

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PROMOTING THE STUDY OF SCIENCE

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 1996

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation aimed at promoting the study of science among our Nation's youth. My legislation would reauthorize the National Science Scholarship Program which was originally supported by a bipartisan majority of both Houses and signed by President Bush in 1990. It would reward outstanding students who have made a commitment to pursue a degree in the sciences. By awarding these students an academic scholarship, this legislation will help families offset the escalating costs of higher education while facilitating student interest in a field which has become increasingly important to our technologically based society. In addition, the legislation would require at least one-half of the scholarships be awarded to female students, promoting the participation of women in an area which has traditionally been dominated by men.

Never before has the need to have a work force well versed in the sciences been so critical to our Nation's success. Just 100 years ago, 10 of the 12 largest companies in America were natural resource companies. They were businesses whose success depended on raw materials such as cotton, tobacco, and steel. Today, our economy is drastically different. As we enter the 21st century, the 10 largest and most rapidly growing industries in the world are brainpower industries: microelectronics, biotech, material-science, telecommunications. They are industries which have succeeded because of the ingenuity and intelligence of their employees. If America hopes to keep these brainpower industries based in the United States, we need to provide employers with a work force which is technologically literate. My legislation addresses this need by encouraging students to pursue science-based careers.

The National Science Scholarship Program was initiated in 1990 under the Excellence in Mathematics, Science and Engineering Education Act to provide financial assistance for two extraordinary science students from each congressional district. President Bush originated the legislation and it was approved with wide bipartisan support. As he signed the National Science Scholarship Program into law, President Bush said of the program:

This new program will provide an important vehicle for demonstrating the Nation's commitment to excellence in science, mathematics, and engineering achievement and to the recognition of excellent young people who are pursuing higher education and careers in those fields.

Although the program was relatively small in size, costing only \$4.4 million annually, its impact was large as thousands of students across the country received up to \$5,000 per year to help defray the costs of college.

One of the key elements of the National Science Scholarship Program's success is the provision that at least half of the scholarship recipients be women. Although the conditions for female scientists have greatly improved since the turn of the century when Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, America's first female graduate of medical school was forced to go to England to practice her profession, the number of women entering this historically male dominated field is still relatively small. Today women receive 54 percent of all bachelor's degrees, yet they earn little more than 40 percent of all B.A.'s in science fields and less than 15 percent of engineering degrees. Over the last 10 years, the percentage of bachelors degrees awarded to women in the field of computer science actually decreased from 35 to 30 percent. The National Science Scholarship Program actively works to eliminate this disparity by encouraging young women to pursue careers in sciences at the very age when a disproportionate number of well-qualified girls and women give up on potential careers in science and engineering.

Despite the success of this program, it was merged into a larger, less focused program at the end of the last Congress. In the process, its authorization was repealed, appropriations cut, and science priority eliminated. The 50-50 split between men and women scholars and the district-by-district distribution of scholarships were also dropped. In short, the program disappeared. As a result, almost 2,000 intelligent, highly motivated students have been denied access to much-needed scholarship money.

In a post-GATT, post-NAFTA world, we cannot afford to create barriers to young scientists realizing their full potential. This is why I am introducing legislation which would reauthorize the National Science Scholarship Program. As we enter the information age, let us do so as a community which is prepared to meet the challenges of the next millennium. Let us support our young scientists by encouraging them to pursue careers in science fields. Let us reauthorize the National Science Scholarship Program.

TRIBUTE TO THE U.S. ARMY ON ITS 221ST BIRTHDAY

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 1996

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, on June 14, 1775, the Second Continental Congress, representing the citizens of the 13 American colonies, authorized the establishment of a Continental Army with the expressed purpose of providing for the defense of a fledgling democracy and its bedrock principles and values. The next day, Congressman George Washington became Gen. George Washington and prepared to take command of the new Army. The collective expression of the pursuit of per-

sonal freedoms that caused the authorization and organization of the U.S. Army, subsequently led to our Nation's Declaration of Independence and the codification of our bedrock principles and values in the Constitution of the United States. The birth and growth of that Army led to the birth of our great Nation. Today we celebrate the birthday of the U.S. Army, in recognition of 221 years of continuous, selfless, and valorous service to the citizens, principles, and values of the United States of America.

