

his fairness, firmness, and thoroughness. Of the 322 opinions written as a circuit judge and the 18 opinions written as a district judge, he was reversed in only 4 cases, a record few can equal. His colleagues knew him as a courtly, conservative Virginia gentleman whose personal style was low key, modest and polite, often with a dry wit.

According to his son, U.S. District Judge Albert V. Bryan Jr., Judge Bryan, Sr. thought of the court as a jewel of the Constitution. Following through on the jewel metaphor, the Washington Post editorial marking the death of Judge Bryan, stated that: "those who knew the senior Judge Bryan might well add that this appraisal came from a expert who valued that gem and protected it with integrity and eloquence."

With great reverence and pride, I am pleased to introduce legislation today to honor and commemorate this distinguished Alexandria jurist.

TRIBUTE TO PHYLLIS KASSOFF

HON. THOMAS J. MANTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 1995

Mr. MANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join Temple Torah in honoring Phyllis Kassoff. Since 1961, Ms. Kassoff has demonstrated her leadership skills and talents through her work at the Temple Torah and beyond.

Phyllis Kassoff's guidance has been reflected in her participation in a number of causes in her temple and community. Some of these include, Torah Fund chairperson and co-cultural vice president for the Sisterhood and Ms. Kassoff currently is co-president. In addition, she aided in the establishment of the first PTA of the Hebrew School at the Temple and was designated its first corresponding secretary. She participated with her extended family in funding an Israel Educational Scholarship for underprivileged children, and a Relaxation Glen for Israeli soldiers and their families.

After 14 years, Phyllis went back to college where she received the high honor of being elected to Kappa Delta Pi from Queens College where she graduated with a degree in Early Childhood Education and a Masters in Child Education. She went on to teach in the New York City School System where she headed counseling services at a federally-funded private on-the-job training program. Phyllis Kassoff's family is also an important part of her life; her husband Edwin Kassoff, children Mitchell and Robert, and grandchildren Sarah, Johathan, Jaclyn, and Adam.

Phyllis' hobbies are reflected in some of the groups she participates in including the National Judicial College Choral Club and the Israeli Folk Dancing group at Temple Torah. In addition, she enjoys travel and photography. Currently, she is the recording secretary for the Temple.

Within the last 3 years, Phyllis, along with her brother and sister, graciously donated the computer and computer area at the Law School at Bar Ilan University in Tel Aviv, as well as the Ner Tamid in the synagogue library area, a portion of the builder's wall in the lobby as well as the computer room and necessary equipment in memory of their parents.

In addition, they funded the construction of a road leading into the park where athletes run with the torch to Jerusalem to mark the beginning of Chanukah holiday celebrations.

Phyllis Kassoff illustrates the importance of family, community and religion in all aspects of our lives. I know my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Phyllis Kassoff and wish her well in her future endeavors.

GOLDEN HEAL-A-MIND

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 1995

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Nat and Barbara Winters on the occasion of their receipt of the "Golden Heal-a-Mind" Award.

This award to Nat and Barbara Winters is also a symbol of recognition of Gateways Hospital, one of the oldest and most respected mental health treatment centers in the country.

Nat and Barbara Winters are paragons of achievement, compassion, and commitment. They suffered the unimaginable pain of the loss of their daughter 8 years ago. This tragedy created a bond between them and all others for whom illness has brought great suffering.

The Winters are principal supporters of the city of Hope, Cedars-Sinai Heart Family, the John Wayne Cancer Research Organization, and numerous other health organizations. Nat Winter, a director of Congregation Mogen David, has also worked hard on behalf of the Jewish community.

I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating Nat and Barbara Winters for receiving the "Golden Heal-a-Mind" Award and for their years of selfless dedication to our community. I wish the Winters, their children and grandchildren every happiness this honor can bestow.

A BILL TO IMPOSE AN EXCISE TAX ON AMOUNTS OF PRIVATE EXCESS BENEFITS FROM CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 1995

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague, the gentleman from California [Mr. STARK] in introducing the Exempt Organization Reform Act of 1995. This is an important piece of bipartisan legislation that would help solve a problem that we have attempted to address a number of times in the past. Basically, the issue is one of private inurement involving tax-exempt organizations, where the organization's insiders are using the charity's assets for their own personal benefit. The problem is how to handle abuses in that area, short of revoking the tax-exempt status of the organization. At the present time, the only tool normally available to the Internal Revenue Service, in private inurement situations is revocation. Revocation is often too severe and does not punish the illegal acts of the insider. Intermediate sanctions are needed

to prevent organization insiders from using a charity's assets for their own personal benefit.

