

Gift Ban: I have cosponsored legislation to ban all gifts to Members, with limited exceptions for close personal friends or family. This bill would ban lobbyist contributions to a legal defense fund and prohibit lobbyists from making charitable contributions at a Member's behest. The bill also limits the ability of Members to profit from generous book-writing deals.

Lobbying Reform: Current registration requirements allow thousands of paid lobbyists to evade lobbying disclosure rules. Congress should act to close these loopholes and require lobbyists to disclose who pays them, whom they lobby, what issues they lobby for, and how much they are paid to influence the legislative process or the executive branch. In addition, Members of Congress and congressional committees should disclose information about legislation they introduce that was written by lobbyists.

Ethics Panel: I have introduced legislation to create an outside panel to investigate charges against Members. It is enormously difficult for the ethics committee to fairly investigate, prosecute, and judge ethics complaints against fellow Members. With less of an investigative burden, the committee could focus on important institutional ethics issues, including preventive education on ethics and guidelines on extremely harsh personal attacks.

Congressional Salary: I have consistently voted against congressional pay raises during my time in Congress, including the most recent increase in 1989. I support the proposals to freeze Members' salaries for several years. Current law provides for an automatic cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for Members unless Congress votes it down each year. While Congress has blocked these increases in recent years, these automatic COLAs should be abolished. At the very least, Congress should not receive an increase until the budget is balanced.

Congressional Pensions: I support significant reductions in congressional pension benefits. Possible reforms include increasing Members' personal contributions, capping total pension benefits, and means-testing benefits for former Members in lucrative jobs. Congress should conduct a comprehensive study to bring congressional benefits in line with benefits in the private sector.

Franking: Since 1992, with my strong support, the House has cut its mailing budget by more than 70%, banned mass mailings within 60 days of an election, and required all mass mailings to be approved by a bipartisan franking commission to ensure that they are substantive and non-partisan. Additional reforms are still needed. Congress should further restrict unsolicited mailings and ban "postal patron" mailings to all residents unless they advertise public meetings or solicit information. All large mailings should be disclosed for public scrutiny.

Ongoing Reform Process: I am introducing legislation to require regular congressional reforms—taking reform up every Congress rather than having one-shot, omnibus packages every twenty or thirty years. Members should have the opportunity to vote on significant reforms at least every two years. Reform should be a continual, ongoing process, and not wait until problems force belated change.

Conclusion: No issue is more important than the restoration of the confidence of Americans in their government. Americans will forgive government's honest failings if they believe that it cares about their needs and is trying to do a better job. Members of Congress have an obligation to earn the public's respect and trust. Congress has taken some important steps, but other, broader reforms are necessary if Congress is to be the truly representative body the peo-

ple deserve and the nation's founders intended.

URGING SUPPORT FOR THE UNITED STATES COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT OF 1995

HON. NORMAN Y. MINETA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. MINETA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce bipartisan legislation to celebrate key moments and presidents in American history, and by doing so help provide for the continued education of Americans about these subjects in the years ahead.

Commemorative coins have played a unique role in celebrating American history, as well as in providing a source of income for those nonprofit organizations which care for the legacies represented by these coins. This is part of the inspiration for the United States Commemorative Coin Act of 1995, which I am introducing today along with my colleagues Reps. LIVINGSTON of Louisiana, JOHNSON of Texas, SKELTON of Missouri, YATES of Illinois, HOYER of Maryland, STUPAK of Michigan, LIGHTFOOT of Iowa, and CUBIN of Wyoming.

Organizations supporting this effort include the Smithsonian Institution, the U.S. Mint, the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee. Our purpose is clear. In the effort to streamline important U.S. commemorative coin legislation, this bill includes a program of six commemorative coins to be minted during the next 2 years. To explain why this is in the national interest, some background history is in order.

In November of 1994, the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee published its first annual report to Congress. The Committee, which is congressionally authorized, concluded that given the recent decline in commemorative coin sales there must be greater thought and limits to future coins. Offering numerous coin programs during the same period threatens the success of each individual program, does a disservice to those honored with commemorative coins, and increases the risk that the programs will operate at a loss to the Mint.

In its report to Congress, the Committee stated its full support of the 1993 Sense of the Congress Resolution, enacted as part of Public Law 103-186, which seeks to limit the number of commemorative coin programs in any 1 year. The legislation introduced today provides for the following coins to be minted: Bicentennial of U.S. Gold Coins (1995 minting), Harry S. Truman and the United Nations (1996 issue), 150th Anniversary of the Smithsonian Institution (1996 issue), Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial (1997 issue), 125th Anniversary of Yellowstone National Park (1997 issue), and National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial (1997 issue).

