

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DECLARE INDIA A TERRORIST NATION

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, recently 20 of us wrote to the President urging him to declare India a terrorist nation. India has done a lot to deserve this designation.

In the letter, we expressed our concern about the massacre of 35 innocent Sikhs in Chithi Singhpora, which took place while the President was visiting India in March. Two independent investigations have now confirmed that the Indian Government carried out this atrocity.

After the massacre, the government killed five Kashmiri Muslims, declaring them militants who were responsible for the massacre. Now they have admitted that the Muslims they killed were innocent. When will they admit their role in the massacre itself?

Until the minority peoples and nations of India enjoy freedom, there can be no stability in the subcontinent. It becomes increasingly clear every day that they cannot enjoy that freedom within Hindu India. America can also help to bring freedom to South Asia by cutting off our aid to India and by openly supporting self-determination for the people of the Sikh homeland of Punjab, Khalistan, the predominantly Muslim Kashmir, Christian Nagalim, and the other nations seeking their freedom from India.

Mr. Speaker, I am submitting the letter to the President into the RECORD for the information of my colleagues. It describes the situation in India in much more detail than I can possibly go into here.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, June 15, 2000.

HON. BILL CLINTON, President of the United States
The White House, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: While you were visiting India, 35 innocent Sikhs were massacred in the village of Chatti Singhpora in Kashmir. In recent days it has been reported that the Indian government admitted that the five Kashmiri Muslims it killed as "militants" responsible for the massacre were innocent. The Punjab Human Rights Organization and the Movement Against State Repression recently issued a report showing that the government's counterinsurgency forces, under the command of RAW, the Indian intelligence agency, carried out this massacre. An intensive investigation by the International Human Rights Organization also concluded that the Indian government carried out the massacre. Indian Home Minister L.K. Advani identified the Chatti Singhpora massacre as one of three recent events that have helped strengthen India's standing in world opinion. He implicitly admits that India benefitted from this atrocity.

If India can admit that the Muslims it killed are innocent, when will it admit its own responsibility for the Chatti Singhpora

massacre? This is a terrible atrocity and the United States must condemn it in the strongest possible terms. America must take action to make it clear that these actions are unacceptable.

India has also committed similar acts of terrorism against its Christian population. Recently, six Christian missionaries were beaten by militant Hindu fundamentalists while distributing Bibles and religious tracts as part of a gospel campaign called "Love Ahmedabad." They were beaten so savagely that one of them may lose his arms and legs. In Indore, St. Paul's Church was attacked. These acts are part of a campaign of terror against Christians that has been in full swing since Christmas 1998. Whether one is a Sikh, a Muslim, a Christian, or a member of another minority, there is no religious freedom in India, despite its claim that it is democratic. The essence of democracy is respect for the rights of all people. Our government should work to help bring real democracy to South Asia.

Mr. President, it is time that America takes a stance against these terrorist atrocities by the Indian government. We urge you to add India to the list of terrorist nations. It is also time to stop aid to India until it observes human rights. And we should put America on record in support of self-determination for all the peoples and nations living under India's brutal rule. These are the most effective steps to bring freedom, prosperity, peace, and stability to South Asia.

Sincerely,

DONALD M. PAYNE, M.C.
and others.

DECLARE INDIA A TERRORIST COUNTRY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, a group of 21 of us wrote to President Clinton last month asking him to declare India a terrorist country due to its terror campaign against Christians and other minorities. Since Christmas of 1998, there has been a wave of terrorist attacks against Christians, Christian churches, and Christian institutions throughout India.

No one is ever held accountable for these actions. In fact, Bal Thackeray, leader of Shiv Sena, recently threatened to engulf the entire country in violence if he is held accountable for his part in the 1992 murders of thousands of people in Bombay. Mr. Thackeray's party, Shiv Sena, is a coalition partner of the ruling BJP and both parties are member organizations of the Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS), a Fascist organization with a program of "Hindu, Hindi, Hindutva, Hindu Rashtra"—in other words, Hindu rule. BJP leaders have been quoted as saying that everyone who lives in India must be Hindu or must be subservient to Hindus. Is this democracy or theocracy?

Recently, a group of four missionaries were beaten by Hindu nationalists for their religious

work. They were peacefully distributing religious literature and Bibles. Now one of them may lose his arms and legs. A Catholic priest who came under attack from militant Hindus recently was saved when his landlady, a Hindu, poured boiling oil on the Hindu mob that was attacking him. There have been so many incidents. After the recent murder of another priest, the only eyewitness was picked up by a police official who was under suspension. The witness was hanged in his jail cell. The Indian government ruled that he hung himself, but it seems to be a murder by the police.

Hindus chanting "Victory to Hannuman" burned Graham Stuart Staines, an Australian missionary, and his 8 and 10 year old sons to death as they slept in their jeep. Nuns have been raped, priests have been murdered, churches have been burned and schools have been destroyed. All of these acts, and more, have been done at the hands of militant Hindu nationalists allied with the RSS. No one has been punished for any of these atrocities.

Mr. Speaker, Christians are not the only ones. The Indian government massacred 35 Sikhs in Kashmir during President Clinton's visit to India, then tried to blame Kashmiri "militants." Two extensive investigations have confirmed the Indian government's responsibility.

These latest victims join over 200,000 Christians, more than a quarter of a million Sikhs, over 70,000 Kashmiri Muslims, and tens of thousands of other minorities who have been killed in the Indian government's genocide. Tens of thousands of Sikhs are held without charge or trial, as political prisoners in "the world's largest democracy." Well, if India is really a democracy, it must allow all the peoples and nations under its rule, including the Christians of Nagaland, the Sikhs of Khalistan, the Muslims of Kashmir, and the others, to enjoy self-determination and freedom.

Given its past and present conduct, India must be declared a terrorist country and we should stop giving American taxpayers' money to the Indian government until its religious terrorism and its killing of minorities end and all the peoples and nations of South Asia live in freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert our letter to President Clinton into the RECORD, and I hope my colleagues will read it. It will be very informative.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, June 15, 2000.

Hon. BILL CLINTON, President of the United States,
The White House, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: We are deeply concerned by the ongoing repression of Christians in India. A wave of violence against Christians and that has been going on since Christmas 1998 has intensified recently.

On May 21, a prayer meeting of a Christian women's group was bombed. An investigation by the All India Christian Conference shows that the Sangh Parivar, a branch of the Fascist RSS, the parent organization of the ruling BJP, carried out the bombing, which injured 30, four of them very seriously.

• 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.

Also in May, six Christian missionaries who were distributing Bibles and religious literature were beaten by militant Hindu fundamentalists. One of them may lose his arms and legs due to the savage beating. On April 21 in Agra, a group of Hindu militants affiliated with the Bajrang Dal attacked a Christian group and burned Biblical literature. The Bajrang Dal is a wing of the RSS. In Haryana, three nuns were run down by a motor scooter while they were on their way to Easter services. The RSS recently published a booklet on how to implicate Christians and other minorities in false criminal cases, the *Hindustan Times* reported.

Missionary Graham Staines was burned to death along with his sons, who were 8 years old and 10 years old, while they were asleep in their jeep. The killers chanted "Victory to Hannuman." Hannuman is a Hindu god with the face of a monkey. Hindu nationalists have murdered at least four priests, raped four nuns and kidnapped another, whom they forced to drink her own bodily fluids. More than 200,000 Christians in predominantly Christian Nagaland have been killed by the Indian government. No one is punished for any of these acts.

India has also committed similar acts of terrorism against its Sikh and Muslim minorities, among others. It has killed over 250,000 Sikhs. In March, the government massacred 35 Sikhs in the village of Chatti Singhpora. According to the State Department, between 1991 and 1993, India paid out more than 41,000 cash bounties to police officers for killing Sikhs. India has killed more than 70,000 Kashmiri Muslims and destroyed the most revered mosque in Kashmir. Tens of thousands of Sikhs, Kashmiris, Christians, and others are being held as political prisoners.

Mr. President, America cannot just watch these atrocities happen. We call on you to declare India a terrorist nation. We further urge an end to U.S. aid to India until human rights are enjoyed by all people there. And we ask the United States to support self-determination for all the peoples and nations of the subcontinent. Let the light of freedom shine everywhere in South Asia.

Sincerely,

EDOLPHUS TOWNS, M.C.,
and 20 others.

HONORING WALTER BROOKS FOR
A LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding member of the New Haven community, and my dear friend, Walter Brooks, whose passing has ended a career spanning over four decades—truly an era in New Haven politics. Today, members of the New Haven community will gather to honor the memory of Walter and the lifetime of contributions he has made.

Throughout his life, Walter demonstrated a unique commitment to the families and neighborhoods of New Haven. I had the distinct pleasure of working with Walter on a variety of projects during my career. His charisma and energy never ceased to amaze me. I have often spoke of our nation's need to make communities our first priority by bringing life to projects that create better neighborhoods in which working families can earn a living and

raise their children. Using his myriad of talents, Walter worked hard to achieve these goals. As a state legislator, Walter served as the chairman of the Black and Hispanic Caucus and was appointed to the Select Housing Committee where he worked with State Attorney General Richard Blumenthal to draft the affordable housing statute—helping to ensure that all families would have safe, affordable housing in which to raise their families. With the Hill Development Corporation, Project MORE, and most recently, the Beulah Land Development Corporation, Walter focused his energy on providing some of our communities most vulnerable families with the chance for an irreplaceable opportunity—the chance to own their own home. Serving as the Chairman of the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, Walter has been an integral partner in the recent re-organization of the agency. Tirelessly working to revitalize New Haven neighborhoods, Walter exemplified the activism essential to building strong and vital communities.

Walter was a driving force behind Connecticut politics—locally and statewide. His encouragement and guidance led many minorities to seek and win elected office. A skilled political organizer, Walter committed himself to local and state issues. Serving two terms as an Alderman in the City of New Haven and five terms as a State Representative in the General Assembly, Walter was never afraid to fight for what he believed was right—regardless of where his party may have stood. He has often been characterized as a legislator willing to roll up his sleeves and knock on doors to get people involved. He understood the importance of community participation and made every effort to involve community members in the issues that affected their neighborhoods and families. Walter served on the Board of Alderman for the City of New Haven, along with my mother, Luisa DeLauro. There he was her colleague and her friend. He accompanied her on a trip to Taiwan, and of course I felt better knowing that he was there looking out for her. Walter exemplified what an elected official should be, a role model for many who continue to serve in public office today, and his example will continue to inspire people to ensure their neighborhoods have a strong voice advocating on their behalf.

As a civil rights activist, housing advocate, or political advisor, his efforts have made a real difference in the lives of thousands of Connecticut residents. Walter has left an indelible mark on the City of New Haven and the State of Connecticut. It is with my sincerest condolences and greatest sympathies that I join his wife, Andrea Jackson-Brooks, his children, family, friends, and community members in bidding a sad farewell to Walter Brooks. His memory will long serve as an example to us all—his legacy never forgotten.

OCEANS ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today in supporting the passage of S. 2327, the Oceans Act. We have an excellent

opportunity to initiate a major review of ocean policies in this Nation and to take action to improve our understanding of ocean systems and the ocean environment as a whole.

As a coastal member and co-chair of the Coastal Caucus, I've always been supportive of protecting our oceans and coasts and realize the tremendous benefits they offer all Americans. Our oceans provide us with jobs, food, recreational as well as educational opportunities, medicine, and transportation. Our oceans also play an important role in determining climate.

But all is not well with our oceans. Today, more than half of all 265 million Americans live within 50 miles of our shores. This has put tremendous pressure on our estuaries, coastal zone, and near and offshore areas. In 1998, over 2,500 health advisories were issued against the consumption of contaminated fish. In 1998, over 7,000 beach closings or warnings were issued due to pollution. Harmful algal blooms, like red tides and pfiesteria, have been responsible for over \$1 million in economic damages over the last decade. A 1997 National Marine Fisheries Service report to Congress stated that of the federally managed species for which sufficient data was available, 31% are "overfished." The list goes on and on.

S. 2327 attempts to rectify some of these problems by establishing a Commission on Ocean Policy. This Commission, which is similar to the original Stratton Commission of the late 1960's, will report to Congress and the President policy recommendations for improvements with respect to our oceans, ultimately resulting in a coordinated National Ocean Policy.

In closing Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to vote in favor of this legislation so that we can go to conference and have it signed into law before the end of the session. Cast a vote for our Oceans! Vote yes on the Oceans Act!

COMMUNITY RENEWAL AND NEW
MARKETS ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the New Markets Initiative before the House today. This bipartisan bill provides hope for distressed economic areas that have not benefited from the longest stretch of economic growth since World War II.

Despite unprecedented economic expansion and sustained unemployment levels, many people in inner cities and rural areas continue to live in poverty. Job growth is virtually nonexistent while crime rates continue to increase.

This legislation establishes 40 new "renewal communities" in areas with high poverty and unemployment levels. These distressed areas can qualify for various tax incentives and loan assistance programs.

As a member of the House Small Business Committee, I believe the New Markets Initiative will help jumpstart these underserved communities. Specifically, the New Markets Venture Capital Program which creates a new

class of venture capital funds that target low-to-moderate income communities.

In addition to attracting investors and businesses to these distressed areas, this legislation addresses the housing needs of community residents. One provision, in particular, expands the low income housing credit from \$1.25 per capita to \$1.75 per capita. This tax credit, administered by the states, helps build 90,000 affordable housing units each year. However, the demand for the credits is greater than the supply by three to one. This proposal would help create an additional 180,000 units of affordable housing over the next 5 years for low-income families.

In order to sustain this economic boom, it must benefit everyone. The New Markets Initiative helps achieve this goal by providing the tools and incentives to foster and sustain economic growth in distressed areas.

I urge my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation.

IN HONOR OF BASIL M. RUSSO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Basil M. Russo, recently named the 'Italian Man of the Year' by The Italian Sons and Daughters of America.

Mr. Russo has been closely involved with the social, cultural and political life of Ohio throughout his distinguished career. After graduating from Cleveland Marshall College of Law in 1972, Basil Russo was a prominent member of Cleveland's City Council, serving as a Councilman for eight years between 1972 and 1980. Indeed, in 1978 Basil became the Majority Leader of the council, before leaving to take up responsibilities as a judge in the Court of Appeals, and then a Common Pleas Court judge. Basil's professional life has also included the foundation of his own law firm, Basil Russo & Co., L.P.A., which he still runs to this day, and the production of a feature film entitled Places in 1997.

As this award acknowledges, Basil Russo has also been a vibrant member of the Italian American community at a local and national level. He currently serves as the National Vice-President of the Italian Sons and Daughters of America, the third largest Italian American fraternal organization in the United States. This organization is involved in numerous social and political events that range from sponsoring the Debutante Ball, to owning and operating a senior citizen housing complex. His status in the legal community also means that since 1992 Basil has served as President of the Justinian Forum; the Italian American Bar Association for Cuyahoga County comprising 22 Judges and 250 attorneys of Italian American descent. It is fitting therefore that Basil was also the founding member of the Italian Americans of Northeast Ohio, established in 1994. He has also made a significant contribution to the religious life of Ohio through his co-chairmanship, alongside his wife Patricia, of the Advisory Board of the Department for Marriage and Family Ministry of the Diocese of Cleveland between 1992 and 1995. In fact, Basil still serves as a Lector and Eucharistic Minister at Holy Rosemary Parish.

Basil's talents for film-making and the legal profession have clearly been inherited by his four grown-up children. Anthony, Joseph and Angela are all studying film-making at university, while Gabrielle is studying for a J.D. in law at Basil's alma mater in Cleveland. My best wishes go to Mr. Russo and his family, and I would invite my fellow Congressmen to join me in commending his outstanding achievements in Ohio and beyond.

TRIBUTE TO CENTRAL NEW YORK ORGANIZATIONS VITAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, today marks the historic celebration of the ten-year anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. As a strong supporter of the ADA from the very start, I join with you in reflecting upon all the great changes this law has brought to the disability community.

The ADA is more than access and accommodations. Those are the legal words for what the Act is all about. Quality of life issues are what is really at stake.

Going to the doctor where an interpreter is provided to accurately receive proper diagnosis and treatment. Being able to get to work and perform a meaningful job with assistance. Accessing public transportation for a day or evening out with family or friends. Shopping for groceries or other needed items—these are the type of quality of life issues that the ADA set out to guarantee just ten years ago.

In the Central New York area, we are fortunate to have several agencies that work tirelessly to promote the type of access the ADA protects. In Syracuse, Enable and Arise have fought from the ground level with a "hands on" approach to make this law a reality. They are to be commended. In Cortland, the Access to Independence of Cortland County works to bring services and education to both the disability and non-disability community. And in Auburn, Options for Independence advocates for people with disabilities. In addition, there are numerous individuals across the 25th Congressional District who have contributed to the success of this program.

Some ADA changes are subtle, others more drastic. But in every case their impact has had an immeasurable effect on the quality of life we all enjoy. I take this opportunity to commend all those involved in removing obstacles, eliminating barriers and ensuring equal access for all.

CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION IN INDIA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I recently joined with 20 of our colleagues in a letter to President Clinton urging him to declare India a terrorist state because of its repression of Christians Sikhs, and other minorities. Today in

India, Christians, Sikhs, Muslims, and others are being subjected to a reign of terror at the hands of the Indian government. Since Christmas Day 1998, there has been a wave of persecution and terrorism against Christians in India. Churches have been burned, Christian schools and prayer halls have been attacked, nuns have been raped, and priests have been killed.

Earlier this month, two more churches were bombed in the Indian state of Karnataka, according to a report from Newsroom.org. These attacks came just a month after a Catholic church was bombed in Bangalore. This is a frightening reminder of the resistance to civil rights in the South of the 1950s.

Late last month, a Hindu woman poured boiling oil on a group of militant Hindu nationalists who were attacking her tenant, a Catholic priest. Four Christian missionaries were beaten last month, one so severely that he may lose his arms and legs. These missionaries were beaten for distributing Christian religious literature and Bibles. The RSS, a Fascist organization that is the parent organization of the ruling BJP, has published a booklet on how to implicate Christians in false criminal cases. On Easter, a group of nuns on their way to Easter services were run down by Hindu fundamentalists riding motor scooters. In March, a Sikh family saved some nuns whose convent was attacked by Hindu fundamentalists.

Last month, a women's prayer meeting was bombed by militant Hindu fundamentalists. In April, fundamentalist Hindus attacked a Christian group and burned biblical literature. These are, unfortunately, just the latest incidents in a pattern of oppression of Christians.

The pattern has been long term. Last fall, Hindu fundamentalists aligned with the ruling BJP abducted a nun named Sister Ruby and forced her to drink their urine. Hindus chanting "Victory to Hanuman," a Hindu god, burned missionary Graham Staines to death along with his 8-year-old and 10-year-old sons, while they slept in their jeep. The violence has been carried out by the RSS and other allies and supporters of the BJP government in India and no one ever seems to be punished for these acts.

Sikhs and Muslims have also been targeted, and we should take note of that. In March, while President Clinton was visiting India, 35 Sikhs were murdered in the village of Chithi Singhpora. Two independent investigations have shown that the Indian government carried out this massacre. This, too, is part of a pattern of genocide.

India's campaign of terror against minorities is clearly designed to wipe out the minorities. It is time to declare India a terrorist state and it is time to cut off American aid to India to help strengthen the hand of human rights there. And we should support self-determination for all the minority nations seeking their freedom from India. The predominantly Christian nation of Nagalim, which India holds, is about to begin talks with the Indian government on their political status. I hope that these talks will be the beginning of freedom not just for the people of Nagaland but for all the minority peoples and nations of South Asia.

Strong action must be taken. We should cut off India's aid until human rights are respected. We should demand self-determination for the people of Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagalim, and the other minority nations under

Indian rule in the form of a free and fair plebiscite on the question of independence. That is the way democratic nations do it. Is India the democracy it claims to be or not?

I would like to place the Newsroom article of July 10 into the Record for the information of my colleagues. I urge my colleagues to take a look at it.

TWO CHURCHES HIT WITH BOMB ATTACKS IN INDIA

July 10, 2000 (Newsroom)—Bomb blasts damaged two churches in India's southern Karnataka state over the weekend as Christians across the nation staged marches and rallies to protest sectarian violence.

Early on Saturday a low-intensity bomb exploded at the doors of a Protestant church in Hubli, about 270 miles north of the state capital, Bangalore. Police the blast occurred between 4 a.m. and 4:30 a.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church in Hubli's Keshavapura area, which has a 15,000-strong Christian population. The explosion damaged the church's steel gates and its belfry, but no injuries were reported, police said.

On Sunday an explosion left a small crater and shattered windows in the St. Peter and Paul Church in Bangalore.

The attack in Hubli came exactly one month after a bomb blast shook a Roman Catholic church in Wadi in the north Karnataka town of Gulbarga. Three other bomb attacks on churches occurred on June 8, in the coastal town of Goa and the southern state of Andhra Pradesh. Police say that the attack on Saturday is similar to the June 8 blasts, which are still under investigation.

