

a bill to eliminate the marriage penalty suffered by 28 million American working couples.

The proposal offered by the President to reduce the marriage tax penalty is a good start, but it is not enough. By doubling the standard deduction, only couples who do not itemize their income taxes receive the benefits of tax relief. In order to provide relief to couples who itemize, mainly homeowners, we must address the difference in the income tax brackets. If we follow only the President's plan, the result will be a marriage tax penalty against couples who are homeowners and couples who contribute to charities. This is not right and it is not fair.

Speaker HASTERT and House Republicans have made eliminating the marriage tax penalty a top priority. In fact, we plan to move legislation out of the House before Valentine's Day.

Last year, President Clinton and Vice-President GORE vetoed our efforts to eliminate the marriage tax penalty for almost 28 million married working people. The Republican effort would have provided about \$120 billion in marriage tax relief. Unfortunately, President Clinton and Vice-President GORE said they would rather spend the money on new government programs than eliminate the marriage tax penalty.

This year we ask President Clinton and Vice-President GORE to join with us and sign into law a stand alone bill to eliminate the marriage tax penalty.

Of all the challenges married couples face in providing home and hearth to America's children, the U.S. Tax Code should not be one of them. The greatest accomplishments of the Republican Congress this past year was our success in protecting the Social Security trust fund and adopting a balanced budget that did not spend one dime on Social Security—the first balanced budget in over 30 years that did not raid Social Security.

Let's eliminate the Marriage Tax Penalty and do it now!

MARRIAGE PENALTY RELIEF

• 236 Bipartisan Cosponsors of H.R. 6, 28 Democrats, 22 Members of the Ways and Means Committee

• The proposal being offered today will offer:

- \$182 billion in tax relief over 10 years
- This is \$60 billion more than the proposal vetoed by President Clinton and Al Gore
- This is \$137 billion more than the President proposed last week
- The President's proposal would provide \$45 billion in relief over 10 years
- Basically, doubles the standard deduction
 - Could create a homeowner penalty
 - Provide up to \$210 in relief
 - H.R. 6 will now provide up to \$1,400 in tax relief for 25 million American working couples—an average of about \$800 per couple
 - double the standard deduction
 - widen the 15% bracket to twice that of singles
 - Increase EIC threshold for married couples by \$2,000

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2000

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 8, Tuesday, February 8, 2000, I was absent

due to my husband's illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO PETER H. MACLEARIE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2000

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise to mark the passing of Mr. Peter H. Maclearie of Spring Lake Heights, NJ, who died on Wednesday, December 8, 1999, at the age of 68.

Mr. Maclearie was an outstanding leader in the Jersey Shore community, contributing his talents and energies in both the public and private sectors. He served as the Mayor of Spring Lake Heights for two terms, from 1970 to 1976, having previously been a Borough Councilman from 1963 to 1970. Mr. Maclearie also served as an incorporator and member of the Board of Directors of Allaire Community Bank in Wall, NJ. He was responsible for obtaining federal grants for the development of the Spring Lake Community Center. Among his other contributions to the betterment of our community, Mr. Maclearie was a founding member and past chairman of the South Monmouth Regional Sewerage Authority. He served on various committees of the New Jersey League of Municipalities and was a member of the New Jersey Conference of Mayors and an honorary member of the Municipal Clerks Association.

Indeed, Mr. Speaker, it seems as though politics and community service must be in the Maclearie blood. Mr. Maclearie's father was the Mayor of Belmar, NJ, for 36 years, including a period of time when father and son were mayor simultaneously in adjoining boroughs. His sons, Peter and Paul, are currently municipal councilmen in Tinton Falls, NJ, and Spring Lake Heights, respectively.

Mr. Maclearie was also the president of Coded Systems Corp., which he founded in 1971. His firm specialized in codifying municipal ordinances throughout New Jersey and many other states. He also was the founder and president of Maclearie Printing of Wall, NJ.

A communicant of St. Catharine's Roman Catholic Church in Spring Lake, NJ, Mr. Maclearie also was a member of the church's Finance Committee. He was a member of the Wall Rotary Club, the Belmar Fishing Club, the Spring Lake Golf Club, the Manasquan River Marlin and Tuna Club, and the 200 Club of Monmouth County. He was a charter member of the Manasquan Elks Lodge and the Spring Lake Area Chapter of Deborah Heart and Lung Center.

