

training of Hamas' operatives—activities that are critical to Hamas' vicious terrorist campaign against Israel, against those who support Israel, and against Palestinians who do not follow Hamas' violent line. Hamas has viciously opposed the efforts of the PLO to work with Israel in bringing peace and ending violence.

Mr. Speaker, I welcome the action of our Department of State in barring the entry into our country of Abu Marzuq. I raised this issue earlier this week in a hearing of the International Relations Committee and repeated my concern to the Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs that our Government must move decisively against all those individuals who are involved in terrorist activities of any kind. We have no obligation to admit such individuals who support, encourage, and engage in terrorism. Furthermore, I urge the administration and the courts to comply with the request by the Government of Israel for the extradition to Israel of Abu Marzuq. The Israeli Government has evidence of the involvement of this Hamas leader in terrorist activities, and it would be most appropriate that he be returned to Israel to stand trial in an Israeli court of justice to determine his guilt or innocence of these heinous crimes.

Mr. Speaker, it is an absolute and unmitigated outrage that the vicious, unprincipled leaders of Hamas have threatened President Clinton and the United States if the extradition of Abu Marzuq is carried out. In a letter published in an Arab-language newspaper in Israel earlier this week, Hamas published an open letter to President Clinton with intolerable and offensive threats: "If your government decides to hand Abu Marzuq to the Israeli authorities, we would consider this a hostile act against all Arabs and Muslims. You will bear the consequences of such an act." The letter threatened that the extradition would unleash "a wave of anger and retaliation throughout the Arab and Islamic world." A leader of another militant group, Islamic Jihad, said the United States would "pay dearly" for detaining or extraditing Abu Marzuq.

The United States must never, under any circumstances, yield to such blatant, mind-boggling terrorist threats. Our foreign policy must be based on principled decisions and respect for the rule of law. Our actions at home and abroad must never be influenced by timidity or trepidation in the face of blatant threats by terrorist thugs. To yield to such treats will only encourage every other international terrorist group to issue an carry out such threats. Our policy must always be to stand up against intimidation.

Mr. Speaker, the detention of Abu Marzuq only serves to highlight the continuing danger of international terrorists. The Oklahoma City bombing a few months ago highlighted the danger we face from domestic terrorists and anti-Government militias, but we must not let that tragedy and the necessity of dealing with terrorism at home obscure the need to deal with international terrorism.

I urge my colleagues to move quickly to bring to the floor of the House the Comprehensive Antiterrorism Act, which has been developed with the cooperation and full support of the Department of Justice. If that legislation had been enacted, dealing with the detention of Abu Marzuq and extraditing him to Israel would probably be an easier task.

Mr. Speaker, there is absolutely no reason for further delay. We have dealt with all kinds of issues in the House of Representatives in recent days, but none have the urgency and immediate importance of taking action to improve the ability of our law enforcement officials to deal with international terrorism. I urge that the Comprehensive Antiterrorism Act be brought to the floor and that we move quickly to improve our ability to deal decisively with the scourge of terrorism, both within our borders and beyond.

TRIBUTE TO BILL MORGAN

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 4, 1995

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor in sadness today to pay tribute to a good friend and a man of exceptional political insight, Bill Morgan of Baton Rouge, LA. Bill died this week at the age of 53.

Bill Morgan served the Congress as majority counsel to the Joint Economic Committee from 1977 to 1980. Subsequently, he worked as a media consultant on numerous campaigns throughout the south and midwest, including some of mine.

I knew Bill as a knowledgeable, intelligent, and wise counselor. A person whose advice could be relied upon. He began his working life as a reporter. He went on to earn a masters degree in political science and a law degree from LSU. And he transformed his varied experience into his own political media consulting firm in 1983. A Vietnam veteran, he always distinguished himself by his love of country, his deep dedication, and his infectious sense of humor.

Bill Morgan will be missed. We thank his family for sharing him with us and wish them Godspeed.

TRIBUTE TO JESSE SANCHEZ

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 4, 1995

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, the Latino community has lost a great leader.

Jesse Sanchez, who devoted every ounce of his spirit to empowering the Latino community in the city of Salinas, in my congressional district, died on August 2, 1995, of cancer. Mr. Sanchez always spoke first when Latinos in Salinas confronted public racism—and often, he spoke alone. He had the courage and uncompromising conviction to express what many others felt, but, could not say.

Mr. Sanchez fiercely believed that Latinos belong in every room and at every table where public discourse occurs, and, he fought aggressively to dismantle artificial barriers to Latino political participation. His valiant battles inspired many Latinos to assert their God-given talents and to express their political leadership skills. As a result, the city of Salinas, the county seat in what is one of the most powerful agricultural valleys in our country, now boasts a Latino-majority city council working mightily to represent all of Salinas.

