

JACK JACQUA, JOE MARSHALL OF
OMEGA BOYS CLUB

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Jack Jacqua and Joe Marshall of the Omega Boys Club in San Francisco on their recent award of the National Education Association's Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Award.

The unrelenting determination and perseverance and faith of these two extraordinary men have succeeded in building the Omega Boys' Club from 15 members to 500 since the club's inception in 1987.

The Omega Boys' Club motivates at-risk youth to reject violence, succeed academically, gain admission to college, offers employment and entrepreneurship training, adult and peer counseling, and affords them and important support network to get them off the streets and onto a successful life through higher learning.

One hundred members of the Omega Boys' Club are currently enrolled at institutions of higher learning throughout the country. Omega not only helped them achieve the funding to go to school, it also gave them the tools, the skills and the support network essential to achieve great things.

Jack Jacqua has been described as a surrogate father to many Potrero Hill families. Coming to Potrero Hill Middle School in 1973, he was compelled to challenge the drift afflicting students receiving the least encouragement and attention. "I'd like to see their lives have purpose and direction * * * All they need is for someone to care."

Joe Marshall, co-founder and father of the Omega Boys Club, hosts a weekly radio talk show for at risk youth and tours the country telling the inspirational Omega story. His belief and commitment to young people knows no limits, and at-risk youth have thrived under his care and direction.

These two men are heroes in the tradition of Martin Luther King, Jr.—recognized leaders who utilize outreach, education, and counseling to show young people that there are worthy alternatives to violence in their communities.

Mr. Speaker, I salute Jack and Joe and wish them all the best as they continue their important, award-winning work with youth at the Omega Boys Club. This award is just one of many they greatly deserve for turning the lives of at-risk young people around.

U.S. JUDGE ROBERT E. COYLE:
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE RECOGNIZED

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, my friend and Government colleague, U.S. District Judge Robert E. Coyle, recently assumed senior status, after distinguished service as chief judge of the Eastern District of California.

Those who know Judge Coyle well from having practiced with him in his earlier law ca-

reer and later having appeared before him as a Federal judge are unstinting in their praise of his dedication to legal excellence. Indeed, in recognition of those qualities which distinguish Judge Coyle, a group of lawyers from my 19th Congressional District recently sent a letter to me that relates their sentiments.

I take pleasure in making that expression a part of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as well as adding my own tribute to Judge Coyle for the splendid service he continues to give his community and our country.

Re Honorable Robert E. Coyle.

DEAR GEORGE: The undersigned are all active members of the California Bar and admitted to practice before the Eastern District of California. Each of us has a significant federal practice.

We know that you are aware that Robert E. Coyle who served as Chief Judge of the Eastern District of California recently accepted senior status.

We believe that Judge Coyle's many years of dedicated public and civic service, his commitment to justice and fairness, his fabulous career as a lawyer and counselor—as well as his zeal for improved courtroom facilities to serve the public—and service to the community, are all deserving of recognition.

As you probably know, Bob Coyle is a native Fresnan. He attended local public schools and graduated from Fresno State University where he was the student body president.

Judge Coyle went on to Hastings College of the Law and from there to the Fresno County District Attorney's Office.

After leaving the D.A.'s Office, Bob joined what became McCormick, Barstow, Sheppard, Coyle & Best (now McCormick, Barstow, Sheppard, Wayte & Carruth) and quickly became a respected counselor of law.

Judge Coyle began his service on the federal bench after President Ronald Reagan nominated him and he was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in 1982. He became Chief Judge in 1990.

Judge Coyle, before whom all of us have appeared on many occasions, is a thoughtful, impartial, insightful and thoroughly prepared judge. Litigants and counsel are treated with respect in his courtroom and are given full opportunity to be heard. Additionally, those appearing before Judge Coyle are also benefitted by his considerable quick wit and sense of humor.

Judge Coyle has presided over many of the most complex and controversial matters presented to the federal courts in our area. His excellence as a legal scholar and adjudicator is well known in our community.

We respectfully request that these considerable accomplishments be made known through the United States by publishing this brief summary of Judge Coyle's career in the Congressional Record so that the citizens of this great land will learn more of the incredible contributions this man has made to our country.

Respectfully yours,
John H. Baker, Val W. Saldana, Donald R. Fischbach, Richard C. Watters, Lawrence E. Wayte, Lowell T. Carruth, Riley C. Walter, Michelle Belanger McNair, Debra J. Kazanjian.

