

To appreciate the value of teleservices, one only has to visit his local Department of Motor Vehicles, Post Office or wait in line or on "hold for the next available customer service representative." To all for whom time is money, pay-per-call to access government is an attractive and economical option.

It is not a new idea that those most benefiting from government services should pay a charge. For nearly forty years, gasoline taxes and license fees have, in whole or in part, financed state and federal highway systems.

Why do trucks pay higher fees than automobiles? Everyone seems to accept the logic of the answer: they use the highways more and wear them out faster.

It is difficult to determine why it has taken so long for government to serve its "customers" with efficient pay-per-call applications.

Perhaps citizens had become too accustomed to free access, free information and even free publications from their governments.

Ironically, we have come to accept that banks and other businesses bill for a myriad of services which were once free-of-charge. Customers now accept that service, and more specifically "fast" and "express" services, have monetary value.

The Contract with America, passed by the new majority in Congress, cuts the cost of government by reducing services. Deferring costs by requiring users to pay for "instant" service may be the only way for some government agencies to justify their continuance.

Another boost to government lethargy has been the bad rap given the 900 industry through its early and nearly-exclusive use as an adult service.

Because of the industry's own determined efforts to protect its services from improper and illegal usage, adult services using 900 numbers virtually have disappeared. Most applications that utilize a 900 number now fall under the category of Business-to-Business Teleservices.

Today, every touch-tone telephone is a miniature market. With access to 800 and 900 numbers, callers can order merchandise, obtain personal bank balances, have their voices heard or their votes tallied, and be talked through astonishingly complete menus for ordering an amazing array of goods and services.

Once again, the private sector has embraced a new technology, enhanced it with countless unique and practical innovations, significantly improved lives and created profits.

Now it is past time for government to assess its own timid samplings, to observe the widespread public uses and applications, and to bring to citizens and taxpayers the efficiencies and economies of broader use of pay-per-call services.

100 BLACK MEN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 1995

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 100 Black Men of Jackson, MS who hosted the 100 Black Men of America National Convention July 10 through 15, 1995 in Jackson, MS. This organization is a welcome force in the Jackson community. Members volunteer their time and effort to work with economically disadvantaged youths. They visit schools, take students to their place of

employment and entertainment events that introduce them to a segment of life that they would not ordinarily get an opportunity to come in contact with. Members of the Jackson, MS chapter include college presidents, a congressman, businessmen, clergymen, doctors, lawyers, and many other professionals.

The national organization was founded in 1976, and strives to improve the quality of life for African-Americans and other minorities. This organization, not only defines problems but attacks them head on. Through its mentoring program, the organization serves as role models for low-income African-American males from single parent households. Many of these youths are becoming first generation college students.

The African-American community is plagued by alarming statistics indicating that 50 percent of U.S. black males drop out of high school and that, more black males are involved with the criminal justice system, either in prison, on probation or parole, than in college. These statistics emphasize the need more than ever for the 100 Black Men.

Please join me in saluting the 100 Black Men of Jackson, MS.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 1995

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, due to the fact that I was unavoidably detained last evening, I missed the rollcall vote on House Resolution 192, which called for the House Inspector General to complete a more detailed audit of the House. Had I been present on rollcall vote No. 525 I would have voted "yes."

TRIBUTE TO ALMENIA STEVENSON WILLIAMS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 1995

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Almenia Stevenson Williams as she celebrates her retirement from Anacostia Senior High School in the District of Columbia.

Mrs. Williams was born in Florence, SC to the late Reverend Leo T. Stevens and Utensile Jackson Stevenson. She was educated in the Florence County public schools and later received her bachelor of science degree in business education from Savannah State College and master of arts degree from the Catholic University of America. She furthered her studies at the University of the District of Columbia, Howard University and Trinity College.

Mrs. Williams began her teaching career in the public schools of Cedartown, GA. In 1966, she began her 29-year career with the District of Columbia public schools, serving at Anacostia Senior High School for the past 16 years. Mrs. Williams' dedication to students is not limited to the confines of classroom instruction. She served as the Student Government sponsor and worked with the Future Business Leaders of America.

In addition to dedicated service to her profession, Mrs. Williams is active in numerous civic and professional organizations including the National Business Education Association, Ladies First Aid Union of Churches, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. She is also a longtime member of Trinidad Baptist Church, where she is the business manager for the chorus choir and the recording secretary for the nurses unit. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mrs. Almenia Stevenson Williams on her retirement and join her family and friends in saluting her on July 22, 1995 at Trinidad Baptist Church.