For 221 years, our Army's central purpose has been to fight and win our Nation's wars. In years past, those wars have typically been fought and won on distant, foreign battlefields, while at home, the Army has provided for the security of a growing population. The Army's contributions include the development of our Nation's rail and water transportation networks, and innumerable medical and scientific achievements that have markedly improved the quality of life of our citizenry. Whatever the mission, the Nation turns to its Army for decisive victory, regardless of whether those victories are measured in the defeat of foreign armed forces or the timely delivery of humanitarian assistance at home or abroad. The 172 battle streamers carried on the Army flag are testaments to the valor, commitment, and sacrifice of those who have served and fought under its banner. Valley Forge, New Orleans, Mexico City, Gettysburg, Verdun, Bataan, Normandy, Pusan, Ia Drang Valley, Grenada, Panama, and Kuwait are but a handful of the places where American soldiers have won extraordinary distinction and respect for our Nation and our Army.

Soldiers of character are today, as they have been throughout the Army's glorious history, the heart and soul of our Army. "Duty, honor, country" are more than mere words—they are the creed by which the American soldier lives and serves. Today's Army is without equal, not in terms of its size, but in the quality and dedication of the young men and women who have chosen to selflessly serve the Nation, at home and abroad, in peace and war, to accomplish the tasks directed by the Nation's leaders. Our young men and women, who receive tough, realistic training and are equipped with the finest equipment, are the envy of the world's nations. The Army's strength always has been, and always will be, the American soldier. Intelligent, physically fit, highly motivated, and educated, and well trained and supported, soldiers are our Army's capital asset. While no one can predict the cause, location, or magnitude of future battles, there is one certainty—American soldiers of character, selflessly serving the Nation, will continue to be the credentials of our Army.

The Army is prepared to answer the Nation's call, and such calls have been increasing in number and disparity in recent years. These wide-ranging missions highlight the complex global security environment our Nation faces today. The threats are less distinct and less predictable than in the past, but more complex and just as real and dangerous. Rising sophistication among terrorists and rogue

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

states, the standing armed forces of potential adversaries, and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction portend increasing challenges for the future. Our Army will continue to serve the central role in the Nation's response to these challenges.

Our Army, the world's most capable and respected ground force, is in the midst of an unparalleled transformation as it prepares for the new challenges of the next century and a different world. The information age is already bringing rapid changes in the conduct of warfare. Future forces will be prepared to conduct quick, decisive, highly sophisticated operations anywhere, anytime. America's 21st century Army will integrate emerging information technologies with sound doctrine, flexible organizations, and soldiers of character and commitment to make our Nation's land force more versatile, deployable, lethal, and survivable.

Our Army was ready at Lexington and our Army is ready today. Our Army will be ready to fight and win our Nation's call to service at home and abroad. Whenever the time, wherever the place, whatever the mission, American can count on her Army.

CONDEMNING CHURCH BURNINGS

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 1996

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my strong condemnation of a tragic trend—the vicious burning of African-American churches in the South.

On average, two African-American churches have been burned, under suspicious circumstances, each month over the past 1½ years.

I rise to voice my outrage and condemnation of these church arsons. I also speak out on behalf of the constituents of the Third District of Connecticut, who are also deeply troubled about the burnings of African-American churches in the South. We share the national sadness over the loss of these historic and sacred spaces. As towns and neighborhoods begin the process of healing and re-building, it is imperative that we send a long, clear, and firm message to the perpetrators of these sick crimes—Americans will not tolerate bigotry or hate crimes. The perpetrators must and will be punished.

History teaches us that we all have a great stake in the battle against forces of hatred. This quote about totalitarian oppression illustrates the point:

In Germany they came first for the Communists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me, and by that time no one was left to speak up. (Martin Niemöller, attributed)

African-American leaders and members of the clergy in my district have spoken out locally to express support for their brothers and sisters in need in the South. These fires could easily occur in any region of the country. Today it is in Southern neighborhoods, tomorrow it could be in yours, or mine. We must

speak louder than the voices of hate. Those voices encourage violence and have resulted in the destruction of churches built on faith, hope and love.

The Reverend Lester McCorn, pastor of the Varick AME Zion Church and Auxiliary Bishop Theodore Brooks of the Beulah Heights First Pentecostal Church in New Haven in my district spoke out earlier this week.

Rev. McCorn said: "This is in on way an isolated incident limited to the South. It is old fashioned hatred."

Bishop Brooks said:

The South might be just the beginning . . . Anything can happen at any time, anywhere, at any point. While racism may be less hidden in the South it's just as prevalent and dangerous in the North.

So I'm proudly calling on others to come together and to speak out against the voices and actions of hatred in this country.