And more importantly, the city's schools are now filled with young Latino students who dream of leading their city some day.

Mr. Sanchez' vitae attests to his commitment to the Latino community. The following list contains just some of Mr. Sanchez' achievements:

As a student during the late 1970's and early 1980's, Mr. Sanchez insisted that commencement ceremonies celebrate Latino culture, first at the predominantly Latino Alisal High School in Salinas, where he convinced authorities to hold the first ever bilingual commencement and then at the University of California at Davis Law School, where Mr. Sanchez became the first valedictorian to address celebrants in Spanish as well as English.

Upon finishing his studies, Mr. Sanchez returned to Salinas in 1981 and became the first Latino elected to the Alisal Union School District Board of Trustees, where for 12 years Mr. Sanchez helped transform the school district into California's leading bilingual, bicultural educational institution.

In 1988, Mr. Sanchez led a successful fight to convince the voters of the city of Salinas to adopt single-member voting districts to elect city council members, thus paving the way for the city's first ever elected Latino city councilman.

In 1992, Mr. Sanchez filed a lawsuit and obtained an order pendent lite requiring judicial elections by districts, an order which yielded the first Latino, the first Latina and the first African-American municipal court judges ever in Monterey County, CA.

In closing, let me make one thing clear: Mr. Sanchez' efforts, although focused on empowering Latinos, have benefited the entire Salinas community. The pool of talent which serves Salinas has now been enlarged to include people who previously could not contribute. Those newly enfranchised people now lend their talent and their commitment to the effort to make Salinas a better community.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF RABBI ARYEH SCHEINBERG OF CONGREGATION RODFEI SHOLOM IN SAN ANTONIO, TX

HON. FRANK TEJEDA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 4, 1995

Mr. TEJEDA. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to honor an outstanding spiritual leader in San Antonio, TX, a man who has dedicated the past 25 years to teaching, learning and inspiration. Rabbi Aryeh Scheinberg, who this month will be honored by the community for a quarter century of service as rabbi of Congregation Rodfei Sholom, has the rabbinate in his blood: He stands in a line of seven generations of rabbis who could take pride in his accomplishments. I join in saluting Rabbi Scheinberg for his many positive contributions to our community.

Rabbi Scheinberg can be described as a man of intense knowledge, of passion for learning, of deep spirituality. He is that and more. Rabbi Scheinberg takes seriously the biblical admonition to "Love thy neighbor as thyself" in his daily life. He loves people. He recognizes the divine spark in each person

and works to transform that spark into a glowing fire. Over the years, Rabbi Scheinberg and his wife Judy have selflessly opened their house to congregants and visitors alike, offering hospitality, song, study and the warmth of home to all. It is no wonder that he is so well loved.

Rabbi Scheinberg understands the need for community and the special value of the family. With a stubborn vision and hard work, Rabbi Scheinberg has built a vibrant community centered around synagogue and home, but with a window on the world. Rabbi Scheinberg has reached out beyond the walls of his own congregation and connected with the entire Jewish community in San Antonio. He has worked with colleagues of other faiths to increase understanding and build on common ground. He has led missions to Israel, which enjoys a special and unique place in his heart. He has cried with the bereaved, danced with joy on occasions of happiness, and inspired so many to open their minds and souls to ultimate truths. Above all, his personal faith, dedication and warmth have gained him the undeniable respect of clergy and laymen alike.

On August 27, San Antonio will formally honor Rabbi Scheinberg through the dedication of a new Torah, the handwritten Hebrew text of the five books of Moses. This celebration is fitting: just as Rabbi Scheinberg has written the words of tradition on the hearts of his congregants and students, the community will complete the writing of the very words of Torah he upholds.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO REPEAL THE LOCAL RAIL FREIGHT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 4, 1995

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to repeal the Local Rail Freight Assistance Program [LRFA]. As my colleagues may be aware, this small Federal program uses taxpayer dollars to subsidize privately owned freight railroads.

LRFA was established in the mid-1970's to ease the disruption resulting from the loss of rail service due to the bankruptcy of the Penn Central Railroad and five smaller carriers. LRFA was originally intended as a temporary 2-year formula grant program to assist 18 States by alleviating the economic dislocation caused by rail abandonments. Nearly two decades and over half a billion dollars later, this temporary program has been expanded to include 49 States and the District of Columbia. LRFA continues to receive funding despite the fact that it has not been included in the last 11 budgets submitted by Presidents Reagan, Bush, or Clinton.

The short line industry no longer needs this Government handout. Today, the short line railroad industry is expanding and profitable overall. Furthermore, short lines already have a \$1 billion government loan guarantee program—section 511—to help finance their capital needs.

