

PASFAA deeply appreciates your support of student aid programs, and looks forward to working with you on this and other legislation designed to benefit college students. If we can be of any further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact any of our officers.

Sincerely,

GEORGIA K. PRELL,
PASFAA President.

TRIBUTE PAID TO MARJORIE
JEFFRIES OF MILTON, MA

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a woman who embodies beauty in culture, in nature, in life.

Marjorie Jeffries is a longtime resident in Milton, MA, who has never stopped living by her own advice: "Pay attention to the Milton community and give yourself to it."

In 1953, she and her husband David transformed a densely wooded piece of land into a nature paradise, complete with gardens of perennials, rocks, daylilies, and irises. The Jeffries built their home here, under a canopy of red oak and white pine trees, and protected the land with a conservation order. The deer, foxes, skunks, and chipmunks who live in the area roam freely here, and will be able to enjoy it forever. People, dogs, and horses who passed the house on their way to the Blue Hills often stop to mingle with the Jeffries or the animals in their yard.

After listening to the music that birds contributed to her backyard, Marjorie Jeffries decided to contribute some music as well.

Thirty-nine years after graduating Bryn Mawr College with a bachelor of arts degree, she earned a music major equivalent at Wellesley College. She then earned a master of arts in music composition from Connecticut College.

She continued her music studies, and has become a widely recognized composer and flutist. She has received grants and commissions for several of her pieces, and earned a citation from Gov. Michael Dukakis. She is a member of the Longy School of Music orchestra, and has served as the composer in residence for the Milton Public Schools.

Marjorie has always wanted others to be able to share in the joy of arts. In 1974, she founded the Milton Performing Arts to provide an outlet for the citizens of Milton to pursue their interest in writing, arts and music in an open forum. In 1992, she was designated as the Artist of the Month by the Milton Art Association for her "Variations of the View from Chickatawbut Hill," which was displayed at the Milton Public Library.

In addition to her contributions to nature and art, Marjorie has been active in many other communities. As a regular participant in town meetings, her opinions have garnered respect, despite the fact that she ruffles the feathers of State and national politicians on occasion. She also is a trustee of the Milton Public Library, and has worked to make the library a better tool of knowledge for the residents of Milton.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that we could all do well to follow Marjorie Jeffries' advice, to pay attention to our communities, and give ourselves to them.

OREGON'S WELFARE-TO-WORK
PROGRAM

HON. ELIZABETH FURSE

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, Oregon has an outstanding welfare-to-work program in place that has allowed Oregon to achieve one of the Nation's steepest declines in welfare cases. Since March 1994, our welfare caseload has dropped from 44,000 to 32,000, and State officials expect that these numbers will fall to less than 25,000 in the next 4 years. Most of the credit for this success goes to our vigorous JOBS welfare-to-work program and the Oregon Health Plan, which provides health insurance to people who otherwise would go on welfare.

Oregon has received waivers from the Federal Government which allow sweeping changes in our welfare system. These waivers enable Oregon to require all welfare recipients to seek jobs to move their families out of poverty. The goal is for families on welfare to take control of their lives and avoid long-term dependence on welfare. Like the Castle-Tanner substitute and the underlying bill, Oregon's JOBS program shares the expectation of aggressively moving people from welfare to work. All three also emphasize aggressive child support collection, employment supports such as child-care subsidies, and can require teen parents to live in safe, supervised settings. I am pleased that the Republicans' Medicaid reform plan, which I strongly opposed in the Commerce Committee, has been dropped from this bill.

These bills, as well as the one being debated in the Senate, contain language that enables States with waivers to continue their existing welfare programs. In addition, the legislation states that if new requirements are put into law, they will not apply to States with waivers. In order for Oregon to make the strides that we are committed to, it is essential that this language be maintained and that it include States whose waivers were approved by September 30 of this year. I will work with Members in the other body to make sure this provision remains in the conference report on the bill.

Oregon is a national leader in welfare reform. I support reforming our welfare system and am committed to moving the process forward. I call on other States to match Oregon's achievements in sensible, humane welfare reform.

SCANA CORP. RECEIVES THE
COMMON GOALS AWARD

HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the SCANA Corp., which serves the Second Congressional District of South Carolina, for receiving the Common Goals Award from the Edison Electric Institute [EEI] last week in Washington. The award, was given for outstanding achievement in the field of educational partnerships, was bestowed on the

SCANA Corp. for its sponsorship of "The Coach," a computer equipped traveling classroom. "The Coach," which is staffed with State adult literacy specialists, travels throughout South Carolina to offer free training to employers for the development of adult literacy programs for their employees. In presenting the award, EEI President Tom Kuhn noted that, "by helping people improve themselves, SCANA opens the way to a more highly skilled workforce, a more competitive economy, and a better quality of life."

