

TRIBUTE TO MRS. PEARL ALMA
RIVERO

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Pearl Alma Rivero, an outstanding individual who has devoted her life to her family and to serving her community. Mrs. Rivero will be celebrating her 70th birthday on Sunday in the company of her loving family and friends in Miami, FL.

Mrs. Rivero is a native of New York City. She is the youngest of eight children born to Alexander and Ursula Shepard. She is the sister of Joseph Anthony Moniz, Vincent DePaul Moniz, Sylvia Patronella Moniz Nicholas, Ivy Eleanor Cristabel Moniz, Virella Santiago, Hyacinth Moniz, and Florin Moniz, Jr.

On October 18, 1942, she married Louis Bouchet and was blessed with two daughters, Margo Maria Bouchet and Sandra Cecelia Bouchet.

On August 1, 1959, Mrs. Rivero married Emil Joseph Rivero, with whom she celebrated 33 years of happiness until Emil's death on May 13, 1993. Their marriage was blessed with the birth of three children, Maria Theresa Rivero, Angela Justine Rivero, and Emil John Rivero.

Mrs. Rivero has four wonderful grandchildren, Betti-Rahkel Bouchet-Williams, Derrick Boddie, Mychal Williams, and Cassandra Bankhead-Williams.

A devoted mother, Mrs. Rivero raised her family to be religious, sharing, and caring individuals.

Mrs. Rivero has worked tirelessly to benefit her community and her church. She has served as a Eucharistic minister, lecturer, and a teacher of religious classes at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in the Bronx, and St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Miami, where she presently resides. Mrs. Rivero has also taught Bible classes at St. Ann's Nursing Home in Florida and currently serves as CORE member of the Divorced and Separated Ministry at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Miami. She is a founding member of WINGS, a ministry serving the needs of widows, and has served as mediator for the Better Business Bureau in New York City.

Mrs. Rivero has received accolades, acknowledgments, and awards from her community, including awards from the Better Business Bureau of New York and the committee on the handicapped from the New York Board of Education. She was also certified as a lay minister for the Archdiocese of Miami.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and the family of Mrs. Pearl Alma Rivero in wishing her a happy 70th birthday and best wishes during this holiday season.

THE IMPORTANCE OF ECONOMIC
REFORM IN UKRAINE

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I commend the American-Ukrainian Advisory Committee

and its distinguished chairman, Zbigniew Brzezinski, for their constructive contributions to building a strong and effective relationship between the United States and Ukraine. The committee, formed in 1993 by the Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies, recently held its third meeting in New York and issued a report.

The recommendations of the report were designed to advance the process of economic reform in Ukraine, foster a climate to attract foreign investment, and integrate Ukraine into the global economy. In order to meet these goals, Ukraine's political leadership must adhere to the fundamental elements of the economic reform program proposed a year ago by President Leonid Kuchma.

The American-Ukrainian Advisory Committee calls upon the Ukrainian Government to "speed up and broaden privatization with aim of achieving the long-term objective of establishing a market economy" and to "follow through with real macroeconomic stabilization." The committee all urges the United States, the European Union, Japan, and the international financial institutions to provide adequate financial assistance to reinforce Ukraine's commitment to economic reform.

The American-Ukrainian Advisory Committee's report follows:

AMERICAN-UKRAINIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
COMMUNIQUE

The American-Ukrainian Advisory Committee met in New York on November 17-18 and reiterated its strong conviction that a resilient Ukraine is in the interest of European stability and thus also American security. It welcomed the evident improvement in the American-Ukrainian relationship, especially the recognition by the U.S. government of Ukraine's geopolitical significance. It also endorsed strongly the reform efforts being pursued by the Ukrainian government in order to transform Ukraine into a stable democracy based on a free market economy.

The American participants included: Hon Zbigniew Brzezinski (CSIS Counselor), Hon. Richard Burt (Chairman International Equity Partners), Hon. Frank Carlucci (Chairman, Carlyle Group), Gen. John Galvin (Dean, Fletcher School of International Law and Diplomacy), Mr. Michael Jordan (Chairman & CEO, Westinghouse Electric Corporation), Hon Henry Kissinger (Chairman, Kissinger Associates), and Mr. George Soros (Chairman, Soros Foundations).

The Ukrainian participants included: Dr. Bohdan Hawrylyshyn (Chairman, Council of Advisors to Ukrainian Parliament), Ms. Svitlana Oharkova (General Director, "Tekno Ukrayina"), Mr. Serhiy Oksanych (President, KINTO Investment Association), Hon. Borys Sobolev (Deputy Minister of Finance), Hon. Dmytro Tabachnyk (Chief of Staff, Presidential Administration), Hon. Oleh Taranov (Chairman, Parliamentary Commission on Economic Policy), Hon. Boris Tarasiuk (Ambassador to Belgium), and Hon. Volodymyr Vasylenko (Ambassador-at-Large). In addition, present at the meeting was Hon. Yuri Sheberbak, Ambassador of Ukraine to the United States.

