

RYAN WHITE CARE ACT
AMENDMENTS OF 1995

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 1995

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Ryan White CARE Act. Its four different titles will continue to bring critical medical and support services to people with HIV/AIDS through the year 2000. It also provides for training programs for health practitioners who treat HIV-positive individuals, and funds demonstration projects to treat and care for HIV-infected individuals with particular needs. The CARE Act is a proven success, and I strongly urge its passage.

There is a very human face to HIV and AIDS, and I have witnessed the way that AIDS has impacted the lives of many of my constituents and my friends. Elizabeth Glasser touched my life deeply. She dedicated her life to raising awareness about pediatric AIDS, courageously fighting until she died. Her commitment demonstrated how much one person can do. The Children Affected by AIDS Foundation [CAAF], is another example. CAAF was started in 1993 by Joe Cristina, a vice-president at Mattel in El Segundo, who is also HIV positive. Its mission is to raise funds and support grassroots agencies nationwide that provide direct care, support, and assistance to children with AIDS. CAAF successfully involves corporate America, Hollywood, the media, service providers, advocates, and community organizations. Although CAAF has been incredibly successful in raising private support to combat pediatric AIDS, the Ryan White Act is critical to its continued success. Women's Link, located in Marina del Rey, is an information center for women with HIV that also relies on Ryan White Act funds, as does the Santa Monica AIDS Project, another successful program serving hundreds in my district.

Regrettably, Los Angeles stands to lose money under title I and title II of the bill because its appropriations are not sufficient to adequately fund currently eligible and newly added cities. The Senate version has a clause that allows the Secretary of Health and Human Services to fully fund the currently eligible cities in the second year. I strongly support that provision.

I strongly urge Congress to pass this authorizing legislation, and to fully fund the Ryan White CARE Act. The lives of over 1 million Americans infected with the AIDS virus depend on it.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION
ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. JENNIFER DUNN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1655) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1996 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the U.S. Government, the Community Man-

agement Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes:

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Chairman, I want to state for the record my strong support of H.R. 1655, the fiscal year 1996 Intelligence Authorization Act which the House passed last week. First, I would like to commend the chairman of the Select Committee on Intelligence, Congressman LARRY COMBEST, for reporting out a find bill that quite appropriately authorizes those intelligence functions that are consistent with our Nation's vital national security needs.

I believe the committee was wise to choose no longer to view the intelligence budget merely in terms of straight dollar figures. Dramatic changes in the geopolitical and military landscape during the last decade have significantly impacted key aspects of United States security. The magnitude of those changes continues to evolve in uncertain directions as do the implications for America. In other words, while the world is dramatically different from the cold war years, it remains an unstable and therefore dangerous place.

It is, in my view, entirely appropriate to continue the process of analyzing threats to U.S. borders, to our military, and to American leaders and citizens traveling or living abroad. And we must analyze them under the new terms of the evolving post-cold-war dynamic. As we prepare for the 21st century, I appreciate the committee's efforts to emphasize a more intense and evaluative consideration of our intelligence functions. As stated in the committee report that accompanied H.R. 1655, "each [intelligence] program adjustment was considered as an individual, substantive issue." that, Mr. Chairman, is exactly what the taxpayers of the Nation expect and deserve.

Given the considerable importance and wide-reaching implications of the intelligence programs authorized in this bill, this bill is a remarkable accomplishment. H.R. 1655 is in keeping with the 104th Congress's disciplined effort to balance the Federal budget, and is a perfect example of our desire to scrutinize everything funded with the public dollar. Further, it exemplifies American legislative policy that supports not only our national interests but our drive to keep federal spending under control. I am proud to express my support for it.

SUPPORTING A DISPUTE
RESOLUTION IN CYPRUS

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL PATRICK FLANAGAN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 1995

Mr. FLANAGAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 42, of which I am a cosponsor. I am most encouraged that the House unanimously passed this legislation on September 18, 1995. House Concurrent Resolution 42 encourages a resolution to the long standing dispute regarding Cyprus. It is a step toward securing world peace and will be of benefit to both Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots.