The federal government blames sympathizers of the Pakistan intelligence agency ISI (Inter Service Intelligence) and claims the neighboring nation is out to destabilize India and drive a wedge between Christians and Hindus.

Church leaders allege, however, that right-wing Hindu groups are behind a series of attacks against India's 23 million Christians, and may be responsible for the latest church bombings. Christians believe many of the Hindu groups are closely connected to near the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which leads the federal government's ruling coalition. A number of marginalized social groups have been victims of radical Hindus who go unpunished by the regime, said Sajan George, national convener of the Global Council of Indian Christians. "It becomes clear from these attacks that whether it is Christians, Muslims, or Dalits, the attacks never end; they are part of the continuing spiral built into the sectarian ideology, out to justify acts of blatant violence and denial of fundamental rights to life, equality before the law, freedom of religion, and freedom of expression," George said after the Hubli church bombing.

In the BJP-ruled northern state of Uttar Pradesh a Roman Catholic priest was murdered last month as he slept in the town of Mathura, near the Taj Mahal. One of the key witnesses to the murder, a cook called Ekka, died mysteriously under police custody.

Bangalore was one, of several state capitals where Christians marched on Saturday in remembrance of victims of religious persecution and in protest of continuing violence. At a rally in Hyderabad on Sunday the president of the All India Christian Council, Joseph D'Souza, read a list of demands to which a crowd of some 100,000 expressed agreement by raising their hands. The demands included state

protection for church property and arrest and prosecution of all who openly engage in hate campaigns against Christians.

The Deccan Herald of Bangalore reported Monday that city police had been directed by the Congress Party-led Karnataka government to step up security churches and other places of worship.

HONORS SERGEANT CARLETON C. "C.C." JENKINS FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to a native of New Haven, Connecticut and outstanding member of the United States Capitol Police, Sergeant Carleton "C.C." Jenkins. Sergeant C.C.—as he was affectionately called by the men and women he supervised—retired from the United States Capitol Police on June 30, 2000 ending a career of dedicated and distinguished service that spanned over three decades.

Before arriving in Washington, Sergeant C.C. served the New Haven community in several ways. Working for the State Highway Department, the City Welfare Department, and the Redevelopment Agency of New Haven, he focused his efforts on enriching our community, building strong neighborhoods where families could raise their children. His good work made a real difference in the lives of many. An active member of the local NAACP, he brought a strong voice to Connecticut during the historical March on Washington. Drafted into the United States Army, Sergeant C.C. proudly served his country during the Vietnam war. It was upon his return from service that Sergeant C.C. decided to leave New Haven for Washington to begin his career with the United States Capitol Police.

As Members of Congress, we owe a debt of gratitude to each Capitol Police officer who protects our safety and that of the visiting public. Sergeant C.C. is certainly no exception. Joining the U.S. Capitol Police shortly after his discharge from the United States Army, Sergeant C.C. demonstrated a unique commitment to public service. The first fifteen years of his service were spent with the House of Representatives, most of those stationed at the horseshoe entrance of the Rayburn Building. With refreshing sincerity and an unforgettable smile, Sergeant C.C. made it a point to get to know Members and their staffs personally. His promotion to sergeant brought him to the Senate side of Congress where he spent the remainder of his career. Over the years, he became an irreplaceable fixture on the Hill by meeting every challenge, regardless of its difficulty, with unparalleled integrity. For thirty-one years, he has upheld and exemplified the mission of law enforcement officials—protecting and serving the people.

Always dedicating his time and considerable energy to others, Sergeant C.C. continued his outstanding record of community service in Washington. For many years he served as a volunteer Director and Vice-Chairman of the Wright-Patman Congressional Federal Credit Union as well as one of the founders and di-

rectors of his local church credit union. Sergeant C.C. has dedicated his career, and indeed his life, to the betterment of his community and neighbors.

Sergeant Jenkins has repeatedly distinguished himself as an outstanding public servant and citizen. I am proud to join his wife, Diane, their children, Carleton Jr. and Jason, family, friends, and colleagues to extend my best wishes for continued health and happiness in his retirement. His legacy will serve as an example for all who serve. Sergeant C.C.—New Haven is proud of you, the congressional community will miss you, and a grateful public thanks you.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE LEON E. COHEN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on July 8, 2000, the Highland Park area of New Jersey lost one of its most distinguished members with the passing of Leon E. Cohen of Highland Park. Mr. Cohen was a man deeply involved with the Highland Park and Franklin Township government. His presence and knowledge will be sorely missed, while his contributions to civic life continue to impact the community.

Mr. Speaker, Leon Cohen's service to Highland Park began in 1991 when he was elected to a borough council seat. During his nine years on the borough council he served as Chairman of the borough council finance committee where he excelled in municipal finance management. Twice during his tenure, Leon served as Council President where he provided outstanding leadership. As Chairman of the finance committee, Leon was responsible for the Finance, Tax, and Court Departments and he also represented the borough council on the planning board and as council liaison to the Library Board of Trustees. Leon's financial expertise saved the Borough of Highland Park tens of thousands of dollars during his tenure in office. Single handedly, he put together a most creative financing package that made possible the Highland Park Public Library expansion project. He also played a major role in developing the finance package that made possible the new Senior/Youth Center in Highland Park.

Leon E. Cohen was born September 9, 1929 in Brooklyn, NY to Russian immigrants Jacob and Bella Cohen. As a student, Leon excelled in math and science at the City College of New York in Manhattan, where he earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry. In 1952, Leon wed Evelyn Schwarz. They became the proud parents of a son, Steven, and two daughters, Ann and Laurie. Leon and his family moved from Brooklyn to the Bronx and then to Franklin Township in Somerset County. He worked for FMC Corporation in Princeton for 41 years before his retirement in 1943, in the process, becoming well published in the chemistry of phosphorous based compounds.

IN HONOR OF LISA M. ANDERSON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay respect to Lisa M. Anderson, a lawyer and political activist who died at the age of 34 last week.

Ms. Anderson was born in Orlando, Florida and graduated from the University of South Florida in Tampa. After college, she moved to Cleveland to attend Case Western University School of Law, where she graduated in 1996. Lisa quickly established herself as part of the community in Cleveland, as a member of the Sierra Club, Amnesty International, the Society of International Law Students, and as a mentor to international law students and first year law students.

While a student, Lisa headed a program to place foreign law students in local jobs. Upon her graduation from Case, she received the Frederick K. Cox International Law Center Award for outstanding service. As an attorney, she was admitted to the bar in both Ohio and Florida.

Lisa Anderson worked on numerous political campaigns, including my own congressional race in 1996 after her graduation from Case. In 1998, she volunteered as a driver for the U.S. Senate campaign of former Cuyahoga County Commissioner Mary O. Boyle, but was soon hired to research issues and draft position papers. In July of that year, Lisa was diagnosed with a brain tumor. She underwent surgery, and soon continued her work on the campaign from her computer at home. A favorite memento from that campaign was a picture with First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton.

After her diagnosis, Lisa focused her attention and energy on cancer research. She participated in the Brain Tumor Lobby Day on Capitol Hill in 1999 where she visited with me and other Members of Ohio's delegation to Congress to help us focus our attention on cancer research and the needs of individuals with brain tumors. Ms. Anderson also participated in, and served on the founding board of The Gathering Place, a cancer wellness facility in Beachwood, Ohio.

I ask you to join me in expressing my deepest condolences to Lisa's family and many friends, and honoring the memory of Lisa Anderson.

JUNE CITIZEN OF THE MONTH

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to name Don Dreyer, the director of the Nassau County Office for the Physically Challenged, as the Citizen of the Month in the Fourth Congressional District for June 2000.

I admire Don's dedication. He has worked so hard to improve the lives of people with disabilities within our community, and nationally.

Don has served in his current position for 22 years. Being disabled, Don understands the

concerns and difficulties of physically challenged individuals. He has strongly advocated for local, state, and federal legislation to improve the independence and productivity of children and adults with disabilities.

Don was a driving force behind the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. He attended the ADA signing ceremony at the White House with President Bush.

In 1996, Nassau County was named the "Model ADA Program" by the National Association of Counties. This was a great honor for Don who, along with his compliance committee, developed the innovative \$21 million project. The program works with organizations so that modifications in their policies and procedures include access by persons with visual, auditory, and other disabilities.

Don developed an outreach program to the private sector on the ADA program. Since 1984, he has been teaching members of the Nassau County Police Academy a curriculum involving their correspondence with persons with disabilities. Don presents programs to the local Chambers of Commerce, as well as hosts and produces the Cablevision series entitled, "Capabilities in Health."

I commend Don for all he has overcome and all he has accomplished. I am honored to give him this recognition he well deserves.

Don lives in Rockville Centre with his wife Barbara. He is a graduate of Hofstra University with a B.A. in English and an M.S. in Counselor Education. Dreyer has served as the Director of Media and Public Relations at the National Center for Disability Services, the Hofstra University Newsletter Editor, and the Assistant Director of University Relations at Hofstra University before becoming the director of the Nassau County Office for the Physically Challenged.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS FOR UNION MEMBERS (DRUM) ACT OF 2000

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Democratic Rights for Union Members (DRUM) Act of 2000. The DRUM Act is a pro-union member bill that helps rank-and-file workers achieve greater democracy within their labor organizations. The bill amends the 1959 Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act (LMRDA), also known as the "Landrum-Griffin" Act. Landrum-Griffin is the only federal statute which deals directly with the relationship between union members and union leaders.

Four decades have passed since the LMRDA became law. There is no doubt this important bill from the 1950s has improved the American workplace. Many of the workforce benefits that Americans take for granted have come from union input representing the views and wishes of hardworking American union members. However, similar to many of our other federal labor laws, there is an antiquated side to Landrum-Griffin that reduces its effectiveness. In many cases, we have seen the law manipulated or ignored by union leaders who have used their power and the financial resources of their labor organizations for per-

sonal gain. In the 105th Congress, under the direction of then-Employer-Employee Relations Subcommittee Chairman Harris Fawell, and continuing during the 106th Congress, the EER Subcommittee has held seven hearings examining in-depth the strengths and failings of Landrum-Griffin. I am happy to report that in the vast majority of American unions, "union democracy" as envisioned by the authors of Landrum-Griffin is thriving. Unfortunately, there are some cases in which union leaders have exploited the current system to the detriment of rank-and-file members.

Following the subcommittee's first four hearings, Representative Fawell introduced the Democratic Rights for Union Members (DRUM) Act of 1998 to begin the process of updating Landrum-Griffin to enhance the democratic rights of union members. The legislation I introduce today builds on Representative Fawell's bill by adding several new provisions addressing additional problems the subcommittee observed during this Congress.

LANDRUM-GRIFFIN BACKGROUND

Few Members of Congress or rank-and-file union members are even aware of Landrum-Griffin's "Bill of Rights." It is important to understand the foundations of union democracy before one can discuss necessary changes.

Today, Landrum-Griffin covers some 13.5 million members, in more than 30,000 unions having more than \$15 billion in assets. Congress passed the LMRDA as a response to public outcry resulting from revelations of corruption and racketeering in the labor movement. This corruption came to light in the late 1950s, during three years of hearings in the Senate Select Committee on Improper Activities in the Labor and Management Field, chaired by Senator John L. McClellan. The authors of the LMRDA believed that promoting democracy within unions would reduce corruption and strengthen the labor movement by providing union members more control over their own union affairs.

Clyde Summers, Jefferson B. Fordham Professor of Law Emeritus at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, who sat on a panel of experts convened by then-Senator John F. Kennedy to draft a union members' Bill of Rights (the basis for Title I of Landrum-Griffin), eloquently summarized the intent of the law in testimony before the EER Subcommittee on March 17, 1999:

The whole focus of the Landrum-Griffin Act was to protect the democratic rights of members as an instrument of collective bargaining. There was a guiding principle to limit governmental intervention to the minimum, to limit intervention in terms of union decision-making, to leave unions free to make their own decisions. But this was to be accomplished by guaranteeing the democratic process inside the union on the logic, the philosophy, that if the union members made these decisions on their own, that if these were democratically made, this gave a legitimacy to these decisions.

Landrum-Griffin contains six titles. The first title, the foundation upon which the rest of the legislation is constructed, contains a union member Bill of Rights mandating various rights: to information, to free speech, to free association, and to protection from undue discipline. Title II governs reporting and record-keeping by labor organizations. Title III provides a framework for trusteeships. Title IV lays out requirements for elections of union officers, including specific time frames within

which elections must be held. Title V outlines the fiduciary duties of union officers. Title VI provides a variety of additional requirements, and grants general investigatory powers to the Department of Labor.

THE AMENDMENTS

The bill I introduce today includes several amendments to Landrum-Griffin. Each of these changes will have a positive impact on the everyday lives of union members. Those unions that treat their members fairly will not be affected at all. The legislation introduced today is not an exhaustive list of reforms. There are other changes that Congress may want to consider in the future, but the DRUM Act represents a very productive starting point.

My bill provides: enhanced notification to union members of their rights under the LMRDA; increased authority for the Department of Labor to enforce the notification rights of union members; a requirement that governing bodies hold a hearing before imposing a trusteeship on a subordinate body; authorization for bona fide candidates for elected union office to receive a list of eligible voters; a requirement for direct election of certain authority-wielding officers of intermediate union bodies; a clarification of the term "reasonable qualifications" to allow more union members to participate in the election process; and an improved standard governing circumstances in which elections must be re-run following fraud or abuse.

ENHANCED NOTIFICATION RIGHTS

The DRUM Act addresses real problems that have come to the subcommittee's attention during our hearings or through recent court rulings. For example, the legislation requires unions to periodically notify all members of their Title I rights. Some unions, as incredible as it may sound, have argued that a one-time notification of rights under the LMRDA given decades ago satisfies the current law requirement to "inform its members concerning the provisions of" the Act (29 USC § 415).

This issue was the subject of a recent Fourth Circuit case. (*Thomas v. Grand Lodge of Int'l Ass'n of Machinists*, 201 F.3d 517 (4th Cir. 2000)). In *Thomas*, union members sued the International Association of Machinists to require the union to distribute to each member a summary of their rights under Landrum-Griffin. The union claimed that they had fulfilled the notification requirements in 1959 when they distributed the text of the recently-passed law. Incredibly, the district court had agreed with the union leadership despite the fact that most, if not all, of the members were not members in 1959. Fortunately, the Fourth Circuit overruled the district court, and determined that the one-time notification was not sufficient, but stopped short, however, of enumerating what "sufficient notification" entails. My bill clarifies the notification obligation, by requiring the Secretary of Labor to promulgate regulations that provide enhanced guidance to union organizations on how best to inform their members of their LMRDA rights. After all, if union members are not aware that they have rights, they will be unable to exercise them.

"REASONABLE QUALIFICATIONS" IN UNION ELECTIONS

An additional line of court cases prompts another provision in DRUM. There is conflicting appeals court precedent on the issue of what constitutes a "reasonable qualification"

(29 USC § 481 (e)) in order to be eligible to run for elected union office. Earlier this year, the First Circuit ruled against the Department of Labor, after the Department sued a local union over an election rule which barred 96 percent of the local's members from running for office (*Herman v. Springfield Mass. Area, Local 497, American Postal Workers Union*, 201 F.3d (1st Cir. 2000)). The court held as reasonable a requirement that union members attend three of the previous nine union meetings in order to run for office. This court decision contradicts a ruling from the D.C. Circuit in 1987, in which a union's election rule was considered unreasonable primarily because it disqualified a large percentage of union members (*Doyle v. Brock*, 821 F.2d 778 (D.C. Cir. 1987)).

In *Herman*, the Majority all but requested that the Department of Labor adopt a regulation using a specific percentage standard. I believe it is the responsibility of the Congress to enact such a requirement, rather than to require the administration to take on the nearly impossible task of interpreting Congressional intent and balancing that intent with contradictory court opinions. As such, the legislation introduced today lays out a clear standard by which election rules will be judged as reasonable or unreasonable. The legislation simply says that any rule excluding more than half of a union's members from running for office is not reasonable. This bright line will benefit union members, candidates for union office, and incumbent union leaders equally, because by removing ambiguity, we will enhance union democracy and reduce potential internal strife.

CONCLUSION

The workplace of the 21st Century is vastly different from that existing 40 years ago. Workers and employers are working together toward a common goal, rather than continuing the adversarial relationship which characterized the last century. This evolution in the workplace has reduced industrial strife, and has increased productivity, profits, and, most importantly, the satisfaction and pay of workers.

This same collective strategy is key to the effective operation of internal union affairs. The days of well-heeled union bosses, using their members to enrich themselves at the expense of worker advancement are quickly ending. Unions, which provide workers with camaraderie, personal support—both inside and outside the workplace—and a means to improve their lives, are enriched as members achieve true democracy within their labor organizations. Enhancing the ability of rank-and-file members to take a greater responsibility for how their union operates solidifies the positive impact unions have on the workplace and the lives of working men and women.

HONORING IRVING B. HARRIS FOR
A LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENT
ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to stand today to honor a remarkable individual who has left a lasting mark on our Nation and its children. I am hon-

ored to pay tribute to Irving B. Harris as he celebrates his 90th birthday on August 4, 2000.

Irving's leadership and commitment is inspiring. His passion and advocacy have led the fight for policy development on behalf of very young children and families, attention to the physical and mental health of pregnant women and mothers of infants and toddlers, the prevention of violence, the training of a competent infant/family work force, and the building of effective community-based programs. He is as well-respected as a leading voice for children as he is as a corporate leader. After entering the business world following his graduation from Yale University, he served with both the Board of Economic Warfare and the Office of Price Administration during World War II. He has served in executive capacities for several well-known companies, including the Toni Home Permanent Co., and the Pittway Corp.

However, Mr. Harris is best known for his commitment to improving the chances of disadvantaged children across this country. His many contributions and determined advocacy for the well-being and development of infants, toddlers, and their families are legendary. He was instrumental in creating and establishing such well-respected institutions as the Erikson Institute and the Ounce of Prevention Fund, as well as the highly ambitious Beethoven Project, which has served as models for the development of training and service programs across the country. He helped to establish Zero to Three, a national nonprofit charitable organization whose mission is to strengthen and support families, practitioners and communities to promote the healthy development of babies and toddlers. He was the moving force in the establishment of the Harris Graduate School of Public Policy Studies at the University of Chicago. His vision and leadership have earned him appointments to the National Commission on Children and the Carnegie Corporation of New York's Task Force on Meeting the Needs of Young Children. For his efforts, Irving has been awarded 10 honorary degrees.

He has been, and continues to be, a champion for children and families everywhere. It is with great pride that I rise today to congratulate Irving. I also would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation for his many contributions and best wishes for continued health and success. Our Nation's children thank you and wish you a happy birthday.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J.D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, July 20, 2000, I missed rollcall votes 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, and 428 because I was attending to congressional business in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 421, "no" on rollcall vote 422, "aye" on rollcall vote 423, "no" on rollcall vote 424, "no" on rollcall vote 425, "no" on rollcall vote 426, "aye" on rollcall vote 427, and "aye" on rollcall vote 428.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CHRONIC
ILLNESS CARE IMPROVEMENT
ACT OF 2000

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, in our aging society, it is beginning to dawn on millions of Americans across the country that chronic illnesses are now America's number one health care problem. Yet because our health care system has been designed around meeting the needs of acute, not chronic illness, our system of services for those with Alzheimer's, diabetes, and other major conditions is both fragmented and inadequate.

To be successful, 21st century health care must be reorganized to maximize the intelligent use of those protocols and procedures that can most effectively control and slow the rate of chronic illness progression. This can only be accomplished if treatment for chronic conditions is consciously and carefully integrated across a range of professional providers, caregivers and settings.

This integration of services for chronic illness care is at the heart of the Chronic Illness Care Improvement Act of 2000 that I am introducing today.

It is a major bill, designed to focus debate on the need to provide comprehensive and coordinated care for people with serious and disabling chronic illness. I am introducing this Medicare measure this summer to invite comments, ideas and suggestions for refining this bill so that it can be re-introduced at the beginning of the 107th Congress, with bipartisan sponsorship. The bill I am introducing today is the result of months of consultation and work with numerous senior, illness, and health policy groups. I hope that it will receive the endorsement of many groups in the days to come.

The bill has four titles and is phased in over a number of years. Why? Because we know a lot about the management of chronic illness—but in truth, the comprehensive national program that is so desperately needed will require long range planning and implementation in phases.

Therefore, Title I creates a temporary Commission to study and recommend solutions to the complex issues involved in coordinating and integrating the diversity of healthcare services for the chronically ill.

Title II lays the groundwork for a full, comprehensive care program by establishing the databases and infrastructure we will need to provide high quality care to those with chronic illness.

