

public scrutiny and control. On the contrary, incumbents these days tend to be very sensitive, perhaps unduly so, to the opinions of their constituents. Indicative of what has long been happening is the fact that incumbents do say quite different things on the issues of the day, depending on precisely where they are from and what electorate they rely upon. Public opinion polling makes it easier for each incumbent to tailor his words and deeds to the opinions and immediate desires of his constituents. Would Members of Congress who know they can be there for only a few more years once they "learn the ropes" be inclined to devote themselves to their demanding duties, unconcerned about preparing the way for their subsequent career?

It is likely, in any event, that most if not all of the constitutional amending being agitated these days (including the line-item veto) would be much better dealt with through legislation that can be readily adjusted and, if need be, improved or even repealed as circumstances change.

TRIBUTE TO WAYNE "BOOMER"
BUCK

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 1995

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, Saturday, April 8, 1995 will be a very special day for the State of Michigan and for the city of Taylor. On that day, tribute will be paid to a great patriot and a great friend to the veterans in Michigan, Wayne "Boomer" Buck.

Boomer has served since June of 1994 as the State commander of the Michigan Department of Veterans of Foreign Wars. In that capacity, he has worked tirelessly to provide vigorous leadership to support the department's member posts, and guide their commanders. As the State commander, he has been responsible for the administration of a department with 88,000 members, comprised of veterans of all conflicts from World War I to the present.

Wayne Buck was born and raised in Michigan. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1956, and served aboard a 7th Fleet destroyer in the South China Sea during a period of high tension in that part of the world. For that, he was awarded the China Service Ribbon. He returned to duty in the United States in 1957 and was honorably discharged from the Navy in 1962.

Boomer has been active in the VFW since joining the Walter J. Smith Post 511 in New Britain, CT, in 1966. He became a life member of the VFW in 1970. While living in Connecticut, he served as an active member of his home post as well as on committees at the district and department level.

After returning to his home State of Michigan, Boomer served as an officer and commander of Post 9283 in Southgate, achieving recognition as All State Commander in 1983. He later served in a district office, and was elected district four commander in 1987. His exceptional performance led to recognition as outstanding district commander that year. He later served as POW/MIA department chairman for Michigan, as Michigan vice commander, and became Michigan department commander in June, 1994.

Mr. Speaker, my friend Wayne "Boomer" Buck has devoted his life to service of his

country and those who have worn its uniform. He has done so with energy, integrity and skill. It is with pride that I commend him to you with the highest praise I can render: "Citizen, Patriot, Friend."

TRIBUTE TO SKIP CIOFFI

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 1995

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, April 1, 1995, Mr. Henry R. "Skip" Cioffi will be honored by the Figli Colombo, Sons of Columbus, in a testimonial dinner at Mike Doolan's Restaurant in Spring Lake Heights, NJ. It is a great honor and privilege to pay tribute to this special man and good friend who played an important role in helping me get my start in politics.

Mr. Cioffi is probably best known as the mayor of Long Branch, NJ, my hometown. He was first elected mayor in 1970, after having served as a city councilman since 1962. He was subsequently reelected to 4-year terms in 1974 and 1978. His 12 years as mayor stand as the longest tenure of any directly elected mayor in the history of Long Branch. Mayor Cioffi's record is an impressive and distinguished one. During his tenure, Ocean Boulevard was initiated, the police department was reorganized, and taxes were stabilized. His vision led to creation of the Monmouth County Park System's Seven Presidents Park, the preservation of valuable ocean-front acreage, restoration of the boardwalk, and the construction of a satellite facility for Brookdale Community College in downtown Long Branch.

Mr. Speaker, Skip Cioffi's life story reads like a great American success story. Mr. Cioffi grew up in Monmouth County, attended the Lyceum in Long Branch and Red Bank Catholic High School. He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps after high school, and served for 39 months before being honorably discharged in December 1952. He has received degrees from Monmouth College and the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Finance. He has spent his entire career in public service. In addition to his elected offices in Long Branch, he served as business administrator of the public schools systems in Eatontown, NJ, and Elizabeth, NJ. In 1961 he married Jean A. DeStafano, and they have four children, Michael, Gina, Danielle, and Skip, Jr. His daughter Gina did a great job during the 6 years she served as executive assistant in my Capitol Hill office.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to pay tribute to my friend Skip Cioffi. I join with the members of Figli Colombo in congratulating him on his wonderful and exemplary career in public service.

