. At all once, women, at least in the military, had finally achieved a sig-
nificant step towards equality.

Since 1948, many of the limitations that were included in the act have been amended to ensure even greater equity for women in the military. As a result, women today may at-
tend the service academies, train and serve in gender-integrated units and in many cases women have risen and flag officer ranks. As a direct result of this historic act, women are now able to fully participate and serve in the U.S. Armed Forces. Today, about 200,000 women serve on active duty and make up about 14% of the force; and about 225,000 women serve in the reserve compo-
nent and comprise 15.5% of their strength. Mr. Speaker, the Women's Integration Act laid down the foundation for the future achievement of America's women in the Armed Services. Today we celebrate and honor the past and present achievements of Guam's daughters who have dedicated their lives in some capacity to the service of their country. Women such as the late Lieutenant Colonel Marilyn Won Pat (U.S. Army), Lieuten-
ant Colonel Evelyn Salas Leon Guerrero (Guam Army National Guard) and Master Sergeant Victoria R. Laganse (U.S. Army) are just a few of the high quality individuals who have served with honor and distinction. These dedicated few represent all of the women of Guam in their greater struggle for equality of women's rights. It has been 150 years since the first American convention of women's rights in 1848. And although our society has made progress towards the goal of complete enfran-
chisement for women, we can no doubt look forward towards an even brighter future, in part due to the work accomplished and achieved by our service women. As members of Guam's family we are all justly proud of Guam's women military "pioneers" and extend to them an official Dangkulo Si Yu'os Ma'ase in their honor.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, AND JUDI-
CIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4276) making approp-
riations for the Departments of Com-
merce, Justice, and State, the judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purpose.

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Chairman, I rise to ex-
press my strong opposition to the Hefley
amendment. I am pleased to see so many of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle firmly committed to nondiscrimination in the workplace.

However, it is absolutely appalling that the House would even consider this outrageous amendment. President Clinton's executive order reaffirms every American's right to non-
discrimination in the workplace. Yet the Hefley
amendment would reverse this policy against discrimination on the basis of sexual orienta-

The need for postal reform

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ex-
press concern about the continual rise in post-
alty rates by the U.S. Postal Service. The recent
The Mail Monopoly (By James Kelly)

The woman on the other end of the phone sounds frightened and angry. She owns a small business in Maryland and just found out that the United States Postal Service is opening up shop right around the corner. She’s worried that the arrival of the Postal Service will put her own small store out of business and she wants to know what she can do about it. She has reason to be scared.

In the past, the opening of a local post office was considered a boon. But this was before the Postal Service began targeting private-sector companies with predatory pricing on services and products that few businesses could match. The business owner in Maryland knows she can’t compete with a government agency that enjoys huge advantages not available to private-sector companies. Her plight is but one example of why the Postal Service needs significant reform.

Most Americans agree that fair competition is necessary for a healthy economy and a strong private sector. At our company, we have embraced competition and believe it makes us a smarter, stronger, more responsive business. But the Postal Service represents another sector that should be able to face—a government monopoly that is able to use its government-granted advantages to unfairly undermine its private-sector competitors. As this age of government reform and downsizing, the Postal Service is the poster child for needed government reform.

Most Americans don’t know that the Postal Service pays no taxes, local, state or federal, pays no vehicle licensing fees, is exempt from OSHA enforcement, can suspend zoning regulations, and is immune from anti-trust accountability. These advantages would not be of much concern if it weren’t for the fact that the Postal Service is a $60 billion enterprise and the government bailout has allowed it to waste money in the marketplace to beat out private-sector businesses. That is simply, unequivocally not the role of government.

One particularly egregious example of how the Postal Service is able to use its monopoly on first-class mail to sub-sidize products made in the private sector is obvious. The Postal Service charges $26.63 to ship a 10-pound package from San Francisco to London via Global Package Link. But the agency charges $380 to ship that same package Express mail from San Francisco to London.

Now consumers are being asked to pay an additional billion dollars through a penny increase in the price of a stamp. Why is the Postal Service asking for another billion dollars every year when the agency has generated more than a billion dollars in surplus every year for the past three years and is doing so again this year?

If the Postal Service were truly committed to its mandate of providing universal letter mail service, why is it entering into numerous other activities wholly unrelated to this mission? The Postal Service is now processing bills, selling mugs, T-shirts and hats, and is hawking telephone cards. What does this have to do with delivering the mail? Absolutely nothing. In fact, it forces the Postal Service to lose focus on its primary mission.

It is painfully obvious that reform is desperately needed. Congress must act quickly to level the playing field so the Postal Service can focus on delivering the mail—not delivering small business owners into the unemployment line.

ROD HART BIVETER NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AFFILIATED SITE STUDY ACT OF 1998

HON. GEORGE MILLER
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Rosie the Riveter National Park Service Affiliated Site Study Act of 1998." This legislation authorizes the National Park Service to conduct a feasibility study to determine if the Rosie the Riveter Park located in Richmond, California meets the requirements of being nationally significant to become an NPS Affiliated Site.

The Rosie the Riveter Park is located on the Richmond waterfront on the site of Kaiser Shipyards where the Liberty and Victory ships were built during World War II. These ships were built almost entirely by women who took over shipbuilding jobs to replace men who went off to war. These women became known as "Rosie the Riveter" and "Wendy the Welder" as their numbers grew and their competency as shipbuilders became well known.

These "Rosies" and "Wendys" built some 747 ships which were immediately commissioned into the U.S. Navy and sent to fight in the war. The collective stories of these women are rich with excitement of being involved in producing the Liberty and Victory ships, as well as the realities of facing numerous new fears. We must remember that prior to this time, most women did not enter the work force, especially once married with children.

With their husbands off to war, they were faced with the responsibility of providing food and shelter for their families alone. Encouraged by the familiar slogan of "We can do it," and the desire of salaries offered to women, thousands of women of all ethnicities flocked to the town of Richmond in search of jobs not previously available to them.

Realizing the value of the women workers, many shipyards including Kaiser conducted the clock day care centers and schools on site so the mothers could work knowing their children were well cared for nearby. Some perceive this as a new concept that is cost prohibitive for business, but it was just the regular order for shipyards during this time.

With the support of the City Council and in particular Councilperson Donna Powers, the City of Richmond in my district has dedicated the Rosie the Riveter Park to honor all the women of the World War II effort. Plans to erect a monument remnant of the Liberty and Victory ship are underway as are collections of oral histories from the women workers.

Mr. Speaker, I was honored to be among so many of the former "Rosies" and "Wendys" at the kickoff for the memorial on October 5, 1996. Many told me of the fears they had during the war and just keep moving. This feeling of connection with the men fighting on the ships caused the workers to try for perfection with each task.

What little safety and protective equipment existed in the 1940's was made for men and tended not to give the same protection to the women who used them. Numerous women still bear the scars they received during such unprotected work. I learned so much from talking with the women about their experiences and quickly realized that these stories are part of who we are as a nation and must be preserved for generations to come.

Rosie the Riveter Park represents the history it represents should be designated an affiliated area to the National Park Service and I'm confident that the study proposed in my legislation will come to the same conclusion. I hope the Congress will move quickly to enact this legislation.

SALUTE TO ROBERT ESTEL ENGLAND AND ALL THE BRAVE MEN WHO SERVED IN THE NAVY ARMED GUARD

HON. HAROLD ROGERS
OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, throughout our nation's history, men and women from all corners of our country have stood tall in her defense. It is the bravery and honor with which these men and women have served that has kept America free and strong over the years.

Today, I would like to commend one such individual: Gunners Mate 3rd Class Robert...
Estel England of Laurel County, Kentucky. Gunners Mate England served during the Second World War as a member of the U.S. Navy’s Armed Guard. His first assignment was aboard the SS West Cheswald, which was charged with carrying arms, ammo and food to allied troops in the Pacific.

During his service, Gunners Mate England fought bravely and honorably. Like so many others who served on ships, in the air, or in the trenches during World War II, Robert England and his fellow servicemen saw battle and fought bravely. Unlike so many of his fellow servicemen, England and the other members of the Navy Armed Guard have never been properly recognized for their outstanding service.

The Armed Guard was created as a branch of the Navy during World War I to protect the merchant ships of the United States. During World War II the Armed Guard was reactivated in response to the German attack and sinking of merchant ships, event those of neutral countries, that appeared to be bringing goods to Allied Nations. The mission of the merchant ships was absolutely critical: they were the lifeline for many allied troops, delivering ammunition, food, weapons, clothing, and other badly-needed supplies.

The men of the Armed Guard who helped protect these ships were heroes in the true sense of the word. They made tremendous sacrifices, and many died in the hands of an unforgiving sea. They endured torpedoes, gunfire, and bombs. They were the target of enemy destroyers, submarines and bombers. They fought off Japanese planes and German U-boats. They fought for freedom and democracy, and they made our nation proud.

Mr. President, for too long the men of the U.S. Navy Armed Guard have not received the recognition they deserve, but, earlier this year the House of Representatives moved to correct this injustice. The Defense Authorization Act for 1999 contains a provision that recognizes the service, honor and bravery of the men who served in the Armed Guard. It expresses the appreciation of the Congress and American people for their service and their sacrifices.

During their service, the men of the Navy Armed Guard served with honor, dignity, and courage. Nearly 145,000 men served in the Armed Guard on 6,236 merchant ships during WW II. Nearly 2,000 of these men made the supreme sacrifice by giving their lives in the defense of their country.

It is time these men—men like Robert England—receive the appreciation of a grateful nation. It is time that these men receive the recognition they deserve.

AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP DAY GREETINGS

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the Guam Organic Act was signed into law by President Harry S. Truman on August 1, 1950. As this law granted citizenship and the people of Guam, August 1 is celebrated on the island as “Citizenship Day.” I would like to share with my colleagues my statement for this year’s observance. I have also included a speech presented by a former Guam legislator, Carlos Taitano, who was a member of the Guam Congress and the Speaker of the 8th Guam Legislature. For his contribution towards the passage of the Guam Organic Act, he was invited to witness President Truman sign the bill into law.

AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP DAY GREETINGS

By Robert A. Underwood

As we commemorate the centennial anniversary of the Spanish-American War, it is most appropriate to reflect on this, the 48th Anniversary of the Organic Act of Guam and the grant of U.S. citizenship at the beginning of the American Era in Guam in 1898 brought with it the promise of the freedoms, rights, duties and responsibilities of American Democracy, and the birth of the Chamorro quest for political justice, equality and self-governance under the American flag. Though couched differently at various times, this has been our unchanging theme for nearly a hundred years.

In 1901, just three years after Guam became an American possession, our grandfathers and grandmothers sent a petition to Washington, calling on the Federal government to clarify the political status of Guam and its people. Subsequent efforts were geared toward the acquisition of U.S. citizenship as a means of political rights and protection. The passage of the Organic Act in 1946, gave Guam a limited form of self-government, but we still have unfinished business in the political status of Guam. Our desire for greater self-government is unquenchable as we continue the quest. The struggle of the Chamorro people has been long and arduous, the triumphs have been hard-won, but our cause is steadfast and our faith in America remains steadfast.

Today, as we celebrate nearly half a century of U.S. citizenship, enjoying the rights and privileges therein, I humbly restate the unyielding commitment of the people of Guam for political recognition, equality and greater self-government in memory of all of Guam’s political pioneers who surely must be with us in spirit, happy to know that their efforts were not in vain.

(By Carlos Taitano)

At the end of the past century, The United States almost simultaneously took possession of the Philippines, Guam, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. The full or “plenary” powers of the U.S. Constitution was extended to these new possessions. Fifty years later, all these territories, except Guam, had received some attention from the U.S. Congress resulting in some changes from their initial status. Hawaii, for example, was made an incorporated territory and its people were granted U.S. citizenship. Later, it would become a U.S. state.

In the Philippines, the military government which began with the U.S. occupation after the end of the Spanish-American War, was replaced by a civilian government. The Philippines was granted independence in 1946.

In Puerto Rico, the military government that was established after the territory was acquired from Spain in 1898, was replaced by a civilian government only two years later. An Organic Act for Puerto Rico was enacted by Congress in 1917, including a grant of U.S. citizenship.

The treaty ending the Spanish-American War required the United States to determine the civil status of the Chamorros on Guam.

By failing to act on this provision of the treaty, the U.S. Congress allowed autonomy to exist within the American democracy. Two generations of Chamorros lived under a U.S. military government in which a single person, a naval governor, exercised absolute control over all Chamorros on Guam and every aspect of their lives. During the 50 years that Guam was under military government, the Chamorros petitioned Washington for U.S. citizenship.

After 50 years of military occupation in which we fought bravely and honorably. Like so many of his fellow servicemen, England and the other members of the Navy Armed Guard have never been properly recognized for their outstanding service.

After 50 years of a government policy of occupation, we have no choice but to fight on. After 50 years of a government policy of discrimination in our own homeland, resulting in the loss of our dignity, self respect, and self esteem.

After a series of congressional legislation providing opportunities for many people around the world to become U.S. citizens—opportunities extended to Chinese, Filipinos, and others—but not to Chamorros.

By 1949, we were a restless people. We decided to demand in an aggressive, but peaceful manner, some action from the U.S. Congress hopefully, leading to some fundamental reforms in the way we were governed.

I was a member of the House Assembly of the Guam Congress at that time. This body decided to stage a ‘walkout’ on March 5, 1949, to stay away from the Guam Congress until we saw some evidence that some reforms were in the making. This was the first revolt by the Chamorros against an occupying power. The Spanish-Chamorro wars was at the end of the seventeenth century.

Unlike most other people under colonial rule, the Chamorros were not seeking independence from the colonial power. On the contrary, they had been petitioning all along for closer association with the United States.

The “walkout” received nationwide publicity, made possible by two newsmen that I had met three months earlier—one from the United Press, the other from the Associated Press. Influential newspapers and individual citizens across the nation were now calling for fundamental reforms in the Government of Guam.

President Harry S. Truman quickly took over and ordered the transfer from a military government to a civilian government of Guam. The President successfully convinced the members of the U.S. Congress that the Organic legislation for Guam could no longer be ignored.

The Chamorros were finally granted U.S. citizenship. This could have been the only grant by the U.S. Congress and the Chamorros would have been happy and grateful. Citizenship would open many doors leading to economic opportunities. But, most important, the Chamorro was now an American.

The government created by the Guam Organic Act was not exactly self-government for Guam. It was limited Home Rule. The people did not constitute a sovereign power. All political authority was derived from the federal government.

Nevertheless, when one considers the 50 years of political neglect, these gains were substantial. 1950 is the most important year in the history of Guam’s Chamorro people over the centuries since they lost their independence to Spain in 1669 at the end of the Spanish-Chamorro wars. It has happened to them since that time can compare with the dramatic reforms contained in the Guam Organic Act.

Because of the role I played in the “walkout,” I was invited to be present at the signing ceremony of the Guam Organic Act at the White House in 1950. I was also present at the signing ceremony when senators and congressmen who guided the Guam
bills through Congress and the two men who would carry out the mandate of the Congress...the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Interior.

While at the White House, these dignitaries, including Franklin D. Roosevelt by radio to the nation in this very room about a decade earlier. At that time, President Roosevelt proclaimed that one of the post-World War II goals of the United States would be to decolonize the various territories under colonial powers around the world. As members of the U.S. Army at the time, and as a Chamorro, I was overjoyed and encouraged. For me, there was no good reason to serve in the military during that world conflict.

Although the signing of the Guam Organic Act at the White House took place five years after the end of World War II, I thought at the time that it was the beginning of the decolonization of Guam. Unfortunately, almost half a century after the signing of the Guam Organic Act, the Chamorros are still trying to set up an island government without the bounds or restraint of colonialism.

It is my hope that before another 50 years have passed since the signing of the Guam Organic Act, we would see the passage of the Guam Commonwealth Act, now before the U.S. Congress. I took President Roosevelt’s statement about decolonization as a promise to me. I surely hope that the decolonization of Guam would happen while I’m still around. Si yu’os ma’a’ase’.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KENDALL MEDICAL CENTER

HON. ILENA ROSLEHTIEN OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Ms. ROS-LEHTIEN. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 25th anniversary of Kendall Medical Center, an institution which has been responsible for providing South Florida with the best medical care possible. The facility, which provides full-service, state-of-the art care in a wide variety of medical specialties and has nearly 100 doctors on staff, has been honored for three consecutive years as one of America’s “700 Top Hospitals” and is currently “Accredited with Commendation” by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.

Among the 1,000 plus employees at Kendall Medical Center, I would like to honor the following thirteen individuals who have worked toward the evolution of Kendall Medical Center throughout the last 25 years: Teresa Beiro, Angela Carro, Rosa Cerula, Margie Cortez, Rosa Crespo, Elizabeth Mirone, Jo Ann Plumlee, James Rosenzwieg, Elizabeth Sollogub, Patricia Stiers, Nancy Tablada, Judith Williams and Victor Mayo.

Victor, whom I have known for many years, has been with Kendall Medical Center since its inception and has served in its Chief Executive Officer Center since 1987. It has been through his leadership, vision, and determination, combined with the efforts of his employees, which have led to the outstanding achievements of Kendall Medical Center.

On the date of its 25th anniversary, I extend my thanks and my congratulations to those thirteen individuals who have dedicated their lives to a quarter of a century of continuous care. You have provided South Florida with an excellent medical facility.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, On August 6, 1998, I was not present to vote on rollcall vote 403 because of a pressing family matter in my home State of Delaware. Had I been here, I would have voted “no” on the Doolittle substitute.

When we started this debate, there were many sound proposals on how to improve our current framework of campaign finance. However, only one of these proposals has emerged as a realistic approach to significantly improve our election system.

My opposition to this substitute does not reflect a negative opinion of the author’s hard work or ideas, but rather my opinion that the Shays-Meehan bill is the best method for reform.

Reformers who want to see significant changes to our election system signed into law must rally around the one bill that has the best chance of passing—that bill is the Shays-Meehan substitute.

DOMESTIC KAOLIN COMPETITIVENESS ACT OF 1998

HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, today it is my pleasure to introduce the “Domestic Kaolin Competitiveness Act of 1998.” This legislation will revise the Merchant Marine Act of 1920 (The Jones Act) to ensure that laws meant to protect U.S. shipbuilding jobs will not hurt U.S. kaolin jobs. Currently, the Jones Act requires all shipping between U.S. ports to be conducted exclusively by American built, owned, and crewed vessels. However, it does not apply to import/export shipments.

My legislation specifically targets the domestic shipping of kaolin, a fine clay found primarily in middle Georgia. Kaolin is used in a variety of industrial applications, such as producing the glossy finish on magazines, as well as the manufacture of porcelain products.

Traditionally, there are no American barges available that are suitable for shipping kaolin. Accordingly, Georgia clay producers are forced to use more expensive truck and rail transportation to supply American manufacturing customers, giving Brazilian kaolin producers a price edge in delivered costs. Mr. Speaker, when it is less expensive to transport kaolin from Brazil to Maine than it is from Georgia to Maine, something is not right.

This legislation would allow kaolin producers to request a waiver of the Jones Act, but only if there are no available American barges to transport the clay. In other words, if there are no available American barges available, clay producers would still be required to use them in order to ship by water, regardless of the price.

Mr. Speaker, this is a prime example of allowing federal regulations to strangle domestic industries, while granting de facto waivers to foreign competitors. It is also a case in point of the need for Congress to review past legislation to determine if it is still accomplishing the goals it was originally intended to accomplish.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that the kaolin industry is put on equal footing and can compete fairly with its foreign competitors.
the WTO was being negotiated. We made some progress in protecting the integrity of American law, particularly with regard to dumping. There still remain a number of gray areas, some of which this amendment sheds light upon. But these issues cannot be resolved by simply waving banners or invoking slogans like “trade” or any other. They require and deserve much more than a clash of polarized debate.

The Introduction of the Neotropical Migratory Bird Habitat Enhancement Act

Hon. Don Young
Of Alaska
In the House of Representatives
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. Young of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today the Neotropical Migratory Bird Habitat Enhancement Act.

This important conservation measure is modeled after the highly successful programs that Congress created to assist African and Asian elephants, rhinoceroses, and tigers. In fact, I am hopeful that later this week the President will sign into law my bill, H.R. 39, to extend the African Elephant Conservation Act. This legislation is very similar to the African Elephant Conservation Act, and I am confident that this small investment of Federal funds will provide the lifeline that neotropical migratory birds need to survive in the wild.

Neotropical birds, like bluebirds, robins, orioles, and goldfinches, travel across international borders and depend upon thousands of miles of suitable habitat. In fact, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, neotropical migratory birds typically spend five months of the year at Caribbean/Latin American wintering sites, four months in North American breeding areas, and three months traveling to these sites during spring and autumn migrations.

Sadly, there are 90 North American bird species that are listed as either threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act and an additional 124 birds that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has identified on its list of Migratory Nongame Birds of Management Concern. In North America, an estimated 70 percent of prairie birds are declining. The Government of Mexico lists approximately 390 bird species as endangered, threatened, vulnerable, or rare. What is lacking, however, is a strategic plan for bird conservation, money for on-the-ground projects, public awareness, and any real coordinating effort among the various nations where neotropical migratory birds reside.

While the full extent of the problems facing neotropical migratory birds is unclear, there is no debate over the fact that both bird populations and critical habitat declined significantly in the 1990s. We must act now before more of these species become endangered or extinct. This bill will contribute to the recovery and conservation of migratory birds, without violating private property rights.

There are 60 million adult Americans who enjoy watching and feeding birds at their homes. In fact, these activities generate some $20 billion in economic activity each year. In addition, healthy bird populations are an invaluable asset for farmers and timber interests. By consuming detrimental insects, these birds prevent the loss of millions of dollars each year.

Under the terms of this legislation, an individual or an organization would be able to submit a project proposal to the Secretary of the Interior. While the bill does not limit the type of project, I would expect that efforts to determine the condition of neotropical migratory bird habitat, implement new or improved conservation plans, undertake population studies, educate the public, and reduce the destruction of essential habitat would be forthcoming. Since these birds migrate between the Caribbean, Latin America, and North America, comprehensive plans must be developed. It does little good if we are successful in conserving suitable habitat in only a portion of their range.

I am confident that a Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund would provide much-needed support for projects designed to conserve critical habitat for declining migratory bird species in an innovative and cost-effective way. I urge my colleagues to support the Neotropical Migratory Bird Habitat Enhancement Act.

The Atlantic Swordfish Management Improvement Act

Hon. Jim Saxton
Of New Jersey
In the House of Representatives
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. Saxton. Mr. Speaker, the effective management of Atlantic highly migratory species (HMS) and their fisheries is perhaps the most complex challenge facing the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) today. These species range widely throughout international waters and the jurisdictions of many coastal nations with diverse policies and perspectives on resource utilization and management. The fishing practices and marketing priorities for these species are equally diverse. Seriously compounding these challenges is the biology of these species is not well known and remains difficult to determine.

Congress has recognized the unique and difficult challenges associated with effective conservation and management of HMS and those who fish for them. Fundamental to this recognition is that effective management of these species and fisheries cannot be achieved on a unilateral basis, but instead must be pursued on a multilateral basis throughout their range. Unlike most other U.S. fisheries, effective multilateral management is the goal of U.S. HMS policy. A number of specific provisions in both the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) and the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (ATCA) are intended to express this policy.

For example, Congress deliberately placed Atlantic HMS management authority in the hands of the Secretary of Commerce instead of the regional Councils for the purpose of ensuring that the U.S. maintained a multilateral, Atlantic-wide perspective and vision. As U.S. policy states, the principal purpose and obligation of domestic Atlantic HMS management measures is to faithfully implement and enforce the multilateral ICCAT measures.

U.S. law requires such implementation to achieve but not exceed the conservation (fishing mortality) objectives of ICCAT measures and ensure that U.S. fishermen are provided a reasonable opportunity to harvest their allocations. U.S. law and common sense also dictate that domestic HMS management should avoid the excessive regulatory burden that would serve to increase waste in the fisheries or disadvantage U.S. fishermen relative to their foreign competitors. These are some of the more important aspects of U.S. HMS policy. As a matter of general fishery policy, section 303(b)(6) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act authorizes the Secretary to include a limited access system in any fishery management plan for any fishery, subject to certain considerations. The establishment of a limited access system is of critical importance in effectively managing fisheries for which U.S. harvesting capacity far exceeds the available resource—particularly if that resource requires rebuilding and is subject to quota reductions. Such is the case with our U.S. pelagic longline fisheries. A limited access system provides the opportunity to reduce harvesting capacity in such fisheries through attrition, a buy-back program, phase-out of latent permits, or other means. Such capacity reduction measures can facilitate the establishment of other important management tools designed to protect nursery and spawning areas and reduce bycatch while minimizing the economic consequences on the fishermen. Current Federal regulations provide that virtually any U.S. citizen who can pay a small administrative fee may enter the Atlantic swordfish fishery. This practice of allowing a continuous stream of unexperienced fishermen into this fishery has seriously hindered progress in achieving a number of key management objectives.

Although for many years the U.S. Atlantic pelagic longline community has petitioned NMFS to establish a limited access system, the agency has repeatedly failed to move beyond endless deliberation and still has not put such a system into place. This delay has served to exacerbate the problems associated with this overcapitalized industry and has precluded consideration of one of the more important conservation needs facing pelagic longline fisheries. Meanwhile, NMFS has established limited access systems in other overcapitalized fisheries leaving the pelagic longline fishery open to fishermen displaced from these other closed fisheries. There are a large number of unused, latent permits in these fisheries and many new vessels have entered in recent years. The pelagic longline community and fisheries are in a state of emergency and can no longer wait for the agency to respond.

There are two purposes of the legislation I am introducing today. The first is to prevent any new fishing vessels from entering the U.S. Atlantic swordfish pelagic longline fishery by placing a moratorium on the issuance of any new fishing permits for vessels that did not hold a valid permit to fish in the U.S. Atlantic swordfish pelagic longline fishery on August 1, 1998. I would note that although this permit moratorium provision relates specifically to the Atlantic swordfish pelagic longline fishery, it is not intended to preclude or prejudice any possible moratorium with respect to other Atlantic swordfish fisheries including the drift gillnet and handgear fisheries.
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The second purpose of this legislation is to prevent those latent permits for the U.S. Atlantic swordfish fishery under which no swordfish was reported to NMFS as landed after January 1, 1987, from being used to fish in the U.S. Atlantic swordfish pelagic longline fishery. Again, it would serve as before that although this latent permit provision relates specifically to the use of such permits in the Atlantic swordfish pelagic longline fishery, this is not intended to preclude or prejudice any future consideration of a similar latent permit prohibition with respect to other Atlantic swordfish fisheries, including the drift gillnet and handgill fisheries.

I believe the combination of these two provisions will go a long way toward addressing the threat of further overcapitalization within the swordfish pelagic longline fisheries and begin moving the fishery in the direction of reduced capacity. However, it is my sincere hope and intent that the NMFS will respond to this wake-up call and move forward expeditiously with the timely implementation of a comprehensive system of limited access for not only undersized swordfish pelagic longline fisheries, but also the closely related pelagic longline fisheries for Atlantic tunas and Atlantic sharks.

On a broader note, I would like to take this opportunity to express my increasing concern—shared by a number of my colleagues—over the interpretation by NMFS of U.S. HMS policies and laws relative to the setting of our multilateral objectives at ICCAT, as well as in the context of domestic implementation of our international obligations. We are equally concerned about the ability and efficiency of NMFS to put into place sensible and practicable domestic measures that are fair and equitable to all U.S. fishermen. These concerns are heightened by the impending rebuilding requirements of the Sustainable Fisheries Act and the fact that fishermen are increasingly turning to the judicial branch for solutions.

For example, it remains unclear how NMFS plans to implement the new rebuilding provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act as they relate to HMS. Specifically, it is unclear how NMFS plans to coordinate the promulgation of a rebuilding plan for bluefin tuna with the results of the upcoming ICCAT meeting in November which is scheduled to focus on bluefin tuna. Perhaps even more unsettling is how the agency plans to coordinate the promulgation of a rebuilding plan for swordfish with existing ICCAT swordfish management measures, given that ICCAT will not focus on swordfish again until November, 1999.

Another concern is that in 1995, ICCAT recognized the need to further protect juvenile swordfish and authorized ICCAT member nations to prohibit the sale, including importation, of small swordfish less than 33 pounds. This was done with the concurrence of the Office of U.S. Trade Representative. This initiative has been a priority of the U.S. swordfish industry for several years, and earlier this year, the President pledged to impose and fund the implementation of a ban on the importation of undersized swordfish. However, while the NMFS has succeeded in imposing and enforcing the undersize swordfish prohibition on U.S. fishermen, it has failed to impose or fund the enforcement of a equitable restriction on foreign fishermen through the import prohibition authorized by ICCAT and promised by the President. It remains unclear to this day how and when NMFS plans to implement or fund this crucial ICCAT recommendation.

As one further example of concern, there is a great deal of interest in the use of gear modification such as circle hooks in Atlantic HMS fisheries as potential tools to at least partially address critical problems facing HMS fisheries today including: reducing the mortality of bycatch in commercial HMS fisheries; reducing the mortality of fish that are released in recreational HMS fisheries; and reducing the catch (and mortality) of small swordfish in the pelagic longline fisheries.

Reducing bycatch and minimizing the mortality of bycatch that cannot be avoided is, of course, a strong statutory mandate for NMFS. But, it concerns me that the first and primary approach considered by NMFS for HMS seems to be to shut down pelagic longline fisheries during some rather uncertain times and in some rather uncertain areas based on some very uncertain scientific data. This appears to be a very disruptive approach with a very high cost relative to a very uncertain benefit. It is unclear what alternative steps NMFS plans to take to quickly and efficiently evaluate the benefits of circle hook use as a potentially more effective and certainly less disruptive measure.

As we conclude our consideration of the reauthorization of the ATCA this year and begin our preparations for the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Act in the next Congress, it may be necessary for us to consider a more comprehensive package of legislative measures intended to improve the management of Atlantic HMS and their fisheries by the NMFS. The legislation I am introducing today represents a good start in that direction and, to the extent a larger package becomes necessary, I look forward to working with my colleagues, the NMFS, the U.S. ICCAT Commissioners, the commercial and recreational fishing industries and other affected parties toward achieving some of the most important goals of HMS fisheries management.

SPEECH OF
HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE
OF HAWAII
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, August 5, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4276) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes:

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Chairman, today I rise in support of my good friend and colleague, Congresswoman Patsy Mink’s amendment. Her amendment increases funding for the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights by $2.26 million, the amount requested in the Administration’s budget.

As my colleagues know, the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan agency established to monitor, investigate, and report on the status of civil rights protections in the United States. In recent years we have experienced a disturbing trend of increased hate crimes, racial violence, discrimination against the immigrant population, and an intolerance for those who are perceived as “different” because of their color, nationality, gender, religion, or disability.

Now is the time to invest in a modest increase in the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. It is important that we assess the current trends which violate the civil rights of groups and individuals in this Nation. I urge my colleagues to support the Mink amendment to H.R. 4276.
“accidental nuclear war—a post-cold war assessment.” I want to share with you some of their results and conclusions:

“U.S. and Russian nuclear-weapons systems remain on high alert. This fact, combined with the aging of Russian technical systems, has recently increased the risk of an accidental nuclear attack. According to a conservative estimate, an accidental, intermediate-sized launch of weapons from a single Russian submarine would result in the death of [almost] 7 million people from fireshocks in 8 U.S. cities. Millions of others would (probably) be exposed to potentially lethal radiation from fallout. An agreement to remove all nuclear missiles from high-level alert status and eliminate the capability of a rapid launch would put an end to this threat.”

Part of their conclusion is that “the risk of an accidental nuclear attack has increased in recent years, threatening a public health disaster of unprecedented scale.”

I am one of three cosponsors of H. Con. Res. 307, a bill that proposes to address this most serious of issues. Our bill proclaims that it is in the best interest of the nation and the world to ban nuclear tests forever. The bill directs the Department of Energy, which has the responsibility for stewardship of the nuclear stockpile, to develop a program that is less costly, less provocative, and less likely to spend billions on facilities with little relevance to the safety of the arsenal.

On this day, let us recall and celebrate that our collective efforts to achieve peace have prevented the unleashing of further, nuclear horrors like those seen 53 years ago in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Yet on this day in particular, let us remind ourselves that we must keep on working to educate ourselves and our society, and continue to make advances toward total nuclear disarmament.

TRIBUTE TO ERNESTO “ERNIE” AZHOCAR
HON. BOB FILNER
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998
Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to remember a hero and leader of our community—Ernesto “Ernie” Azhocar, who died one year ago on August 18, 1997 at the age of 73. On this first anniversary of his death, we remember the many good things that Ernie did for our community, and the special ways that he touched each of us.

Ernie was an important leader in our community. As a champion of youth and education, he served as a Sweetwater Union High School district official for 13 years, as a liaison for Assemblyman Wade P. Deddeh for 18 years, chaired the National City Lincoln Acres Community Action Council, and was a charter member and Board Chairman for the Mexican Area Advisory Committee (MAAC). He also served on the National City Service Commission and was the Chairman of the National City Youth Athletic Association.

He was recognized in our community as both a leader and a champion of causes that are important to our community. As a result of his civic activities, he was honored with the PTA National Lifetime Award, and was awarded “The Key to the City” by National City. Also because of Ernie’s extensive work with the MAAC Project, The Sweetwater Union High School District Board of Trustees named the administration center at the new National City Adult Education Center in his honor.

Ernie was born in Los Angeles in 1924, and attended local schools through high school. He then attended Military Academy in Tijuana, Mexico. In 1949, he married Maria Consuelo Aguilera, and then moved to National City. Ernie served with the United States Army in Normandy and Belgium, and also served in the National Guard and National City Police Reserve.

Ernie lives his life by his personal philosophy that “charity begins at home.” He was a family man, community leader, and good friend to many of us. President and CEO of the MAAC project Roger Cazares said, “Mr. Azhocar’s professional and volunteer pursuits always promoted community service, youth and education.”

He dedicated his life to helping others and making our community a better place to live. His was a wonderful life. Although we have all missed him greatly in this one year, we have all had his legacy of service, love, and community to carry us through, and we always will.

My thoughts and prayers go out to his wife and children and to the larger community who was touched by his presence. We all remember and miss him.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN ROBERT J. GREENE
HON. DAVID E. BONIOR
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998
Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and congratulate Captain Robert J. Greene on a distinguished career as a Great Lakes pilot, and to wish him the best in his retirement. Our home area, from the base of Lake Huron to the Detroit River, will truly miss Capt. Greene’s leadership in ensuring safe pilotage and advocating on behalf of all mariners. From the time he first sailed as a 16-year-old, Capt. Greene garnered the respect and admiration of his fellow pilots, those involved in the maritime trades along the Great Lakes and many of us in Congress.

Over the 34 years of service to the waters he loved, Capt. Greene rose from an officer to the esteemed position of President of the Lakes Pilots Association located in Port Huron, Michigan—a position to which he was elected by his fellow pilots. In addition, he served as Vice President for the Great Lakes of the American Pilots Association. The responsibilities Capt. Greene took on often led him to Washington to fight for the interests of his fellow pilots and to ensure shipping safety on the Great Lakes.

At the time of his retirement, Capt. Greene was the longest serving pilot on the Great Lakes. He first sailed in 1945 and received his first license in 1952. In 1964, he joined the ranks of Great Lakes pilots, the dedicated individuals who ensure the safe passage of foreign vessels through our Great Lakes. Capt. Greene was a leader among our pilots—ensuring safety, promoting commerce, and protecting our environment. Capt. Greene met these challenges head on and put our pilots in a strong position as we near the next century.

He also understood our lakes and their importance to our community. For those of us in Michigan, our lakes are among our most important economic and recreational resources. The need to ensure commerce can safely pass through the sometimes treacherous waters is vital to economic growth in our region. The understanding of the need to protect our lakes and rivers is particularly crucial. Capt. Greene is one of those rare individuals who understood the importance of both needs.
I came to know Capt. Greene through his many years of service to pilots, but I also consider him to be a true friend. We have been through many battles together, and I always have admired his resolve to fight for what he believes is right. In Capt. Greene’s eyes, no challenge was too great or insurmountable. He is the person you want on your side; he is also the kind of leader who will truly be missed. Indeed, Great Lakes pilots lost a friend, but if I know Bob, he’ll be active in retirement and will, hopefully, have a little fun along the way. I wish all the best to you Bob, on your well-deserved retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO FLORENCE LECRON JURS, SEPTEMBER 28, 1912-JULY 24, 1998

HON. BARBARA LEE
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I am here to share with you the life of a legendary Oaklander, Ms. Florence LeCron Jurs, who died on July 24 after several months of failing health at age 85.

Ms. Jurs, a well-known citizen of Oakland, has sought out ways to improve the city she called home for sixty-some years. In 1965 she was a founding member of Oakland Public School Volunteers which grew to a corps of 2,000 during the time of the late Superintendent Mr. A. Foster. In 1970 she was a delegate to the White House Conference on Children. In 1977 she was an original board member of A Central Place, where non-profit organizations shared downtown office space. The Oakland Potluck, a food salvage organization, was founded by her in 1986 and now feeds 600,000 meals a year.

Florence LeCron Jurs was born in Cheyenne, Wyoming on September 28, 1912 and grew up in Des Moines, Iowa, where she was exposed to stimulating conversations and experiences as a member of the Cowles publishing family. Her father, James LeCron, was the editor of The Des Moines Register and Tribune newspaper. Her mother, Helen Cowles LeCron, was a member of the Cowles Publishing family (Minneapolis Star Journal and Look Magazine).

She was schooled in Switzerland and France before matriculating at Stanford University. While in Stanford she met Gene Jurs and decided that California was to be her life-long home.

Ms. Jurs was involved in Oakland Public Schools, city of Oakland politics, the Lincoln Child Center, the Marcus Foster Institute, the Management Center, St. Paul’s School and served on numerous Boards of Directors of nonprofit agencies dealing with board development and services for children, mental health, food for hungry people, and many other causes. The California Legislature named her “Woman of the Year” in 1989. The Oakland City Council declared August 31, 1986 “Eugene and Florence Jurs Day” for outstanding service to the City of Oakland.