Title III launches two major prototype chronic disease management programs—one for diabetes and the other for Alzheimer's disease. Once we learn from the experience of these two prototypes, the Act calls for expansion to a high quality national program for management of other serious and disabling chronic illnesses.

Title IV promotes coordination of care for dually eligible beneficiaries by streamlining the processes of obtaining waivers and determining budget neutrality of combined Medicare and Medicaid programs.

WHY A PROGRAM TO IMPROVE THE CARE OF
CHRONIC ILLNESS IS NEEDED

Do you know someone who has diabetes, high blood pressure or a heart condition? Perhaps someone who is important to you suffers from arthritis, asthma or Alzheimer's disease. All of these problems have one thing in common—they are chronic illnesses. Once these problems begin, they stay with you and many of these problems inevitably progress over time. What most people don't know is that chronic illness is America's highest-cost and fastest growing healthcare problem accounting for 70 percent of our nation's personal healthcare expenditures, 90 percent of all morbidity and 80 percent of all deaths.

Yet while chronic disease is America's number one healthcare problem, care for those with chronic illness is provided by a fragmented healthcare system that was designed to meet the needs of acute episodes of illness. We cannot deliver 21st century healthcare with a system that was designed a half century ago, before angioplasty or bypass surgery for heart disease and before L-dopa for Parkinson's disease.

Medical discoveries like these have transformed many illnesses from rapidly disabling conditions to chronic conditions that people live with for a long time. But the healthcare system that works for a devastating heart attack does not work for chronic illnesses that need a totally different group of services, including long range planning, prevention, coordination of care, routine monitoring, education, and self-management.

The acute care model is a mismatch for the needs of chronic disease and the result is that people with chronic conditions receive healthcare that responds to crises rather than preventing them. The fact is we know a lot about the natural course of chronic illnesses like diabetes and arthritis. We have learned the all-too-common scenarios that result in complications such as an amputation in the diabetic or a stroke in the person with uncontrolled hypertension. Delaying stroke by 5 years would yield an annual cost savings of 15 billion dollars, yet we continue to shortchange the ounce of prevention that is worth a pound of cure.

The patients know what is wrong with the system—they tell us our healthcare system is disjointed and a nightmare to navigate. They want more information about their condition, more emotional support, and more control of their care. They deserve better communication and integration of care amongst their many healthcare providers who currently function to deliver separate and unrelated services, even though they are providing care to the same person.

But none of this will happen in a medical system that does not reward quality of care for chronic illness. Our healthcare system does not reward preventive care or continuity of care. Neither do we reward early diagnosis, interdisciplinary care, emotional counseling or patient and caregiver education.

The cornerstone of quality healthcare for chronic illness is long-range planning and prevention, yet the Congressional Budget Office currently has no mechanism to measure cost-effectiveness over extended periods of time. Unless we recognize that an upfront investment in the early and middle stages of chronic illness will pay dividends over the long term, we will continue to be caught in the vicious cycle of responding to crises rather than anticipating and preventing them.

There is increasing recognition of the looming problem of providing long-term care to the growing number of senior citizens, but little awareness that better care of chronic

illness beginning at the time of diagnosis is the most effective strategy to prevent the progression of disability and loss of independence. Join me in supporting The Chronic Illness Care Improvement Act of 2000 to bring excellence to the care of chronic illness, just as Medicare has already achieved for acute illness. This legislation will put our emphasis where it belongs—on proactive strategies that will prevent complications and disability before they happen.

This is a systems problem that requires a systems solution. Disease management of chronic illness will only succeed if financial, administrative and information systems are developed to support it. Our current healthcare system locks into place fragmentation and duplication of services. We must strive to align financial incentives among healthcare providers to achieve common care, quality and cost objectives. We can improve the quality of care while reducing costs by reducing duplicative and unnecessary services and by preventing complications and loss of independence.

The healthcare challenge of this new century is to design a Medicare system that meets the needs of persons with serious and potentially disabling chronic illness. The medical discoveries of the 20th century have dramatically prolonged the life expectancy of persons with all types of chronic conditions. In the 21st century, our challenge is to reduce the progression of disability and to improve the functional status and quality of life of persons with chronic illness.

INVITATION FOR COMMENTS

Mr. Speaker, reforming our health care delivery system to improve the care of chronic illness is a complex and major undertaking. Therefore, I want to repeat my comments that I am introducing this bill today to solicit comments and ideas from across the Nation. Today's bill is just the first round in a major initiative to improve this part of our health care system. I look forward to additional ideas and suggestions.

Following is a section-by-section description of the proposal.

THE CHRONIC ILLNESS CARE IMPROVEMENT
ACT OF 2000 BILL SUMMARY

I. The bill charges a congressionally-appointed National Commission with development of a Medicare policy agenda that provides for an integrated, comprehensive continuum of care for serious and disabling chronic illness. Among its responsibilities, the National Commission on Improving Chronic Illness Care will:

Raise public awareness about how and why chronic illness care should be improved;

Investigate the barriers preventing integration of care for the chronically ill and establish baseline data for benchmarking future progress in reducing the prevalence of chronic conditions and healthcare costs;

Establish direction for integrating the delivery, administration and finances of chronic care services.

III. The bill lays the groundwork for a national program of coordination and integration of care for serious and disabling chronic illness through initiatives addressing:

Prevention of Disease and Progression of Disability: Preventive services under Medicare are expanded. Research is also expanded into risk factors associated with the progression of disability. A public awareness campaign on prevention of chronic illness is established and bonus payments are offered to reward plans and providers that meet targets for reducing disability.

National Targets for Improving Chronic Care: HHS will develop a national database for long-term planning and measurement of outcomes; will set national goals to reduce the prevalence of chronic illness; and will develop outcomes measures for analysis of

long-term effectiveness of interventions that prevent chronic illness, complications and disability.

Coordination and integration of health services across different care settings: Common patient assessment instruments—are developed to integrate care across settings. Medicare and Medicaid—services for dually eligible beneficiaries are coordinated by streamlining the processes of obtaining waivers and determining budget neutrality for these programs.

Adequate manpower, education and expertise in chronic illness: Expand training opportunities where shortages of physician's with chronic illness expertise exist and HHS-sponsored, Internet-based national resource centers are set up to serve chronic illness patients and providers.

Managed care bonus programs for excellence in integration of chronic illness care: Bonus payments are provided through Medicare for the development of comprehensive programs serving chronically ill beneficiaries. Specifically, disability prevention programs that achieve prevention goals, improve quality or perform research into delaying the progression of disability or preventing disease-related complications are funded.

Development of methods of cost assessment that make sense for long goals and outcomes: Methodologies to measure long range costs of comprehensive disease management programs that prevent chronic illness, delay disability, and prolong independence are developed and implemented by HHS.

III. The bill implements a nationally Phased-in program of comprehensive integration and coordination of care for serious and disabling chronic illness by:

Establishing-Prototype models for comprehensive disease management of two chronic illnesses, diabetes and Alzheimer's disease in 2003, that will be used as the basis for expanding in 2007 to other serious and disabling chronic illnesses, including hypertension, heart disease, asthma, arthritis, multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease.

These comprehensive disease management programs known as The National Initiative to Improve Chronic Illness Care include these key components: Best practices and evidence-based clinical guidelines, Interdisciplinary care, Case management, Disability prevention, Patient and caregiver education to foster self-management, Medication monitoring, Integrated administrative and financial services, Integrated information systems.

THE SCIENTIFIC CERTAINTY IN SENTENCING ACT OF 2000

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the "Scientific Certainty in Sentencing Act of 2000." As the Chairman of the House Science Committee, I have had the opportunity to see first hand the amazing changes that take place each day in various fields throughout the science world. Advancements in DNA testing are no exception. Each advance brings a new degree of accuracy.

The legislation I am introducing today will allow convicted federal criminals the use of DNA testing. This would be allowed for those who did not have the opportunity to use DNA testing during trial or those who can show that

a new technologically advanced DNA test would provide new evidence in their case.

Whether this new testing results in an exoneration, reduced sentence, or a reaffirmation of the conviction, we can all rest assured that the rule of law is upheld and that truth and justice have prevailed.

This legislation allows the great strides that have come, and will come, in the field of biological science to be utilized so that we may ensure that we are keeping the correct people behind bars. The bill is not a vehicle for frivolous appeals, but rather to allow all relevant facts to be shown in each case, which can only benefit all parties involved.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in promoting the use of the best technological advances in regards to convicted federal criminals.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, due to unavoidable circumstances, I was forced to take a medical leave of absence from the House of Representatives after 7:00 p.m. on July 20, 2000. I respectfully request that how I would have voted had I been able to be present for votes be submitted and accepted into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD at an appropriate place as follows:

On Rollcall Vote 421, an amendment offered by Representative VITTER, Adding \$25 Million to the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program, had I been able to be present I would have voted aye.

On Rollcall Vote 422, an amendment offered by Representative DELAURO to allow federal funds to pay for abortions under the Federal employee health benefit program by striking Section 509, had I been able to be present I would have voted no.

On Rollcall Vote 423, an amendment offered by Representative TOM DAVIS of Virginia to add a new section prohibiting funds from being used to carry out the amendments to the Federal Acquisition Regulation relating to responsibility considerations of Federal contractors and the allowability of certain contractor costs, had I been able to be present I would have voted aye.

On Rollcall Vote 424, an amendment offered by Representative RANGEL to add provisions to the bill prohibiting funds from being used to implement Public Law 104-114 which codifies the economic embargo of Cuba, as in effect on March 1, 1996, had I been able to be present, I would have voted no.

On Rollcall Vote 425, an amendment offered by Representative SANFORD to add provisions to the bill which prohibit the use of funds from being used to enforce part 515 of the Code of Federal Regulations (the Cuban Assets Control Regulations) with respect to any travel or travel related transaction, had I been able to be present, I would have voted aye.

On Rollcall Vote 426, an amendment offered by Representative MORAN of Kansas to prohibit funds in the bill from being used to implement any sanction imposed by the United States on the private commercial sale of medi-

cine, food, or agricultural product to Cuba, had I been able to be present, I would have voted aye.

On Rollcall Vote 427, an amendment offered by Representative HOSTETTLER to prohibit the use of funds to enforce, implement, or administer the provisions of the settlement document dated March 17, 2000, between Smith and Wesson and the Department of the Treasury, had I been able to be present I would have voted aye.

On Rollcall Vote 428 for final Passage of the Fiscal Year 2001 Treasury Postal Appropriations, had I been able to be present I would have voted aye.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE BARBARA ROSE ISLEY

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the memory of Barbara Rose Isley, who died last week after decades of dedicated community service in my district.

Mrs. Isley and her late husband, Mason, were founding members of the Camarillo Citizen Patrol, a citizens organization that helped the Camarillo Police Department with stakeouts, traffic control, crowd control, searching for lost or missing people and Kid Prints.

She was known by her handle "Ding-Dong Lady" because she sold Avon products, an occupation she pursued for 35 years and for which she had achieved the honor of being a member of the President's Club.

Through the years Mrs. Isley helped transform the Citizen Patrol from members patrolling in their personal vehicles wearing civilian clothes to the currently marked Citizen Patrol cars and uniforms. She was the unit's secretary from its founding until her death last week. During that time she guided eight Deputy Advisors as they took over the helm of the Citizen's Patrol.

The Camarillo Citizen Patrol was the first disaster assistance team for Camarillo. Mrs. Isley and other members received training in first aid; shelter management; damage assessment surveys of fires, floods and earthquakes; and aiding the victims. One of Mrs. Isley's favorite stories about the Citizen's Patrol occurred in mid-1999.

A series of vehicle burglaries were committed at a Camarillo hotel from February to July 1999. A two-month surveillance was launched. Mrs. Isley and another member, who were armed with binoculars and a two-way radio and stationed in a hotel room overlooking a parking lot, watched as three suspects broke into a van and took a computer case. She radioed to deputies who were nearby in unmarked cars. The suspects were quickly captured and booked into jail on multiple counts of burglary, conspiracy and possession of stolen property. A further investigation revealed that the three suspects were responsible for approximately 40 similar crimes along Highway 101 from Los Angeles to Santa Barbara.

Mrs. Isley graduated from the Citizen's Academy in November 1998 and was honored as the Camarillo Citizen Patrol Member of the Year for 1998.

Avon and the Citizen Patrol were not Mrs. Isley's only passions. She was also a member of the Camarillo Christian Church and a volunteer for the American Red Cross for more than 20 years.

She was also a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in honoring the memory of Barbara Rose Isley as a woman of strength and dedication whose work will continue to have a positive effect on her community, her friends and her family.

JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF TERRORISM ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3485, the Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act. This legislation strengthens federal laws designed to combat state sponsored terrorism, and I am pleased that it is finally coming before the entire House for a vote.

The United States justice system is the envy of the world. We pride ourselves on affording due process to all who come before the court while simultaneously ensuring that no one is above the law. Confidence in our judiciary is the cornerstone of our democracy. Citizens need to know that if they are harmed, the government will stand behind them. This confidence is especially important when Americans are abroad.

This principle was behind passage of the 1996 antiterrorism bill. The legislation gave American citizens injured by an act of terrorism the right to bring a private lawsuit against the terrorist state responsible for the act. Three years later Congress approved legislation which allowed the attachment of assets of terrorist states to satisfy judgements. The President was given a waiver in that bill which allowed him to block attachment of assets if it was in the interest of national security.

H.R. 3485 allows victims of terrorism to satisfy judgements against foreign states by allowing assets frozen by the U.S. to be subject to attachment. The bill shields diplomatic property from attachment, but does not protect any property which has been used for any non-diplomatic purpose including rental property.

This issue has special importance for me because a native of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania has been trying to achieve some justice in this area of the law since his kidnaping almost 15 years ago. Mr. Joseph Cicippio was an employee at the American University in Beirut. On September 12, 1986, he was kidnaped by terrorists and held hostage for five years under terrible conditions including threats of death, physical violence and brutal interrogation.

In 1997, Joseph Cicippio brought a suit under the 1996 terrorism bill against the Islamic Republic of Iran for his injuries. He received a judgement for \$20 million in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Unfortunately, he has not received any portion of this judgement. The Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act would go a long way toward help-

ing Mr. Cicippio and other plaintiffs like him who together have over \$650 million in judgements against Iran. This bill sends a signal loud and clear that justice for U.S. citizens will not stop at the water's edge.

FAMILY FARM SAFETY NET ACT

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased to join Representative DAVID MINGE of Minnesota in introducing the Family Farm Safety Net Act. The Family Farm Safety Net Act is designed to permanently extend the availability of marketing assistance loans, raise the loan rates of all commodities and make the loan rates more equitable with each other. This legislation, which is supported by the National Farmers Union, the North Dakota Farmers Union, and the National Barley Growers Association, will go a long way in providing additional assistance to our nation's family farmers.

As we all know, our nation's federal farm policy has been a disaster, mostly because of its removal of a price safety net to protect our nation's farmers in times of low prices and bad weather. In many ways, the Northern Plains and especially my home State of North Dakota represents ground zero in the farm crisis, having experienced the twin evils of production loss caused by severe weather and rock-bottom commodity prices.

In 1996 when Congress passed Freedom to Farm, farm prices were at near record highs. In 1996, wheat was \$4.30 per bushel, soybeans were at \$7.35 per bushel, and corn was \$2.71 per bushel. Total net farm income for 2000 is projected to be only \$40.4 billion, nearly \$14 billion below what it was in 1996. And, according to the University of Missouri's Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute (FAPRI), by 2009, net farm income will fall to \$37 billion if the current farm program is not changed. Moreover, in 2000, direct government payments through the form of Agricultural Market Transition Act (AMTA) payments and market loss assistance payments will be more than \$16 billion, nearly 40 percent of total farm income.

I opposed this legislation because of my fear of exactly what we are seeing now—the abysmal collapse of commodity prices and the lack of a safety net to protect farmers. At the time, opposing Freedom to Farm was not a politically popular position. Many believed that the opponents were afraid of change and not willing to allow the farmer to take advantage of the free market. Today, 4 years after its passage, my fear has come true. Wheat is now selling at \$2.54 per bushel—a 40 percent drop in price. Corn is now selling at \$1.36 per bushel—a 50 percent drop in price, and soybeans are now selling at \$4.82—a 34 percent drop in price.

Our legislation is quite simple. It raises the loan rate levels of all commodities by making the loan rates more equitable and extends the lengths of the terms of the loan period from 9 to 20 months. Our legislation restores a price safety net by creating loan rates that are more reflective of producers' costs of production and by providing producers with more

time to best determine when to sell their grain in today's volatile market.

Under our legislation the loan rate for wheat, which is the largest commodity grown in North Dakota, will be raised from \$2.58 per bushel to \$3.40 per bushel. Through this increase in the loan rate for wheat, North Dakota's family farmers will see an average of nearly \$19 per acre more in a loan deficiency payment (LDP) for their wheat. And, if the Family Farm Safety Net were law during the 1999 crop year, North Dakota wheat producers would have received an additional \$200 million in LDPs.

This legislation makes the loan rates for all the commodities more comparable to each other. Under the current farm bill, the loan rate for soybeans is \$5.26 and the loan rate for wheat is only \$2.58. This distortion in loan rates is causing the market to become distorted because many producers are being forced to grow soybeans as their only hopes of "breaking even." As a result of this distortion in loan rates, soybean acreage in the United States has grown more than 10.5 million acres to all-time record of 73.1 million acres since the passage of the farm bill. No other example of this is more evident than in my home State of North Dakota where soybean acreage has grown by more than 100 percent since the passage of the farm bill.

As Congress begins to consider alternatives for its next farm bill, I believe the Family Farm Safety Net is the right step to provide a safety net for America's producers who have suffered so severely the last four years. I look forward to working with my colleagues on our efforts to assist our nation's family farmers.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JAMES EDISON BROWN

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a wonderful man, Dr. James Edison Brown. Dr. Brown was a terrific physician and a loving family man. I have had the privilege of working with his daughter Trinita on transportation issues in the House of Representatives, and I can attest that this apple has not fallen far from the tree. Dr. Brown's list of accomplishments is endless. However, contributions to his community and his triumph over the barriers of a society which tried to limit him are what impress me most. It is with honor and sadness that I pay tribute to Dr. James Edison Brown.

I submit the following passage for the RECORD:

Dr. James Edison Brown, the first black Ophthalmologist trained in the state of New Jersey, died Friday June 30, after a short illness.

Born in Camden, South Carolina, the youngest son of the late Willie Carlos and Mamie Ballard Brown, he graduated as the valedictorian of Jackson High School at age 15 and made his way from the segregated South to New York City with less than \$20 in his pocket.

Brown hoped things would be better in the North. While he worked to convince the best universities in New York City to admit him, he took a variety of jobs in an effort to save

money for college. One of his jobs was as a waiter at one of the elite men's clubs at the time. Amid the laughter and ridicule of his fellow wait staff, Brown persevered.

In 1951, Uncle Sam called and Brown served honorably in the Intelligence Division of the United States Army in Europe. When he returned from Europe, he entered and graduated from New York University with a degree in Biology in 1956. Later that summer he married Theresa Hundley of New York City.

Undaunted, Brown faced continuing resistance to his efforts to gain admission at the nation's top medical schools. Brown returned to Europe to pursue his medical education. He attended the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Paris, France, the University of Lausanne, Switzerland and the University of Vienna, Austria. While abroad, he was able to complete his Master's Degree in Biochemistry from Columbia University in New York City.

Upon his return, Brown decided to enter medical school at Howard University in Washington, DC to pursue his dream of becoming an orthopedic surgeon. In his third year of medical school, Brown suffered a near fatal car accident, spent eight months in the hospital and lost a year of medical school. This event changed his career in two ways. First, because of his injuries to his leg, he would not be able to stand for the long hours that orthopedic surgery often demands. Secondly, because of the skills of the eye surgeon who treated him during the accident, he decided to become an ophthalmologist. Brown graduated from medical school in 1964.

Dr. Brown returned to the New York metropolitan area with his young family. After his internship in Staten Island, he was admitted to the residency program in Ophthalmology at the New Jersey College of Medicine. In 1970, Dr. Brown completed the program as Chief Resident to become the first black Ophthalmologist trained in the state of New Jersey, where he remained on the faculty until his passing.

Dr. Brown maintained a practice in New York and New Jersey for over 30 years. He was affiliated with many of the top hospitals in the metropolitan area. For the next 30 years, Dr. Brown distinguished himself and was honored by many medical and scientific societies including becoming a Fellow in the American College of Surgeons and a Fellow in the International College of Surgeons. He is also listed in *Who's Who in America* and *Who's Who in Physicians and Surgeons* among others.

His quiet determination and kind demeanor led Dr. Brown to many leadership positions in various fraternal, civic and social organizations including, the Lions Club, the H.M. Club (Hundred Men Club of America), the Norjermen, Sigma Pi Phi (The Boule) and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, where he was a member for almost 50 years.

