

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 1995

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted in favor of House Joint Resolution 79, the flag amendment.

RECOGNIZING THE CITY OF FRANKLIN, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. WILLIAM F. CLINGER, JR.

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 1995

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the city of Franklin, PA, on the bi-centennial celebration of this community. It is an honor and a privilege to commemorate the residents of Franklin as they embark on their third century.

Deep in the oil region of Pennsylvania, Franklin is a community with spirit. Located in Venango County on the banks of the Allegheny River, there is a town full of beauty, natural resources, industry and historic significance. From the time of George Washington and the French and Indian War, this tract of land served to protect and enhance the lives of its inhabitants.

There was little activity until Andrew Ellicott built a fort to honor Benjamin Franklin. Once established as a fortification, Fort Franklin quickly grew into a village and subsequently into the prosperous city it is today. Franklin also offers stability to the community, as the seat of county government for more than 150 years.

Called the Victorian City, Franklin takes pride in the rich heritage established by the first pioneer settlers, and the industrial revolutionaries who drilled the first oil well. It is my pleasure to honor these first residents of Franklin for their achievements and for setting the standard of excellence that the community values today.

EDINBURG, TEXAS, NAMED ALL-AMERICAN CITY

HON. E de la GARZA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 1995

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Speaker, at its ceremony in Cleveland this past weekend, the National Civic League announced it had selected the city of Edinburg, TX, as an all-American city for 1995. A finalist for the award 27 years ago, Edinburg is one of only 10 communities nationwide named by the League—and is, in fact, the only Texas town to be selected.

Chosen from 145 original entries, communities were evaluated on how well they addressed such problems as youth violence, affordable housing and downtown revitalization through grass-roots activism and collaborative problem solving. "Responding to unacceptable high rates of youth crime and violence, citizens, city agencies and service groups initiated a comprehensive package of crime pre-

vention, anti-drug, mental health, education, recreation and employment programs," the awards announcement for Edinburg said.

This recognition is certainly a testimony to Edinburg Mayor Joe Ochoa, to the city commissioners Roy Pena, Pete Rodriguez, Toribio Palacios, and Ofelia De Los Santos, and to the people of Edinburg who have joined together to make their city such an outstanding community. It is truly a great honor.

At the awards ceremony Civic League Chairman John Gardner commented there is a paralysis and pessimism that infects too much of the country today, and that it is communities such as Edinburg which demonstrate the grassroots activism, can-do spirit and creative foresight needed to renew our country. I fully share those sentiments. Indeed, I think I speak for all of us in south Texas when I say how proud we are.

Congratulations.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION RELATING TO INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS AND THEIR EMPLOYEES

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 1995

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation which will help to address some very serious ambiguities currently found in the tax code relating to the availability of pension plans for Indian tribal governments and their employees.

Under current law, there are no salary deferred pension plans for Indian tribal governments and their employees. As far as we can tell, Indian tribal governments are one of only a few employers which do not have such plans available to them. Further aggravating matters, several tribes have purchased plans provided for under section 403 (b) of the Code from insurance companies, only later to find that such plans were not intended for their use. Those retirement funds, affecting several tribes and thousands of tribal employees, are now in jeopardy.

One of the chief reasons individuals elect to work for an employer is based on a strong employee benefits package. Although many tribes are now competitive in the area of salary and health care the laws of the Federal Government have prohibited tribes from offering any form of salary reduction pension plan—one of the most sought after benefits offered to prospective employees. This is a basic matter of equity.

The proposal would provide that annuity contracts purchased by employees of Indian tribal governments qualify under section 403 (b) as tax-sheltered annuities. The Joint Committee on Taxation has estimated that this proposal would have a negligible revenue effect on Federal fiscal year budget receipts.

I am pleased to introduce this legislation today and I ask for the consideration of my colleagues.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CIVIC EDUCATION

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 1995

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, In a declaration issued on June 7 in Prague, participants at the CIVITAS PRAGUE 1995 conference pledged to create an international network to help make civic education a higher priority on the agendas of participating nations as well as on the international agenda.

