

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A POSITIVE ASPECT TO THE MEDIGRANT DISCUSSION

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 1995

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to encourage my colleagues to support the principles of home- and community-based services for the disabled and to urge States to consider these services as part of State initiatives to reform Medicaid through the MediGrant proposal.

I have had a longstanding admiration for the ability of our Nation's disabled to bear the burdens imposed on their day-to-day lives and the difficulties they face. It is no wonder that individuals affected by disabilities, as well as their families and friends, have sought greater access to long-awaited advancements in providing care for the disabled. Although this process has been slow at times, we are beginning to see a mindset emerge that encourages personal liberties, not discourages them.

I practice a management technique based on listen, learn, help, and lead. Well, I have listened to the disabled around the Nation and in the 6th Congressional District of Georgia where I have appointed a task force on disabilities. This task force has developed ideas that I think are thoughtful in addressing the needs of the disabled and which add a tremendously positive aspect to the MediGrant discussion.

The task force believes that there currently exists a bias in Medicaid toward institutionalization and away from home- and community-based services. While there are circumstances where institutionalization is the only viable choice, the task force believes that home- and community-based services should be the first option when appropriate for people with disabilities. I share in their assertion that no person should be forced into an institution to receive services that can be more effectively and more economically delivered in the home or community.

The task force points to the fact that 31 percent of the current Medicaid budget goes to institutional long-term care and only 6 percent goes to community-based long-term care. Furthermore, they assert that the average cost of nursing home care per person is \$38,000 annually and that allowing persons to remain in their homes and communities is more economical, as well as more humane.

I hope that my colleagues will carefully consider these ideas on behalf of their constituents and help to empower individuals to realize their maximum freedoms and potentials.

GIFT BAN LEGISLATION

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 1995

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation sponsored by my Texas colleague, Representative JOHN BRYANT, to require lobbyists to register with the House and Senate and make conforming changes to the Rules of the House of Representatives with regard to restrictions on gifts given by lobbyists. In light of my support of this legislation, I have agreed to sign a discharge petition to bring this legislation to the floor of the House for consideration.

In the past, I have not signed discharge petitions. It is my belief that such devices are generally harmful to the legislative process, as they call for the avoidance of the committee system which serves our Government well. However, because of the majority's disdain for that very process, and the lack of consideration given to the attempts to bring the legislation before the appropriate committees for action, this extreme step has become necessary. Therefore, I will add my name to those seeking to bring the legislation before the House.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, I have added my name as a cosponsor to House Resolution 264, legislation sponsored by Republican Representative BURTON. This bill, which I hope will be up for a vote this week on the floor of the House, would require greater disclosure of gifts given to Members of Congress. I support the bill as a bipartisan solution to the need for comprehensive gift legislation. Under the Burton bill, Members are required to disclose all gifts and meals received which are worth more than \$50. The bill makes other appropriate changes to the Rules of the House regarding this issue.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF YITZHAK RABIN

SPEECH OF

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 8, 1995

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Prime Minister of Israel, Yitzhak Rabin, and to his historical struggle for peace; a struggle which ultimately cost him his life.

Mr. Speaker, I was very fortunate and honored to have met Prime Minister Rabin just this summer during my first visit to the State of Israel. Prime Minister Rabin impressed me as an extremely determined man who was at once genuine, engaging, and impressive in his diplomacy. In the short time we met, I caught a glimpse of those exceptional personal and political traits that were responsible for the monumental change he brought to the peace table.

As was said at the funeral on Monday, Rabin was a "martyr" for peace. In fact, the primary reason we visited Israel was to better understand both the desire for peace and the formidable obstacles which stood in its way.

Once in Israel, it did not take long to realize the enormity of the task that Rabin committed every day of his life to achieving. Indeed, Rabin was a warrior for peace, which is why the peace process will go on—others will follow his unparalleled leadership.

The significance of his legacy was perhaps best exemplified by the world leaders who mourned his death. The attendance of 40 world leaders, including Jordan's King Hussein and Egypt's Hosni Mubarak, demonstrates the respect he earned from so many people of so many faiths from so many corners of the world. This respect was earned by his leadership and commitment to peace.