IN MEMORY OF PAM LYNCHNER,
VICTIM OF TWA FLIGHT 800

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of the victims of TWA flight 800, which crashed last night off Long Island, NY. Pam Lynchner, a Houstonian, was the founder and past president of Justice For All, a victims' rights organization. Mrs. Lynchner founded Justice For All in 1993, and it soon became the largest criminal justice reform organization in the State of Texas.

Mrs. Lynchner was a tireless advocate for the victims of violent crime. As a crime victim herself, Mrs. Lynchner dedicated her life to ensuring that victims' rights were protected and their voices heard. She was particularly adept at helping others work their way through the criminal justice system. Her efforts on behalf of other crime victims earned her numerous awards and a place as a national spokesperson for victims' rights.

Mrs. Lynchner served as a role model for the thousands of victims of violent crime. Her compassion, her dedication, and her enthusiasm will be sorely missed, but we as a society are better off because of what she contributed. Our thoughts and prayers are with Mrs. Lynchner's family, especially her husband Joe at this difficult time.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE
BOMBING OF THE AMIA JEWISH
COMMUNITY BUILDING

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the second anniversary of the terrorist bombing of the AMIA Jewish community building in Buenos Aires to pay my respects to the hundreds of victims who perished or were wounded in the attack. My profound condolences go out to their family members whose grief remains unrelieved as all efforts to bring the terrorist perpetrators to justice have been fruitless.

That the second anniversary of this atrocity will pass with the terrorists still at large sends a potent message that this tragic episode demands our immediate and renewed attention. Although there is reason to be encouraged by the recent incarceration of several police officers in relation to the bombing, the case is far from a satisfactory resolution.

Regrettably, new and disturbing news has begun to surface as the investigation proceeds. It has been reported that Argentine Minister of Justice Rodolfo Barra, an official directly responsible for the investigation, was forced to leave his post after it was discovered that he was involved in an extremist, anti-Semitic organization in his youth. Furthermore, authorities in Buenos Aires have denied the families of the victims the right to place a memorial sculpture near the Argentine Supreme Court. All in all, I am concerned that the Argentinean Government is not pursuing the terrorist criminals in the most vigorous fashion.

It should be known that this tragedy has not been forgotten thanks to the efforts of some very special people. I would like to recognize my constituent and friend, Rabbi Avi Weiss and his organization AMCHA, the Coalition for Jewish Concerns, who have worked tirelessly to ensure that justice is carried out. Members of his organization will be participating in vigils simultaneously in New York and Buenos Aires today at 8:53 a.m. in remembrance of this tragedy.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my prayers for the victims of the Buenos Aires bombing and offer heartfelt condolences to their family members who survived them. At the same time, I call upon my colleagues to urge the Government of Argentina to reinvigorate its efforts at seeing the terrorists brought to justice.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ECONOMIC EQUITY ACT OF 1996

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased to be an original sponsor of the Economic Equity Act of 1996 [EEA]. Three of my bills are included within this omnibus bill.

The first bill, included in title I of the EEA is the Federal Employees Fairness Act (H.R. 2133), will revise and improve the process for Federal employees to file employment discrimination complaints. Employees would have 180 days in which to file a discrimination complaint, and the Equal Opportunity Commission—rather than the accused agency—would be required to investigate the complaint within strict time limits. The bill also encourages sanctions to be levied against employees found guilty of discriminatory behavior.

The Equal Surety Bond Opportunity Act [ESBOA] is included within title II of the EEA, which addresses issues of economic opportunity. This title will help qualified women and minority-owned businesses to compete in the contracting business by helping them obtain adequate surety bonding.

It will create an environment in which small business firms, particularly those owned and controlled by minorities and women, can successfully obtain adequate surety bonding. This legislation will enable us to ferret out continuing biases in the industry. Whatever these prejudices may be, getting rid of them will open up the industry, creating entrepreneurial and employment opportunities and making the industry more competitive. I urge my colleagues to support this bill and help abolish the artificial impediments to the development and survival of emerging small businesses.

The last bill that I introduced this June and which is included in the EEA is the Work and Family Parental Equity Leave Act will ensure that employees who choose to care for a foster child or adopt a child will benefit from the same leave policy as their coworkers who are birth parents. This bill does not mandate that employers provide leave benefits beyond existing law, but rather that if they choose to provide such benefits they do so for all parents equitably.