More specifically, the AUAC endorses or recommends the following:

SECURITY ISSUES

1. Encourage the U.S. to clearly articulate its vision of European security architecture, and in that context urge it to develop a consistent, long-term policy toward Ukraine which views that country as a Central European state. That policy needs to strongly and actively demonstrate American support for an independent, democratic, and economi-

cally successful Ukraine as a key factor of security and stability in Europe as a whole.

2. Recommend the establishment of a ministerial-level U.S.-Ukrainian Joint Commission. While applauding the existence of joint, bilateral working groups, we urge the creation of additional groups—by the Department of State and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as the Department of Defense and the Ministry of Defense—to deal with a range of issues, including energy supplies and security; environmental issues; and combating organized crime.

3. In order to develop a special relationship between NATO and Ukraine, extend eligibility to Ukraine under the NATO Participation Act of 1994. At the same time, encourage and support Ukraine's active participation in the Partnership for Peace program.

4. Encourage strong support for the closest possible Ukrainian participation and integration in European multilateral institutions, such as the Central European Initiative and CEFTA, cooperation partner status in the WEU, and the inclusion of Ukraine with Moldova, Bulgaria, and Romania in the Clinton Administration's Regional Airspace Initiative.

5. Support collective efforts to achieve reductions in and confidence-building measures for military forces in the Black Sea basin. When appropriate, a U.S. role as mediator in Black Sea issues could prove useful.

6. Encourage the U.S. Administration to continue rendering support for Ukraine's territorial integrity and inviolability of its state borders, and to urge Ukraine's neighbors to refrain from raising territorial claims.

7. Initiate the holding of U.S.-Ukrainian seminars and roundtables on security-related matters.

8. Encourage Western investment and technical and economic assistance for the exploration and development of Ukraine's natural gas and oil deposits, as well as diversification of external energy supplies to Ukraine. Encourage also the U.S. to play a leading role in helping Ukraine work out a comprehensive plan for reforming the energy sector.

ECONOMIC ISSUES

1. Urge the Ukrainian government to speed up and broaden privatization with the aim of achieving the long-term objective of establishing a market economy. One important step is to open opportunities to sell blocks of equity to strategic investors, while urging U.S. AID to enhance the efficacy of its support of Ukrainian privatization.

2. Given the critical stage of Ukraine's economic reforms, encourage the Ukrainian government to follow through with real macroeconomic stabilization, while urging the IMF, the World Bank, the European Union, Japan, and the U.S. government to provide timely and adequate financial assistance.

3. Support the introduction of the Ukrainian national currency, which should be a stable currency inspiring confidence, and urge the IMF to provide the appropriate stabilization fund.

4. Encourage the U.S. government and the EU to identify and overcome trade barriers so as to facilitate Ukraine's integration into the global trading system.

5. Assist with Ukraine's efforts to join the World Trade Organization, and encourage the U.S. Administration to extend Ukraine's participation in the U.S. General System of Preferences.

6. Express appreciation of the public education in market economics financed by the U.S. government, and advocate financing of education in business management and public administration. Such efforts should lead to the Ukrainian government's enhanced capacity to attract and retain competent persons at all levels of administration.

7. Support Ukraine's participation in the global space program.

8. Urge the U.S. Congress to follow Ukraine's lead and ratify both agreements dealing with double taxation and investment promotion and protection.

BUSINESS INVESTMENT ISSUES

1. Encourage Ukraine to establish clear property and contract rights, in harmony with international norms, so that both foreign and domestic investors' rights can be protected and enforced.

2. Under the joint sponsorship of the Ukrainian Union of Entrepreneurs and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, establish a Business Forum composed of CEOs and senior management to meet once a year to discuss business opportunities and obstacles in Ukraine and the United States.

3. Encourage Ukraine to establish an equitable and rational tax code which abjures retroactivity, double indemnity, discrimination, and punitive taxation levels.

4. Express clearly to the U.S. Congress and executive branch the AUAC's strong support for rule of law programs which could improve significantly Ukraine's business investment climate (e.g. development of commercial code, enforcement of decisions of Arbitration Courts), and identifies this area as a priority.

5. Encourage the Kyiv Political-Economic Working Group to provide the Western NIS Enterprise Fund (Ukraine) with specific investment/joint venture guidance and suggestions on small business projects.

6. Work through the Center for International Private Enterprise, an affiliate of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, to conduct seminars on investment opportunities in different sectors of the Ukrainian economy.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF THE CONNECTICUT LEGISLATIVE BLACK AND PUERTO RICAN CAUCUS

HON. BARBARA B. KENNELLY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give recognition to an organization that has helped countless residents in my State for 20 years: the Connecticut Legislative Black and Puerto Rican Caucus.

