

In addition to the infrastructure needs I mentioned, we suffer from having 42 million uninsured Americans and rising health costs for insured individuals, proposed reductions in Medicaid funding, insufficient funding for the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant of the National Health Service Corps, a national nursing shortage, the most far-reaching energy blackout in U.S. history, attempts to buy homeland security on the cheap, and record-level deficits.

Americans need and deserve affordable health care, capable schools, quality education, sufficient homeland security, safe and reliable roads and mass transit, modern water infrastructure, and jobs, jobs, and jobs. We won't get these things by ignoring our problems here at home.

We need to reinvest in America, first and foremost.

TRIBUTE TO ANALYTICAL SERVICES FOR BEING RECOGNIZED AS THE NASA WOMAN OWNED BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an outstanding Huntsville-based aerospace contractor, Analytical Services, Inc. for being named the 2003 NASA Woman Owned Business of the Year. ASI began operations under the strong leadership of Irma Tuder in Huntsville, Alabama with just two employees in 1992. Today 250 people work for ASI, 150 of them are from my district.

Analytical Services, Inc. provides program planning, technical writing and multimedia design and development to the Orbital Space Plane program which is managed by NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center. ASI supports the OSP mission to provide a system for crew rescue from the International Space Station, and ultimately crew and limited cargo transport to and from the Station. It is also supporting the management of the design and development of a new multipurpose space transportation system for assured access to space and to provide operational flexibility for NASA.

ASI is best summarized by their company philosophy, "and then some." ASI employees are committed to these words by providing their customers with responsiveness, innovation, professionalism, and then some. ASI has a strong dedication to its community and should serve as a model for small businesses everywhere.

Mr. Speaker, today ASI Founder, President and CEO, Irma Tuder, will accept the 2003 NASA Woman Owned Business of the Year Award on behalf of all the employees of ASI. Since I cannot be there, I want to take this opportunity on behalf of the people of North Alabama, to congratulate all the employees of Analytical Services, Inc. on a job well done and thank them for their service.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 1588, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2003

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support the motion to instruct conferees offered by my dear friend and colleague, and fellow member of the Armed Services Committee, the Chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, Ciro Rodriguez.

This motion instructs the conferees on the Defense Authorization bill to adopt provisions that were overwhelmingly approved by the House when it passed the Armed Forces Naturalization Act earlier this year. These provisions would remove administrative and financial barriers to obtaining citizenship by those non-citizens who are risking their lives to defend of our Nation. Thirty-seven thousand legal permanent residents currently serve in our armed forces, and their service deserves to be recognized.

The Rodriguez motion also recognizes the important supportive role that family plays and calls for inclusion of measures to ensure that when their loved ones die in the line of duty, family members will not suffer even more by having their immigration status placed in jeopardy.

After every major conflict in the past 100 years, we have granted citizenship to thousands of immigrants who fought wearing the U.S. uniform. Let us do the right thing and act now to continue the American tradition of honoring those who have proven their loyalty to our country on the battlefield. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the Rodriguez motion to instruct.

TO COMMEMORATE THE BIRTHDAY, LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE LATE SENATOR CLAUDE DENSON PEPPER

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the birthday, life and legacy of the late Senator Claude Denson Pepper.

I first met Congressman Pepper in 1984 when we worked together to craft the National Democratic Platform. Even then, at age 84, his energy and passion for making life better for others was clear. During his near 90-year career, Pepper played a leading role in American politics. Pepper won vast victories for all Americans, notably our country's elderly population.

Pepper was elected to the United States Senate in 1935, where he gained the respect and friendship of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. He stayed in the Senate for 3 terms and served in the House, where he represented the greater Miami area. He served his House district for almost 30 years, becoming Chairman of the House Select Committee on Aging and of the House Rules Committee.

Claude Pepper did so much for so many, but is best remembered for his work on behalf of older Americans. He was their voice and their advocate. He led the battle to pass legislation that erased mandatory retirement laws. He authorized the bill that created the National Institute on Aging. His leadership made passage of Medicare a reality.

Near the end of his life, Chairman Pepper fought for the enactment of a prescription drug benefit in Medicare. Concurrently, he worked to enact a long-term home benefit in Medicare to assist the growing number of Americans who needed help performing essential activities of daily living in their homes. Pepper came away a few votes shy of enacting these bills, but his visionary actions shaped the path for future generations.

Pepper's life work was firmly routed in his personal principles. His passionate advocacy and unquestionable integrity made him a role model for public servants and generations of young men and women to invest their lives in giving back to their communities.

Claude Pepper is a hero to senior citizens and all Americans, and I am proud to have known him. As Congress continues to debate the future of Medicare and other programs, we would do well to remember his legacy and his simple philosophy: "Make it better. Do all you can to make life better for others."

Thank you, Senator Pepper, for your service to our country, and for making our Nation a better place for generations of senior citizens.

CONGRATULATING P.V.'S HUT ON ITS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of P.V.'s Hut, which is celebrating its fiftieth year as a popular institution in my hometown of Union City, Tennessee. Over five decades, P.V.'s Hut has served millions of its famous specialty—hand-made hamburgers.

P.V.'s Hut was founded in June 1953 by Horace Aaron "P.V." and Mary Lou Peevyhouse. Their daughter and son-in-law, Sue and Jim Isbell, now operate the restaurant, but patrons know they are receiving the same exceptional service that generations of customers have received at the small diner for five decades.

When I was a young boy, my family would go to P.V.'s for twenty-five-cent hamburgers and would dine at one of the two small tables located inside the restaurant at its original location. P.V.'s Hut has moved to a larger building now and can accommodate more guests at its booths and lunch counter. The prices have also changed over the years, but patrons still travel from miles away for hand-made hamburgers and baked-from-scratch pies at affordable prices.

Mr. Speaker, as we look for ways to help our economy grow, let us take the opportunity to thank and praise those small business owners who work so hard every day to contribute to our local and regional economies. They truly make a difference, with their customer service-minded business philosophies and their dedication to the community.

Because of its founders' and owners' love for old-fashioned food service, P.V.'s Hut has