Dr. Brown cared deeply for his church and church family at New Hope Baptist Church in East Orange, New Jersey. He was able to share his medical skills in innovative ways. He was active in the prison ministry and he helped establish the New Hope Baptist Church Health Ministry. Under his leadership, many church members became certified in CPR.

Dr. Brown leaves to cherish his memory, Theresa Hundley Brown, his wife of almost 44 years; his son Dr. Terrence Edison Brown of Stockholm, Sweden; his daughter, Trinita Evon Brown, Esq. of Washington, DC; his son-in-law, Peter Niel Thomas of Washington, DC; his god-children: Jinene Foye, Brandon Costner and Sheree Gaddy; his brothers, John Brown and Leroy Brown; his

sisters: Alice Brown Gadsen, Odell Brown Crouch, Orlee Brown Gibbs, Alberta Brown, Janie Mae Brown; sisters-in-laws Charlotte Brown and Ethel Brown; three aunts, many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, cousins, and many family and friends.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. JAN KARSKI,
COURIER OF HISTORY AND IMMORTAL HERO

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Jan Karski, who sadly passed away on July 13, 2000, at the age of 86 in Washington, DC. I have little doubt that my colleagues will agree that Dr. Jan Karski is perhaps an unknown, yet irrefutable hero for his courageous and selfless actions during World War II. Under the height of Nazi Germany's occupation, Karski flirted with torture and execution to give the disbelieving free-world knowledge of the unspeakable crimes committed in Eastern Europe. It now gives me great honor to tell Jan Karski's courageous story to the U.S. House of Representatives.

After completing his education in several social sciences, Jan Kozielski entered the Polish diplomatic service in 1938. Given the covert nature of his service, Kozielski changed his name to Jan Karski—a surname he retained for the remainder of his life. Karski could not have entered diplomatic service at a more perilous time, as Poland was being devastated via Hitler and Stalin's secret agreement to overthrow the democratic nation. In August 1939, Karski was captured by the Red Army and sent to a Russian prison camp. Three months later, he luckily escaped Russia and returned to Poland to join the anti-Nazi Underground organization.

In Poland, Jan Karski would use his eidetic memory, knowledge of foreign countries and fluency in four languages to serve the Polish resistance, humankind and history. For roughly 3 years, he served as a courier between the Polish government-in-exile and the Underground authorities in Poland. During arduous journeys through the Tatra Mountains bordering Czechoslovakia, Karski often traveled in disguise as a German officer, or merely eluded border patrols. In 1940, the courier was actually arrested and tortured by the Gestapo in Slovakia, but was later rescued by underground forces.

Karski's most heroic actions undoubtedly occurred around September 1942. In a July 1988 Washingtonian interview, Karski recounted that representatives from two Jewish underground organizations informed himself of Hitler's "Final Solution." Knowing that direct evidence would be far more convincing, Karski was smuggled into the Warsaw ghetto twice, which had suffered a virtual eradication of the Jewish population from 450,000 to 50,000. With the help of the resistance, Karski, dressed as a military fighter, witnessed actual mass murders at the Izbica death camp in Eastern Poland.

In late 1942 and 1943, Jan Karski reported to western governments regarding the genocide. In August 1943, he personally spoke with a disbelieving President Roosevelt, Henry

Stimson, Cordell Hull, and other high government and civic leaders in the United States.

Unfortunately, Jan Karski was soon proven to be tragically correct, as nearly one-half of the 6 million European Jews were murdered in Nazi-occupied Poland. In his 1944 bestselling book, *Story of a Secret State*, Karski recounted his witness of "horrible things—horrible, horrible things." After the war, Karski refused to return to his homeland, as the Polish Underground continued to be murdered under Communist rule.

After attaining a doctorate at Georgetown in 1952, Dr. Karski taught at the local university for 40 remarkable years, and guest lectured on behalf of the U.S. Government on several occasions. In 1954, Dr. Karski honored Americans by becoming a fellow citizen. Not surprisingly, the freedom fighter was awarded numerous citations by several governments. He received Poland's highest civic decoration, and twice its highest military award for bravery in combat. In addition, Dr. Karski is an Honorary Citizen of the State of Israel. Furthermore, five universities around the world have given him honorary degrees.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Jan Karski and his story should never be forgotten. I hope that my words today will help refresh Americans' memory of a holocaust that occurred not too long ago. Most importantly, I urge all young Americans to learn the story of the holocaust and World War II. In 1816, Thomas Jefferson wrote: "Enlighten the people generally, and tyranny and oppressions of body and mind will vanish like evil spirits at the dawn of day." Colleagues, let us continue toward that enduring goal.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF DEACON JOHN SIDNEY (SID) HOLLAND

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Deacon Sid Holland, a long-time friend and colleague of mine, who departed this life on July 5, at the age of 92 after sustaining injuries in an automobile accident. He was a Mason and served as past Master of King Tyree Lodge No. 292 and was a Charter member of the Fairfax County Democratic Party. Sid was a small business owner of the J. S. Holland Sand and Gravel Hauling Co. He was a hard worker and a dedicated family man.

Born on August 13, 1907, in Palmyra, VA, Sid was one of 10 children born to the late John and Mary Odie Holland. As a young man, Sid came to Fairfax County seeking employment and subsequently joined the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church. He also became involved in a number of civic and social organizations. Sid was a natural leader transition Fairfax County through the Civil Rights revolution. Sid always was respected for his ability and friendly demeanor.

As a dedicated member of the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church for over 65 years, Sid served as Sunday School Superintendent, Chairman of the Deacon Board, Trustee and member of the Senior Choir, Usher Board, Pinkett and Chairman Emeritus of the Deacon

Board. He was also active in the Northern Virginia Baptist Association and the Mount Vernon Baptist Association. Sid knew God and the work of the church and he translated this into his daily life.

In addition to his church activities, Sid was an officer and member of the Mount Pleasant Lincolnia Association, Harelco Land Developments, Higher Horizon Day Care Center, Fairfax County-Wide Black Citizen Association, Fairfax Human Rights Commission and the Manassas Educational Foundation. He also served on a special commission of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors charged with writing County Housing Hygiene Code and on a Citizen's Advisory Committee to establish a Housing Authority. His efforts to promote desegregation in Fairfax County are recognized in the recorded history of the county and won him plaudits from leaders of both parties. In addition, he was the longest serving member of the Fairfax County Human Rights Commission, where he continued to advocate for the minority rights amid a growing and diverse minority population.

In closing Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure and honor to speak of Deacon Sid Holland on the House floor today. He will be greatly missed but remembered for his service to his community and dedication to his family. Sid is survived by his wife of 17 years, Constance; his two children, J. Sidney, Jr. of Washington, DC and Dr. Dorothy Mann Mazzola of Seattle, WA; two stepchildren, Solomon Lee of Lakeridge, VA, and Bernice Lee of Falls Church, VA; three sisters, Vera Marshall and Mamie Bruce of Palmyra, VA, and Bertha Payne of Washington, DC; a host of nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. His first wife, Susie C. Holland, passed away in 1982. He leaves a legacy of racial progress that will long be remembered in Fairfax.

COMMUNITY RENEWAL AND NEW MARKETS ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I very much support the legislation we are now considering. H.R. 4923 is one of the few bills we are going to enact this year on a bipartisan basis, the revenue loss is reasonable, and it will provide a good deal of help for communities trying to turn themselves around and increase economic activity within their neighborhoods. CO

This bill does a lot, but frankly it could do quite a bit more. There is overwhelming support for legislation to immediately increase the low-income housing tax credit and the private activity tax exempt bond volume cap. The bill makes a very modest step forward in both areas, and I appreciate that very much, but by no means are these provisions sufficient. And given the fact that both bills have over 350 cosponsors each, there is no political or partisan reason why a full immediate increase in the credit and the bond cap could not have been put in this bill at this time.

Mr. Speaker, I am supporting this bill. However, I intend to work as hard as I can to see to it that when the conference report comes back to the House, both the tax credit and the bond volume cap provisions are significantly improved over the provisions that are contained in H.R. 4923 today. Many States are like mine, Mr. Speaker, with good, solid projects backed up and waiting for an allocation. Under current limits, the allocations are simply not there. It would be a crying shame, Mr. Speaker, if in the current budget situation we ignored their pleas and did not provide the necessary assistance right away.

GUAM OMNIBUS OPPORTUNITIES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2462, the Guam Omnibus Opportunities Act. The bill provides the authority for the Federal Government to transfer back to the Government of Guam land owned by the United States. Land in Guam was acquired by the United States for military use in the years following World War II. The bill assures that the Government of Guam has the first opportunity to acquire excess Federal land in Guam.

In addition the bill has a provision that is important to the State of Hawaii. The bill authorizes the Governor of Hawaii to report to the Secretary of the Interior annually on the financial and social impacts on the State of the compacts of free association with the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau. The Governors of Guam, Samoa and the Northern Marianas are also authorized to make such reports. The Secretary of the Interior is required to review the reports and forward them, together with any comments of the administration, to the Congress. The bill authorizes the Secretary to conduct a census of Micronesians for each of the impacted jurisdictions where the Governor requests one and authorizes a total of \$300,000 for the censuses.

The reporting requirement improves current law by requiring the Department of Interior to consider the reports of Hawaii and the other jurisdictions affected by the compact of free association, comment on them and forward them to the Congress. While the most important issue is to provide Hawaii and other jurisdictions affected by the compacts of free association with necessary aid as a result of the compacts, this provision helps assure that the needs of the jurisdictions are placed before the Congress. The reports will assure that Congress is aware of the needs of Hawaii and its Pacific neighbors as a result of the compacts.

THE UNIVERSAL EMPLOYEE STOCK OPTION ACT OF 2000

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague from California, Mr. MATSUI, in introducing the Universal Employee Stock Option Act of 2000. The bill would add another leg on the stool for employee retirement by providing another means of accumulating assets. What does the bill do? The bill would add two incentives to encourage the granting of stock options to all employees.

First, the proposal provides for a tax deferred form of employee stock options, which are only taxable when the stock is sold—a combination of ordinary income and possible capital gain accumulated after the option is exercised. The deferral aspect would provide a powerful incentive to the employee to hold the stock for the longer term. Importantly, the employee pays for the stock, through payroll deductions, with pre-tax dollars—not unlike a section 401(k) plan. The maximum employee pre-tax contribution to an option plan would be \$10,000 per year.

Second, the bill would provide a deduction to the employer for the fair market value of the stock at the time of exercise—the exact same amount the employee would report as ordinary income when the stock is sold.

The deduction by the employer at the time the option is exercised is offset by the ordinary income reported by the employee at time of sale. There would be a revenue cost associated with the deferral of reporting of the ordinary income until sale, versus the deduction by the employer at time of exercise. Of course, any gain to the employee at sale which exceeds the ordinary income portion would be taxed as capital gains. The bill provides for adequate safeguards and procedures to track the sale of stock and reporting thereof to the IRS.

Why do we need such a change? As article after article has pointed out, executive compensation keeps accelerating at a much faster pace than regular compensation. The market place will, as time moves along, maintain some control over the executive compensation. But this proposal is a way to help the ordinary working person.

In the 105th Congress, I introduced a stock option bill. I believe this new bill is an improved version because (1) the new bill covers substantially all employees, (2) the total deferral of the tax to the employee, plus purchase with pre-tax dollars, strongly encourages participation and long-term retention of the stock, and (3) the bill encourages employers to offer the tax-deferred compensation in the form of stock options by giving the employer a deduction for the value of the stock at the time of exercise.

The approach in this bill is primarily designed to attract the non-highly compensated employee, and would be an effective way to address the compensation gap and provide long-term security for the employee. We encourage our colleagues to join us by cosponsoring this legislation.

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS TO THE INTEGRITY LODGE NO. 79 OF THE ORDER OF ITALIAN SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA'S 65TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Integrity Lodge No. 79 of the Order of Italian Sons and Daughters of America on the occasion of its 65th anniversary.

The Integrity Lodge No. 79 was founded in 1935 by Gabriel Falleroni and received its charter on March 31, 1935. Integrity Lodge No. 79, which began with approximately 60 members, now serves as a cultural resource for hundreds of Italian-Americans. It has been a bastion for unity for all members of the Italian-American community in Allegheny County.

The Lodge has been housed in the same location, Mile Lock Lane, since 1951, where it continues to hold its weekly meetings up to this day. Dedicated to promoting ideals of good citizenship and brotherly love, it is committed, and has been from the very beginning in 1935, to furthering the principles of liberty, unity and duty among the community.

Western Pennsylvania was fortunate to receive its share of the western European settlers who immigrated to the United States in the early 1900's, many of whom were Italian immigrants. Due to the large number of Italian immigrants, western Pennsylvania was exposed to a wonderful new culture and was able to reap its benefits with the help of organizations such as Lodge No. 79. For years, members of the Integrity Lodge promoted Italian heritage by introducing all aspects of Italian culture to the community, including Italian games such as bocce. Let it be noted that members of the Lodge were very proficient in bocce and were extremely enthusiastic participants in the game. Members of the Lodge were such avid players that they eventually created their own Bocce League. Through the work of its current president, Mrs. Greco, and many others at Integrity Lodge No. 79, the emphasis on Italian culture and traditions continues to flourish.

Integrity Lodge is known throughout Allegheny County as not just an Italian-American organization, but as an outstanding member of the community. Since its conception, the Lodge has taken an active part in civic and community functions. It has been noted for its generous contributions to several charitable organizations in Allegheny County.

And so it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Integrity Lodge No. 79 of the Order of Italian Sons and Daughters of America, past and present, on the celebration of its first 65 years, with best wishes for the next 65, and beyond.

ON THE DEDICATION OF RED ARROW PARK TO THE MEMORY OF THE FAMED RED ARROW DIVISION

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, 83 years ago in July, National Guard units from Michigan and Wisconsin were formed into the 32nd Division. These units traced their heritage back to Spanish American War, with a few even dating back to the famed Iron Brigade, a veteran unit of Civil War fighting that was so terribly decimated on the first day of the Gettysburg battle.

The 32nd Division would soon earn its designation as the Red Arrow Division in major fighting in major offensives in World War I. It was reactivated during World War II and sent to the South Pacific, where the unit took part in six major engagements.

The Red Arrow Division was among the first units serving occupation duty in Japan, and was reactivated again as a result of the Berlin Crisis in 1961.

As a result of army reorganization, the unit now carrying the famed designation is no longer a division but instead is a mechanized brigade, the 32nd Infantry "Red Arrow" Brigade.

Mr. Speaker, while this history of the famed "Red Arrow" unit is available to anyone with a computer and access to the Internet, an important part of the Red Arrow history was lost for many years.

In 1945 the city of Marinette, Wisconsin, the twin city of my home town of Menominee, Michigan, named a beautiful piece of shoreline Red Arrow Park in honor of the fighting unit in which so many of its sons had served. This honor extended to soldiers from Upper Michigan, as well—men like my father-in-law, Ken Olson, from Escanaba, or the late Fred Matz, an honored veteran from Menominee.

But the community forgot where the name came from. Red Arrow Park was just another park—an attractive one and a great place to launch a fishing boat or hold a family reunion—but a park whose heritage had been lost.

On July 30 this situation will be remedied. In a special ceremony spearheaded by local veteran Richard J. Boye of Menominee, the community will dedicate a monument that firmly links the Red Arrow combat unit to Red Arrow Park.

This event will greatly enhance the community value of the park, Mr. Speaker. Red Arrow Park will remain an important place where families can gather in peace and freedom, where children can run and play, cooled by the breezes of Green Bay. Now, however, they will be reminded of the many residents of northern Wisconsin and Upper Michigan who served in the Red Arrow Division in two great wars and the Cold War to preserve peace and freedom.

I thank our veterans for their years of service, and I especially thank our local veterans who organized the July 30 dedication. Their efforts today in setting up this beautiful monument will help future generations remember all their comrades who have served so well.

INTERNATIONAL RESERVE POLICE OFFICER ASSOCIATION EXCHANGE PROGRAM

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend the International Reserve Police Officer Association Exchange Program. This program provides a unique opportunity for reserve police officers from American cities and towns to share information and go on patrol with their counterparts in other nations. The Association allows for the open exchange of reserve policing concepts between countries and between individual reserve officers.

This year marks the fifth year of the International Reserve Police Officer Association exchange program. Their 2000 international conference will be held in the United Kingdom. Officers from my home state of Michigan representing the Oakland County Sheriff's Department, Waterford Township and the City of Dearborn will visit Wales and England in August. The reserve police officers will patrol with both regular and special officers of the South Wales Constabulary, the Metropolitan Police and the City of London. A formal conference will be held on August 31 at New Scotland Yard.

I wish to extend to each officer, from both America and the United Kingdom, my sincere appreciation for their efforts in strengthening the bond of friendship and professionalism among reserve police officers. These individuals risk life and limb every day by volunteering their services to the public. Their dedication and hard work in protecting the public are to be enthusiastically saluted.

ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMUNITY ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE ACT OF 2000

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Community Access to Health Care Act of 2000, legislation I am introducing to help our states and communities deal with the crisis of the uninsured.

Over 44 million Americans do not have health insurance and this number is increasing by over a million persons a year. Most of the uninsured are working people and their children—nearly 74 percent are families with full-time workers. Ten percent of the uninsured are in families with at least one part-time worker. Low income Americans, those who earn less than 200% of the federal poverty level or \$27,300 for a family of three, are the most likely to be uninsured.

Texas is a leader nationally in the number of uninsured, ranking second only to Arizona. About 4 million persons, or 26.8 percent of our non-elderly population, are without insurance.

The uninsured and under-insured tend to be more expensive to care for. They fall through the health care cracks. They put off going to a doctor until it is too late—and then they go

to the emergency room. Instead of having available the wide variety of preventive measures and checkups that those of us with insurance take for granted, the uninsured often ignore the symptoms of what might be larger problems because they simply cannot afford to go to the doctor.

According to research done by the Kaiser Family Foundation, nearly 40% of uninsured adults skip a recommended medical test or treatment, and 20% say they have needed but not gotten care for a serious problem in the past year.

Uninsured children are at least 70% less likely, Kaiser reports, to receive preventive care. Uninsured adults are over 30% less likely to have had a check-up in the past year, uninsured men 40% less likely to have had a prostate exam and uninsured women 60% less likely to have had a mammogram than compared to the insured.

The uninsured are at least 50% more likely than the insured to be hospitalized for conditions such as pneumonia and diabetes. Unfortunately, the uninsured are more likely to be diagnosed with fatal diseases at significantly later stages than are those with insurance. Death rates from breast cancer are higher for the uninsured than for those with insurance.

In many American cities, towns and rural areas, there is general agreement that—something needs to be done to track, monitor and serve the uninsured. We all pick up the tab for the uninsured in the end—why not have communities join forces to attack this problem on a local level? Why not spend our tax dollars wisely and invest in prevention rather than spend them foolishly paying for emergency room visits or lengthy hospitalizations?

The Community Access Program (CAP) embodies this idea; it stems from a very successful Robert Wood Johnson Foundation-funded project that showed that community collaboration increased access to quality, cost-effective health care. Last year, the Clinton Administration proposed and Congress passed the Community Access Program as a \$25 million demonstration effort. This year, over 200 applications were received for approximately 20 grants. Obviously, the need for and the interest in this program is great.

The Community Access to Health Care Act of 2000 will authorize the Community Access Program for five years. It gives competitive grants to communities to help more uninsured people receive health care and to ensure that communities join forces to map a strategy for counting and dealing with the uninsured.

Funding under CAP can be used to support a variety of projects to improve access for all levels of care for the uninsured and under-insured. Each community designs a program that best addresses the needs of the uninsured and under insured and the providers in their community. Funding is intended to encourage safety net providers to develop coordinated care systems for the target population.

The majority of the CAP funds will be used to support expenses for planning and developing an integrated health care delivery system. A small portion of the funds may be used for direct patient care if there are gaps to putting together an integrated delivery system.

Applications for the CAP demonstration project were due this past June; 208 were submitted by groups from 46 states and the District of Columbia. Applications were evenly

distributed between urban and rural areas, and six were submitted by tribal organizations. About three fourths of applications came from communities with rates of uninsured persons higher than the national average of 14%. Half of applications came from communities with rates of uninsured persons greater than 20%. Close to 90% of applications target all uninsured persons in an area.

Perhaps the best way of explaining how CAP can improve a community's health care networking is to paraphrase from the application submitted from a group in Houston. The lead applicant, Harris County, is the third most populated county in the nation and the most populated county in Texas with about 3.2 million residents. Close to 50% of our residents are Anglo, about 18% are African American, about 27% are Hispanic and about 5% are Asian. The Asian population is the fastest growing, followed by Hispanics and African Americans.

According to Harris County's proposal, "population growth and an economic boom have enhanced the overall wealth and employment opportunities of the community. It has, however, also resulted in greater economic disparities between the privileged and the economically disadvantaged. The numbers of uninsured and under insured are on the rise."

