

master who has played and shared many experiences with other great artists.

Mr. Speaker, Carter, Collette, and Wilson have been colleagues, collaborators, and friends for most of their lives. Together these men have created a legacy of powerful music and a commitment to education of which America and indeed the world can be proud. I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting these giants of jazz.

FAST FORWARD TO END HUNGER

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 1996

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the efforts of "Fast Forward to End Hunger," a nonprofit organization dedicated to raise funds to eliminate childhood hunger. The Fast Forward to End Hunger initiative, which was launched on June 1 in nearly 8,000 video stores across the Nation, is expected to raise at least \$2 million by the end of its first fundraising and education campaign on August 31.

Fast Forward to End Hunger is an unprecedented collaboration between the Video Software Dealers Association—the trade association of the \$16 billion home video industry—and End Hunger Network, an organization founded by actor/producer Jeff Bridges that enlists the entertainment industry in efforts to end hunger worldwide. Leading Hollywood celebrities—including Jeff Bridges, Valerie Harper, Paul Newman, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Robin Williams and others—have pledged their support to Fast Forward to End Hunger in order to help cut the number of children who wake up hungry each day.

As part of its educational efforts, Fast Forward to End Hunger will be working to increase awareness about the dimensions of the problem of childhood hunger in our Nation among the 57-million-plus consumers who visit retail video stores:

More than 21 percent of U.S. children under the age of 18, and 24 percent of children under age 6 are poor—twice the child-poverty rate of any other industrial country.

Hunger afflicts more than one in four American children. Some 4 million children under age 12 in the United States are chronically hungry and 9.6 million more are at risk of chronic hunger—in all, more than 29 percent of American children.

Even short periods of undernutrition can affect children's behavior, cognitive development, and future productivity.

Children who are hungry are four times as likely to have difficulty concentrating as other children. And they are more than three times as likely to experience unwanted weight loss and are more likely to have frequent headaches.

Eighty-four percent of Americans believe the Government should increase spending for food assistance programs, or at least continue them in 1995 levels.

Some Americans polled felt that alleviating hunger and poverty is an important issue in the 1996 election year, according to a recent Nielsen poll.

These statistics paint a sobering picture of the tremendous challenge we face, and I am

pleased to welcome Fast Forward to End Hunger as an ally in our efforts to help Americans in battling childhood hunger in their communities.

The Video Software Dealers Association and the End Hunger Network deserve praise for their ambitious efforts to eliminate childhood hunger, and I hope my colleagues will join me by becoming involved in the efforts of Fast Forward to End Hunger in their local communities.

CAN DO CELEBRATES 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 1996

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an economic and community development organization in my Congressional District in Pennsylvania, the Community Area New Development Corporation of Hazleton. CAN DO, as it is generally known, will celebrate its 40th anniversary next week, and I am pleased to be able to participate in this event.

In 1956, Dr. Edgar L. Dessen led a group of civic leaders who were determined to reverse the economic decline brought about by the demise of Northeastern Pennsylvania's coal mining industry. These officials believed that the economy of the area could only survive if new jobs were created through planned industrial development.

Under Dr. Dessen's leadership, the original group oversaw a massive fund-raising effort to help finance Greater Hazleton's renaissance. The organization set a goal of raising one half a million dollars, but succeeding in raising \$750,000 for generating economic development. The group used the funds to purchase land to create an industrial park on the outskirts of Hazleton. A year later, Valmont Industrial Park was opened, and the General Foam Company became the park's first tenant. The company brought over one hundred new jobs to Hazleton launching the area's economic revitalization. Valmont Industrial Park was quickly filled and CAN DO began to expand its mission.

Having experienced tremendous success in bringing new industries to the Valmont Industrial Park, CAN DO began drafting plans for a second industrial park. In 1972, CAN DO opened the Humboldt Industrial Park and quickly attracted new industries. A state-of-the-art operation was established in the park by Cadbury-Schweppes, Ltd. which was the largest candy manufacturer in the world at that time. The facility is now home to Hershey Chocolate.