Mr. Speaker, on this 57th anniversary of Kristallnacht—the Night of Broken Glass that marked the true beginning of the Holocaust—let us remember and salute all that Yitzhak Rabin stood for, fought for, and died for.

We must remember so we never forget. We must further be united to his life's goal—a true and lasting peace for the State of Israel.

TRIBUTE TO HARRY A. SCARR

HON. WILLIAM H. ZELIFF, JR.

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 1995

Mr. ZELIFF. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment today to note the unexpected passing of Mr. Harry Scarr, the Deputy Director of the Bureau of the Census.

Immediately prior to his position as Deputy Director, Mr. Scarr served as the Bureau's Acting Director for almost 22 months. In 1988, Mr. Scarr received the Department of Commerce's highest award, a Gold Medal, for his contributions to Federal economic statistics and to the preparation for the 1990 census.

Mr. Scarr's 25 years of dedicated service to the Federal Government includes tenures at the Department of Commerce, the Department of Justice, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the National Institute of Mental Health. Having received his degrees from the University of Michigan and Harvard University, and having taught at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, Mr. Scarr chose a career in Federal service. His distinguished career is an example for all. He was among the best and brightest, and nobly chose Federal service.

As chairman of the subcommittee which exercises oversight over the Bureau of the Census, I was looking forward to working with Mr. Scarr. The Census Bureau will greatly miss his expertise and knowledge as it prepares for the 2000 census. I offer my condolences to the family of Mr. Scarr and his fellow workers at the Bureau.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BISHOP ANTHONY M. PILLA: CHOSEN AS PRESIDENT OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 1995

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to extend congratulations to Bishop Anthony M. Pilla, a resident of my congressional district and leader of the Diocese of Cleveland. On yesterday, Bishop Pilla was elected as the new president of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. In this influential post, he will serve as the chief spokesman for the Catholic Church and provide leadership for its 60 million American parishioners. Previously, Bishop Pilla served as vice president of this distinguished organization. On behalf of the residents of the 11th Congressional District, we express our strong support and encouragement to Bishop Pilla as he assumes the presidency.

Since 1980, Bishop Anthony Pilla has led the Diocese of Cleveland. Throughout his tenure, he has been outspoken on the social, political, and religious issues confronting our community and the Nation. His strong leadership and dedication has earned him the respect of the entire community. He is not only admired, but he is an individual of the highest integrity and commitment.

As he assumes the helm of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, Bishop Pilla does so with the full support of the organization. In the election, he garnered 170 of the 238 votes cast, and bested 10 other candidates to win the 3-year presidency.

Mr. Speaker, on Friday, November 17, 1995, the Cleveland community will express its pride in Bishop Anthony Pilla with a Mass being held in his honor. I take pride in expressing my personal congratulations to Bishop Pilla. He is someone whom I greatly admire, and I wish him well as he assumes this major post.

PICK-SLOAN PROJECT FACILITIES TRANSFER ACT

HON. PAT ROBERTS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 1995

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. Speaker, one of the key reform goals of this Congress is to examine all aspects of the Federal Government's involvement in the day-to-day lives of our citizens, and determine which of those Federal roles would be more efficiently managed on the local level and/or by the private sector. The portions of the Pick-Sloan project in Kansas and Nebraska, appear to fit this category.

However, the procedures established that allow the Bureau of Reclamation to transfer title—and the management and financial responsibilities—to the irrigation districts are often contentious and inordinately time consuming.

Today I am introducing a bill to expedite this process and so all interested parties can raise their issues and concerns relative to the title transfer of the Kansas and Nebraska Pick-

Sloan projects. There are sure to be provisions in this bill that some may find problematic. The introduction of this legislation will encourage a comprehensive discussion on this transfer to ensure all appropriate issues are adequately addressed.

