

jeopardize the lives of their workers for the sake of the bottom line.

While big business, in the face of record profits, continues to ignore its responsibility to its workers and U.S. law, we cannot turn our backs on the hard working men and women of this country.

For this reason, I urge my colleagues to sponsor both pieces of legislation which will debar companies from receiving Federal contracts if a company demonstrates "a clear pattern and practice" of violating the NLRA and OSHA respectively.

These bills are steps toward improving compliance and ensuring that the Federal Government does not subsidize egregious labor and workplace safety standards.

JOHN STANKOVIC HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 1995

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues the 50th anniversary of a musical institution in my District in Pennsylvania. This year a musician and longtime family friend from my hometown, Mr. John Stankovic will celebrate a half-century of bringing polka music to Northeastern Pennsylvania and to the world.

John Stankovic, known as Stanky to all who love his music, began with accordion lessons as a young boy. Even then he performed at small gatherings in the Nanticoke area. Stanky's first band was known as the Tlp-Toppers and traveled the area playing at weddings and private parties. Several years later the band officially became Stanky and the Coalminers to pay tribute to the area's coalminer heritage. As a young man, Stanky thought he would pursue a career in sports and even tried out for the Cleveland Indians. He tells the story that when considering his career, he followed the advice of his father, Joe Stankovic, who told him, "Son, you are a pretty good basketball player and a pretty good baseball player, but if you learn eight good songs, you'll never starve."

Although his mother also encouraged his music and taught him to sing, success did not come quickly or easily to Stanky. For 17 years he worked as a "ragman". He drove up and down the streets of town collecting anything he could resell to support himself. At night, he played polkas.

Mr. Speaker, although John Stankovic had a humble beginning, he and the Coalminers have risen to international fame. They have played in Japan, England, France, Holland, Germany, Spain, Australia, and Canada. The Coalminers were the first polka band to entertain the Chinese. The Band has also traveled its share of sea miles. The Coalminers just completed their 71st cruise to Alaska and received awards from Holland America Cruise Lines for hundreds of thousands of miles logged as performers at sea. For 11 years, the group has had its own show on our public television station and regularly showcases other local polka bands. Even with their grueling schedule, every Sunday night that the band is in the area, they can be found at a local supper club for polka night.

Mr. Speaker, John and his wonderful wife, Dottie are close personal friends of my family. I remember so well the night of my first election victory in the primary race that would eventually take me to Congress.

In a room crowded with well wishers and supporters, Stanky played "Happy Days Are Here Again" as I arrived on the platform with my family to claim our victory. John's rendition of that old favorite will always be a part of the memory of that wonderful night.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be among his many friends, fans and admirers who wish Stanky well on this momentous occasion. We in Northeastern Pennsylvania hope to hear the music of Stanky and his Coalminers for many years to come. I send my very best wishes to my very good friends, Stanky, Dottie, and the Coalminers on 50 years of wonderful polka music.

TRIBUTE TO LA SALLE ACADEMY

HON. JACK REED

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 1995

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today and salute La Salle Academy, an outstanding educational institution in Rhode Island that is celebrating its 125th anniversary.

Following in the tradition of the 17th century religious educator, John Baptist de La Salle, Rev. Michael Tierney established an institution in Providence, RI that espoused Catholic ideals and principles. In 1871, he invited the de La Salle Christian Brothers to teach at this parish school, and the Brothers' School was renamed La Salle Academy in 1876.

Over the years, many generations of young men, and for the past decade, women, have attended La Salle Academy. In addition to receiving a quality education, these young people have been inspired to make a commitment to others as part of their education. Today, La Salle alumni have gone on to make significant contributions to nearly every walk of life in Rhode Island and throughout the Nation. Many have made significant contributions to our community as leaders in medicine, business, law, politics, religion, and education. Others have chosen to work directly with the poor and underprivileged.

Many distinguished Rhode Islanders have graduated from La Salle, including two beloved Governors, Gov. J. Joseph Garrahy and the late Dennis J. Roberts, as well as two former Members of the U.S. Congress, Representative John E. Fogarty, class of 1930 and Representative Robert O. Tiernan, class of 1948. I am especially proud and honored to offer these words as a 1967 graduate of La Salle Academy.

I would respectfully ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this Rhode Island academic institution as it celebrates 125 years of commitment to education and to our community.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT BENNETT

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 1995

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Robert D. Bennett.

For the past 25 years, Bob Bennett has honorably served the city of Livonia, MI, as an elected official. From 1970 to 1987, he served on the city council. A former president of the council, he was elected mayor of Livonia in 1988.