In the 103d Congress, the Oversight Subcommittee and the full Ways and Means Committee made a number of attempts to address the issue. Most recently, a bipartisan proposal was suggested by Ways and Means members as part of the GATT implementation legislation. Unfortunately, it was not included in the final conference report by the House and Senate. Both in the past and currently, the Treasury and IRS have continued to urge that legislation be enacted to fix this problem.

The bill would include provisions to: First, extend the current law prohibition on private inurement applicable to charities to social welfare organizations (section 501(c)(4) organizations), second, provide for intermediate sanctions in the form of penalty excise taxes where the organization engages in an excess benefit transaction; as well as imposing dollar sanctions on certain disqualified individuals—for example, insiders—who improperly benefit from such a transaction, and third, require reporting of excise tax penalties imposed so that contributors can make an independent judgment on supporting the organization, and provide for public availability of annual reports.

These changes are designed to solve the current problems resulting from the lack of a range of enforcement tools. This legislation will also improve the ability of contributors to scrutinize the activities of organizations they support.

We welcome the support of our colleagues in cosponsoring this important legislation.

HONORING RITA DI MARTINO

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 1995

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to salute today a very special and esteemed member of this Nation's Hispanic community, Rita Di Martino. True leaders are the pillars that hold our communities together. They are our source of hope and inspiration. The Nation's Hispanic community is blessed by the presence of many of these heroes, many recognized, many not. Among these leaders, the name Rita Di Martino stands out as a symbol of courage, commitment, and selfless devotion to improving the educational and economic opportunities for Hispanics. Through example she has instilled in her community the importance of active political and civic participation and responsibility. Most importantly, she has led by principles of excellence and sincerity of spirit.

Di Martino's professional career has been impressive. A native New Yorker, she began her career in the mid-70s at the New York State Department of Commerce. In 1979, Di Martino joined AT&T as managing director for the Caribbean and Central America as well as in public affairs and public relations. Since 1989, she has held the position of director of Federal Government affairs, where she assists in establishing and developing AT&T's relations with the administration, Congress, and State governments. Throughout the years, she has become AT&T's most valuable advisor in issue dealing with Hispanic affairs and multicultural issues in general.

In addition to her responsibilities at AT&T, Di Martino is a member of the Council of Foreign Relations and the Conference Board; serves on the Executive Committee of the National Council of La Raza; is the Vice-Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus; the National Hispanic Corporate Council; the Cuban American National Council; the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials; the U.S. Senate Republic Task Force; and is a Presidential Appointee to the USO World Board of Governors. In 1982, Di Martino was appointed by President Reagan as U.S. Ambassador to the UNICEF Executive Board. As head of the U.S. Delegation, she represented the interest of the U.S. and influenced policy regarding the relationship between the U.S. and UNICEF.

Rita Di Martino has also been a pioneer of women's rights. She has been a first in many places where women, especially Hispanics, had not been able to conquer the barriers imposed by society. Recently, the Mexican American Women's National Association [MANA] established the Rita Di Martino Scholarship in Communication in recognition of her many accomplishments. The scholarship will be given to Hispanic women that excel in their professions and at the same time have a strong commitment for the betterment of their communities.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a remarkable woman and a true leader. Individuals like her serve as true role models for our future generations.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2126) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes:

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 2126, the 1996 Department of Defense appropriations bill. As a member of the subcommittee and committee which crafted this bipartisan bill, I believe it represents a revitalization of our national security by this Congress.

I want to address a misleading argument that is often made in media reports and in this Chamber. Some people try to criticize this bill by claiming it funds items that the Pentagon didn't even ask for. In fact, as a part of the executive branch, the Department of Defense is asked to confirm the unlikely by saying that the Federal Government can provide for our defense needs with President Clinton's budget plan. The Department of Defense did not ask for everything it needs, even after 10 straight years of cuts, because the President's budget was simply insufficient. The modest increases in defense spending provided by the House budget resolution will help bridge the gap between America's military goals and commitments and the money the administration budgeted for defense.

Many of the big-ticket purchases in this bill have received a lot of discussion, but I want

to draw attention to some of the less noticeable needs that are met by this bill.

This bill funds a critical Army need for trucks to replace 2½-ton trucks that are an average of 25 years old. Would you trust your life in wartime to a 1970 vehicle? Our Army troops are forced to do just that by the administration budget.