Networking and hard work have been hallmarks of Florence Jurs’ life. She involved herself in projects with a passion and inspired the same in others, a reason every group of which she was a member flourished. There are strong community-based organizations that would not exist today had it not been for her passion, inspiration, guidance, and leadership. The City of Oakland has been blessed with thousands of hours of her volunteer time and expertise.

Her husband, Eugene; daughters: Karen, Emily, Christina and Cynthia, six grandchildren and one greatgrandchild, together with all the people she has touched in her life, take pride in her legacy.

H. CON. RES. 315—ON SERBIAN ATROCITIES IN KOSOVA AND USING BLOCKED SERBIAN ASSETS TO COMPENSATE ETHNIC ALBANIANS

HON. TOM LANTOS
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week I introduced House Concurrent Resolution 315, which expresses the sense of the Congress condemning the atrocities by Serbian military and police forces against ethnic Albanians in Kosovo. The resolution also urges the government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) which are under control of the United States and other governments to be used to compensate the Albanians in Kosovo for losses suffered as a result of Serbian police and military action. In introducing this resolution, I was joined by my colleagues, the distinguished Chairman of the Committee on International Relations Benjamin Gilman, my fellow Californian Congressman Dana Rohrabacher, our colleagues from New York Congressmen Eliot Engel and Congresswoman Sue Kelly, and our colleague from Virginia Jim Moran.

Mr. Speaker, this week, we have seen continuing media reports about the ongoing violence in the province of Kosovo and about atrocities by Serbian military and police forces against ethnic Albanians. This week there were reports of a massacre. Last week, human rights groups reported about summary executions by Serbian forces, including the killing of women and children. International human rights organizations have reported on these atrocities and are documenting the violence and the deaths.

Until about a decade ago, the province of Kosovo was an autonomous province of Serbia, and as such the ethnic Albanian majority was able to exercise considerable autonomy and self-government in the conduct of their local affairs. Ten years ago, as Slobodan Milosevic began his rise to power in Serbia, and in that effort, he fostered the rise of Serbian ultranationalism for narrow partisan political purposes. One of the results of that policy was that under Milosevic, the Serbian government began a systematic campaign of self-government of the ethnic Albanian majority in the province of Kosovo and restricting the human and civil rights of these people. Over the past decade, the Department of State has reported and documented this systematic and brutal repression of the ethnic Albanians of Kosovo.

Despite these Serbian policies, a highly respected Albanian leadership emerged which favored a peaceful, non-violent effort to win local government autonomy and respect for the civil and human rights of the majority population. Because of the increasingly repressive Serbian policies, however, Albanians who favored a violent and confrontational approach have gained strength. The increasing assertion of Albanianness, in the con
csequence of this ill-conceived aggressive nationalist Serbian repression and the failure of the Serbian government to recognize the legitimate rights of the ethnic Albanians of Kosovo.

At a recent hearing of the House Committee on International Relations we heard from officials of the Department of State about the increasing violence taking place in Kosovo. It struck me at that time, Mr. Speaker, that the government assets of the government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) which have been blocked by the United States government should be used to pay for the destruction which has been caused by the actions of the Serbian police and military forces in Kosovo. For this reason, I have introduced House Concurrent Resolution 315. Our resolution expresses the Congress’ outrage at the wanton destruction of life and property that has resulted from Serbian military actions in Kosovo.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me as a cosponsor of this resolution, and I ask that the text of this resolution be included in the Record.
them to rubble, in order to drive out the ethni
can Albanian inhabitants, inflicting heavy
material losses upon the ethnic Albanians in
Kosova;
Whereas hundreds of ethnic Albanians, in
ccluding women and children, have been
killed and over two hundred thousand ethnic
Albans have been forced to flee home to
become refugees as a result of this Serbian
military action;
Whereas the stubborn denial of human
rights and political rights to the ethnic Alba
nian majority in Kosova by the Government
of Serbia has been the major factor in the
radicalization of the political situation in
the province and made the prospect of a
peaceful resolution of the conflict there dif
cult if not impossible; and
Whereas the United States and the govern
ments of other countries have blocked the
assets of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia
(Serbia and Montenegro);
Now, therefore, be it
Resolved by the House of Representatives (the
Session concurring) that the Congress
(1) deeply decries and strongly condemns the
appalling loss of life and the extensive
destruction of property in Kosova that is the
consequence of the brutal actions of Serbian
forces and the mass displacement of the ethnic
Albanian population of the province;
(2) believes that the government of Serbia is
primarily responsible for the loss of life and
destruction of property, and thus Serbia
should bear the principal burden of providing
compensation for the loss of life and for the
costs of rebuilding areas which it forces have
devastated;
(3) urges the President and officials he des
ignates to work with the Congress to draft
legislation and regulations which will permit
ethn minorities in Kosova who have suf
fered as a consequence of the brutal actions of
Serbian police and military forces in Kosova to
make claims against the assets of the
Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and
Montenegro) which are in the control of the
United States or which have been
blocked by action of the United States gov
ernment, and in drafting this legislation and
regulations special consideration should be
given to the circumstances of the Govern
ment of the Republic of Montenegro and to
persons located in and organized under the
laws of the Republic of Montenegro;
(4) urges the President and the Secretary of
State to urge all other countries to follow
this same policy to permit claims by ethnic
Albans who have suffered as a con
sequence of the brutal actions of Serbian
police and military forces in Kosova to
make claims against the assets of the Federal
Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montene
gro) which are in the control of the respect
ive country, and
(5) requests that a copy of this resolution be
transmitted to the President and the Secre
tary of State by the Clerk of the House of
Representatives and the Secretary of the
Senate.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JO ANN EMERSON
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to clar
ify my vote on Roll Call vote 384, Mr. Bass’
amendment to the Commerce, State, Justice,
and the Judiciary Appropriations bill. Yester
day, I inadvertently voted “Nay” when I in
 tended to vote “Aye.”
Mr. Bass’ amendment would have trans
ferred funds from the Advanced Technology
Program (ATP) to the Edward Byrne grant
program at the Department of Justice, an ef
fort which I strongly support. The Byrne grant
program is a valuable tool for local law en
forcement in the fight against the crime and
drug problems that threaten our neighbor
hoods. I believe that scarce taxpayer dollars
are better spent on a violent crime-prevention
program than in the “corporate welfare” ATP, which I have consistently opposed.

HONORING JACK SULLIVAN ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN
OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask my col
leagues to join me in honoring John (Jack)
Sullivan of Sandwich, Massachusetts, who re
tired July 31, 1998, from the Internal Revenue
Service.

Jack is truly one of the finest public servants I know. Not only did he do his job profes
sionally, responsibly, with dignity and with
courtesy, he sought to teach those attributes to those around him.

Jack continues to serve the public through his civic activities. He believes in the impor
tance of getting involved, and exemplifies the idea that one man can truly make a differ
cence, and that all men should try. As the leader of the NTEU Massachusetts Coalition, he
has dedicated himself to educating public sector employees and the public sector about the
importance in getting involved in legislative and
political activities. He was part of the fight to
ensure that federal employees have more of
the protection from the political activities. He was part of the fight to
dedicate himself to educating public sector
and then to persuade them to use those politi
cal rights. And, he has taken the time to edu
cate me about the issues that are of impor
tance to federal employees—especially those
of the employees at the IRS.

I am proud to call Jack my friend, proud to
know that our country was served for over thir
teen years by such a dedicated public servant
and proud that I will continue to be able to
work with Jack on the federal employee and
PKU issues that are so important to him.

I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing
the best of luck to Jack and his family upon
the occasion of his retirement.

TRUE REALITIES OF OUR HEMISPHERE

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, with an eye
toward this country’s emerging all-embracing
trade arrangement with our Latin American
neighbors, as outlined in the recent second
heads-of-government meeting at the Summit
of the Americas in Chile, we in this country
would do well to better familiarize ourselves
with the true realities found in the rest of the
world. We have increased in a better posi
tion to discharge our responsibility of expres
sing some words of caution or encouragement
to our citizens and U.S.-based corporations
that are considering whether to make invest
ments throughout the region, including in Ar
gentina.

Over the last few years, Latin America un
doubtedly has made genuine improvements in
the fields of economic development as well as
the observance of human rights. But much work
remains to be done regarding the region’s respect for the
rule of law. This was one of the main points
made in a major article in the July 27th issues
of the highly regarded British publication, The
Financial Times. In which a journalistic ex
pansion was listed as a major problem in Argentina
today. Similar articles have indicated that
problems stemming from a tainted judiciary are
found throughout the region.

We are familiar with the need to wage simi
lar battles in the U.S. to achieve the observ
ance of justice and tough human rights stand
ards, so we cannot be smug over such mat
ters. But we can and must be forthright in ex
pressing our opinions when the well being of
our fellow citizens may be at stake and the
welfare of one of our neighbor’s citizens is
being flagrantly flouted by an unscrupulous judi
iciary that protects the human rights of its
own citizens in Latin America also enforces
criminal law respecting foreign invest
ments.

It is for this reason that, with alarm, we read
reports issued by the OAS and USAID, as well
as by the State Department, speaking about
the inadequacies of the Latin American judi
ciaries, where the presence of corruption and
venality is at times, almost beyond exaggera
 tion, be it in Honduras—perhaps the worst
case—and Paraguay, or a corrupt judiciary in
Argentina (one of the worst). Without an hon
est judiciary there is no level playing field and
no reliable rules of the game. The pseudo in
tegrity of the Latin American court system is
only raveled in scope by the substitution of
democratic form in place of substance in much
of the region. This reality has to be of great
concern to us.

Argentina is a good example of many of
these points. Despite Buenos Aires’ continued
claim that it is reforming its admittedly gang
ster-like judiciary into one that is less at the
decay of its justice system. However, the Latin American jurists are aware of the poor state of
many of the judges it selected who still sit on
the bench. The Argentinian justice system is
corporation, there are good reasons to believe
that its court system is apparently taking seri
ous steps backwards. This is the case in spite
of the fact that Argentine justice officials have
gotten in a headlong rush of proposals for
the judicial system. This line of reasoning is
wholly unfounded.

Argentina is a good example of the many cases where the judicial system is in a state of
chaos. This is especially true in Argentina, where the presence of corruption and venality is
at times, almost beyond exaggeration. In the case of a venal judiciary in the hemisphere, or
where the presence of corruption and venality is at times, almost beyond exaggeration.
August 7, 1998

COUNCIL ON HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS' distinguished biweekly publication, the Washington Report on the Hemisphere, provides a thorough critique. This includes outlandish tactics which that highly regarded Buenos Aires cultural and educational institution has had to endure at the hands of extremist and unprincipled elements of the Argentine judiciary.

We all have heard stories concerning the continued legacy of corruption and disregard for constitutional guarantees that exists in Argentina. These have been compounded by the long tradition of virulent anti-Semitism in the country, as exemplified by the sanctuary that Argentina's courts have served as a persecutor of the AMIA, one of the two aforementioned wanantry agencies involved in the bombings of two Jewish-related Buenos Aires facilities in the last few years, at a cost of over 100 lives. Last April, a delegation of our Hill colleagues went to Argentina, where they were diligent in promoting the cause of human rights. The Argentine authorities have been the Keystone cop antics surrounding the farcical investigation of the bombings.

It hasn't helped that Menem fosters political cynicism as his modus operandi, rather than providing genuine leadership or any thing approaching a vision. His lack of class and his inability to comprehend strong ethical standards, has left the country without a moral compass. His readiness to participate in the cover up of a number of infamous cases, including the bombing of two Jewish entities, with heavy loss of life has emphasized the desperation of the region's deplorable court systems, beginning with Argentina.

TIME TO BRING PEACE TO CYPRUS

SPEECH OF
HON. DAVID E. BONIOR
OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 3, 1998

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, it has been 24 years since the Turkish invasion of Cyprus. In 1974, almost 200,000 Greek Cypriots, a third of the total Greek Cypriot population were forced to abandon their homes and became refugees overnight. For the past two decades Greek Cypriots have been denied one of the most basic of human rights—the right to live in the communities that have been home to generations of their families.

The human rights problem also includes the thousands who have disappeared since the onset of the conflict. In addition to those who were killed and expelled at the time of the invasion, over 30,000 Greeks are unaccounted for. In 1974, almost 200,000 Greek Cypriots—today there are still more than 1,800 accounted for Greek Cypriots.

One such case concerns the fate of Andreas Kassapis whose parents living in Michigan recently learned of his fate after 23 years of searching for him. During the 1974 invasion, Andreas was kidnapped in Cyprus by Turkish-Cypriots. In 1994, Congress mandated the President to conduct a thorough investigation to determine the whereabouts of missing American citizens. This spring, Andreas' parents were informed that his son's remains have already been found. It was then released to the Kassapis family for a formal burial. This tragedy is one of many that continue to occur in divided Cyprus.

The illegal occupation of 37 percent of Cyprus territory by the Turkish troops, as well as the deepening of Turkey and the Turkish Cypriot leadership to conduct talks has caused the existing standstill. In the meantime, a new generation is coming of age amid a divided and militarized society within a country that will never be an equal free member of the European Community as long as it stands divided.

As a defender of freedom and human rights, we cannot allow ourselves to ignore this illegal occupation.
A TRIBUTE TO IAN B. ZELLICK
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I am here to share with you the life of a legendary Oaklander, Mr. Ian B. Zellick, television pioneer and civic leader, who died on July 27 after a brief illness at age 73.

Mr. Zellick was the first staff member at a local television station in the City of Oakland, KTUU-TV Channel 2 where he was hired in 1958 as employee number 001. He worked at Channel 2 for more than 32 years; first as a set designer and artist, but it is for his more than 20 years as Director of the Community Affairs Department that Mr. Zellick is best remembered.

Under his direction, the Community Affairs Department’s share of air time at KTUU grew from 30 minutes a week to more than six hours a week. Show topics ranged from politics to the concerns of various ethnic and minority communities. He opened the doors of the station to all corners of the community. If more than two people wanted to debate or discuss something, Mr. Zellick gave them air time.

His enthusiasm for the community also took him outside the station to serve on dozens of boards and commissions. One year (1984) Mr. Zellick was on 26 community boards and commissions. The Oakland Ballet, the Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra of the West, Both Memorial Home, the displaced Home-makers, the Oakland Symphony, and the Oakland Opera. People who knew him described him as a self-styled one-man community networker, involved in education, music, dance, mental health, and pregnant teens. He was able to form links between dissimilar agencies. For instance, when an important resident service for pregnant teens was threatened, he facilitated an arrangement between Oakland’sYWCA and the Salvation Army’s Booth Center, thus insuring the service would continue.

After he retired from KTUU in 1990, Mr. Zellick concentrated on the Philharmonia Baroque, the San Francisco Early Music Society, and the East Bay Agency for Children. EBC runs residential and day care facilities for disturbed kids and he was honored by them for “A Lifetime of Service to the East Bay Community.” He received accolades and numerous awards, including member of the Philharmonia and the Preceptor Award from the annual national Broadcasting Industry Conference in recognition of his work encouraging and supporting young people in the field of broadcasting.

Mr. Zellick was born on June 7, 1925 in San Francisco. He got his BA from San Francisco State University and his MA from Mills College.

KHALISTANI DELEGATION TESTIFIES AT UNITED NATIONS

HON. DON BURTON
OF IOWA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, recently a delegation of Khalistani Americans led by Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulkah, President of the Council of Khalistan, testified before the United Nations Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances, which was meeting in New York City. While there, they exposed the massive human rights violations by the Indian Government in Punjab, Khalistan. Joining Dr. Aulkah were Dr. Paramjit Singh Ajrataw of Maryland, Professor Gurcharan Singh of Marymount University in New York, Judge Mewa Singh of New Jersey, and Makkat Singh Heir, also of New Jersey.

The testimony revealed that it has requested permission to visit India and has been denied. The same thing has happened to Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and others who have tried to conduct an independent human rights investigation. India obviously has plenty to hide.

Even though the government in Punjab is not led by the Sikh Akali Dal political party, there have still been over 150 atrocities documented since the coalition with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in 1997. It is ironic that while the Khalistani delegation was testifying, the news broke that Rajiv Singh Randhawa, a witness who identified the police officers who kidnapped human rights activist Jaspal Singh Khalra, was himself ab ducted by the police. A few days later, Japal Singh Dhillon, who worked with Mr. Khalra on his report exposing the mass cremations of Sikhs by the Indian Government, was also arrested on a false charge. Shortly after that, his lawyer, Daljit Dhillon, was picked up on the same false charge.

The July 9–15, 1998 issue of Awaze Qaum reported that the police picked up Kashmore Singh of the village of Khudial Kalan on the pretext that he was investigating a theft. They then tortured Kashmir Singh for 15 days. They rolled logs over his legs until he couldn’t walk. They submerged him in a tub of water. They smashed his thighs with razor blades and stuffed hot peppers into his wounds. Then the police claimed that Kashmir Singh had escaped, a bad sign that he has most likely been murdered by the police. In addition, they arrested his father and brother, who I understand are also being subjected to torture. How can a country that systemsatically violates basic human rights like this call itself democratic?

It is clear from these events that there is no place for Sikhs or other minorities within India’s borders. As Dr. Aulkah has said, “police abuses including illegal detentions, forced abductions, use of torture, rape, and murder have continued much like they have continued since 1984.” What is worse is that there has been active collusion by the Akali Government with police forces to cover up past abuses and to distract from present abuses. Without effective international pressure, the whereabouts of the abductees will never be determined and every day, other innocent people will join the ranks of the disappeared.” With nuclear weapons involved in South Asia, these terrible violations of basic human rights are even more dangerous to the entire world.

I am inserting Dr. Aulkah’s testimony and the Council of Khalistan’s press release into the RECORD for the information of my colleagues. I urge them to read it carefully. It is frightening, but quite informative. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

TESTIMONY OF DR. GURMIT SINGH AULKAH, PRESIDENT, COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN BEFORE THE 54TH SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ENFORCED OR INVOLUNTARY DISAPPEARANCES

Ladies and Gentlemen: Let me begin by thanking you for the opportunity to speak to the Working Group again this year. I would like to update you on disappearances in the Sikh homeland, Punjab, Khalistan. When I reported to you last year, the Sikh homeland was in a deplorable situation. It has not improved. If anything, it has been made worse by the presence of Indian missiles deployed in Punjab after its recent conflict.

This deployment puts Sikh lives at risk to preserve those of the ruling class. The BJP has shown an openly hegemonic agenda towards its South Asian neighbors. There is no doubt that if war breaks out, India and Pakistan, Punjab will be the battleground, as it was for the last three wars fought between the two nations and once again, Sikhs will bear the most casualties in this nuclear holocaust.

I would like to thank the many committed people whose efforts have helped us develop this information to present to you. My statement is more a result of their efforts than my own.

The human-rights situation in Punjab, Khalistan remains as bad as it ever was. The renowned journalist and writer Kushwant Singh has said last May that he personally approved of the police method of simply grabbing Sikh youth and shooting them in the head without bothering with the courts, he stated, and I quote, “I supported the police in its extra-judicial killings.”

Former Speaker of the Indian Parliament Balram Jakhar said, “If we have to kill a million Sikhs to preserve India’s territorial integrity, so be it.” This is echoed by NPR on August 11, 1997, Narinder Singh, identified as a spokesman for the Golden Temple, said that “The Indian government all the time they boast that they’re democratic, they’re secular, but they have nothing to do with a democracy, they have nothing to do with a secularism. They try to create confusion just to please India.”

On May 12, the chairman of India’s National Human Rights Commission reported that the NHRC had received 38,000 cases in the last few months. This tells us the magnitude of human-rights violations in India because only a small fraction of cases are reported due to intimidation by the police, poverty, and illiteracy.

What terrifies the Sikh community about this dangerous scenario is the ease by which past Indian Governments have been able to make Sikhs disappear and kill them with impunity. Since 1984, an estimated quarter million Sikhs have lost their lives, but those responsible, men like K.P.S. Gill, are applauded in India as superheroes. It has been proven in the ballot box that when a political party, be it BJP or Congress, targets a minority community such as Muslims, Christians, or Sikhs, they win elections.
The cried. As I was about to fetch some water, he had stopped breathing. This is what happens to someone when he tries to expose India’s brutal penal policy of disappearances and mass cremations.

According to Indian Express, Kuldeep Singh told the Central Investigation Centre (CBI) that the brutal former Director General of Police, K. P. S. Gill, was involved in the Khaira kidnapping and murder. Kuldeep Singh states that he met with Mr. Khaira just days before his death. The police subsequently dumped their bodies in the canal and falsely accused them of being burned.

When Khaira and several police officers were riding back to the police station, according to Kuldeep Singh, Satnam Singh, the SHO of the Chhabal station, told Mr. Khaira that “if you agree to Gill, you will be spared.” The Coordination Committee for Disappearances in Punjab, a human-rights group from Punjab, has demanded that CBI file charges against Gill for his involvement in the abduction and murder of Mr. Khaira. After Kuldeep Singh’s testimony but before it became public, the government filed false charges against Gill. Parges that Kaur Khaira tried to hide Kuldeep Singh. This was an effort to discredit Kuldeep Singh’s testimony and undermine Mrs. Khaira’s case against the government. Even the Punjab DGP said that the matter was investigated by the crime branch, which found the case untenable. Kuldeep Singh is now under the protection of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) because he fears liquidation by officials of the Punjab police.

Unfortunately, the Khalra kidnapping is typical practice by Indian security forces. Lawyers, journalists, and rights activists have been made to disappear to instill fear among the people. According to The Hitvada, at least one journalist received a phone call warning him that “it is dangerous to report against the government.”

The lawyer for Mr. Khaira’s widow was subjected to an intimidation attempt in a court-room in front of a judge and his tires were slashed. Mr. Sodhi, a lawyer from Ropar who was representing accused Sikh militants in the Khalra kidnapping, was arrested by the crime branch, which found no evidence to back their claim.

Amnesty International, in its 1996 report, stated “Legislation allowing detention without charge or trial for an indefinite period is still in place in India. … many of those detained under its provisions remained in custody.”

Furthermore, TADA revocation has simply applied to those times commencing before the revocation date. As long as the police allege that the accused committed a crime BEFORE the revocation date, which they can do without any evidence to back their claim, TADA methods can be used to detain the accused indefinitely. For all intents and purposes, TADA remains in effect. There are thousands of detainees languishing in jails throughout India who are officially declared missing or escaped, but in fact in detention. The estimates of those detained are impossible to ascertain, but the number of Sikhs may be 20,000. This does not include the tens of thousands of Muslims, Assamese, Manipuris and other minorities detained under TADA.

Since 1993, India has also deflected its human rights record by pointing to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), a Commission set up under pressure by the international community. Like any effective organization, the NHRC cannot operate without power, resources and credibility. The NHRC has none of these attributes.

As I had mentioned in my testimony last year, the NHRC has no power to directly investigate human rights violations. It has no jurisdiction over violations committed by the security and military forces. The NHRC has
no power to prosecute violators or compensate victims. Also, there is a one-year statute of limitations based on when the crime was committed. Thus, you could only bring a case within a year or so after it allegedly occurred. Therefore, the vast majority of Sikh killings, disappearances, rape and other violations cannot even be brought before the NHRC.

Cases filed with the NHRC are often ignored by the NHRC itself, even when human rights activists file them. In my previous report I based on on how the co-producer of the video documentary "Disappearances in Punjab", Ram Narayan Kumar was illegally detained at Delhi airport by the Indian security and intelligence personnel on January 19 and 20, 1997.

The complaint for the illegal detention that Mr. Kumar sent to NHRC and India's Domestic institutions alone cannot deal with the fear to combat secessionist movements."

It is my fervent hope, a hope shared by many Sikhs throughout the world, that the work of the People's Commission have impeccable credentials. All are former jurists. The People's Commission is a response to the failure of the Indian State terrorism. It must be nurtured and supported by the international community. If the People's Commission are not monitored and broadcasting the truth of the last 14 years, it will serve as an example of a peaceful and effective response to state violence. The model of the People's Commission can be applied to other situations throughout the world where bloody conflict is the norm instead of the exception.

Unfortunately, the Akali state government continues to resist the People's Commission. Instead, the state government has given into the temptation and used the police and security forces much like previous state governments, to eliminate any and all opposition to its rule; including political opposition.

I have enumerated all of atrocities that lists almost 130 atrocities, including several disappearances, in Punjab since the Akalis took power in March 1997. I had mentioned and submitted last year to the Working Group a letter written by a group of respected human-rights activists last year states that 50,000 cash bounties were distributed to Punjab police for killing Sikhs between 1991 and 1993. The figure does not include paramilitary and vigilante force killings. Some of the militants allegedly killed by police have filed cases before the Punjab and Haryana High Court requesting protection from the police. The letter rightly asks, and I quote, "If these dead men are alive, who have the police killed?"

The letter cites evidence from human-rights groups and the national press that 50,000 Sikhs disappeared in the state in 1994 alone. The Indian government has murdered more than 250,000 Sikhs since 1984 according to the book, The Politics of Genocide, by the conovernor of the Movement Against State Repression, Mr. Jaspal Singh Dhillon. The book draws its figure from the Punjab State Magistracy. It is my fervent hope, a hope shared by Sikhs throughout the world, that the work of the People's Commission will account for every last person killed in this last decade and a half. It will be the first step in a long road to bring those responsible to account for their crimes.

In light of these facts, I would respectfully submit the following recommendations for the working group.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1

The Working Group should recommend the long-term presence of international human rights monitors in Punjab, Khalistan. In addition, the Working Group should recommend an Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch Asia and other international groups be allowed to operate freely throughout Khalistan.

Domestic institutions cannot deal with the human rights crisis plaguing the Sikh homeland. Neither the courts, the NHRC or the Punjab state government is willing to investigate these crimes. The Working Group should encourage international monitors to investigate all of the facts of the genocide are collected, the fear of Indian government retaliation will be too great to yield an accurate picture of the death toll.

Recommendation 2

The Working Group should encourage internationally monitored investigations of public crematoriums throughout Punjab, as it will likely bring to resolution many of the disappearances.

As far as we can determine, virtually none of the individuals named in the list I gave the Working Group last year has been released. A year later, this is still the case. Although the police allege that these persons were killed, no bodies have been returned, no identification has been verified and no valid death certificate has been issued. It is highly likely that many of them were cremated as unidentified by the Indian police. A thorough investigation of all public crematoriums throughout Khalistan will provide a final answer. Resolution of disappearances should be nurtured and supported by the international community.

Recommendation 3

The Working Group should urge India to disallow all pending cases under TADA. Internationally monitored investigations should be made of detention centers throughout India to ensure that the tens of thousands of TADA detainees are released from custody.

Despite India government claims to the contrary, TADA remains. Immediate census should be conducted involving international monitors to ensure that detention center's throughout India no longer contain political and religious prisoners. Many Sikhs were taken to jails outside Punjab and are rotting there.

Recommendation 4

The Working Group should recommend that Indian authorities cease abducting, harassing and murdering human rights activists and other Sikhs. The persons involved in the kidnaping and murder of Jaspal Singh Dhillon, Jaspal Singh Bajwa and other minority peoples should be punished and the government should guarantee the safety of human-rights activists, monitors, all Sikhs, and all other minority peoples.

About two weeks ago, Jaspal Singh Dhillon, a human-rights activist, and four others were falsely charged with conspiracy to blow up a jail to free a Sikh militant. The police had filed an FIR (First Investigative Report) charging that Mr. Dhillon and the others were involved in a conspiracy to blow up a jail and assassinate Indian police. No court magistrate has validated these charges by the police and when human-rights activists protested the charges, the police re- leased them in their pursuit of Mr. Dhillon and the others. However, the police shifted the very same charges to ten other Sikh youths, very young Sikh boys who would less capable of resisting police tactics. They are now in detention and it is extremely likely that they are being tortured. This is typical of the way the police concoct false cases against human-rights activists and any other Sikhs they want to harass.

Recommendation 5

The Working Group should publicly support the work of the People's Commission and other organizations attempting to bring international assistance in achieving the most comprehensive and objective investigation possible.
The Working Group should acknowledge in its annual report the work of the People's Commission. This will not only provide much needed international recognition of the Commission. It will make such initiatives visible to Indian security and government officials to harass or even kill those individuals involved in the very risky business required by the Commission. The Working Group should also provide technical assistance to the Commission so that the data they collect and the method of collection conforms to international standards of human rights documentation.

Recommendation 6

The Working Group should recommend measures against the Government of India until they comply with all of the international treaties and covenants regarding human rights to which the state of Punjab is a party.

The above recommendations do not resolve the core issues between Sikhs and the Indian Government which gave rise to these abuses, issues that boil down to the right of the Sikh nation to national self-determination. But they do help open Punjab, Khalistan to the international community. This must occur before any credible investigation regarding disappearances, extrajudicial killings, torture and rape can begin.

Only international pressure will stop the campaign, and only sanctions will yield the necessary pressure to make India act in accordance with international law. Only sanctions will force India to respect the human rights of the people it purports to govern. Without effective international pressure, the whereabouts of the abductees will never be determined and every day, other innocent people will join the ranks of the disappeared.

Thank you.

**KHALISTANI DELEGATION TESTIFIES BEFORE UN WORKING GROUP ON DISAPPEARANCES**

**WASHINGTON, July 18—Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, testified yesterday before the United Nations Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances. Also testifying were Paramjit Singh, a human rights activist, and Professor Gurcharan Singh of Marymount University in New York, and Judge Mewa Singh of New Jersey, and Malikat Singh Heer, also of New Jersey.**

The Working Group said that if they can get a list of the disappeared, they will investigate. They have asked India for permission to visit, and India has granted it, as other independent human-rights monitors have been. They said that they will try again.

While the Khalistani delegation was testifying to the United Nations, word came out that the police abducted Ravinder Singh Randhawa, who was an eyewitness to the police kidnapping of human-rights activist Jaswant Singh Khalra, yesterday. This abduction is typical of police conduct in Punjab. The police have murdered more than 250,000 people since 1984.Disappearances continue to be routine.

"With the Akali party election victory in March 1997, the police picked up Kashmira Singh of the village of Khudal Kalan in Mansa district on the pretext of investigating a theft. They tortured her for over her legs, submerging her in a tub of water, cutting his thighs with a blade and stuffing red peppers into the wounds. Then they placed her in a refrigerator. Kashmira Singh had escaped from the police station and they arrested her elderly father and a minor brother. They, too, are being tortured. The villagers are afraid that Kashmira Singh was killed during the torture and that her body was disposed of as usual."

In another recent development, Jaspal Singh Dhillon and four other human-rights activists were falsely charged with conspiring to blow up a jail to free an allotted "militant." When the human-right community objected, the charges were dropped under pressure. The Punjab government under Chief Minister Badal has spent more than 2 crore (20 million) rupees for legal fees to protect the police officers who participated in the genocide against the Sikh nation.

"Only international pressure will stop the campaign, and only sanctions will yield the necessary pressure to make India act in accordance with international law," Dr. Aulakh said. "Without effective international pressure, the whereabouts of the abductees will be determined and every day, other innocent people will join the ranks of the disappeared."

**AUBURN HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP BASEBALL TEAM**

**HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**Thursday, August 6, 1998**

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege on this special occasion to highlight the 1998 Massachusetts State Champion MIAA Division 2 Auburn High School Rockets from Auburn Massachusetts. This remarkable group of young men ended the season with a record of 25–0, remaining undefeated during District, Regional, and State competition. The Championship game was held in Fenway Park, home of the World Renowned Boston Red Sox.

The history of this team foretold their success. In 1993 they won the State Junior Little League Championship, and in 1995 the State Senior Little League Championship. Team Captain Greg Spanos broke the school batting record with .544, edging out his older brother Bryan who previously had the distinction.

The team members are number and name: 7—Greg Spanos, Captain; 8—Mark Porcaro; 9—Dave Lebel; 10—Matt Clark; 11—Dan Dufrenee; 12—Sean Lucey; 13—Derrick Hume; 14—Scott Wrenn; 15—Brian Macphe; 16—Tom Janowski; 17—Darren Natoli; 18—Derrick Hume; 19—Justin Blanchard; 20—Darren Natoli; 21—Seth Paradise; 22—Mike Richard; 23—Adam Silun; 24—Keith Gonyea; Coaches: Paul Fenton—Varsity, Kevin Sloan—Junior Varsity; Assistant Coaches: Pete Pellegrino, Bruce Richards, Brian Finn; Manager/Scorekeeper: Derek Charbonneau; Bat Boys: Drew Griboons and Kurt Bowes.

The citizens of Auburn celebrate with pride their accomplishments of these talented young athletes. On behalf of everyone in my district, I offer my heartfelt congratulations.

**A TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF JAMES WELDON HADNOT, SR.**

**HON. BARBARA LEE OF CALIFORNIA**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**Thursday, August 6, 1998**

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great sense of loss that I pay tribute to Mr. James Weldon Hadnot, Sr., a legend in the Bay Area and to the world of basketball, who left us on August 3, 1998. James joined the NBA as a player in 1962 with my Oakland District Staff, Julie Hadnot.

James Weldon Hadnot, Sr., was born in Jasper, Texas on January 5, 1940 to Roosevelt and Arvettet Hadnot, the third of five children. At the age of three, his family moved to Oakland, California. James attended Oakland Public Schools graduating from McClymonds’ High School in 1958. At McClymonds’ he was a premier athlete, leading his basketball team to three outstanding seasons. In 1958, his team won the Tournament of Champions with a 28–0 win.

James received a basketball scholarship to attend Providence College in Rhode Island. While at Providence, he led his team to three consecutive NIT appearances, receiving First Team All-Tournament honors at each of these appearances. In 1961, James led the Friars to the NCAA Championship. In 1962, Providence Friars’ team garnered a record of 68 and 16 during his career. In 1974, James was inducted into the Providence College Hall of Fame.

He graduated from Providence in 1962 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics. Shortly thereafter, he was selected by the Boston Celtics of the National Basketball Association (NBA). In 1963 he returned to Oakland to play for the Oakland Oaks of the American Basketball League (ABL). He later played for the Oakland Oaks of the American Basketball Association (ABA), which won an ABA Championship in 1969. Between 1982 and 1987 James coached basketball at Laney and Alameda Community Colleges and Holy Names College. In 1987, he rejoined the NBA as a Scout for the Sacramento Kings. In 1991 he began working with the New Jersey Nets as a Scout for the western region.

James was also an entrepreneur with three liquor stores in 1963. The most notable was Hadnot Liquors on Shattuck Avenue in Berkeley. He later sold them and opened the Safari Cocktail Lounge on Foothill Boulevard in Oakland.

Throughout his life, James was actively involved in the civic and sports community. He was a member of the California State Package & Tavern Owners Association, the Grass Valley PTA, the Alameda County Cerebral Palsy Board, the American Basketball Association Alumni and the McClymonds’ Alumni Association, just to name a few of the many. He also served as a Catholic Youth Organization Basketball Coach at St. Paschal’s School in Oakland.

He found great pleasure in spending time with his family and friends. James was an avid golfer, spending many days as a Marshall at the Lake Chabot Golf Course. James is survived by his wife Norma (Cookie), sons, Dorian, Shawn; daughters, Julie and Jana; daughter-in-law Ebony; grandchildren, James III; sister, Virgie Stringfield; brother,
Benny Hadnot; mother-in-law, Edith Del Prete; brother-in-law, Gino Del Prete. He was preceded in death by his son James, Jr. He will be missed by his family, friends, colleagues and the community.

TRIBUTE TO SOPHIE MADEJ
HON. MARCY KAPTUR
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998
Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sophie Madej, a remarkable woman, a Polish-American from Chicago who recently closed the doors to her neighborhood diner, The Busy Bee Restaurant. Ms. Madej, who recently turned seventy on July 5, plans on visiting her homeland during her retirement.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I submit today, for the record, an article from The Chicago Sun-Times that acknowledges the work of Sophie Madej and the closing of her Busy Bee Restaurant. Although, the Busy Bee will be missed, all of those who dined there will have many lasting memories. May I wish Ms. Madej continued happiness and success.

RETIREMENT OF THOMAS SHIVELY
HON. NICK SMITH
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998
Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished gentleman in my district who has performed commendable service to the U.S. Air Force.

On Friday, August 7, 1998, Colonel Thomas L. Shively, Commander, Air Force Cataloging and Standardization Center (CASC), in Battle Creek, Michigan, will retire from active duty after over twenty-six years of service in our U.S. Armed Forces. On this day CASC will be deactivated and Michigan will lose its last remaining active duty Air Force installation.

Colonel Shively served as CASC Commander from September, 1996 to August of this year. During that time, I have had the distinct pleasure of working with him and his staff on issues facing the CASC and all cataloging operations at the Federal Center.

Tom served as the Air Force’s representative to the Department of Defense’s Cataloging and Centralization Study which selected Battle Creek as the site at which to centralize all cataloging operations. Colonel Shively and the men and women of CASC, along with the Defense Logistics Information Service Center, now known as the Defense Logistics Information Service (DLIS), were instrumental in the decision-making process to locate the new cataloging center in Battle Creek in March of 1997.

Mr. Speaker, it should be readily apparent that Colonel Thomas Shively accomplished much during his tenure as Commander. CASC has been a leader in improving its operations through automation, process improvements, and entrepreneurship, which has resulted in improved efficiency throughout the organization. As the Defense Logistics Information Service (DLIS) was in the process of modernizing the way it focuses on measuring processes to measuring performance, CASC has been a role model for the extensive customer service oriented approach it has taken over the last several years.

The men and women of CASC have become experts at what they do. So much so that today they handle cataloging functions for the National Weather Service and the Federal Aviation Administration, and, at this time, are negotiating contracts with other agencies as well.

CASC also has put its expertise to work to help identify those missing in Action during the Vietnam War by matching aircraft parts to the corresponding aircraft, which in turn help identify the crews aboard those planes.

Colonel Shively also succeeded in reducing the work force by over one hundred people without involuntary separation and streamlined the budget for 1998 saving taxpayers over $3.7 million, which was returned to the Air Force’s Materiel Command to meet other budget shortfalls. These and examples of his bold and responsible leadership Colonel Shively has demonstrated and what others have come to expect from him.

Colonel Shively also has been an active member of our Battle Creek community. He is a member of the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce, the American Business Clubs (AMBUCS), the Knights of Columbus, Character Counts, a volunteer at the Veteran’s Administration Hospital, a speaker before numerous groups, and a member of St. Philip’s Catholic Church.