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission estimated that in 1999, 25.5% of the total population in Harris County—834,867—was uninsured. Of this total number, the applicants have targeted three populations: First, they will target those with incomes under 200% of the federal poverty level (428,369 persons). Second, they will target those with incomes over 200% of the federal poverty level (301,000 persons). Third, they will target those who are under insured (328,183 persons).

According to Harris County, the primary focus of this project is to improve the inter-agency communication and referral infrastructure of major health care systems in the city. This will improve their ability to provide preventive, primary and emergency clinical health services in an integrated and coordinated manner for the uninsured and under insured population. Harris County will place particular emphasis on the development and/or enhancement of the existing local infrastructure and necessary information systems.

In addition to expanding the number and type of providers who participate in collaborative care giving efforts, Harris County would establish a clearinghouse for local resources, care navigation and telephone triage to increase accessibility and reduce emergency room care. The clearinghouse will receive referrals of uninsured patients from health service providers and patient self-referrals. The consortia will give special attention to health disparities in minority groups. It will establish a database for monitoring, tracking, care navigation and evaluation. In Harris County, it is expected that this initial support from grant funds would become self-sustained through contributions from participating providers, especially smaller primary care providers who can rely on the centralized triage program for after-hours response.

Harris County will also develop a plan to allow private and public safety-net providers to share eligibility information, medical and appointment records, and other information. The program will beef up efforts to make sure fam-

ilies and children enroll in programs for which they might be eligible, including Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). In addition, Harris County would facilitate simplified enrollment procedures for children's health programs.

Among those participating in the Harris County group are the Asian American Health Coalition, the Baylor College of Medicine's Department of Family and Community Medicine, Communities Conquering Cancer, Community Education and Preventive Health, the Dental Health Task Force of the Greater Houston Area, the Gulf Coast CHIP Coalition, the Harris County Budget Office, the Harris County Hospital District, the Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services, the HIV Services Section, the Homeless Services Coordinating Council and the Houston Health and Human Services Department.

Also part of this consortia are the Mental Health/Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County, the Ryan White Planning Council, The Assistance Fund, The Rose, and the University of Texas's Health Science Center's Department of Internal Medicine.

What does this group hope to accomplish? It has four goals.

1. Establish a county-wide communication and referral system accessible to Community Health Partners, Affiliates, Clients and Funding Resources.

2. Document referrals from the Community Health Access Clearinghouse to Community Health Partners, Affiliates and Funding Resources.

3. Decrease the rate of non-emergency use of emergency rooms.

4. Increase the numbers of low-income persons with insurance coverage.

This group's plan—and it's a great one—is just one of 208 that were submitted to HRSA this June. Unfortunately, since funds exist only for about 20 projects, Houston and other cities and rural areas may get turned away unless Congress acts to pass the Community Access to Health Care Act of 2000.

Putting together the CAP application was the first step in building new collaborative efforts for many groups. I have heard of instances where providers serving the same populations in the same towns had never sat down at the same table together. Once they do, and once they begin to exchange information and ideas, great things can happen.

We in Congress have argued for years about the federal government's role in ensuring access to affordable health care. I believe that some type of universal care should be a priority for the long term. For the short term, however, authorizing the CAP program will place much-needed funds in the hands of local consortia who, working together, can help to alleviate this crisis—town by town and patient by patient. I am pleased to note that this legislation has also been included as part of Rep. Dingell's FamilyCare Act of 2000, of which I am a cosponsor.

In closing, I would like to recognize a person whose dedication to this effort has led to the introduction of this legislation today. Dr. Mary Lou Anderson, from the Health Resources Services Administration, actually came out of her retirement to oversee the CAP demonstration project. Her dedication to this project, and to the health of America's families and children, is commendable.

HONORING THE MINNESOTA RIVER
BASIN JOINT POWERS BOARD**HON. DAVID MINGE**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. MINGE. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize five years of outstanding work by the Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board to coordinate the clean up of the thirty-seven county Minnesota River Basin.

Since its inception in 1995, the Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board has been able to build progressive and trustworthy relationships among agricultural production, conservation, sporting, and environmental interest groups. They have also been instrumental in building sustainable relationships with local, state, and federal government agencies in order to advance the cause of a restored, fishable, and swimmable Minnesota River.

The Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board has also been extremely helpful in promoting the Minnesota River Basin's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program. Minnesota River CREP hopes to retire and restore 100,000 acres of flood-prone farmland in order to improve water attributes in the Basin and the larger Mississippi River Basin as a whole. Furthermore, their ability to thoughtfully and even-handedly coordinate the needs of thirty-seven counties regarding watershed team tributary strategies has been important to the success of this basin-wide initiative.

I would also like to recognize this group's Executive Director, Steve Hansen, as a tireless and articulate advocate of water quality improvement and the State of Minnesota's continuing environmental commitment to its rivers and natural resources.

In conclusion, I would like to stress the importance of the integrative and comprehensive watershed planning that the Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board is engaged in to promulgate and implement successful recovery of this important natural resource—the Minnesota River.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF AMBASSADOR
BIRABHONGSE KASEMSRI**HON. DANA ROHRBACHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, this week, a long-time friend of the United States, Ambassador Birabhongse Kasemsri, known as Bira to his friends, passed away in his hometown of Bangkok, Thailand. I last saw Ambassador Kasemsri, 65, in 1999 during a visit I was honored to have with Thailand's King Bhumibol, whom Bira served as His Majesty's principal private secretary. In service to his King and country, Bira, was granted three decorations, including Knight Grand Cordon of the Most Noble Order of the Crown of Thailand [Highest Class].

Too often, American policymakers underestimate the importance of our strategic alliance with Thailand, which extends to our Civil War when the King offered President Lincoln a herd of fighting elephants from the Royal Thai military. Ambassador Kasemsri reinforced

the strategic relationship during the height of the post-Vietnam Cold War period, during his exemplary service as Thailand's ambassador to the United States. In addition, during the early 1980's while he served as Thailand's ambassador to the United Nations, Bira was a hero of the Reagan doctrine in Southeast Asia by protecting Thailand from communist aggression. During that time, Bira was instrumental in arranging for noted military historian and journalist Al Santoli—who currently serves as my foreign policy advisor—to visit areas of Thailand that were under attack by the Soviet-backed Vietnamese communist army and their surrogates from Cambodia and Laos. Thanks to the sponsorship of Ambassador Kasemsri, the articles that Al wrote for the *New Republic* and *Parade* magazines on the threat to Thailand directly contributed to the cessation of chemical warfare in Indochina and the withdrawal of the Vietnamese occupation forces in Cambodia.

On behalf of my wife Rhonda and I, and my colleagues who have had the pleasure of working with Ambassador Kasemsri over many years, I extend deepest sympathy to his wife, Rampiarpha and their three children. I believe that the seeds of solidarity that Bira sowed during his many years of representing The Royal Government of Thailand in America will lead to further development of the friendship between the governments and people of Thailand and the United States.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE
MACEDONIO A. PADILLA**HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with particular sadness that I offer this memorial tribute to Mr. Macedonio A. Padilla of Pico Rivera, California, a politically active citizen of the 34th Congressional District. Mac Padilla served his community with an inspired passion for education, insisting on the importance of broadening the horizons of young minds.

Born in Los Angeles, California, on September 12, 1929, Mr. Padilla grew up with his family in the greater Los Angeles community. Having not completed his high school education, he enlisted in the United States Army and served his country in World War II.

He had two daughters, Sylvia and Margaret, with his first wife, Antolina Barba, whom he married in 1950 and divorced some years later. As a single man, he was employed at the Los Angeles Times and later at Farmer John's Meat Distributors.

In 1997, Mr. Padilla finally met the love of his life. He and his new wife, Lilian Aguilar, were fortunate to have her daughter from a previous marriage, Theresa, and were later blessed with Rosalie, their only daughter together. Mr. Padilla raised his four daughters, as well as his twelve grandchildren, teaching them that academic excellence was most important. Putting in much of his personal time and effort into his ideas, he was an assistant at South El Ranchito Elementary School. He loved to educate children. He was also a prominent voice with the local city officials and legislative members.

Even in his eventual health conditions, Mr. Padilla spoke his mind when it mattered most.

He made it his life-long goal to help improve his community to the best of his abilities.

Macedonio Padilla passed away on July 18, 2000. He is survived by his four children, their spouses, and his twelve grandchildren: His constant devotion to the members of his community, his family, and his country will forever be remembered.

Mr. Speaker, I extend our sincere sympathy to his family and ask God's comforting graces for them in their time of sorrow.

HONORING THE CLARK COUNTY,
ARKANSAS REUNION PICNIC**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, today I speak of a group of people who share a common history and a rich heritage. On July 29, my hometown of Flint, Michigan, will be the site of the Clark County, Arkansas Reunion Picnic.

Following the Civil War, many former slaves settled in an area of Clark County called "Okolona." They had endured slavery by developing and strengthening their bond with God, and with each other. Regularly, they would gather at Rome Spring Hill where they would sing, pray, and eat together as a community. They began to depend on each other as a family.

This tradition continued until the end of World War II, as many Americans moved from southern agricultural communities to the more industrialized cities of the North. Residents of Clark County often moved together in groups, allowing them to retain the bond they had established for so many years. In 1974, the tradition of the Clark County Reunion was resumed in the Northern states. This picnic has since become an annual event, held in five locations around the country, Clark County, AR, Chicago, IL, Seattle, WA, Los Angeles, CA, and Flint, MI. The last time the Reunion Picnic was held in Flint was 1995, and the Flint delegation was joined by over 500 members of their extended family, and they anticipate repeating this accomplishment, if not surpassing it.

Mr. Speaker, the Clark County Reunion Picnic serves many purposes. It provides an opportunity for family to come together, intensify old bonds, and forge new ones. It gives the younger members a chance to learn of their ancestry, and grow emotionally and spiritually. I am proud to know that Flint is a central point in their effort to maintain a strong sense of unity. I am pleased to ask my colleagues in the 106th Congress to join me in congratulating all the Reunion participants.

AZERBAIJAN'S PARLIAMENTARY
ELECTIONS**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce a resolution calling on the Government of Azerbaijan to hold free and fair parliamentary elections this November. After a

series of elections marred by irregularities, the upcoming election will help define the country's political orientation and its international reputation. Is Azerbaijan developing towards Western-style electoral democracy or mired in the Soviet pattern of controlled voting results? The answer to that question is important for the United States, which has significant strategic and economic interests in Azerbaijan.

At age 77, Azerbaijani President Heydar Aliiev is the most experienced politician in the former Soviet space. Since returning to power in 1993, he has created a semi-authoritarian political system that features highly centralized, hands-on presidential rule, with constant positive coverage in the state-run media. President Aliiev controls all branches of government and the state's instruments of coercion. His implicit bargain with Azerbaijan's citizens offers stability in return for unquestioned predominance. While Azerbaijan's constitution enshrines separation of powers, neither the legislature, judiciary, press nor opposition parties may challenge President Aliiev's hold on power. Indeed, in an interview published in last Sunday's *New York Times*, he openly said, "I will always be president here."

Opposition parties function, publish newspapers and have some representation in parliament. But they have no access to state media, which portray them negatively, and their opportunities to influence the political process—let alone actual decision-making—are carefully restricted.

With respect to elections, Azerbaijan's record has been poor. The OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) monitored the 1995 and 1998 parliamentary and presidential elections, and concluded that they did not meet OSCE standards. Council of Europe observers harshly criticized the first round of the local elections in December 1999, though they noted some improvements in the second round. These flawed elections have exacerbated the deep distrust between the government and opposition parties.

On May 25, the Helsinki Commission, which I chair, held hearings on the upcoming election, in which Azerbaijani Government representatives and opposition leaders participated. At that time, the main bone of contention between them was the composition of the Central Election Commission. During the hearing, a government spokesman announced that Baku was prepared to let government and opposition members veto the other side's nominees for the Commission posts set aside for independents, a major step forward. In fact, that assurance subsequently turned out to be not entirely reliable when the hard bargaining began in Baku, with the mediation of the ODIHR. Nevertheless, the agreement eventually reached did give opposition parties an opportunity to block decisions taken by the pro-presidential majority and was acclaimed by ODIHR as a fair and necessary compromise.

Since then, unfortunately, the process has collapsed. Azerbaijan's parliament passed an election law on July 5 that did not include amendments recommended by the ODIHR to bring the legislation into accord with OSCE standards. The law excludes an opposition party registered in February 2000 from fielding a party list; other problematic aspects include territorial and local election commissions which are effectively under government control, the restriction of voters' rights to sign peti-

tions nominating more than one candidate or party, and the right of domestic observers to monitor the election.

President Aliiev claims that he proposed modifications to the election law but parliament refused to accept them. This assertion, considering his hold on the legislature—where a loyal, pro-presidential party controls over 80 percent of the seats—is simply not plausible. In any case, if he did not approve of the law, he could have vetoed it. Instead, he signed it.

On July 7, the ODIHR issued a press release "deploring" shortcomings in the election law. Opposition parties refused to participate in the work of the Central Election Commission unless the law is changed. In response, parliament amended the Central Election Commission law, depriving the opposition of the ability to block decisions. On July 20, 12 political parties, among them the leading opposition parties, warned that if parliament refuses to amend the election law, they will boycott the November ballot. Most recently, the State Department issued a statement on July 24, regretting the recent actions of Azerbaijan's parliament and urging the government and parliament in Baku to work with ODIHR, the opposition and non-governmental organizations to amend the election law in accordance with OSCE standards.

Mr. Speaker, this turn of events is extremely disappointing. The last thing Azerbaijan needs is another election boycott by opposition parties. The consequences would include a parliament of dubious legitimacy, deepened distrust and societal polarization, and a movement away from electoral politics to street politics, which could threaten the country's stability. November's election offers a historic opportunity to consolidate Azerbaijani society. It is essential for the future development of Azerbaijan's democracy and for the legitimacy of its leadership that the election be free and fair and the results be accepted by society as a whole.

This resolution calls on the Administration to remind President Aliiev of the pledge he made in August 1997 to hold free and fair elections, and urges Azerbaijan's Government and parliament to accept ODIHR's recommendations on the election law, so that it will meet international standards. I hope my colleagues will join me, Mr. HOYER, Mr. PITTS and Mr. CARDIN in this effort, and we welcome their support.

COMMUNITY RENEWAL AND NEW MARKETS ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong and enthusiastic support of the Community Renewal and New Markets Act of 2000.

First of all, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chairman ARCHER and Ranking Member RANGEL of the Ways and Means Committee for their support in this legislation being on the floor today and I want to thank the Speaker for scheduling. Secondly, I want to thank President Clinton and Speaker HASTERT for their leadership to commitments to try and help the

most distressed, disadvantaged and poverty stricken areas of the country, in both urban and rural America. Thirdly, I want to commend and congratulate my colleagues and principal originators and cosponsors of this legislation, Chairman JIM TALENT; chairman of the Small Business Committee and Representative J.C. WATTS for their relentless efforts to make this legislation a reality. And Mr. Speaker, I want to thank all of those who have indicated support for a small, but seriously important step forward, in reality a giant step as we move to uplift downtrodden communities and put hope back into the hearts of our people.

This legislation is designed to do what none of our efforts have effectively done, which is seriously attract business and redevelopment efforts to the poorest communities in our nation. This legislation is no hollow sounding rhetoric, it is no flash and dash, it is no pig in a poke. It is economically sound, socially relevant and based upon the principles of free enterprise. It takes forty Renewal communities and provides tax incentives, lifts restrictions and barriers, provides for capital gains tax for five years, investment programs, wage incentives, environmental clean-ups, CRA credits, Commercial Revitalization, Tax Credit Opportunities to rehabilitate dilapidated housing, venture capital to start businesses and the promotion of Faith-Based Drug Counseling initiatives.

I know that some of my colleagues have concerns about this provision, suggest that it infringes upon the separation of church and State and even go so far as to suggest that it is unconstitutional. This is absolutely untrue!

In the charitable choice arena, this bill breaks no new ground! First of all, H.R. 4, the current Welfare Law, allows States to contract out their social services to both religious or non-religious providers. In addition, H.R. 4271, the Community Services Authorization Act of 1998, Senate Bill S. 2206 and H.R. 1776, the American Home Ownership and Economic Opportunity Act all have some charitable choice provisions. Even under the establishment of the Religion Clause of the First Amendment, (1) Religious organizations are generally eligible to participate as grantees or contractors in such programs. But the clause has generally been interpreted to bar government from providing direct assistance to organizations that are pervasively sectarian.

As a consequence, government funding agencies have often required social service providers, as conditions of receiving public funds, to be incorporated separately from their sponsoring religious institutions. They are to refrain from religious activities and proselytizing in the publicly funded programs and to remove any religious symbols from the premises in which the services are provided. The establishment clause, in short, has been construed to require religious organizations to secularize their services as a condition of obtaining public funding. ACRA's drug treatment provision is the same. It voucherizes the Substance Abuse Block Grant and other treatment Block Grants and allows the patient to decide where to use the voucher.

The courts have found that our government can provide assistance directly to enterprises operated by religious concerns as long as it is not pervasively sectarian and that grantees devise ways of involving other organizations including religious ones, in the delivery of such services.

In the Aguilar vs. Felton case, the Supreme Court ruled that it was constitutionally permissible for public school teachers to provide remedial and enrichment educational services to sectarian school children on the premises of the schools they attend. Thus, the Court has ruled that as long as the client has a choice among providers both religious and non-religious and the participant makes the decision, then the choice is constitutional.

And so, Mr. Speaker, even though I understand the concerns expressed by some of my colleagues, the law is the law. The constitution is the constitution and the legislation is in compliance with both. Therefore, I urge a "yes" vote to help the people renew their hope and rebuild their communities. I am reminded of the scripture, they rebuild the walls because the people had a mind to work. This legislation will work to help restore and rebuild faith in America.

REMEMBERING JOHN ELLIOTT

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to recognize and pay tribute to the memory of fine young man, Ensign John R. Elliott, 22 of Egg Harbor Township who passed away on Saturday, July 22, 2000.

I would like to offer my deepest sympathy to John's family and friends for their loss of a son, a brother, a grandson, a nephew, a cousin, and a friend. I am truly saddened by John's death and hope that his family and friends may experience peace and comfort in this time of sorrow.

I met John in the fall of 1995 when he participated in the application process for admission to one of our nation's four academies. John expressed his desire to serve in the United States Navy. I had the privilege of nominating him to the United States Naval Academy. In the spring of 1996, he was appointed and accepted by the United States Naval Academy as a member of the Class of 2000.

While at the Academy, John was designated to participate in the United States Navy Honors program, nothing new to a young man who was among the top five graduates in the 1996 Egg Harbor Township High School graduating class, a National Merit Scholar and class president. John was recognized for his exceptional achievement in the fields of math and science and graduated with a Bachelors in Science Degree with merit in systems engineering. Upon graduation, he received his commission as an ensign in the Navy and was to attend flight school in Pensacola, Florida.

As his father has said, he was filled with hopes and dreams for his future. John's hopes and dreams can still be realized in the memory of John's accomplishments. John was an intelligent, hard-working and popular young man, respected and liked by his peers, a successful student and fine young man who had a bright future with the United States Navy. John was one of our best and brightest. He epitomized all that makes the United States of America the greatest nation on the face of the earth.

My thoughts and prayers are with John's parents, Bill and Muriel Elliott of Egg Harbor Township, his sister Jennifer, his grandmother Audrey Moyer, his aunts and uncles Pamela and Randall Johns, Robert and Deborah Elliott, and Artis and Stephen Hoffman, and the rest of his family and friends during this time of grief.

CARL ELLIOTT FEDERAL BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the gentleman from Alabama's resolution. It is both fitting and appropriate to recognize my former colleague, Carl Elliott, by naming a public building in his honor. Because not only was Carl Elliott a good and decent man, but a dedicated and capable public servant who gave much to Alabama and his country.

It was just last week that we debated federal aid to libraries. I would remind my colleagues that it was Carl Elliott who began the crusade for library funding, and it is he who is responsible for the Library Services Act.

Carl Elliott was a man of principle and foresight. He was a tireless advocate on behalf of education, working to secure federal assistance for low income, poverty-stricken school districts and students across Alabama and the United States. In doing so, he helped give poor students access to higher education and job opportunities based on their ability and merit rather than economic background.

But his thoughtfulness and humanity on racial issues is noteworthy. At a time of great tumult in the South and Alabama over racial issues, Carl Elliott chose to be on the right side of history and do what was just rather than what was politically expedient. Long after the debate was over and their own political futures were secure, many public officials in the South expressed regret for their positions in opposition to civil rights and race issues in the '60's. But it was people like Carl Elliott who bravely faced the political winds and surrendered their offices, yet not their principles.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to support this resolution and join me in honoring a good man and public servant who did much for his state and country, Carl Elliott.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ASSISTANCE AND BILL OF RIGHTS ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to help mark the 10th anniversary of the Americans With Disabilities Act. Members in this body can be justifiable proud of efforts taken to enact that law which has been a force for good and has given many persons otherwise excluded from participation in our society the opportunity to contribute their talents and enjoy the full benefits of our Nation.