The conference was one of the largest international gatherings of educators and representatives of the public and private sectors supporting civic education ever held. Four hundred twenty-five representatives from 52 nations participated. The conference was sponsored by 36 civic education organizations from North America, Eastern and Western Europe, and the former Soviet Union.

The declaration by CIVITAS participants asserts that civic education is essential for developing the support required for the establishment and maintenance of stable democratic institutions, economic development, national security, and for overcoming destructive religious and ethnic conflicts. The declaration also argues that civic education should have a more prominent place in the programs of all government and international organizations.

The text of the CIVITAS declaration follows. I urge my fellow Members to join me in supporting the declaration and in giving greater recognition to the need to improve civic education for students in the United States and in other nations throughout the world.

On June 2-6, 1995, representatives from fifty-two countries met in Prague at one of the largest international meetings on civic education ever held. The following is a declaration adopted by the participants. A list of the individual signers is available on CIVNET.

The wave of change toward democracy and the open economy that swept the world at the beginning of this decade has slowed, and, in some respects, even turned around. Religious and ethnic intolerance; abuses of human rights; cynicism toward politics and government; corruption, crime and violence; ignorance, apathy and irresponsibility—all represent growing challenges to freedom, the marketplace, democratic government, and the rule of law.

All this makes clear how central knowledge, skills, and democratic values are to building and sustaining democratic societies that are respectful of human rights and cultural diversity. Once again, we see the importance of education which empowers citizens to participate competently and responsibly in their society.

Despite great differences in the more than fifty countries represented among us, we find many similarities in the challenges we face in our civic life. These challenges exist not only in the countries represented here; they also exist in other parts of the world, and in all aspects of social, economic, and political life. People involved in civic education have much to learn from one another.

It is time again to recognize the crucial role that civic education plays in many areas of concern to the International community: Shared democratic values, and institutions that reflect these values, are the necessary foundation for national and international security and stability; the breakup of Cold War blocs, while bringing much good, has also

created openings for aggressive and undemocratic movements, even in the established democracies themselves; civic development is an essential element in—not just a side effect of—economic development. Investments and guarantees made by private enterprise, governments, and international financial institutions will fall where political and legal systems fall, and where corruption and violence flourish.

The challenge of civic education is too great for educators alone. They need far greater cooperation from their own peoples, governments, and the international community.

We seek increased support for civic education—formal and informal—from the widest range of institutions and governments. In particular, we urge greater involvement in civic education by international organizations such as the Council of Europe, the European Union, the North Atlantic Assembly, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the United Nations, UNESCO, and the World Bank.

We seek an active personal and electronic on-line-exchange (through CIVNET) of curricular concepts, teaching methods, study units, and evaluation programs for all elements of continuing education in civics, economics, and history.

We pledge ourselves to create and maintain a worldwide network that will make civic education a higher priority on the international agenda.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE McKIM BARLEY

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 1995

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. George McKim Barley, Jr., a seventh generation Floridian who leaves behind a legacy of leadership in the fight to save Florida Bay and the Everglades. Mr. Barley tragically died in a plane crash in Orlando, FL, on June 23, 1995.

George Barley will be remembered among the great conservationists like Marjorie Stoneman Douglas—author of "A River of Grass"—who brought national attention to the plight of the embattled Everglades ecosystem that stretches from Lake Okeechobee to the coral reefs of the Florida Keys. A passionate environmentalist, George Barley became Florida Bay's most visible and ardent proponent in Washington. His advocacy and dedication were vital to much of the progress made to date in Everglades restoration efforts. Unfortunately, Mr. Barley was killed pursuing this passion—his untimely death occurred while en route to an Everglades meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Barley was the Florida Marine Fisheries Commission's first director. He was chairman of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council from 1992 until 1995. He chaired Save Our Everglades Alliance—a family of organizations dedicated to a broad campaign of Everglades education, political action and restoration.

Mr. Barley was named the Florida Audubon's Conservationist of the Year for 1994. The Nature Conservancy, the Everglades Coalition, The Broward County Environmental Coalition and the Florida Outdoor Writer's Association also have given him

awards for his volunteer work on restoring Florida Bay and the Everglades.