This bill increases procurement of equipment for the Reserve Component Automation System. This system will increase readiness by enabling the Army Reserve and National Guard to respond to a crisis in substantially less time than the current, manual process.

This bill helps replace gas-guzzling, air-polluting engines in Air National Guard and Air Reserve tanker refuelers that are expected to be used until the year 2020. In the long run, these engine upgrades will make our refuelers more efficient, cleaner, and more cost-efficient.

The list of items goes on and on: improved laser systems for the Army Reserve, C-9 cargo door repairs for the Navy Reserve, and auxiliary power units for Air Force KC-135's. This bill funds many items the Pentagon needs and was not allowed to request because, although President Clinton's defense budget was not part of a plan to balance the budget, the defense budget was supposed to continue to shrink drastically.

I support this bill because it is the bipartisan product of a committee that did a good job of using available funds to provide for many of the real needs of the Department of Defense. Adequately providing for the national security and vital interests of the United States is one of the most important things this Congress and this Government can do. I urge my colleagues to vote for this important bill.

THE FEDERAL THRIFT SAVINGS
PLAN ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1995

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 1995

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Federal Thrift Savings Plan Enhancement Act of 1995. The bill will authorize the addition of a Small Capitalization Stock Index Investment Fund and International Stock Index Fund to the investments available under the Federal Thrift Savings Plan (TSP). These stock funds will be linked to the Wilshire 4500, Wilshire 5000 index minus the 500 stocks held in the S&P 500 index, and the Morgan Stanley EAFE Indices, respectively.

By adding these two funds to the Federal employees' retirement investment portfolios, it potentially will increase their investment earnings for retirement. The bill would also empower Federal workers to take more active and personal responsibility for their retirement. This is a theme that the private sector has embraced with much success, and its integration into the Federal culture has considerable value.

The addition of the two funds would cost taxpayers nothing, because the contributions to the funds would come from the discretionary income of Federal workers. At the same time, it would give Federal workers retirement investment options that are increasingly being made available to their private sector counterparts.

In offering this bill, I envision a more flexible and attractive investment policy that will provide prudent and tested investments suitable for accumulating enough funds for a long and happy retirement. If there is one major goal in introducing this bill, it is to increase the likelihood of a quality retirement life.

The current Federal TSP has three investment funds: the Government Securities Investment Fund (G Fund); the Common Stock Index Investment Fund (C Fund); and the Fixed Income Investment Fund (F Fund). These funds are passive investments, tracking a broad index, and do not have a negative effect on the budget. By linking the Small Capitalization Stock Index Investment Fund with the Common Stock Investment Fund, the legislation would open up virtually the entire U.S. Stock Market to the TSP. Likewise, by adding the International Stock Index Investment Fund, it would allow Federal workers to capitalize on approximately 58 percent of the world market.

Over the past decade, capitalizing on these two investment opportunities would have increased the earnings of participants. In fact, the Wilshire 4500 has outperformed the S&P 500 in 12 out of the last 20 years, while generally moving in the same direction as the S&P 500. At the same time, the EAFE has also outperformed the S&P 500 in 11 out of the past 20 years. Over these two decades, adding these two funds to an equally distributed TSP would have produced the highest annual return of 12.8 percent with a 10.4 percent standard deviation.

The addition of these two funds does not come without risk. These funds are more volatile than the C Fund, which currently is the most volatile fund in the TSP. However, experts have noted that the right amount of diversification can actually negate investment risk. For instance, when an EAFE index fund investment is added to a C Fund investment, the volatility of the combined investment actually decreases.

The bill also includes a provision that would allow Federal workers to increase the amount they can contribute to the TSP, without altering the current matching formula. My goal is to provide Federal workers the flexibility to increase their contribution levels to the maximum allowed by IRS laws. The Federal workers in my district as well as across the country overwhelmingly support this provision. Many see it as an opportunity to offset potential changes to the retirement system. Support for the increase was also echoed by Vincent Sombrotto, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers [NALC] at a hearing held last year. Mr. Sombrotto stated that "Letter carriers throughout the Nation understand the great importance of saving for their retirement. In fact, they would like to do more to ensure their financial security." He further stated that delegates at the NALC Biennial Convention supported legislation to allow both FERS and CSRS employees to contribute more to the Federal TSP.

There is also another benefit to increasing the contribution limit. By increasing the money going into funds, this could increase the available investment capital for the Nation's economy. If this becomes the case, this is clearly a "win-win" situation for the country and Federal workers.

There, however, is the potential that this provision could impact the revenue base since employee contributions are tax deferred. I