I recall the ringing support for enactment of the act before my Judiciary Committee from the then-Attorney General, Richard Thornburgh, who had been the Governor of my State of Pennsylvania. Attorney General Thornburgh's view of the disabled and their struggles was influenced by a family encounter himself with disability—as was also President Bush. Their sensitivity to the condition of others provided the environment that enabled the ADA to be enacted.

In 1986, President Ronald Reagan received a report entitled "Toward Independence" from the National Council on Disability. That report recommended the enactment of comprehensive legislation to ban discrimination against persons with disabilities. Subsequently, the Bush administration, together with the Congress and the disabled community, crafted this excellent legislation which has meant so much not only for those disabled by nature but also those additionally victimized by society's ignorance and neglect. Because of this law, great talent has been unleashed by simple changes in the physical environment in homes and in the workplace. But even more so, our physically enabled citizens have gained immeasurably themselves from contact with their disabled brothers and sisters. They have seen on a daily basis the struggle, the effort, and the dedication of those who have overcome so much to enter an environment from which they were formerly excluded. These people did not want a handout, they wanted to put their hands out, to work and live in their own communities and all of us are better for their efforts.

Mr. Speaker, only 10 years have passed since the enactment of the ADA but it has already enabled countless citizens to begin the journey toward our goal of complete integration of society based upon talent, merit, and effort. We have seen with our own eyes the progress that has been made as we stand at the act's 10-year anniversary and I am anxiously anticipating the dreams that will be realized in the future for all Americans.

NATIONAL RECORDING PRESERVATION ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, the physical condition of many of the nations' culturally, historically, and aesthetically important sound recordings are at-risk because of poor storage conditions and inadequate preservation. With the passage of H.R. 4846, the National Recording Preservation Act of 2000, the Congress will create a public-private partnership to ensure that important sound recordings are preserved and restored.

With the National Digital Library, the national audiovisual conservation center at Culpeper, VA, the Library of Congress's film registry program and now the sound recording registry program, the Congress has created groundbreaking public/private partnerships that minimize taxpayer investment while ensuring the preservation of America's cultural history.

I would like to thank the ranking minority member of the Committee on House Administration, Mr. HOYER, the Committee on the Judiciary and its chairman, Mr. HYDE, the Library

of Congress, interested Members of Congress, and the sound recording industry for working to make this legislation possible.

BULLETPROOF VEST
PARTNERSHIP GRANT ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK A. LOBONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2000

Mr. LOBONDO. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to come before you today in support of H.R. 4033, the Bulletproof Vest Reauthorization Act of 2000. This noncontroversial, bipartisan legislation was introduced by the gentleman from Indiana, Mr. VISCLOSKY and myself on March 20, and passed out of the full Judiciary Committee by voice vote on July 20.

To me, this is a very simple issue and one that I know well. I firmly believe that when a police officer is issued a badge and a gun, they should also be issued a bulletproof vest. When police officers put their lives on the line everyday protecting our neighborhoods—they deserve the highest level of protection and security, which only a bulletproof vest can provide.

When I first introduced the original Bulletproof Vest bill during the 105th Congress, I modeled the program after the Vest-a-Cop and Shield-The-Blue programs established in Southern New Jersey many years ago. When I was first elected to Congress, then-Sergeant Rich Gray, an Atlantic County police officer in Pleasantville came to me telling me of a program that they had put together in Atlantic County, NJ.

Sergeant Gray, who is now Chief Rich Gray of the Pleasantville Police Department, and a very dedicated group of police officers decided that it was time to do something about those who were defending our citizens every day without protection. They started a program called Vest-A-Cop. The Vest-A-Cop program began to grow in Atlantic County and it was the genesis for the idea that I had and subsequently found out that my colleague, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKY), had from his district in Indiana.

At that time, the Vest-A-Cop program was actually raising money in a variety of different ways. They were reaching out to the community asking people to understand the needs of police officers and asking those in the community to contribute. We had Scouts who were basically baking cookies and cupcakes and selling them. We had events of all different kinds that were providing vests one and two and three at a time.

This program is one that we modeled after at, and we realized that doing it piecemeal was not going to really cut it and protect our officers for what they needed.

The current Bulletproof Vest Partnership program has enabled police jurisdictions across the nation to purchase over 180,000 bulletproof vests in the last 2 years—180,000 vests that probably would not have been purchased otherwise. However, due to the tremendous popularity of the program, and the program became much more popular than we ever anticipated, we were not able to meet all of the demands. None of the jurisdictions received the full 50–50 federal/state match this

year, and, in fact, the Department of Justice reported that jurisdictions with under 100,000 residents received a disproportionately low share of federal funds—an average of only .22 cents on the dollar came from the federal government.

Mr. Speaker, that is not what we in this House originally intended, and this legislation helps correct that.

This bill before us today will extend and improve the current Bulletproof Vest program. First, the annual authorization will be doubled from \$25 million to \$50 million per year through the year 2004, extending the program for 3 more years. Extending this program is critical in enabling officers across the nation with the opportunity to take advantage of this program which has been proven to save lives.

Second, language was included in the bill which guarantees smaller jurisdictions a fair portion of funding.

Finally, those jurisdictions and corrections officers who have been waiting for the national stab-proof standard to be approved by the Department of Justice will be able to purchase state-approved bulletproof and stab-proof vests. This is a very big improvement from where we were on the last go-around.

The stab-proof issue is of particular interest to me because it hits very close to home. Corrections Officer Fred Baker of my district in New Jersey was stabbed to death while on duty at the Bayside State Prison. Officer Baker was not wearing a vest at the time. We can only speculate as to whether his life would have been spared had he been given an opportunity to wear a vest, but many of us believe that he been given that opportunity, Officer Baker would be alive today and his wife and child would have a husband and father to come home to.

If Officer Baker had the chance to wear a vest, I am sure that he would not have hesitated to put that vest on.

It is critical that Members vote in favor of this legislation. According to the FBI, an average of over 100 officers are assaulted every day, and in 1999, 139 officers were slain while in the line of duty. There are still thousands of officers on duty who do not have access to these life-saving vests. This is an opportunity for us as Members of Congress, who talk so often about the importance of law enforcement, who talk about what we can do to protect themselves as they keep our citizens safe, this is our opportunity.

This common-sense bill has gained the support of 264 bipartisan cosponsors as well as major law enforcement organizations across the Nation. I would like to commend those involved with bringing this bill to the floor today.

I would first like to thank the majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), who put up with my pleas and pestering for so very long about the importance of this bill; the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE); and the subcommittee chairman, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MCCOLLUM).

I would also like to thank my colleague, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT), for his help in this effort. The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) was influential on the Committee on the Judiciary as we were moving this bill through the legislative process; and saving for last, my colleague, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKY).

The gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKY) and I have worked on this bill from

the very beginning. This is probably a great example of a bipartisan partnership developed to move legislation that is meaningful and can do something in a very positive way to save lives. This is the bottom line here.

Mr. Speaker, many times in the House when there are good ideas that come before us, we do not get a chance to act on them. I think, to reiterate what I mentioned earlier, this is a great example of a positive partnership. These are ideas that are generated within our districts from citizens and police officers and law enforcement officers and corrections officers who are in the real world every day, protecting our neighborhoods, as we heard our other colleagues talk about.

Instead of having to have local community groups raise money just a little bit at a time, the officers in New Jersey in the Second District, officers like Dominic Romeo in Cape May County, in the city of Wildwood, Chief Rich Gray, Shield-the-Blue, the corrections officers of PBA-105, all those who are associated with the Vest-A-Cop program can look to us here in Washington and realize that we have joined together in a very special way, in a very bipartisan way, to generate legislation that means a great deal to law enforcement across this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members of this body to vote for this legislation and show their commitment to law enforcement officers by voting for H.R. 4033.

PRACTICAL FARMERS OF IOWA
(PFI)

HON. LEONARD L. BOSWELL

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. BOSWELL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize a public-private partnership between Iowa State University and the organization Practical Farmers of Iowa. In April this partnership was awarded one of 16 National Awards for Environmental Sustainability by Renew America. Since 1989, Renew America has been bringing national attention to constructive, community based programs through which average citizens are meeting the challenges of sustainable development.

A private, nonprofit organization, Practical Farmers of Iowa (PFI) was begun in 1985 as a vehicle to share information from farmer to farmer about how to farm successfully using sustainable methods. The farmers and other agricultural professionals who originated the organization recognized that, while the university system was becoming active in researching alternative farming methods, there was also a wealth of indigenous knowledge among producers. PFI was formed to be a conduit and "amplifier" for that information.

PFI initiated a network of on-farm research and farm field days in 1987 using straightforward protocols that farmers can use to plan, implement, and analyze their own on-farm research. It was at this point that far-sighted leaders at Iowa State University saw the opportunity for collaboration with Practical Farmers of Iowa, and the leadership of PFI responded. Out of the partnership grew the statewide on-farm research program with an ISU Extension agronomist as coordinator.

The on-farm research and dissemination effort has grown to include new kinds of research and new kinds of collaborators, both in

the farming community and within the university. The PFI-ISU partnership is a "lightning rod" allowing the university to respond quickly to new issues, issues as diverse as animal-friendly swine production systems, alternative parasite control methods, local food systems and community-supported agriculture (CSA). The partnership also provides the university with thoughtful and sometimes critical feedback concerning research and technology development.

The PFI-ISU partnership was among the first between a university and a sustainable agriculture organization, and it is among the more successful. It is a credit to the leadership on both sides, reflecting a science-based approach and cordial relationships. The project has drawn in scientists from many disciplines, providing skilled farmer-collaborators and a support constituency for research into topics as diverse as integrated pest management, soil quality, intercropping, energy crops, prairie restoration, synthetic corn varieties, family allocation of labor, deep-bedded swine systems, specialty marketing, and the social impacts of sustainable agriculture. The membership of PFI brings a built-in "conscience" to the collaboration that keeps it focused on the issues relevant to sustaining the land, farm families, and communities. In the past decade as our understanding of sustainable agriculture has deepened and broadened, this partnership has provided a forum through which that process has advanced.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, due to travel for a funeral, I was not present for several roll-call votes last evening.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall Nos. 436, 437 and 438.

A REAL MEDICARE DRUG BENEFIT

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to share with my colleagues an Op-ed by Paul Krugman that appeared in today's New York Times. This thoughtful piece dispels the myth that prescription drug insurance plans for the elderly are the answer to lower drug prices.

Mr. Krugman bases his conclusion on the fact that the market will not allow for prescription drug only plans, since the cost of premiums to seniors would be prohibitive. He clearly states that the only way to ensure the success of a Medicare prescription drug benefit "is to make the coverage part of a government program."

He adds, "Republican leaders in the House, in particular, are true believers in the miraculous powers of the free market—they are in effect members of a sect that believes that markets will work even when the businessmen actually involved say they won't, and that government involvement is evil even where conventional analysis says it is necessary."

From the start, Republicans in Congress crafted a prescription drug bill that would guarantee only one thing—that the pharmaceutical companies can continue to price gouge seniors. The President and Democrats in Congress want to give seniors a Medicare prescription drug benefit that is universal, voluntary, and affordable, and builds on the current structure of Medicare.

Below is the full text of Mr. Krugman Op-ed.

[From the New York Times, July 26, 2000]

RECKONINGS; PRESCRIPTION FOR FAILURE

(By Paul Krugman)

In denouncing President Clinton's plan to extend Medicare coverage to prescription drugs, and in touting their own counterproposal, Republicans have rolled out the usual rhetoric. They excoriate the administration plan as a bureaucratic, "one size fits all" solution. They claim that their plan offers more choice.

And for once their claims are absolutely right. The Republican plan does offer more choice. Unfortunately, this is one of those cases in which more choice is actually bad for everyone. In fact, by trying to give people more choices the Republican plan would end up denying them any choice at all.

Where Democrats want to offer drug coverage directly to Medicare recipients, the Republicans propose to offer money to private insurance companies instead, to entice them into serving the senior market. But all indications are that this plan is a non-starter. Insurance companies themselves are very skeptical; there haven't been many cases in which an industry's own lobbyists tell Congress that they don't want a subsidy, but this is one of them. And an attempt by Nevada to put a similar plan into effect has been a complete dud—not a single insurer licensed to operate in the state has shown any interest in offering coverage.

The reason is "adverse selection"—a problem that afflicts many markets, but insurance markets in particular. Basically, adverse selection is the reason you shouldn't buy insurance from companies that say "no medical exam necessary": when insurance is sold to good and bad prospects at the same price, the bad risks drive out the good.

Why can't the elderly buy prescription drug insurance? Suppose an insurance company were to offer a prescription drug plan, with premiums high enough to cover the cost of insuring an average Medicare recipient. It turns out that annual spending on prescription drugs varies hugely among retirees—depending on whether they have chronic conditions, and which ones. Healthy retirees, who know that their bills won't be that high, would be unwilling to buy insurance that costs enough to cover the bills of the average senior—which means that the insurance plan would attract only those with above-average bills, meaning higher premiums, driving still more healthy people away, and so on until nobody is left. Insurance companies understand this logic very well—and are therefore simply not interested in getting into the market in the first place.

The root of the problem is that private drug insurance could be offered at a reasonable price only if people had to commit to paying the necessary premiums before they knew whether they would need expensive drugs. Such policies cannot be offered if those who find out later that they don't require such drugs can choose to stop paying what turn out to be unnecessarily high premiums.

And while in principle one could write a contract that denies the insured the choice of opting out, just try to imagine the legal complications if a private company tried to

force a healthy retiree to keep paying high premiums for decades on end, even though he turns out not to need the company's benefits. As a practical matter the only way to avoid this opt-out problem, to enforce the kind of till-death-do-us-part commitment needed to make drug insurance work, is to make the coverage part of a government program.

All of this is more or less textbook economics. So why are Republican leaders insisting on a plan that almost nobody familiar with the issue thinks will work?

Cynical politics no doubt plays an important role. So does money; the insurance industry is by and large against the Republican plan, but the pharmaceutical industry is very anxious to avoid anything that might push down drug prices, and fears that the administration plan will do just that. But sincere fanaticism also enters the picture. Republican leaders in the House, in particular, are true believers in the miraculous powers of the free market—they are in effect members of a sect that believes that markets will work even when the businessmen actually involved say they won't, and that government involvement is evil even where conventional analysis says it is necessary.

The Republican plan is, in short, an assertion of a faith that transcends mundane economic logic. But what's in it for us heathens?

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE KATY GEISSERT

HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with sadness to remember and honor former Torrance Mayor, Katy Geissert. Katy passed away last week after a courageous fight against lung cancer.

Katy was a pioneer in South Bay politics. In 1974, Katy became the first woman elected to the Torrance City Council. After serving three terms, she became the first woman elected Mayor of the City of Torrance. Katy paved the way for women to hold public office in Torrance. A resident of Torrance for nearly a half-century, Katy was actively involved in the local community.

Her contributions to the Torrance community are numerous. Katy was the Founding President of the Torrance Cultural Arts Center Foundation, past chairman of the Torrance Salvation Army Advisory Board, consultant to the South Bay/Harbor Volunteer Bureau, and charter board member of the Torrance League of Women Voters.

People will remember Katy for her allegiance to the South Bay. She was deeply committed to the local community and its residents. Katy will be missed. The community she represented is a better place to live because of her service.

IN MEMORY OF JAN KARSKI

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Lantos. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues in Congress

to join me in paying tribute to Jan Karski, who passed away on July 13th at the age of 86. A man of extraordinary courage, Karski risked his life to journey into the danger of the Warsaw ghetto and the Belzec death camp as a member of the Polish underground during World War II. He did this to gain first hand information and then convey the horrors of the Nazi regime to the Allied leaders. The enormity of Karski's task was confirmed after his meeting with the head of the Zionist organization and the leader of the Jewish Socialist Alliance. According to Karski, his mission was to transmit material to the Polish and Allied governments which "constituted the expression and contained the information, sentiments, requests, and instructions of the entire Jewish population of Poland as a unit, a population that was at the moment dying as a unit."

After speaking with London authorities in 1942, Karski's frightful accounts were met with disbelief and denial. Yet he continued to deliver his searing report of Nazi atrocities and of Hitler's Final Solution, spending months briefing government and community leaders in Britain and in the United States. It is difficult to imagine the turmoil Karski must have suffered, as he was constantly called upon to recall the ghastly scenes he had witnessed and to recount the new unprecedented criminality. Because of his perseverance, Karski is credited with providing President Franklin D. Roosevelt with the motivation to establish the United States War Refugee Board, an organization that saved tens of thousands of Jewish lives toward the end of World War II.

Born in 1914 in Lodz, Poland, Dr. Karski received a Master's Degree in Law and another Master's Degree in Diplomatic Sciences at the Jan Kazimierz University in Lvov in 1935. After completing his education in Germany, Switzerland, and Great Britain in the years 1936–38, he entered the Polish diplomatic service. His following years were marked by extraordinary contributions to Nazi resistance efforts. Conscripted into the Polish army in August 1939, Karski was eventually taken prisoner by the Red Army and sent to a Russian prisoner of war camp. He escaped in November 1939, returned to German-occupied Poland and joined the anti-Nazi underground. Because of his knowledge of languages and foreign countries, he was used as a courier between the government-in-exile in London and underground authorities in Poland. In this capacity he made several secret trips between France, Great Britain and Poland. In August of 1943, he personally reported to President Roosevelt, Secretary of State Cordell Hull, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, and other United States government leaders.

After the war, Jan Karski moved to the United States where he married, became an American citizen, and received a doctorate from Georgetown University. Mr. Karski went on to have a distinguished academic career at Georgetown, and he also served as a special envoy and as a witness for the American government on a number of occasions. In 1956–57, and again in 1966–67, he was sent by the State Department on six-month lecture tours to sixteen countries in Asia and in French-speaking Africa. On numerous occasions, he was asked by various Congressional committees to testify on Eastern European Affairs. He lectured extensively at the Defense Intelligence Air University, Industrial College of the Armed Forces, and other government and civic institutions.

Mr. Karski is also a respected author. His book, "Story of a Secret State", which describes his experiences during World War II, was a bestseller. He was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to inspect Polish, British and French archives for his major scholarly work, "The Great Powers and Poland, 1919–45" (from Versailles to Yalta). His many honors also include the distinction of "Righteous Gentile," bestowed by the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem. Karski is also an honorary citizen of Israel, the recipient of a special citation by the United Nations, and the recipient of the Order *virturi Militair*, the highest Polish military decoration.

Jan Karski's humility was always evident throughout his life. When visiting the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, he came upon the Rescuer's Wall, where tribute is paid to non-Jews who helped to save Jewish lives. He quickly passed the plaque upon which his own name was inscribed, instead preferring to seek out the names of his underground comrades. He was always quick to point out that "the Jews were abandoned by governments, by church hierarchies, and by societal structures. But they were not abandoned by all humanity." He felt that he was no different from anyone else who tried to ease the plight of the Jewish people. Remarkably, he insisted that he did "nothing extraordinary."

In an editorial last week paying tribute to Jan Karski, the Washington Post (July 19, 2000) observed: "A community's heroes are not necessarily its noisiest or most prominent citizens. Certainly neither adjective applied to Jan Karski, . . . but Mr. Karski was an authentic moral hero." Despite his protestations, Jan Karski's contribution to humanity was indeed remarkable. Shimon Peres said, "A great man is one who stands head and shoulder above his people, a man who, when surrounded by overpowering evil and blind hatred, does all in his power to stem the tide. Karski ranks high in the all-too-brief list of such great and unique personalities who stood out in the darkest age of Jewish history." And in the words of Elie Wiesel: "Jan Karski: a brave man? Better: a just man."

Mr. Speaker, once again I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the courage and selflessness of Jan Karski. He was an authentic moral hero who risked his life to fulfill what he considered to be his duty as a human being.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILLIAM L. JENKINS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 429, on motion to grant the consent of the Congress to the Kansas and Missouri Metropolitan Culture District Compact, had I been present, I would have voted "yea"; on roll call no. 430, motion to Community Renewal and New Markets Act, had I been present, I would have voted "yea"; on roll call no. 431, motion on Innocent Child Protect Act, had I been present, I would have voted "yea"; on roll call no. 432, motion on Veterans Claims Assistance Act, had I been present, I would have voted "yea"; on roll call no. 433, to suspend the rules and agree to Fisherman's Protective

Act Amendments, had I been present, I would have voted "nay"; on roll call no. 434, on motion to National Underground Railroad Freedom Center Act, had I been present, I would have voted "yea"; on roll call no. 435, on motion to permitting the Secretary of the Interior to acquire title to the Hunt House located in Waterloo, NY in the Women's Rights National Historical Park, had I been present, I would have voted "yea"; on roll call no. 436, on motion to designating the Carl Elliott Federal Building in Jasper, Alabama, had I been present, I would have voted "yea"; on roll call no. 437, on motion to expressing the sense of Congress concerning the 210th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Coast Guard, had I been present, I would have voted "yea"; and on roll call no. 438, on motion to Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act, had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

INDIA COALITION PARTNER
THREATENS TO ENGULF COUNTRY IN VIOLENCE

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, last week, Bal Thackeray, founder and head of Shiv Sena, threatened to engulf India in violence if he is held accountable for his part in thousands of deaths in 1992.

