

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE AGE DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT AMENDMENTS OF 1995

HON. HARRIS W. FAWELL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 1995

Mr. FAWELL. Mr. Speaker, today, I join my colleague, the Honorable MAJOR OWENS of New York, in introducing legislation to restore the public safety exemption under the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 [ADEA]. This exemption, which expired on December 31, 1993, would allow police and fire departments and correctional institutions to utilize maximum hiring ages and early retirement ages as an element of their overall personnel policies. As a general matter, the use of age-based employment criteria is impermissible under the ADEA.

I believe strongly that the use of an age requirement as a qualification for employment is rarely justified. However, the public safety arena presents one of the very limited exceptions where the need to perform at peak physical and mental conditioning is critical and the natural effects of the aging process cannot be discounted. Police and firefighters have the safety and well-being of not only their fellow officers, but the general public as well, in their hands, and we simply cannot tolerate the risk presented by the possibility of sudden incapacitation or slowed reflexes.

I recently chaired a hearing of the Subcommittee on Employer-Employee Relations of the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities on the need for the public safety exemption under the ADEA, and the testimony of firefighting and law enforcement organizations and local government was compelling. A representative of the International Association of Firefighters testified that "the most important reason that public safety occupations are an exception to the general rule against age-based employment criteria is simply that human lives are at stake." Both the firefighters and police officers presented persuasive testimony that State and local governments must ensure a physically fit and fully qualified workforce and that there are no adequate physical tests available to enable them to do so without the use of age criteria. I might also add that essentially the same legislation restoring the public safety exemption twice passed the House of Representatives in the last Congress.

Drawing a line between the employment rights of one group of Americans and the general good of all Americans is never easy. However, given the increasingly difficult task facing both the law enforcement and firefighting communities, I do not feel we can deny them a personnel tool which management and labor alike feel is necessary to the effective performance of their jobs. I urge all my colleagues to join me in sponsoring the Age Discrimination in Employment Amendments of 1995 and in restoring the public safety exemption to the ADEA.

SUPPORT FOR MINIMUM WAGE

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 1995

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the President in the strongest possible terms for his proposal to increase the minimum wage and provide much-needed relief for the working families of this country.

In 1991, before I came to Congress, I was a human resources consultant. Back then, the minimum wage was at the same level that it is today: \$4.25 an hour. In Sonoma County, where I worked, it was a joke to expect someone to support a family with a minimum wage job, because the minimum wage was not a livable wage. Well, Mr. Speaker, it is even less livable now, because inflation has cut its value by 50 cents over the past 4 years. This is a crisis for America's working families that Congress must address immediately.

To those who oppose President Clinton on this issue, and especially to those who want to eliminate the minimum wage altogether, I want to remind you that 75 percent of the American people agree with our President. I urge my colleagues to unite on behalf of America's working families—to provide them with the wage they deserve.

GOD, GIVE US MEN

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 1995

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, as the new majority in Congress, we face tough decisions in following through with our promises to the American people.

My friend and constituent, Mr. Bill Zimmerman from Gurnee, IL, provided me with a poem that describes the traits Americans expect from their legislators. I include a copy of "God, Give Us Men" for the RECORD, and commend it to the attention of my colleagues.

GOD, GIVE US MEN!

(By Josiah Gilbert Holland)

God, give us Men! A time like this demands
Strong minds, great hearts, true faith and
ready hands;

Men whom the lust of office does not kill;
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy;
Men who possess opinions and a will;

Men who have honor; men who will not lie;
Men who can stand before a demagogue
And damn his treacherous flatteries with-
out winking!

Tall men, sun-crowned, who live above the
fog

In public duty and in private thinking;
For while the rabble, with thumb-worn
creeds,

Their large professions and their little deeds,
Mingle in selfish strife, lo! Freedom weeps,
Wrong rules the land and waiting Justice
sleeps.

REDUCTION OF THE OFFICIAL MAIL ALLOWANCE

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 1995

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing legislation to reduce the official mail allowance of Members of Congress by one-third. I am joined in this request by 21 cosponsors. It has long been my opinion that the ability of Members of Congress to blanket their constituency with unsolicited mass mailings gives them a distinct advantage over challengers in congressional elections. The citizens of the Eleventh District of Virginia have made it clear to me that Congress needs to reform and return itself to its intended purpose as an instrument of the people. It is my hope that this legislation will play a key role in these reforms.

