

notable, in part, because of the intense media coverage—more intense than ever before. Alan Greenspan, Chairman of the Federal Reserve, pushed the Consumer Price Index to the front pages when he testified before Congress that errors in that index were costing the Government billions. Last month on the Mall, citizens demonstrated to get the Government to change the way it measures race.

This confluence of social and political currents pushes the Federal statistical agencies to find new ways to measure our social and economic indicators, as well as define new measures. In short, these agencies need to find new ways of doing business. But to do so, they need new tools.

The administration's Statistical Confidentiality bill provides the opportunity for agencies to begin charting new ground. This bill provides the framework for the research and experimentation that will define the statistical system for the new millennium.

The stated purpose of the bill is "to provide uniform safeguards for the confidentiality of information acquired for exclusively statistical purposes, and to improve the efficiency of Federal statistical programs and the quality of Federal statistics by permitting limited sharing of records for statistical purposes under strong safeguards."

In short, this bill allows statistical agencies to share information collected from the public to improve statistical measures. It also provides strong safeguards that the privacy of those individuals will be protected, and that the information, once drawn together, will be used only for statistics.

This bill will enable agencies to redesign surveys to incorporate administrative records from other agencies. It will permit agencies to develop joint surveys and share the resulting information. It will make the development of samples more accurate.

But not all of the advantages of this bill are speculative. Just this year we passed legislation transferring the authorization for the census of agriculture from the Secretary of Commerce to the Secretary of Agriculture. The major difficulty in writing that legislation was crafting language that would allow these two agencies to share information. If the Statistical Confidentiality bill were law, that effort would not have been needed.

The administration has put together a bill that lays the foundation for developing new, less burdensome, and less expensive ways of developing statistical information. This bill, for the first time, begins to take a system-wide view of Federal statistics. I congratulate my colleague Rep. HORN for introducing this bill, and I look forward to working with him to make it law.

A TRIBUTE TO THE MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY JOURNAL

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 1996

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute today to one of the most widely read and respected African-American newspapers in the United States. As the Milwaukee Community Journal celebrates 20 years of hard-hitting, thoughtful, and award-winning

journalism this week, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the rich history of this outstanding news operation.

The Milwaukee Community Journal was founded in 1976 to provide a voice for Milwaukee's rapidly expanding and influential African-American community. From its humble beginnings in an apartment complex on Port Washington Road with a tireless and dedicated staff of six people, the Community Journal has today grown into Wisconsin's largest circulated African-American newspaper. Today, the Community Journal's offices on Martin Luther King Drive have come to represent much more than a news center. Indeed, it is a vital nerve center of our community, where scores of neighborhood revitalization efforts are initiated.

During the past two decades, the Community Journal has highlighted and championed many issues of critical importance to Milwaukee's Central City. From education reform, to economic development, to civil rights, the Community Journal is truly Milwaukee's voice of conscience. Furthermore, the paper plays a critical role in chronicling and preserving Milwaukee's rich legacy of African-American history and progress.

The Community Journal has received dozens of awards and accolades over the last 20 years for its courageous reporting and commentary. Most recently, the paper won a National Newspaper Publishers Association award for publishing an extended magazine devoted to crime fighting in Milwaukee. Last year, the paper was honored with the prestigious A. Phillip Randolph Messenger Award for its ongoing reporting on the educational reform movement in Milwaukee.

Staying true to its name, the Community Journal remains a strong voice of the people of the Central City. Through school partnerships, scholarships, and the sponsorship of educational campaigns, the Community Journal has introduced hundreds of Milwaukee students to the field of journalism. The paper also actively sponsors book give-aways to promote reading among Milwaukee youth, and has been a main proponent of job creation in the Central City.

Mikel Holt, editor of the paper, is one of Milwaukee's most respected editors and social commentators, and is one of the Nation's most tenured African-American journalists. Mr. Holt is widely known to Milwaukee television viewers for his regular work on the WTMJ Television show "Sunday Insight With Charles Sykes". He has also received many awards and citations, including the National Newspaper Publishers Association Best Columnist Award, which he has won twice. Mr. Holt's regular column "Signifyin'" poignantly focuses on the direction of Milwaukee's African-American community, and is one of the most popular and provocative commentaries in the State of Wisconsin.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Mikel Holt and the Milwaukee Community Journal continued success on this special anniversary. May the next 20 years be as productive and fruitful for this outstanding newspaper which has truly worked to make a difference in Milwaukee, the State of Wisconsin, and the entire Nation.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3734,
PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND
WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILI-
ATION ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 31, 1996

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act.