Colonel Shively plans to remain in the Battle Creek area to become the Assistant Director of the Battle Creek Area Math and Science Center. I am confident that the bright and talented students of the Math and Science Center will benefit from the same type of leadership that Tom has given CASC over the years.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, Bonnie and I salute Colonel Shively and wish him, his wife Barbara and their two children the very best in the years to come. On behalf of my constituents in Calhoun County, I also offer Colonel Shively my profound thanks for a job well done.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY, MR. STARR
HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998
Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, anniversaries are typically a time for reflection—a time to think about where we came from and where we are going. Yesterday was the fourth anniversary of Mr. Starr’s $40 million investigation of the President, and it is appropriate that we take a moment to reflect upon what the Independent Counsel has done over the years, and what he has done for America.

Four years ago, Mr. Starr was appointed by the Special Division of the D.C. Circuit to look into allegations of wrongdoing involving an Arkansas land deal called Whitewater. While he did obtain several convictions and guilty pleas in that case, I think it is wrong that he has never publicly cleared either the President or First Lady. His role as Independent Counsel is not simply to charge wrongdoers with crimes, but to clear the innocent when the facts warrant it. So, when the Whitewater investigation in Arkansas finished its business months ago without any further indictments, a duty arose to publicly clear the President and First Lady of the public smears that have been made against them.

Two-and-a-half years ago, Mr. Starr turned his attention to the firing of the White House Travel Office, the so-called Travelgate matter. So far, we have not heard a peep from the Independent Counsel on Travelgate, even though it is widely reported that there has not been any grand jury activity on that front for some time. Once again, Mr. Starr has not admitted to the public that the President and First Lady were innocent of any wrongdoing.

Two years ago, Mr. Starr’s investigation expanded again, this time to whether White House staff may have misused confidential FBI files, the so-called Filegate matter. As with Travelgate, we have not heard anything from Mr. Starr on this topic, even though there does not seem to have been any grand jury activity in some time. But again, no steps have been taken to publicly clear anyone in the White House.

Now, as we know, Mr. Starr is investigating the President’s sex life. That is unheard of in the history of American politics. I think George McGovern said it best this week when he remarked that “this whole Ken Starr shenanigan is a disgrace to the Republic. I find it almost impossible to believe that we have a publicly-paid sex policeman roaming around this country.”

I couldn’t have said it better. After four full years and $40 million, we are investigating things that are strictly the business of the President and the First Lady, and no one else. Mr. Starr, if you are going to send a report to Congress, send a report. But let’s not drag this never-ending investigation on toward another unprecedented and unnecessary anniversary.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL
HON. NANCY PELOSI
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998
Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, on July 18, 1998 the African-American Civil War Memorial was dedicated in Washington, DC. This memorial pays tribute to the Black soldiers who fought in the Union Army to end slavery and preserve the United States of America as one nation committed to freedom and justice for all. Among the words of praise given for these brave souls was a poem written by San Francisco columnist and civic leader Noah Griffin.

I submit for the RECORD To The Massachusetts 54th In Memoriam
When the drumbeat and the fife side
And the celebration’s done,
When the memory of the men who died both North and South is one.
This regiment will still shine forth in annals of the free.
The Massachusetts Fifty-Fourth who fought for liberty.
Abe Lincoln had refused to act.
Moreover, Stanton too. The one to recognize the fact was the Governor John Andrew.
He fought to do what saved the war: bring blacks into the fray. For up 'til then there'd been a bar by both the blue and grey.
When Lincoln signed the document which brought emancipation, the administration did relent, accompanying authorization. From the commonwealth the call rang out: "Come colored men to arms!"
Amid the ridicule and doubt they answered war's alarm. They came from city and the farm; left sweethearts, wives and mothers to wear that union uniform, and free their shackled brothers. From every state they filled the roll, from Maryland to Maine. The governor more or less reached his goal, the mandate now was plain: To show that these black fighting men were equal to the task. To have to prove again; to never have to ask. They served for less than equal pay, accepting none, 'til righted. Enlisted, they remained to stay, their honor yet unblighted. Eli George Biddle, Edward Hines and Sergeant William Carney: the knowledge of whom redefiners the Northern Grand Old Army. Andrew had turned to Robert Shaw. To lead this regiment.
In this bold brahmin he saw the strength of firm commitment. The men trained with exactitude, to military precision. With courage, strength and fortitude they faced their disposition.
Fort Wagner in South Carolina would provide their men's test. To see if courage would align with bringing forth the best. From blacks who fought to free the slave, for justice and the right. These solders who when called on gave new meaning to the fight.
With neither map nor smooth terrain they charged the mouth of hell. Into the with'ring blast they came ignoring shot and shell.
Young Colonel Shaw, while rallying forth with sword clutched in his hand, exhorted, "Onward Fifty Fourth!" His ultimate command.
He died upon the parapet. He fell amidst his men. All buried in a common pit. Returned to earth in kin. The standard bearer breathed his last; the flag was going down.
Trice wounded Carney grabbed it fast: "It never hit the ground."
This soldier from New Bedford soil, who hailed from company "C" half-dead amid the bloody toil, dismissed his own safety.
The men fought valiantly that day, though victory ever amicably the wreaths and laurels lay a source of new found pride. For courage, neither black nor white; resides within us all, when we surrender to our plight and answer duty's call.
When the drumbeat and the fife subside and the celebration's done, and the memory of the men who died both North and South is one.
This regiment will still shine forth in annals of the free.
The Massachusetts Fifty-Fourth. They died for liberty.

SOCIAL SECURITY REFORM: AMERICANS SKEPTICAL ABOUT PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL
OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. Neal of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, during the past year the President has engaged Americans in a dialogue about the reform of Social Security. This dialogue is a precursor to the President and Congress addressing Social Security reform next year. Last week, President Clinton participated in a dialogue in Albuquerque, NM, and he outlined five fundamental principles with which are essential to Social Security reform. These principles are: universality and fairness, provide a benefit people can count on, continue to protect the disabled and low-income beneficiaries, fiscally disciplined approach, and strengthen and protect the system.

Social Security was created as part of the New Deal and it benefits 44 million elderly and disabled Americans. The system needs to be reformed, but there should not be a shift away from its fundamental principles. Without making changes, the system will be insolvent by 2032. Many of us in Congress differ on how to fix Social Security. Even a commission assigned with the task of reforming Social Security could not reach a unanimous consensus and instead, reported out three very different solutions. The concept of allowing individuals to place a portion of their payroll tax in a private account has been suggested and serious deliberation needs to occur to understand the consequences that would have on the guarantee of the benefit provided by the system.

On July 25, the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare released a study which was conducted by Peter Hart Research Associates which surveyed a sample of 1,094 adults and 326 of these individuals were aged 18-34. The survey focused on Social Security and proposals to reform the system which included private accounts. The crux of the survey was Generation X's view that the Social Security system fixed but oppose tax increases, benefit cuts, and a higher retirement age.

Generation X's share the same sentiment as their parents and grandparents in agreeing that "Congress should fix Social Security by strengthening its financial condition, so that future retirees will be guaranteed a reasonable level of benefits." Many believe that younger Americans would like Social Security privatized and invested in individual accounts. This study showed that most Americans including younger Americans want the system fixed and do not think privatization is the answer.

Of all the adults surveyed, 73 percent believe the Social Security system can work for young people when they retire if Congress will strengthen the system's finance and 69 percent of the adults surveyed that were between 18 and 34 years old agree. The survey inquired about private accounts and only 39 percent of those surveyed between 18 and 34 years of age supported allowing individuals to invest their Social Security contributions in the stock market, so that people can manage their accounts. Only 32 percent of all individuals surveyed support private accounts.

This survey helps us to see if Americans are concerned about Social Security, but they do not want the guarantee that is the fundamental principle of Social Security changed. Social Security has become a safety net for retirement for all American workers and we should not take action to weaken this safety net. We should consider all aspects of the Social Security system as we move forward with the debate on reform.

REGARDING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Ms. Eddie Bernice Johnson of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to, and recognize the anniversary of the historic Voting Rights Act, August 6th. It was almost a frightening coincidence that on the anniversary, many of my colleagues were attempting to defeat efforts that would prevent the use of statistical sampling to accurately count America's minorities. The opponents of an accurate count wanted to prevent minorities from being counted because it could indirectly heighten their influence in elections and the drawing of congressional districts. Mr. Speaker, the floor debate did not mark the first time that efforts were used to prevent the political disfranchisement of African-Americans. Indeed, the very purpose of the creation of the voting rights act was done to address the countless obstacles African-Americans faced in electing their own to Congress.

Before the enactment of the Voting Rights Act, minorities were subjected to these efforts to dilute their voting power: gerrymandering, removing minorities from voting rolls and even outright threats of bodily harm.

The Voting Rights Act was instrumental in protecting the voting opportunities of minorities. In addition, to the chagrin of those who would like to see the clock of progress turned back, the Voting Rights Act has directly resulted in the fair election of African-Americans to Congress.

However, Mr. Speaker, I stand not only to call attention to the benefits of the Voting Rights Act, but to ask that Americans be ever vigilant in protecting the Voting Rights Act from those who wish to forever confine it to the annals of history.

As the uses and benefits of the Voting Rights Act are forever enduring, so are the attacks and efforts to eliminate it. Unfortunately, there are those who seek to weaken or strengthen the protections provided by the Voting Rights Act. If they are successful, then the wonderful diversity of Congress that mirrors
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the rich cultural tapestry of our Nation may be jeopardized. If they are successful, the Congress of tomorrow could look like the Congress of a hundred years past.

Mr. Speaker, I highly suspect that arguments of fairness, constitutionality and rightousness are thinly-veiled attacks on the Voting Rights Act, the PRD has stolen democracy from the people of Manuel Noriega. Twice in 30 years it should not be forgotten that the PRD is the party of Manuel Noriega. Twice in 30 years it is the best guaranty against repeating it."

ZEKE GRADER—ENVIRONMENTAL HERO  

HON. NANCY PELOSI  
OF CALIFORNIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, on July 30, 1998, I was unavoidably detained during roll call vote number 355, the vote on passage of H.R. 4328, providing funds for transportation and other related agencies for fiscal year 1999. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted "yes."

ZEKE GRADER has been an environmental leader in the San Francisco Bay Area community for many years and has always stood firm in his conviction that sustainable fisheries could be an achievable goal on the Pacific Coast. His efforts on behalf of fishery restoration and sustainable fishing practices set an example for our government and for coastal communities throughout America.

Zeke was responsible for creating the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen in 1976 and he has served as its Executive Director since that time. His leadership at the Federation has resulted in the implementation of federal safeguards to bring greater protection to our marine resources and to restore weakened fisheries.

The human hand on the environment has been anything but gentle. By 1997, one third of U.S. marine fisheries were overfished, costing the U.S. economy $25 billion and coastal communities thousands of jobs. In managing our U.S. fisheries, the effect has been evident in the loss of salmon in the Pacific Northwest,
including northern California, lake trout in the Great Lakes, oysters in the Chesapeake Bay, cod in the Georges Bank; and these are only a few examples of the great loss worldwide in fisheries depletion.

At a time when the reports about "scorched earth fishing" are so alarming, it seems almost preposterous to know that individuals like Zeke are making such an important contribution to preserve fishing stocks and to seek solutions to reverse this aspect of our planet's deterioration. For the 22 years Zeke has been head of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen, he has been responsible for sounding the alarm on overfishing along the north Coast and for striving to bring about improvements to sustain our marine resources.

These concerns are very important to the San Francisco Bay Area where healthy fisheries depend on healthy habitats in the wetlands and waters of our great delta and estuary that feed into the Pacific Ocean. Zeke has been an extraordinary leader and we are grateful for his dedication to the environment, and particularly to its marine resources. We are all the better off as a result of his great efforts in support of a strong and sustainable environment.

Zeke is one of those rare leaders who we will look to for guidance on our troubled waters in the next century.

INTRODUCTION OF FINANCIAL SERVICES PRIVACY LEGISLATION

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY
OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing two bills which are aimed at addressing the need for protection of personal financial information, the "Securities Investors Privacy Enhancement Act of 1998" and the "Depository Institution Customers Financial Privacy Enhancement Act of 1998."

Today, the legal and regulatory walls are breaking down that previously have restricted or limited the flow of personal financial information, the "Securities Investors Privacy Enhancement Act of 1998" and the "Depository Institution Customers Financial Privacy Enhancement Act of 1998."

Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, the House debated amendments to H.R. 4276, the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State and Judiciary and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1999. One of the amendments that I cosponsored, an amendment to cut funds for the Public Telecommunications Facilities Program (PTFP) which funds new equipment for public television and radio stations in the United States. Because of time constraints, I was not able to speak on the amendment but I have several points and corrections to the record I would have made if I had had a chance.

In Minnesota we are blessed with having the nation's largest and to us, the finest, public
radio system in the country. Minnesota Public Radio (MPR) owns and operates 30 radio stations around the state and in border states to provide public radio coverage to 98 percent of the residents of Minnesota. In most communities, they operate dual channels, a news and information channel, and a music station. In my district, they have stations in Appleton, Worthington and St. Peter. In addition, other parts of my district are served by stations in Minneapolis, St. Cloud and Sioux Falls, South Dakota. They are truly a state treasure, bringing close to 24 hours a day of local news and classical music to many parts of rural Minnesota that would not otherwise get those services through commercial radio.

Minnesota Public Radio is however, more than just a treasure to my state. It is a national resource, producing more national radio programming than any radio station or system in the United States. Many people around the country identify Minnesota with the image of Lake Wobegon and the nationally known program A Prairie Home Companion produced by MPR in St. Paul. As for music, over 500,000 people from around the country listen to concerts on St. Paul Sunday, which is about the same number that attend live classical music concerts in the U.S. every week. In addition, MPR produces other nationally known programs such as Sound Money and A Splendid Table.

Minnesota Public Radio is also an international media entity and has the U.S. distribution rights to the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) radio productions on BBC3 and BBC4. It also has U.S. distribution rights to certain productions of the Canadian Broadcasting Company (CBC).

In 1981, Congress, recognizing the likelihood of future federal funding shortfalls, urged nonprofit organizations like MPR to earn more of their revenues by stated the “Public Broadcast stations are explicitly authorized to provide services, facilities or products in exchange for remuneration . . . ”. In response to that challenge, MPR expanded its product marketing activities into catalog mailings and then, in 1987, launched the Greenspring Companions. These for-profit paying group members. Working off its successful A Prairie Home Companion, the internal talent of its organization, it set up several for-profit companies to market products associated with its productions. Through sound management and understanding the value of its intellectual property, they turned one of those for-profit companies into one of the largest mail order companies in the country. Over the years, the for-profit companies contributed over $40 million to the growth of MPR and allowed them to build the radio stations in Minnesota communities like Appleton, Thief River Falls, and La Crescent.

As a for-profit company, Greenspring departed from the norm for “unrelated business activity” at nonprofit organizations and proceeded to employ all of the traditional mechanisms of capitalism, beginning with a strong, experienced, separate Board of Directors, state of the art facilities, recruitment of top industry professionals, incentive compensation, equity participation by employees and public reports similar to those of a publicly traded company. The bottom line was that the for-profit companies, Rivertown Trading Company, from nothing to annual sales of $200 million, it was sold to the Dayton Hudson Corporation, another Minnesota company. That sale allowed Minnesota Public Radio to put $90 million into an endowment, the largest endowment of any public broadcasting company in the country. The bonus to management of the for-profit Rivertown Trading Company and Greenspring were about 6 percent of the sales price.

Some Members of Congress would have us penalize the success of organizations such as Minnesota Public Radio. They would say, that since organizations such as MPR are successful capitalists, they should be punished. I, however, would disagree and do not wish to punish that type of success. In the meantime, Minnesota Public Radio continues to provide me and my family with our share of Minnesota, whether we are at home in Minnesota or here in Washington. I continue to listen every Saturday night that I can, to Garrison Keillor and all the news from Lake Wobegon and I hope you will also.

**DEACTIVATION OF CASC**

**HON. NICK SMITH**  
**OF MICHIGAN**  
**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**Thursday, August 6, 1998**

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the end of an era in the United States Air Force and in my district.

On Friday, August 7, the Air Force Cataloging and Standardization Center (CASC) of Battle Creek, Michigan, will be deactivated from active duty at 0900. The functions of CASC will be incorporated as part of a new service-wide cataloging effort of the Defense Logistics Agency, known as the Defense Logistics Information Service (DLIS). CASC was the last remaining active duty Air Force facility in Michigan.

CASC began cataloging operations in Battle Creek in 1973. This was the beginning of efforts to centralize all Department of Defense (DOD) cataloging in Battle Creek. In 1976, all Air Force cataloging functions were transferred to Battle Creek.

The Air Force and CASC sought to encourage other branches of our Armed Forces and agencies to centralize their cataloging efforts in Battle Creek as well.

Mr. Speaker, in 1986 the Office of the Secretary of Defense approved their idea to have the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) lead the new consolidated center and to deactivate CASC. That plan was finalized in March of 1997. This entrepreneurial spirit and their willingness to deactivate their unit for the greater good is simply the kind of innovative and decisive leadership CASC has shown over the years.

CASC’s Corporate Board developed a comprehensive strategic plan, putting customer service first. Independent customer surveys are conducted. CASC serves the Air Force as well as other agencies, such as the Army and the Navy. CASC has been to identify crashed aircraft parts from the Vietnam War. CASC employees were able to match recovered aircraft parts to specific aircraft, making it possible to identify aircrews missing in action.

In the last two years, the CASC has established a helpline (call center) to provide Air Force personnel with answers to complex logistic information questions. CASC’s call center exceeds industry standards in all categories.

Over its 22-year history, CASC’s innovative approach to cataloging has saved taxpayers over $60 million. The entrepreneurial spirit within CASC has led to agreements with non-DoD agencies such as the National Weather Service and the Federal Aviation Administration to provide cataloging services which have saved taxpayers $250,000 per year. Negotiations with further agencies continue.

Such efforts has moved CASC away from measuring processes to measuring performance. Their efforts are a model for our entire U.S. Air Force to emulate.

Mr. Speaker, as an Air Force veteran and on behalf of my constituents in Calhoun County, I am proud to offer this tribute in recognition of the accomplishments of the outstanding men and women of CASC.
1995. The agency received no comments op-posed to the majority vote requirement while fully half the comments on this section urged the agency to institute a supermajority requirement.

60 F.R. 12660 (March 8, 1995). The NCUA Board then imposed the least burdensome voting requirement suggested by the commenters.

Recently, credit unions have been under tremendous pressure to convert to other types of institutions. Legitimate uncertainty about the outcome of the AT&Case, encouraged by lawyers who specialize in conversions, produced a record number of conversion applications over the past several years. These same lawyers then complained that NCUA processed applications too slowly and that the conversion requirements were too rigorous. They persuaded some members of the Senate Banking Committee to override NCUA’s regulation and to weaken conversion requirements by allowing conversions upon a majority vote only of those members voting. This means that a small fraction of credit union members could force a credit union to convert, even against the wishes of the overwhelming majority of members who are unaware or did not participate in a vote. This same faction can then profit by a further conversion to a stock institution.

What H.R. 1151 will address the field of membership issue for most credit unions, other restrictions imposed by the Senate version of the bill, such as the limits on loans to members for business purposes, will cause some credit unions to consider converting to other types of institutions. You can be sure that some of those firms are already analyzing this legislation and preparing new arguments to credit unions as to why they should convert. This is why I urge NCUA to continue its close scrutiny of conversion applications. While it may seem as if NCUA has very little discretion in this area, the legislation does at least grant them authority to administer the member vote, and require that a credit union seeking to convert inform the agency of its intentions 90 days before the conversion. I would like to point out several ways in which NCUA can continue to exercise oversight over the conversion process within this 90-day period.

First, I encourage NCUA to strictly supervise the notification of members regarding the impending conversion vote. The legislation requires that notice be sent 90, 60, and 30 days before the conversion vote. NCUA should require that these notices be separate and distinct from other mailings and statements. The notice must go beyond NCUA’s current notice requirement and explain to members not only the facts of the proposal, but also the facts that will lose their ownership rights and that the member capital of the credit union could potentially be converted to private stock. Now that the members lack the protection of the majority vote requirement, they must be informed about any and all possible outcomes of the conversion.

Further, NCUA must strictly supervise the process of taking the member vote. Where so much is at stake, both for the general membership and those seeking to convert, outside election monitors must be employed. NCUA should ensure that firms used for monitoring elections have no ties to the credit union, those seeking the conversion or the lawyers assisting in the conversion process. The monitoring firm should be required to submit a list of all its clients for the past five years. The monitoring firm and each member of the credit union board should then be required to sign a statement indicating that they have had no prior dealings, with falsification of these statements subject to criminal and civil penalties. I would like to point out that such require-ments are not barred by the instruction to NCUA to develop regulations consistent with other regulators’ conversion requirements, as other types of financial institutions do not have member voting requirements.

While I agree that regulatory requirements should be comparable between agencies when possible, this is a case where strict parallels are impossible. Also, the law allows NCUA to require the conversion vote to be taken again if it “disapproves of the methods by which the member vote was taken or procedures applicable to the member vote.” This provision explicitly permits strict oversight by NCUA and I sincerely hope they will use it to protect credit union members.

Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier, I do not want to hold up such an important piece of legisla-tion. However, I did feel obligated to note my concerns with the conversion provision and strongly encourage NCUA to enforce this provision strictly.

BUSY BEE TO BUZZ NO MORE

HON. PETER HOEKSTRA
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, the Busy Bee Restaurant closes for good on Sunday night. It marks the end of an incredible 33-year run for the Polish-American diner nestled like a robin’s egg under the L tracks at 1546 N. Damen.

The Busy Bee always held the promise of spring for old men from the Elm Park and Viceroy hotels. The Busy Bee was for the late Abbie Hoffman, who recommended its affordable menu for anti-war demonstrators; it was also for Mayor Harold Washington, who loved the diner’s oxtail stew.

The Busy Bee was for one-armed piano player Eddie Balchowsky, a friend of two-fisted running partner Nelson Algren. The Busy Bee was for Shakespeare District cops, particularly Officer William Jacometti, who wrote the prose for the framed, weatherproof plaque that police and community members installed Thursday outside the restaurant.

The Busy Bee was for everyone.

The loss stings.

Jacometti became a Chicago cop in 1968, the year all the Busy Bee’s windows were broken in West Side riots. In part, the plaque reads: “The American Dream was fulfilled by many who came to the Wicker Park: Bucktown neighborhood for over 100 years. Arriving in the neighborhood in 1965 was Sophie Madej who purchased the Busy Bee Restaurant in 1972. Sophie, a married lady with four children, had come from Poland in 1951, worked at a Chicago packing house for 10 years, saved her money and bought the restaurant...”

For 33 years, Sophie served her customers pierogis, homemade spinach soup, meatloaf and stuffed green peppers, all seasoned with love and understanding.

“Sophie is the pioneer of this neighbor-hood,” Jacometti said. “They talk about community policing? It starts at a multicultural place like this. We will miss her. At tough times, she was always here for the police. For every Bulls victory, for every demonstration, for the Rolling Stones concert (at the nearby Double Door) she would have somewhere to go. We’re all friends with these people. This didn’t happen because it was a business. She did something special. She opened the doors to everyone.”

Sophie had put the restaurant on the market before the conversion vote. This time it made sense. Sophie turns 70 on July 5. She wants to retire and visit her homeland. In 1943, Sophie was moved to Germany under the Nazis’ forced-labor laws. She met her husband, Henry, in 1946 (they divorced in 1985) in Germany, where they remained until 1951, when Catholic Charities gave the young couple $100 to sponsor their voyage to America. They arrived in the United States with the cash, two children and two suitcases.

The new owner, Mitch Gerson, will close the Busy Bee, remodel it and upscale the 16 apartments above the restaurant. Sophie whis-pered, “He has to do it that way. There’s no way he can compete with this.”

There’s no way Gerson’s grand opening can compete with the Busy Bee’s closing. Sunday will be just another day and nothing special will happen at 6 p.m. when Sophie closes the doors for the last time.

The Busy Bee has been buzzing with adora-tion for the Madej family over the last two weeks. Sophie and three of her children, Eliz-abeth, 50, Hank, 47, and Bob, 46, have been working around the clock at the crowded diner, where in recent days there has been a half-hour wait to be seated. (Her fourth child, Chester, 44, works for the National Oceano-graphic and Atmospheric Agency in Boulder, Colo.)

By noon on Thursday, the restaurant had run out of pierogis. Cops, friends and neigh-bors arrived, most of them taking pictures so they could hold onto the sense of community. Other people brought Sophie bouquets and flowers.

“I never knew people cared like this,” Sophie said. “Never. The first time I walked into the restaurant after I bought it, I asked myself and God if I could make it for a year or two. That was my biggest question. And this became my home. We’ve had all our fam-ily gatherings in the restaurant. But it’s time to let go and move on.”

John Schacht sat across the counter from Sophie, listening to her talk like a doting son. Schacht, a painter-photographer, lives in a trailer house in the woods. He took a train to Chicago so he could have one last meal at the Busy Bee. Schacht, 60, is a third-generation customer. When Sophie bought the restaurant, it was already called the Busy Bee—renamed from the Oak Room, its name when it was built in 1913. “My dad would always be there to see Sophie go, but I’m glad to see her retiring. She’s been working for all the years I’ve known her.”

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Sophie has seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. The hardest question to ask is why the restaurant couldn’t stay in the family.

“That is tough,” Bob Madej said. “It’s not an easy business. You’re here 16 hours a day, seven days a week. I’ve been part of this since it was in high school, mopping floors with my brother.

“Maybe something could have been worked out a few years ago where one of the sons could have taken it over. But it didn’t happen. And it’s best now. There’s no strings attached. We’re all happy. Now she’ll have time to spend with the grandchildren and great-grandchildren. And that’s important.”

Bob, a district manager for Superior Coffee, paused and looked across the counter. “I met my wife (Teresa) here,” Bob said. “I was working behind the counter when she walked in. Her sister was working in the kitchen. Maybe it won’t be as emotional for my mom . . . But I have a lot of memories here, too.”

It’s important for future Wicker Park residents to understand the memories within the walls of the restaurant. That is the purpose of the commemorative plaque. On Thursday, through an old white bulhorn, Jaconetti read the plaque honoring the Busy Bee. Sophie watched, her head bowed in humility. She cradled her 1-year-old great-grandson Anthony, who someday will hear stories about his grandmother’s great restaurant.

Her hard thumbs fidgeted nervously as Jaconetti reached the last sentence on the plaque. “. . . She may be gone from the Busy Bee, but not from our memories and hearts.”

And honey-soaked tears fell from the eyes of a city’s queen bee.

INTRODUCTION OF BUFFALO COIN ACT OF 1998

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the sixtieth anniversary of the issuing of the Buffalo Nickel. This nickel is still very popular and widely collected today. It remains a respected and cherished symbol.

That is why it is my pleasure to introduce the House companion bill to S. 1112, sponsored by Senator BEN NICHOLSON, Colorado. S. 1112 authorizes the minting of the original Buffalo Nickel design on a new commemorative silver half-dollar coin to help honor our nation’s Native Americans. While this coin will be minted at no cost to the government, it will help raise funds for the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian, which is scheduled to open in 2002. These funds will be used to set up an endowment and an educational outreach fund.

This coin has already received the full endorsement of the U.S. Mint’s Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee and now needs our support in order for it to be minted in 1998.

This legislation is a bipartisan effort and has 17 original cosponsors. I ask my colleagues to join us in supporting the Buffalo Coin Act of 1998.
O'Dwyer in his numerous attempts at being elected to public office. Mr. O'Dwyer did serve as President of the New York City Council from 1973 to 1977.

My fellow colleagues, join me in recognizing the passing of Paul O'Dwyer, a man who rigidly and without pause adhered to principle at the price of his life. Let us try in our own efforts to show such a commitment to the truth.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT FOUNDATION OF TOLEDO, INC.

HON. MARCY KAPTUR
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge The Neighborhood Improvement Foundation of Toledo, Inc., commonly referred to as NIFTI, on its recent selection as a Citationist for the 1998 President's Service Awards. Awarded from a pool of approximately 3,600 nominations, NIFTI was one of thirty chosen for this prestigious recognition.

Organized in 1957, NIFTI's mission over the past 41 years has been to improve the quality of life in the Toledo metropolitan area through cleanup, beautification efforts, and by encouraging environmental awareness. NIFTI's role as a community organizer and activist has provided Toledo residents with a voice along with a viable means to eliminate urban blight, making our city a cleaner and safer place to live and work.

NIFTI volunteers, numbering in the thousands, are a collaboration of concerned individuals, corporations, local government and other community organizations. NIFTI, through its various programs, encourages volunteerism in both the adult and youth populations. In addition, NIFTI has effectively promoted neighborhood responsibility in the central city.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to thank NIFTI for all of its positive contributions to the city of Toledo. NIFTI's efforts toward solving serious social ills are representative of the spirit of community service that has made our nation and my congressional district a better place to live. To the Neighborhood Improvement Foundation of Toledo, Inc., congratulations on being named a recipient of such a noble award.

PRIVATE MORTGAGE INSURANCE CANCELLATION SIMPLIFICATION ACT OF 1998

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, July 29, 1998, the President signed into law S. 318, the “Homeowners Protection Act of 1998.” While the law provides important new rights to consumers who are required to purchase private mortgage insurance in order to qualify for a home loan, I wish the law had gone further. I am particularly concerned that the Federal law pre-empts State law, unless gone further. I am particularly concerned that the Federal law pre-empts State law, unless the State had enacted a law prior to January 2, 1998. Even the eight States that have private mortgage insurance (PMI) cancellation and termination laws on the books, are prohibited from passing stronger laws two years after the date of enactment. It is my belief that the law should protect the rights of all states to pass stronger consumer protection laws.

I am also concerned that the Federal law provides Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the Government Sponsored Enterprises (GSEs) that secure mortgages, broad discretion to distinguish certain borrowers as “high risk.” Those borrowers, under the law, are prohibited from even initiating the termination of their mortgage insurance after 20 percent of their mortgage is satisfied, and instead are required to carry mortgage insurance for half the life of the loan. While certain types of borrowers at loan origination may be riskier than others, by the time the borrower has satisfied 20 percent of their mortgage, the lender’s risks are negligible. At that point, consumers should not be required to make costly payments to the private mortgage industry.

For the above-mentioned reasons, today I am introducing the “Private Mortgage Insurance Cancellation Simplification Act of 1998.” The bill protects the rights of all states to enact stronger PMI cancellation and disclosure laws and provides the same cancellation rights to all consumers with conforming loans.

The text of the legislation follows:

H.R. 4435

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Private Mortgage Insurance Cancellation Simplification Act of 1998.”

SEC. 2. APPLICABILITY TO HIGH- RISK LOANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the Homeowners Protection Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-216) is amended by striking subsection (f).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 4(a) of the Homeowners Protection Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-216) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “(other than a mortgage or mortgage transaction described in section 3(f)(1))”;

(B) in subparagraph (A)(i)—

(i) in clause (i), by inserting “and” after the semicolon at the end; and

(ii) by striking subclause (IV); and

(C) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) in clause (i), by inserting “and” after the semicolon at the end;

(ii) in clause (ii), by striking “; and” and inserting a period; and

(iii) by striking clause (iii); and

(ii) by striking paragraph (2);

(3) in paragraph (4), by striking “through (3)” and inserting “(2) and (3)”;

and

(4) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4), as so amended, as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively.

SEC. 3. PROTECTION OF STATE LAWS.

Section 9 of the Homeowners Protection Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-216) is amended by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following new subsection:

“(a) EFFECT ON STATE LAW.—(1) IN GENERAL.—This Act does not annul, alter, or affect, or exempt any person subject to the provisions of this Act from complying with, the laws of any State regarding any requirement that relates to mortgage insurance in connection with residential mortgage transactions, except to the extent that such State laws are inconsistent with any provision of this Act, and then only to the extent of the inconsistency.

(2) INCONSISTENCIES.—A State law shall not be considered to be inconsistent with a provision of this Act if the State law—

“(A) requires termination of private mortgage insurance or other mortgage guaranty insurance; or

“(B) requires disclosure of information—

(i) that provides no more information than the information required by this Act; or

(ii) more often or at a date earlier than is required by this Act; or

“(C) otherwise provides greater protection for the private mortgage insurance consumer.”.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS TRUST ACT

HON. RON KLINK
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, today I’m introducing legislation to end the controversy over funding for the e-rate, make Federal telecommunications subsidies more explicit and stable and begin a needed national debate on the Federal role in supporting universal telecommunications service.

My bill, the Telecommunications Trust Act, will dedicate the Federal phone excise tax to Federal universal service support through a Telecommunications Trust Fund, very much like the Federal gas tax funds Federal transportation spending.

This bill will accomplish several things. First, it will remove the new line-item charges many consumers are seeing on their phone bills and end the debate over funding the schools and libraries part of universal service. That program will be funded through the Telecommunications Trust Fund, as will rural health care, rural high cost and lifelong Federal service support.

Furthermore, by dedicating the phone excise tax to universal service, we will be fulfilling the directive of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 that universal service subsidies be explicit rather than implicit.

Universal service has been subsidized implicitly for 60 years by consumers and businesses paying more for phone service so that those in high cost and rural areas could have affordable phone service. My legislation will make that support explicit and dedicate the phone excise tax to that purpose.

Furthermore, it will provide honesty to phone bills by shifting the revenue from the excise tax from the treasury to telecommunications services. The Federal phone excise tax is a vestige of the Spanish-American War and has been in effect off and on for a century. It is this tax revenue that went to telecommunications, just as the gas tax goes to transportation.

Finally, I am hoping that this bill will begin a public debate on issues currently being discussed at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and in Congress: how should Federal universal telecommunications support be achieved in the digital age.
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. HORNE, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill, H.R. 4429, that would ensure fairness in Zip code allocation. This issue was brought to my attention by the ongoing plight of one city in my district—that of the city of Signal Hill, a bustling community of over 9,000 residents located in Southern California, surrounded completely by the city of Long Beach. Unfortunately, this community's growth and economic expansion are hampered by the three-way division among Zip codes. While the issuance of five little numbers may not seem like a big deal to many of those in Washington, it is of paramount importance to this community back home.

This division results in mail addressing and delivery problems and higher insurance rates for residents. It is unfair and inefficient at worst to punish residents of Signal Hill with unnecessarily high costs simply because the Postal Service mandated this division without any input from the Signal Hill community. I have worked with the U.S. Postal Service to find a solution to this issue that benefits both parties, however I am afraid we have come to an impasse. The Postal Service refuses to allocate a unique Zip code to this city despite the overwhelming evidence that Signal Hill needs and deserves its own Zip code. The time has come for a new approach to this ongoing problem.

I introduced H.R. 4429 which today would ensure that Signal Hill is counted on efficient mail service and a distinct community identity. It says any city with a population of at least 5,000 residents that is completely surrounded by another city would not have to share its Zip code with any other city. This legislation takes the politics out of Postal Service decisionmaking and institutes instead, a straightforward, fair system for Zip code allocation. H.R. 4429 will put an end to years of delivery problems, community identification problems, and insurance rate problems. Simply put, a city that is entirely surrounded by any other city should not be forced to share its identity with any other city simply due to geography and the failure of the Postal Service to make the right decisions. The city of Signal Hill is a distinct and viable community that deserves to be recognized as such. The passage of H.R. 4429 will assure that.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the text of H.R. 4429 be printed at this point in the RECORD.

H.R. 4429

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ZIP CODE REQUIREMENT.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—Effective 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, no Zip code shall be shared with a city (or portion of a city) that is completely surrounded by any other city and may also be assigned to any area outside the city it is supposed to serve.

(b) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the term “city” means any unit of general local government that is classified as a city, and is so classified by the Bureau of the Census, and within the boundaries of which 5,000 or more individuals reside.
The census is a constitutional requirement for the reapportionment of the House of Representatives. An accurate census is also absolutely essential for a fair distribution of federal funding for roads, transit systems, schools, senior citizens centers, health care facilities, and children’s programs, including Head Start and other early childhood programs. With such services and resources at stake for our urban communities and rural areas, we must be mindful of the human capital costs involved with an “undercount” of the population.

In 1991, Congress directed the Secretary of Commerce and the President’s Council on Science and Technology to determine the most scientifically accurate and cost-effective means of conducting the decennial census. The National Academy of Sciences panel concluded that statistical sampling would fulfill such criteria. These findings were echoed in 1992 and 1996 reports from a second panel of experts who stated that sampling is critical to the success of the 2000 census.

The Mollohan amendment directs the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) to review the Census Bureau’s plans and determine if they are consistent with recommendations made by the academy in response to bipartisan legislation enacted in 1991. By enlisting the aid of the academy, the U.S. Census Bureau can refine and improve their techniques in order to attain a more accurate census.

The Bureau’s “census 2000 plan” has been endorsed by the American Statistical Association, the American Demographics Association, and virtually all other professional organizations concerned with the census.

Mr. Chairman, the Congress must ensure that adequate and timely funding is available for the task of determining our Nation’s population. Any delay in funding to fulfill our constitutional obligation would delay and place in jeopardy many of the planning requirements necessary for an accurate census. By removing the six month cap on funding for census 2000, the Congress will enable the Bureau to continue its preparations for its most important task ahead.

Mr. Chairman, I ask my colleagues to ensure that progress will continue toward the most fair, accurate, and inclusive census in our Nation’s history. Support the Mollohan amendment.

IN HONOR OF THE CHURCH OF ST. CLARENCE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Church of St. Clarence.

St. Clarence Church has served as a welcoming community. The Parish of North Olmstead for twenty years. Bishop James E. Hickey named the Church of St. Clarence in memory of his immediate predecessor, Bishop Clarence Issenman. He designated Reverend Thomas A. Flynn as its founding pastor in 1978. The Church of St. Clarence consists of the Parish School of Religion, the Gathering Room and St. Kevin’s Chapel. St. Clarence uses these three components to achieve a mission statement that calls for opportunity, education, and friendship among its community’s members. St. Clarence provides its members with opportunities to worship God by offering the Eucharist on a daily basis at St. Kevin’s Chapel. St. Clarence’s Parish School of Religion hopes to educate and nurture all its members by making available classes in religion, including those of bible study. The Gathering Room promotes a community of prayer and friendship by providing a place for members to meet outside of regular church hours for extra-curricular activities. The Church of St. Clarence clearly meets the needs of all its members.