Because this program has outlived its usefulness, the Congressional Budget Resolution (H. Con. Res. 67) and the fiscal year 1996 transportation appropriations bill (H.R. 2002)

did not include funding for LRFA. LRFA funding for this fiscal year is \$17 million, down from its peak spending level of \$80 million in 1980. My bill would remove the authorizing language and thereby end funding for the LRFA once and for all.

Some have argued that termination of this program will result in greater truck traffic. I know of no evidence, however, of increased truck traffic in the 29 States that did not receive LRFA funding this fiscal year. Supporters of LRFA also point out that economic disruption could result if the program ended. I remind my colleagues that none of my home State's short lines received any LRFA funding this fiscal year—and the industry miraculously survived.

As a member of the House Railroad Subcommittee, I support making the short line industry more competitive. For example, Congress should fund the section 511 guaranteed loan program and reform the antiquated labor laws that apply to freight railroads. These two measures alone would be a thousand times more beneficial to the short lines than continuing the LRFA.

At a time when Congress is cutting funding for publicly owned mass transit, it is perverse to give a handout to privately owned freight railroads. I urge my colleagues to join me in taking the short line railroad industry off the Federal Government's corporate welfare rolls by cosponsoring this legislation.

THE AMERICAN PROMISE

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 4, 1995

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the United States was founded on an idea—the idea of democracy. In its general sense, this concept embraces the participation of all segments of society in the shaping of our republic.

However, the American democracy is neither simply defined nor easily described. It is expressed in an infinite number of variations. In its most basic form, democracy in our society is nonrepresentational and conducted directly at the local level. I rise, today, to recommend to my colleagues a Public Broadcasting Service [PBS] television series, "The American Promise," celebrating our country's community-based democracy.

Members of Congress arrive in Washington, DC having won elections to introduce, consider, and vote on legislation. While much is accomplished in our National's capital, too often, congressional democracy devolves into the partisan bickering and a competition for political power.

"The American Promise" highlights another aspect of American democracy. In community after community throughout America, in ways large and small, citizens decide every day to become part of the democratic process. They do this by joining organizations, forming community groups, and helping their fellow citizens to shoulder the burdens of society.

When this happens, there are not losers. When a community development bank is opened in a depressed inner-city location or when neighbors add their combined strength to form a local safety watch program, they are exercising their rights as participants in the American democratic experiment.

In my view, there is no better antidote to doubts about our Nation's future than adjusting our sights from the latest iteration of partisan one-upmanship to the grassroots to relieve our concern.

Mr. Speaker, the PBS special, "The American Promise," does exactly this: It reminds us all of the community-based democracy found beyond this Capitol. In doing so, it restores our faith in the idea for democracy, the possibilities for our future, and the promise of America.

I would also like to highlight a particular aspect of the series. One segment features an outstanding example of grassroots democracy in my home, the Bronx, NY. In response to the tragedy of random inner-city violence, mourning families commission graffiti artists to paint walls honoring their murdered children. These memorials to the past not only honor the lives of those who have died, but represent warnings to the living about the need to work together for an end to the carnage.

Finally, I am proud to recognize the Public Broadcasting Service for making possible programming that demonstrates America at its best. In this time of cuts to the public broadcasting budget, I am proud to commend PBS for continuing to offer the finest programming available on the public airwaves.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues and viewers across the Nation to tune in to their local PBS station and watch "The American Promise." The series reminds us of what is right about America and what we must do to achieve our country's full potential.

"RECYCLE! KIDS": ENVIRONMENTAL AMBASSADORS FOR SAN DIEGO

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 4, 1995

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to congratulate "Meredythe and Recycle! Kids" for their seventh anniversary and to applaud their recent recognition as the official environmental youth ambassadors for the city of San Diego.

Meredythe and the Recycle! Kids was created in 1988 by Meredythe Dee Winter as a unique learning experience for homeless and underserved youth. Hundreds of children have participated in the program.

All children are welcome to participate in special workshops that teach them to become aware of environmental issues and enjoy a caring, artistic atmosphere. Members have contributed their skills in choreography, gymnastics, singing, and dancing.

The Recycle! Kids has achieved international recognition. Meredythe and the Recycle! Kids was the only program chosen to represent San Diego County at the 25th Anniversary National Earth Day Celebration in Washington DC.

They were also selected to participate in the United Nations Environment Programme—Global Youth Forum. In 1994, Recycle! Kids performed at the Plenary Session in front of the White House. More than 1,500 people were in the audience, including many United Nations officials. In 1993, they were honored by the Philippine Delegation at the Plenary Session in Boulder, CO.