Shiv Sena is a coalition partner of the ruling BJP. Shiv Sena has been assigned responsibility for the bombing of the Ayodhya mosque in Uttar Pradesh.

How could a democratic country accept a violent, intolerant person like this into the government? It is bad enough that the allies of the government commit atrocities and no one is ever held to account. Now a coalition partner says that he will engulf the country in violence. This shows that violence and intolerance are the prevailing way to life in India. Minorities are suffering from the intolerance of militant Hindu fundamentalists.

A wave of violence against Christians has swept India since Christmas 1998. The most recent incident was the bombing of two churches in the state of Karnataka. The violence against Christians has been so severe that they appealed to the international community for help. Churches have been burned and now bombed. There have been attacks on prayer halls, Christian schools, and other Christian institutions. Militant Hindu nationalists burned missionary Graham Staines and his two young boys to death in their jeep while they were sleeping.

These atrocities show the truth about India. If it is "the world's largest democracy," how can it allow atrocities like this to keep occurring with nobody being held responsible? As the world's only superpower and the bastion of freedom for the world, we should take action. We should stop aid to India until all people within its borders enjoy human rights. And we should put the Congress on record in support of self-determination for the people of Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagalim, and all the countries seeking their freedom from India.

I submit the article on Mr. Thackeray into the RECORD, Mr. Speaker. I hope everyone will read it.

[From the New York Times International,
July 17, 2000]

PROTESTS BY HINDU GROUP RAISE FEAR IN
INDIA

BOMBAY, July 16 (Reuters)—Much of Bombay was shut down today by fear and protests over the possible prosecution of a militant Hindu leader in connection with riots that left more than 2,000 people dead in 1992.

Supporters of Bal Thackeray, the leader of the Hindu nationalist party Shiv Sena, took to the Streets Saturday after the Maharashtra State government decided to let the police prosecute him in the country-wide rioting. That violence, directed mainly at India's Muslim minority, erupted after the destruction of a mosque in the town of Ayodhya, and Shiv Sena got most of the blame.

Police officials said no action had been taken to arrest Mr. Thackeray, but many shops closed and people stayed indoors here and in other parts of the state as Shiv Sena supporters pelted buses with stones and blocked commuter train services.

Today Mr. Thackeray appealed for calm, but on Saturday he was quoted as saying, "Not only Maharashtra but the entire country will burn" as a result of the decision, which he called "an incitement to communal riots."

CONGRATULATING HALF HOLLOW
HILLS HIGH SCHOOL EAST

HON. RICK LAZIO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. LAZIO. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate a distinguished group of students from the Half Hollow Hills High School in Dix Hills, New York.

These students recently won the Region 5 award at the "We the People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution" national finals held here in Washington, DC. This award is presented to the school in each of five geographic regions with the highest cumulative score during the first two days of the national finals. These outstanding young people competed against 50 other classes from throughout the nation and demonstrated a remarkable understanding of the fundamental ideals and values of American constitutional government.

Our United States Constitution is over 200 years old. Two-thirds of the world's constitutions have been adopted since 1970. Only fifteen other constitutions predate WWII and none predate the U.S. Constitution. Recent studies show that approximately half of American adults do not know that the purpose of the original Constitution was to create a federal government and define its power. The educators and students of Dix Hills have proven that they do not fall into this category and it is an honor to recognize their achievement.

I wish to congratulate Ms. Gloria Sesso and her students Isaac Chen, Jeffrey Chernick, Alyssa Cohen, Zachary Cohn, Michael Givner, Michael Gold, Sarah Gowrie, Yonathan Hertz, Michael Lee, Jonathan Lehrer, Jessica Levine, Amanda Manaro, Seth Moskowitz, Brian Nakash, Justin Pomerantz, Rahul Sharma, Jared Stone, Jeffrey Tsai, Lauren Tuzzolino, and Jared Warsaw.

HONORING PHILIP ROSENBLUM

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Philip Rosenbloom of Monmouth Beach, Monmouth County, who will be celebrating on August 1st his 75th birthday. Phil Rosenbloom has devoted much of his adult life enhancing the civic and cultural life of my district, and I wish to honor his contributions.

A native of Monmouth County, Phil Rosenbloom grew up in Asbury Park, where his family owned the local print shop. The printing business became his vocation as well, and he gradually built his own successful printing corporation based in New York, where he produced record album jackets and direct mail advertising for manufacturers of records, tapes, and CD's. However, if printing was his business, his passion since his childhood days has been great jazz music. Phil often said that his fantasy of the perfect life would be to own a little saloon where he would invite the great jazz musicians in the country to play and he could listen all day long.

But Mr. Speaker, we pay tribute to Phil because he is not just a listener—he is a "doer." While establishing his career in the printing business, he and his wife, Norma, raised three sons just a few miles away from his boyhood home. He served on the Board of Trustees of Temple Beth Miriam; he chaired committees for Planned Parenthood of Central New Jersey; he served as President of the Board of Trustees of the Monmouth County Arts Council; he currently sits on the Monmouth Beach Planning Board. In the 1960's, when my district was experiencing the racial tensions prevalent throughout the country, Phil was an outspoken advocate for civil rights and racial harmony. He is a life member of the NAACP.

Perhaps his most noteworthy achievement was to find a way to share his love of music and theater with the citizens of Monmouth County. After selling his business and "retiring," Phil devoted his energy and enthusiasm to the transformation of a run-down movie house in Red Bank into the Count Basie Theatre, now a newly-renovated and vibrant cultural center. Under his presidency of the theater, he has helped bring music, plays, and other arts to the children of our district, and he has helped create a showplace for great jazz. He also helped establish a jazz scholarship to a leading school of music, which will be presented on an annual basis to deserving young jazz musicians in our district. He continues to serve as a trustee of the theater.

Phil and his wife, Norma, a classically-trained pianist, a former high school music teacher, and now a family law attorney, live in Monmouth Beach. They have three sons, David, James, and Eric, and three grandchildren. All of their sons learned from Phil and Norma the importance of building their adult lives around giving service to others.

Mr. Speaker, when we think of a life well-lived, we think about dedication to family, to community, and to place of worship. We think about balancing hard work with a love and passion for our culture's highest forms of expression—theater, art, and music. Phil Rosenbloom certainly embodies, and continues to embody, the meaning of a well-lived

life. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me today in honoring Phil Rosenbloom and celebrating with him his 75th birthday.

IN HONOR OF THE GRAMERCY
PARK BLOCK ASSOCIATION AND
ITS FOUNDERS, ARLENE HARRISON
AND TIMOTHY COHEN

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Ms. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to The Gramercy Park Block Association and to its founders, Arlene Harrison and Timothy Cohen. The Gramercy Park Block Association is an invaluable organization that works tirelessly to improve the safety, security, and quality of life of those New Yorkers who live in and around Gramercy Park.

In the fall of 1993, Mr. Cohen, who was only fifteen years old at the time, was savagely beaten in an unprovoked attack by a neighborhood gang. After his recovery, Mr. Cohen and his mother, Ms. Arlene Harrison, began a campaign to improve the quality of life in the area in which they live.

Ms. Harrison and Mr. Cohen have pioneered the development of innovative, community based techniques to combat crime and improve the day-to-day quality of life for fellow Gramercy Park residents.

Ms. Harrison and Mr. Cohen created and implemented Operation Interlock, an emergency police radio network and have successfully campaigned to improve community ties with their local police precincts. The Block Association's partnership with the Police Department's 13th Precinct has received national media attention as a model of how a police-community partnership can work to reduce crime in a neighborhood. Other police forces from around the nation are currently exploring the possibility of implementing Operation Interlock in their own respective jurisdictions.

In addition, the Association has successfully lobbied to increase both the wattage and the number of street lights around Gramercy Park and the Consolidated Edison energy plan. They have thereby made the neighborhood an increasingly safe place to walk at night.

Mr. Cohen and Ms. Harrison have also pioneered the development and implementation of many other local programs that promote community service and safety, for example, Operation ID, Block Watcher Training Sessions, Senior Citizen Escort, and Project Kidcare. Each of these programs serves a vital purpose in bringing the community together for a safer neighborhood.

In particular, Ms. Harrison and Mr. Cohen mobilized the community in support of the Kenmore Rehabilitation Plan to clean up the notoriously drug and crime-ridden Kenmore Hotel. They worked tirelessly with local organizations to rehabilitate the facility, providing a safer community and a more positive environment for a previously underserved group of tenants. Ms. Harrison now serves as the chair of the Kenmore Hall Advisory Board.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the work of the Gramercy Park Block Association and its founders, Mr. Timothy Cohen and Ms. Arlene Harrison, and I ask my fellow Members of Congress to join me in recognizing their contributions to the New York community and to our

country. I take pride in the fact that I have such model citizens living in my district.

BELLE DEMBY, 106 YEARS YOUNG

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Belle Demby as she celebrates her 106th birthday.

Ms. Demby is a native of North Carolina who moved to Brooklyn as a teenager when her father got a job building the Fourth Avenue subway line. When she first arrived in Brooklyn, you could still find fresh chickens in open air markets on Third Avenue and Myrtle Avenue. She worked for \$1.50 a day sweeping the platforms of the BRT subway line and probably never earned more than \$12 a week throughout all of World War I.

For entertainment, she listened to music. As she recently told a New York Times reporter, "I listened to the radio. What do you call them, Victrola? All I can tell you is it was a big box that had music in it." When the stock market crashed she and her husband both lost their jobs. To make ends meet, Ms. Demby worked in factories, laundries and anywhere she could get a job. She recalled recently how "long-shoremen were walking back and forth to the waterfront to see if a ship came in so they could get work."

Belle Demby now lives near the Brooklyn Navy Yard in the Ingersoll Houses. Family and friends take turns reading her passages from the Bible. Although she is blind, she is still able to attend Bethel Baptist Church every Sunday with her daughter who is 87 and a grandson who at 69 is a grandfather himself.

Please join me in acknowledging the remarkable life of Belle Demby on her 106th birthday.

IN HONOR OF THE FIRST ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE COMPLETION
OF THE KENMORE HOTEL RES-
Toration PROJECT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the first anniversary of the complete restoration of the Kenmore Hotel. The hotel's story is a remarkable tale of cooperation between many different levels of government, NPOs, and private industry in the name of helping those citizens who most desperately need our assistance.

In 1927, the Kenmore Hotel was built by the family of Nathaniel West as an apartment hotel for working single New Yorkers. Throughout the 1970s and early 1980s the Kenmore became known as a hotel for the "down and out" and the community witnessed its decent from modest respectability to complete squalor. By the middle 1980s, the Kenmore's elderly and mentally ill tenants were preyed upon by drug dealers, loan sharks, and others engaged in criminal activities. By that time, the Kenmore had more than

500 building code violations, it had been the scene of multiple tenant murders, and it was, in short, uninhabitable.

After repeated failed attempts to convince the owner to clean up the hotel, I asked the Justice Department to step in. Under the direction of Attorney General Janet Reno, the Kenmore was seized in June of 1994, becoming the largest asset forfeiture in the history of the federal government. The United States Marshal Service, working together with the NYPD, carried out the seizure of the Kenmore and became the landlord to some 300 tenants. I worked with the Marshal Service and tenants to monitor the situation and made sure that the Kenmore returned to habitability as quickly as possible.

Two years later, on July 3, 1996, with \$30 Million in hand from private investors, public (NYC and NYS) loans, a commercial loan, as well as a rent guarantee from NYC and Section 8 Vouchers from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Housing and Services, Inc. (HSI) commenced a complete renovation of the premises. It was only this cooperation that enabled construction to begin.

The 641 single units were converted to 326 studio apartments each with a private bath, kitchen, and air conditioning. The tenants are now served by a 35 person staff that includes front desk personnel, maintenance and repair staff, social workers, and a full time on site manager. In addition, HSI brokered agreements with local health providers so that there are nurses, psychiatrists, and a myriad of other service providers offering on-site assistance to tenants in need. On May 4, 1999, I joined HSI, tenants, elected officials and community leaders at a ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the completion of the renovations. In honor of the event the building was renamed Kenmore Hall.

This spring HSI and the Kenmore partnered with the 23rd Street Association, the GPBA (Gramercy Park Block Association), and the ACE Community Partnership to create a community improvement project that employs Kenmore tenants and other homeless persons. The project seeks to reduce homelessness by providing community improvement work and job readiness training for low income men and women. The program prepares once homeless men and women to reenter the workforce through community enhancement projects in the 23rd Street area, including environmentally focused neighborhood cleanup projects.

The Kenmore Story is one where all parties involved share in its success. This project demonstrates the remarkable results that are possible when everyone works together to fix a problem that has plagued an entire community. Nonprofit organizations, community groups, government officials and agencies, and the private sector all worked together to clean up the Kenmore and provide decent housing to a previously underserved group of tenants. Kenmore Hall has become a valuable community asset and a national model of supportive, affordable housing. I am proud to report that in my district, multilevel cooperation became a reality.

RYAN WHITE CARE ACT
AMENDMENTS OF 2000

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4807, the Ryan White CARE Act Amendments.

The Ryan White CARE Act provides resources through states, localities, and agencies, all with the goal of improving the quality and availability of care of low-income, uninsured, and underserved individuals and families affected by HIV/AIDS. I am thankful for the many individuals and families who have been assisted and care for because of this landmark legislation. And I thank those health care providers, community health centers, and families who care for individuals with HIV/AIDS.

We have seen some successes as a result of the Ryan White Act. In fact, in the city of Chicago, the number of deaths due to AIDS decreased from approximately 1,000 per year in 1993-95 to only 377 during 1997. Also, the Ryan White Act is reaching out to the poor. On a national level, the average annual income of more than 50 percent of Ryan White clients have never exceeded \$25,000 per year, compared with 27 percent of all HIV-positive clients in care in 1996. Furthermore, the AIDS Drug Assistant Program formulary was expanded from 33 drugs in 1996 to 65 drugs in 1997, including all protease inhibitors and antiretroviral therapies.

These reports are encouraging, however, Illinois is among the ten states in the nation reporting the highest number of AIDS cases from 1981 to 1999, that is, 22,348 individuals with AIDS in Illinois, 19,347 of those individuals living in Chicago. We can reach even more people through prevention and early diagnosis programs and we can treat even more people with greater access to the latest drugs and technology.

I therefore fully support the expanded provisions under the Ryan White Amendments. First of all, these new provisions revise the grant formula to reflect the prevalence of HIV infections and AIDS cases. Under current law, funds are distributed only on the basis of AIDS cases.

Secondly, the bill establishes a new supplementary competitive grant program for states in "severe need" of additional resources to combat the HIV/AIDS epidemic. In determining severe need, HHS will consider evidence of disparities in access and services and historically underserved communities.

Also, perinatal transmission of HIV is a problem that needs to be more fully addressed through early testing of the mother and baby and through counseling and treatment programs. I am pleased that this bill increases the authorization for the grant program dealing with perinatal HIV transmission by \$20 million.

In addition to the provisions I mentioned, the Ryan White CARE Act Amendments would create focused efforts to reach prisoners with HIV/AIDS, reach individuals who are currently not receiving care, and eliminate disparities in access to services.

Mr. Speaker, I therefore rise in strong support of the Ryan White CARE Act Amendments.

A TRIBUTE TO RUBY'S COFFEE
SHOP

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, a great Knoxville institution is closing, and it is a real loss to our area and to this Nation. Ruby's Coffee Shop in Burlington, in East Knoxville, will close this Saturday after 37 years in business.

This fine restaurant, where I have eaten many, many times, has been a friendly gathering place where friendships have been made and strengthened and problems have been solved. Almost everyone felt better and happier, physically and mentally, after a meal at Ruby's.

Owner Ruby Witt, her daughter, Mary Jo Netherton, her sister, Ann Henderlight, and the entire staff are wonderful, kind, big-hearted people. They have given great service and sympathetic ears to many thousands.

Their food was always outstanding and reasonably priced. At Ruby's, no matter who you were or how much money you had, you got good food and good treatment.

As long as I live, I will never forget Roy Berrier, one of the barbers at Barnes Barber Shop next door, coming in and breaking into a rendition of the song "Pine Trees" (his own song) in front of a full house at Ruby's.

This Nation is a better place today because of places like Ruby's and the people who worked there. I am sorry to see this fine restaurant close, but I wish the very best to Ruby, her family, and staff.

I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD the following article which was published in the Knoxville News-Sentinel.

[From the Knoxville News-Sentinel, July 26, 2000]

RUBY'S TO CLOSE AFTER 37 YEARS
(By Don Jacobs)

No matter how savory the food at Ruby's Coffee Shop, it'll never match the warmth and friendliness exuded by the 37-year-old business' employees.

But that slice of Southern hospitality is about to be cut from the East Knoxville landscape with the closing Saturday of a business that has seated governors, senators, sports legends and even a vice president.

The small, family-operated business where customers are greeted by first name, are allowed to walk behind the counter to pour coffee and are invited to use the shop's phone, is closing its doors. The daughters of the owner are just plumb tired.

"It's sad but happy," said Mary Jo Netherton, the 64-year-old daughter of the owner.

"I'm just tired. I was telling somebody the other day that they let people out of the penitentiary for murder sooner than I'll be getting out of this place."

Netherton's 62-year-old sister, Barbara Williams, echoed the feeling that 10- to 12-hour work days that begin at 5 a.m. won't be terribly missed.

"You know, when you get in your 60s, you don't need to be doing waitress work," Williams said.

Owner Ruby Witt hasn't been active at the business at 3920 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue since she suffered a minor stroke six years ago. But each day the 84-year-old Witt gets an earful of current events about the lives of her customers from her daughters.

"She's interested in the people," Netherton said.

Witt's popularity among residents, public officials, police officers and the University of Tennessee sports department earned her an unofficial moniker as the mayor of Burlington. Police officers said whatever Ruby wanted, Ruby got from the city.

Emphasizing that point, a customer noted there are no parking meters outside.

Netherton has been gingerly lifting fried eggs from the grill for 37 years at the business while Williams has been a fixture for 23 years. While neither of the women will miss the work, they will never fill the chasm of daily chatter with customers.

"I'm going to miss it," Williams said. "We've enjoyed the people. They've been like family to us."

Customers feel the same way. "We're spoiled," said Jimmie Bounds. "We'll never get that kind of service. When we walk in the door, they yell to put a pan of biscuits on."

Bounds and her husband, Dean Bounds, regularly trek from their Holston Hills residence with their home-grown tomatoes. They slice their tomatoes and pour their own molasses on what they claim are the best biscuits around.

Biscuits and cornbread are the domain of Ann Henderlight, Witt's younger sister, who for 37 years has been using the same metal evaporated milk can to cut her dough. "I don't measure anything," Henderlight said. "I just put in a little of this and a little of that. I just do it like my mother did."

Lettie Glass of Lilac Avenue has been munching those biscuits for 15 years. "Honey, they're just so fluffy they melt in your mouth. They really can cook," she said.

For Glass, the food is just part of the attraction.

"They treat people like people," Glass said.

Former Gov. Ray Blanton, U.S. Congressional members Bill Frist and John J. Duncan Jr., former UT football coach Johnny Majors, country music icon Archie Campbell and vice President Al Gore have taken a seat at one of the dozen booths or seven counter stools, Netherton said.

Netherton recalls mixing six raw eggs in a glass of orange juice and cooking 25 strips of bacon for former heavyweight boxing champion John Tate while he was in training.

But nowadays, Williams said, the business isn't as profitable as it used to be. The sisters just couldn't bring themselves to raise their prices as food costs climbed. The menu demands a total of \$3.50 for two eggs, three bacon strips, a biscuit and coffee.

"We didn't think the everyday people coming in here could afford it if we raised the prices," Williams said.

Several customers noted the sisters often fed the penniless. "If somebody came in here hungry, they got fed," Williams said.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RESTORATION OF FAIRNESS IN IMMIGRATION LAW ACT OF 2000

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2000

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce today the Restoration of Fairness in Immigration Law Act of 2000. Today is truly a seminal event when the Congressional Black, Hispanic and Asian Pacific Caucuses along with Members on both sides of the aisle unite

behind a single piece of comprehensive immigration legislation.

For too many years, Congress has witnessed a wave of anti-immigrant legislation, playing on our worst fears and prejudices. Since 1994, we have considered proposals to ban birthright citizenship, ban bilingual ballots, and slash family and employment based immigration, as well as to limit the number of asylees and refugees. In 1996 we passed laws denying legal residents the right to public benefits and denying immigrants a range of due process and fairness protections, including prohibiting courts from reviewing many INS decisions, requiring lawful permanent residents be deported for minor offenses committed years ago, and imposing mandatory detention on non-criminal asylum seekers.