In charting the course of welfare reform, we have come a long way since the introduction of welfare reform legislation in the 103d Congress. The Congress passed a bill 16 months ago that would have hurt children, allowed States to abdicate their responsibility without any maintenance of effort requirement, and cut funding for job training, child care, child nutrition, and work programs. I voted against the original House-passed bill because its cuts were too extreme. The bipartisan bill before us today incorporates the improvements of the original conference report, the Governors' recommendations, and the most critical improvements contained in the castle-tanner bill that I helped to draft. For too long families have been discouraged from working by our welfare system. Unlike the original bill, the bill before us today will help welfare recipients and their children build a better future because recipients will be working, equipped with the training, and child care they need to be successful.

I support welfare reform that moves recipients from welfare to work and encourages personal responsibility. This legislation does that, allowing States to try new approaches that meet the needs of their recipients. States are already experimenting with welfare reform. Forty States have waivers given by this administration, and the results are encouraging.

In giving leeway and dollars to States, however, we must protect children. This legislation does that by maintaining the current child welfare and foster care entitlement for children. Previous versions of welfare reform had converted this critical safety net into a block grant, and I strongly encouraged my colleagues to retain the entitlement status of child protective services. This bill also contains kinship care language modeled after legislation that I have introduced. This language insures that State plans for foster care and adoption assistance protect families and use adult relatives as the preferred placement for children separated from their parents when such relatives meet child protection standards.

This legislation also includes the original Women's caucus child support enforcement provisions. We will soon be able to finally crack down on deadbeat parents by enacting penalties with real teeth and establishing Federal registries to help track deadbeats.

This legislation also maintains the link between Medicaid and welfare. The children of any family eligible for AFDC as of July 1, 1996, will remain eligible for Medicaid whether or not their family continues to receive welfare benefits, and States may also continue Medicaid eligibility for parents who are no longer eligible for AFDC. This legislation also provides families with Medicaid coverage for a year after they leave welfare for work.

This legislation does not convert child nutrition programs, the WIC Program, or the food

stamp program into block grants to States, unlike previous welfare legislation. Instead of reducing the earned income tax credit as previous legislation did, this legislation incorporates the administration's recommendations to expand it.

I have actively urged my colleagues to increase child care funding in welfare reform. Following up on a meeting with Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, I, along with members of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, sent a letter to the House leadership urging them to provide States with more child care resources, to maintain the health and safety standards set by States, and to give States the flexibility to allow women with children under 6 to work 20-hour workweeks. I am pleased that all of these recommendations have been included in this legislation. This bill directs \$20 billion to child care spending over the next 6 years—an increase of \$3.5 billion in child spending over 6 years. These child care funds will allow women to enter the work force and help States to meet their work force participation requirements.

I remain concerned about the food stamp cuts contained in this legislation. Last month, I voted against the Kasich amendment that added these cuts. I also worry about the restrictive prohibitions on benefits for legal immigrants. As this legislation is enacted, I will carefully monitor the effects of these provisions with the intent of remedying them legislatively if necessary.

Today's vote marks a historic opportunity to change our welfare system so that we move families into work while maintaining a safety net to protect our Nation's children. It also marks the willingness of this legislative body to incorporate important changes, and I thank my colleagues for incorporating many of the changes I have requested.

ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 1996

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of St. Anthony's Catholic Church, the first Catholic Church in Broward County. The church was constructed of formidable gray stone hauled in from the quarries of northern Florida and was dedicated in December 1921. There are 251 parishioners at the time of construction and it was decided that a school was needed. In 1926, St. Anthony School became the first Catholic school in Broward County.

Today there are more than 1,500 parishioners and the current pastor, Father Timothy G. Hannon, ministers to his parish in the grand tradition of the past. It has been a joy for me and my family to be parishioners and partake of the sacraments and blessings available. My children attended St. Anthony's School and both my daughters were married in the beauty of the Church sanctuary. I know from personal experience that our church has the longest aisle in Fort Lauderdale.