The Missouri River Basin, Kansas and Nebraska, Pick-Sloan Facilities Transfer Act will contribute to our continuing efforts to reduce and reform the role of the Federal Government. And by the consideration of this act, Congress will provide an opportunity for all interested parties to register their concerns so they can be properly addressed.

ICC TERMINATION ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. THOMAS W. EWING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2539) to abolish the Interstate Commerce Commission, to amend subtitle IV of title 49, United States Code, to reform economic regulation of transportation, and for other purposes:

Mr. EWING. Mr. Chairman, I want to commend you for moving H.R. 2539, the ICC Termination Act of 1995, forward in a timely fashion. As Members may be aware the Interstate Commerce Commission [ICC] will be terminated on December 5 of this year, and without new legislation in place, the existing cumbersome and obsolete 19th century ICC statute will remain on the books.

While there is solid bipartisan support for termination of the ICC, the difficulty of dismantling 100 years of transportation and commercial law has certainly become evident. However, in dismantling the ICC and moving its remaining critical functions to the U.S. Department of Transportation, care must be taken to protect vulnerable interests, like captive shippers.

The provisions of the bill which encourage class II railroads to purchase lines that would otherwise be abandoned by larger class I railroads must be retained or captive shippers could see their service disappear entirely. Unfortunately, adoption of Representative WHITFIELD'S proposed amendment would upset the careful balance in the bill and could discourage class II railroads from investing in lines scheduled for abandonment. Congress should not impose an unfunded mandate on class II railroads and create an environment where essential railroad service is lost because the costs of assuming existing labor agreements and severance benefits is prohibitive. For this reason, I urge my colleagues to support the committee language and reject the Whitfield amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I also appreciate your willingness to address other issues of importance to American agriculture and for working with members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee who represent agricultural districts. Agriculture is heavily dependent upon rail service to move products to market. For many rural and smalltown farmers there is only one grain elevator and one rail line available. The ability to move commodities in a timely fashion is critical to remaining in busi-

ness. When faced with these monopolistic circumstances some reasonable regulation is essential.

I am pleased the legislation before the House today clarifies the exemptions language in the bill, grants the adjudication panel the authority to deny abandonments, includes contract summary filing language, restores investigation authority, and restores the existing 20 days rate-change-notification requirement. However, I remain concerned about potential railcar supply shortages and the percentage of rolling stock that could be contracted out under the common carrier provisions of the bill.

Railcar shortages boost the price farmers and elevators must pay to move crops to market, thereby lowering the amount farmers receive for their crops. In fact, Midwestern agriculture is already facing acute railcar shortages resulting from increased demand, instability in the railroad industry caused by proposed mergers, and high barge shipping rates. While I am not advocating excessive regulation to protect agriculture, the final ICC termination legislation should not worsen the situation unnecessarily.

Mr. Chairman, I plan to continue working with you on this issue and I urge you to consider accepting the common carrier language contained in the Senate's ICC termination bill when this legislation goes to conference.

Again, Mr. Chairman, I want to thank you for the leadership you have demonstrated in working with Members who represent agricultural interests. Although H.R. 2539 is not perfect, and some additional work is necessary, I urge my colleagues to support passage of H.R. 2539.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAT WILLIAMS

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 1995

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 707, recorded on October 12, 1995, I mistakenly recorded my vote as yes—it was my intention to vote no on this particular measure. Although I recognize this statement does not change my vote I would like the record to reflect my intention.

TRIBUTE TO FATHER PAUL STAUD

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 1995

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Father Paul R. Staud, the parochial vicar at Saint Malachy Parish in Coraopolis, PA. Father Paul will celebrate 25 years of service in the priesthood with an afternoon liturgy at Saint Malachy on November 26, 1995.

Father Paul was ordained at Holy Innocents Church in Sheraden, PA, on October 31, 1970. He studied at Assumption School, Avalon High School, Point Park College, Saint Gregory Seminary in Cincinnati, John Carroll University, and Saint Vincent Seminary.

Father Paul has been parochial vicar at Saint Malachy Parish since November 1991. His service to the parish has been exemplary.