This year, I believe we have turned the corner, as business and organized labor have joined the advocacy community in recognizing the critical role immigrants play in our workplaces, our communities, our schools, and our culture. I particularly want to commend John Sweeney, President of the AFL-CIO, and the other 29 organizations who yesterday endorsed this historic piece of legislation. With the introduction of this comprehensive bill, I, along with the bipartisan list of co-sponsors, the Black, Hispanic and Asian Pacific American Caucuses, and the many supporting community organizations, send a clear message that Congress needs to fix what we did in '96.

Our work will not stop with the introduction of this legislation. We only have one month left in the legislative session, but I believe that many provisions of this bill can be passed into law, including providing Haitians and Central Americans with immigration parity, enacting late amnesty relief, and protecting battered immigrants.

Attached is a summary of the key provisions of this legislation.

SUMMARY OF THE "RESTORATION OF FAIRNESS IN IMMIGRATION LAW ACT OF 2000"

TITLE I.—DUE PROCESS IN IMMIGRATION PROCEEDINGS

Subtitle A.—Judicial Review (Sections 101-107)

Repeals all of the provisions from the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 ("IIRIRA") which strip the courts of jurisdiction over immigration-related matters. It returns court jurisdiction to exactly what it was before IIRIRA.

Subtitle B.—Fairness in Removal Proceedings

SEC. 111. BURDEN OF PROOF.—IIRIRA created a higher threshold for persons seeking to enter the U.S. by requiring them to establish their admissibility "clearly and beyond doubt." This section implements a "clear and convincing evidence" standard, which is the same standard INS applies in deportation cases.

SEC. 112. WITHDRAWAL OF APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION.—Creates a presumption in favor of granting a request for permission to withdraw an application for admission to depart from the United States immediately, unless an immigration judge has rendered a decision on the admission seeker's admissibility.

SEC. 113. ABSENCES OUTSIDE THE CONTROL OF THE ALIEN.—Under IIRIRA, a person with lawful permanent resident status is subject to a full inspection upon returning from a trip abroad if he has been absent from the United States for a continuous period of 180 days. This section changes the time period from 180 days to a year or longer in some situations, which comports with INS's current procedures.

SEC. 114. REINSTATEMENT OF REMOVAL ORDERS AGAINST PERSONS ILLEGALLY REENTERING.—Under IIRIRA, immigrants who reenter the United States after being previously removed must be removed from the country without any right to judicial review. This provision provides for a hearing before an immigration judge and an opportunity to seek relief from removal.

Subtitle C.—Fairness in Detention

SEC. 121. RESTORING DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY.—Restores pre-IIRIRA law granting discretionary authority to release immigrants from detention who do not pose a risk to persons or property and are likely to appear for future proceedings.

SEC. 122. PERIODIC REVIEW OF DETENTION DETERMINATIONS.—Eliminates indefinite detention without review that resulted from IIRIRA's changes to detention provisions. It requires mandatory review every 90 days.

SEC. 123. LIMITATION ON INDEFINITE DETENTION.—Establishes a one year ceiling on the time an individual can be detained while waiting to be removed, so long as the individual is not a risk to the community and is not a flight risk.

SEC. 124. PILOT PROGRAM.—Requires a pilot program to determine the viability of supervision of foreign nationals subject to detention through means other than confinement in a penal setting, so long as the individual is not a risk to the community and is not a flight risk.

SEC. 125. MANDATORY DETENTION.—IIRIRA requires mandatory detention for all individuals involved in expedited proceedings. This section provides for release unless the detainees are risks to the community or flight risks.

SEC. 126. RIGHT TO COUNSEL.—Would allow attorneys, with the consent of their clients, to make limited appearances in bond, custody, detention, or removal immigration proceedings.

Subtitle D.—Consular Review of Visa Applications (Sections 131–132).

Incorporates the "Consular Review Act of 1999" (H.R. 1156) introduced by Rep. Frank (D-MA) to require the Secretary of State to set up a Board of Visa Appeals that would have authority to review any discretionary decision of a consular officer regarding the denial, cancellation, or revocation of an immigrant or nonimmigrant visa or petition, or the denial of an application for a waiver of any ground of inadmissibility under the INA.

TITLE II.—FAIRNESS IN CASES INVOLVING PREVIOUS AND MINOR MISCONDUCT

Subtitle A.—Increased Fairness and Equity Concerning Removal Proceedings

SEC. 201. EXCLUSION FOR CRIME INVOLVING "MORAL TURPITUDE."—Eliminates exclusion from the United States under IIRIRA for acts of moral turpitude which may have constituted the elements of a crime but have not led to a conviction.

SEC. 202. AGGRAVATED FELONY PROVISIONS. (a). "Illicit Trafficking"—Excepts a single offense of simple possession of a controlled substance from the "aggravated felony" category created by IIRIRA if it is the person's first controlled substance offense. (b). "Crimes of Violence and Theft Offenses"—Changes the definition of violence and theft offenses that are considered to be "aggravated felonies" under IIRIRA from offenses for which the sentence was imprisonment for at least one year to offenses for which the sentence was imprisonment for at least five years. (c). "Alien Smuggling"—Limits the "alien smuggling" category to offenses committed for the purpose of commercial gain. (d). Waiver.—Provides discretionary authority to disregard convictions for aggravated

felonies that did not result in incarceration for more than one year. (e). Conforming Change Concerning Removal of Nonpermanent Residents.—Repeals a IIRIRA provision that bars nonpermanent resident aliens who have been convicted of an aggravated felony from being eligible for discretionary relief from removal.

SEC. 203. DEFINITION OF "CONVICTION" AND "TERM OF IMPRISONMENT."—Modifies IIRIRA's definition of "conviction" to provide that an adjudication or judgment of guilt that has been expunged, deferred, annulled, invalidated, withheld, or vacated; an order of probation without entry of judgment; or any similar disposition will not be considered a conviction for purposes of the INA. Also strikes the provision in that definition which states that any reference to a "term of imprisonment" or "sentence" is deemed to include the period of incarceration or confinement ordered by the court regardless of any suspension of the imposition or execution of the imprisonment or sentence.

SEC. 204. DEFINITION OF "CRIMES OF MORAL TURPITUDE."—IIRIRA provided for deportation when an alien is convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude for which a sentence of one year or longer may be imposed. This section limits deportation on this basis to cases where the offense was serious enough to result in incarceration for a year or more.

SEC. 205. CANCELLATION OF REMOVAL FOR LPRS (FORMERLY KNOWN AS SECTION 212(c) RELIEF).—Restores discretion to grant relief to long-time legal permanent residents who have committed minor criminal offenses. Repeals IIRIRA's stop-time rule so that lawful permanent residents can continue to accumulate their permanent resident status in the U.S.

SEC. 206. CANCELLATION OF REMOVAL FOR NON-CITIZEN (FORMERLY KNOWN AS SUSPENSION OF DEPORTATION).—IIRIRA replaced suspension of deportation relief with "cancellation of removal" relief which significantly narrowed eligibility for equitable relief. This section reverses IIRIRA by replacing the cancellation of removal provisions with the previous suspension of deportation provisions.

SEC. 207. RETROACTIVE CHANGES IN REMOVAL GROUNDS.—Reverses retroactive changes made by IIRIRA by providing that an immigrant will not be found to be removable for committing any offense that was not a ground for removal or deportation when the offense occurred (e.g., the "aggravated felony" classification will apply only to an offense that was defined as an "aggravated felony" when the offense occurred).

SEC. 208. LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENTS REMOVED UNDER RETROACTIVE.—Permits former lawful permanent residents who have been removed from the U.S. to return and apply for 212(c) relief as it previously existed or for cancellation of removal under the provisions of this bill. Applies to LPRs who were (1) removed for a criminal offense that was not a basis for removal when it was committed; (2) removed for criminal offense that is not a basis for removal when this bill is enacted; or (3) removed for a criminal offense for which relief would have been available but for the enactment of AEDPA or IIRIRA.

Subtitle B.—Exclusion Grounds

SEC. 211. FAILURE TO ATTEND REMOVAL PROCEEDINGS.—Limits the applicability of the five-year bar to admissibility that IIRIRA imposed on persons who fail to attend or remain in attendance at removal proceedings to situations where the individual acted willfully.

SEC. 212. VIOLATION OF STUDENT VISA CONDITIONS.—Limits the applicability of the five-year bar to admissibility that IIRIRA im-

posed on persons who violate a term or condition of their nonimmigrant student visas to situations where the student acted willfully.

SEC. 213. FALSE CLAIMS TO CITIZENSHIP.—Limits the applicability of an IIRIPA provision which made making a false claim to citizenship for an immigration benefit a basis for exclusion or deportation. INS will be required to prove that a claim of citizenship was not only false, but was also in fact willfully made by the individual.

SEC. 214. MINOR CRIMINAL OFFENSES.—Provides a waiver of inadmissibility based on a controlled substance violation for which the alien was not incarcerated for a period exceeding one year.

SEC. 215. BARS TO ADMISSIBILITY.—Under IIRIRA, a person unlawfully present in the United States for more than 180 days but less than 1 year who then voluntarily departs from the United States is barred from reentering the United States for 3 years. A person who is unlawfully present in the United States for 1 year or more and then voluntarily departs is barred from reentering the United States for 10 years. This section reduces the 3 and 10 year bars to admissibility to 1 and 3 years, respectively.

TITLE III.—ENCOURAGING FAMILY REUNIFICATION

Subtitle A.—Reuniting Family Members

SEC. 301. VISA FOR SPOUSES AND CHILDREN OF PERMANENT RESIDENTS.—Provides for a visitor's visa permitting family members to join their lawful permanent resident spouse or parent in the United States while waiting for an immigrant visa number. Also makes a visitor's visa available to persons waiting for an immigrant visa number on the basis of their status as battered immigrants.

SEC. 302. UNMARRIED SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF REFUGEES.—Under current law, when children reach the age of 21, they are classified as "sons and daughters" and lose their entitlement to refugee status when accompanying or following to join a parent who is a refugee. This section provides refugee status for older children when it is warranted by unusual circumstances or to preserve family unity.

SEC. 303. *Unmarried Sons and Daughters and Asylées*.—Provides asylee status to unmarried sons and daughters who are accompanying or following to join a parent who is a refugee when such a benefit is warranted by unusual circumstances.

SEC. 304. PROCESSING DELAYS.—Provides protection against INS and State Department delays in processing by requiring the determination of an applicant's eligibility to be based on the beneficiary's age 90 days after the date on which the application was filed. Also incorporates H.R. 2448 introduced by Rep. Mink (D-HI) to assure that immigrants do not have to wait longer for an immigrant visa as a result of a reclassification because of the naturalization of a parent or spouse.

Subtitle B.—Limited Waiver of Grounds of Admissibility

SEC. 311. 212(i) WAIVERS.—IIRIRA added a hardship provision requiring the applicant to establish that the waiver is needed to avoid causing "extreme hardship" to his or her spouse or parent. This section retains a general hardship requirement, but it does not require a showing of "extreme" hardship. IIRIRA also made persons present in the United States without being admitted or paroled inadmissible, and this section provides a discretionary waiver of that new ground of inadmissibility.

SEC. 312. DOCUMENT FRAUD.—Under IIRIRA, this waiver is limited to spouses and children. The reasons for permitting relief in

cases where the alien was acting solely to help a spouse or a child apply with equal force to the case in which the alien was trying to help a parent or non-minor son or daughter. Relief obviously should be available in both situations.

SEC. 313. NEW GENERAL WAIVER.—Waives inadmissibility in unusual circumstances (including victims of a battering or extreme cruelty by a spouse or other relative) for humanitarian purposes, to assure family unity, or when it is otherwise in the public interest. Applies to cases in which the applicant is inadmissible because of a failure to attend removal proceedings, for unintentionally violating the conditions of a student visa, for having been removed previously, and for being unlawfully present in the United States.

Subtitle C.—Eliminating Unfairness and Waste in Section 245(i) Waivers (Section 321-322)

Makes section 245(i) of the INA a permanent provision. Provides a waiver of inadmissibility on the basis of an unlawful presence in the United States in cases where the unlawful presence occurred during a time when the person involved would have been able to become a lawful permanent resident but for a gap in the life of section 245(i).

Subtitle D.—Equitable Procedures Concerning Voluntary Departure

SEC. 331. TIME ALLOWED FOR VOLUNTARY DEPARTURE.—IIRIRA limits grants of voluntary departure to a 120-day period. This section repeals that limit and permits the length of time for voluntary departure to be based on the circumstances in a particular case.

SEC. 332. VOLUNTARY DEPARTURE BONDS.—Eliminates the mandatory requirement that an alien must post a bond as a condition for receiving voluntary departure at the conclusion of removal proceedings and instead leaves this matter up to the discretion of the official who sets the bond terms.

SEC. 333. AUTOMATIC PENALTIES.—Eliminates automatic penalties for failing to depart pursuant to a grant of voluntary departure.

Subtitle E.—Public Charge (Sec. 341)

Eliminates the requirement of an affidavit of support as a condition for admissibility, but it permits using such an affidavit as evidence that the applicant for admission should not be excluded as a person who is likely to become a public charge. Also reduces the minimum income requirement for persons who sponsor the immigrants from 125% of the Federal poverty line to 100%.

TITLE IV.—FAIRNESS IN ASYLUM AND REFUGEE PROCEEDINGS

Subtitle A.—Increased Fairness in Asylum Proceedings

SEC. 401. TIME LIMITS ON ASYLUM APPLICATIONS.—Eliminates the requirement that an asylum applicant must establish that his application was filed within one year of his arrival at the United States or justify the delay on the basis of extraordinary circumstances.

SEC. 402. GENDER-BASED PERSECUTION.—Adds a provision to the definition of a “refugee” which specifies that persecution on account of gender will be deemed to fall within the “particular social group” category for asylum purposes.

SEC. 403. CAP ON ADJUST FROM ASYLEE TO LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENT.—Eliminates cap of 10,000 on the number of individuals who can change their status from “asylee” to “lawful permanent resident” in any fiscal year. Provides that the President will set the numerical limitation before the beginning of each fiscal year.

SEC. 404. WITHHOLDING OF REMOVAL.—Individuals who have been convicted of certain offenses are currently ineligible for withholding of deportation even if there is a high probability that they will be persecuted. This section would limit that exclusion to individuals who were sentenced to an aggregate term of imprisonment of more than five years and are considered to be a danger to the United States.

Subtitle B.—Increased Fairness and Rationality in Refugee Consultations (Sec. 411)

Refugee Admissions Consultation. Changes the time for the President’s report on refugee admissions from the beginning of each fiscal year to the date when he or she submits his or her budget proposal to Congress.

TITLE V.—INCREASED FAIRNESS AND EQUITY IN NATURALIZATION AND LEGALIZATION PROCEEDINGS

Subtitle A.—Naturalization Proceedings

SEC. 501. FUNDS FOR NATURALIZATION PROCEEDINGS.—Establishes a fund that will be used to reduce the backlog of naturalization applications to no more than six months. It would also provide funding for more expeditious processing of visa petitions, adjustment of status applications, and work authorization requests.

SEC. 502-506. CAMBODIAN AND VIETNAMESE MILITARY VETERANS.—Exempts Cambodian and Vietnamese naturalization applicants from the English language requirement if they served with special guerilla units or irregular forces operating in support of the United States during the Vietnam War (or were spouses or widows of such persons on the day on which such persons applied for admission as refugees). Also provides special consideration with civics requirement.

Subtitle B.—Parity in Treatment for Refugees From Central America and Haiti (Sections 511–516)

Incorporates the “Central American and Haitian Parity Act of 1999” (H.R. 2722) introduced by Reps. Smith (R-NJ) and Gutierrez (D-IL) to extend the same opportunity to become LPRs to eligible nationals of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Haiti, as currently provided to Cubans and Nicaraguans under NACARA.

Subtitle C.—Equality of Treatment for Women’s Citizenship (Sections 521–522)

Incorporates the “Restoration of Women’s Citizenship Act” (H.R. 2493) introduced by Rep. Eshoo (D-CA) and Walsh (R-NY), which grants posthumous citizenship to American women who married alien men before September 1922 and died before they could take advantage of the procedures set up by Congress to regain their citizenship in 1951.

Subtitle D.—Refugees from Liberia (Sec. 531)

Authorizes lawful permanent resident status for Liberian refugees who are in the United States under a Deferred Enforced Departure Order executed by President Clinton on September 27, 1999.

Subtitle E.—Previously Granted Amnesty Rights (Sec. 541)

Incorporates the text of the “Legal Amnesty Restoration Act of 1999” (H.R. 2125) introduced by Rep. Jackson-Lee (D-TX) to repeal jurisdictional restrictions imposed by Congress on the courts in IIRIRA with respect to certain outstanding claims for legalization and work permits under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

Subtitle F.—Legal Amnesty Restoration (Sec. 551)

Incorporates the text of the “Date of Registry Act” (H.R. 4138) introduced by Rep. Jackson-Lee (D-TX) and Rep. Luis Gutierrez (D-IL) to amend the INA to permit the Attorney General to create a record of lawful

admission for permanent residence for certain aliens who entered the United States prior to 1986. This permits them to become lawful permanent residents of the United States.

Subtitle G.—Asian American Visa Petitions (Sec. 561)

Incorporates the text of the “American Asian Justice Act of 1999” (H.R. 1128) by Rep. Millender-McDonald (D-CA), which grants certain individuals born in the Philippines or Japan who were fathered by United States citizens the right to file visa petitions in lieu of their parents and other relatives.

TITLE VI.—FAIRNESS AND COMPASSION IN THE TREATMENT OF BATTERED IMMIGRANTS (SECTIONS 601-615)

The provisions in this title were taken from the “Battered Immigrant Women Protection Act of 1999” (H.R. 3083) introduced by Rep. Schakowsky (D-IL), Rep. Morella (R-MD), and Rep. Jackson Lee (D-TX), which continues the work that began with the passage of the first Violence Against Women Act in 1994 (“VAWA 1994”). IIRIRA drastically reduced access to VAWA immigration relief for battered immigrant women and children. Title VII restores and expands the provisions of VAWA which provide access to a variety of legal protections for battered immigrants.

TITLE VII.—UNUSED EMPLOYMENT BASED IMMIGRANT VISAS

SEC. 701.—Incorporates section 101(b) of the “Helping to Improve Technology Education and Achievement Act of 2000” (H.R. 3983) introduced by Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA) and Rep. D. Dreier (R-CA) to allow unused visas from FY 1999 and FY 2000 to be recaptured for future use.

TITLE VIII.—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 801. BOARD OF IMMIGRATION APPEALS.—Adds definition of “appellate immigration judge” to the existing definition of “immigration judge” and specifies that the Attorney General may delegate authority to the appellate immigration judges.

SEC. 802. FORFEITURES.—Limits the seizure and forfeiture of a vehicle used to harbor or smuggle an alien to cases in which the purpose of harboring or smuggling the alien was for commercial advantage or private financial gain.

SEC. 803. COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE INS.—Repeals a provision in IIRIRA which prohibits any federal, state or local government official from preventing or restricting any government entity from sending to or receiving information from INS regarding the citizenship status or immigration status of any individual, or maintaining such information.

SEC. 804. AUTHORITY TO PERMIT STATE PERSONNEL TO CARRY OUT IMMIGRATION OFFICER FUNCTIONS.—Repeals provision which allows the Attorney General to enter into agreements with State and local governments to have enumerated immigration functions handled by local law enforcement agencies.

SEC. 805. PAROLE AUTHORITY.—Changes the standard for determining when to parole a person into the United States temporarily from “for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit,” to “for emergent reasons or for reasons deemed strictly in the public interest.”

SEC. 806. BORDER PATROL.—Incorporates the text of the “Border Patrol Recruitment and Retention Act of 1999” (H.R. 1881) introduced by Rep. Jackson Lee (D-TX) to provide for an increase to the GS-11 grade level for Border Patrol agents who have completed one year of services at a GS-09 grade level and who have fully successful performance rating. It provides for an Office of Border Patrol Recruitment and Retention.

SEC. 807. ERRONEOUS ASYLUM APPLICATION.—Eliminates two IIRIRA provisions limiting the rights of persons seeking asylum. Section 208(d)(6) of the INA prohibits foreign nationals who have knowingly made a “frivolous” asylum application from ever receiving any benefit under the INA Sec.

208(d)(7) states that nothing in the asylum provisions of the INA can be construed to create a legally enforceable substantive or procedural right or benefit.

SEC. 808. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF ACT.—Author-

izes appropriations for the various provisions included in the Act.

TITLE IX.—EFFECTIVE DATES

Sets forth various effective dates with regard to the Act’s provisions.