Members of the parish and the community are joining in 1996 to celebrate 75 years in Fort Lauderdale. We look forward to meeting again in 25 years to celebrate the 100th anniversary of our beautiful spiritual home.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring St. Anthony's Catholic Church for its 75 years of service to our community.

TRIBUTE TO VINCENT L. JOHNSON, ESQ.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 1996

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, as a member of Brooklyn's legal community for over 30 years, Vincent L. Johnson has consistently demonstrated his commitment to community service and justice. Upon receiving his B.A. in economics from Brooklyn College, he enrolled in St. John's School of Law where he quickly excelled and obtained two degrees: an LLB and JD. Recognizing his vast skills and abilities, the Youthful Offender Bureau of the New York Supreme Court hired him as an assistant district attorney [ADA] in 1961. As an ADA, he prosecuted a wide range of criminal cases amounting to approximately 100 per year. One of the highlights of his career was in 1968 when he founded his own law firm, Laufer & Johnson. While in private practice, he has represented clients in various legal matters and served as an inspiration to young attorneys following in his footsteps.

Further exemplifying his dedication to public service, Mr. Johnson is actively involved in numerous organizations including the Brooklyn Bar Association, Kings County Bar Association, New York State Trial Lawyers Association, Phi Alpha Legal Fraternity, the Brooklyn NAACP, Bedford-Stuyvesant Lions Club, and the Boys Welcome Hall.

Mr. Johnson and his wife, Gertrude, have three lovely children, Vincent, Jr., Melissa, and DaSylveiria. It is my pleasure to recognize Mr. Johnson and to introduce him to my colleagues.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3734, PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILI- ATION ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 31, 1996

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to vote for this conference report H.R. 3734 reforming our Nation's outdated welfare system. The current welfare program has been the biggest social and financial failure in the history of the country. We are replacing it with a program of hope and responsibility.

It is a good thing we have Presidential elections occasionally. The President, who is now in an election, has said he will sign welfare reform after vetoing it two times before.

Over the past 30 years more than \$5 trillion has been spent on welfare. That figure is more than the national debt. During that time the poverty rate went up, not down. More children are in poverty, more families have broken up than before the current program was adopted.

The American people have consistently said they believe in helping others and that there

should be a safety net in society. They also do not want this help to be wasted on outdated formulas. This bill restores the promise of hope for the families on welfare and the trust between taxpayers and the managers of our welfare program.

In the final analysis, it is clear Republican leadership was necessary to finally tackle this problem. I am happy we were able to lead the President to reform instead of standing in the way.

DRUG TESTING REDUCES CRIME RATES

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 1996

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I want to inform my colleagues on a legislative initiative which would assist in the effort to combat drug use and drug-related crime.

Thanks to the hard work and assistance of Subcommittee Chairman HAL ROGERS, \$32 million in funds are included in the House version of the fiscal year 1997 Commerce-Justice-State appropriations measure to allow for the establishment of drug testing programs for prisoners, parolees, and individuals on bail or probation. The bill provides \$7 million to establish a Federal drug testing program in the Federal prison system and \$25 million to establish a competitive grant process to allow local jurisdictions the ability to drug test individuals in the local prison system.

Although various efforts have been initiated to address drug use and abuse in the United States, these efforts have not been completely successful. Regardless of the billions and billions of Federal and State funds dedicated to fighting an effective "war on drugs," reality still dictates that a small percentage of heavy drug users are responsible for most drug use and most drug-related crime in the United States. In spite of our efforts, the number of heavy users has remained constant in recent years.

We can, and must, do better in the effort to fight drug use and abuse.

Prof. Mark A. Kleiman, lecturer in Public Policy at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, recently analyzed Federal and State criminal data and reported that of the roughly 300 metric tons of cocaine illegally consumed in the United States every year, about 60 percent, or 180 metric tons, is consumed by people under the jurisdiction of the criminal justice system, individuals who are either on bail, probation, or parole.

In 1991, the Federal Department of Justice developed and implemented a test pilot program in which the Federal court system would require a drug test for those arrested while those released from jail or prison would be asked to submit for a drug test. Drug testing and sanctions would force drug-involved offenders to abstain from further illicit drug use or face the consequences. Those consequences would include no bail or probation. In short, it is a "carrot and stick" approach to staying drug free.

Currently 14 Federal judicial districts require such drug testing, and in December 1995 President Clinton issued a directive to the Attorney General to "establish a program whereby federal prosecutors will seek appropriate