THE SUPREME COURT

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, July 19, 1995 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

THE SUPREME COURT

The U.S. Supreme Court recently completed its 1994-1995 term. While the subject of the Supreme Court doesn't come up very often in my discussions with Hoosiers, the Court's actions have a significant impact on the lives of all Americans.

This term was marked by the emergence of a strong and unified conservative majority on the Court. The conservatives displayed a desire to reconsider long-settled constitutional principles on everything from race and religion to federalism and privacy. This is a Court with an activist's appetite and reach. It is the political conservatives on the Court who are casting aside precedents and making new law. It is the so-called liberals who are constantly pushing judicial restraint and respect for continuity. The conservatives on the Court who for years have been deploring judicial activism are now judicially very active.

It is premature to say whether this conservative brand of judicial activism will continue in future years. The conservative majority holds a narrow 5-4 edge on the Court, and two of the Justices, O'Connor and Kennedy, appear to be reluctant activists, struggling where possible to find common ground with their more liberal colleagues; and Chief Justice Rehnquist is likely to retire in the near future. Even so, the conservatives are, at least for the time being, making their mark on the Court.

What follows is a summary of the key decisions from this term.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

The Court issued several decisions which weaken the legal underpinnings of affirmative action. While all the cases were decided by narrow 5-4 majorities, they reflect a strong aversion to affirmative action programs and will have wide-ranging consequences.

In a case involving a federal highway construction project, the Court held that federal programs designed to benefit minorities are unconstitutional unless they serve a compelling government interest and are narrowly tailored to address past discrimination. The ruling will almost certainly have the effect of curtailing such programs.

In a second case involving the Kansas City school system, the Court ruled that the lower federal courts in Missouri had improperly ordered the state to help pay for a major

school integration plan. The decision underscored the Court's impatience with continued federal court involvement in school desegregation cases.

In a third case involving a Georgia redistricting plan, the Court held that the use of race as a "predominant factor" in drawing district lines makes the districts presumptively unconstitutional. Many states, particularly in the South, had created majority-black or hispanic districts in the last round of redistricting in an effort to comply with the federal Voting Rights Act. The Court's decision, however, raises doubts about the constitutionality of most, if not all, of these plans, and may lead to the election of fewer blacks to Congress.

FEDERALISM

The Court also addressed fundamental questions about the distribution of power between states and the federal government. In one case, the Court overturned a federal law banning gun possession within 1000 feet of a school. Congress, in passing the law, had relied on its constitutional powers to regulate interstate commerce. The Court said Congress failed to prove that gun possession at or near schools had enough bearing on interstate commerce to justify federal involvement. The decision marked a striking departure for the Court, which has, for the last 60 years, tended to defer to Congressional judgment in this area. It is uncertain, however, whether the decision signals a broader attack on federal regulation under the Commerce Clause, or merely singles out a poorly drafted law.

In another, closely-watched case, the Court ruled that in the absence of a constitutional amendment, states may not limit the number of terms that members of Congress may serve. The decision had the effect of overturning term-limit measures approved in 23 states. The Court reasoned that the Constitution had clearly set forth the qualifications for service in Congress—age, residency and citizenship—and those qualifications could not be further restricted by the states. The House defeated a term limits amendment earlier this year, but the issue will likely be revisited next year.

OTHER KEY DECISIONS

The Court issued several other groundbreaking decisions this term. In one case, which will certainly have an impact on high schools in Indiana and around the country, the Court held that a school district may require that all students take drug tests as a condition of playing sports. In a victory for environmentalists, the Court held that federal regulators may stop private landowners from developing their property in ways that could destroy the habitat of endangered wildlife species.

Two religion cases opened the door to greater government accommodation of religious speech. First, the Court held that the University of Virginia must provide a financial subsidy to a student religious publication on the same basis as other student publications. This marks the first time the Court has ever approved government funding for a religious activity. Second, the Court ruled the Ku Klux Klan had a free speech right to erect a cross in a state park in Ohio.

CONCLUSION

This Court is engaging in a very fundamental debate on the very nature and source of the legitimacy of the national government. Several of the Justices have said that the federal government exists only to the extent that the states permit it to do so. This Court has a very deep skepticism about federal power.

Conservatives now control the Court, and even the left leaning Justices are hardly in

the same camp as Blackmun, Brennan or Marshall. The Clinton appointments, Ginsburg and Breyer, are moderate on economic issues and fairly liberal on social issues. What's missing is a justice who sees the Court as a way to promote social justice. The new left is much more pragmatic than the old left.