The population of St. Clarence’s Parish has grown significantly since its first beginnings in 1978. I stand here today in reassurance that St. Clarence will continue to grow and serve every one of its members, past and future, with the same commitment and the same faith that has helped develop into the thriving community it is today. Once again, congratulations and God Bless!

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, AND JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

SPEECH OF
HON. DEBORAH PRYCE
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, August 5, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4276) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies, appropriations bill.

This important measure will remove language in the bill that withholds half of the FY 1999 appropriation for the decennial census until future legislation releasing the funds is enacted. By avoiding the risk of a census shutdown, the Bureau can proceed without hindering its ability to prepare for the most accurate census possible.

Americans want, and deserve, an accurate census informed by the latest scientific methods and technology available. However, the recent census was the first census enumeration to be less accurate than its predecessor. It is estimated the 1990 census undercount, of which 8.8 million people were not included, was 33 percent less accurate than that of the 1980 census. Subsequently, 4 times as many blacks, 5 times as many Hispanics, American Indians, and non-Hispanic whites, and 2 times as many Asians and Pacific Islanders were not included.

As for families with three or more children, the largest and most populous mobilization effort undertaken by the Government, we must apply modern scientific sampling methods to ensure a more accurate census.
Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, we are on the verge of yet another crisis in Cyprus.

The proposal to purchase new S-300 missiles from Russia, and by all accounts, Russia intends to proceed with delivery of the missiles this fall. The installation of these sophisticated new antimissile missiles and accompanying powerful air surveillance radars will undoubtedly escalate the level of military confrontation in Cyprus, and pushes the two sides further away from a more sensible path of mutual arms reductions. It also raises the disastrous prospect of conflict between two of our NATO allies, Turkey and Greece. Indeed, the placement of these missiles in Cyprus seems intended for no other reason than to provoke conflict.

The Cyprus problem has been with us for a long time. United Nations peacekeeping forces have been there for a quarter of this century. Some of our European allies have invested, and continue to invest, considerable effort in finding a long-term solution there. The United States, of course, is also actively engaged in diplomatic efforts in Cyprus. The problem is daunting and filled with frustrations. For example, I was disturbed to read last week that the Foreign Minister of Greece had referred to the President's efforts in Cyprus as "utter lies." These kinds of remarks from senior government officials are not helpful.

I wish the Greek Cypriots would reconsidere their decision to deploy these dangerous new missiles, but I fear that they will not. Unfortunately, restraint has not been a common feature of Cyprus' history. In light of this, I am very troubled that Russia will allow this sale to go forward. Russia is a member of the United Nations Security Council, and I simply cannot understand why they would permit these missiles to be sent into this explosive environment—particularly after repeated Security Council resolutions expressing concern about the introduction of sophisticated weaponry in Cyprus, and admonitions to all parties to avoid further expansion of military forces and arms.

Mr. Speaker, some of my colleagues and I have sent a letter today to the President urging him to speak directly to President Yeltzin about this crisis, and to prevail upon him to cancel the S-300 missile transfer. At a time when Russia is looking to the United States and other members of the international community for help with its financial crisis, I think that Russia should understand that international cooperation is not a one-way street and that Russia too could find itself on the receiving end of criticism. Like all of us, Russia has a responsibility to promote solutions, not new crises. I hope that President Yeltzin will see that this missile sale threatens to damage Russia's goodwill in the United States, and that makes it more difficult for us to cooperate.

A few weeks ago, some of my colleagues here spoke of the Cyprus problem, but the common message was not solution-oriented. Instead, we heard that one side in Cyprus was to blame for all its problems, and the other side was innocent. I want to suggest to my colleagues that taking sides in this old and complex problem is not constructive, and will not enhance the ability of the United States to be an effective catalyst for solutions. I also want to point out that the history is not so clear as some would have us believe.

Even before this most recent crisis was precipitated by a weapons purchase from Russia, the last major crisis in 1974 began for reasons that some of us have forgotten. The American Secretary of State at the time, Henry Kissinger, succinctly summarized the events in his book, "Years of Upheaval." After World War II, the old enemies Greece and Turkey were allies in NATO with a common stake in the security of the eastern Mediterranean. But their atavistic bitterness found a focus in the island of Cyprus, forty-four miles from mainland Turkey, with a population 80 percent Greek and about 20 percent Turk—Uphalack, as my friend from Ohio is wont to say. As in many other nations of mixed nationalities, a tenuous civil peace had been possible while the island was under foreign rule. But when the British granted independence to the island in 1960, with Britain, Greece, and Turkey as guarantors of its internal arrangements, the subtle Greek Orthodox Church, Archbishop Makarios, who represented the Cypriot community and of the campaign against British rule, found himself obligated to concede a degree of self-government to the Turks, to his notions of government or nationality. He did not have his heart in it, and with independence he systematically reneged on what he considered concessions. He sought to establish in effect a unitary state in which the Turkish minority would always be outvoted. The history of independent Cyprus was thus plagued by communal strife, and its threat to intervene militarily was aborted only at the last moment by a strong warning from President Johnson. It had become since an article of faith in Turkish politics that this would always be outvoted. The history of independent Cyprus was thus plagued by communal strife, and its threat to intervene militarily was aborted only at the last moment by a strong warning from President Johnson. It had become since an article of faith in Turkish politics that this would always be outvoted. The history of independent Cyprus was thus plagued by communal strife, and its threat to intervene militarily was aborted only at the last moment by a strong warning from President Johnson. It had become since an article of faith in Turkish politics that this would always be outvoted. The history of independent Cyprus was thus plagued by communal strife, and its threat to intervene militarily was aborted only at the last moment by a strong warning from President Johnson. It had become since an article of faith in Turkish politics that this would always be outvoted. The history of independent Cyprus was thus plagued by communal strife, and its threat to intervene militarily was aborted only at the last moment by a strong warning from President Johnson. It had become since an article of faith in Turkish politics that this would always be outvoted. The history of independent Cyprus was thus plagued by communal strife, and its threat to intervene militarily was aborted only at the last moment by a strong warning from President Johnson. It had become since an article of faith in Turkish politics that this would always be outvoted. The history of independent Cyprus was thus plagued by communal strife, and its threat to intervene militarily was aborted only at the last moment by a strong warning from President Johnson. It had become since an article of faith in Turkish politics that this would always be outvoted. The history of independent Cyprus was thus plagued by communal strife, and its threat to intervene militarily was aborted only at the last moment by a strong warning from President Johnson. It had become since an article of faith in Turkish politics that this would always be outvoted. The history of independent Cyprus was thus plagued by communal strife, and its threat to intervene militarily was aborted only at the last moment by a strong warning from President Johnson. It had become since an article of faith in Turkish politics that this would always be outvoted. The history of independent Cyprus was thus plagued by communal strife, and its threat to intervene militarily was aborted only at the last moment by a strong warning from President Johnson. It had become since an article of faith in Turkish politics that this would always be outvoted. The history of independent Cyprus was thus plagued by communal strife, and its threat to intervene militarily was aborted only at the last moment by a strong warning from President Johnson. It had become since an article of faith in Turkish politics that this would always be outvoted.
forced to spend disproportionate amounts of time raising funds just to remain competitive. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support final passage of the Shays-Meehan substitute. I believe now is the time to restore the American people’s faith in the electoral process by rein in the unsavory special interests who pollute our political system. Support the Shays-Meehan substitute. Our democracy deserves nothing less.

RECOGNIZING THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOMERSET COUNTY 4-H FAIR

HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, as we begin to gear up for Congress’ annual August district work period, I rise today to recognize the 50th annual Somerset County 4-H Fair. As a member of 4-H for many years, an annual attendee, active supporter and volunteer, as well as former manager, I have maintained close ties to this organization and it holds a very special place in my life.

As one of many 4-H Fairs in the State of New Jersey, it is the only fair that does not charge admission. The Fair exhibits a variety of 4-H youth projects for public observation. The Somerset County 4-H Fair is located at the County Fairgrounds at North Branch Park on Milltown Road in Bridgewater and attracts more than 75,000 people annually.

I am pleased to be part of an A-J program that gives the youth of our county the tools and knowledge to succeed in life. Today’s children represent the future of our nation and it is gratifying to know that this program exists throughout New Jersey and especially in Somerset County.

Throughout my time as a Somerset County Freeholder, I sponsored County Government Career Days for 4-H participants and have continued the tradition as a Member of Congress beginning a Twelfth Congressional District Day. Over the past two years, 4-H participants from around the 12th district have spent a day in my district office in Flemington and then in Washington learning about congressional operations.

4-H has been and continues to be a model program in our nation. It offers our nation’s youth an opportunity to learn the values and skills that are needed to succeed. The 4-H should be commended for its on-going efforts to educate the youth of our country and instill in them a sense of community service and awareness. As Congress continues to emphasize the need for service organizations and volunteers to assume a greater role, it will be creative programs like 4-H that year after year continue to bring about positive change.

Make no mistake about it—4-H makes a positive difference in the lives of so many children. When they are learning to choose between right and wrong—4-H is there to show them the right thing to do. And the skills that they learn stay with them for life.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to spending a great deal of time at the Somerset County 4-H Fair opening district work period and spending time with participants, volunteers, and parents that make this program and this fair such a great success.

A TRIBUTE TO ROGER KUNKEL ON HIS RETIREMENT AS PASTOR OF RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Roger Kunkel, pastor of the Riverside Presbyterian Church in my district, as he retires from 21 years of dedicated service to his congregation and community.

Roger Kunkel was appointed the Interim Pastor of the Riverside Presbyterian Church in March 1978, and shortly thereafter became Senior Pastor, a position he held until this past May of 1998. As a man of faith and friend to the community, Roger Kunkel served his congregation with kindness, grace and leadership in promoting ministry and fellowship.

Roger Kunkel is a man with visions, and saw the needs of the church to expand the ministry staff to serve the congregation more efficiently, which directly increased to activity in the youth programs. In addition, Roger Kunkel organized the Ryan Womack Scholarship Fund that has awarded over $100,000 in college scholarships since its inception in 1991. Because of his dedication, the congregation not only grew in number, but also in spirit and fellowship.

Roger Kunkel is a man of great faith who has touched the lives of many. Roger Kunkel’s service and dedication will be remembered by all.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to extend my warmest wishes as Roger Kunkel embarks on the journey his retirement will bestow upon him.

MARCHING INTO ANOTHER CENTURY OF EXCELLENCE

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, nothing can be more invigorating than being proud of where we live, and I must tell you that the people of Caseville, Michigan, are among the proudest people I have ever met. This Saturday, Caseville will be holding its Grand Parade as part of its Centennial Celebration, and what a century it has been.

The history of this area rightfully claims that “this pretty little village is located on Saginaw Bay at the mouth of the Pigeon River.” Tracing its development back to the mid-1800’s, the first settlers were Reuben Dodge, his wife and family, who came from Maine in 1840. William Rattle came in 1852 on behalf of Leonard Case, establishing a sawmill in the town that was then called Port Elizabeth in honor of Mr. Rattle’s wife. The first school opened in 1859. The first hotel was opened at the head of Main Street by Robert Squiers in 1856, and the first mail came into town in 1858. A flooring mill was opened in 1870, and the first salt well in the area opened in the spring of 1871. The Pigeon River iron mine and works was started in 1873. The community continued to change and grow with the change, until on October 15, 1898, the Village...
of Caseville was incorporated at a session of the County Commission.

The first election of officers was held on December 5, 1898. John Poss became the first Village President, and Frank Poss was the first Village Clerk. The first ordinance, adopted in 1899, dealt with riding or driving on sidewalks. The first Village Council met in 1899 and the residents of the Village of Caseville elected their first village officials.

Over the past 100 years, Caseville has been a major economic center for the Thumb of Michigan, a geographic feature recognized from the Michigan elementary school student's pointing to the orbiting Space Shuttle astronauts. The history of commercial fishing, sawmills, iron and salt processing, are important elements in Caseville’s development. Agriculture was vital to this area as well, going from the early days of the Indians in Michigan who grew corn in this area, to today’s bounty of corn, wheat, sugar beets, dry beans, and other specialty crops. Railroads, beginning with the Pontiac, Oxford, & Port Austin Railroad, have been vital arteries of commerce, even though their presence today is less significant than it had been in the past.

Today, Caseville is known as a tourist destination offering ideally sandy beaches, camping, marinas with access to Lake Huron and all of its bounty, and a way of life that is envied by its thousands of annual visitors. Mr. Speaker, it is only fitting that we take the time to congratulate Caseville on its Centennial. I urge you and all of our colleagues in wishing its residents the very best on this occasion, and the very best as the Village of Caseville begins its next century.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DR. PAUL M. MARTIN

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Reverend Dr. Paul M. Martin, the Senior Pastor of the Macedon Baptist Church of Denver, Colorado. Dr. Martin recently celebrated his 8th Anniversary at Macedon, and in celebration of his tenure, a street in the City and County of Denver was renamed for a week in his honor. I want to add my voice to all those in his congregation and throughout the city who are taking this opportunity to honor Dr. Martin and praise him for his leadership.

Dr. Martin came to Denver from the South Central Community of Los Angeles where he grew up. He received his undergraduate and graduate degrees with honors at several California schools, and holds a Masters of Divinity Degree, and the Doctors of Philosophy Degree.

Dr. Martin was appointed by Federico Peña, former Mayor of Denver, to serve on “Stapleton Tomorrow” where he has served continuously as the Co-Chairperson of the Citizens Advisory Committee and a member of the Board of Directors of the Stapleton Development Corporation. Additionally, he serves as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Urban League of Metropolitan Denver and is Chairman of the Department of the Ministry for the American Baptist Churches of the Rocky Mountain Region. He is also a life member of the NAACP and his fraternity Kappa Alpha Psi.

Dr. Martin is known for his concern about maintaining the ethics and integrity of the Christian Ministry and the traditions of the African-American religious experience. He is a highly respected citizen and I am honored to be able to pay homage to him in recognition of his service and contribution to Macedonia Baptist Church, to honor his dedication and fellowship to people of Denver.

TRIBUTE TO BEATRICE AYALA VALENZUELA

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Beatrice Ayala Valenzuela who is honored with the 1998–1999 Trustees Award for Outstanding Achievement, presented by California State University, Fresno.

Mrs. Valenzuela is one of three students among the 343,000 in the California State system to receive such an award and is the third Fresno State student to be honored since the award’s inception in 1988. With a major in English and a 3.75 grade point average, Mrs. Valenzuela has not only displayed superior academic skills, but also a dedication to community service and personal achievement. She has very selflessly accepted this award.

Mrs. Valenzuela graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1969. In hopes of receiving a college degree, Mrs. Valenzuela resumed school in 1990, starting at Fresno City College and transferring to Fresno State in 1996. To further challenge herself, Mrs. Valenzuela applied and was accepted into the McNair Scholar Program, an academically intense effort that prepares college seniors for advanced studies.

In addition to her outstanding academic achievements, Mrs. Valenzuela has served her community in more ways than one. She has taught English as a second language to potential U.S. citizens and is a tutor at Fresno State’s writing center. Beatrice Valenzuela is an exceptional woman who has an outstanding achievement in the academic arena without compromising her commitment to the well being of others. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate Beatrice Valenzuela in receiving the 1998–1999 Trustees Award for Outstanding Achievement. She is a role-model for all future scholars.

A TRIBUTE TO STU BYKOFSKY
AND THE VARIETY CLUB OF DELAWARE VALLEY

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my friend and fellow Philadelphian, Stu Bykosky. Stu is a long-time columnist, author and man about town. He is also a board member of the Variety Club, one of America’s most prominent charities. For the past eight years, Stu has organized and hosted “Stu Bykosky’s Candidates’ Comedy Night.” The Candidates’ Comedy Night raises funds for the Variety Club of Delaware Valley, I know that all my colleagues appreciate the fine work done by Variety Clubs throughout this nation, and indeed in several other countries throughout the world. But, only my fellow Philadelphians could truly appreciate Stu and...
his Comedy Night. This event is absolutely unique. There is nothing like it anywhere in the world. And, if this fundraiser is unique, it has nothing on Stu Bykosky.

We all know that politics sometimes has its lighter moments. But Stu's Comedy Night is one of the few times during which the laughs are of purpose; it is a bipartisan, indeed a multi-partisan event—one that moves candidates from the heat of battle to the heat of the stage lights for one night each year. At this show, candidates for political office stand up and tell jokes. In its eight years, more than $50,000 has been raised for the kids served by Variety Club.

The mission of the Variety Club of the Delaware Valley is to provide programs and services to children with disabilities. It serves children between birth and 18 years of age with temporary or permanent disabilities resulting from injury, illness, or congenital conditions. It serves children with disabilities residing in parts of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware.

"Stu Bykosky's Candidates' Comedy Night" will help Variety Club buy medical equipment, wheelchairs, hearing aids, and run its summer camp for disabled kids. Mr. Speaker, if not for the Variety Club, untold number of children in my district, and throughout our region would live much more difficult lives. And if not for Stu Bykosky, the Variety Club would have a much more difficult time helping those kids. I know that all my colleagues will join me in congratulating Stu and the Variety Club for all their hard work.

HONORING THE 111TH SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON, PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and give thanks to the 111th Security Police Squadron, Pennsylvania Air National Guard. These admirable Pennsylvania citizens provided heroic assistance during the 1996 Olympic games in Atlanta, Georgia when a bomb exploded in Centennial Park.

Approximately 1300 Security Policemen and women were assembled by the Air National Guard Bureau to serve as a uniformed presence on the streets of Atlanta along with various other Olympic sites. This brave group of men and women were the eyes and ears of a special civilian force that maintained security. Twenty-six of these Security Police were the men and women of the 111th Security Police Squadron from Willow Grove Air Reserve Station, Pennsylvania.

During their Friday night shift, on July 25, 1996, a bomb went off in the Olympic Park area. This tragic event was alleviated by the commitment and dedication of the 111th Security Police Squadron. They assisted Atlanta police officers with the evacuation of the park while clearing the crowds that had assembled around the disaster area. The squadron ensured that the emergency roads were opened for ambulance, fire trucks and police cars. In addition to other emergency vehicles, Atlanta’s inbound and outbound roads were cleared by members of the 111th Security forces which made for a rapid entrance and exit of emergency vehicles. In turn, this ensured that those who were injured in the explosion were transported to nearby hospitals for immediate medical attention.

These proud Pennsylvania civilians assisted in bringing peace and order to the turmoil in the streets of Atlanta after the devastating bombing. Approximately 120 injured people were transported to area hospitals while the Olympic Park site was secured and the fearful masses were calmed. Amazingly, the Security Forces patrolled their afternoon shifts the very next day.

The members of the 111th National Guard should be applauded for their noble efforts to provide for the well-being of their fellow citizens. Their devotion proves that they are true American heroes. I ask you to join me in thanking these brave men and women for their commitment in keeping our nation safe.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERALISM ACT OF 1998

HON. JAMES P. MORAN
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today I, along with Representatives MIKE CASTLE, GARY CONDIT, TOM DAVIS, KAREN MCCARTHY, and ROB PORTMAN are introducing the "Federalism Act of 1998."

In this legislation we will codify two executive orders on federalism: Executive Order No. 12612 issue by President Ronald Reagan on October 26, 1987 and Executive Order No. 12875 issued by President Bill Clinton exactly five years later. President Reagan's executive order helped bring clarity to the division of responsibilities among federal, state, and local governments. President Clinton's executive order sought to reduce the imposition of unfunded mandates on state and local governments. Both executive orders affirmed the need to consult with state and local governments prior to undertaking any new federal agency actions.

Unfortunately, it appears that the current administration failed to abide by its own policy, when it issued a new executive order on federalism earlier this year. On May 14, 1998, the administration issued Executive Order 13083 with little or no consultation of state and local officials prior to its issuance.

A careful review of this new executive order reveals both substantive and stylistic changes, that from the state and local perspective, present a retreat from the two previous executive orders the new order replaces. On the issue of preemption of state and local laws, for example, President Reagon's executive order sought to limit preemption to only problems of state scope and then expands the list of policy areas provided in its first executive order where preemption is permissible.

State and local officials are seriously concerned that the new executive order threatens their current relationship with the federal government and undermines their position and status within our republican form of government.

In response to these concerns we need to repeal Executive Order 13083 and provide state and local officials with an opportunity to sit down with the administration and iron out a new policy on federalism. The starting point for drafting any new executive order should be the two existing executive orders. The legislation I am introducing today with my colleagues, from both sides of the aisle, takes us to this starting point.

From this starting point, it may be entirely appropriate to consider other legislative changes that strengthen the Unfunded Mandate Reform Act and judicial review of agency actions. But, before we consider these changes, let us agree on preserving the commitments, safeguards and procedures established by both President Reagan's executive order and President Clinton's first executive order on federalism by codifying them as federal law.

TRIBUTE TO RABBI LEIBISH LEFKOWITZ

HON. JERROLD NADLER
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rabbi Leibish Lefkowitz, who passed away on August 1, 1998. Rabbi Lefkowitz, an esteemed leader of the Satmar community, earned the respect and gratitude of countless citizens whose lives he touched. Rabbi Lefkowitz was born in St. Peter, Hungary on June 20, 1920. In 1941 he married Dinah Fischer, and graduated from the Yeshivah of Rabbi Rosner in Szekelhid, Hungary the following year. After escaping from a Budapest prison in 1944, and his wife overcame immense challenges and arrived in the United States in 1956. Rabbi Lefkowitz established a crystal and gift store on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. This store eventually evolved into the Crystal Clear Industries Enterprise, now one of the largest crystal companies in the U.S.

Rabbi Lefkowitz became the lay leader of the Satmar community in 1970. Rabbi Lefkowitz held many leadership positions within the community. He served as president of numerous educational and service organizations, and was well known for his philanthropic activities, religious leadership, and compassion. Rabbi Lefkowitz was also known for his dedication to the Satmar Congregation Yetev Lev and the United Talmud Academy and Beth Rachel of N.Y. State, which educates over 18,000 students. Rabbi Lefkowitz was also the president of the Satmar Congregation Yetev Lev and leader and president of the United Jewish Organization located in Williamsburg. Rabbi Lefkowitz also founded and became the mayor of the Kiyas Joel Village, located in Monroe, N.Y.

Rabbi Lefkowitz did not reserve his generosity only for his many public endeavors, he was also well-known for his compassion he exhibited to every person he encountered. He was deeply kind and caring, and he will be missed sorely by all who were touched by him.
HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with my colleagues, Judiciary Committee Chairman Henry Hyde, and Commerce Committee Ranking Member John Dingell, in introducing today the “Protect American Jobs Through the Foreign Trade Antitrust Improvements Amendments Act of 1998.” This bill clarifies one of our most important U.S. antitrust laws in order to ensure the principle that U.S. law reaches anti-competitive foreign cartels, acts, and conspiracies designed to unfairly exclude American products from overseas markets. The principal aim of my bill is to correct a Department of Justice’s current and correct interpretation of the Foreign Trade Antitrust Improvements Act (“FTAIA”) which is embodied in footnote 62 of the International Antitrust Guidelines. The footnote makes it clear that there are no unnecessary jurisdictional or legal roadblocks to challenging anti-competitive foreign cartels and conspiracies that take place outside our borders.

We live in an era of economic globalization. Today, America’s prosperity depends not only on vigorous competition within our territorial borders, but on free and fair access to markets in Japan, Europe, Africa, Latin America, China, Russia, and a host of other countries. Anti-competitive practices that block foreign markets to U.S. exporters are just as much a threat to the U.S. economy, as the purely domestic cartels and combinations that the Sherman Act sought to address at the turn of the century.

The opening of global markets has advanced America’s current economic prosperity, but it also poses fundamental challenges for U.S. antitrust laws. One example is the U.S. flat glass industry. For the better part of a decade, America’s leading flat glass producers have been seeking access to the Japanese market, the biggest and richest in Asia. This isn’t a situation where America doesn’t have a good product. American companies are leaders in producing and selling high-quality innovative glass products around the world; and in fact, have succeeded in Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America, but not Japan. The fact is that securing distribution effective channels for American glass products has not proven to be a significant barrier to entry in any country but Japan.

My bill aims to address this situation by making an important clarification in the U.S. antitrust laws that govern jurisdiction over foreign firms. It does not change U.S. antitrust law. Instead, it is designed to codify and clarify U.S. antitrust doctrine. Although most observers would agree that the FTAIA established conclusively that DOJ and U.S. firms have jurisdiction to bring an antitrust case against foreign firms engaged in anti-competitive conduct that harms U.S. exporters, enforcement officials have interpreted the law and said so in a footnote to the International Antitrust Guidelines. That footnote—Footnote 159—created a higher burden for U.S. exporters than Congress had intended by requiring that they show harm to U.S. consumers in order to get their day in court.

This bill would ensure that the will of Congress and the plain meaning of the FTAIA could never again be misconstrued by the federal antitrust agencies, a foreign litigant or a U.S. court. It would assist U.S. firms in breaking down anti-competitive foreign barriers to U.S. exports.

While the correction to Footnote 159 was drafted by Assistant Attorney General Jim Rill in the Bush Administration, it has been fully endorsed by the Clinton Administration. I commend Assistant Attorney Generals Rill, Bingaman, and Klein for their strong leadership in strengthening international antitrust enforcement and for bringing cases under the authority of the FTAIA.

By clarifying the jurisdictional requirements of the FTAIA, I hope to encourage the Department of Justice and injured industries to make any necessary use of this important power by challenging cartels, such as those blocking distribution of U.S. products in the U.S. courts, before U.S. juries, under U.S. law.

My bill makes a simple and straightforward point. Anti-competitive foreign cartels and conspiracies are subject to the long-arm of U.S. antitrust law. Foreign producers can run . . . but they can’t hide. The global economy may look for a reality, but U.S. law applies fully to anti-competitive international cartels, combinations, and conspiracies.

This bill already has the support of industry leaders, including Kodak, P&G Industries, and Guardian International Corporation, and the National Association of Manufacturers. I look forward to working with these and other interested parties to bring U.S. law into a new era of international economic globalization, and to ensure that American firms and workers have a timely and effective remedy against those who engage in anti-competitive acts designed to exclude American products or services from the international marketplace.

NAFTA = AMERICAN GHOST TOWNS

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the inequity that NAFTA has created along the U.S.-Mexico border in Texas. As a recent New York Times article has shown, NAFTA has been a boon to the big companies, and to Mexican labor, but has created ghost towns in American border communities where vibrant, growing cities once burgeoned.

“This whole free-trade thing turned out to be for the big companies, not the little guy,” Ricardo Grando, a manager at a Brownsville money exchange was quoted as saying in the Times article. From the border towns in the border towns, NAFTA has not brought prosperity, like its supporters claimed, and border communities hoped for. With tariffs removed, workers in Brownsville, El Paso, Laredo, and other towns have watched their jobs walk across the borders to cities like Ciudad Juarez and Mata-moros. "I don't think it's changing as much as it used to," said one El Paso worker. Workers have been hit with a lower unemployment rate than its sister city El Paso. Ciudad Juarez's largest employers are corporations such as General Motors, Ford, and United Technologies, where average wages are $1.36. Compare this to the $7.71 for factory jobs in El Paso, when there are no jobs. The largest employers in El Paso are two schools and a military base. With lower wages just feet away, it is no wonder why companies take their operations across the border.

Mr. Speaker, NAFTA's effects can be seen along the U.S.-Mexican border. Just as I and other critics of NAFTA said in 1993, the cheap, unsafe labor markets in Mexico are too inviting to U.S. companies, and American workers are losing jobs by the thousands. Not only are jobs stolen in El Paso, but they are lost in major cities far away from the border, such as my hometown of Chicago. If we do not end this NAFTA injustice, NAFTA ghost towns will pop up all across America.

Mr. Speaker, the Panamanian people are soon to encounter an important vote that may affect the future of their democracy. On August 30, Panama will hold a plebiscite to decide whether to amend the constitution to allow the current president, Ernesto Perez Balladares, to run for a second term. The Panamanian people seem to have developed a stable democracy and I hope they understand that any change could be the beginning of a retreat from this democracy. I trust the Panamanian people will recognize the importance of this vote. In addition, I hope international election observers will help guarantee an honest vote.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOHN H. BLOSSOM

HON. GERONE P. RADANOVICH
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. John H. Blossom for his life long dedication and hard work in the health care arena. Mr. Blossom’s care giving efforts in decentralized rural clinics has allowed other physicians to enter and start their own practice.

For nearly three decades, Dr. John H. Blossom has worked to establish physician training programs in rural clinics which is a long-standing relationship with the University of California, San Francisco-Fresno Medical education program. Dr. Blossom began training family practice residents in decentralized rural clinics. This idea of recruiting physicians to generally underserved areas worked well and has since been used in many other parts of the country. Dr. Blossom first came to Fresno for training at Valley Medical Center and was appointed chief resident in 1974. Once he completed his residency training, Dr. Blossom became a medical director of a health center in Mendota, a small rural town west of Fresno. During the two years that he provided patient care services there, he introduced that
Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to Dr. John H. Blossom. Dr. Blossom’s life-long hardwork in the health care arena has allowed other physicians to enter and start their own practice. I ask my Colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. Blossom many years of success.

BLACK AMERICANS’ RIGHT TO VOTE WILL NOT EXPIRE IN 2007

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL
OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Don’t Panic—Your Right To Vote Will Not Expire

(By Charles B. Rangel)

I am writing to address a widespread rumor that in the year 2007, Blacks will lose the right to vote. The recent editorial by Brandy Darling, “Blacks’ right to vote ends by the year 2007,” is the latest reinforcement of well-intentioned but frightening misinformation that has been circulating among African-Americans voting rights. This right is provided and guaranteed by the 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The confusion is due to a misunderstanding of the Voting Rights Act. First enacted in 1965, the law removed the infamous barriers that had been systematically imposed to prevent voting for nearly a century, despite the mandate of the 15th Amendment. Among those forbidden practices were the imposition of poll taxes and literacy tests, not to mention the threat of violence.

While some provisions of the Voting Rights Act will expire in the year 2007, the most important protections of African-American voting rights will remain in place. The prohibition against racial discrimination in voting is permanent and is guaranteed in the 15th Amendment. Prohibitions against poll taxes, literacy tests and the like have no expiration date. Technically these protections could be removed by a court, but that would provoke a monumental battle.

Certain provisions in the Voting Rights Act will expire in 2007 with serious implications for non-English speaking citizens and for the election of minority office holders. States or political subdivisions with significant numbers of non-English speaking citizens and for the election of minority office holders.

The growth in number of minority elected officials could also be affected by the expiring administrative provisions of the act. It includes the requirement for preclusion of election observers. This provision does not guarantee election of minorities. Rather, it prevents jurisdictions with a history of discrimination and racial polarization from manipulating the electoral systems to render the Black vote ineffective.

Although African-Americans were granted the right to vote in 1870 with the passage of the 15th Amendment and illegal measures which many southern states used to prevent Blacks from voting resulted in the exclusion of most African-Americans citizens from the voting process. In response, in 1965, Congress passed the first Voting Rights Act.

EXECUTION OF BAHÁ’Í IN IRAN—PERSECUTION OF MINORITY RELIGIONS CONTINUES

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER
OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, it was with cautious hope that we observed last year the election of a “moderate” leader of Iran and the first tentative signs that the government of Iran might be willing to rejoin the community of nations. Iranian President Mohammed Khatami addressed the American people and expressed his dedication to the principles of freedom, justice, and the rule of law for all Iranians. Unfortunately, it appears that Iran’s hardliners, led by Ayatollah Khomenni, remain committed to keeping Iran a pariah state and are apparently willing to use Iran’s largest religious minority, the Baha’is, to send a rebuke to both the moderates in Iran and to the international community.

Generally, the Voting Rights Act was first applied to any state or political jurisdiction that used tests or other devices as a condition for voter registration. The law was amended by Congress in 1970, 1975, 1982 and 1992 to expand coverage beyond the southern states and to apply to non-English speaking citizens. There is no truth to the claim that the enforcement of the Voting Rights Act requires ratification by the states. To be renewed, only a vote by Congress is required.

After emancipation and the beginning of slavery, Blacks earned the right to vote. This victory did not come easily. African-Americans were subjected to fraud, violence (including murders) and other unsavory tactics as a means to stop them from voting. Over the years, Blacks have sacrificed unduly for the right to vote. No one should ever have to experience such threats. That is why it is extremely important for African-Americans to continue to monitor potential threats to their right to vote.

We must be mindful of the fact that most of the gains made over the years have resulted from political activism. On the other hand, many of the losses that we are now experiencing stem from political apathy. In the 1996 presidential election, approximately 51 percent of African-Americans voted. To look at it another way, almost half of the eligible African-Americans did not vote in the last presidential election. If there are 40 African-American members in the U.S. Congress using a little over half of the voting age population, what does this mean? Black Americans participated in the political process.

Black America is under attack. Affirmative action is being dismantled; Black churches are burning; racial hate crimes are on the rise; public schools are crumbling; and young Black men are being killed in the streets. These are reasons why we must fight back politically. And the struggle cannot end there. There is a serious need for improvements in education and training, affordable housing and increased job opportunities. Blacks must be prepared to compete in a global technological society.

Although the rumors over the Voting Rights Act are not true, the concern is real. Blacks are not in danger of losing the right to vote. However, the political power of African-Americans is being diluted. There is a need to monitor political threats and to inform the president and Congress of your concerns.

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On July 21st, the government of Iran executed Mr. Ruholah Rowhani, a Baha'i man, after having charged him with apostasy—specifically, converting a Muslim to the Baha'i faith. Mr. Rowhani, who had been held incommunicado for ten months, was evidently not accorded basic legal protections such as access to an attorney. His family learned of his execution only after it had taken place and they were notified they had one hour to prepare for his burial.

Since 1979, over 200 Baha'is—mostly elected community leaders—have been executed in Iran, solely on account of their religion. For the past six years, however, none had been executed and the number of Baha'is in custody had been rapidly declining. This apparent lessening of overt persecution, coupled with the new leadership in Iran, had raised hopes that a change in attitude towards the Baha'i and other minority religions might be forthcoming. The execution of Mr. Rowhani dashed those hopes. Currently, 15 Baha'is are being held by the Iranian authorities—four of whom are on death row.

In the days since the killing, the international community has joined forces to condemn this shameful execution and petition for the humane treatment of those Baha'is facing possible death at the hands of the Iranian government. President Clinton and State Department Spokesperson James Rubin have issued strong statements condemning the killing. The German, Australian and Canadian foreign ministries have issued strong denunciations and representations of the European Union have made their disapproval and concern known to the Iranian authorities in very clear terms. The Office of the UN Commissioner for Human Rights has urgently appealed to the Iranian government on behalf of the detained individuals.

For its part, the Iranian judiciary—which is controlled by Khomeini and the hardliners—responded by initially denying the charges were ever filed, denying the execution ever took place, and, incredibly, denying that a man named Ruholah Rowhani ever existed. The Foreign Ministry later acknowledged that the execution had taken place.

Mr. Speaker, it is tremendously disappointing that the hardline elements of the Iranian government have resumed their assault on the Baha'i community. The hardline leadership continues to deviate far from the norms of civilized behavior by executing a man for nothing more than his faith. I believe that the execution of this innocent man marks a new phase in the ongoing power struggle in Iran between the hardliners and the more moderate elements. Given the fact that the hardliners control the judiciary in very clear terms, The Office of the UN Commissioner for Human Rights urges the Iranian government to spare the life of Ruhollah Rowhani, the innocent man executed in Iran.

The Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands is the newest and only American territory acquired by the United States in this century. The composition of the CNMI includes the principal islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota as well as other northern islands in the Marianas Island chain. Guam is also located in the Marianas chain and sits as CNMI’s closest neighbor in the Pacific and sister American territory. It is befitting that the people of Guam have the honor today to introduce the Northern Mariana Islands onto the international political stage for their own community. They pay taxes, serve in the armed forces and have since made great strides in developing its unique island community and economy.

This legislation is consistent with recommendations of the Commission of Federal Operators and have since made great strides in developing its unique island community and economy.

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Babauta.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD——Extensions of Remarks
August 7, 1998

HON. BOB CLEMENT
OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Greg Goodman, a valued constituent of the Fifth Congressional District of Tennessee.

Greg Goodman has taken top origination honors for the State of Tennessee for the third year in a row. Greg is a vice president of Sun Trust Bank in Nashville and has been with the bank since graduating from David Lipscomb College in 1991.

Greg has closed over $240 million in residential loans since 1991. Greg is not only number one in the State of Tennessee, but also has the honor of being one of the top originators in the southeastern United States. Greg has completed Course I at the School of Mortgage Banking at Charleston University and is one of the top marketers in the United States.

Greg’s secret is based on the utilization and building of relationships. In his words: “My commitment starts with relationships. Relationship selling is focused on the customer. Exceeding expectations is the single most powerful way our team has of building credibility.” Greg is a strong advocate of under-promising and over-delivering.

Greg is an active social person, married to the former Aletha Barker, a member of the Church of Christ, and he celebrates his 30th birthday on August 14, 1998. Greg is destined to continue breaking records in selling. I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

HONORING GREG GOODMAN FOR HIS PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Northern Marianas Delegate Act, August 6, 1998

Statement of the Honorable Juan N. Babauta, Resident Representative to the United States, from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

The people of the Northern Marianas voted overwhelmingly in 1975 to join the United States of America. After three centuries of colonial rule we longed to be citizens of a democratic republic, free to participate in our own governance.

Twenty-three years later, we still wait, governed from afar, the only people within the United States without a voice in Congress.

In negotiating our entry into the American political system we were advised that our small population, approximately 14,000 in the early 1970s, did not warrant representation in Congress. We accepted that explanation knowing that Congress had recently provided representation in the House of Representatives for Guam, the Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia and confident that once we, too, became United States citizens we would be accorded representation in our national government.

When, in 1978, Congress provided representation for the national capitals of American Samoa, approximately 22,000, we in the Northern Marianas were further encouraged to believe that as a growing population of US citizens, we, too, would soon have a voice in shaping the laws which now govern us.

Our hopes rose again in 1986 when the Commissioner, appointed by President Ronald Reagan, recommended to Congress that the people of the Northern Marianas be provided a Delegate in the US House of Representatives. The Reagan Commission reasoned that:

Every other area within the American political system with a permanent population is represented in Congress.