During the 1980's CAN DO officials turned their attention toward the age of high technology which they anticipated would drive the future economy. CAN DO's drawing board was filled with plans to keep the company of the Hazleton area strong well into the 21st Century through the attraction of high tech businesses. Numerous economic development projects were realized from this innovative planning.

Paramount among these projects is the CAN DO Corporate Center. This ultra-modern business park features a unique environmentally sensitive design known as the Terrar-

ium Concept which preserves the ecological beauty of the park. This strategy was so well received, CAN DO was awarded the 1993 Environmental Excellence in Economic Development Award from the Arthur D. Little organization. Only minutes from the interstate highway system, the CAN DO Corporate Center is equipped with the latest business and industrial technologies and a well structured and reliable infrastructure.

Currently, CAN DO is involved in the expansion of the Humboldt Industrial Park Southwest which will result in 300 additional acres being made available for industrial development in the Hazleton area. CAN DO is also working with the Pennsylvania Power and Light Company to develop the Green Mountain Major Manufacturing Site adjacent to the Humboldt Southwest facility.

Mr. Speaker, during its forty year existence, CAN DO has been responsible for 14,000 new jobs, 200 development projects, over \$1 billion in private investment in the Greater Hazleton Area, and more than \$4 million in tax revenue. The long-term vision for economic development that CAN DO drafted has contributed significantly to the economic revitalization of the Greater Hazleton Area. CAN DO has truly earned its many national awards and recognition.

Mr. Speaker, during my tenure in the Congress, I have had the distinct pleasure of working closely with the innovative and visionary men and women of CAN DO. It is with pleasure that I am able to highlight the outstanding achievements of this distinguished economic development organization before my colleagues. I am proud to congratulate CAN DO on its 40th Anniversary and I wish the organization continued prosperity in all its community and economic development efforts.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3540) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes:

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my support for amendments adopted by the House last week to H.R. 3540, the foreign operations appropriations bill for fiscal year 1997.

In the early years of this century, the Armenian people suffered horrible atrocities at the hands of the Ottoman Empire. The diplomatic record, from our own diplomats and from those of other countries, shows an orchestrated effort to rid Turkey of Armenians. It is time that the Turkish Government recognize the Armenian genocide and honor the victims in an appropriate manner.

The House has spoken twice this past week on Armenian issues. The first time was to amend the Humanitarian Corridors Act to remove the President's authority to waive the

provisions of the act which deny aid to a country blocking humanitarian assistance to a third country. Turkey has been blocking such assistance to Armenia but the President chooses to waive the applicable provisions of the Humanitarian Corridors Act. The House has responded by overwhelmingly adopting an amendment denying the President future use of this authority.

The House also spoke resoundingly when it adopted an amendment cutting by \$3 million the economic support funds Turkey receives until the Government of Turkey acknowledges the atrocity committee against the Armenians and takes appropriate steps to honor the memory of the victims of the Armenian genocide.

Mr. Chairman, these amendments will send a strong message to the Turkish Government that the United States expects the victims of the Armenian genocide to be recognized and that silence in the face of such atrocities is unacceptable.

TRIBUTE TO THE 1996 GRADUATES RECOGNIZED BY THE CHALDEAN FEDERATION OF AMERICA

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 1996

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate all the students being recognized by the Chaldean Federation of America at their Annual Commencement and Scholarship Program. The program is being held this afternoon at the Mother of God Chaldean Church in Southfield, MI.

An umbrella organization of Chaldean churches and civic organizations, the Chaldean Federation of America devotes the majority of its efforts to education. The Federation encourages Chaldean youth not only to remain in school, but to strive for academic excellence and achievement. Nearly 300 Chaldean youths graduating from southeast Michigan high schools and 60 others who have completed their studies at several Michigan colleges and universities, will be recognized.

It is becoming increasingly evident that both individual success and the prosperity of America depend on education. It is truly encouraging to know so many of these students, who in many cases are first generation Americans, are learning this lesson early. Because of their success, the Chaldean community, Michigan and the United States will all benefit.

I commend the graduating class of 1996 and encourage all the individuals involved to remain students for life. As our future leaders, I wish all the graduates continued success and urge my colleagues to do the same.