IN HONOR OF THE MONK FAMILY REUNION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, This July, the Monk family of New Haven hosts a reunion and weekend of events worthy of this exceptional family. They are celebrating their rich family history and the musical, athletic, and civic contributions of family members to the city of New Haven and the rest of the Nation. On Sunday, July 21, 1996 they will be commemorating their family's numerous achievements with a family parade. The will also be celebrating the 33rd Anniversary of the Monk Singers. I am delighted to rise today to salute and celebrate the Monk family.

The Monk family history is truly extraordinary. Family members have carefully documented the many branches of this extended family tree and have been able to identify a history that spans the continents of Africa, Europe, and North America. Pamela Monk Kelley, carrying on the work so important to her father, the late Conley F. Monk Sr., has painstakingly recorded a detailed history. She has included documentation of the links between the Monk and Cole families and outlined the Black, White, and Native American ancestry. This labor of love is a testament to the Monk family's dedication to preserving their history for future generations.

The Monk family has produced some remarkable individuals. Thelonius Monk, Jr. was born in 1917 and became a famous musician in the early 1940's. He pioneered the genre of music known as bebop, a revolutionary form of jazz. Indeed, his innovations have shaped the direction of jazz music for years. Outstanding talent in the Monk family is not limited to music but extends to athletics as well. Art Monk played for the Washington Redskins for 14 years before moving to the New York Jets. He played in four Super Bowls and broke the National Football League record for receiving passes.

Just as important as the Monk family's contributions to music and sports is their deep commitment to the communities in which they live. Conley F. Monk Sr., and his wife Olivia raised their own 9 children and also cared for over 45 foster children. Their children continue to carry on this tradition of caring for the community. Conley F. Monk, Jr. initiated, developed, and saw to the final completion of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Monument on Long Wharf in New Haven, CT.

The Monk family teaches us a lesson about the connections between people, about endless family ties that bring us closer together. They embody the idea that the true meaning of family is knowing we are part of something greater, something larger than ourselves. I am proud to join the people of the city of New Haven in honoring this great family.

STANDING UP FOR OUR NATION'S CHILDREN

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 1996

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to join me in standing up for those who cannot stand up for themselves—our Nation's children.

Much of this Congress has focused upon strengthening the American family. Family Values have been the centerpiece of much of the legislation that we have considered in these 2 years. Welfare reform should be the opportunity for us to truly demonstrate how much we value our children and our families. Today, as leaders, we can ensure that all children grow up with a roof over their heads, food to eat, and medical care should they become sick. Instead, we are faced with a mean-spirited proposal intent on punishing children for being poor.

The GOP bill does not require work and encourage financial independence; instead it singles out children, the poor, the disabled, the elderly, and legal, taxpaying immigrants and punishes them for needing a helping hand. A recent GAO report expects that at least 1 million children to be forced to live in poverty should this bill pass. Yet we will continue to subsidize wealthy corporations, helping them to grow and prosper while our children will be starving and suffering.

In an era when the richer are getting richer I find it unconscionable that we should support such legislation. In the last decade, the richest 1 percent increased their share of the Nation's wealth to 47.2 percent, while the bottom 90 percent saw their share of pie shrink to 22.7 percent.

The Republican Party's panacea for our budget troubles is known as the block grant. The fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, that if you are a small State with a struggling economy, block grants are a death sentence. A block grant does not reward who does the most, it rewards those who do the least. States like Rhode Island will be left to battle for funds to offer the most meager care and services and the casualties will be those in need will be left to fighting over the scraps.

Republican block grants replace and entitlement system with a lottery system. Our rights as American citizens will depend on whether we live in a State with a good economy and a low level of need. There is nothing subtle about what they are really doing when the talk about "block grants" in the same breath as "States' Rights." And our answer should be no different than it has always been, and that is: Justice should not depend on geography.

My State of Rhode Island boasts a myriad of immigrants who work hard every day, struggle to make ends meet and raise their families just like American citizens. And just like our citizens, they stumble upon hard times when a factory closes or the economy slows. By denying these individuals a helping hand in their time of need, simply because they are not American, we are rejecting the very principles this Nation was founded upon—equality, freedom, and opportunity. We are essentially demoting immigrants to second-class citizens by prohibiting them from accepting help from the system to which they contribute to every day.