Mr. Speaker, the SCANA Corp. is to be commended on the contributions that "The Coach" has made to increasing adult literacy in South Carolina. As it celebrates its 150th anniversary, the SCANA Corp. can take great pride in its history of service to the people of the Palmetto State.

H.R. 3814—COMMERCE, JUSTICE,
STATE APPROPRIATIONS

HON. CARDISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to revise and extend my remarks. Wake up America. Wake up and see what the Dole-Gingrich Republicans are trying to do to you again. Just when you had thought the Republicans had learned some lessons of last year when they, over and over again, shut down the Federal Government, while assiduously trying to dictate their extremist conservatism on everyone, and unabashedly trying to deny personal liberties and restrict public services, they are back at it again. I must say, they are a persistent bunch. In these proposed appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, State, Justice, and major related agencies, the Dole-Gingrich cabal is attempting to legislate morality and economies through the appropriations process. Tucked neatly among programs in this bill that most people recognize, that is, the Census Bureau, F.B.I., Drug Enforcement Administration, Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the U.S. Supreme Court, are severe levels of funding reductions that are undoubtedly designed to strangle the Small Business Administration [SBA], the Securities and Exchange Commission [SEC], the Minority Business Development Agency [MBDA], and the Legal Services Corporation [LSC].

Funding for the Small Business Administration, is slashed by almost \$21 million below last year's appropriations, the SEC is cut by \$225.1 million less than requested by President Clinton's budget, and the Legal Services Corporation is under funded by over \$199 million. Since the Dole-Gingrich Republicans have been unable to kill them politically in an up and down fight on neither policy nor politics, they're trying to severely maim them by cutting off the checking account that funds them. Wake up America, look around you, and think about what the conservative Dole-Gingrich folk are doing to America's economy and to the right of every American to have legal counsel.

It is easy to understand why the Dole-Gingrich Republicans slashed the social programs in the Department of Health and Human Services appropriations a few days ago: there

weren't many fat-cat special interests supported in there. Frankly, I expected the appropriations bills for fiscal year 1997 to be not quite as radically conservative as those they forced through Congress for fiscal year 1996 which caused the Federal Government to shutdown. However, they have in this session already passed several bills that cut spending in domestic areas that are important to hard-working Americans, that are vitally significant to the social, economic and personal well-being of this country: education, health services and research, housing, and transportation, just to name a few.

So, here we go again. This fiscal year 1997 appropriations bill for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, State, and related agencies is for \$29.5 billion. While this is a substantial amount of money, one must remember that it takes a lot of money to fund a Federal Government as responsive and responsible as ours ought to be. Yet, this bill is for \$2.1 billion less than the President has, after careful consideration, determined that he needs in order to be able to carry out plans and programs necessary to fight crime, create jobs and train the necessary workforce, to prevent and address family and societal violence, drugs and illegal immigration. Those are critical imperatives, but they are not the only priorities that need funding and are not all the priorities of my constituents in the Seventh District of Illinois. Among my constituents are the richest and the poorest of America, and they report to me that they need people programs that benefit women, minorities, and persons with very limited incomes, as well as the several very important agencies that severely effect them all, but that are targeted for funding cuts.

For example, the Legal Services Corporation [LSC] is an agency that provides free and reduced-fee legal services to low-income individuals. By proposing dramatic cuts in funding for the LSC, the Republicans risk the following results: (1) a 2 million reduction in the number of clients served; (2) a 50 percent decrease in the number of neighborhood offices (from, 1100 in fiscal year 1995 to 550); (3) a cut by more than half, in the number of LSC lawyers available to provide legal services; and (4) a startling cut-off of legal assistance to clients in thousands of communities across the Nation. This Republican fiscal 1997 appropriations of \$141 million for LSC is a devastating cut from the fiscal year 1995 funding level of \$415 million, and is unquestionably meant to destroy the Legal Services Corporation. Wake up Americans. Open your eyes and see what the Dole-Gingrich Republicans who control this body have just done. They have defeated an amendment to restore reasonable funding to the LSC that would have prevented the virtual abandonment of the longstanding Federal commitment to the legal protection of working poor Americans, including victims of spousal and child abuse, dead-beat parents who run out on the child support obligations, and victims of consumer fraud.