Whatever the center of the Court ideologically speaking, it can be said that the present majority is fragile. The replacement of a single justice could make a big difference in the dynamics of the Court.

TRIBUTE TO MIGUEL ANGEL AMADEO

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 1995

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, today I join the community organization 52 People for Progress, Inc., to do honor to Mr. Miguel Amadeo for his noteworthy musical and public accomplishments. Mr. Amadeo is a dear personal friend and an invaluable member of our South Bronx community.

Better known as Mike, he started his musical career at the age of 16. Since then, he has composed over 200 songs. A humble man, his talent has been shared with various prominent Latino artists such as Johnny Albino, Cuartero Los Hispanos, Héctor Lavoe, Andy Montañez, Willie Colon, and Celia Cruz, among others.

Besides being a gifted and prolific composer, Mr. Amadeo is also a dedicated member of our South Bronx community. He has been a longtime supporter of the organization 52 People for Progress which aspires to improve the conditions of the community through music, culture, and art. He worked for 40 years serving customers at his record store, Casa Amadeo, in the South Bronx. Indeed, in the late 1970's when businesses were fleeing, Mike stayed, endured and continued to write his songs and serve his loyal clientele.

The music of Miguel Amadeo has enlightened and brought hope to thousands of listeners. His gentle nature has changed the lives of many individuals who have been touched by him. It is not frequent that we find both, musical talent and commitment to the community, in one individual.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize citizens like Mr. Amadeo, who with their talent, fortitude, diligence, and relentless dedication give back to their community and set an example for others to follow. Today, Mike will receive a well deserved public recognition in the same community theater he helped to build. I ask my colleagues to join me and the South Bronx community in conveying best wishes and deep gratitude to Mr. Miguel Amadeo.

CONGRESS' CONSENT IS NEEDED BY THE HISTORIC CHATTAHOOCHEE COMMISSION

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 1995

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, today I, along with members of the Alabama and Georgia

delegations, rise to introduce a measure on behalf of the Historic Chattahoochee Commission, a State agency of both Alabama and Georgia.

On October 14, 1978, President Carter signed Public Law 95-462 which granted the consent of Congress to the Historic Chattahoochee Compact between the States of Alabama and Georgia. Earlier, both States had passed identical legislation to authorize the creation of this compact for the operation of the Historic Chattahoochee Commission. The Commission, a bi-State heritage tourism agency, serves 11 Georgia and 7 Alabama counties along the lower Chattahoochee River.

At present, the Historic Chattahoochee Commission's board nomination process is cumbersome. The commission's 28 board members—14 from each State—are appointed " * * * by the historical commission or organization or similar historical body or other designated authority in each of the counties represented by the Commission who shall be bona fide residents and qualified voters of the party states." In some counties, there are no historical or preservation groups and organizations. In other counties, there are two or three historical or preservation organizations. County or city governments and even some tourism or commerce organizations have been called upon to nominate board members in counties without historical or preservation groups. This process is often confusing and time consuming. In an effort to resolve this inefficiency, the Historic Chattahoochee Commission's board of directors proposed to amend the interstate compact to simplify the commission's board selection procedures. This legislation seeks to ease this process.

In 1993, the Alabama Legislature approved Act 93-643 and the Georgia General Assembly endorsed Act 326 which amended the Historic Chattahoochee Commission's interstate compact to provide for a different board selection process. This amendment, and the legislation I am introducing today, specifies that

The Commission shall consist of 28 members who shall be bona fide residents and qualified voters of the party states and counties served by the Commission. Election for vacant seats shall be by majority vote of the voting members of the Commission board at a regularly scheduled meeting.

On August 19, 1993, the Alabama Attorney General's office rendered an opinion that the Historic Chattahoochee Commission,

* * * cannot use the amended version of the enabling legislation to select new board members until the consent of Congress is given by the amending of Public Law 95-462.

On February 2, 1994, the Georgia Attorney General's office issued an opinion that:

* * * the Georgia amendment expressly requires that both the Georgia and Alabama amendments of the Historic Chattahoochee Compact be approved by Congress prior to becoming effective. Without such approval, the Commission does not have the authority to act under the Georgia or Alabama amendment.

With this requirement in mind, it is with pleasure that I join with my colleagues Representative BEVILL, Representative BISHOP, Representative BROWDER, Representative CRAMER, and Representative HILLIARD in seeing that the amendment to the Historic Chattahoochee Commission's interstate compact becomes effective. Senator SHELBY has introduced S. 848 in the Senate and he is joined