TERM LIMITS

HON. WAYNE ALLARD

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 1995

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, yesterday was a historic day. For the first time in history, the House of Representatives debated and voted

on term limits for its Members. I have and continue to be a strong supporter of term limits. Term limits would help to deter Members from acting in a career-oriented, self interested manner and would promote decisions for the public good. In short, term limits would make legislators more responsive to the people.

The support for term limits has been demonstrated by the 22 State term limits initiatives and polls showing 70 percent or more approval by the public. My State of Colorado was the first State to enact limits in 1990 with a 12-year limit and in 1994 with a 6-year House limit.

Four versions of term limits were offered yesterday. In the end, it was the Colorado law that I voted in favor of. I voted against the Dingell-Peterson 12-12 years amendment because it was retroactive, which has been rejected by States, and also because it would supersede all State term limit laws. I voted in favor of the Inglis 6-12 years amendment because it was the same as the Colorado provision, 6 years for House Members and 12 years for Senators. I also voted in favor of the Van Hilleary 12-12 year amendment because it would not supersede any State term limit law. This amendment would have kept the Colorado term limit law in place. I voted against the McCollum 12-12 years version because it would have superseded all other State term limit laws.

I believe the voters of Colorado who voted for 6 years in the House and 12 years in the Senate know best. The Federal Government should respect the desires of each State. The McCollum amendment was flawed because it would have nullified all other State limits. If either the Inglis or Hilleary amendments had made it to final passage I would have enthusiastically voted yes. In my view, they were the only acceptable term limits proposals the House debated.

CAPT. ROBERT PEARSON: A TRUE
CREDIT TO THE BADGE

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 1995

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Capt. Robert Pearson, the third district commander of the Michigan State Police, as he retires after more than 23 years of service to the people of Michigan as a member of the Michigan Department of State Police. His devotion to duty, care for the officers he commands, and attention to the needs and concerns of the people of Michigan who called upon him during his time as a member of the department have earned him the thanks and true respect of those whose lives he touched during a most memorable career.

Robert Pearson was born in Waverly, TN, and came to Michigan as a young boy. He attended both Ferris State University and Delta College, while serving as a member of the U.S. Marine Corps for 2½ years between enrollments. He is a Vietnam veteran, having admirably served his country and earning a Presidential Unit Citation and a National Defense award.

He joined the State police in February 1972. Following graduation he was posted at Jackson, Detroit, Flint, Northville, and finally Saginaw since April 30, 1989. Just as so many police officers do, his watchful eyes may have helped protect many of us as we traveled through Michigan during his exemplary career.

I have the pleasure and the privilege of personally knowing Captain Pearson. If any of you want to find an outstanding role model for our children, look at Robert Pearson. If you need to know what it means to be devoted to public service, look at Robert Pearson. It is no wonder that a man of his skills and purpose has served on numerous departmental boards and committees, has been sought out by colleagues and law enforcement agencies to serve on their boards and committees, and has won an award from the Michigan State Safety Commission for developing and overseeing the C.Z.A.R.—Construction Zone Accident Reduction Program.

His dedication to his profession is exceeded only by his commitment to family, including his wife Phyllis, and son Jason. Despite his very demanding schedule, he still has made the time to be a very active member of St. Luke C.M.E. Church, and a Prince hall Mason for 25 years.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of our colleagues to join me in wishing Captain Pearson the very best on his retirement. As he is joined by friends and colleagues who will honor him at a dinner this Saturday, let this man of distinction know that his career has earned him the gratitude of the people of Michigan that he so richly deserves.

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY CONTEST,
ALASKA WINNER

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 1995

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, with pride and honor I acknowledge Walter McInnis, of Eagle River, AK, for his accomplishment of first place in the 1995 Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its Ladies Auxiliary Voice of Democracy Broadcast Script-Writing Contest of the State of Alaska. Mr. McInnis will receive \$1,000 in scholarship funds to apply toward his collegiate education.

The Voice of Democracy Scholarship Program was started 48 years ago with the endorsement of the U.S. Office of Education and National Association of Broadcasters, Electronic Industries Association, and State Association of Broadcasters. Over the past 35 years the number of annual national scholarships has risen to 47 totaling \$109,000 with a \$20,000 scholarship to the school of choice going to the first place winner.

Mr. McInnis, a junior at Chugiak High School, has not decided on where he would like to attend college. He plans on pursuing a career in law. His list of achievements include the American Legion's Scholastic Achievement Award and first and second year outstanding and honor cadet in the National Junior ROTC Unit.