A TRIBUTE TO LECH WALESA

HON. MARTIN R. HOKE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 1996

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, the great twilight struggle against the incredible evil of communism produced some of history's most extraordinary people. But if you had to choose the three people who played the biggest role in relegating communism to the dustbin of history it would have to be Ronald Reagan, Pope John Paul II, and a shipyard worker from Gdansk named Lech Walesa—the three men Time Magazine dubbed "The Holly Alliance."

The centerpiece of the operation to free Eastern Europe from the chains of communism was Solidarity, the workers' union founded by Lech Walesa. Everything else flowed from that. Solidarity was the weapons that the Pope and President Reagan nurtured and protected and eventually used to help bring about communism's collapse, first in Poland, then in the rest of Eastern Europe.

None of what was accomplished, however, could have happened without Lech Walesa. It was his bravery, his skill, his dedication, and his love for his country and its people that showed the way. The world owes a debt of gratitude to this common man with uncommon valor.

Last week a ceremony was held in Washington both to honor this hero, as well as to celebrate the introduction of the NATO Expansion Act, a bill that will bring Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic into NATO. In many ways this bill is the culmination of all that Mr. Walesa has worked for and I am proud not only to be an original cosponsor of this bill, but also that I had a hand in drafting some of the language. I urge the Congress to pass this important bill and the President to sign it.

I would now like to submit a copy of Mr. Walesa's inspiring remarks for the RECORD.

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE LECH WALESA,
WASHINGTON, JUNE 4, 1996

Mr. Speaker, Members of Congress, Ladies and Gentleman, Dear Friends.

First and above all, I would like to say how very grateful I am for being invited here today. Being here again brings back cherished memories of that day six years ago, when, as we were all witnessing the end of the communist empire and of the Cold War,

I had the honor of addressing the joint session of the United States Congress. It was one of those rare moments when we all felt that history was being made. There are in deed very few such great landmarks to one's lifetime.

But this was not the first time Poles and Americans shared such moments. It was two centuries ago when, by a historical coincidence, our ancestors both in America and in Poland were simultaneously experiencing momentous changes in the lives of their nations. America had just won her independence and in 1790 ratified a democratic constitution. A year later and an ocean away on May 3rd, the Polish Parliament also passed its own constitution, a grand design for modern political reform.

There were striking similarities between them. The basic concept of the American constitution, that the source of governmental power stems from the will of the people, was also embodied in the Polish one. Both stated the same basic objective: liberty and general welfare of the people. The Polish reformers were spiritually at home with the American Founding Fathers; they shared the same fundamental ideals. America was viewed as a model; it was certainly not an accident that Polish Reformer-King Stanislaw August had put a bust of George Washington in his study at the Warsaw Castle. And it was certainly not accidental that Polish volunteers participated in the American Revolution. At this point I must express my most sincere gratitude for the recent joint resolution of the United States Congress commemorating the two hundred fifth anniversary of the adoption of Poland's first constitution.

But while the America envisaged by the Founding Fathers has become a great democracy and still governs itself by the same constitution, Poland has spent most of the last two centuries relentlessly struggling to achieve among the nations of the earth that which your Declaration of Independence called "a separate and equal station to which laws of nature and Nature's God entitle them". I am not a historian, as you know, but sometimes I think that, perhaps, apart from the right ideals and stubborn resolve, nations need a bit of luck too. For instance, I would have liked Fortune to have placed the Poland of the 1791 Constitution somewhere on the map of North America and not in the center of Europe, between autocratic and imperial Russia and Prussia.

It was exactly 200 years ago that President George Washington was retiring. Having led a victorious fight against the imperial tyranny of Britain and ensured America's independence, he could withdraw into the peace and tranquillity of his beloved Mount Vernon. He cautioned that free people must always remain wary of potential threats, but he was convinced that what he called America's "detached and distant position" offered hope that the republic would endure. As you well know, my country, inhabiting the heart of Europe, unfortunately had not the luxury of such a "distant and detached position" over the past two centuries. The tough experiences of our history do not make a retirement in true peace of mind a very likely possibility for any leader. Perhaps that is why Poles love liberty as one loves a bride but Americans love her more as a grandmother.

But I believe that, although we cannot affect Fortune, we can and should help it. From 1989, liberty in Central Europe had been given a new, historic chance, a chance preceded by a very, very long and bitter struggle, and, as such, deserving the needed nourishment of peace and security. May I point out that Poland is today the fastest growing economy in Europe a remarkable evidence of fruits born of regained liberty.