Mr. Speaker, this is a well-balanced program with original sponsors to represent the subjects to be honored. In my added capacity as a Regent of the Smithsonian Institution, I had previously introduced H.R. 1079 with fellow House regents LIVINGSTON and JOHNSON to authorize the Smithsonian coin. But this omnibus bill offers several advantages to our

Nation, including a faster legislative process and the certainty of what our commemorative program will be in its entirety over a 2-year period.

I urge our colleagues to join in this effort and move this legislation quickly.

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SPORTS ARENA FINANCING ACT OF 1995

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, at the request of the District of Columbia, I introduced H.R. 1509 on April 7, 1995, in order to begin the necessary process that will enable the District to begin work on a new sports arena. Since then, the District has developed a different funding mechanism and has requested that a revised bill be introduced. Mayor Barry and the City Council have assigned a very high priority to the new arena because of its revenue-generating potential at a time when the city is in acute financial distress. The Council has given its wholesale support to the project and the Mayor has expedited the project in the District to free it from procedures that might otherwise delay it. We will try to do the same here in the Congress.

I particularly appreciate that Representative TOM DAVIS, chairman of the subcommittee that must carry the legislation through the Congress, has agreed to become an original cosponsor and to expedite the bill.

H.R. —

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "District of Columbia Sports Arena Financing Act of 1995".

SEC. 2. PERMITTING DESIGNATED AUTHORITY TO BORROW FUNDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SPORTS ARENA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—An agency or instrumentality may borrow funds for purposes of developing and constructing a sports arena in the District of Columbia if the agency or instrumentality is granted the authority to borrow funds for such purposes by the District of Columbia government.

(b) TREATMENT OF DEBT CREATED.—Any debt created pursuant to subsection (a) shall not—

(1) be considered general obligation debt of the District of Columbia for any purpose, including the limitation on the annual aggregate limit on debt of the District of Columbia under section 603(b) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act (sec. 47-313(b), D.C. Code);

(2) constitute the lending of the public credit for private undertakings for purposes of section 602(a)(2) of such Act (sec. 1-233(a)(2), D.C. Code); or

(3) be a pledge of or involve the full faith and credit of the District of Columbia.

SEC. 3. PERMITTING CERTAIN DISTRICT REVENUES TO BE PLEDGED AS SECURITY FOR BORROWING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The District of Columbia (including the agency or instrumentality described in section 2(a)) may pledge as security for any borrowing undertaken pursuant to section 2(a) any revenues of the District of

Columbia which are attributable to the sports arena tax imposed as a result of the enactment of D.C. Law 10-315.

(b) EXCLUSION OF PLEDGED REVENUES FROM CALCULATION OF ANNUAL AGGREGATE LIMIT ON DEBT.—Any revenues pledged as security by the District of Columbia pursuant to subsection (a) shall be excluded from the determination of the dollar amount equivalent to 14 percent of District revenues under section 603(b)(3)(A) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act (sec. 47-313(b)(3)(A), D.C. Code).

SEC. 4. NO APPROPRIATION NECESSARY FOR ACTIVITIES RELATING TO BORROWING.

The fourth sentence of section 446 of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act (sec. 47-403, D.C. Code) shall not apply with respect to any of the following obligations or expenditures:

(1) The proceeds of any borrowing conducted pursuant to section 2(a).

(2) The pledging of revenues as security for such borrowing pursuant to section 3(a).

(3) The payment of principal, interest, or other costs associated with such borrowing.

THE ENDING OF AN ERA

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, the 351st Missile Wing, Whiteman AFB, MO, under the command of Col. G.D. Blackmore, recently completed deactivation of its 150 Minuteman II Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles under the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty and has today inactivated. This unit's accolades remain unparalleled in the annals of ICBM history. The only six-time winner of the ICBM missile competition, only simultaneous holder of the ICBM community's tripe crown of awards, and six Air Force outstanding unit awards are but a small part of the recognition of this wing's total contribution to our country's success in winning the cold war.

The men and women of the 351st have continuously maintained a silent vigil in the rural countryside of west-central Missouri since 1963. Twenty-four hours a day, every day for 32 years, the 351st kept the deterrent posture that safeguarded our great Nation so very well. The 351st Missile Wing carried out this immense responsibility in tremendous style, and we, the citizens of this country, owe them a debt of thanks which cannot be repaid.

The wing continued its pursuit of excellence even while deactivating. Everything this unit did was done using quality approaches, and that effort paid great dividends. From first place international public sector in my great State's Quality Award Program, to winning the Secretary of the Air Force Team Quality Award, to first place in Air Force Space Command's Unit Quality Award, the men and women of the 351st have become an example to the entire Air Force in trust, teamwork, and continuous improvement.

