

dropped to approximately 13 percent. Similarly, the Postal Service is moving considerably fewer parcels today than 25 years ago. In 1971 the Postal Service handled 536 million parcel pieces and enjoyed a 65 percent share of the ground surface delivery market. Compare this to 1990 when the Postal Service parcel volume had dropped to 122 million pieces with a resulting market share of about 6 percent.

Even the Postal Service's "bread and butter," first-class financial transactions and personal correspondence mail, are beginning to show the effect of electronic alternatives. Financial institutions are promoting computer software to consumers as a method of conducting their billpaying and general banking, while Internet service providers and online subscription services are offering consumers the ability to send electronic messages to anyone in the world or around the corner. Similarly, many of us have become accustomed to the immediacy of the facsimile machine. These new communication technologies all carry correspondence that formerly flowed through the Postal Service. These former sources of revenues supported a postal infrastructure dedicated to the mission of universal service.

This shift in postal revenues will have a negative long-term effect on the financial well being of the Postal Service. Should the service continue to labor under the parameters established by the 1970 act, its inability to compete, develop new products and respond to changing market conditions jeopardizes its ability to continue to provide universal service to the diverse geographic areas of our Nation. We must make adjustments to the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970 which will allow the Postal Service more flexibility in those areas in which it faces competition while assuring all postal customers of a continued universal mail service with the protection of reasonable rates that can be easily calculated and predicted. My legislation meets this goal by replacing the zero-sum game that has driven postal rate-making for the last 25 years with a system that reflects today's changing communication markets.

Mr. Speaker, I propose to allow the U.S. Postal Service the opportunity to make a profit and remove the break-even financial mandate of existing law that promotes the wide, yearly, swings of postal profit and deficit and weeks of negotiations on arcane economic assumptions for ratemaking purposes.

I propose to divide the product offerings of the Postal Service into two primary categories. The first, the "non-competitive mail" category, represents all single piece letters, cards and parcels as well as those classes of users without significant alternatives. The class will utilize a postage rate cap process by which the associated customers can easily determine postal rates. The second category will be the competitive mail category and will include those mail classes, products and services the Postal Service provides through the competitive marketplace. Within this category the Postal Service may set its rates according to market forces subject to an annual audit provided to the Postal Rate Commission to assure that rates are reflective of costs while providing a contribution to the overhead of the U.S. Postal Service. In addition, it would allow the Postal Service freedom to experiment with new offerings for a period of 3 years before

requiring the Postal Rate Commission to permanently place it in either the competitive or non-competitive mail categories.

This legislation grants significant freedoms and flexibility to the Postal Service. Consequently, other changes are needed to reflect this status. I propose to remove the safety net of the U.S. Treasury and the Federal Financing Bank from postal operations and repeal the remaining authorizations for taxpayer appropriations to the Postal Service. Similarly, I propose to apply the anti-trust laws of our Nation to the Postal Service products offered in either the competitive mail or the experimental market test categories. I am also proposing that the Postal Service conduct a demonstration project that will provide us with the data needed to determine the continued necessity of providing the Postal Service with sole access to individual private mailboxes. This bill, Mr. Speaker, will also settle once and for all the nagging problem of an agency's chief law enforcement officer and member of postal management serving as its Inspector General by establishing an independent, Presidentially-appointed, Inspector General for the Postal Service.

The bill enacts stringent reporting requirements to the Congress and to the U.S. Postal Rate Commission by providing the Commission with the ability to issue subpoenas, manage proprietary documentation and procure necessary information. This legislation places significant responsibilities on the Commission and, reflective of that, directs that the Commission will have for the first time its own Inspector General.

My proposal, Mr. Speaker, also increases the penalties for repeated mailings of unsolicited sexually oriented advertising as well as the mailing of hazardous materials and controlled substances. It protects workers on the job by making it a felony to stalk, assault or rob a postal employee. Just this past month we saw a letter carrier killed while on duty in our Nation's capital and we cannot allow those that would harm or rob postal carriers to go without significant punishment. My proposal addresses this serious situation by increasing the penalties for such acts of violence.

I stress that significant areas of current law remain intact. This legislation does not affect the existing collective-bargaining process. However, the subcommittee recognizes that serious problems exist between postal management and labor. To address this serious situation, I propose to form a Presidentially appointed commission made up of non-postal union and corporate representatives as well as those well known in the field of labor-management relations. The commission would be charged with addressing these issues in detail and provide guidance to the Congress and the Postal Service on any needed changes.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF HAROLD WEBSTER WALES

HON. JOHN SHADEGG

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 1996

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Harold Webster Wales, a longtime friend of mine from the district I represent. I am usually reluctant to single anyone out from

my district for praise because there are many outstanding citizens in the Fourth District of Arizona. However, Hal's expertise in tax law inspired and encouraged me to take actions to ease the burden our tax system places on small businesses and American families.