Cyprus has endured the pain of 20 years of political deadlock since Turkey invaded its shores in 1974. Turkey's invasion drove over 200,000 Cypriots from their home, making them refugees in their own land. Over one-

third of Cyprus was seized by the Turkish invaders who took 70 percent of the island's economic wealth and resources. Five Americans are part of the more than 2,000 inhabitants that are still missing.

Today, Greek Cypriots, which make up nearly 80 percent of the population, live in the southern two-thirds of the island. Turkish Cypriots live in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus which is only recognized by Turkey. More than one-third of the sovereign territory of the Republic of Cyprus is under occupation by over 30,000 heavily armed troops. As the resolution points out, the Secretary General of the United Nations has stated that the occupied part of Cyprus is one of the most highly militarized areas in the world. Demilitarization of Cyprus, which is called for in House Concurrent Resolution 42, would reduce tension and help promote resolution of this over-20-old dispute.

Many sincere attempts have been made over the past years to resolve the Cyprus problem, but to no avail. Despite their best efforts, Presidents of both parties have been vexed by the situation. It is time for a new approach. Last year, President Glafcos Clerides of Cyprus unveiled a proposal for demilitarization which is, in part, incorporated into House Concurrent Resolution 42.

The House has sent out a clear message that the status quo on Cyprus is unacceptable and the resolution of the problem must be achieved. House Concurrent Resolution 42 is a well-reasoned bipartisan measure that will help to stabilize the eastern Mediterranean and benefit all, including the United States of America.

NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM REFORM
ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. JACK REED

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 1995

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I recognize the serious difficulties that face our National Park System, including the deterioration of our public lands and the impact of likely budget cuts. Like many of my colleagues, I strongly believe that we must address these challenges. However, I do not believe that H.R. 260 is the best way to do so.

Two bills intended to reform the National Park Service have been introduced to the House of Representatives this year. Both of these measures, H.R. 260 and H.R. 2181, recognize the need for efforts to improve the management of our national parks, but they adopt very different approaches toward this important goal.

H.R. 2181 would generate the revenue that our National Park Service needs to improve its visitor services and repair roads and trails in parks across the country. This bill would require individuals who sell concessions in our national parks to provide a fair return to our Nation's citizens for the first time in decades. H.R. 2181 would also make modest modifications in the fees charged for the use of our national parks and would direct the added revenue toward the needs of the National Park System.

H.R. 260 would require the Interior Department to develop a comprehensive plan for the

future of the National Park System. This bill, however, would also create a closure commission to recommend which of our nation's park units should be closed or privatized. Among the likely targets of such a commission would be hundreds of small, but important parks across the country.

One such park is the Roger Williams National Memorial in Providence, RI. This park is very small, both in its area and its demands on Federal funding, but it meets a large need of many Rhode Islanders. Each year, nearly 150,000 people visit the park, which, like its namesake, represents the best of our country. Roger Williams, who founded my home State, remains a proud example of our Nation's commitment to religious freedom. The park bearing his name honors his contribution to our Nation's history and provides Rhode Islanders with a needed recreational and environmentally preserved area in our State's capital city.

The status of the Roger Williams National Memorial and the hundreds of parks like it nationwide is a critical issue that deserves full and open debate. However, by bringing H.R. 260 to the floor under suspension of the rules, the Republican majority prevents open debate on this issue. Today, the House will not even consider H.R. 2181, despite the fact that this well-crafted measure is sponsored by distinguished members of both parties.

I urge my colleagues to stand for open debate on the future of our national parks. I urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 260.

NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM REFORM ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. RICK LAZIO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 1995

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose H.R. 260, the National Park System Reform Act. Though there is a need to review the viability and status of national parks, in this era of fiscal constraint and increasing demand on the park system, the issues of park reform and review are not simple ones. This type of legislation should not be brought up under the suspension of the rules. The gravity of this bill calls for further debate and the possibility of offering amendments to this bill.

H.R. 260 would establish an 11-member Natural Park System Review Commission, which would make recommendations to Congress regarding which parks should be closed or managed differently. This commission does not have the authority to close or modify parks of its own accord and only presents non-binding recommendations to Congress. Nevertheless, we need to ensure that these recommendations are not simply rubber-stamped by Congress, but are, indeed, thoroughly reviewed.