Northern Marianas representation in Congress is in keeping with American traditions of participatory democracy and would dispel any lingering taint of American colonialism over the islands; and

A Northern Marianas Delegate would effectively represent American citizens residing in the Northern Marianas, relieving other Members of this responsibility.

Although legislation was introduced supporting the Reagan Commission recommendation, the House took no action on it.

When, in 1989, I first ran for the office of Resident Representative to the United States from the Northern Mariana Islands, I pledged to make representation in Congress a priority. Despite joint resolutions from the Northern Mariana Islands legislature and the support of Governor Lorenzo I. DeLeon Guerrero, it was not until 1994 that a bill, HR 4927, was finally introduced. It was Robert Underwood, joined by co-sponsors Mr. Murphy, Mr. Faleomavaega, Ms. Norton, Mr. Romero-Barcelo, and Mr. de Lugo, who made that important first step on our behalf.

Their effort was followed in 1996 by the introduction of legislation by Mr. Gallegly, co-sponsored by Chairman Young, Mr. Faleomavaega, Mr. Underwood, Mr. Abercrombie (since 1994), Mr. Frager, Mr. Kim, and Mr. Rahall. The Northern Marianas Delegate bill was reported favorably by the Resources Committee. Opponents argued to discourage floor consideration of the measure in the waning days of the 104th Congress.

In opposition to the Gallegly/Young bills, both in committee and after the bill was reported favorably, it was argued that, although the people of the Northern Marianas are US citizens, they have no inherent right to participate in the Nation’s governance. This argument is technically correct. The Constitution makes no provision for representation in Congress for US citizens not residing in the States. However, since the very first days of our Republic, this Congress has acknowledged that US citizens, even outside the States, should in justice have a voice in Congress. And, over the last two hundred years, Congress has so provided, giving representation in the US House to Tennessee, Oklahoma, and Michigan—territories ranging in population from 5,000 to 250,000.

At times, though, Congress has delayed in granting this representation—in the case of Alaska because of its remoteness and its population’s racial and ethnic composition. But we live in modern times, when concerns about distance and homogeneity have been replaced by a more enlightened sense of justice and civil rights.

It was further argued that representation in Congress is a “privilege” and that the people of the Northern Marianas are unworthy of it because of the abuse of foreign laborers which has occurred in the islands—there is a common perception that the people of the Northern Marianas for twenty-three years, since long before the issue of foreign labor abuse arose.

In approving the Covenant of political union with the United States, the people of the Northern Marianas elected to live under federal law. We do not fear it. We seek its protection for ourselves and for all persons living in the Northern Marianas. What we want is to have a voice in making those federal laws which govern us.

The Supreme Court of the United States opined in 1964. “[n]o right is more precious in a free country than that of having a voice in the election of those who make the laws under which, as good citizens, we must live.”

It is with respect for that fundamental principle that we ask for passage of the Northern Marianas Delegate Act.

HONORING GREG GOODMAN FOR HIS PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, last night I voted against the Hefley Amendment. As Ranking member of the Subcommittee on Civil Service, I strongly opposed the Hefley amendment because I believe that no employee, federal or otherwise, should be subjected to employment discrimination.

Executive Order 13087, signed by President Clinton on May 28th, creates new rights, it merely codifies existing non-discrimination policies already in force in every Federal department and agency throughout the executive branch. The Executive Order simply says that supervisors in the Federal government may not consider race, religion, gender or sexual orientation, in hiring, firing or promotion decisions. It states a fair and reasonable policy with which no true believer in our nation’s founding principle of equal justice under law could disagree.

The Hefley Amendment would prohibit the expenditure of funds to implement the Executive Order. By doing so, it sends the wrong
message. It signals that it is permissible to discriminate based on sexual orientation. I find this particularly inappropriate for the Federal government which should be doing everything possible to discourage all forms of discrimination.

Last fall, at my request, the Subcommittee on Civil Service held a series of hearings on employment discrimination in the Federal workplace. During these hearings, the current evidence of discriminatory conduct in the Federal workplace was overwhelming. I asked the General Accounting Office (GAO) to look into this matter, and in a report issued last month GAO found that the number of Federal employee discrimination complaints has risen sharply over the past few years. Clearly, more must be done to stamp out discrimination. What the Helfey amendment does is promote it.

RECOGNITION OF LEESBURG STUDENTS IN AAA “NATIONAL AUTO SKILLS” CONTEST

HON. FRANK R. WOLF
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to recognize two young students. They are Jason Kmak, age 17, and Gregory J. Welch, age 19. These two students represented Virginia and placed second in this year’s American Automobile Association (AAA) “National Auto Skills Contest.” Jason and Gregory competed as a team from the C.S. Monroe Technical Center in Leesburg, Virginia, against 49 other teams across the nation and represented AAA Potomac.

The annual competition pits the best high school auto repair teams in the nation against each other. Nationwide, more than 5,000 students competed in the competition. Over $8 million in scholarship money is awarded in the contest. The competition is based on written exams and a timed challenge for teams to find and fix bugs deliberately created in an automobile. Only the team from Oregon placed better than Virginia’s team.

Mr. Speaker, today’s automobiles have more complex and highly technical. These students displayed amazing talent by placing second in the competition. As second place winners, they will be awarded scholarships worth thousands of dollars. The team’s efforts have also earned their Leesburg school a Ford vehicle for use in the school’s automotive training program.

Mr. Speaker, more students should be encouraged to learn computer and advanced technology skills because it is the way of the future. From automobiles to television sets to the Internet, students must learn these skills if our nation is to remain globally competitive. I commend Jason and Gregory on their hard work and encourage them to continue to build on this success, and wish them all the very best in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS S. CHAN

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and to honor the memory of the late Thomas S. Chan of Sacramento, CA. As Mr. Chan is memorialized today he will be remembered by his many friends and family members as an intelligent businessman and dedicated community leader.

Mr. Chan was a true Sacramentan. Born on July 17, 1919 he was raised in Sacramento and has always called Sacramento home. He graduated from Sacramento High School in 1937. In 1942, he met Mae Chuck and the two were wed in 1947.

Tom Chan devoted much of energy into helping his family’s produce business flourish. Begun by his father, Mr. Chan assumed management of General Produce Co. during the 1950s. Yet the produce business was not the only field in which Tom excelled. He went on to establish himself as one of Sacramento’s most innovative retailers and custom home developers. He was also an immensely talented furniture craftsman as well as an avid sportsman. General Produce Co., South Land Park Terrace, and Riverside Estates will endure as Thomas Chan’s lasting legacy in Sacramento.

But like his father, Tom also leaves behind a wonderful family, friends, and a community of people who are better for having known him.

The Chan family will always hold a special place in my memories. When my family and I returned to Sacramento after the incarceration of Japanese Americans, we had few possessions, little money, and no income. Moreover, because of the internment, there was a presumption of guilt and a suspicion of Americans of Japanese ancestry throughout California. But amidst such indignities, there were families like the Chans who reached out to my family and others like us.

My father, who was forced to give up his own produce business when the internment order came, was hired by Tom’s father to work at General Produce, where he worked with and for Tom Chan for more than 30 years.

There are scores of people and families who have been similarly influenced by Tom Chan and his family. It is they who will feel the great loss in our community and remember him as an admired leader.

Mr. Speaker, as Thomas S. Chan is laid to rest today in Sacramento, I respectfully ask all of my colleagues to join me in commemorating his dual legacy of successful businessman and beloved family figure. Our thoughts are with Mae Chan, Tom’s four children, and two grandchildren during their most difficult time.

HONORING BAISAKHI-1999

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor BAISAKHI-1999, which is the Tercentenary Celebration of the birth of Khalsa.

BAISAKHI-1999 is where Indian-Americans, the government of Punjab, and the people of India will celebrate the rich Khalsa heritage of the last three hundred years. It will offer everyone an opportunity to reflect on Sikh values and traditions.

Punjab, India, is the land where the soul of Kabir found its resonance in the inspirational hymns of Guru Nanak, and the grandeur of Guru Gobind Singh’s spirit inspired countless people. Punjab has always been known for the rich heritage of Sikh culture.

BAISAKHI-1999 represents the culmination of extensive planning, and has come about only through the remarkable efforts of devoted people whose commitment to the project should be commended. I would like to personally recognize the Chief Minister of Punjab Prakash Singh Badal and his council of ministers; members of the Legislative Assembly; Members of the Parliament; Serv Shri Surjeet Singh Barnala, Union Minister of India; Sukhbir Singh Badal; Jathedar Bhai Ranjit Singh; Jathedar Bhai Gurucharan Singh Tohra, M.P.; Bhajedra Singh Haumdard, M.P.; Dhadhar Singh Bains; and the founder president of the Ambedkar International Mission U.S.A., Hardyal Singh.

To further mark this auspicious occasion, the Honorable Chief Minister of the State of Punjab, Mr. Prakash Singh Badal, has proposed the development of Anandpur Sahib, a city in Punjab to reflect the rich heritage of Sikh culture. Included in the proposal is the Khalsa Heritage Memorial Complex, the Khalsa Memorial Academy Institute, a gallery of paintings, and a Sikh military museum among other things. Also planned is a Khalsa Heritage Memorial which will be three hundred feet high to mark this Tercentenary Celebration.

Once again, I would like to send my best wishes for this event, and my personal congratulations on this joyous occasion.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CAPITAL GAINS TAX SIMPLIFICATION ACT OF 1998

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, on April 1 of this year, several of my colleagues and I introduced H.R. 3623, the “Capital Gains Tax Simplification Act of 1998,” which would simplify the computation of capital gains taxes for all individual taxpayers. The bill would also provide modest capital gains tax reductions for millions of Americans.

At the time of introduction, I stated that we would modify the legislation if the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) determined upon reviewing the bill that there would be a revenue loss. Since then, I have learned from the JCT that this bill as originally introduced would lose revenue. With this concern in mind, I have decided to modify and reintroduce this capital gains legislation. The bill would now raise $600 million over a ten-year period.

Based upon revenue considerations, we have modified the Capital Gains Tax Simplification Act of 1998 in several areas, none of which would affect the basic goal of substantially simplifying the taxation of capital gains.
Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to assist the over 6 million senior citizens who have been negatively impacted by the Social Security Amendments of 1977. Seniors born between the years 1917 and 1921, their spouses and dependents are expected to receive a reduction in Social Security benefits by the year 2000. The Notch Baby Health Care Relief Act, to discuss both correct the inequity caused by the Notch and to help seniors meet their health care needs. I urge my colleagues to review the Notch Baby Health Care Relief Act, to discuss this legislation with the seniors in their districts, and to join me in cosponsoring this important legislation.

V–103 FM AND WGCI AM/FM UNITY DAY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas for the first time in Chicago history, two competing radio stations V–103 FM and WGCI AM/FM have united to sponsor “Unity Day 1998,” a community oriented event in Washington Park;

Whereas “Unity Day 1998” will bring together hundreds of thousands of people to collectively focus on family values, the power of hope, self-discipline and the strength of a united people;

Whereas Unity Day is a daylong celebration highlighted by a festival of fun, entertainment, education and leadership from the community. V–103 and WGCI AM/FM are presenting special awards to several community social and cultural organizations;

Whereas the DuSable Museum of African American History, HRDI, Inc., Old St. Paul Church, Westside Cultural Center (Douglas Park), and the Soul Children of Chicago are worthy of the Unity Day Awards; and

Whereas the Human Resources Development Institute, Inc. (HRDI), is the largest African American behavioral healthcare and social service organization in the State of Illinois committed to improving the quality of life for people in all communities; and

Whereas the Soul Children of Chicago, founded in 1981 by Walt Whitman exemplifies Unity Day 1998 by promoting self-esteem, leadership and good moral character among our youth; and

Whereas the Westside Cultural Center, Douglas Park works to develop camaraderie, friendship and exposes our inner city youth to cultural and youth development activities; and

Whereas Old St. Paul Church provides spiritual guidance and support to our communities and support families, the power of love and hope; and

Whereas Mary Dyson, President and General Manager, WGCI AM/FM and Donald T. Moore, Senior Vice President and general manager, V–103 should be commended for their contributions and support of our communities; and

Whereas V–103, an award winning radio station consistently provides the best hits and дисков, primarily the African American communities; and

Whereas WGCI AM/FM, winner of many awards, “Plays the Hits” and “All Dusties...
HONORING MARIA OSUNA VALDEZ FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES OF CALIFORNIA IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Maria Osuna Valdez for being a role model citizen and exemplary woman. Maria was born on March 6, 1914, in San Ignacio, Sinaloa, Mexico. She was the fourth of five children to Eufemio Osuna and Magdalena Escobosa de Osuna. After her parents' deaths, Maria, then 16 years of age, went to live with her sister, Magdalena.

While working in the mining town of El Tambor, Mexico, Maria met and married Miguel Arrelano Valdez. In 1946, after having worked in the silver mines for many years, Miguel, an American citizen, moved back to the United States. Miguel went ahead to begin working, leaving Maria behind to care for their children before moving to Tijuana, Mexico, to begin preparing for their journey to the United States. In 1957, after much work and sacrifice, the Valdez family moved into their home in Montebello, California. Maria, with the help of the older children, managed the family while Miguel worked in Los Angeles.

Maria was a homemaker who took care of their eight children. She supervised their activities while Miguel often worked double shifts. Their children were their pride and inspiration. They instilled in them the American Dream, strong religious beliefs and family values. All eight of their children graduated from institutions of higher learning and were exemplary citizens. After Miguel's death in 1987, Maria courageously and uncomplainingly encouraged her children and grandchildren and instilled in them the high expectations of the Valdez family.

Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, May 3, 1998, Maria passed away after a long illness at her home in Montebello, California. A 45 year resident of Montebello, Maria was devoted to her Catholic faith, her husband, her children and grandchildren. She is survived by her children Beatrice, Rudolph, Gloria, Otilia, Michael, William, Robert, George; her brother Oscar; and 22 grandchildren and one great-grandson. Maria left her family a legacy of undying love, a devotion to her faith and a deep sense of family values. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Maria Osuna Valdez for being an outstanding resident of Montebello, California.

HOMILY FOR THE FORTIETH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF THOMAS AND MIRIAM RYAN IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH, PINE CITY, MINNESOTA, JULY 25, 1998

Forty years is a special union, a bargain that of marriage calls for a special sort of celebration. And for once time is not the enemy but the celebration. The combined ages of those gathered here is testament to the influence of the union of Tom and Miriam that took place forty years ago. Their previous marriages to spouses who proceeded them in union and whose memory they continue to cherish, along with the large number of children to whom they have given life and love, suggest that this fortieth anniversary is neither silver or golden, it must surely be considered platinum. And as is the case in the mining and processing of precious metals, the years have given them their share of Gethsemane to remove the dross of selfishness and productivity and the kind of union they have achieved. All things considered, time has asayed their marriage and has marked it as genuine.

A fortieth wedding anniversary reminds us that the marriage covenant is not an instant achievement. A wedding may be for a day but the marriage is for a lifetime. Marriage calls for love, forgiveness, sacrifice, loyalty, faith and courage. In shaping these virtues and through them the ongoing work in progress. We live in an age however, when it is too easy to forget the constant faithfulness that the Lord required of his servants—of the task of forming children in the values that ultimately matter. Incidentally, my personal experience of Miriam’s cooking is symbolic in the truest sense of the self-giving that is so characteristic of her marriage to Tom, most notably during his recent illness. I cherish the memory of the Sunday brunches at their home in Pine City, the silver cutlery, the linen and fine delft, the overall ambiance but especially the food prepared and arranged with the touch of the excellent visual artist that she is, and always in the tradition of French cooking of course. Considering the value of which the notion of “nuances” does seem to be a contradiction in terms!

Tom’s dedication to Miriam too is a noteworthy as his compensation as a lawyer and politician for the poor and the suffering in injustice in any way. This compassion of his does not flow only from the genetic heritage of his revered uncle Monsignor John A. An unrequited Minnesota kind—Tom Ryan’s concern flows also from his unwavering commitment to the preferential place which the poor are meant to enjoy in the mission and ministry of the Catholic Church, most especially perhaps here in America. Something which the Church needs to reconsider in its list of priorities frequently.

In any case, keeping in mind that marriage is always a work of grace in progress, we are celebrating what is hopefully some experience of Mount Tabor for Tom and Miriam on this their fortieth anniversary.

In this regard, I am reminded of another anniversary. I was present at the wedding of my parents some seven years ago, a moment of quiet wonder and thankfulness for them and for every member of the family in which my parents seemed to be tolerantly amused by all the fuss, sensing at times our tendency to celebrate them as trophies. After all their love did survive the raising of their eight children, becoming a widowed woman with seven children they predeceased their present union and whose memory they continue to cherish, to gather family, friends, and loved ones to re-live and remember.

In Yeats’ words they too: . . . have found the best that life can give. Companionship in those mysterious things/ That family’s own/ That woman’s soul/ Itself and not some other soul. And so, Miriam and Tom, in the words of Paul to the Corinthians—one of our chosen scriptures for your anniversary—because of the patience and kindness of your mutual love, its humility and forgiveness, your care and compassion for your families and for all of us, we know that the ageless Christ is with us here, joyful too over all that his grace and presence have worked in you. That miracle is surely encouragement and assurance that young couples know they need it—That his grace is always sufficient to the fulfillment of their desires and dreams. Certainly, as the Gospel of John suggests, you have provided a Christ’s special friends. You have been faithful to His and to each other’s. We celebrate you and we bless you! Rev. Michael J. Lyons, Pastor.
of love and family which is their legacy. There were 14 children, and so far 40 grandchildren and 31 great grandchildren. One son, one grandson and one great granddaughter are hard to keep up with. The spirit of peace and love from heaven above.

Mom is known for her gourmet meals that always includes dessert and a table set for royalty, which means everything in the refrigerator must go. These meals boasted of concoctions fit for kings and the presentations always matched.

Grocery shopping was always a major ordeal. Dad and Mary would often times go together for more groceries. That’s brimming full. Trying to find places for it all at home was much like the politics we were thrown into. They shopped liberally and had to put their creative minds to work.

Speaking of politics, life with dad is always politically charged. I’m not sure if it’s because he’s a lawyer, his strong Irish Heritage, or he just loves talking. The more controversial and politically charged the better.

There were always parades to walk with stickers and brochures to hand out, door knocking for dad or some other worthy candidate. It was expected of us much like a farmer expecting his children to help out on the farm.

A family of our size has required us to cooperate, share and be creative. Family vacations and rides in the car were a real test of that. “If I can turn to sit by the window you’re touching me, or you’re in my space” were common grumblings ending up in pinching matches and angry words. Long trips required a cooler of sandwiches and beverages eating in the car on a stop at a roadside picnic area. Sleeping in the care required further division of the minimal car space that was usually by sleeping first. That was a real treat because you had twice the room of the 3 or 4 sitting behind you on the seat. But if you got pushy or crabby you ended up in the front seat with mom and dad—that was really bad. By the way dad, you can get a smaller car now.

When we thought things were tough or unfair for us mom always told us “offer it up and you’ll go straight to heaven”. You can guess how much credence that held with five 6 to 13 year-olds. Then there was the now famous “this is when we discovered why something she thought was really dumb...” “Don’t talk like a sausage”. To give you an idea of the incredible wisdom we were offered as children we are so amazed that saying why as an adult did I wonder how a sausage sounded and how stupid we were to believe a sausage talked.

Weekend trips often include a caravan of family cars following our leader. Dad. He drives fast so he’s hard to keep up with, but you can always count on catching up to him because he most often makes a Dairy Queen stop... his car seems to smell them out. He often wonders how such an intelligent person can be so electronically progressive and not have a clue on how to keep his tv remote control programmed or run his telephone answering machine. But then there is a time for everything and maybe that’s one reason why he has so many children.

Leisure activities always included games for the whole family. Evening ping pong matches were common, as were card games for those deemed able. You knew you came of age in this family when you were included in the weekly eucker, bridge and cards, to name of a few. This was the true passing into adulthood.

Dad, you have continued to inspire your children through your example of lifelong learning, and many of us have stepped forward to follow in your steps and have sought and attained degrees as adults.

Mom, your example of art and the beauty you alone are able to create on paper and canvas makes it a joy. To see your newest creations puts such pride in our hearts. Some of your children and grandchildren have been blessed with your artistic talent. We see the beauty in life because of you!

Ever the next month, we will have the time to speak with our constituents at countless county and state fairs, town hall meetings, and other gatherings, both formal and informal. It will be an opportunity for us to communicate what we have done and for the voters to tell us what they want us to do.

I think that we will find it next to impossible to pick up a newspaper or hold a town meeting without hearing another story about how a managed care plan denied someone life-saving treatment.

And no public comment poll could convey the depth of emotion about this issue as well as movie audiences around the country who, spontaneously clapped and cheered Helen Hunt’s obscenely-laced description of her HMO’s latest creation. It is the man who experiences crushing chest pain. The American Heart Association says that is a sign of a possible heart attack and urges immediate medical attention.

Seemingly, there are other causes of crushing chest pain, but sons whose EKG’s were negative were being stuck with a bill for the emergency room care, since, in retrospect, the HMO said it was not an emergency after all.

The Medicare law passed last year took care of this problem, by ensuring that plans paid for emergency room services if a “prudent layperson” would have thought a visit to the ER was needed. This prevented the sort of “hindsight is 20-20” coverage denial that consumers had complained about.

The Patient Bill of Rights, which I support, would have extended the same protections to consumers in all health plans. Instead, the Republican Task Force bill passed by the House contains a watered-down version of the prudent layperson rule.

On Tuesday, the New York Times published an excellent article by their noted health reporter, Robert Pear. In it, Mr. Pear outlined just how different the protections in the Republican Task Force Bill are from those we passed for Medicare and Medicaid.

A key difference is exactly how much patients will have to pay for emergency care. The Patients’ Bill of Rights, which I supported, provides that patients could not be charged more money if they seek care in a non-network emergency room.

By contrast, the Republican Task Force allows the health plan to impose higher costs on those who are so careless as to allow emergencies to befall them in places not close to a network-affiliated hospital.

Mr. Speaker, consider what this means. HMOs require enrollees to use certain hospitals, because the plan has some financial arrangement with them.

But when a young child splits his head open by falling down a flight of stairs, I fail to see that any good is served by giving patients a financial incentive to delay care until they can get to one of the HMOs own emergency rooms.

Consider the case of James Adams. Age: six months. At 3:30 in the morning, his mother Lamona found James hot, panting, and moaning.

His temperature was 104 F. Lamona called her HMO and was told to take James to Scottish Rite Medical Center. “There’s only one hospital I can send you to,” the Medicare nurse added.

“How do we get there?” Lamona asked.

“I don’t know,” the nurse said. “I’m not good at directions.”

They piled their three-in-their-ride, they passed Emory University’s hospital, a renowned pediatriic center. Nearby were two more of Atlanta’s leading hospitals, Georgia Baptist and Grady Memorial.

But they didn’t have permission to stop there and pressed on. They had 232 more miles to travel to get to Scottish Rite.

While searching for Scottish Rite, James’ heart stopped. When James and Lamona
Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the entire text of the Robert Pear article be printed in the Congressional Record at this point.

Mr. Speaker, these are but two examples of flaws that may not be apparent on a quick read of the Republican Task Force bill but which become apparent upon closer examination.

I wish I could say that those are the only two provisions in the House-passed GOP managed care reform bill which—to borrow from the old TV ad—may taste great but is certainly less filling.

I think every Member of Congress would agree that the best health care bill is one that delivers people the services they need, when they need them. Remedies such as internal and external appeals and access to the courts are needed backstops, but our first goal should be to require that HMOs provide needed care. On that count, there is no comparison between the two bills.

Here is a partial list of protections contained in the Patients Bill of Rights but which were not included in the Republican Task Force proposal:

First and foremost, the Republican Task Force bill could actually make the situation worse by creating Association Health Plans which will be beyond the reach of state regulation. For example, please bear in mind that, themselves able to craft workable consumer protections for health insurance. But thanks to a 25 year old federal law known as ERISA, millions of Americans are in health plans regulated by the federal government and are therefore beyond the reach of state consumer protections.

Instead of giving consumers more control over health care, the Republican Task Force bill actually places more people in ERISA-regulated health plans. Does this solve our health care problems? Certainly not. Does it add to them by denying people the protections of state law? Definitely.

Instead of improving access to insurance, these proposals could have the exact opposite effect. By exempting multiple employer welfare arrangements—known as MEBAs—from certain provisions of state insurance regulation, the Republican bill will make it more difficult for states to fund high-risk pools and other programs to keep health insurance affordable.

The National Association of Insurance Commissioners and the National Conference of State Legislatures are concerned that these GOP provisions could “undermine the recent efforts undertaken by states to ensure their small business communities have access to affordable health insurance.”

Take a look at this boy, born with a cleft lip. In many states, HMOs are required to pay for coverage to give this boy a normal face.

Mr. Speaker, I would guess that many of my Republican colleagues would be surprised to learn that because a cleft lip is considered a “condition” rather than a “disease,” plans preserving HealthMarts in the GOP bill would not be required to cover needed treatments for this deformity!

This is not just my interpretation of the Republican bill. The Commerce Committee staff member who helped draft the provision confirmed to me that HealthMarts would not be bound by state laws requiring coverage of cleft lips and similar birth defects. If the Republican Task Force bill becomes law, I think it will be very difficult for Members to explain to the parents of a child like this why Congress exempted HealthMarts from this state law protection.

Second, the Republican bill does not contain protections for doctors and nurses who serve as advocates for their patients. Both bills include “gag rules” that some health plans have used to limit discussions between patients and their health care providers, but the Patients’ Bill of Rights recognizes that doctors and nurses need to be advocates at other times too.

It prevents health plans from taking action against them for speaking up at internal and external reviews or for alerting public health authorities to safety concerns. These are protections not present in the Republican Task Force bill.

A third key difference between the Republican Task Force bill and the bi-partisan Patient’s Bill of Rights related to the way in which they deal with drug formularies. For reasons which may have more to do with financial discounts than quality medical care, many health plans have limited their coverage of prescription drugs to those on a “formulary.” For many conditions and diseases, patients can be given any number of formulations of a drug—whether brand names or generic.

That is, however, not always the case. On occasion, the patient may have input for a particular formulation of a drug. That is especially true of narrow therapeutic index drugs for which there is a very narrow window between efficacy and toxicity. Switching patients from brand name to generic drugs or vice-versa can have serious health consequences.

The Patients’ Bill of Rights recognizes this by ensuring that physicians and pharmacists have input in the creation of a plan’s formulary. Moreover, the bill ensures that there is a way for patients to get a drug that is not on the formulary if their physician determines it is medically indicated.

By contrast, the Republican Task Force bill merely provides enrollees with information of the extent to which a drug formulary is used and a description of how the formulary is developed.

More specific information as to whether a particular drug biological is on the formulary is available only to those who ask.

A fourth key difference is that the Patients’ Bill of Rights guarantees access to clinical trials, something that the Republican Task Force bill does not do. For patients with some diseases, the only hope for a cure lies in cutting-edge clinical trials.

The Patient’s Bill of Rights would allow individuals with serious or life-threatening illnesses for which no satisfactory drug is available or effective to participate in clinical trials if participation offers a meaningful potential for significant benefit.

This does not require the health plan to pay all of the costs of the clinical trials. In fact, all that the Patients’ Bill of Rights, the bill I support, obligates a plan to do is cover the routine costs they would otherwise be required to pay. They are not forced to assume any of the added costs of participation in the clinical trial.

The Republican Task Force managed care reform bill, by contrast, contain no similar protections. That can be a major health difference for someone with life-threatening illness who would rather use his strength to battle his disease, not to battle with the insurance company.
for coverage of the clinical trial that could save his life.

A fifth important distinction between the competing proposals is that the Republican Task Force proposal does not provide for ongoing access to specialists for chronic conditions. Many chronic conditions, such as Multiple Sclerosis or arthritis, require routine care from specially-trained physicians, like neurologists or rheumatologists.

It is one thing to ask an enrollee to get a referral for an isolated visit to a specialist. But those with chronic conditions need a standing referral to those specialists or to be able to designate the specialist as their primary care provider. This protection is not in the Republican Task Force bill.

A sixth distinction between the two is that the Patients’ Bill of Rights does more to ensure that individuals are able to see the doctor of their own choosing. Both bills have a point-of-service provision that allows individuals to see health care providers not in their plans closed panel. Under the Republican bill, employees who are willing to pay the entire cost for the ability to obtain out-of-network care can be denied access to this benefit. Perhaps more amazing is the fact that this exemption is triggered even if the employees selecting the point of service option would pay all of the costs of the improved coverage themselves. Under the Republican Task Force bill, employees who are willing to pay the entire added cost for the ability to obtain out-of-network care can be denied access to this benefit. Perhaps more amazing is the fact that this exemption is triggered even if the employees selecting the point of service option would pay all of the costs of the improved coverage themselves. Under the Republican Task Force bill, employees who are willing to pay the entire added cost for the ability to obtain out-of-network care can be denied access to this benefit.

That is the ultimate in paternalism. The bipartisan bill supports the Patients’ Bill of Rights, lets the employees decide for themselves if they want to purchase this enhanced coverage.

A seventh key difference between the two bills is that the Patients’ Bill of Rights ensures that health plans do not place inappropriate financial incentives on providers to withhold care. Medicare regulations very explicitly limit the cial incentives on providers to withhold care.

In the face of our nation’s ever-changing healthcare system, the Home Health Assembly of New Jersey has served as a consistent and reliable source of information and advocacy for those who administer home health care and to those who receive it. As the state’s largest and most comprehensive professional home care association, home care providers, hospices and associations have relied on their knowledge and insight for a quarter-century.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Home Health Assembly of New Jersey, which is celebrating their twenty-fifth year of providing health care services to the caregivers and citizens of New Jersey.

In the face of our nation’s every-changing healthcare system, the Home Health Assembly of New Jersey has served as a consistent and reliable source of information and advocacy for those who administer home health care and to those who receive it. As the state’s largest and most comprehensive professional home care association, home care providers, hospices and associations have relied on their knowledge and insight for a quarter-century.

Mr. Speaker, home health care allows so many of our citizens to receive necessary health care in comfortable and familiar surroundings. Equally important to the physical health care services which home health care providers offer to the elderly, the disabled, children and adults, is the emotional support they give. Offering a hand to hold and a shoulder to lean on makes one’s illness more manageable and more hopeful.

Through their leadership and advocacy, the Home Health Assembly of New Jersey has truly achieved its mission of being “The Voice for Home Care in New Jersey.” I wish the Assembly continued success in the future years of service which they provide to the people of New Jersey.
HONORING THE T.L.L. TEMPLE FOUNDATION
HON. JIM TURNER OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the T.L.L. Temple Foundation. Mrs. Georgia Temple Munz established this foundation in honor of her father, Mr. Thomas Lewis Latane Temple, in 1962.

The T.L.L. Temple Foundation awards grants to a broad range of projects and causes in East Texas. The recipients include organizations in the areas of education, health care and medical research, community and social services, and cultural arts and the humanities. In organizing the foundation, Mrs. Munz fulfilled her dream of enhancing the quality of life for the citizens of the East Texas Timber Pine Belt through charitable donations.

Since its establishment, the T.L.L. Temple Foundation has awarded more than $150 million to programs that support these causes.

One recipient of these grant awards that I would like to mention is the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council (ADAC) of Deep East Texas. The ADAC is a non-profit agency that offers prevention, intervention and treatment services to the twelve counties of the Deep East Texas region. I am pleased to announce that the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council is celebrating its 20th Anniversary this year.

In 1982, the T.L.L. Temple Foundation awarded its first grant to ADAC for support of its prevention education programs. To date, the Temple Foundation has provided over $930,000 in grants in support of ADAC's drug prevention education programs involving 33 school districts and 12 daycare centers in a twelve-county region of East Texas. Last year alone these programs reached 48,800 participating students and over 3,000 adults. Information was provided on how to maintain healthy lifestyles, how chemical abuse can ruin a life and how positive choices lead to positive results.

The T.L.L. Temple Foundation is unlike most major U.S. foundations because the founding family still exercises an organizational presence. The members of the foundation's governing board include: Mr. Arthur Temple, Chairman; Mr. Arthur "Buddy" Temple, Ill; Mr. W. Temple Webber, Jr.; Mr. Phillip M. Leach; and Mr. Ward R. Burke.

The T.L.L. Temple Foundation is located in Lufkin, Texas, and East Texas is fortunate to benefit from such generosity. I am pleased to have this opportunity to honor the T.L.L. Temple Foundation.

TRIBUTE TO MAC McCUE, A CONSTITUENT
HON. JACK KINGSTON OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, a republic requires a commitment to the political process from not only the candidates for public office, but from activist citizens who participate in the process.

There are those who participate behind the scenes, with little recognition or publicity, without pay or perks, and with little regard for the cost to their personal lives in time and energy.

They are political activists volunteers who are the heart and soul of every campaign, every election, and every contest between two visions for the future.

They are the kind of people who care deeply about what kind of country we live in, and care enough to get involved in that great American tradition, the political campaign.

Mac McCue is just such an activist. For years Mac McCue has been synonymous with Republican Chatham County politics.

In fact, Chatham County Republicans could not even imagine an election without the services of Mac McCue.

Some may think of Mac as a senior citizen, but those of us who know him cannot.

In campaign after campaign, Mac has shown so much energy he makes the candidates look only partially committed!

And he brings the same excitement to a campaign as he did to his first campaign, back in the 1950s.

It doesn't matter whether the race is school board, city council, county commission, state legislature, U.S. Congress, or President, Mac is there.

It doesn't matter if the candidate is a dark horse, an incumbent, a political veteran or a novice—If there's a Republican who needs help, Mac will help.

It doesn't matter if it's putting up yard signs, stuffing envelopes, manning the phones, or going door to door—no job is beneath Mac if it needs doing.

Mac is a guy who knows all the ups and downs of a campaign—the pitfalls to avoid, the tricks to get press, and secret for getting 24 hours of work done in the last 24 hours of a campaign.

When the chips are down and the dark days set in as they do in all campaigns, Mac stands faithfully by.

And on election night, if you fall a few votes short, Mac reminds you that there are other things—such as family—which are more important.

And when the election is over and the crowds have gone home, Mac even sticks around to pick up your yard signs.

In addition to all these talents, Mac can be the campaign humorist with one of his infamous limericks.

He had hundreds of them, and you could always tell when he was working on one in his head, for he had that little smile that suggested that he was up to some clever mischief.

One of them goes to the tune of "Home on the Range."

Oh give us a home—
Where the flounder can roam—
With trout and with bass on display,
And our taxes go up every day.

It's hard to believe that he's not in the Poet's Hall of Fame!

As you can see, he's a guy who can make a serious point, even when he is just having a little fun.

Voters who encounter Mac on the campaign trail invariably come away with a positive feeling about the candidate he is supporting.

He is so upbeat, so obviously committed to his beliefs, and so sincere in his enthusiasm, people naturally conclude that Mac is on the right side of the issues.

Whether through politics or not, Mac has always loved and served his country.

In the 1940s, he was in the South Carolina National Guard.

He served in the Army during the Korean War; 20 years later he served in the Reserve.

Mac along with his beautiful wife Millie have always made public service a part of their life because they care passionately about what kind of country we live in, and what kind of country their children and grandchildren will live in.

Mac didn't care whether you were a longshot or not, and he didn't care if the media totally ignored you—if he believed in you, he was behind you 100%.

Mac worked to help elect Lamar Davis to a state representative office, the same Lamar Davis who has since gone on to take a position as our U.S. bankruptcy judge.

Former Savannah mayor Susan Weiner is another one of Mac's success stories, as are County Commissioner Ed Silas, State Senator Eric Johnson, State Reps. Anne Mueller and Herb Jones, and many others.

Young at heart and dedicated to the core, Mac McCue is a friend and mentor to all the young people on their first campaign, and he is a tribute to our democratic system of government.

Mac, we salute you, and we thank you for all the truly fine work you have done all these many years.

Mike, we salute you and thank you for sharing Mac with us.

You two are an inspiration to all people in government—so many who are now in office with your help—who believe that politics is important to people's lives and who believe that ideas are worth fighting for.

You are great Americans!

RECOGNITION OF THE COMPLETION OF U.S. HIGHWAY 72
HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR. OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the long-awaited completion of the four-laning of U.S. Highway 72 in northern Alabama.

On Friday, August 7, we will dedicate the final section of the highway to be completed from the city of Stevenson to the city of Bridgeport at the Alabama-Tennessee state line.

Our community has worked toward this day and waited for this day for a very long time. For the first time ever, people will be able to travel on four lanes of Highway 72 from state line to state line. It will be a better highway and, most importantly, a safer highway.

This last section of Highway 72 has been a dangerous, narrow stretch of road. Tragically, we have lost lives on this highway. The completion of this road is long overdue.

Mr. Speaker, in recognizing the completion of Highway 72, I would like to pay special recognition to Congressman Bob Jones, without
whose work this day would not have been possible.

Congressman Jones represented north Alabama in the House of Representatives with distinction and honor for 30 years. A native of Jackson County, Congressman Jones was the chairman of the House Public Works and Transportation Committee. The four-laning of Highway 72 is part of the enormous legacy that Congressman Jones left the state of Alabama. Sadly, Mr. Speaker, Congressman Jones passed away last year at the age of 85. We deeply regret that Congressman Jones will not be with us at Friday’s dedication, but we know he will be with us in spirit.

When I first came to Congress, I knew that the completion of Highway 72 had to be one of my top priorities, for the sake of the people who travel on 72 and the sake of the groundwork laid by Congressman Jones and my immediate predecessor, Congressman Ronnie Flippo. I want to thank all of my colleagues in the House who voted for the $25 million I proposed for the completion of Highway 72. With this money, the Alabama Department of Transportation was able to finally finish the highway.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the people of Alabama who poured their time and effort into the four-laning of Highway 72. The dedication of this last section of the highway is a major milestone for our people and our community.

IN SUPPORT OF S. CON. RES. 105

HON. SUE W. KELLY
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 105, which expresses the sense of Congress regarding the culpability of Slobodan Milosevic for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide in the former Yugoslavia.