HONORING THE HENDERSONVILLE VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services

provided by the Hendersonville Volunteer Rescue Squad. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that should disaster strike, we know that our friends and neighbors are there to help.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a member of the rescue squad. Rescue squad members undergo a training series over a four to six month period which includes instruction in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation [CPR], vehicle extrication, emergency driving, and rescue orientation. In addition to this training, rescue squad members also meet monthly to address business concerns as well as hear guest speakers.

Rescue squad members are volunteers. They receive no pay for what they do. What also makes their service especially outstanding is that the organizations themselves receive no funding. They receive no funding from the city, the county, or the Federal Government.

Rescue squads are funded in the same spirit of community volunteerism which moves them to serve. Family, friends, and neighbors pitch in at bake sales, road blocks, and fish fries to help those who sacrifice their time for the benefit of the whole community.

Committing such an amount of spare time and energy to a job so emotionally and physically taxing requires a sense of devotion and duty for which we are all grateful.

IDEA IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 10, 1996

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I regret to say that I am opposed to this bill in its current form.

As a member of the Economic and Educational Opportunities Committee for the past 15 years who has been involved in similar special education reauthorization discussions, let me begin by commending full committee Chairman GOODLING and subcommittee Chairman CUNNINGHAM for their efforts to develop a compromise IDEA reauthorization bill that can be supported by a coalition of parent groups, disability groups, and school groups. In doing so, they have continued the bipartisan spirit that IDEA has always enjoyed.

With that said, I must express my strong disappointment with and opposition to the bill's funding formula. Although the formula has been modified to decrease disproportionate funding losses absorbed by States such as New Jersey, I do not believe that it goes far enough. While the changes to the funding formula represent progress, the formula itself will continue a funding war between the States. And, the victims will be the children.

The issues affecting the special education Federal funding formula are extremely complicated and State-specific. For example, there is disagreement among special education experts as to whether or not there is a correlation between poverty and disability incidence rate, which is why the administration's funding formula for new money does not include a poverty factor. A perfect example of this is suburban Detroit which, although it is the

wealthiest district in Michigan, it has that State's highest identification level.

These are exactly the types of reasons that the Senate Labor Committee passed its IDEA reauthorization bill without changing the current formula, and why the Washington-based coalition of parent, disability and school groups decided to take no position on the current formula despite having taken a position on all other areas of this bill.

Everyone recognizes that there are problems with the current special education system, particularly those related to the over-identification of disabled students. That is why changes in current law included in this bill, such as placement-neutral funding, are so important. States and local education agencies that have experienced overidentification will be forced to re-evaluate their systems for identification and placement. However, these changes cannot take place overnight.

Because IDEA is a tremendous underfunded mandate, we have no justification for taking even more of this small pot of money away from States like New Jersey who have done nothing but comply with the statutory and regulatory requirements of IDEA.

Many advocates for IDEA reform truly believe that once children are classified as disabled they are committed to special education for life. Well, if this is the case, it does not matter how much more or less money flows to New Jersey, because we will still have 200,000 children in special education. And, because the law entitles each of these children to a free appropriate public education, the State and localities will have no choice but to find this additional shortfall of Federal money and provide the services required under the law.

In order to make sure that participating children receive adequate special education services, we must make every effort to employ professionals qualified to meet their needs. To that end, I have voiced my concerns about the bill's provisions on professional standards, and will continue to do so. The bottom line is that, without properly trained special education providers, disabled children dependent on such services will never obtain the education they need. When that happens, our special education system will have failed. However, I am confident that this will not happen, but that we will build on the many reforms of this bill by strengthening both the professional standards language and the funding formula in conference.

However, until these additional changes are made, I must oppose H.R. 3268.

ANTONIO J. PALUMBO RECEIVES DEGREE FROM LAROCHE COLLEGE

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 1996

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Antonio J. Palumbo, a gentleman from western Pennsylvania who recently was awarded the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Business Administration by the Board of Trustees of LaRoche College. Mr. Palumbo in his 90 years of life has been a successful entrepreneur, a generous philanthropist, and an important community leader.