

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

in support by Senators HEFLIN, COVERDELL, and NUNN.

During the 104th Congress, I look forward to gaining the support of the House in advancing this legislation expeditiously, as it has already been approved by the States of Alabama and Georgia.

SYLACAUGA, AL, HONORS SINGER,
ACTOR JIM NABORS AS NATIVE
SON

HON. GLEN BROWDER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 1995

Mr. BROWDER. Mr. Speaker, Sylacauga, AL, is an exceptionally pleasant, attractive community in the Third District of Alabama, which I have the honor to represent in this House of Representatives. Members of the House may be familiar with the fact that the Capitol contains marble from Sylacauga. So does the U.S. Supreme Court, the Lincoln Memorial and a number of other beautiful buildings across America.

Sylacauga is a small, progressive city with almost 25,000 residents. It has good schools, libraries, museums, parks, churches, and a diversified industrial base—all of the things that would make a person want to call Sylacauga home.

One of the city's best known native sons is Jim Nabors, who will be coming back home to Alabama on July 28. The occasion will be Jim's presentation of the memorabilia from his career in entertainment to the native son collection at Sylacauga's Isabel Anderson Comer Museum.

Jim's collection was assembled during more than 35 years as a singer, actor, and comedian. As many of us remember, Jim appeared for years as the star of "Gomer Pyle USMC" and later in the "Jim Nabors Hour," where his remarkable singing ability was featured.

Despite his international fame as a singer and entertainer, Jim has always taken pride in introducing himself to the world as a small town guy "from Sylacauga, AL." Obviously he has not forgotten where he came from and it is equally apparent that Sylacauga has not forgotten him.

In addition to the presentation and reception at the museum, Jim will participate in the grand finale of Sylacauga's outstanding program in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II. He will open the celebration with his popular rendition of the Star Spangled Banner. He also will present awards and certificates of appreciation to veterans of World War II.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the city of Sylacauga on this valuable gift of Jim Nabors' memorabilia and to commend Jim for being the kind of person that his hometown is proud to remember.

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on July 16 I had the privilege of addressing a group of Ukrain-

ian-Americans in Glen Spey, NY, concerning developments in the New Independent State of Ukraine.

In honor of the upcoming fourth anniversary of the independence of Ukraine, I would like to insert some of my remarks into the RECORD at this point for the review of my colleagues.

As we approach the anniversary of Ukrainian independence this August 24, I invite my colleagues to join me in expressing our very best wishes for the success of political and economic reforms in that important European State.

Mr. Speaker the text of my speech follows. I am hopeful that my colleagues may find it of interest.

It is good to be here with some of my good friends from the Ukrainian-American community.

I would like to take a moment to say a few things about Ukraine, now approaching the fourth anniversary of its independence.

The last few years have not been easy ones for the Ukrainian people.

Despite Ukraine's natural wealth—particularly in its agricultural resources—it has suffered greatly from its dependence on trade links purposely created by the former communist regime to control Ukraine—and from the physical and psychological residue left in the wake of many decades of communist repression, propaganda and corruption.

By no means, however, can Ukraine be considered as down and out.

As we all well know, Ukraine and its people have weathered far worse times—times of world war, times of civil war, times of mass starvation, and times of fascist and communist dictatorship and atrocities.

I am very confident that, with the help and understanding of its friends—particularly that of the United States—Ukraine will begin to gain its feet and move forward to the long-term prosperity and democracy it richly deserves.

I am more confident of this than ever before, given the strong leadership of Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma.

Since his election last year, President Kuchma and his government have moved with determination to implement the economic reforms that Ukraine so badly needs.

In closing, let me note how the United States has helped and is continuing to help Ukraine in this difficult time.

We have provided vital assistance to Ukraine to help it begin retraining its military forces and to settle and retrain those of its troops that are demobilized as Ukraine dismantles its soviet-era nuclear missiles.

We have assisted Ukraine in arriving at agreements with Russia concerning Russian compensation for Ukrainian nuclear warheads and concerning Russian energy supplies for Ukraine.

I am also certain that at this time our government is continuing to advise the Ukrainian government on how to arrive at an acceptable agreement with Russia concerning the division and basing of the Soviet-era Black Sea Fleet.

The United States quite frankly played a crucial role in arranging the recent agreement of Ukrainian debt rescheduling.

That agreement helped Ukraine qualify for the billions of dollars in loans and credits it is now receiving from international financial institutions.

Finally, assistance from the United States in support of economic reforms in Ukraine is helping that country in several very important ways.

The United States is helping the Ukrainian government target its limited resources to

best help the most needy segments of its population during the transformation to a market-based economy commences.

It is helping train Ukrainian entrepreneurs, bankers, businessmen and students.

The United States is helping transfer state-owned enterprises to private ownership by Ukrainian citizens.

It is helping Ukrainian energy industries to become more efficient and productive.

We are helping the Ukrainian government and the Ukrainian Parliament to better organize themselves and operate in a manner that will fulfill their proper roles in a democratic government.

The United States is helping Ukraine find the means to shut down the dangerous reactors at Chernobyl—and to help the unfortunate victims of radiation poisoning from the 1986 reactor explosion, both in Ukraine and in neighboring Belarus.

Perhaps most important, United States assistance is helping fund programs to explain to the Ukrainian people the changes that are underway and how they will help build a better Ukraine for them and their children.

In closing, let us, as we look to the future, realize that we must continue to work to ensure the stability of Ukraine—because the stability of all of Europe may depend upon it.

In that regard, it makes a great deal of sense for us to continue assisting Ukraine and to work to see that Ukraine takes its rightful place in Europe, particularly with regard to organizations such as the European Union and NATO.

May God Bless America.

And, may God bless peace, democracy, and prosperity for Ukraine.

MISSED VOTE ON HOUSE RESOLUTION 192

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 1995

Mr. TIAHRT. 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."

LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE REPUBLICAN LED CONGRESS

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 1995

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to taut a few of the accomplishments of the 104th Congress. Contrary to the claims of the Democratic Leadership Council that despite all the hype about the Republican revolution, the Republicans have offered very little, the Republican led Congress has ended business as usual in Congress and continues to lead the charge in implementing the changes mandated by the American people last November.

On the first day of the 104th Congress we passed the Congressional Accountability Act so that Congress applied all laws to itself that