In the past, the official mail allowance was determined by multiplying the number of addresses in a Member's congressional district by the first class postal rate. The current formula allows each Member three times the total number of addresses in their congressional district. The Committee on House Oversight has been responsible for regulating this appropriation; however, preliminary figures have shown that Members altogether overspent this allowance by approximately \$2 million last year. It is clear that we need to take stronger action in order to control this appropriation.

Tomorrow, the Committee on House Oversight will enact regulations that will consider cutting the statutory appropriation. My legislation will couple this regulation by reducing the number of addresses in the formula determining a Member's official mail allowance, resulting in a real money difference of approximately \$55,000 per Member each year. I hope my colleagues and the Committee on House Oversight will support our efforts in the fight for this overdue change.

HONORING DR. LAURANCE NICKEY

HON. RONALD D. COLEMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 1995

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to applaud the efforts of a special leader in my home community of El Paso, TX. In fact, I am quite proud to commend the American Medical Association in its decision to award the 1994 Dr. Nathan Davis Awards to Dr. Laurance Nickey, who will be honored with the Career Public Servant Award at a special awards

• 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.

banquet tonight at the Mayflower Hotel. The Dr. Nathan Davis Awards are presented for outstanding contributions "to promote the art and science of medicine and the betterment of the public health."

Dr. Laurance Nickey is the director of the El Paso City-County Health District and has long been proactive in promoting the public health of the entire southwestern border region. In fact, Dr. Nickey was the first to propose the idea of creating a United States-Mexico Border Health Commission, which was signed into law in October 1994. Dr. Nickey espoused the need to work collaboratively with health, officials of the Mexican side because of his true commitment to improving the health of residents all along the border.

Dr. Nickey has a long and impressive history of service in El Paso, where he was raised. He founded a private pediatric practice there from 1960 to 1983. Dr. Nickey's accomplishments can be found in both the legislative and community health arenas. Legislatively, Dr. Nickey was instrumental in securing legislation that prohibits insurance companies in Texas from discriminating against newborn babies during the first several weeks of life. Dr. Nickey's community successes include the 1963 oral polio immunization program, which administered 800,000 doses of polio vaccine to El Pasoans, west Texans and southern New Mexicans. In 1965, Dr. Nickey was responsible for getting a tuberculosis control physician from the U.S. Public Health Service to come to El Paso, which led to the establishment of an excellent tuberculosis control unit to be operated by the Texas Department of Health through the El Paso City-County Health District.

More, recently, in 1990, Dr. Nickey launched the improved pregnancy outcome program [IPOP], which resulted in the increase of prenatal visits in El Paso from 420 to over 17,000. In fact, at Thomason General Hospital, our principal public hospital, the percentage of women that delivered without prenatal care fell from 40 percent to 11 percent. In August 1991, Dr. Nickey began the only local international task force on cholera along the southwestern border. This project encompassed widespread community involvement. These are but a few. Dr. Nickey's list of accomplishments is impressive and endless.

I know that I share the appreciation and admiration of all El Pasoans when I say, thank you, Dr. Nickey, for your tireless and selfless efforts toward improving the health of all Americans.

THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT OF 1995

HON. NORMAN SISISKY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 1995

Mr. SISISKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my strong support for H.R. 830, the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. I and four other Members of this House joined Mr. CLINGER last night in introducing this urgently needed and long overdue legislation, and I strongly urge my Democratic and Republican colleagues to lend it their wholehearted support.

H.R. 830 makes a series of improvements which strengthen the Paperwork Reduction

Act of 1980. It gives the Federal agencies the tools and the mandate they need to curb paperwork demands on small businesses. It makes permanent the OMB office that is responsible for overseeing the paperwork reduction process. And it closes the enormous loophole created by the Dole Supreme Court case, which agencies have taken advantage of to exempt themselves from requirements of the original Paperwork Reduction Act.