Harold Webster Wales was born June 23, 1928, in Seattle, WA, and passed away in Phoenix, AZ, on June 1, 1996. Hal was an Air Force veteran, who served his country honorably. He graduated cum laude from Seattle University with a degree in accounting and received his juris doctorate from the University of San Francisco. Admitted to the California and Arizona bars, Hal practiced extensively as a tax and estate planning attorney. He was a recognized authority in these fields, lecturing widely on matters of estate planning, income tax, and charitable organizations.

A member of professional organizations, Hal was active in the community both in his professional and civic life. He was president of the Central Arizona Estate Planning Council, president of the Catholic Social Service, and Arizona chairman of the National Foundation for the March of Dimes. Additionally, Hal served as a board member of the Garsky Wellness Foundation and Camelback Hospital as well as a finance committee member of the Marie Academy and St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

I have always been concerned by the inequities contained within the current Tax Code. However, when I met with Hal last February he spoke of his clients—honest hard-working Arizonans who were being victimized as a result of overburdensome tax regulations and penalties. These tax horror stories as well as his great knowledge and understanding of these issues prompted me to host a public hearing into the subject at the Phoenix City Council chambers on April 3, 1996. His participation and guidance helped me make this hearing a success.

Hal's greatest legacy is his family—his wife, Dorothy; two daughters, Lissa and Mary, grandson, Andrew, three sisters, Joan Wales, Shirley Hctor, Duane Jones; his brother Bill, and aunt, Betty Spence. My most sincere condolences go out to them on this sad occasion.

Mr. Speaker, I plan to continue to fight to reform our Nation's tax system. Whatever success we may achieve will be a result of the tireless effort and wisdom Hal brought to this issue. I owe a great debt to Hal for his knowledge and friendship. His death is a personal loss to me and to the citizens of the Fourth District of Arizona.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 1996

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for an amendment offered by Representative FURSE to the Interior appropriations bill that was voted on last week and would have repealed the emergency timber salvage provisions enacted last summer.

I was in Minnesota on a leave of absence due to illness and unable to be here for the vote, but had I been here I would have voted in favor of Representative FURSE's amendment.

Like many of my colleagues, I voted for the original emergency timber salvage provisions because I believe that salvage logging, when used properly, can be an important tool in forest management. Unfortunately, I am disappointed with the implementation of the law and have come to realize it was too broadly written.

I am concerned that waiving the environmental laws that would ordinarily apply to timber sales increases the strain timber, in general, have on the environment.

I am also concerned that there may not be the economic benefits to salvage sales that we had hoped. While I understand it is the environmental regulations and analyses that are blamed for much of the added costs to timber sales, and that by waiving these requirements the sales will be more economical, I am concerned that taxpayers will still lose money on the sales.

For these reasons, I would have voted for the Furse amendment to the Interior appropriations bill.

TRIBUTE TO POLICE CHIEF JOE
SULLIVAN OF FERNDALE, MI

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 1996

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, Police Chief Joe Sullivan of Ferndale, MI will retire on June 30, 1996 after almost 27 years with the Ferndale Police Department.

Joe Sullivan has been an exceptional law enforcement officer. From his early days as a patrolman, as the youngest captain in the history of the Ferndale Police Department and finally to his service as chief of police, he has had a distinguished and rewarding career.

His approach toward law enforcement is rooted in his family, his commitment to community and respect for his colleagues. Joe Sullivan's career in law enforcement has spanned three decades—an era of major change in the nature of law enforcement. The problems experienced in our communities have intensified and have become more complex. They have required new techniques. Joe Sullivan has been successful because he has been a leader in combining sophisticated new methods with some old-fashion, community-based methods.

It has been my pleasure to know Joe Sullivan and to work closely with him on a variety of efforts. 1994, Joe Sullivan spent time helping to provide me the hands of knowledge I needed to make the anti-crime bill more effective for local communities. We worked together, with other chiefs of police in the 12th District and with Attorney General Janet Reno to strengthen the community policing provisions of the bill by allowing communities to work together in multijurisdictional tasks forces. It was an idea sparked by Joe Sullivan and his colleagues and because of them it is law. I was honored to have Joe Sullivan join me for the White House ceremony where President Clinton signed the legislation into law.