The Caucus was formed in January 1976, under the leadership of its first chairman, Representative Clyde Billington, Jr., of Hartford. In subsequent years, this leadership was provided by distinguished legislators Maurice Mosley of Waterbury, Walter Brooks of New Haven, William Dyson of New Haven, Abraham Giles of Hartford, Eric Coleman of Bloomfield, Ernest Newton of Bridgeport and Wade Hyslop of New London.

The Caucus membership includes 13 African-American and Puerto Rican members—currently 10 Representatives and 3 Senators. These hard-working, dedicated members strive not only to find solutions to problems, but to promote the cultural diversity we are so fortunate to have in Connecticut.

Throughout its 20-year history, the Caucus has worked to improve the lives of African-Americans and Latino Americans. The Caucus promotes the growth of minority-owned business, and works to expand economic and educational opportunities in our communities.

It seeks to advance the cooperation and effectiveness of legislatures in U.S. States, territories, possessions, and commonwealths, and to make them more accountable and accessible to all residents. It places as one of its highest priorities the fulfillment of goals of the African-American and Latino American communities.

Among other accomplishments, the Caucus was instrumental in persuading the State of Connecticut to divest from South Africa; in calling attention to the plight of Haitians; and in calling for the appointment of African-American Curtissa Coffield to the State Supreme Court.

My home State has reaped enormous benefits from the work of the Connecticut Legislative Black and Puerto Rican Caucus. Its current chairwoman, Annette Carter, heads a team of dedicated leaders who work hard to help all of us. As the Caucus continues its work and accomplishments into the next century, my State and the Nation will benefit. I thank the Caucus for its endeavors and applaud its mission.

TAX RELIEF AND THE RIGHT TO WORK FOR OLDER AMERICANS

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commend the House of Representatives for passing H.R. 2684, the Senior Citizens' Right To Work Act of 1995, which ends the practice of punishing older Americans who want to work.

Earlier this year, I promised the 1 million working, older Americans financial relief from the punitive Social Security earnings limit which is wrongly imposed on them. H.R. 2684, fulfills my promise by increasing the earnings limit to \$30,000 by the year 2002. Today, many people across the Nation want or need to work beyond the age of 64 because a fixed Social Security income alone cannot provide adequate financial resources.

This Nation has a tremendous amount of talent available in its older Americans. Younger people in the workplace gain a lot through the experience of these individuals who continue to work. Simply put, lifting the earnings limit is the right thing to do because it is good for all of us.

When fully phased in, the Senior Citizens' Right To Work Act will exempt about 50 percent of the people who currently have to comply with the earnings limit. These individuals have worked hard to pay into the Social Security trust fund. This legislation keeps our promise to lift the earnings limit for older people so they can continue to contribute to our Nation.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR DEBATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THREE MEASURES RELATING TO UNITED STATES TROOP DEPLOYMENTS IN BOSNIA

SPEECH OF

HON. RONALD D. COLEMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 1995

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, we are facing an important and difficult moment: Should we send United States troops into Bosnia? Deploying U.S. troops to foreign territory and possibly into harm's way is always a difficult decision.

There is, however, one compelling rationale for United States participation in the international peacekeeping force; Bosnia has been the victim of international aggression and of crime against humanity that the Bosnian Serbs, supported by the Milosevic regime in Belgrade, have committed against hundreds of thousands of predominately Moslem Bosnians.

The American people are rightly outraged by the atrocities suffered by the Bosnian people: mass executions, ethnic cleansing, concentration camps, rape and terror, disease and starvation. Numerous accounts report on the slaughter of innocent civilians in Srebrenica. Peace is the only way to end the terrible human toll of this year. Now, with the official signing of the peace agreement in Paris this week, the warring factions have agreed to peace and the principles of the settlement. We finally have a chance to end the violence that has been so perniciously directed at specific groups because of their faith.

President Bill Clinton, and U.S. diplomatic effort brought the parties to the peace table. The progress we have made toward peace has been the result of American leadership. NATO's bombing campaign, led by American pilots, stopped Serb attacks against the safe areas. In Dayton, our single-minded pursuit of peace helped the parties reach an overall settlement. The Presidents of Croatia, Serbia, and Bosnia have made a serious commitment to peace. We must help them to make it work.

After 4 years of war, a credible international military presence is needed to give the parties confidence to live up to their agreement and breathing room to begin reconciliation and rebuilding. NATO, proven strong and effective, is that military presence. And the U.S. is the heart of NATO. If we fail to do our part in implementation, we would undermine our leadership of NATO. We would weaken the alliance itself. We would also undercut the chance for peace in Bosnia to the detriment of our own interests. At this pivotal point in time, our U.S. troops and our Commander in Chief deserve our complete support and confidence.

President Clinton has clearly defined the objectives of the implementation force [I-For] and stated our exact role in the international peacekeeping mission. I-For's mission is limited to assisting the parties in executing the military aspects of the peace agreement. These efforts, in turn, will help create a secure environment that will enable the people of Bosnia to get on with the job of rebuilding. To