Coastal areas are unique in character, and our national seashores should not be grouped

along with the land-locked national parks when a review is made. My specific concern is for the preservation of the Fire Island National Seashore in its present form. This barrier island stands defiantly facing the Atlantic Ocean while protecting the waters of the Great South Bay and the mainland of Long Island. Fire Island residents have created 17 separate communities not only for summer recreation, but also to preserve the island's natural heritage. Congress was wise to grant Fire Island its current status as a National Seashore. A determination of this importance should not be reserved without proper safeguards. In order to continue to preserve our coastline's natural heritage, we need to ensure that Fire Island is protected in its present form. Bringing this bill up under the suspension of the rules without the opportunity to offer amendments or for additional debate will not ensure the proper protection for the Fire Island National Seashore or other coastal parks. I urge my colleagues to defeat H.R. 260 under the suspension of rules. This is not the right legislative procedure for a proper review of our national parks.

HONORING JAZZ GREAT BARRY HARRIS

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 1995

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor jazz pianist, composer, and teacher, Barry Doyle Harris. Barry was born gifted, and started learning piano at the age of 4 from his mother. He followed in her footsteps and played for his church, but soon became fascinated by jazz. He played in his hometown of Detroit throughout the 1950's, the time when I was first awestruck by his shows. In those years, his piano genius took him from the bowling alleys to the Blue Bird Inn, the Motor City's most prominent jazz club. Already, he had as much a passion for imparting his knowledge of music as he had for performing it.

He put out his first album in 1955 at the age of 25 under the direction of Donald Byrd. That same year he worked for several months with Miles Davis. By 1957, he was widely acclaimed in bebop circles and he began teaching formally that year. In 1960, he took his act to New York City where he played with Cannonball Adderley, Yusef Lateef, and Coleman Hawkins for many years. In the early 1980's, he played with a 75-piece orchestra, performed at Carnegie Hall, and then founded the Jazz Cultural Center, an educational institute and club in Manhattan.

From the day that Barry Harris started teaching, he knew that talent was really a torch to pass on to the next generation. This brought him to a lifelong commitment to getting young people exposed to jazz, keeping music in the schools, and defending the larger role of the arts in our society. He once said, "Teachers should teach where they come from, not where they are. They tell you life is

complex and you have to suffer to give of yourself, and that's not true. Life is very simple, and if you simply live and simply learn to play, you'll really give." Today, with these words, I hope to reciprocate Barry's spirit of giving with a token of gratitude for his inspiring contribution to jazz, a great national treasure, just like him.

INTRODUCTION OF BIF/SAIF BILL

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 1995

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, today, I, together with my colleagues are introducing legislation that will have a monumental impact on the financial services industry. Its purpose is to provide a comprehensive reform of the deposit insurance funds and will merge the bank and thrift charters. This BIF/SAIF legislation reflects the hard work of a bipartisan working group of the Financial Institutions Subcommittee, which I chair, that was developed over the last several months.

Since the spring, the subcommittee has held three hearings on BIF/SAIF. The last of these hearings brought forth strong support for a comprehensive approach to the problem, which this legislation being marked up today represents.

In brief, the legislation provides a financial solution to the problem of the insurance funds similar to that proposed by the administration. It recapitalizes the SAIF and through the use of a one-time special assessment of SAIF members. It spreads the FICO costs proportionately among all members of the FDIC as of the date of enactment. In addition, it merges the BIF/SAIF.

What is critical here, is that it goes beyond the administration-sponsored financial fix and merges the bank and thrift charters on January 1, 1998, requiring thrifts to convert to banks. It tackles the complex tax treatment of bad debt reserves by advocating a fresh start approach, to avoid giving thrifts another lump sum obligation that would amount to billions of dollars. Finally, it provides for refunds for FDIC funds in excess of the designated reserve ratio.

It is my intention, given the requirements of the reconciliation process as determined by Banking Committee Chairman LEACH, that the movement of the BIF/SAIF legislation will be a two-track process. A markup of a similar provision in the Full Committee's markup of its budget reconciliation package is based on staff recommendations and is revenue-driven. My legislation will move in regular order and is based solely on crafting good public policy. In this regard, it is my commitment to continue to refine this legislation through a markup at subcommittee and hopefully at the full committee as it moves through the process in regular order to insure that there is a final legislative solution during this congressional session.