Joe Sullivan is a person who combines a direct, no-nonsense approach with a sensitivity to others. He will tell you what's on his mind, while listening to the views of others. And he

speaks passionately about what local law enforcement needs to be successful.

Joe Sullivan has won 17 commendations during his career on the Ferndale Police Force. One such distinction emanated from his work as commander of a SWAT intervention that terminated a dangerous hostage situation in 1984.

Joe Sullivan was born and raised in Ferndale. He is a husband of 30 years, a father of two and a grandfather of four. His strong family values are rooted in his Irish heritage.

Joe Sullivan has given his adult career to the safety and security of the citizens of Ferndale. I join them in paying tribute to Joe Sullivan and wishing him health and happiness in his much deserved retirement. Many thanks, Joe, for all of your efforts on our behalf.

CITIZENS CELEBRATE FIRST
WARD COMMUNITY CENTER,
FWCC OLD TIMERS CLUB

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 1996

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, how well a community does is directly related to the willingness of its people to commit themselves to making their community better. The first ward of Saginaw, MI, has benefited from the commitment of its citizens who, later this week, will be celebrating the 60th anniversary of the First Ward Community Center, and the 50th anniversary of the First Ward Old Timers Club.

More than 60 years ago, a community center was begun at 1013 North 6th Street to improve the neighborhood. Everyone in the community was invited to join in programs that were offered to help individuals, and through that make the first ward as good as it could be. Sixty years ago the center became part of the Welfare League, which predated United Way of Saginaw. In 1944, hands were joined across the community to make a human chain to move two old barracks to the center's current location at 1410 North 12th Street.

Over these many years of making the first ward better and better, the center has offered programs in adult counseling, recreation, preschooling, athletic activities, classroom and library facilities, and many, many memorable moments for the thousands of people who used the First Ward Community Center even just once.

The center has been broadly supported by the community, but not more strongly than by the Old Timers Club, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary. This wonderful group worked to provide support for the center to help the youth of the community. They have done so since their first picnic for youth in 1946, through the annualization of this event, and through the operation of a bingo for the center. The countless and invaluable hours of volunteer service to the center were vital in the growth of the First Ward Community Center and its positive impact on the neighborhood.

Mr. Speaker, when people ask for examples of where local commitment, constant probing for new solutions to problems, and devotion to higher ideals exist, tell them to look no further than the First Ward Community Center and the First Ward Community Center Old Timers

Club of Saginaw, MI. For 60 years the First Ward Community Center has had a positive impact on Saginaw neighborhoods which continues today under the capable leadership of Charles Braddock, executive director, and the board of dedicated community volunteers. I urge all of our colleagues to join me in wishing both of these excellent organizations the very best on their anniversaries, and many more to come.

TRIBUTE TO GIRL SCOUT GOLD
AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. DAVID R. OBEY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 1996

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to salute two outstanding young women who have been honored with the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. Gold Award by the Indian Waters Girl Scout Council in Eau Claire, WI. They are Carrie Shufelt and Carrie Meyer.

They are being honored for earning the highest achievement award in Girl Scouting. The Girl Scout Gold Award symbolizes outstanding accomplishments in the areas of leadership, community service, career planning, and personal development.

Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., an organization serving over 2.6 million girls, has awarded more than 20,000 Girl Scout Gold Awards to Senior Girl Scouts since the inception of the program in 1980. To receive the award, a Girl Scout must fulfill five requirements: earn four interest project patches, earn the Career Exploration pin, earn the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award project, earn the Senior Girl Scout Challenge, and design and implement a Girl Scout Gold Award project. A plan for fulfilling the requirements of the award is created by the Senior Girl Scout and is carried out through close cooperation between the girl and an adult Girl Scout volunteer.

The earning of the Girl Scout Gold Award is a major accomplishment for these young women, and I believe they should receive the public recognition due them for this significant service to their community and their country.

WHY CONGRESS NEEDS THE
MENTAL HEALTH BENEFIT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 1996

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I know it is not fashionable to seek perks for Members of Congress, but we desperately, desperately need one—and the country would be better for it if we obtained this benefit for ourselves.

We need the mental health parity amendment, because a majority of the Members are clearly suffering from severe mental disconnect, and as an institution, we are in need of treatment.

I refer, of course, to the insanity of spending long hours trying to pass the Kennedy-Kassebaum amendment to improve health insurance coverage, while we are also about to pass Medicaid budget cuts which will effectively remove health insurance coverage from millions of Americans.