As mayor, Bob Bennett has made Livonia one of the best places in America to live. In fact, Livonia was recognized this year by a prominent nonprofit organization as being the 8th best place in America to raise a child. While Mayor Bennett's contributions to Livonia are too numerous to list, I want to pay special consideration to his successful effort to implement the DARE program in Livonia's schools; his work to make Livonia's streets safer by providing the city's police officers with the latest crime fighting technology, and his leadership on financial matters that has improved Livonia's bond rating from A to A+.

The people of Livonia are grateful for Bob Bennett's dedication to public service. On their behalf, I wish Bob and his wife, Janet, the very best in their future endeavors.

Mayor Bennett, who is term-limited, is a native of Highland Park MI. He served in the Air Force from 1946 to 1949. In 1955, he earned a B.S. in engineering law from Wayne State University.

TRIBUTE TO RODOLFO "RUDY" VALLES ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM EAST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 1995

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring a long time friend of mine, Mr. Rodolfo "Rudy" Valles, on the occasion of his retirement from East Los Angeles College [ELAC], where he serves as associate dean of admissions. Rudy has given 23 years of dedicated and exemplary service to ELAC, and though his contributions will continue to benefit students, his presence will be missed by those who have had the pleasure of working with him.

Rudy received his associate of arts from ELAC, and his bachelor's and master's degrees from California State University, Los Angeles [CSULA]. He began his employment at ELAC in 1971 as an hourly program assistant. He later moved up the ranks to work as an art instructor. During this time, he was also employed as an hourly graduate assistant at CSULA.

In 1978, Rudy became a special assignment art instructor and in 1979 he was on special assignment at extended opportunities programs and services [EOPS]. During the 1980-81 school year, he became associate dean of the EOPS program. He continued to move up the ranks, and later became acting dean of student services. In 1990, he was promoted to

the position of associate dean of admissions, matriculation and athletics at ELAC.

In addition to his contributions to the ELAC community, Rudy has volunteered much of his time to civic and community groups at large. He has been an active and supportive member of my Congressional Award Council, serving on the board of directors since the council's creation. Rudy and his lovely wife, Betty, have been diligent supporters of this program, which aims to enrich the lives of youth of our community. Without the kind of steadfast support that Rudy and Betty have provided, the program would not have enjoyed the success it has met over the past 10 years.

Mr. Speaker, it is with profound pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a very good friend, Mr. Rudy Valles, on the occasion of his retirement from East Los Angeles College.

DOUG BARNARD, JR.—1996 ATLANTA CENTENNIAL OLYMPIC GAMES COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT (H.R. 2336)

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 1995

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, When the United States hosts the Olympic games this coming year, it will mark the 100th anniversary of the modern games.

My State of Georgia is the official host State. And this is where most of the Olympic events will take place. But not all. A number of other events will be held in communities around the country. The entire country is really the host. In a very real sense, every American is a part of this Olympic celebration. And can take pride in it.

Three years ago, Congress enacted the Doug Barnard, Jr.—1996 Atlanta Centennial Olympic Games Commemorative Coin Act. This measure authorized the minting of the largest commemorative coin series ever produced. Today, we are amending that measure to reduce the mintage levels for the upcoming Olympic year. This will boost the sales of the coins by increasing their value to collectors. And these sales raise essential revenue for Atlanta's Olympic committee.

The bill is named for former Congressman Doug Barnard, my fellow Georgian who led the way in establishing a financially self-sufficient commemorative coin program. This is fitting recognition of his contributions to the U.S. Mint.

GENDER BIAS IN THE U.S. COURTS

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 1995

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for gender bias

studies in our Federal and State courts. Gender bias in our judiciary exists and it affects decisionmaking in our courts. It affects judges, lawyers, litigants, jurors, court personnel, and the general public.

One of the critical titles in the Violence Against Women Act—Equal Justice for Women in the Courts—provides for these studies. This Congress has overwhelmingly supported this legislation and the Commerce, Justice, State, and judiciary appropriations conference report full funding for VAWA's equal justice in the courts provisions.

It is important to note that the U.S. Judicial Conference has endorsed the study of gender bias in the Federal courts and at least seven Federal circuits have formed task forces to conduct studies, not only of gender bias but also biases based on ethnicity and race.

Many States, including my State of Maryland, have undertaken gender bias studies with good results. Today, all over this country changes have been made in the way the crimes of domestic violence and rape are adjudicated and the way in which child custody and divorce proceedings are handled.

Our courts at the Federal and the State levels must be given the funding that will allow our justice system to function as the Founding Fathers intended—fairly. There must be no misunderstanding. This Congress supports the principle of and funding for gender bias studies on our Federal and State courts.