Perhaps George Barley's greatest contribution to the cause of Florida Bay and Everglades restoration was his understanding of the need to express environmentalism as an economic argument, a question of jobs and a future for ordinary people. As a successful businessman, he was well positioned to argue for the need to protect our natural resources in order to maintain economic prosperity. He will be long remembered and sorely missed by those of us working to preserve the Everglades and Florida Bay for future generations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 1995

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, last Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, I spoke to the graduates, teachers, and families at 15 public school graduation exercises in my district. I consider it one of my most important duties as a Representative to celebrate these events and acknowledge publicly that these young people of the South Bronx, often in spite of terrible odds, have successfully completed major stages in their education.

However, I missed several votes in the House. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

On further consideration of H.R. 1854, Legislative Branch Appropriations, 1996:

Rollcall No. 408, approval of the Journal—no.

Rollcall No. 409, motion to permit Committees to sit—no.

Rollcall No. 410, Fazio amendment, amended by Mr. HOUGHTON—yes.

Rollcall No. 411, Clinger amendment to cut Folklife Center, increase CBO to do unfunded mandate analyses—no.

Rollcall No. 412, Orton amendment to cut the Botanical Garden, increase depository libraries—no.

Rollcall No. 413, Klug amendment to cut GPO staffing—no.

Rollcall No. 414, Christensen amendment to ban funds for elevator operators—no.

Rollcall No. 415, Zimmer amendment to return unspent funds for deficit reduction—no.

Rollcall No. 416, motion to recommit—yes.

Rollcall No. 417, passage of H.R. 1854—yes.

On H. Res. 170, the rule for consideration of H.R. 1868, Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations, 1996:

Rollcall No. 418, ordering the previous question—no.

Rollcall No. 419, passage of H. Res. 170—no.

CONKLIN ACHIEVES ELITE ISO 9001 CERTIFIED QUALITY STATUS

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, Conklin Instrument Corp., a leading supplier of tele-

communications network access products in my district of upstate New York, joined an elite group of companies which have had their quality systems certified under the international standard for quality, ISO 9001.

ISO is widely known for the ISO number on photographic film that established the standard for film speed. That standard allows all photographic film and cameras in the world to work together without problems. The ISO 9001 quality system standard allows suppliers and customers world wide to work together with the highest quality possible.

ISO 9001 specifies the characteristics of quality management system that gives mutual benefit to both customers and suppliers alike. It also requires an independent third party registrar to certify conformance periodically. Only 2,100 companies in the United States and 250 companies in Canada have achieved ISO 9001 certification to date.

Conklin Instrument Corp. was founded in 1957 by Charles Conklin, who produced gauges for jet engine manufacturers. In 1972, Conklin began to design and manufacture custom products for telephone companies with construction of the company's existing corporate headquarters and factory beginning in 1973. Proud of its contributions to the telecommunications industry, Conklin formed its Atlanta Design Center in 1984, and continues to provide for research and development of digital telephone products which account for most of the company's current sales.

Charles Conklin had the dream that many Americans have. He wanted to do something he loved and to be successful doing it. His entrepreneurial spirit should be emulated by all young businessmen and women, for he took that risk in 1957 and his company is reaping the benefits today. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I urge you and all Members to congratulate Conklin Instrument Corp. on this prestigious award and I thank them for their service to my district.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK BRUCE SMITH

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 1995

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a good friend and outstanding East Texan, Frank Bruce Smith of Tool, TX, who died recently at the age of 80. Bruce was a lifelong resident of Henderson County and a man of stature there. I always felt a kinship to Bruce and his wife, Willie Mae; actually, Willie Mae is related to my wife. Bruce spent a lifetime devoting his energies to help make Henderson County a better place in which to live, and his presence will be truly missed.

Born January 15, 1915, in Henderson County to Dan and Eula Smith, Bruce graduated from Mabank High School in 1934 and from Draughn's Business College in Dallas in 1937. He served 28 years with the Trinity River Authority, including serving as vice president, president, and chairman of the board. He was the only person to be appointed by five Governors.

Bruce also was involved in the oil and cattle industries. He was an active member of the