In the 103d Congress, Congressman CLINGER joined me in introducing H.R. 2995, the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1993, a very similar version of the same bill. In this Congress, I have the distinct pleasure of joining Congressman CLINGER in introducing H.R. 830.

I am pleased that H.R. 830 and its Senate counterpart enjoy such broad bipartisan support, as well as the endorsement of the Clinton administration. It is truly good news for small businesses all across the country that this bill has such promising prospects for enactment.

As a senior Democrat on the Small Business Committee, I know that small businesses consistently rank the reduction of Government paperwork as one of their top priorities. Federal paperwork requirements amount to a hidden tax on small businesses, who spend billions of dollars every year in compliance. Since small businesses are responsible for creating most new jobs in today's economy, it only makes sense to check this hindrance to small business job creation.

Reducing the amount of paperwork drowning small businesses in America is a reform that both Democrats and Republicans can enthusiastically support. It is encouraging that Members of both parties have been able to put aside their partisan differences to work together on this important legislation. I hope this effort can serve as a model for constructive bipartisan cooperation on many other issues that directly affect small businesses and average citizens on a day-to-day basis.

WHAT NEGRO HISTORY MONTH MEANS TO ME

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 1995

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, black Americans have fought in every war in which the United States has been involved. However, black soldiers were not afforded the same rights and privileges as their white counterparts until recently. Despite the courage and patriotism they displayed, black soldiers were often forced to endure overt discrimination and racism from their superiors and peers.

I want to share with my colleagues an essay that describes the trials of one black soldier. The account was written by Joseph "Joe" Myers, my old friend and club member in the Lamb's Club. It is my hope that Joe's story will positively inspire my colleagues during this Black History Month.

WHAT NEGRO HISTORY MONTH MEANS TO ME (By Joseph "Joe" Myers)

This is a salute to the Negro American men and women who served in the United States Marine Corp during the last fifty years.

As I lie here thinking of Negro history month being celebrated today, little did I know or think when I volunteered for service in the U.S. Marine Corp in Dec. 1942, that I would today be considered a legend in Negro Military History.

Being among the first thirty platoon of men enlisted and called, the quota was to be twelve hundred (1200) and this was on an experimental basis to see if we could finish basic training, which was hazardous and highly disciplined. To become part of this highly elite organization was our goal. We had all kinds of setbacks, embarrassing, degrading and harassing experiences, but we banded together with our dignity and pride.

We made it. This was the first time in U.S. Marine Corp history that Negro Americans were on record as part of the U.S. Marine Corp. The first thirty platoons were trained and supervised by white instructors who reminded us constantly that we were not wanted in the Corp. They even suggested we go over the hill (AWOL). This made us band together with more determination to prove we were as qualified as others.

Today it makes my heart beam with joy to hear a great leader, General Colin Powell, former Chief of Staff, state that The Montford Point Marines are among the Negro Military legends. To have served and see blacks rise from a Boot recruit to a Lt. General and now Major, and Brigadier Generals is amazing. I knew it would happen. Yes, we served in World War II, the Korean era, the Vietnam conflict, the Desert Storm, Granada, Panama and now the Haitian conflict.

We have served with the highest distinction, some even getting this nation's highest award, "The Congressional Medal of Honor" and awards for being among the best fighter pilots in combat. Yes, we salute the men and women who have followed in our footsteps and are continuing to carry the baton.

To quote General Chappie James: "We have run a good race and come a long way, but there are better trophies ahead."

You may hear some conflicting lies and exaggerating stories about us. If you want the true analysis ask someone from the First Thirty Platoons.

Semper Fi.

MARSHA GRILLI: MILPITAS CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 1995

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Ms. Marsha Grilli, a resident of the city of Milpitas in the 13th Congressional District. She has just been selected as the 1995 Milpitas Citizen of the Year by the Milpitas Chamber of Commerce.

Marsha has been an active member of the Milpitas community for over 13 years but has really made her mark in our community's schools. She has been immersed in the education of her five children, as any parent would be. But Marsha's interest in their education has benefited all of the schoolchildren of Milpitas.

She has served on numerous committees, including the Community Board Advisory Council, school site councils, and Curtner School Association. She was the cofounder of the Milpitas Foundation for Education, served