

University System and with the United Way of Greater Los Angeles, Herb serves on the board of directors of Pacific Enterprises, Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Co., the National Advisory Council of the Hughes Aircraft Co. public education project, the board of regents for Loyola Marymount University, and the University of Southern California's School of Public Administration board of counselors. And that is only a partial listing of his affiliations.

Mr. Speaker, most individuals view retirement as a well-earned reward, an occasion to rest and enjoy the fruits of his/her labors, and the culmination of a lifetime of contributions made to a noble purpose. Herb Carter, however, is several cuts above most individuals. He is a man of vision and of enormous energy and focus, a man who possesses a passionate commitment to helping society become more Utopian. Those of us privileged to know him have long since dispensed with the notion that he has any intention of retiring and enjoying the fruits of his labors, and we are all the better for that decision.

Mr. Speaker, the late, celebrated, and distinguished Supreme Court Chief Justice John Marshall once noted that, "A great man represents a great ganglion in the nerves of society, or to, vary the figure, a strategic point in the campaign of history, and part of his greatness consists in his being there."

Dr. Herbert L. Carter is such a man and I am proud to recognize him and commend him on his outstanding contributions to the citizens of Los Angeles. Well done, my friend.

DALE A. DUNCAN HONORED

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 22, 1995*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Mr. Dale A. Duncan, the Boy Scout's 1995 Distinguished Citizen. A dinner in Mr. Duncan's honor is being held on February 23 in Wilkes-Barre.

Mr. Duncan has served as the president and publisher of the Times Leader, one of Wilkes-Barre's daily papers. He began with the Times Leader in 1980 as the city editor, worked as executive editor in 1984, until his ascension to publisher in 1986.

Through his work at the paper, Dale has been active in the community, including organizing the annual Times Leader/Boy Scout gold tournament and the paper's "Book of Dreams" community service drive. He also serves on the boards of the F.M. Kirby Center for Performing Arts, the Salvation Army, the United Ways of Wyoming Valley, the Greater Wilkes-Barre Partnership, and he serves as the chairman of the Diversity Committee for the Pennsylvania Newspaper Publishers' Association.

hard to keep me on my toes in the grand tradition of a free press, and I will miss his thought-provoking critiques. Dale and I have not always agreed politically and philosophically, but I have always enjoyed having the opportunity to discuss our views with one another openly and with mutual respect.

Mr. Speaker, the Boy Scouts honor someone each year who has exemplified the scouting ideal of participating citizenship. As one can see from his long list of accomplishments and various memberships, Dale Duncan is certainly an appropriate honoree for the 1995 award. I am pleased to join the Boy Scouts in recognizing him for his community and civic work.

CORSICANA DAILY SUN, 100 YEARS  
OF PUBLISHING

**HON. MARTIN FROST**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 22, 1995*

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the 100 years that the Corsicana Daily Sun in Corsicana, TX has been publishing.

The first edition of the Corsicana Daily Sun was published on March 2, 1985 as a morning edition. The Daily Sun was prosperous, and in 1906 the owners purchased the Semi-Weekly Light and continued to publish both newspapers.

In 1984 the semiweekly publication was converted into a weekly called the Navarro County Sun Extra. And in 1986, the Daily Sun began publishing a Saturday edition for the first time, making it a 7 day a week publication.

Mr. Speaker, the Corsicana Daily Sun has been an invaluable addition to life and the arts in Corsicana. Although a fire displaced operations for 5 months in 1992, the Daily Sun continued to publish without missing one edition.

Mr. Speaker, the Corsicana Daily Sun has documented local events and happenings for the past 100 years, and will continue to do so, we hope, for 100 more.

AGENDA FOR CHANGE

**HON. RON PACKARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 22, 1995*

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, today marks day 50 of our Republican Contract With America. The Republican-controlled House has accomplished more in 50 days than any Democrat-controlled Congress ever did. Republicans continue to prove that hard work produces real results.

fense measures to guarantee security at home and to protect our national interests abroad.