It pleases me to enter Mr. McInnis' winning essay into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

"MY VISION FOR AMERICA"

(By Walter McInnis)

My vision for America.

I see a place where Constitutional rights are more than just words on paper, written long ago in an age of idealism. Foremost among these rights must be education. Quality education, which sees to it that the Nation's youth are ready to assume the responsibilities of their parents.

I see a place where certain Constitutional guarantees are unnecessary. A place where discrimination on the basis of race, sex, or religion is not only unconstitutional, but unthinkable.

I see an America whose citizens understand that "honor" and "duty" are more than just clichés that sound good; that they are what sets leaders apart from followers. I see a nation willing to pay the price of being a world leader; willing to pay for a strong national defense, and I see a nation willing to use its strength to stand up for what's honorable. Because being a leader has nothing to do with making the easy decisions, or even the popular decisions; it's being able to make choices based on nothing more than "they're the right thing to do."

I see a nation that has all but eliminated crime through the equal application of mercy and justice. A society that understands that to be merciful without justice is foolish, and to be just without mercy is tyrannous. A society that rewards sympathy only to those who are repentant, instead of those with the most excuses.

I see a nation who has come to the realization that resource management isn't such a difficult and confounding thing after all. For in the interest of development now and in the future, conservation is vital. A nation that also realizes conserving a resource is pointless if not to develop that resource for later generations.

I see a nation that readily assumes responsibility. Because personal accountability is critical to success in all areas of life; from basic person to person honesty all the way to a national, political level.

I see a people who have risen above a cynical derision of their government. I see a citizenry who have balanced their democratic duty to critique their government, with a respect for the same. After all if the voters are not responsible for their government, then who is?

I see a people who also remember to respect their children and senior citizens. Senior citizens have made the sacrifices to get the country in the leadership role it now enjoys; and the leaders of today must realize that they do not own the country, but instead are holding it in trust for the generations to come.

In conclusion, I envision America continuing its prominent role in world affairs. America must also continue to set the example for personal freedom and equality. It is crucial that the country reassume dominance in education, second best simply isn't good enough. Respect and responsibility must be the axioms which the country strives toward because a leader who does not respect other's opinions, and does not accept responsibility for his actions, does not deserve to be a leader.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE COAL MINE
HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 1995

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, 25 years ago, the Coal Mine Health and Safety Act went into effect. In this era of regulatory moratoria, of

reducing Federal regulations, and of risk assessments being applied to the rulemaking process, this act stands as a shining example of the overwhelming benefits to society of Federal regulation and oversight.

During November 1968, 78 coal miners lie trapped deep beneath the Earth in a mine near Farmington, WV. For the first time the average American witnessed a coal mine disaster as television coverage beamed this devastating incident across the Nation. They saw the horror, the sheer terror, on the faces of the wives and children, and of the fellow workers, of those coal miners. The reaction of the American people was swift, and it was clearly stated. Within 1 year Congress enacted the landmark Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969, for the first time applying a Federal occupational safety law to a specific industry.

More than 250 coal miners on average perished annually while on the job during the 3-year period prior to passage of the 1969 act. Over the last 3 years, the average number of coal miner fatalities has totaled fewer than 50. This achievement was made without a loss of industry productivity, or for that matter, profit.

Mary 'Mother' Jones, the union activist, after seeing the plight of coal miners in West Virginia during the earlier part of this century once exclaimed: "When I get to Heaven I am going to tell God Almighty about West Virginia!" The good Lord must have listened. Entering this century as the most dangerous industry in the Nation, the coal industry is ending it as one of the most improved, and again, without sacrificing productivity.

But much more remains to be done. The improvements made since 1969 offers little solace to the families of the 44 coal miners who perished in 1994. They offer little consolidation to the many coal miners who today suffer from the crippling affects of black lung disease.

And so I say to my colleagues, take care in what we do when considering changes to our Nation's safety laws. Take care that what we wrought today, does not come back to haunt us in the future.

UNJUSTIFIED GIVEAWAY TO THE
OIL INDUSTRY

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 1995

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, just when you might have thought you had heard it all about the limitless greed of the special interests for more subsidies and favors, along comes the oil and gas industry, belying up to the bar for a few more billion from taxpayers.

This time, it's called a royalty holiday: Forgive oil companies from paying royalties to taxpayers—who own the oil and gas—in cases where the lease is in deep water.