Born in Asbury Park, NJ, Mr. Maclearie lived in Belmar before moving to Spring Lake Heights 42 years ago. He was an Army veteran of the Korean War, serving as a combat photographer. He was a member of the Spring Lake Post of the American Legion, a life member of the Asbury Park Post Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Richard Skoluda Chapter of Disabled American Veterans, Spring Lake Heights.

Despite his numerous commitments, Mr. Maclearie found time to enjoy life with his family, to dote on his grandchildren, to pursue such hobbies as fishing, boating, camping,

practical jokes—and, of course, politics. He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Florence Yesville Maclearie; three sons and daughters-in-law, Peter and Ann of Tinton Falls, Paul and Eileen of Spring Lake Heights, and James and Nancye of Toms River, NJ; four daughters and three sons-in-law, Michelle and Christopher Wood of Spring Lake Heights, Nancy and Matt Hayduk, also of Spring Lake Heights, Cathleen of San Francisco, California, and Mary Beth and Drew Smith of Phoenix, Arizona; a brother, Timothy of Ocean Grove, NJ; two sisters, Jean Boda of Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, and Judy Gray of Maine; and 10 grandchildren.

In keeping with Mr. Maclearie's dedication to the cause of helping others, his family has asked that, in lieu of flowers, contributions be made to the Deborah Heart and Lung Center or the Peter H. Maclearie Scholarship Fund in Spring Lake Heights.

Mr. Speaker, the Maclearie family is obviously devastated by his loss, as are his many, many friends. I hope that they will find comfort in the many good wishes from people all over, and from the knowledge that Mr. Maclearie did all that he could to make his community a better place.

NONPOINT POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAM

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2000

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Coastal Community Conservation Act and the importance of protecting America's water ways.

Our children's future matters to all of us, and we have a responsibility to leave to them the same beautiful and viable environment that we enjoy today. The Coastal Community Conservation Act is a step in the right direction.

The Conservation Act requires states with approved coastal zone management programs, such as New York, to develop a coastal pollution control program to manage nonpoint sources which affect water quality.

A major feature of a coastal nonpoint control program is that it unites the water quality management expertise of the state water quality agencies with the land use management expertise of the coastal management agency. In order to preserve America's heritage, this unity of water and land conservationist must happen.

The most promising approach is to incorporate pollution reduction and management into the conduct of activities rather than establish separate programs. To do this the following guidelines must be followed: build on existing programs; incorporate state and local government input; and plain common sense.

It is vital that in our zeal to find solutions to our pollution problems that we remember the importance of coordination between the states and the federal government. We all have the same goal: protecting our natural resources. We have some of the most beautiful coastlines and natural resources in the world. The time is now to solve them. And our children and grandchildren will thank us.

HONORING REVEREND DEVIN MILLER, RECIPIENT OF THE 1999 FBI DIRECTOR'S COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2000

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the work of the Reverend Devin Miller. Mr. Miller was recognized as the recipient of the 1999 FBI Director's Community Leadership Award. Since 1990, the FBI has publicly recognized the achievements of individuals and organizations within the area of drug education and prevention by presenting them with the Director's Community Leadership Award. Included in this group of eligible recipients are those individuals or organizations who are actively involved in gang, crime, and violence prevention/education.

This award was presented in recognition of Reverend Miller's work to promote non-violence in Saint Paul. Among his initiatives is the creation of the Black Teens for Advancement youth program, which stresses academics, self-esteem and a nonviolent lifestyle. He recently expanded this program with "Becoming Everything You Set Out to Be," a similar initiative for junior high students.

I commend Reverend Miller for his work with the youth of Saint Paul. His efforts benefit not only the young people with whom he works directly, but also our community as a whole. There is a lot of talk about the growing incidences of violence among teens, what the causes are and how to prevent problems in the future. Reverend Miller has shown through his work, that the best thing we can do is to act, to mentor, and most of all to care about our young people. I applaud his efforts to implement programs that address the concerns and needs of our youth, and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PACIFIC DAILY NEWS AND ITS LONGEST TENURED EMPLOYEES, LEE P. WEBBER, PEPITO C. LADERA AND MAGGIE N. CASTRO

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2000

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, as we all know from direct experience, our relationship, as elected public officials, with the news media is a necessary but not always comfortable one. We are quick to turn to the news to find out what's going on, but we dread facing the cameras and microphones when we ourselves get swept up in newsworthy circumstances. Some of us try to avoid media attention. Some of us bravely face it head on. Some of us are more media savvy than others. Most of us learn from our mistakes. Of course, when we have what we think is good news—something that places us in a good light—we often find ourselves banging on the media's doors for attention.