In the next 50 days, House Republicans will continue to work hard, make change, and keep their promises. Although the House has already passed a full political agenda, there is still more to consider. We will work to roll back overzealous Government regulation, reform a backlogged legal system, to promote personal responsibility, and to restore fairness in our Tax Code.

Mr. Speaker, America voted for change last November. This Republican-controlled Congress is committed to working for the results the people want. The Republican agenda for change moves forward.

UPDATE ON THE PERSONAL  
RESPONSIBILITY ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 21, 1995*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. GREEN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I take the floor to continue the discussion about the Personal Responsibility Act. The Goodling substitute of the Personal Responsibility Act which will be taken up in the Economic and Educational Opportunities Committee tomorrow will cut funding for child care in the State of Texas from fiscal year 1996 through 2000 over \$485 million.

The Personal Responsibility Act will repeal all Federal programs that deal with nutrition, including the school breakfast and lunch programs, and restrict nutrition programs under the Older Americans Act.

I am happy that the Republicans realized that being "penny wise and pound foolish" with the cuts in senior nutrition programs was not good policy and were simply unworkable. However, senior nutrition programs are not the only programs which should be taken out of the Personal Responsibility Act.

I suggest that all nutrition programs be withdrawn from the Personal Responsibility Act and discussed in the context of the people participating in the programs. For example, school breakfast and lunch programs should be discussed in education or health reform along with nutrition programs for women, infants, and children. Not simply in terms of reforming welfare.

School nutrition programs provide food assistance in a school setting, such as the Port Houston Elementary School with Principal Maria Sierra,

grams to encourage children to learn.

Again, I suggest to my colleagues on the other side that all nutrition programs which do not go directly to individuals should be taken out of this act.

Finally, under summaries provided by the Republicans of the Goodling substitute, several references are made to the funds being increased. However, estimates provided to my office by the State of Texas show the states' school nutrition programs taking a 6.5 percent cut in funding. This is when we have more children every year needing food.

I leave on this last note. Do we wish to be the Congress which cuts funds to feed even one hungry child? This may be reform but at what cost. Are we hard hearted enough to deny food to children?

---

## FEDERAL HOUSING TRUST FUND ACT OF 1995

**HON. MAJOR R. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 22, 1995*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Federal Housing Trust Fund Act of 1995, a significant piece of legislation which would offer every family in this country the opportunity to live in decent, safe, and affordable housing.

In 1949, Congress enacted a comprehensive housing bill setting the national goal of a decent home and a suitable living environment for every American family. Today, we are further from that goal than ever before. The VA-HUD-Independent Agencies appropriations bill which finally passed the Senate last week does not even keep pace with the problem of low-income housing. Recently, the Department of Housing and Urban Development [HUD] released its worst case housing needs report, based on 1991 American Housing Survey data. It shows that the number of very low-income renter households with worst case housing needs is increasing at the rate of 100,000 per year. But the 1995 HUD appropriation provides money for only 88,000 additional households.

Low-income people have faced a housing crisis for many years, and each year it gets worse. The 1990 Census, which does not even count deteriorated or dilapidated housing, found that over 30 percent of American households have significant problems with housing costs, overcrowding, or lack of kitchens or complete plumbing facilities. These problems affect an estimated 70 million people.

Although this Nation has had federally subsidized housing programs for low-income people since the mid-1930's, the scope of the programs has been limited. In recent years, HUD has consistently found that there are over 5

ance. Moreover, for each household with a worst case need, there are four more households—27 million in all—which are overcrowded, lack kitchens or bathrooms, or must pay more than they can afford for housing.

While low-income housing programs have failed to meet the needs of their target population, special tax benefits have provided significant assistance for millions of higher-income Americans who already can afford a home. Official estimates of the Office of Management and Budget [OMB] indicate that the cost of these special benefits to the Federal Treasury has risen from \$10 billion in 1976 to \$84 billion in 1994.