Another program gutted by the Republicans and left to bleed a slow death, is the Minority Business Development Administration [MBDA] within the Department of Commerce. The mission of the MBDA is to work to develop and support the successes and increase competitive opportunities for minority-owned businesses—to ensure that minority Americans can participate in the economy not just as workers, but also as entrepreneurs and global

leaders. The MBDA supports citizens who may be first generation business owners in their efforts to succeed. Created in 1969 by President Nixon, the MBDA provides technical assistance to minority entrepreneurs that greatly increase their ability to compete in domestic and international markets. While minorities make up 25 percent of the U.S. population, they represent only 9 percent of the Nation's business owners. MBDA has a proven record of leveraging scarce public resources by partnering with the private sector to increase capital and market opportunities in underutilized business communities, and yet the Republicans who control this body are so determined to render ineffectual a good program that was created by their own President Nixon, that they have also rejected an effort to restore reasonable funding for the MBDA.

There are many valuable programs that should be funded under this bill; however, the appropriations levels proposed by the Republicans will only weaken, injure and damage the successful efforts underway to bring about a reduction in waste, fraud, and abuse of the public trust. I urge my colleagues to defeat this bill so that we can get back to the negotiating table in the best interest of all Americans. If this bill should be passed by the Congress, I will urge the President to veto it and send it back to the drawing board.

THANK YOU DONALD E. BECKER

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, many of us believe that public service is among the greatest calling that exists. On July 23, many fortunate people who live in Genesee Township will come together to celebrate the remarkable more than 25 years of service that Donald E. Becker has provided as the township's treasurer.

Donald Becker's devotion to his community is easy to understand. His grandfather, August George Becker was the township supervisor from 1922 to 1926, and his father, Walter Becker, was in the Genesee County Sheriff's Department. Donald Becker was the co-founder of the all volunteer Kearsley Genesee Rescue Squad, as well as its treasurer. He has also been tremendously involved in the Genesee County Treasurer/Clerk Association, the Genesee Parks Commission, the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission, and the region 5 planning commission.

With all of this professional involvement, it is remarkable to note that Donald Becker is most noted for his personal style of dealing with people. For example, he hand-delivers checks for the school districts because he believes it's important for the checks to get there. He has been involved on so many committees because he believes that you have to get to know people in order to be effective as a community leader.

He has been careful with taxpayers dollars, leading efforts to allow for the investment of local funds in savings accounts, allowing interest earnings to both supplement local revenues, and to help reduce the need for any additional tax assessments.

With all of the wonderful public activities that this man has undertaken, it is also very good

to know what he considers his most important hobby to be spending time with his wife, Geraldine, his children and their spouses, his grandchildren, and his great grandson. A man can be no luckier that having a rewarding career, and recognizing the ultimate importance of his family.

Mr. Speaker, local officials are the hallmark of our democratic society. They help people understand the importance of good government. Genesee Township has been very fortunate to have Donald Becker, and, indeed, his family, for these many years. I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in wishing him the very best as he celebrates his years of service to Genesee Township.

WHY CATHOLIC SCHOOL MODEL IS TABOO

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I think that anyone who is truly interested in education should read the following article from the July 17, 1996, issue of the Wall Street Journal. I would like to call it to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

WHY THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL MODEL IS TABOO
(By Sol Stern)

New York City's Cardinal John J. O'Connor has repeatedly made the city an extraordinary offer: Send me the lowest-performing 5% of children presently in the public schools, and I will put them in Catholic schools—where they will succeed. The city's response: silence.

In a more rational world, city officials would have jumped at the cardinal's invitation. It would have been a huge financial plus for the city. The annual per-pupil cost of Catholic elementary schools is \$2,500 per year, about a third of what taxpayers now spend for the city's public schools.

NO IDLE BOAST

More important, thousands more disadvantaged children would finish school and become productive citizens. For Cardinal O'Connor's claim that Catholic schools would do a better job than public schools is no idle boast. In 1990 the RAND Corporation compared the performance of children from New York City's public and Catholic high schools. Only 25% of the public-school students graduated at all, and only 16% took the Scholastic Aptitude Test, vs. 95% and 75% of Catholic-school students, respectively. Catholic-school students scored an average of 815 on the SAT. By shameful contrast, the small "elite" of public-school students who graduated and took the SAT averaged only 642 for those in neighborhood schools and 715 for those in magnet schools.

In 1993 the New York State Department of Education compared city schools with the highest levels of minority enrollment. Conclusion: "Catholic schools with 81% to 100% minority composition outscored New York City public schools with the same percentage of minority enrollment in Grade 3 reading (+17%), Grade 3 mathematics (+10%), Grade 5 writing (+6%), Grade 6 reading (+10%) and Grade 6 mathematics (+11%)."

Yet most of the elite, in New York and elsewhere, is resolutely uninterested in the Catholic schools' success. In part this reflects the enormous power of teachers' unions, fierce opponents of anything that