Let there be no doubt about the cause of much of the death and misery in Bosnia and Kosova; Yugoslav strongman Slobodan Milosevic has carried out an ongoing campaign of genocide, a campaign that is proceeding with deadly precision in Kosova as we speak.

Hundreds of ethnic Albanians have been burned and shelled out of their homes since he launched his offensive in Kosova earlier this year.

Despite urgent appeals for peace, and urgent appeals for self-determination for the Kosovan people, Milosevic continues his campaign of genocide;

Humanity cannot allow this to continue. As I have said before, Milosevic no longer responds to words and condemnation. He will respond to force, and I believe that we have reached the point where force is necessary.

It’s time that NATO act against Milosevic. The world community should make every effort to apprehend this criminal and bring him to trial;

This resolution today is important because it expresses the sense of Congress that Milosevic should be tried for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide. We cannot turn a blind eye any longer, and I urge my colleagues to join us in support of this important legislation.

HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to congratulate George Clark upon his retirement from 35 years of service to the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, Local 455 in my home state of New Jersey.

Since 1965, George worked for and with his fellow carpenters. Described as “pride to be a working man and very proud to represent working men,” George applied this deeply-held conviction to the work he did each day for the past 35 years.

George served as business manager of Local 455 for 23 years, winning re-election to this post by his fellow carpenters for eight consecutive terms. That George was, and still is willing to do anything for the members of Local 455 illustrates the selflessness which he has embodied throughout his life.

George applies this same dedication to his family. He and his wife Barbara have been happily married for 35 years and have three sons: Shawn, Kevin and Brian. Upon his retirement, he looks forward to being his new job as “babysitter” to his five grandchildren and to doing daily carpentry work on his house.

Mr. Speaker, the strong work and family ethic which George Clark has embodied throughout his life are things which all of us strive to achieve each day. I wish to thank George for being a great American and hope that his retirement is filled with good health and happiness.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, August 5, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote 389. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.” Please place this in the appropriate place in the Record.

SIGNING OF THE CREDIT UNION MEMBERSHIP ACCESS ACT

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, President Clinton is scheduled to sign H.R. 1151, the Credit Union Membership Access Act, into law tomorrow, August 7, 1998, at 10:15 a.m., in a private ceremony in the White House Oval Office. As an original cosponsor of H.R. 1151, I rise today to praise Congress, the Clinton Administration and the credit union community for working together in a bipartisan manner to enact this important legislation.

With the enactment of H.R. 1151, the 1934 Federal Credit Union Act will be amended to preserve the ability of all Americans to join the credit union of their choice, and to ensure that the 73 million Americans who are currently members of credit unions in no way have their membership status jeopardized. Today, we celebrate a true victory for middle class Americans who need affordable financial services. Credit unions represent democracy in the work force. This bill improves consumer choice and allows for greater competition in the financial services sector. Now, working people and consumers alike have access to the affordable financial services that credit unions have always offered.

Mr. Speaker, on this historic occasion, I would like to recognize the California Credit Union League and Arrowhead Credit Union of San Bernardino for the vital role they have played in the national advancement of H.R. 1151. Without their extraordinary grassroots efforts, a swift congressional approval of H.R. 1151 would not have been possible. They have every reason to celebrate this victory, and I praise them for their continued efforts to reach out to the underserved and to expand their contributions to the economy.

As a long-time supporter of credit unions in the United States, I am honored to be an original cosponsor of H.R. 1151 and to have been able to join the credit union community in efforts to enact a bill that will preserve the rights of millions of Americans to join and continue their access to credit unions.

YOUTH ISSUES

HON. BERNARD SANDERS
OF VERMONT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to have printed in the Record this statement by a high school student from my home state of Vermont, who was speaking at my recent town meeting on issues facing young people today.

RACHEL SALYER. My name is Rachel Salyer. I am a senior at the Bellows Free Academy in St. Albans.

I think there are so many issues surrounding the youth of today. One thing that goes along with that—what we care pressured to succeed in life, whether we are pressured to succeed in life, whether that is monetarily, or just self. And the adults in the community don’t seem to be helping very much. When adults, parents and other adults alike throughout Vermont and the nation characterize teenagers as all being troublemakers or all being people who drink or party, then they are sending a message to the youth of the community that they don’t care about our future, because it is our future, and they are not doing to be around for it, and it is our own fault, basically.

These stereotypes are wrong. Not all youth in Vermont are people who like to drink, people who like to do drugs, people who go to parties every weekend. That’s why organizations such as Green Mountain Prevention Project are such an important part of Vermont youth, because they sponsor programs like the Green Mountain Teens, which is a group of teens who have gotten together, who try to make other teens aware that there are all these issues surrounding them, that parents and adults have this image of us, and we want to try and change it.
STATEMENT BY JOSH LEMIEUX, MARK BOYLE, CARL HLABACH AND RICHARD GONZALES REGARDING SKATEBOARD COMMUNITY BUILDING

Carl Hlabach. First off, thank you for inviting us here. The point we are trying to prove today is, we have changed our community outlook and image from a negative to a positive outlook.

Mark Boyle. A lot of groups here are talking about how they would like to talk about the good things that they think need to be done, or processes they need to do. We would like to prove that it works. We did a lot of community service causes and we got help from a lot of this community members in order to enhance what we enjoy. And this is one of those things that a lot of these groups out there need to get to. We worked on this, and this is how they need to do it, just like get a lot of help from the community and be able to follow the guidelines that the adult world uses, and not do it in the fact they need to let us do what we want to do, because we are going to do it anyways.

Richard Gonzales. Basically, I looked at the South End, and I seen that they don’t recognize extreme sports as one of the big issues, as like physical activities, and, you know, we just took it upon ourselves to build our own park and raise money, and do stuff like that, try to help our city out.

Josh Lemieux. Right now, we are building a new skate park. We just got done. It ran for like five years, and was getting too small. Right now, we are moving and expanding to a bigger skate park, and doing this by ourselves. And we have a grant from a couple of companies, just raising a lot of money right now. We have the communities behind us, just trying to.

Carl, did you want to add something?

Carl Hlabach. We basically went around asking for donations, seeing who would like to help us. A lot of the times, we worked for the money, instead of having it handed to us. There is a sliding hill near our town. And we decided to go clean it up and put up all new fences and paint the buildings and take them down and rebuild them again, so they have a better condition, and made the sliding hill much more safe.

Congressman Sanders. Are we talking about St. Albans?

Carl Hlabach. Yes.

Congressman Sanders. Mark, did you want to add anything? We have done this all by ourselves. We have guidance or some outstanding citizens in our community, Miss Grimes at the St. Albans school. I think also, we don’t do work for us, but they help organize stuff, because not all community members are going to be totally accepting of a bunch of ragtag kids coming and saying, can we do some work for money so we can do this, or can we have community support, and she helped us work through the right channels and we appreciate it.

Congressman Sanders. This is an excellent presentation.

STATEMENT BY ERICA HEPP, MICHELLE PATTERTON, AMANDA BRUCHS, RYAN BAGLEY, KYLE LYNCH AND PAUL BERRY REGARDING COSTS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Erica Hepp. With the cost of college becoming more expensive, there is also not as much motivation for students to do well in school. We have always been told that hard work would get us a college education, but that is not true of the vindictor of my class, and the rest of the students with me are all in the top ten percent, yet none of us have been rewarded financially for our efforts. I will be paying $30,000 a year to go to my first choice school. The final issue is the adults’ role. Other youth centers have too much supervision and not enough opportunity for independence and creativity. There are also a lot of little kids around. Now Gary is going to tell you about what our teen center will be like.

Gary Bailey. My name is Gary, and I would like to tell you about our teen center.

Our teen center will run by youth, it will be for ages 13 through 19, and it will be free of charge. We feel that it should be opened for longer hours, like she said before, because other teen programs like the one we want to open will have to be open for younger children also, so we only have a section of the day that we can go there, so we are still out in the streets.

We feel that it should have a resource room for our youth adults, we are working on mentoring and tutoring facilities, a career college center, and information on social services. Also, a job board for a list of people to get jobs easily, and maybe once a week someone in there helping them out, somebody like Becky Trudeau or something,
where they won't have to go five different places to look for a job, they can just go there and have one place to look.

We feel that it should have a computer room, with Internet access. A lot of people work right after school, and they have to be there around 3:30, including us. And we don't have the time to go after school and work on the computer to get an essay done, so we feel that it should have computers where it will be available for us after work.

We think there should be recreational rooms, including a gym, a game room. Also special events, such as, once a month, a dance or some sort like that. We also think there should be a lounge so that we can relax and watch TV.

Congressman SANDERS. Good, Linh, do you want to begin?

LINH NGUYEN. My name is Linh Nguyen. We would like to ask for continued support in finding out how we should embark on this teen center and after school program. We strongly believe this would make the Old North End a better place for teens, and not only the teens, but the community as a whole. We would, as well, be a model to replicate in the rest of Vermont.

Congressman SANDERS. Thank you very much. Thank you all very much.

TRIBUTE TO WILBUR WALLACE

HON. MARION BERRY
OF ARKANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Wilbur Wallace, a great friend and an even better hunter and fisherman, on his 90th birthday. His friendship with my family dates to before my time.

Mr. Wallace has devoted his life to the outdoors. He has always claimed to be a farmer but most of us see that as little more than an excuse to be outdoors and spend more time pursuing his twin passions of hunting and fishing.

He has been instrumental in teaching generations of young people about hunting and fishing. His skills with a gun are as legendary as they are with a rod and reel. In addition to his technique, his ability to locate highly productive areas to succeed in these pursuits is almost instinctive.

I may be the only public official that he receives with good humor, for he has a low tolerance for too much government interference, an attitude shared with most of the residents of the First Congressional District.

He has been a regular at the Rice Paddy Motel Coffee Shop for breakfast for all the years I have spent in my hometown of Gillett, from where he will happily chastise me to the breakfast crowd if he believes that I am not performing up to the appropriate standards.

Wilbur is a man's man, a great friend, a better hunter and fisherman, and the kind of individual that makes the heritage and culture of the First Congressional District so special.

Happy Birthday Wilbur.

THE NEW TERROR AGAINST THE BAHÃ’I IN IRAN

HON. CHRISTOPHER SMITH
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, the long and brutal campaign of terror against the Bahá’í in Iran is unfortunately not a new issue to this House. Congress has passed resolutions on any number of occasions condemning the vicious persecution of the Bahá’ís at the hands of the Teheran regime, but the persecution continues.

In the last month the persecution has intensified, resulting in the death by execution of at least one man, Ruhollah Rowhani. The law under which he was convicted—which makes it a crime to convert a Muslim to the Bahá’í faith or any other faith—is a clear and flagrant violation of the God-given and internationally recognized right to freedom of religion. Other Bahá’í prisoners, who like Mr. Rowhani are guilty of nothing other than the nonviolent exercise of their faith, are now believed to be in grave and imminent danger.

Since the current regime took power in 1981, over 200 Bahá’ís have been executed on account of their religion. Many were executed for the spurious and absurd crime of “Zionist Bahá’í activities,” others for apostasy, conversion, or various charges that boil down to “disagreement with the regime.”

The Bahá’ís are a peace-loving community, members of a religion that had its origin in Iran but that has adherents the world over, including many Americans. The extremist regime in Iran considers the Bahá’í religion to be a kind of heresy or group apostasy, and so it persecutes them even more severely than it persecutes Christians, Jews, and Muslims who are not in accord with the views of the extremist Bahá’í leadership. Non-governmental organizations, defense leaders, and other religious activities. The elected assemblies which had governed the religious community were disbanded by government order in 1983. All Bahá’í cemeteries and holy places were seized soon after the 1979 revolution. Under the law now in force in Iran, Bahá’ís may not hold government jobs, Bahá’í students may not attend universities or even graduate from high school. Bahá’í marriages and divorces are not recognized, the right to inherit is denied, and contracts with Bahá’ís are not legally enforceable. And now the government has gone back to murdering them.

Ironically, the latest crackdown comes at a time when Western government officials had been prematurely congratulating themselves on the emergence of an ostensibly “moderate” regime in Iran. As often turns out to be the case in such instances, we have now learned that neither the moderates are not really in charge or that they are not really so very moderate after all.

Mr. Speaker, the White House reacted to the execution of Mr. Rowhani with a statement noting that “[t]he world has[d] been encouraged by the recent statements from Iranian leaders about the need for rule of law and the rights of individuals.” The White House statement correctly noted that “[s]uch words have little meaning so long as the rights of the Iranian people, including the right to worship freely, are not upheld.” Our government must take care, however, to heed its own advice. The best words in the world can be rendered meaningless by inconsistent actions. A government that commits such gross forms of persecution on account of religious belief and practice as have been perpetrated against the Bahá’ís must not be accorded the privileges of membership in the community of civilized nations. The United States is a government of its people and with Iran in conformity with this principle, and must encourage other nations, international organizations, financial institutions, and other public and private entities to do likewise.
CONGRATULATING NATIONAL JEWISH MEDICAL AND RESEARCH CENTER

HON. DIANA DeGETTE
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate National Jewish Medical and Research Center in Denver, Colorado on its recent accolade in U.S. News & World Report. National Jewish was ranked the number one respiratory hospital in America in a guide published by U.S. News in July, 1998. National Jewish is truly deserving of this honor, and I believe this hospital’s dedication to respiratory illness merits the recognition of the U.S. Congress.

National Jewish has built a rock solid reputation in patient care since its inception as the Frances Jacobs Hospital in 1899. At that time in Denver’s history, National Jewish engaged itself thoroughly in battling tuberculosis through emotional, rehabilitative, occupational and recreational care. In fact, my family settled in Denver in the 1930s to pursue asthma treatments at National Jewish for my Great Grandmother, Esther Rosen. Since that time, the hospital and research center has diversified its range of health care services to include the study and treatment of respiratory, allergic and infectious diseases, psychological care, and education courses. Despite this notable expansion, which now demands the work of 105 physicians and scientists, National Jewish has clearly maintained a commitment to the best possible patient care. This most recent ranking in U.S. News distinguishes National Jewish from a field of 6,400 candidates, all of them esteemed institutions. Simply stated, National Jewish is the best respiratory hospital in America.

Also published in U.S. News was a far more telling ranking— a reputational score tabulated by a random survey of 150 board-certified specialists. Once again, National Jewish clearly distinguished itself from all candidates, receiving an impressive score of 58.1 percent. Of all the facilities which treat respiratory illnesses, doctors all around the country consistently recognized the excellent reputation of National Jewish as the best. Currently, National Jewish operates a prestigious fellowship program in pulmonary, immunology and allergy training which has trained 500 fellows in 47 states and 17 countries. Its positive influence on the treatment of respiratory illnesses is not only international, but also unprecedented.

CRISIS IN SUDAN AND NORTHERN UGANDA

HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY
OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome Assistant Secretary Susan Rice along with the other witnesses. I look forward to their testimony.

Twelve years ago Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni marched a 20,000-strong rebel army to Uganda’s capital, Kampala, and liberated the Ugandan people from the reign of two of the most oppressive dictatorships the world has ever seen. During their successive regimes Amin and Obote murdered over one million people. While the United States and the Western Powers did nothing, Museveni took action.

Since then, the story of Uganda is nothing short of phenomenal. President Museveni immediately formed a Human Rights Commission to investigate the atrocities committed under the former dictators. Today the Commission is chaired by a judge and overseen by Museveni as its High Commissioner. The mandate of the organization is to serve as a watch-dog by monitoring government activities, and to educate the public about respect for human rights.

After the establishment of the Human Rights Commission, President Museveni began assembling judges, lawyers, and other scholars for the purpose of drafting Uganda’s Constitution. His administration actively solicited the involvement of men and women at the grassroots level. Several thousand Ugandans submitted memorandums offering suggestions. An important component of the Constitution is a provision institutionalizing the Human Rights Commission.

Perhaps most astonishing has been Uganda’s economic growth under President Museveni. Real GDP growth has averaged 5.7% over the last ten years. Inflation has been reduced from 250% to 6%. The country has liberal current and capital accounts, so there is no restrictions on foreign exchange. To ease the concerns of foreign investors, Uganda now offers insurance to investors through the Multi-lateral Insurance Guarantee Agency of the World Bank. Under Amin, Ugandans of South Asian heritage were stripped of their properties and forced to leave the country. President Museveni has allowed them to return, and has given back their businesses and land. To encourage American tourists and investors, citizens of the United States no longer need visas to travel to Uganda.

Understanding that an exclusively government breeds its own opposition, President Museveni held elections and has an administration that reflects the diversity of Ugandan society. In 1987 a reporter asked him how he could afford to have such a large and diverse government. His answer was a simple one: “It is cheaper than war.”

Mr. Chairman, this is what President Museveni has built in just twelve years. But even more important than what he has done for Uganda, President Museveni is perhaps the first of a new breed of leader on the Continent. He has proven that African leaders no longer need to heed their colonial masters to achieve success. Independence and security, Museveni has shown, are not mutually exclusive.

Unfortunately, all of this is threatened by an entity as evil as the world has even seen. During their successive and terrorist regime in Sudan, the LRA is a direct affront on the new Africa.

Mr. Chairman, it is time for Congress and the Clinton Administration to embrace President Museveni and Uganda as a partner for peace and stability on the African Continent. We must make a decision. Will the United States continue its centuries old neglect of Africa? Will it continue to support only the Mobutu Sese Sekos and Jonas Savimbis of Africa? Or, if President Clinton’s trip truly marked the beginning of a new relationship between the United States and the countries of sub-Saharan Africa, will we support those that are doing the right thing?

The current crisis in Northern Uganda poses this question. I, along the countless others who care about the future of Africa, await the answer.

IN TRIBUTE TO THE LEGAL AID FOUNDATION OF LONG BEACH

HON. STEPHEN HORN
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, when the House voted earlier this week to add $109 million in funding for the Legal Services Corporation, it was a victory for low-income Americans and our ideal of equal justice under law. The Legal Services Corporation plays a key role in the administration of justice for low-income Americans who cannot afford to pay the often high costs of civil legal assistance. It makes the ideal of equal justice under law a reality for the most vulnerable members of our society.

Legal assistance for the poor has made a real difference for many of my constituents. Funded in part by the Legal Services Corporation, the Legal Aid Foundation of Long Beach has helped many of my constituents correct injustices in their lives. For example, one client, Rosa, had an estranged husband who often beat her. During a one-day, court-allowed visit, the husband took their children and fled to Mexico. He did not return the children for more than a year. After he again threatened to take the children to Mexico, Rosa tried unsuccessfully on her own to get a restraining order. The Legal Aid Foundation of Long Beach helped her to get a restraining order prohibiting removal of the children from California and cutting off her ex-husband’s visitation.

In another case, five tenants in an apartment house in downtown Long Beach sought assistance from the Legal Aid Foundation when their landlord tried to evict them. The building had been cited multiple times for health and safety violations and had been illegally converted from six units to eleven. The tenants paid a small monthly fee to the money they saved to paying moving costs and deposits at another apartment. The Foundation successfully defended the tenants in the eviction proceeding and worked with the City of Long Beach and obtained safe, habitable Section 8 housing for them.

These are just two examples of the good work of the Legal Aid Foundation of Long Beach, and the work funded by the Legal Services Corporation. The House was right to
add funding for the Legal Services Corporation. Low-income Americans need this agency to ensure that justice does not depend on one's ability to pay.

IN HONOR OF THE ALLIANCE OF POLES OF AMERICA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Alliance of Poles of America on the occasion of its centennial year.

The Alliance of Poles of America has a long and proud history. Its history shows how hard its members are prepared to struggle for what they believe to be right for their community, and to preserve the traditions and culture of Poland. The Alliance's early years were not easy, but the organization's spirit carried it through. The entire Cleveland community has benefited from the enduring and successful presence of the Alliance of Poles, not only in the area of insurance, but also of charity.

After the challenge of its first, difficult years, the Alliance had to deal with the two World Wars. For Americans of Polish descent, it was very hard to watch their countrymen suffer under the vicissitudes of war, and later the yoke of Communism. But the Alliance of Poles was steadfast in its commitment to democracy, and successfully strove to aid the people of their home country.

My fellow colleagues, on the occasion of its centenary, please join me in honoring this enduring and most worthy organization—the Alliance of Poles of America.

PROTECTING THE CREDIT UNION MOVEMENT

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciated and supported the necessity to move quickly to pass H.R. 1151, the credit union field of membership bill, before the August recess. However, I remain troubled by one of the modifications the Senate Banking Committee made to the House version of the bill, which makes it easier for credit unions to become other types of financial institutions. I will continue to try to rectify this problem in other appropriate legislation. I also encourage NCUA to use every means at its disposal to prevent credit union members from losing their ownership in a credit union at the hands of a very small minority.

A brief history of the conversion issue will illustrate my concerns. Through its regulations, the NCUA has quite rightly kept a tight rein on the conversion process, requiring a majority vote of all members of the credit union before a credit union can convert to a mutual thrift. This is a difficult standard, and it is meant to be. A credit union's capital, unlike that of any other financial institution, belongs to its members. Once the conversion to a mutual thrift is accomplished, the institution can easily convert to a stock institution, with the result that a few officers and insiders of the former credit union—not to mention the attorneys who encouraged the deal—can wind up owning much if all the former credit union's capital in the form of stock. Thus, in order to prevent insiders from walking away with capital which belonged to the entire credit union membership, and depriving that membership of their credit union access, NCUA instituted the majority vote requirement. This requirement was subject to notice and comment rulemaking in 1995. The agency received no comments opposed to the majority vote requirement, while fully half the comments on this section urged the agency to institute a supermajority requirement.

The NCUA Board then imposed the least burdensome voting requirement suggested by the commenters.

Recently, credit unions have been under tremendous pressure to convert to other types of institutions. Legitimate uncertainty about the outcome of the AT&T case, encouraged by lawyers who specialize in conversions, produced a record number of conversion applications over the past several years. These same individuals then complained that NCUA processed applications too slowly and that the conversion requirements were too rigorous. They persuaded some members of the Senate Banking Committee to override NCUA's regulations and vote to allow conversions upon a majority vote only of those members voting. This means that a very small fraction of credit union members could force a credit union to convert, even against the wishes of the overwhelming majority. If NCUA is either unaware or did not participate in a vote. This same faction can then profit by a further conversion to a stock institution.

While H.R. 1151 will address the field of membership issue for most credit unions, other restrictions imposed by the Senate version of the bill, such as the limits on loans to members for business purposes, will cause some credit unions to consider converting to other types of institutions. You can be sure that some outside consultants are already analyzing this legislation and preparing new arguments to credit unions as to why they should convert. This is why I urge NCUA to enhance its close scrutiny of conversion applications. While it may seem as if NCUA has very little discretion in this area, the legislation does at least grant them authority to administer the member vote, and require that a credit union seeking to convert inform the agency of its intentions 90 days before the conversion. I would like to point out that such requirements are not barred by the instruction to NCUA to develop regulations consistent with other regulators' conversion requirements, as other types of financial institutions do not have members threatened with losing their capital. While I agree that regulatory requirements should be comparable between agencies when possible, this is a case where strict parallels are impossible. Also, the law allows NCUA to require the conversion vote to be taken again if it "disapproves of the methods by which the member vote was taken or procedures applicable to the member vote." This provision explicitly permits strict oversight by NCUA and I sincerely hope they will use it to protect credit union members. It allows disapproval for example, if there is less than a majority of members voting, as that would put a cloud over the efficacy of the notifications.

Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier, I do not want to oppose such an important piece of legislation that I had worked so hard to craft. However, I did feel obligated to note my concerns with the conversion provision and strongly encourage NCUA to enforce this provision very strictly.

CONGRATULATING MONSIGNOR ALLEGRO ON THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS ORDINATION

HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate Monsignor Michael J. Allegro as he celebrates the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.

Since his ordination in May 1973, Monsignor Allegro has served the people of New Jersey in many ways. Upon ordination, he served as associate pastor of his childhood parish, Our Lady of Peace in Fords, New Jersey. He then served as principal of St. John Vianney High School in Holmdel, New Jersey, as principal of Bishop Ahr High School in Edison, New Jersey and on the faculty of Immaculate Conception Seminary in South Orange, New Jersey.

When the Diocese of Metuchen was established in 1981, Monsignor Allegro held various leadership positions in parishes and citizens with their spiritual needs, in addition to helping to increase vocations to the priesthood.
The community-at-large has also benefitted from Monsignor Allegrio's dedicated service. Since 1990, he has served as chaplain to the men and women of the East Brunswick Police Department. He also lives by the command to "serve the least of my brothers and sisters" through his support of the Saint Vincent de Paul food pantry. The countless hours which Monsignor Allegrio dedicates to those in need of clothes, food, emotional and physical support is an example which all of us should model.

Monsignor Allegrio's humble work on behalf of the people of New Jersey earned him the title "Monsignor," which was bestowed on him by Pope John Paul II in 1993. Today, he continues to serve the diocese's spiritual life as pastor of Saint Bartholomew Parish in East Brunswick.

Mr. Speaker, Mother Teresa asked all of us "to quench the thirst of Jesus by lives of real charity." Monsignor Allegrio has done this throughout his life. I wish him many more years of selfless charity to all of God's people.

Mr. Speaker, let me recognize for a moment the late Michael P. Forbes, who was a faithful representative from New York, having held office from 1985 until his passing in 1996. It gives me great pleasure and comfort to acknowledge the impact his service and dedication had on the people of the district.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge his kindheartedness and generosity towards his constituents and the tireless efforts he made in the public service. His legacy lives on through his contributions to the community, and his spirit continues to inspire us all. Mr. Speaker, I thank you for this opportunity to pay tribute to the late Michael P. Forbes. May his memory be a blessing to all who knew him.
the USTR are calling for a full 30-day investigation of facts raised in that meeting. I urge the USTR to heed the advice of other agency officials calling for a full investigation.

As Apparitors and as Representatives in the people’s House, we face enormous pressure to cut the federal budget. Republicans and Democrats have given us the impossible task of getting our deficit under control and balance our budget. This bill does not fulfill all of Long Island’s coastal and environmental needs, but it is a good bill and I hope that as we go to Conference my colleagues will keep these priorities in mind.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MILITARY RETIREE HEALTH CARE TASK FORCE ACT

HON. JO ANN EMERSON
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to introduce the Military Retiree Health Care Task Force Act of 1998. This legislation will establish a Task Force that will look into all of the health care promises and representations made to members of the Uniformed Services by Department of Defense personnel and Department literature. The Task Force will submit a comprehensive report to Congress which will contain a detailed statement of its findings and conclusions. This report will include legislative remedies to correct the great injustices that have occurred to those men and women who served their country in good faith.

Let us not forget why we are blessed with freedom and democracy in this country. The sacrifices made by those who served in the military are something that must never be overlooked. Promises were made to those who served in the Uniformed Services. They were told that their health care would be taken care of for life if they served a minimum of twenty years of active federal service. Well, those military retirees served their time and expected the government to hold up its end of the bargain. They are now realizing that these were nothing more than empty promises. Those who served in the military did not let their country down in its time of need and we should not let military retirees down in theirs.

It’s time military retirees get what was promised to them and that’s why I am introducing this legislation.

PRAYER FOR ROBERT J. JOHNSON

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY
OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues in the House of Representatives a most unfortunate accident that occurred two weeks ago and severely injured a young man in my Connecticut congressional district. Robert Johnson, a bright, energetic and very talented young man from Oxford, Connecticut was thrown from a pick-up truck as it struck an abandoned car that was left on the road in the darkness of night. Head injuries led to a coma that continues today.

We are all too familiar with accidents such as this that inflict injury upon the innocent, and the tremendous upheaval that results in the lives of not only those injured, but of course the families that become involved, as well. We pray for the speedy recovery of Robert Johnson and that the strain of this accident be lifted from his family and friends.

As terrible as this situation is, it has also come to underscore the importance of the Family and Medical Leave Act which was passed by the 103rd Congress and signed into law by President Clinton. Because of this law, Robert Johnson’s immediate family are free to take unpaid leave from their jobs in order to comfort their son without the threat of losing their employment. We pass laws here with the hope they will work as we intend. The Johnson tragedy has brought home just how important the Family and Medical Leave Act is for American families.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that every concerned individual keep Robert Johnson in their prayers.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

SPEECH OF
HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, August 5, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4276) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes:

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Chairman, I am inserting into the RECORD letters of support for the Kucinich-Sanders-Ros-Lehtinen-DeFazio-Stearns amendment to H.R. 4276, an amendment for appropriate restitution. Your amendment denying taxpayer funds for litigation Swiss banks that continue to delay settlement of claims by Holocaust survivors is now realized.

Those letters reflect the widely held conviction in meaningful, democratic government and the laws it can produce.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS,
STEPHEN WISE CONGRESS HOUSE,

Hon. Dennis J. Kucinich,
United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

Dear Representative Kucinich: On behalf of the American Jewish Congress, I am writing to express our strong support for the Kucinich-Sanders-Ros-Lehtinen-DeFazio-Stearns amendment to the Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations bill, which would prohibit the use of federal funds to challenge state and local laws on the grounds that they are inconsistent with international trade and investment agreements. These letters reflect the widely held conviction in meaningful, democratic government and the laws it can produce.

United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

Dear Representative Kucinich: On behalf of the American Jewish Congress, I am writing to express our strong support for the Kucinich-Sanders-Ros-Lehtinen-DeFazio-Stearns amendment to the Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations bill, which would prohibit the use of federal funds to challenge state and local laws on the grounds that they are inconsistent with international trade and investment agreements. These letters reflect the widely held conviction in meaningful, democratic government and the laws it can produce.

THE AMERICAN CAUSE.
Re: Kucinich-Sanders-Ros Lehtinen-DeFazio-Stearns amendment to HR 4276
To: Members of Congress
From: Pat Buchanan and Bay Buchanan

We strongly support Kucinich-Sanders-Ros-Lehtinen-DeFazio-Stearns amendment to HR 4276.

The amendment provides critical protection for state and local sovereignty from decisions made by the World Trade Organization. Dozens of societies and organizations considered by the legislation of every state and many cities in the nation are vulnerable to being deemed “WTO-illegal.” Those laws include “buy local” requirements in state procurement, health and safety inspections of imported foods. State and local legislatures are permitted by the Constitution to make policy on these matters.

Why should we allow the WTO to trump them?

Passing the Kucinich-Sanders-Ros-Lehtinen-DeFazio-Stearns amendment to HR 4276 will protect state and local sovereignty. We hope that you will support it.


Dear Representative, American Lands representing grassroots environmental groups across the country urges you to support of the Kucinich-Sanders-Ros-Lehtinen-DeFazio-Stearns amendment to HR 4276, the Commerce, State and Justice Appropriations bill.

Kucinich-Sanders would bar the use of federal funds to challenge state and local laws on the grounds that they violate international trade and investment agreements such as NAFTA, GATT, and the proposed Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI).

One of industry’s interests in global trade agreements is to lower and get rid of the barriers that the national, state, and local levels from putting conditions on trade. But what the industry government would be obligated to litigate against the cities invoking the sanctions merely adds insult to injury.

Under the United States Constitution, states and cities have rights that cannot be abridged by the federal government, and this includes the right to punish Swiss banks as those laws are consistent with the right to make appropriate restitution. Your amendment denying taxpayer funds for litigation against American cities is clearly necessary to protect the rights of cities to impose such sanctions.

Thank you for your leadership in proposing this amendment.

Sincerely,

PHIL BAUM,
Executive Director.

ALLIANCE FOR DEMOCRACY,

Dear Representative Kucinich: The Alliance for Democracy voices its strong support for the Kucinich-Sanders-Ros-Lehtinen-DeFazio-stearns amendment to the Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations bill which prevents U.S. government agencies from taking legal actions against states or municipalities found by the WTO to be in non-compliance with international trade and investment agreements. We support this amendment because it helps to preserve the rights of communities and states to take a stand in support of democracy and human rights. We believe taxpayers dollars should be used to emasculate our democracy at the local or state level or to prevent citizens from taking a stand in support of democracy abroad.

Sincerely,

RUTH CAPLAN.
calls ‘barriers to trade’ we may see as important safeguards to protect the environment, human rights, or other social values.

A New York City Council proposal to require that U.S. tax dollars sustainably produced tropical timber has been stalled after the timber industry argued that such selective purchasing legislation is a violation of US trade agreements. State restrictions on log exports are another example of laws that might be subject to challenge.

The Kucinich-Sanders amendment would ensure that U.S. tax dollars are not used to undermine legitimate efforts by states and localities to protect the environment.

Please support the Kucinich-Sanders amendment to H.R. 4276.

B’NAI B’RITH,

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH,
U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

Dear Congressman Kucinich,

As Executive Vice President of B’nai B’rith, which is one of the founding members of the World Jewish Restitution Organization, I was pleased to learn that you and a number of your colleagues, including Congressman Sanders, Congresswoman Ros-Lehtinen, Congressmen DeFazio and Congressman Stearns have offered an Amendment to H.R. 4276. I am writing to support your proposed amendment that would protect sanctions laws that are currently under consideration in a number of jurisdictions around the United States. Without such an amendment, I am concerned that these legislative initiatives will be placed in jeopardy should the World Trade Organization consider them illegal.

Thank you for your interest in this important matter.

Sincerely,

SYDNEY M. CLEARFIELD,
Chair; Citizens’ Alliance of Santa Barbara.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE KUCINICH: We at Citizens for Participation in Political Action (CPPAX) with 600 member citizens lobby, would like to offer our support in favor of the Kucinich, Sanders, DeFazio, Stearns, Ros-Lehtinen amendment to the Commerce, Justice and State Appropriations bill.

Dedicated to state sovereignty and local democracy, CPPAX played a pivotal role in the passage of the Massachusetts Burma Selective Purchasing Law in 1996 and continues to support laws in defense of democracy, human rights, or other social values. We firmly believe in selective purchasing legislation as a means to uphold the rights of citizens to decide how and where to spend their tax-dollars. Accordingly, we strongly support your effort to defend these laws from legal challenges that arise from their inconsistencies with the World Trade Organization’s International trade and investment agreements.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue. Please keep us updated as to actions that we may take to continue to support your efforts on this cause.

Sincerely,

Laurie Wainberg, Organizing and Policy Director. Ayla Dawood, Intern at CPPAX.

CITIZENS’ ALLIANCE OF SANTA BARBARA, Santa Barbara, CA, August 4, 1998.

Representative LOIS CAPPS, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

Dear Representative Capps: We are writing to urge you to support the Kucinich, Sanders, Ros-Lehtinen amendment to the Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations bill.

The Citizens’ Alliance of Santa Barbara (the Santa Barbara Chapter of the Alliance for Democracy) has been concerned for some time about the effects of ‘Free Trade’ and tax avoidance, in particular on our local democracy and on the economic future of our communities, our businesses and our families. At our meeting this weekend, we voted unanimously in support for the Kucinich, et al. amendment. We understand that this amendment would deny funds for federal legal challenges to state or local laws that the World Trade Organization decides violate international trade or investment agreements, thus preventing the administration from taking states or communities to court to enforce WTO rulings unless Congress consents. We feel that this would provide a very important safeguard for shielding local democracy from the rule of international agreements that are undemocratic and unaccountable to the American public.

A recent quote in the J. of Commerce offers an excellent perspective on the issues involved: ‘[T]he WTO could not possibly be a short-circuit democracy. And if it does, something’s wrong.’

We hope that you will support the Kucinich, et al. amendment and support the right of states and communities to retain some democratic control over our own economic affairs.

Sincerely,

RON ROWE, Chair; Citizens’ Alliance of Santa Barbara.

Dear Representative: Citizens Trade Campaign urges you to support the Kucinich-Sanders-Ros-Lehtinen-Stearns Amendment to the Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations bill.

Citizens’ Trade Campaign (CTC) is the national coalition of labor, consumer, environmental, religious, family farm, and other U.S. citizens groups fighting for fair trade. CTC has local chapters in 30 U.S. States.

This amendment stops the use of taxpayer money to impose on states and localities the threats and rulings of international trade and investment tribunals, such as those of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

The State Department has become a free trade central bank to the World Trade Organization. The Administration of funds to bring legal challenges to any state and local laws that the WTO finds inconsistent with international trade and investment agreements.

This amendment is necessary, because multinational corporations have begun an organized and serious assault on human rights by opposing local selective purchasing laws designed to protect taxpayers from supporting corrupt and violent governments abroad.

During apartheid’s reign in South Africa, a student-led and inspired movement swept across America, through the enactment of local selective purchasing laws, which prohibited individual localities from doing business with South Africa. This strategy brought about a federal statute prohibiting such local laws.

The strategy is being used again by activists concerned about human rights, environmental, workplace, and other serious abuses in countries such as Burma, Nigeria, and Indonesia. Rather than confront the charges of oppression head-on, multinational corporations that support tyranny are attempting to work around the people, and use the WTO to fight local selective purchasing laws.

Ultimately, this means that local taxpayers will be deprived of the right to decide how their local dollars are spent.

The Kucinich amendment would ensure that no federal monies would be used to fight...
the rights and desires of local taxpayers, while supporting local laws that support human rights.

I look forward to the passage of this crucial amendment, and to your response.

Sincerely,  
SACHIN CHHEDA.

FREEDOM FOR BURMA,  
BERKELEY, CA


Representative NANCY PELOSI,  
Via fax: 202-225-8259.

DEAR Ms. Pelosi: I would like to ask you to support the DeFazio, Stearns, Ros-Lehtinen amendment to the Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations bill. The amendment would deprive the Administration of funds to bring legal challenges to any state and local laws that the WTO finds inconsistent with international trade and investment agreements.

As an organization that works to promote democracy in Burma, we have been supportive of the US trade sanctions. Burma's junta and selective purgation legislation. Trade sanctions are condened by Burma's democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi and she has US companies to not do business with the current repressive regime. Sanctions are never passed lightly on another country, the reasons for their implementation are mostly due to preventing the support of extremely repressive regimes. The WTO fight against sanctions is not based on looking at human rights abuses but simply to prevent obstruction to free trade. Free trade should not happen with out fair trade and respect for human rights. This amendment would prevent this kind of blind challenge to trade sanctions which is based on the promotion of human rights worldwide.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

PAMELA WELLNER,  
Campaign Coordinator.