A large majority of this cost to the Government is due to the deduction of home mortgage interest and real property taxes. While these tax deductions have helped millions of higher-income Americans achieve financial stability, they represent too high a proportion of Federal housing expenditures. For every dollar the Federal Government spends to provide housing assistance to a low-income family, a family in the top fifth of the income distribution receives \$3 in benefits from homeowner deductions, primarily for mortgage interest and property taxes.

The sad fact is that this Nation's housing subsidy system is upside down. While Congress restricts budget authority and outlays for low-income housing to help reduce the Federal budget deficit, higher-income people continue to receive their entitlement to benefits through homeowner deductions. Administration projections show that the cost of the mortgage interest deduction alone will amount to almost one-third of the deficit in fiscal year 1995.

One result of the gross imbalance in Federal housing benefits has been the growing segregation of different aspects of American society: rich and poor, white and people of color, urban and suburban. This trend poses a threat to the Nation's general welfare, family and community life, and economic stability. It has even led to increased drug use and crime. It therefore is in the interest of all Americans to address the housing problem effectively.

To reset the balance of Federal housing expenditures, I am introducing the Federal Housing Trust Fund Act of 1995. This bill would take only a fraction of mortgage interest and property tax deductions enjoyed by taxpayers in the top eighth of the income distribution<sup>1</sup> and place it in a Federal Housing Trust Fund for low-income families who lack decent, safe, and affordable housing. To raise additional revenue for the trust fund, the bill also would eliminate a huge tax loophole—the favorable tax treatment of inherited property. This loophole permits wealthy American families to pass their property to their children and grandchildren and completely escape any income

<sup>1</sup>The Joint Tax Committee estimates for 1994 are that 10.6% of all "returns" have incomes above \$75,000. "Returns" includes filers with and without taxes due, and estimated numbers of non-filers. About 80-90% of filers in the above-\$75,000 income bracket claim homeowner deductions.

their incomes, would keep at least half of their current mortgage interest and property tax benefits, and only 1 household in 10 would pay higher taxes as a result of this bill. Moreover, these changes would be phased in over 5 years to reduce their immediate impact.

Thus, the bill would drastically reduce the cost to the Treasury for homeowner tax benefits for taxpayers with incomes above \$75,000, generating tens of billions of dollars for the trust fund. The Government then would be able to provide the money needed for a comprehensive and flexible program of housing grants to eligible State and local entities. In turn, such entities would provide housing costs assistance for owners and renters, increase and improve the supply of affordable housing, increase the capacity of the nonprofit sector, and improve fair housing efforts.

Specifically, two-thirds of the money in the trust fund would be designated for a housing costs assistance program, which would pay the difference between 30 percent of adjusted income and the fair market rent for a unit of the size needed in the area where the family resides or wishes to reside. Although the subsidy amount would be based on rental housing costs, the assistance could be used either to rent or purchase. The funds would be distributed by formula to cities, States, and Indian tribes, based on the number of households with severe affordability problems and the cost of housing.

The remaining one-third of the funds would be used to expand the housing supply and provide related services, including fair housing and capacity-building. All housing and related services provided through this program, except for emergency repairs and hazard abatement, would be subject to permanent restrictions on housing affordability. Like the housing costs program, these trust fund dollars would be distributed by formula, but the formula would be developed by HUD based on the relative need for improving and expanding the housing stock.

By limiting tax benefits for individuals who do not need them to be able to live in decent, affordable housing, the bill would provide the funding needed to attack the critical housing problems facing low- and moderate-income people, and contribute to family security, cohesiveness, and economic self-sufficiency.

This bill is the kind of bold measure we need to solve the low-income housing crisis. It provides the resources to address the full range of problems—not only worst case needs, but also the needs of young families without enough income to have realistic prospects of moving into decent neighborhoods or owning their own homes.

Within 10 years of passage of this bill, we could expect the same enhanced opportunities for low-income people to obtain housing as young families had after the end of World War II when, thanks to low-housing costs, an expanding economy, and Veterans Administration [VA] and Federal Housing Administration [FHA] mortgages, millions of Americans were