The news media, the "Fourth Estate," regards itself as the guardian and champion of our First Amendment rights. While the great

debate rages about responsibility, accountability, fairness and where the line lies between the public's right to know and the public's right to privacy, I daresay we all still believe, as Thomas Jefferson held, that democracy cannot flourish without a free press.

With this as my preface, I wish to congratulate Guam's Pacific Daily News on its 30th anniversary. Known affectionately, and sometimes disdainfully, simply as the "PDN," this Gannett-owned newspaper is Guam's only general circulation morning daily, publishing seven days a week. In my district, which is a small island with a small population, where elected officials, media personalities and news reporters are not distanced and insulated from the public at large, the PDN has worked valiantly to report the news as fairly, as accurately, as fully, and as objectively as possible, despite the inescapable network of familial and personal relationships that bind us all together as a small island community.

Mr. Speaker, as a young teacher over twenty years ago, I organized and led a public protest demonstration against the PDN over its English-only publication policy. After several exchanges in the days following, some which were rather heated, we arrived at a compromise: the Daily News would accept non-English advertisement if accomplish by an English translation. In the years since then, the PDN has made commendable efforts to truly reflect the multi-ethnic, multi-cultural island community which it serves. It has recruited reporters locally and supported their continued education and training in journalism. It has a long-established summer intern program and promoted reporting and writing among high school students by devoting an entire section, called "Vibe," for the news and entertainment interests of young people. Now, English translations of foreign language ads are optional. And finally, the PDN routinely fills management positions from within.

Thus, I again congratulate retired editor Joe Murphy, whose "Pipe Dreams" column entertained, antagonized, and inspired many over the years; Managing Editor Rindraty Celes Limtiaco, whose career I been privileged to watch develop; the section editors and reporters who have had to ask me tough questions, have often put me on the spot, and have generally treated me fairly. Lastly, I send special congratulations to the three PDN employees, who, like the newspaper itself, are celebrating 30 years on the job. To Publisher and President Lee P. Webber, who started out as PDN's Circulation Manager; to Comptroller Pepito C. Ladera, who has kept the paper's books and ledgers; and to Senior Account Executive Maggie N. Castro, who could probably run the entire operation singlehandedly, I send my best wishes. Yanggin mauleg che'cho'-ta, mauleg i ma sanggan-ta. When our work is good, good is said of us. Biba, PDN!

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF THE 1ST BATTALION, 103RD ARMORED DIVISION OF THE PENNSYLVANIA NATIONAL GUARD

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2000

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, the community spirit and dedication of National Guard units

are a key to communities throughout the United States, and I want to recognize an especially strong community effort by the 103rd Armored Division based in Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

In particular, their support of Red Cross efforts with the Keystone 500 race and blood drives has been recognized by the Chairman of the local Red Cross Board as extremely significant and in the highest tradition of public service.

The Guard Unit has also helped with the Cambria County Air Show, the Kosovo Relief Project, the Penn Woods Council of the Boy Scouts, the United Way Summer Youth Employment Program, and school efforts on Veterans Day and Memorial Day.

Along with training for their military readiness and providing vital back-up to active duty forces, this kind of community support is in the highest tradition of the Armed Services and of our Nation.

In particular, I want to recognize Major Preston Scott Stape, the Administrative Officer, and the particularly strong work of SFC Donald F. Scholly, SFC Donald F. Williams, SSG James P. Livella, SSG Ronald L. McKelvey, and Mr. David J. Lavigne.

It's this type of service to family, Nation, and community that is such a great part of our Nation's history and continuing strength, and I commend these individuals for their efforts and dedication.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2000

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 10, Tuesday, February 8, 2000, I was absent due to my husband's illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

TRIBUTE TO JERRY W. WEST, SR.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2000

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise to mark the passing of Mr. Jerry W. West, Sr., of Neptune, NJ, who died on Saturday, December 4, 1999, at the age of 73.

Jerry West was an outstanding leader in our community, dedicated to the effort to improve the quality of life for the residents of the Jersey Shore area. He was also a good friend whose support and advice I have always valued. Jerry also worked closely my predecessor, a great Member of this House, the late Representative James J. Howard of New Jersey.

Born in Asbury Park, NJ, Jerry West lived in the Shore area for most of life. He served his country in the Navy during World War II. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration from Monmouth University in West Long Branch, NJ. He went on to earn his doctorate from Temple University, Philadelphia. He was an adjunct professor at his alma mater, Monmouth University. For 20 years, Jerry served as a contract