INDEPENDENT VOTERS OF ILLINOIS—  
INDEPENDENT PRECINCT ORGANIZATION


Re: Kucinich-Sanders-Ros-Lehtinen-DeFazio-Stearns Appropriations Amendment

The Independent Voters of Illinois—Independent Precinct Organization (I-VI-IPO) joins with other grassroots groups in supporting adoption of the amendment to protect human rights laws from challenge under the World Trade Organization's Rules. It is the proper role of Congress to withhold funds from policies that are injurious. This will put our federal government where we believe it ought to be: defending local initiatives in support of our values against attack by corporations and banks that see those initiatives only as barriers to trade.

Over the past decade or so, U.S. citizens have persuaded a number of cooperatives to withdraw business from countries held to be violators of human rights, such as Burma, Nigeria, Indonesia, and apartheid South Africa. Citizens have also persuaded state and local governments, as well as universities, to refuse to do business with such countries. Are they wrong to use what leverage they have in support of almost universally accepted standards of decency?

In 1994, Congress was debating legislation to implement the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, leading to the creation of the WTO. Opponents claimed then that the new trade regime would threaten many local, state, and national initiatives. Other countries would be able to sue on behalf of corporations, contesting the validity of laws aimed to disarm trade barriers. And that is exactly what they have done.

At the time of the debate, Illinois State Representative J anice Schakowsky (now a Democratic nominee for Congress) was trying to find cosponsors for a food labeling bill. She said she wanted to ensure that will never hold up under the World Trade Organization.

The test began more than two years ago, when Venezuela won a case involving export of oil that did not meet U.S. standards. The U.S. agreed not to enforce the Clean Air Act, rather than pay the penalty. Now, in 1998, we find human rights laws at risk.

We believe that every country that is party to the WTO has values worth defending, and should not be forced to sacrifice them to mere profit for the few. Governments must assert their role of balancing the rights of all, and not act on behalf of only the powerful. The majority world needs effective and responsible representatives to protect their interests in an increasingly globalized economy. There must be far more.

The Kucinich-Sanders-Ros-Lehtinen-DeFazio-Stearns amendment puts humane values above financial gain. It is a step toward blocking the local initiative represented by the World Trade Organization and its rules. We ask our representatives to support all such measures.

Sincerely,

CONSTANCE HALL,  
Chair, National Affairs Committee.

Re: Kucinich-Sanders-Ros-Lehtinen-DeFazio-Stearns amendment  
To: Members of Congress

From: Ralph Nader

Date: July 22, 1998

I would like to urge the Kucinich-Sanders-Ros-Lehtinen-DeFazio-Stearns amendment to the Commerce-Justice-State Appropriations bills.

Central to the anti-democratic agenda of the corporate globalizers is to repeal or at least freeze local initiative in the consumer, health, safety, environmental, labor and other realms. Through the autocratic World Trade Organization, the method is to have foreign nations challenge or threaten to challenge U.S. states, localities or tribal law; and then to threaten to have the federal government turn against the states, localities or tribes and sue them to repeal their existing, longstanding laws. Moreover, even the threat of potential WTO challenges converts the state Department of Labor into the WTO fund for any attempt to sue to bring local statutes into compliance with World Trade Organization regulations.

I look forward to hearing that you have supported this amendment. I would appreciate hearing your thoughts on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

PAUL GEORGE,  
Director.

PREAMBLE CENTER,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. DENNIS KUCINICH,  
US House of Representatives.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE KUCINICH: We write in support of the Kucinich-Sanders-DeFazio-Ros-Lehtinen-Stearns amendment to the Appropriation for the Department of Commerce, Justice and State, which would provide funds for the federal government to overturn state and local laws which the WTO finds inconsistent with the laws.

The bill would deprive the Administration of funds to bring legal challenges to any state and local laws that the WTO finds inconsistent with international trade and investment agreements. The Obitate Conference supports local government resolutions such as the Massachusetts Burma Law, and we believe it is the proper role of Congress, not the Administration, to preempt state legislation.

Respectfully Yours,

SEAMUS P. FINN, OMI.

PEN AMERICAN CENTER,  

JON BOURKE,  
Legislative Assistant, Congressman Dennis Kucinich.

Re: Kucinich, Sanders, DeFazio, Stearns, Ros-Lehtinen Amendment to the Commerce, Justice and State Appropriations Bill

HON. ANNA ESCHOO,  
US House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN ESCHOO: I am writing to urge you to support the above-referenced amendment to the Commerce, Justice and State Appropriations Bill. This amendment would deny funds for the federal government to overturn state and local laws which the WTO finds inconsistent with international trade and investment agreements.

As you are no doubt aware, the city of Palo Alto has a law which may be challenged under WTO regulations. This law prohibits the city from making any substantial purchases from companies doing business in Burma. The law was passed after nearly a year of effort by local activists and is aimed at addressing the terrible human rights situation in Burma. Many other such laws around the country are threatened by WTO regulations.

I look forward to hearing that you have supported this amendment. I would appreciate hearing your thoughts on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

PAUL GEORGE,  
Director.

PREAMBLE CENTER,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. DENNIS KUCINICH,  
US House of Representatives.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE KUCINICH: We write in support of the Kucinich-Sanders-DeFazio-Ros-Lehtinen-Stearns amendment to the Appropriation for the Department of Commerce, Justice and State, which would prevent taxpayer dollars from being used by the federal government to overturn state and local laws which are allegedly not in compliance with international trade and investment agreements.

Our research on the impact of such international agreements on state and local sovereignty shows that, increasingly, corporations and foreign governments which seek to undermine local sovereignty and democracy are using international trade agreements to force local governments to abandon laws designed to protect the health and safety of their citizens. This amendment would prevent such an outcome.

Respectfully yours,

SEAMUS P. FINN, OMI.

PEN AMERICAN CENTER,  

JON BOURKE,  
Legislative Assistant, Congressman Dennis Kucinich.

Re: Kucinich, Sanders, DeFazio, Stearns, Ros-Lehtinen Amendment to the Commerce, Justice and State Appropriations Bill

HON. ANNA ESCHOO,  
US House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

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I look forward to hearing that you have supported this amendment. I would appreciate hearing your thoughts on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

PAUL GEORGE,  
Director.

PREAMBLE CENTER,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. DENNIS KUCINICH,  
US House of Representatives.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE KUCINICH: We write in support of the Kucinich-Sanders-DeFazio-Ros-Lehtinen-Stearns amendment to the Appropriation for the Department of Commerce, Justice and State, which would prevent taxpayer dollars from being used by the federal government to overturn state and local laws which are allegedly not in compliance with international trade and investment agreements.

Our research on the impact of such international agreements on state and local sovereignty shows that, increasingly, corporations and foreign governments which seek to undermine local sovereignty and democracy are using international trade agreements to force local governments to abandon laws designed to protect the health and safety of their citizens. This amendment would prevent such an outcome.

Respectfully yours,
defeat at the ballot box. Recent examples include the campaign by European and the Japanese governments, together with transnational corporations, to overturn the sanctions of the United Nations against the brutal regime in Burma; and attacks by the Swiss government and Swiss banks against states and cities in the U.S. which have sought to limit their business ties with banks that may have knowingly profited from the Holocaust and now refuse to pay adequate compensation.

Public awareness of the impacts of international trade and investment agreements is increasing, and yet unfortunately it is still the case that not only are many citizens unaware of international law in the United States is being undermined by these agreements; many local and state legislators are similarly unaware. Indeed, many legislators only became aware of these restrictions when they have passed or are on the verge of passing laws which are perceived by foreign governments and their corporate allies to be in violation of international trade and investment agreements. Then they may be contacted by officials from USTR, who insist that legislators repeal or vote against pending legislation on the basis of obscure provisions of international trade and investment agreements that the local legislators were previously unaware that they were party to or bound by. In these circumstances, if state legislators refuse the entreaties of federal officials, the U.S. government is required to sue state and local governments to force compliance. We support your efforts to block funding for such lawsuits via this amendment.

It is surely a shameful state of affairs when the executive branch of our federal government becomes the advocate and agent against local democracy and sovereignty in the United States. We applaud your efforts to put a stop to the pervasive erosion of democracy in the United States.

Robert Naiman
Preamble Center for Public Policy.

July 26, 1998.

Hon. Dennis Kucinich
United States Congress

Dear Representative Kucinich: As director of Project Maje, an independent information project on Burma’s human rights issues, I am writing in support of your bill to protect state and local sanctions.

The Kucinich-Standers-Ros-Lehtinen-Stearns Bill is a crucial item of legislation to protect American birthright of opposing injustice and oppression through our own lawful processes.

Protecting human rights is our duty as Americans, and state and local sanctions are a legitimate and honorable way to address this task. State and local governments have every right to deny their business ties with banks that may have knowingly profited from the Holocaust and now refuse to pay adequate compensation.

Thank you very much for your continued concern about Burma and for all you have done for worldwide human rights. Your commitment to the cause of justice and freedom is most admirable.

Sincerely,

Edith T. Mirante
Project Maje.
charging that local selective purchasing legis-
lation violates US trade policy. That legis-
lation has now stalled in the City Council.

Earlier this month, the government of
Venezuela threatened to complain to the
World Trade Organization unless the state of
Florida lifted a ban on Orimulsion, a highly-
polluting fossil fuel produced by Venezuela's
state oil company.

By adopting the Kucinich Amendment,
Congress can take immediate action to en-
sure that states, localities, and tribal govern-
ments can set their own environmental and
health standards, free of unnecessary inter-
ference by international trade rules. Yet, the
Executive Branch is trying to have the state
presuppose on important matters where
Congress first made a specific appropriation.
Please vote "yes" to the Kucinich Amend-
ment to HR 4276.

Sincerely,
CARL POPE,
Executive Director.

SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER,
MUSEUM OF TOLERANCE,

Hon. DENNIS J. KUCINICH,
U.S. House Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN KUCINICH: The Simon
Wiesenthal Center is grateful for Congress-
man Kucinich's leadership in proposing Amend-
ment HR 4276, which will have the effect of
forcing the Swiss Banks who have profited from
stolen Nazi loot to promptly return to the
negotiating table with representa-
tives of the Holocaust survivors and the
Jewish community.

Please let us know if the amendment be-
comes law.

Once again, on behalf of the 400,000 con-
stituent families of the Simon Wiesenthal
Center we commend you and your colleagues
on this important initiative.

Sincerely,
RABBI ABRAHAM COOPER,
Associate Dean.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
SERVICE COMMITTEE,

Hon. DENNIS KUCINICH,
U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

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Sincerely,
JEFF SIEFERT,
Acting Director.

TRANSAFRICA
Re: Kucinich-Sanders-Ros Lehtinen-DeFazio-Azio-Stearns amendment to H.R. 4276
To Members of Congress:
From: Randall Robinson
I write in strong support for the Kucinich-
Sanders-Ros Lehtinen-DeFazio-Stearns amendment to H.R. 4276, the Commerce, Jus-
tice, State Appropriation.

This amendment will provide necessary
protection to state and local initiatives that
promote human rights and justice. Earlier
this year, the State of Maryland was consid-
ring passing a selective purchase law to pro-

tect human rights. The First Amendment to the
Preliminary Report of the State Department
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SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER,
MUSEUM OF TOLERANCE,
help all of us deal with this unique crisis, without penalizing them for their efforts. With January 1, 2000 fast approaching, more information rather than less—shared sooner rather than later—may be the difference between inconvenience and disaster.

I am pleased to see the Administration has proposed similar legislation to address this issue. It is a worthy effort, although it may fall short in some areas. For example, the Administration bill protects statements that are good-faith mistakes but does not include protection for statements shown to be true. The bill introduced today by myself and Mr. Dreier will protect all Year 2000 disclosure statements, giving companies incentives to provide more information, not less.

Mr. Speaker, I hope we can quickly pass this timely legislation during this Congress, and I look forward to working with the Administration and others on this important issue. Also, I welcome suggestions on how we may improve the legislation introduced today. The Y2K challenge is extensive and the stakes are very high. If the legislation we have introduced here today is a critical step in successfully meeting that challenge. I hope my colleagues will join me and Mr. Dreier in supporting this bill.

SPEECH OF
HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II
OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, August 3, 1998

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, for the past seven years, since the Persian Gulf War ended, our veterans have suffered from a myriad of symptoms with no end in sight—dizziness, severe headaches, chest pain, shortness of breath, aches and joints and depression, to cite just a few examples of what they are going through.

Seven years ago, when the Persian Gulf War ended, a hearing was held here in Washington to investigate reports that Persian Gulf Veterans were suffering a series of mysterious symptoms. But there were no veterans at the witness table in the Committee room. So in 1992, I held a hearing in Boston to gather testimony from sick veterans who could tell me about their health problems. At that time, sick veterans were being called malingerers or worse, by the Defense Department. People didn't believe they were really sick.

But by early 1993, it was clear that there was a problem and hundreds of sick veterans were calling my office to report of symptoms ranging from skin rashes and respiratory problems to kidney failure and cancer that they believed to be from exposure to biological and chemical agents. The veterans are frustrated, and rightly so. They still suffer from a myriad of illnesses like stomach disorders and painful muscles and joints, to name just a few of them. The veterans don't want to hear the argument that their illnesses are caused by stress.

When I talk to the veterans, they tell me they do want to know what caused them to get sick, but they also want research to be done to find effective treatment into exposure to biological and chemical agents. That is what they believe is the key to the problem.

These are brave men and women who answered their country's call at a time of need. They deserve a full accounting of how their service might be linked to these horrible illnesses that have so devastated their families lives and careers.

So based on the discussions I've had with Persian Gulf veterans over these seven years, I am pleased to have participated in negotiations to create a bi-partisan bill, HR 3980, "The Persian Gulf War Veterans Health Care and Research Act of 1998" with Chairmen BOB STUMP, Ranking Member LANE EVANS, Health Subcommittee Chairman CLIFF STEARNS, and Health Subcommittee Ranking Member LUIS GUTIERREZ.

I don't believe we had a focused, coherent federal research strategy. HR 3980 will give the Persian Gulf Veterans confidence that priority is being given to researching their exposure to biological or chemical weapons, and the resulting effects on their health, so that effective treatment can be found and administered, to fight the detrimental effects of this exposure on the veterans' health.

Through this bill, we will ensure priority is given to exposure to biological and chemical weapons by setting up a Public Advisory Committee to advise the Persian Gulf Veterans Coordinating Board on what kind of research to target. I am pleased that members of this Advisory Committee will represent groups that were formed specifically to help Persian Gulf Veterans. Their active participation on the Committee will ensure that adequate, targeted research into exposure to biological and chemical agents will be done.

Physicians at the Department of Veterans Affairs, and at the Pentagon, don't have a training program to become updated on how to administer the latest treatment protocols as they are constantly changing. This is essential, and is badly needed. I am pleased that HR 3980 includes provisions to provide training to physicians at VA and the Pentagon, so they can give the best possible care to our Persian Gulf veterans.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, this bill provides a provision I sought to publish treatment protocols on the Internet and in peer-reviewed medical journals because many Persian Gulf veterans receive health care in the private sector. If we publish the research findings, private sector physicians who treat Persian Gulf Veterans will have access to those treatment protocols. It is my hope that HR 3980, "The Persian Gulf War Veterans Health Care and Research Act of 1998" will restore the veterans' confidence in our government's efforts to make them well again, will give them a fresh start, and will take the needed steps to finally solve the Persian Gulf veterans' health problems.
Today, in every city in this country, there are children in schools with handguns. Children who are exposed to violence on a daily basis, children who feel they need protection more than they need an education. Children who should be enjoying life rather than taking one. “The Brady Handgun Law” provides hope for these children and their families.

For those who say that “The Brady Law” is too costly to the American taxpayer; ask them what price they pay to ensure that their families would not have to endure what the families of Capitol Police Officers Jacob J. Chestnut and John Gibson have endured.

For those who say “The Brady Law” is too confining and restricts would-be gun owners; ask them if they believed restrictions are more confining than the one Jim and Sarah Brady dealt with on a daily basis.

In closing, I concur with Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) when he states, “We cannot allow the gun lobby to override those in law enforcement and endanger American families.”

We must continue to have a mandatory waiting period which allows local police departments throughout the country to conduct their own background checks. Currently, over 95% of this nation’s law enforcement officers use this system on a voluntary basis because we know the waiting period provision contained in the original “Brady Law” saves lives.

However, this November an amendment sponsored by the NRA, shall mark a change in “The Brady Law’s” waiting period. For those Lowell Police Department this November shall also mark the hollow 20th anniversary of the last Lowell Police Officer killed in the line of duty. He too was killed by a handgun, while responding to an armed robbery at a pharmacy.

So, Mr. President, Members of Congress, on behalf of slain Lowell Police Officer Christos Jacob J. Chestnut and John Gibson have endured.

As we gather today, we recognize and acknowledge the phenomenal efforts of a constituent of mine from Chicago, Illinois, Mr. Edwin J. Korczynski. On September 11, 1997, a fire erupted at an apartment building in the City of Northlake, Illinois, which resulted in severe damage to the structure. Fortunately, a constituent of mine, Edwin J. Korczynski, had spent the entire previous day planning an all-department HAZMAT drill, and upon learning about the fire, went to the scene and worked to coordinate volunteer efforts to serve the victims of the fire.

Mr. Korczynski’s volunteer efforts were crucial and have been recognized by the City of Northlake, the Polish American Police Association and others as an outstanding example of heroism and public service.

I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing Mr. Korczynski for his brave and community-oriented actions.

A SALUTE TO MAJ. GEN. PAUL G. REHKAMP

HON. DAVID MINGE
OF MINNESOTA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, August 7, 1998

Mr. MINGE. Mr. Speaker, I stand to honor Maj. Gen. Paul G. Rehkamp. Recently, General Rehkamp, of Marshall, Minnesota, retired from the Army Reserve after more than 35 years of service to our country.

In 1989, General Rehkamp assumed command of the 88th Army Reserve Command. He chose a new motto for the command: “The Right Place to soldier.” These words have followed the command ever since—and they also identify General Rehkamp’s career.

While a part of the 88th ARCOM, General Rehkamp was Chief of Staff, and Deputy Commander, before becoming Commander in 1989. He was in command during key events that proved to be profound changes for the Army Reserve. He led units from the 88th Army Reserve Command as they were called to active duty for Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

For this and other reasons, General Rehkamp’s leadership shined through and allowed the 88th to survive downsizing of the Army Reserve.

The Wisconsin Donor Network is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year. The Network’s information materials and presentations to community and professional groups send a powerful message about the need for and effectiveness of organ donation, and its multicultural information programs address the distinctive transplant needs and donation concerns of metropolitan Milwaukee’s African American, Latino, and Asian communities.

Wisconsinites have answered the call for more organ donors, making an impressive commitment to give the gift of life. I am proud to note that, compared to organ donation promotion efforts by similar organizations nation-wide, the Wisconsin Donor Network ranked sixth in 1997, and fourth in 1996.

Our colleague, U.S. Senator Mike DeWine, of Ohio, proposed an organ and tissue donation stamp, in 1996. The Postal Service rose to the occasion and produced a beautiful and compelling design previewed last year at a Capitol Hill ceremony by then-Postmaster General Marvin Runyon. I commend the Postal Service for its partnership in this important effort to raise our nation’s consciousness concerning the critical importance of organ and tissue donation.

The Wisconsin State Fair has also been a strong supporter of the Wisconsin Donor Network. The Wisconsin State Fair and tissue donation awareness booth at last year’s State Fair was overwhelmingly successful, reaching thousands of State Fair visitors, and the State Fair has welcomed the Wisconsin Donor Network back again this year. I can think of no better forum for the stamp’s Wisconsin unveiling than this year’s State Fair.

Mr. Speaker, the organ donation awareness postage stamp is a powerful symbol. It provides a daily reminder that a simple selfless act can make the difference between life and death for another person. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Wisconsin Donor Network, the Wisconsin State Fair, the United States Postal Service, and Wisconsin donor families and agent recipient, on the occasion of its issuance.

RECOGNIZING EDWIN J. KORCZYNSKI FOR HIS VOLUNTEER SERVICE

HON. ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, August 7, 1998

Mr. BLAGOJEVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the heroic volunteer efforts of a constituent of mine from Chicago, Illinois, Mr. Edwin J. Korczynski.

On September 11, 1997, a fire erupted at an apartment building in the City of Northlake, Illinois, which resulted in severe damage to the structure. Fortunately, a constituent of mine, Edwin J. Korczynski, had spent the entire previous day planning an all-department HAZMAT drill, and upon learning about the fire, went to the scene and worked to coordinate volunteer efforts to serve the victims of the fire.

Mr. Korczynski’s volunteer efforts were crucial and have been recognized by the City of Northlake, the Polish American Police Association and others as an outstanding example of heroism and public service.

I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing Mr. Korczynski for his brave and community-oriented actions.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, August 7, 1998

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American, Mr. Paul L. Garmon, of Rockwall, Texas. Many Americans have served their country proudly wearing the numerous uniforms of our great armed forces, and more Americans continue to serve our great nation as civilians. One of these great Americans is retired Lieutenant Paul L. Garmon.

Last fall Mr. Garmon was honored as Fort Hood’s Honorary Retiree during its yearly Retiree Day activities in San Antonio, Texas. In his remarks at the retreat ceremony, Mr. Garmon spoke of the many friends and families that have given to their country but reminded them that they can continue to serve by serving their community—through their local civic clubs, associations, churches and volunteer organizations.

Mr. Garmon also praised the modern-day army. “Today we have the best equipment that modern technology can produce,” he stated. “To man this equipment, we have the best educated, the best trained, the most dedicated soldiers that we have ever had. We also have some of the greatest leaders among our general officers that we have had since World War II.” He paid tribute to three officers who had a great impact on his military career and his civilian life—Capt. Homer Kiefer (later Major General Kiefer), 2d Lt. Charles Brown (later Lt. General Brown), and Lt. William C. Westmorland (later General and Chief of Staff).

Mr. Speaker, as we adjourn today, let us do so in honor of and with respect for this great American, Mr. Paul Garmon, and let us conclude this session with Mr. Garmon’s closing prayer: “I pray that our nation will remain strong and free until the trumpets of the Lord shall sound and time on earth is no more. God bless all of you, and may God bless America.”
After a successful tenure as Commander of the 88th in Minnesota, he moved on to the Pentagon. He was assigned to the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff Operations, Mobilization and Reserve Affairs. In addition, General Rehkamp was named to the Reserve Forces Policy Board (RFPB). The RFPB is represented by members of all of the uniformed services. Members of the RFPB are responsible for policy advising to the Secretary of Defense on matters relating to the reserve components. General Rehkamp was also a member of the Army Reserve Council. In that position he was advisor to the Chief, Army Reserve.

General Rehkamp's faithful service to his country has been recognized on a number of occasions. During General Rehkamp's career, he earned the Distinguished Service Medal, the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, and numerous other commendations and awards.

In addition, during his civilian life, General Rehkamp served as a commissioner of the Metropolitan Airports Commission. As an at-large commissioner, it was General Rehkamp's duty to advocate for all Minnesotans. Once again, he served Minnesota with great distinction.

General Rehkamp is the consummate citizen-soldier and has dedicated his career to soldiers and the defense of our great nation. We salute him in his retirement from a long and successful career and thank him for his contribution to maintaining the freedoms we, as Americans, enjoy.

WALLY MILLER EULOGY

HON. DAVID MCINTOSH
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, August 7, 1998

Mr. McINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure to rise and pay tribute to a dedicated public servant of MAP International. MAP (Medical Assistance Programs) International is a Georgia-based private voluntary organization that supports and coordinates the efforts of pharmaceutical companies who donate product for use among the poor; to the U.S. Government itself who assists many of the shipments with medical supplies shipped to people in the developing world who have little or no access to these life-saving medicines. During its 44 years of service, MAP International has responded to disasters worldwide and regularly stocks hospitals, clinics and remote health posts in over 100 countries.

The efforts of MAP International represent the spirit of generosity of the American people; from the thousands of Americans who support the organization; to the fine American pharmaceutical companies who donate product for use among the poor; to the U.S. Government itself who assists many of the shipments with USAID funds. MAP has also cooperated with the Salvation Army, the American Red Cross, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency in responding to natural disasters here at home in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this important occasion in the history of MAP International.

TRIBUTE TO GIBBY WALES

HON. BART STUPAK
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, August 7, 1998

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, on April 12 and 13 of this year, American flags in the state of Michigan were lowered on all public facilities for a fitting tribute to a dedicated public servant from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Gilbert Wales, better known as Gibby by an adoring community, and one of Michigan's most beloved lifetime residents died on April 10 at the age of 76. He was a loving husband, dedicated father, fellow state representative and he quickly became a good friend and mentor to me. On numerous occasions, I would seek advice from him on both a personal and professional basis. It has been an honor and a privilege for me to have known and reelected for five consecutive terms.

In honoring the memory of Gibby I feel there are a few things that I must call attention to, a few memories that, as I am sure, everyone who knew Gibby will agree with me on, must be mentioned. One of these was Gibby's fascination with sports. Gibby was truly a sports fanatic. He seemed to enjoy it most, though, when he could share his enthusiasm with others. He was very successful in spreading his love of sports in many different ways, whether it be by working for an organization in which he was able to advance athletics through scholarships and grants, personally mentoring a child in the fine art of free throws or simply swapping the play of the day stories with friends and neighbors. I am inclined to believe that if Gibby gets his way in heaven, those Pearly Gates will open up into a basketball arena.

But Gibby was most renowned for his active role in local and state politics in Michigan. After he graduated from Stambaugh High School, he fought in World War II as a member of the Field Artillery. He then dabbled in local politics. But it wasn't until he began working as a miner at M.A. Hanna Company in Stambaugh that his political career took off. Like many miners during that time, he was disappointed in the way his state representative was handling mining safety issues. Being a natural leader, Gibby decided to do something about it. He ran for a seat in the Michigan House of Representatives and was elected and reelected for five consecutive terms.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this important occasion in the history of MAP International.

ATTACKS ON U.S. EMBASSIES

HON. TONY P. HALL
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, August 7, 1998

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, as we await news about the Americans and others killed and wounded in the recent embassy attacks on the United States Embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam, I know our thoughts and prayers are with the families of these men and women.

I have visited the embassy in Nairobi several times, and been to Tanzania as well. My thoughts today are with the brave men and women who have been targeted and put in harm's way by the foreign service officers whose tireless efforts on behalf of our country often are overlooked.
The dedication of Americans who devote their lives to working to promote democracy and American values overseas never fails to impress me. Having visited our embassy in Nairobi just two months ago, I was again reminded by the caliber of the people who serve there—and struck by their dedication.

Our colleagues may not be aware of this, Mr. Speaker, but American support to the largest humanitarian airlift in history—large even than the Berlin Airlift 50 years ago—is being coordinated out of the U.S. embassy in Nairobi.

Two million people have died already in Sudan. A million more are threatened with starvation in the coming months. It is the worst famine I have seen since a million Ethiopians died a decade ago. Saving starving people is difficult, depressing, dirty work—and it could not be done without the support of the Americans who serve in Nairobi.

Our nation is diminished by the loss of these dedicated Americans, and we share their families' grief. America's embassies are bastions of hope in Africa, and we will not forget those who died today in service to our country.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

HON. JERRY WELLER
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, August 7, 1998

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, today, according to the NFIB, one third of small business owners will have to sell outright or liquidate a part of their firm or farm to pay estate taxes. Half of those who liquidate for this purpose have to eliminate 30 jobs or more. This is wrong, just plain wrong. With a $1.6 trillion dollar projected surplus and estate taxes accounting for one percent of annual revenues to the Treasury, the death tax is hardly justifiable in the face of devastation to families, their businesses and farms, the workers they employ or our nation's ability to compete in a global market.

If we want to encourage entrepreneurship and job creation, we must do more to address this critical issue than merely allowing the payment of death taxes over a few years. We must send a clear message to all Americans, and their families' grief. America's embassies are bastions of hope in Africa, and we will not forget those who died today in service to our country.

HON. DOUG BEREUTER
OF NEBRASKA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, August 7, 1998

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, as demonstrated by the recent tragedy that we witnessed in this building, crazy conspiracy theories can have violent and horrific costs.

Accordingly, this Member commends to his colleagues an excellent editorial which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald, on August 5, 1998.

CRUSADE.GUNNERS INquila. 24 U.S. Capitol shootings. He is being described as a mental patient who fell through the cracks, resisted treatment, and, somewhere along the way, had his head filled with paranoid claptrap.

FBI agents who searched his remote cabin in Montana found guns, ammunition and a type of explosive. In other episodes, agents said Weston maintained an abiding fear of the federal government. He believed that federal agents were spying on him through a neighbor's satellite dish.

Authorities were also told that Weston thought the federal government had planted land mines on his property. Documents among his possessions contained references to the Freemen, a group whose members have been involved in confrontations over their insistence that they are not bound by U.S. laws.

More than a few people on the fringes of society say they consider the U.S. government evil. Among them are some militia members and radical survivalists whose far-fetched notions can sometimes be heard on late-night talk shows or read on the Internet.

At times their ravings seem almost comical. One group, for example, sees sinister implications in the yellow fringe with which some American flags are trimmed. The yelow fringe, if we have it right, is proof that the United States is secretly under martial law.

But there's nothing comical when such ideas are pumped into the head of someone whose grasp of reality is less than adequate. Then the result is all too often ugly and violent.

Mr. Speaker, as demonstrated by the recent tragedy that we witnessed in this building, crazy conspiracy theories can have violent and horrific costs. Merle Westen maintained an abiding fear of the federal government. He believed that federal agents were spying on him through a neighbor's satellite dish.

HON. KAY GRANGER
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, August 7, 1998

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents in the 12th Congressional District, the people of Texas, and the men and women of the American aviation industry, it is my pleasure to express sincere good wishes to Mr. Webb F. Joiner, Chairman and CEO of Bell Helicopter Textron, on the occasion of his retirement. During Webb Joiner's 38-year career at Bell Helicopter Textron, the company has built a worldwide reputation for his commitment to the highest standards in customer service and manufacturing quality.

I am proud to say that the Bell products that America's armed forces depend on to carry out aerial missions around the world are built by the finest craftsmen and women of Texas. The OH-58D Kiowa Warrior is the Army's premier scout-attack helicopter, the modernized UH-1 utility helicopter, and the new V-22 Osprey tiltrotor to take the Corps
into the 21st Century equipped with the most modern and capable aircraft in the world. Bell's commercial helicopters can be found all over the world, serving offshore oil platforms, performing air medical rescues and carrying out humanitarian missions, and are known everywhere for their safety and reliability.

The record of excellence in the U.S. aviation industry set by people like Webb Joiner, this country continues to be the world’s leader in aircraft. Under Webb Joiner’s leadership, those standards have remained especially high at Bell Helicopter and have kept this Texas-based company in first place in the international market.

The men and women who work at Bell Helicopter and those people around the world who operate Bell’s military and civilian aircraft join me in wishing Webb F. Joiner an active and enjoyable retirement. Mr. Speaker, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to publicly recognize Webb Joiner. I want to congratulate him for his contributions to the American aviation industry and to American national security.

IN MEMORY OF MURPH WILSON
HON. RALPH M. HALL
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, August 7, 1998

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to a dear friend and wonderful American from Tyler, Texas—Mr. Murph Wilson, who passed from us on June 21, 1998.

Murph was born April 16, 1912, on land now called the Wilson Ranch near Overton, Texas, which his family owned for 150 years. Murph went on to earn his bachelor’s and law degree from the University of Texas in 1938. In that same year, Murph began a lifelong legal practice and a service to community. He was the founding member of the Wilson Law Firm now known as Wilson, Sheehy, Knowles, Robert son and Cornelius. In the legal arena, Murph was known for his expertise in many areas, particularly in mineral law. During his more than 50 years of active law practice, he was a member of the Texas State Bar and federal courts including the United States Supreme Court. He served the profession as a former president of the Smith County Bar Association and served for many years as a member of the Admissions Committee for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas. Murph was a Sustaining Life Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation and he was honored in 1997 to receive the Justitian Award from the Smith County Lawyer’s Auxiliary in recognition of his education and outstanding contributions in volunteer services to Tyler and Smith County.

A long and faithful member of Marvin Methodist Church, Murph served on numerous committees and as a former member of the administrative board. Being a man of strong faith, he will be remembered for the many lives he touched as teacher of the Chapel Sunday School Class for 22 years.

Murph Wilson was the mayor of the city of Tyler in 1967 and served on the City Commission. Further, in his community, in 1950 he was appointed to the board of the Tyler schools by the Tyler City Commission and was instrumental in the creation of the legal entity which is now Tyler Independent School District, serving 5 years on its board. He was president of the board when Lee High School was built.

Other services included trustee of the Stew art Blood Foundation and a member of its board of directors for 9 years, a life director of the East Texas Hospital Foundation being its president in 1970, a charter member of the President of the East Texas Council on World Affairs. He also was a charter member of Sharon Temple in Tyler.

Accepting an appointment by Governor Buford and Sabine River Authority board of directors in 1949, Murph served for 7 years, during which time several well-known East Texas takes were designed and built. Later, he was instrumental in the arrangements for the construction of the present Lake Palestine by the Upper Neches River Authority.

As indicated by his record of service, Murph had an impressive political background. Over his career he served in varying capacities as key advisor, speech writer, and campaign manager for Lyndon Johnson, John Connally, Buford Hest and Ray Roberts.

In 1959, he was one of the organizers of Southside State Bank, serving 2 years as its initial president, 22 years as chairman of the board and then designated a lifetime appointment as chairman of the board, emeritus.

In 1938, Murph Wilson married the former Emily Hughes, who survives him along with one son and daughter-in-law, Maxie and Flora Wilson, and one grandson, Robert Hughes Wilson. He is also survived by one brother and sister-in-law, Walker and Winifred Wilson of Overton.

During his lifetime, Murph Wilson’s influence was felt throughout the community and across East Texas. Murph will be terribly missed. Mr. Speaker, as we adjourn today, let us do so in honor of and respect for this great American—the late Murph Wilson.

DIGITAL MILLENNIUM COPYRIGHT ACT
SPEECH OF
HON. WJ. (BILLY) TAUZIN
OF LOUISIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, August 4, 1998

Mr. TAUZIN. Madam Speaker, today, we bring to the floor H.R. 2281, the WIPO Copyright Treaties Implementation Act. The Commerce Committee adopted amendments which addressed some of the very tough issues that had set to be resolved despite passage of the bill by the Senate. The substance of these amendments were ultimately incorporated into the bill which we consider today.

Today, we take one more step toward final passage of legislation which will implement the WIPO treaties. It is indeed an historic moment. The United States is on the verge of setting the standard for the rest of the world to meet. Our content industries are the world’s finest, as well as one of this Nation’s leading export ers. They must be protected from those pirates who with the blink of an eye—can steal these works and hundreds if not thousands of copies to be sold around the world—leaving our own industries uncompensated. This theft cannot continue.

By implementing the WIPO treaties this year, we can help to ensure that authors and their works will be protected from pirates who pilfer their way through cyberspace. As we rush to send a signal to the rest of the world, however, it is important that we not undermine our commitment to becoming an information—right threat to the United States . . . inside our own borders.

The discussion generated by the Commerce Committee has been invaluable in finding the balance between copyright protection and the exchange of ideas in the two fundamental pillars upon which this nation was built. In our haste to produce legislation, we must not overlook the need to strike the correct balance between these two competing ideals. That is indeed the purpose of the legislative process—to debate, haggle, review and ultimately to hammer out what will be strong and lasting policy for the rest of the world to follow.

A free market place for ideas is critical to America. It means that any man, woman or child—free of charge!—can wander into any public library and use the materials in those libraries for free. He or she—again, free of charge!—can absorb the ideas and visions of mankind’s greatest writers and thinkers.

This bill contains an amendment that will protect fair use rights by means of a review by the Secretary of Commerce which will be conducted every three years. I thank Mr. Oxley for offering this original amendment at Subcommittee and I thank Chairman Billey, Mr. Dingell, Mr. Markey, Mr. Klug and Mr. Boucher and their efforts in reaching agreement on this important amendment. The amendment provided for an exception to the circumstances contained in the bill for legal encryption research and reverse engineering. In particular, these exceptions would ensure that companies and individuals engaged in work is presently legal. Research and security testing and those who legally provide these services could continue to engage in these important and necessary activities which will strengthen our ability to keep our nation’s computer systems, digital networks and systems applications private, protected and secure.

Finally, I want to commend my colleagues, Dan Schaefer and Rick White for their efforts in reaching agreement on a provision which has been included in this bill to address the concerns of webcasters and record companies to know their works will be protected from pirates who pillage their way through cyberspace. As we rush to send a signal to the rest of the world, it is important that we not undermine our commitment to becoming an information—right threat to the United States . . . inside our own borders.

I can't emphasize enough to my colleagues the importance of not only this legislation, but also the timing of this legislation. An international copyright treaty convention is a rare and infrequent event. We thus stand on the brink of implementing this most recent treaty—
the WIPO copyright treaty—knowing full well that it may be another 20 years before we can revisit this subject. From here, we go to conference with the Senate and then this bill will go to the White House for the President’s signature. Let’s make sure we strike the right balance. Copyright protection is important and must be done. But in pursuing that goal we must remain faithful to our legacy, and our commitment to promoting the free exchange of ideas and thoughts. Digital technology should be embraced as a means to enrich and enlighten all of us.

GEORGE H. W. BUSH CENTER FOR CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SPEECH OF
HON. RICK LAZIO
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, August 3, 1998

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, I support the bill offered this week to name the Central Intelligence Agency’s Headquarters after President George Herbert Walker Bush. Representative ROB PORTMAN, who served as Associate Counsel, Deputy Assistant, and Director of the House’s Office of Legislative Affairs under President Bush, introduced this legislation that pays homage to the only U.S. President that served as Director of the CIA.

President Bush devoted more than 50 years of his life to public service. His career began in the Navy. At the age of 18, he was the youngest pilot of his day. He served our country on active duty for 3 years during World War II. President Bush’s heroism was demonstrated on September 2, 1944, when anti-aircraft guns fired upon his plane during a bombing run over Japanese-held Islands. Even after his plane had been hit and was on fire, President Bush finished his run before heading out to sea. For his courageous flying, President Bush was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and three Air Medals. Like many of his predecessors, President Bush led in the war on his time: George Washington led the Revolutionary War, Teddy Roosevelt in the Spanish American War, and Dwight Eisenhower demonstrated his leadership in World War II. For President Bush, though, it was the cold war.