Safety was the wing's No. 1 goal while deactivating and was the underlying philosophy of the unit. Nothing is more challenging than deactivation of a weapon system covering a 10,000-square-mile area in west-central Missouri, in all kinds of weather and conditions.

Many of the tasks the wing performed during deactivation have never been done before

at an operational unit. The 351st saved the Air Force over \$163 million by returning items to the supply system. All of the arduous maintenance, security, and operations efforts were performed without incident, and this fact illustrates that the wing routinely turned the intricate into the commonplace. Safety was more than a phrase in the wing, it was a way of life—the safe conduct of all wing activities.

The outstanding efforts of this wing have clearly established them as the benchmark for others to emulate. After more than 32 years of faithful and outstanding service to the Nation, the wing cased its flag for the final time today. The legacy of the Whiteman Warchiefs has been one of continuous excellence in every area of their mission. The 351st Missile Wing takes its place today as one of the finest units ever to serve in the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

TRIBUTE TO LOUISVILLE MALE
HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MIKE WARD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the outstanding performance of Louisville Male High School from Louisville, KY, in the "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" national competition which was held in Washington, DC, April 29–May 1. These outstanding young people competed against 49 the classes from throughout the Nation and demonstrated a remarkable understanding of the fundamental ideals and values of American constitutional government.

This program is administered by the Center for Civic Education and is one of the most extensive of its kind. In its 8-year history the program has reached more than 20 million students in elementary, middle and high school. The competition at the national level simulates a congressional hearing during which students testify as constitutional experts before a panel of judges. I applaud this program and, as a result, these students for their participation in an invaluable educational experience.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that a copy of the list of participants which I am submitting be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I hope that the students of Male High School will continue their interest in Government.

The competing class was from Louisville Male High School. The teacher was Sandra Hoover. The students were as follows: Shannon Bender, Josh Bridgewater, Shilo Burke, Katie Callender, Scott Embry, Jessi Followwill, Adam Greenwell, John Grissom, Christy Jones, Jonathan Keith, Stephanie McAlmont, Stephen McAlmont, Shannon McMillan, Travis Moore, Kristi Mosier, Adam Pedigo, Melanie Rapp, Amber Rowan, Chris Rutledge, Shannon Simms, Eric Stevens, April Stivers, Ricky Suel, Danyaun Vandgrift, and Shaniqua Wade. The State coordinator was Tami Dowler. The district coordinator was Tommy Dowler.

A REQUEST TO INCLUDE TEXAS
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLU-
TION 30 IN THE CONGRESSIONAL
RECORD

HON. CHARLES WILSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, the following was sent to me by the Secretary of State of Texas. I respectfully request that it be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
SECRETARY OF STATE,

May 29, 1995.

I, Antonio O. Garza, Jr., Secretary of State of the State of Texas, do hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of House Concurrent Resolution 30, passed by the 74th Legislature, Regular Session, 1995, as signed by the Governor on May 25, 1995, and as filed in this office on May 25, 1995.

Enclosure.

ANTONIO O. GARZA, JR.,
Secretary of State.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas, In response to an Act of Congress approved April 10, 1869, the 12th Legislature of the State of Texas convened in Provisional Session from February 8 to February 24, 1870, and ratified Amendments XIII, XIV, and XV to the United States Constitution; and

Whereas, Those federal constitutional amendments, each ratified by separate joint resolutions of the 12th Legislature on February 15, 1870, solidified some of the most precious rights that have been guaranteed constitutionally to Americans, particularly ethnic minorities who were granted the blessings of equal citizenship and the beginning of an end to their past oppression; and

Whereas, Amendment XIII eliminated forever the practice of slavery, Amendment XIV promised due process and the equal protection of the laws, and Amendment XV prohibited denial of suffrage on the grounds of race, color, or previous condition of servitude; and

Whereas, Over time, copies of the three resolutions regrettably have vanished from the holdings of the Texas state archives, yet others are preserved in Washington, D.C., by virtue of their certification and transmittal to the Secretary of State of the United States and to the presiding officers of the United States Congress; and

Whereas, The 1995 Regular Session of the 74th Legislature coincides with the 125th anniversary of these historic ratification actions and marks an appropriate time for the conveyance to this state of replicas of the three resolutions so that Texans may view and appreciate a series of documents that have played such and important role in the extension and elaboration of their civil rights: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the 74th Legislature of the State of Texas, Regular Session, 1995, hereby respectfully request the National Archives and Records Administration to make copies of the joint resolutions of the 12th Texas Legislature ratifying Amendments XIII, XIV, and XV to the United States Constitution and transmit those copies to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission for placement in the state archives; and, be it further

Resolved, That the Texas secretary of state forward copies of this resolution to the archivist of the United States at the National Archives and Records Administration, to the vice-president of the United States and