President Bush also represented our great Nation in foreign affairs and served as a world leader in establishing international policies. Even though U.S. foreign intelligence activities were not officially coordinated on a Government-wide basis until after World War II, foreign intelligence activities began in the days of George Washington. Two hundred years later, in 1976, President Bush was appointed as the Director of the CIA. He shares with George Washington the unique distinction of having supervised our nation’s intelligence programs prior to being elected President. During his term as Director of the CIA, President Bush strengthened the national intelligence community and restored internal morale when there was public distrust of our Government.

The first responsibility of the President is to protect our national security from external threat. President Bush kept our families safe when serving as the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States, and overseeing international affairs, including our intelligence operations.

For forty years, the external threats that were most ominous came from our cold war adversaries. Under President Bush’s leadership as both Vice President and President, communism collapsed, bringing about the end of the cold war. The cold war was a different kind of battle for this country; it was a battle of intelligence. President Bush’s knowledge and understanding of our opponents’ capabilities, acquired as head of the CIA, enabled him to successfully reduce the number of nuclear warheads being produced. President Bush emphasized that intelligence remained a vital commodity in the post-Soviet world. Intelligence gathering protects the U.S. against terrorism and helps our policymakers understand emerging economic opportunities and challenges. The intelligence mission thwarts those who would steal our technology or otherwise refuse to play by competitive rules.

President Bush pursued a foreign policy that ensured the security and economic prosperity of our country, as well as freedom and individual rights around the world. He had a proven track record of progress through lasting and mutually beneficial relationships with many countries, particularly with Asian countries. Although differences remained, President Bush was able to strengthen our alliances by successfully opening foreign markets to U.S. competition. In turn, his acts helped foster the continued growth of democracy and the strengthening of our alliances.

President Bush’s leadership proved critical to the resolution of some of the most daunting conflicts of our time. Our freedom and the CIA compound provides us an opportunity to honor our 41st President with a lasting tribute.

GEORGE H. W. BUSH CENTER FOR CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SPEECH OF
HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, August 3, 1998

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in full and complete support of the measure that would rename the C.I.A. headquarters after a man who has served this great nation tirelessly. To name the C.I.A. headquarters the George H.W. Bush Center is a high honor rightfully deserved by fellow Texan, President Bush.

President Bush is a man of unblemished integrity. His leadership and commitment to the United States deserves any and all awards and accolades bestowed upon him. President Bush was charged with a sense of purpose to serve his country in every way. Not only was President Bush an important part of world policy, but he also was a loving husband to his wife, Barbara Bush, President and Mrs. Bush are the proud and loving parents of six beautiful children.

Mr. Speaker, the young President Bush became the youngest person to become an aviator in the United States Navy during World War II. President Bush worked hard to have an illustrious military career where he was decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross. President Bush also served our great Nation as a United States Representative for the 7th District of the great state of Texas, an Ambassador to the United Nations, and the Chief of the United States Liaison Office to the People’s Republic of China. Throughout his career, President Bush continuously fought against extremism and was a leader in designing new values. President Bush was appointed to the position of Director of the C.I.A. on November 3, 1975, by President Gerald Ford. Upon his appointment, President Bush served the Agency with reverence and honor. President Bush has the unique distinction of being the only President to serve in this esteemed position. President Bush was an innovator during his stint as Director of the Nation’s premier intelligence organization. He helped draft strict orders aimed at preventing any violation of C.I.A. regulations. In addition, President Bush also drafted and developed similar federal and international laws.

On behalf of the 18th Congressional District, all Texans, myself, and the citizens of the United States of America I would like to commend and applaud a man whose tireless efforts and relentless pursuit to serve his country have provided many improvements for this country.

Mr. Speaker, President Bush brought a devotion to traditional American values and a determination to direct them toward making the United States a stronger and better nation. Coming with a tradition of public service, George Herbert Walker Bush felt the responsibility to make his contribution in both time of war and in peace. President Bush created strength and stability in the intelligence community and is widely credited with restoring the morale of the C.I.A. and I cannot see any better way to honor Mr. George Herbert Walker Bush than to place his name on C.I.A. headquarters.

BIPARTISAN CAMPAIGN INTEGRITY ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF
HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, August 6, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole passed this week an important bill (H.R. 2183) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reform the financing of campaigns for elections for Federal office, and for other purposes:

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Chairman, I rise to express my support for the Farr Amendment to H.R. 2183. This substitute advances the effort to reform campaign finance laws in the direction in which I believe we must ultimately go if we are going to restore credibility to the election process. The bipartisan support for Shays-Meehan is one reflection of the House’s deep desire for campaign finance reform. Last month’s victory illustrated the grassroots advocacy and public sentiment for limiting soft money contributions and transfers in federal campaigns before we adjourn. We owe these constituencies a debt of gratitude for not giving up on us. We owe it to ourselves to continue this fight by building on the reforms contained in Shays-Meehan.

Mr. Chairman, that’s why I support the Farr Substitute.
Mr. Chairman, the Farr Substitute sets a voluntary spending limit of $800,000 for each two-year election cycle. It also contains related limitations on large donors, political action committees and the use of personal funds. As important, the Farr Substitute provides candidates with direct, tangible public benefits. The 50% reduction in broadcast rates and reduced postal rates proposed in this measure give office seekers a real incentive to voluntarily limit campaign spending.

Mr. Chairman, the Farr Substitute represents the next stage in campaign finance reform. I would like to draw your attention to a highly successful international development program that benefits from federal funding dollars which operates out of my district in Baltimore: Catholic Relief Services (CRS).

CRS is the official overseas relief and development agency of the Catholic Church in the United States. CRS assists persons on the basis of need, not creed, race or nationality. Its first mission provided food and shelter for World War II refugees. In the 1960s, while continuing to respond to emergencies, the agency began to look for ways to help the poor overcome poverty, particularly in newly independent and developing countries. Emphasis shifted to the promotion of new farming techniques, loans for small business, and health and water projects. The projects were designed to provide hope and dignity by allowing the poor to determine their own future and rise out of poverty.

As the agency looks to the millennium with programs operating throughout the developing world, peace-building and reconciliation, gender responsive programs, the development and strengthening of civil society are active parts of its work in the promotion of social justice in the countries in which it works. The policies and programs of the agency reflect a philosophy of working in ways to maximize and optimize the resources, expertise and talent that may be brought to bear on the solution of the problems of the poor and disenchanted.

CRS has programs focusing on education, emergency assistance, enterprise development, food security, health, human rights, peace-building and reconciliation and welfare. Long-term solutions to the problems of injustice and underdevelopment are fostered by over 2,000 development and reconstruction projects. These projects promote food security through production, access and utilization; improve health care; develop water/sanitation systems; address deforestation problems; enable poor women to start small businesses; stabilize the environment; create village banks, and provide vocational/agricultural/health care training. Integration of these strategies in all CRS programs operating in potential conflict areas is a major thrust for the agency. In the CRS sponsored Small Enterprise Development programs, for example, nearly 90 percent of the entrepreneurs participating in these programs are women.

These programs foster financial independence and sustainable development at the grassroots level. CRS involves the beneficiaries in the operation of the program. Participants manage the loan portfolio and ensure savings are accrued and invested. For most, it is the first chance to participate on an equal footing with men in their societies.

While the obvious beneficiaries of these programs are the women entrepreneurs, beneficiaries also include the next generation. CRS has found that women who participate in the program spend a portion of their earnings on the health and education of their children—needs that otherwise would not have been met. Therefore, for example, girls who would not have attended school are now students. The benefits of literacy as a determinant of good health, income and agricultural productivity have been proven time and time again around the world. The benefits for the women of the future are innumerable.

Another feature of this program is the savings generated. CRS has helped entrepreneurs participating in these programs to save an average of more than $250 per person. In countries where people live on $1 a day, this is the difference between surviving a crop failure, drought or flood or becoming a refugee in search of relief aid.

The Small Enterprise Development program is but one excellent example of the programs sponsored by CRS around the world with the help of our federal funding. I ask my colleagues to please remember CRS, its programs and its dedicated headquarters staff working in my district, when they vote on interstate development funding in the foreign operations spending bill in September.

Mr. Chairman, talk about "deja vu all over again." I have done this many times before, speaking out on Campaign Finance Reform. By now, I hope all my colleagues believe that after all the hours of debate in the past several weeks that we have fully explored this issue in the House of Representatives.

My concerns with reforming the system remain as they were the previous times I stated my views. Our campaign financing laws need improvement, but I do not agree with taxpayer financing of campaigns nor limits on political speech. Increased disclosure will cure many ills in the system; and there are other reforms needed also.

During consideration of Campaign Finance Reform over the past several weeks, I have again to require at least half of a federal candidate's campaign funds to come from his state in which he runs. I have voted to make individual's contributions as important as those of political action committees. I have voted to make sure that only citizens vote and that only citizens can make campaign contributions. I have voted to ban soft money in federal campaigns. I have voted for increased and more timely disclosure of campaign contributions. I have voted to ensure that a wealthy candidate cannot use his personal funds to buy an election in a contest with a candidate with limited personal funds. And I have voted against any attempt to limit citizens' right to political speech. None of this is new to my constituents in Southern Arizona; I've made these same points numerous times.

In the final analysis, it is up to the integrity of the candidates and to the vigilance of our citizens to ensure fair and honest elections. No matter how many laws we pass, there is always a weak spot that can be exploited by those who will.

Today, I cast my vote both for the "freshman bill" and for the Doolittle bill because, these two most closely reflect the changes I believe will improve our system. Neither is the total answer, but voting for the Shays-Meehan Bill goes against everything I believe in terms of preserving freedom of political speech. I may not like the fact that groups can "attack" any candidate more than I like having people burn the flag. But freedom to band together to criticize elected officials is a right that should not be taken away. The Supreme Court has already ruled on where the limits lie and I do not think we need to further limit speech. Nor can we say the advocates of Shays-Meehan expect the public to take seriously their effort when, in order to keep their coalition intact, they rejected all efforts to include in their reforms the largest single player on the political scene—labor unions.

In retrospect, we should probably look to creating a Commission with the powers given the Military Base Closing Commission. Since Congress has 535 "experts" in running campaigns, it may take something like that to enact reasonable, constitutional reforms.
Since then, United States has acquired most of the inholdings, by purchase from willing sellers—and we have drawn our boundaries so most of the rest are outside the wilderness. So, the way is now clear for Congress to finish the job of protecting this outstanding area as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

That’s what this bill does by adding the Spanish Peaks to the list of areas designated as wilderness by the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1993. As a result, all the provisions of that Act—including the provisions related to wilderness, including the Spanish Peaks area just as they do to the other areas on that list. Like all the areas now on that list, the Spanish Peaks area covered by this bill is a headwaters area, which for all practical purposes eliminates the possibility of water conflicts. There are no water diversions within the area.

The lands covered by this bill are not strips for their beauty and value for primitive recreation, but also for their natural values. They fully merit—and need—the protection that will come from the enactment of H.R. 865. We should all be proud that it has now passed the House.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999**

**SPEECH OF HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**Thursday, August 6, 1998**

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4380) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes:

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to give me a “no” vote on the rule before you. The rule is unworthy of a serious national legislature. The Congress has received a balanced consensus budget with a surplus no less from a local jurisdiction, the District of Columbia, containing only the city’s taxpayer-raised funds. Instead of minding its own national business and getting on with the mountain of work left for us to do, this bill has become an excuse for indulging the controversial social and financial whims of some Members of this body. That is unfair to you, it is unfair to me, and it is unfair to District residents. Defeat this rule, unless you are prepared to waste a lot more time in Washington on the smallest appropriations and the one least relevant to your constituents.

I have the Administration’s Statement of Policy here. A litany of objections to this bill are listed by the Administration. Among them are three amendments which have been made in order, vouchers, the prohibition on adoption by married couples, and the prohibition on local funds for needle exchange, among others.

This rule reads like a who’s who of special interests. It nullifies a modest residency rule that the Control Board supports because the residency law strengthens the recovering District of Columbia economy. It puts this body through another fight not three months after the President has vetoed vouchers. It will make you vote on tricky social issues many Republican and Democratic Members would just as soon avoid.

Two provisions strike at the core of democracy. One gratuitously bars the use of local funds in cooperating with a pro bono voting rights lawsuit that hardly involves the city, anyway. The other defunds the advisory neighborhood commissions that get pitance amounts as elected neighborhood officials who attend to grassroots problems like assuring that parks and river banks do not accumulate trash or harbor crime. At the last minute, a Member got a bright idea, he decided that the District’s tobacco prohibitions might be strengthened but did not give me the courtesy of allowing me to ask the City Council to do it themselves.

When you vote on this rule, you will make a statement of where you stand on controversial social issues and where you stand on democracy and devolution. The D.C. appropriation is not the place to take your stand on social legislation. The D.C. appropriation is the place to stand up for democracy. The way to do both is to defeat this rule.
have made America the great democratic nation that it is and which have made America the great economic power that it is.

Furthermore, if you want to experiment with these school vouchers, why don’t you do it at home? Why must we continue to use the District of Columbia as our pet laboratory for everything else? You don’t like home? Leave such matters to the people of the District. They deserve better than to be told what to do and that their children are experimental subjects.

Defeat this bad idea.

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INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BASED ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION

HON. TOM LANTOS
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, August 7, 1998

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call the attention of my colleagues to the global persecution of individuals based on their sexual orientation. Yesterday, I chaired a briefing of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus on this alarming situation. Mr. Speaker, I am especially grateful for the support and participation of our distinguished colleagues, Congressman Benjamin Gilman, Congressman Barney Frank, Congressman William Delahunt, and Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi.

I initiated yesterday’s Caucus briefing because of alarming reports about the ongoing persecution of individuals based solely on their sexual orientation. These unacceptable violations of human rights have included arbitrary arrests, rape, torture, imprisonment, extortion and even execution.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday’s briefing was not a discussion of our own nation’s laws relating to homosexuality, transsexuality, or bisexuality. I have my own well-known views on this issue, which I have clearly stated a number of times in the last couple of weeks when the domestic legal implications of these issues have been considered by the House of Representatives. Other Members clearly have different views, and they have clearly stated those.

Whatever our views on our own domestic laws, Mr. Speaker, the Caucus and all Members of Congress should be standing together in decrying the persecution of individuals and the denial of human rights for any reason, including sexual orientation. The purpose of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus briefing was to uphold the human rights that have been categorically denied all over the world to this persecuted minority.

If a government denies human rights to one group, then it is possible for that government to deny rights to any other group or every group. Gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered people in communities all around the world have been brutally punished both physically and mentally for exercising their fundamental human rights to freedom of speech, freedom of association, and freedom of belief. Mr. Speaker, these violations fall squarely within the scope of international human rights law.

Nowhere have basic human rights been more comprehensively defined than in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and this year we will celebrate the 50th anniversary of this historic document. Mr. Speaker, the Declaration guarantees the protection of human rights for everyone. This most assuredly does not mean so long as an individual shares our political views, our religion, the color of our skin, our sexual orientation, anything else.

The 1993 UN Human Rights Conference in Vienna stated it unequivocally by demanding: All Human Rights for All!

We heard exceptional testimony yesterday. The individuals who briefed the Caucus made statements that, why, I wish I could repeat above the usual information that we receive at Caucus briefings. These outstanding witnesses were Cynthia Rothschild, Co-Chair of Amnesty International’s Members for Lesbian and Gay Concerns; Scott Long, Advocacy Coordinator of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission; Regan E. Ralph, Executive Director of the Women’s Rights Division, Human Rights Watch; and Serkan Altan, a brave young man who was subjected to extreme violence in Turkey because of his sexual orientation and who has now been granted asylum in the United States based on his homosexuality.

Mr. Speaker, these witnesses exposed the tragic fact that basic human rights are not applied everywhere and that they must certainly are not accorded to everyone. I ask, Mr. Speaker, that they are not be placed in the RECORD, and I urge that my colleagues give considerable attention to their striking remarks.

Cynthia Rothschild, Co-Chair, Amnesty International Members for Lesbian and Gay Concerns.

I am pleased to be with you today in this precedent-setting meeting. I’d like to thank Congressman Lantos and his staff for making this briefing possible, and I’d like to thank all of you who took time from your busy schedules to be here. I also want to acknowledge Serkan, who will share with us today his personal history as a survivor of human rights violations targeted because of sexual identity.

I am particularly glad to be able to congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, on your personal history as a survivor of human rights violations targeted because of sexual identity. This was necessary as people were killed, raped, assaulted, subjected to the death penalty, imprisoned, beaten, forced to undergo medical and psychiatric treatment designed to alter our sexuality, brutalized by other forms of torture and arbitrary arrest, deprived of basic human rights due to the violation of our real- "or perceived"—sexual identity and behavior.

These abuses are often sanctioned by the state through legal decree, tacit acceptance (for instance, the refusal to investigate violations or to punish perpetrators) or through torture, by official and unofficial state actors (ranging from police to immigration officials to prison guards). Factors such as gender, culture, race, ethnicity, age and geographic location affect the various forms of violation which take place. But no region escapes culpability—sexuality behavior and identities are criminalized or vilified, often with a range of specific examples and that because I cite specific counties in these examples it should not be interpreted to mean that these violations don’t take place in many other nations and states.

The following information has been compiled and documented by Amnesty International, the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, Human Rights Watch, and the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, the Magnus Hirschfield Center for Human Rights and countless other local organizations.

Some of the more flagrant human rights violations, gay, bisexual and transgender people face include abuses in the following three general, and sometimes overlapping, categories: (1) rights to physical and mental integrity, (2) freedom of association and expression, (3) discriminatory laws and discriminatory application of laws.

1. VIOLATIONS OF RIGHTS TO PHYSICAL AND MENTAL INTEGRITY

A. Execution Codified by Law: Under Islamic “Sharia” law, homosexuality is seen as an offense against divine will and is punishable by death. This is true in nine countries, including Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Kuwait, Mauritania, and Iran. In the latter country, death can be administered by stoning or by beheading. In Afghanistan, you may recall recent reports (carried in the New York Times) of men convicted of sodomy being placed next to standing walls and buried under rubble as the walls were toppled upon them. While intended as a form of execution, it is of interest to note that some people were not actually killed in this process—so having a wall collapse on a person becomes simply a form of torture instead of execution.

B. Extrajudicial Execution: Deliberate and unlawful killings by government or with the consent of the state: In Colombia, death squads—often consisting of off-duty police—have been known to target gay men and agitate. As part of social cleansing efforts, victims of these death squads are gunned down in streets, or forcibly disappeared. The latter two examples are also relevant to Inhuman and Degrading Treatment: In Saudi Arabia, male same-sex sexual behavior can be punished by flogging.

As a different but related note, Amnesty has noted that lesbians and gay men in the custody of government officials are particularly vulnerable to torture and ill-treated.

In this presentation, I will offer an overview of human rights violations as they pertain to sexual identity and practice, and I will delineate some of the more salient and complicated issues impeding progress. This information, as well as that included in Regan, Scott and Serkan’s presentations, is designed to be useful to you as human rights supporters and as concerned citizens.

I see a different example of the relevance of this information. If you will remember the case of Abner Louima, a Haitian man who was attacked by
New York City policemen while being held in a precinct. During the beating (in which a toilet plunger handle was shoved into Louisa's rectum), police allegedly yelled "faggot!" as they threatened to attack.

Other topics which fit into this category of abuses include:

- Forced psychiatric treatment to alter homosexuality;
- Forced medical treatment;
- Rape and other sexual abuse; and
- Arbitrary detention.

2. VIOLATIONS OF RIGHTS TO FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION AND EXPRESSION

In Uganda: President Yoweri Museveni speaking to the press on July 22nd of this year that there was a "gay" issue in America at some point in time ago I saw a rally of 300,000 homosexuals!

If you have a rally of 20 homosexuals here, I would imagine it is a much smaller crowd.

Abuse of "public decency" and "public scandal" laws: In China, homosexuality per se is not criminalized, yet gay men and lesbians are often arrested under charges of "hooliganism."

In Romania, Article 200 is used to harass and imprison gay men and lesbians under "public nuisance.

Other topics which would fit into this category of abuses include:

- Persecution of Human Rights Defenders;
- Prohibition of establishment of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that work on issues of sexual orientation;
- Harassment of NGOs that do that work; and
- Abuse of surveillance laws.

3. DISCRIMINATORY LAWS OR DISCRIMINATORY APPLICATION OF LAWS

In the United States, three states (Kansas, Missouri and Arkansas) have sodomy laws which target only same-sex sexual behavior—and in other states, facially neutral sodomy laws are enforced against homosexuality rather than heterosexual conduct.

In Austria and the United Kingdom, age of consent laws are higher for gay men than they are for heterosexual and lesbian couples.

Given this broad brushstroke citation of the range of violations we're talking about, I'd like to shift to the next main section of this presentation, in which I seek to name with how they are perceived.

Distinctions in perceptions, labels and conduct, the dialogue perpetrated because of sexual orientation; and de facto access to public space, particular the appearance of the person engaging in it.

Gender play a primary role in the enactment of human rights violations. Women and men often have different legal and de facto access to public space, particularly since in many countries women are restricted by family and societal discrimination.

In this context, a woman who appears to have "normal" breasts and has given birth (and all women's) ability to leave the countries in which they are being harassed in order to (a) simple escape, and (b) engage in an asylunm process.

Partly because of this difference in access to public space, gay men are more often targeted under so-called "public scandal" laws—in effect, their sexual expression is more "public" and more apt to be scrutinized by the state in particular ways. Sodomoyy as a term has cultural to culture, and within the U.S., from state to state. There are no fixed definitions of sodomy, no standard understandings of what it or its implications is. "Sodomy" can mean two men in a longstanding monogamous relationship having sex in the privacy of their bedroom, or it can mean particular sex acts committed by married hetero- sexular people.

The last main point:

Police, other state agents and government officials often act with impunity—It is too often true that the general public as well as law enforcement institutions/sites (including courts, police precinct borders) will not come out on behalf of the rights of gay, bisexual and transgender people to be free from harassment and violence. These attitudes allow state actors the sense that they can violate the rights of lesbians, gay men, bisexual and transgender people with little chance of accountability. This, in turn, affects the williness of gay people to report harassment, physical abuse and other violations. Fear of reprisal also inhibits proper reporting. Ultimately, there is the potential risk of silence encouraging these same violations, and the risk of a cycle of abuse as a direct result.

In this final section, and in conclusion, I wish to return to the primadoma goals as human rights activists and law- makers with regard to human rights violations and sexual orientation. (Please note that we've drawn up specific recommenda- tions which are geared much more to prac- tical use by U.S. lawmakers—I encourage you to take copies before you leave today).

I would like to focus on a particular story I specifically mean that of the domestic non-profit sector along with concerned actors in the U.S. government—i.e. we on this panel and not telling gay people on all governments to be aware of and accountable for the violations of human dignity, physical integrity and fundamental liberties targeted at lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender people.

Our work calls for governments to end cy- cles of law in which fraudulent violations connected to homosexuality by punishing perpetrators to the fullest extent allowed by law.

And our work calls upon us all to consist-ently include issues of sexuality in all of our conversations and documentation about human rights violations.

Given that human rights violations perpetrated because of sexual orienta- tion, identity and conduct, the dialogue about this set of issues must become more prominent in human rights and law-making circles.

This, after all, and at its core, is a matter of gender parity. As may be said in which all people recognize that human rights protections are indivisible and afforded to all people, we must work toward providing pro- tections and recourse for those most vulnerable to ability-based human rights violations. We must argue together that human rights violations enacted because of sexual orientation are not acceptable and will not be tolerated.

SCOTT L. LONG, Advocacy Coordinator, The International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, for inviting us to testify today.

I want to begin by telling three anecdotes from Romania—because I know them, and the people in them, well. In 1997 two 18-year-old youths—boys—were picked up by the police in Romania, and raped; each other at night in a park. They were taken to a local police station and beaten, nonstop, for four hours. They were knocked out; they were knocked unconscious, and they were forced to clean out the police toilets and urinals with their bare hands. They are now free, but facing trial for five years in prison, for so-called "sexual perversion."

In 1995 Mariana Cetiner, a woman living in a small town in Romania was arrested for asking another woman to have sex with her—which is illegal in Romania. The other woman had reported her to the police. Mariana was sentenced to five years in prison, and is currently serving three years in prison for this crime. I interviewed Mariana in prison. She had enormous bruises; she had been physically and sexually abused by the guards. The prison doctor told us, "After all, she is different from other women. You can hardly expect the guards to treat her as if she were normal."

In 1992 a lonely 17-year-old placed a personals ad in a Romanian newspaper, looking for a lover. The ad was answered by a 21- year-old; they met, and they fell in love. They were both men. They were examined by the police as homosexuals by the 17-year old's sister. They were both arrested and charged with "sexual relations with persons of the same sex." The prison doctor told us, "After all, they are not free, but facing trial for five years in prison, for so-called "sexual perversion."

In 1993 a 17-year-old, Attila, was arrested for asking another woman to have sex with her—which is illegal in Hungary. The policepromotion of human rights and law-making circles. Those working in NGO circles will work alongside you as we all face those who are not free, but facing trial for five years in prison, for so-called "sexual perversion."

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In 1993 a 17-year-old, Attila, was arrested for asking another woman to have sex with her—which is illegal in Hungary. The police
law because of their sexual orientation is wrong. In most countries in the world, two heterosexuals kissing in a park would not be sent to jail; a seventy-year-old boy who fell in love with a girl would not be subjected to a hell of rape and abuse in prison for it; and one heterosexual who simply asked another to have sex would not serve a three-year prison term for it. As Ms. Ralph believes, in Washington, D.C. To impose these punishments on comparable acts simply because they are committed by people of the same sex is simply vicious and absurd.

This principle of equality has been affirmed, as Ms. Ralph noted, by the United Nations Human Rights Committee in a landmark decision—Toonen v. Australia, in 1994—held that no state can allot discriminatory enjoyment of any right in the international bill of rights to people on the basis of the sexual orientation of someone. Western countries, laws against so-called "hooliganism" are used to arrest gay men whenever they gather for any purpose. In China and in other countries of a communist era, legal codes, provisions against "hooliganism" are used to arrest gay men whenever they gathered for any purpose. In Cuba, Romania, and elsewhere, laws punish homosexual acts "which cause public scandal"—meaning that if a private sexual act becomes known to anyone else who disapproves, it can earn a prison term. In many Western countries, laws against so-called "public lewdness" are used to impose fines or prison terms on people who simply look gay in public when seen by the discriminating eye of a policeman.

Moreover, some of the worst abuses against gay and lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people are committed not by the state—devoted years to vilifying gays and lesbians, bisexuals, and transgender people in constant, intrusive, and degrading ways. In Italy, in Alibaba, in Cuba, police raid gay bars and discotheques, check IDs, and ostentatiously write down their names and addresses. In Thailand, the Ministry of Education tries to ban gay men from becoming teachers; in Bulgaria, gay and lesbian students are forced into forced prostitution and repeat prison terms on people who simply look gay in public when seen by the discriminating eye of a policeman.

The IGLHRC has documented in its report "Epidemic of Hate," gays and transgendered people are murdered daily by gangs and death squads. But similarly, on the streets of American and Western European cities, hate crimes—violence, beatings, and bashing—ensue that the police were two-thirds before they wear a pink triangle in public, or hold hands on the street.

And in many countries, the attempts of states to criminalize same-sexual, and transgender people to organize in response to these abuses are also met with repression. In Argentina, in Hungary, in Lithuania, in Russia, in China and in other countries with communist-era legal codes, provisions against "hooliganism" are used to arrest gay men whenever they gathered for any purpose. In Cuba, Romania, and elsewhere, laws punish homosexual acts "which cause public scandal"—meaning that if a private sexual act becomes known to anyone else who disapproves, it can earn a prison term. In many Western countries, laws against so-called "public lewdness" are used to impose fines or prison terms on people who simply look gay in public when seen by the discriminating eye of a policeman.

Yet this decision has a further and important ramification. In gauging the situation of gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgender people, it is not enough to look at whether that country has so-called " sodomy laws," or whether they are enforced. One must look at how that country's laws, and its execution practices, ensure the other basic rights of gays and lesbians. Do they enjoy the right to speak freely? To move about in the street freely? To gather together, to organize in a group? Can they hold jobs, can they survive economically, while being open and honest about themselves? Will the police and the state defend them? Is there a process in which gay and lesbian group went to the police to report a man who had been blackmailing him with false allegations. In a case that perfectly evinces the vulnerability of the gay and lesbian person to the violation of their rights, the police were not even specifically mentioned in the complaint, or in the police report.

And why has the President of Zimbabwe devoted years to vilifying gays and lesbians, if the country blames their victimization for the country's economic and social ills? Because he needed a scapegoat. As he accused support for his own corrupt and decaying regime, nothing was easier than to incite hatred against people who were, fortuitously, both invisible—unable to speak for themselves—and universally despised. This demonization of the different is familiar to us, or should be, from Nazi Germany. Gays and lesbians worldwide now seem to serve as a new, favorite victim. The power of human rights in our century, of a discourse of human rights, is that it counters this demonization. Human rights knows no sconce, it recognizes no sacred human rights laws.

What has been the result? Last month, Keith Goddard, a gay and lesbian group went to the police to report a man who had been blackmailing him with false allegations. In a case that perfectly evinces the vulnerability of the gay and lesbian person to the violation of their rights, the police were not even specifically mentioned in the complaint, or in the police report.

Yet by exposing abuses against them, the human rights instrument. Gay and lesbian publications have been threatened and punished, closed down in Greece, in Russia, in Hungary. In Zimbabwe, where there is a tiny and beleaguered organization called Gays and Lesbians of Zimbabwe, President Mugabe has campaigned for years to eliminate that group and erase all traces of homosexual identity from his society—calling them "worse than dogs, and pigs," and stating repeatedly that "homosexuals have no rights whatever." What has been the result? Last month, Keith Goddard, a gay and lesbian group went to the police to report a man who had been blackmailing him with false allegations. In a case that perfectly evinces the vulnerability of the gay and lesbian person to the violation of their rights, the police were not even specifically mentioned in the complaint, or in the police report.

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We ask you to speak out, because silence is deadly. I would like to close by quoting the words of a very important human rights activist who is perhaps the best person to say about this. Akik, a termeszetől felnéke, termeszetellenesen neveznek bennünk. De egyedül a hallgatás termeszetelénél. "Those who despise nature call us unnatural. But silence is the only unnatural act."
But the rights of women remain under siege, particularly in the area of extending dignity and autonomy to them in their sexual lives. Here we come to another test of the universality of human rights because women—and men—also are subject to violence, coercion, and discrimination that is targeted at their real or perceived sexual orientation or identity. In countries throughout the world, lesbians and gay men are subject to discriminatory legislation, violent treatment, and persecution by police and other authorities.

Again the ugly argument that some groups are not entitled to be human or that their rights rears its head. But this argument is as wrong about sexual orientation as it was about women.

On the contrary, international human rights law prohibits state-sponsored and state-tolerated violence and discrimination against individuals that attacks their sexual identity, sexual orientation or private sexual practices. The most basic human rights guarantees found in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights—the right to life, liberty and security of the person, the right to freedom of expression and association, the right to privacy, the right to personal integrity, the right to change one's sex, the right to psychiatric care and the outlawing of discrimination—extend to all individuals regardless of their status.

In fact, human rights law condemns the denial of fundamental liberties to persons on the basis of qualities inherent to their individuality. These include race, color, religion, sex, national origin, birth, political opinion, and other status. Sexual orientation, too, is such a quality, a deeply rooted and profoundly felt element of selfhood.

You have heard cases of the gross abuses perpetrated against individuals because of their real or perceived sexual orientation. Add to those the fact that many countries, including Nicaragua, Uzbekistan, and Zimbabwe, criminalize consensual sex between same-sex adults. In China, lesbians and gays have been harassed by police, jailed, and fined. In different countries, gay and lesbian organizations and activities are targeted with violence and harassment that has forced them to close their doors or end their activities.

At the same time, the principle of universality is being upheld. Flagrant violations of human rights have been condemned by both the national and international levels. South Africa's new constitution, for example, specifically prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation. In Australia, national human rights bodies have also declared discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation or identity to violate human rights.

The European Court of Human Rights ruled last summer that employers could not deny the same legal benefits to lesbians that are extended to unmarried, heterosexual couples. Another European body, the Council on Human Rights, has repeatedly held that laws criminalizing consensual, private sexual acts between adults violate internationally protected rights to privacy.

The Human Rights Committee, the body charged with monitoring compliance with the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, considers sexual orientation to be a status protected from discrimination under international law. In Toonen v. Australia, the Committee declared that the rights protected by the Covenant cannot be denied for limitation of a person's sexual orientation or identity.

In closing, I would like again to underscore the profound vulnerability: human rights guarantees must extend to all. If it is deemed acceptable to exclude one group from human rights protections, it is that much easier to exclude another group and another and another. The only way we as individuals and members of a democratic society have of protecting ourselves from such an affront to our humanity is to ensure that no exceptions are made in respecting the rights of all.

SERKAN ALTON

Aslan Yuzgun, the writer of Homosexuality in Turkey says "Without a doubt, homosexuality is the third largest minority in Turkey." The worst thing to be in Turkey is to be a man who is openly homosexual. Not only does this man face the Turks and their culture but also an insult to Turkish manhood.

The police use terror and violence against homosexuals in the operation of the central government. It is impossible for us to achieve any legal redress. No one—including the government, the police, the media—cares about how homosexuals are treated. Turkey has been a huge prison for all of us, mostly for homosexuals.

Any boy aged 8 years or older who displays any hint of effeminacy is very likely to be raped. Then the torture starts, especially in school. We homosexuals learn in school, too, along with everyone else, going to be raped, beaten, and tortured both by the public and the police.

When I was 10 years old, I moved to Istanbul, the most modern city in Turkey. When I turned 12, I started to go to a private school. I soon realized I was an outcast. They started to call me names like "queer," "boy," "faggot," which I was not familiar with because I looked and acted like a girl. Things got worse when Rock Hudson had AIDS. Then my nickname became "AIDS!."

Still I had no idea what it meant to be a homosexual.

Everywhere I went, I was followed, taunted, and insulted. The worst thing was to see kids who would try to beat me up. I didn't fight back, instead I kept my distance from them. Even though I sat quietly in the corner, my hair was pulled, my head was kicked, my private parts were pinched. Some threw balls and objects at me. Some pushed me and tried to make me fall.

There was almost no day for me to live my childhood with joy.

As the years passed by, I accepted the abuse. I knew I was going to hit and insult me, but I took it.

When I was 16, the head of the class forced me to be his partner. I was known as one of the strongest guys in the school. Then he told every detail to everybody. While he became a hero, I was emotionally and physically abused. I was called "a man with no dignity," and "disgusting queer!" Some spit on my food, and I was left alone in one corner.

Every time I tried to pick up something from the floor, I felt pencils, fingers trying to penetrate me.

Things got worse and worse.

The school bathrooms were a place for the boys to gather and smoke and I was scared to go there at all. There I had heard that other homosexuals had tied up their penises so that they did not have to go to the bathroom, so I tried to do the same. The walls and the doors of the bathroom were full with my name and telephone number. At night, I would try to wash it off and my hands would hurt.

Meanwhile, I am watching the pictures of gays who were arrested because of their homosexuality on the cover of the nationwide daily newspapers as "decadent." "The new kind of a Queer, Homosexual Hunt." I still remember the pictures. They were dropped on the floor, beaten by metal covered truncheons and their nakedness forcedly shed.

I remember one particular picture of a transsexual whose breast implants were beaten out, covered all over with blood because of the torture.

I saw what would happen to me if I admitted my homosexuality. I put books on my head and thought that one day they would entrust me with wood pieces so I would not look like a sissy. I cried day and night, I prayed day and night so that they would stop abusing me.

There were so many incidents that caused me a lot of pain. I started to cut my arm with a bread knife in the winter time. I used salt. I screamed, I yelled, I hit my head from one wall to another. I tried to kill myself three times. There was nobody I could talk to.

In school, the many teachers including the president of the school knew exactly what was going on. The president invited me to her room and asked me if I was mentally ill. She implied I was homosexual. I was kicked, beaten, slapped in the face and insulted by her many times.

I prayed. I was the only one who openly prayed five times a day like Muslims do. While I was praying, I was kicked and arrested by knowing that most writers, I told, "You are a faggot. God will not forgive you, you are wasting your time."

They took my money from my wallet and said, "You are a faggot, you should be kicked and the money from someone." They were trying to say that I could make money by selling my body. They even came to my house when I was alone and sexually harassed, then robbed me.

Just like me, gays in Turkey are raped often by the police and the society. The police arrest gays, beat them up with metal covered truncheons and torture them. The Turkish government approves of the torture and allows us to follow it. Gays are in fear all the time.

When I was 18, I came to the United States as a student. I started to realize what happened to me and what is happening to the others and is not supposed to happen.

So I came to the point when I said, "The hell with culture, the hell with tradition."

I became an activist. The anti-torolaw in Turkey says, "anyone who speaks against the country in or out of the country can be arrested." I started to do my political work. I wrote letters to newspapers, journalists, and human rights activists are imprisoned in Turkey, I decided to apply for a political asylum in the U.S. based on my homosexual rights.

Last year I was granted political asylum.

While seeking asylum, I researched and found a lot of information about the persecution of gay people in Turkey.

In 1989, during a police raid on the houses of homosexuals, a 17-year-old gay boy committed suicide by jumping from a sixth floor balcony in order not to be tortured by the police chief who had tortured him before.

A Turkish gay leader, Ibrahim Eren, gave a press conference in 1990 and he said that the same police chief had beaten transsexuals. The police chief then stomped on their heads, he said that the breasts of the transsexuals were forced violently and bloody through the skin.

Recently, a gay festival designed to draw attention to gay and AIDS issues was banned by the central government because, "it is against Turkish culture and public morality."

I just like I have, gays in Turkey experience cruel, inhuman attacks from the government. We can't do anything. Gays who report cases are looked down on. I was arrested three times. So it is more and more. The Turkish government meanwhile does a great job of denying and covering up all this torture.

I want to tell the Turkish government that it is not OK to attack, torture, and kill anyone just because they are gay.