

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THANK YOU, BARBARA BOWES,
FOR YOUR LOYAL SERVICE

HON. JACK FIELDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 1996

Mr. FIELDS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it was with mixed emotions that I announced last December 11 my decision to retire from the House at the conclusion of my current term. As I explained at the time, the decision to retire was made more difficult because of the loyalty and dedication of my staff—and because of the genuine friendship I feel for them.

Today, I want to thank one member of my staff—Barbara Bowes, my district coordinator—for everything she's done for me and my constituents in the 16 years that she has worked in my office.

During the last 16 years, Barbara has handled difficult tasks with ease and efficiency—and handled impossible tasks with only slightly less ease and efficiency.

When the Houston Ship Channel was in my congressional district, Federal maritime and environmental officials often came to Houston for inspection trips or to hold public hearings. Invariably, one or more helicopters would magically appear to take me and the visiting dignitaries on an inspection tour over the Channel, or above some Superfund site. Only later did I realize that it was Barbara, not God, that somehow or other—and I still haven't figured out how exactly she did it—made those helicopters appear.

Barbara has worked closely with my Washington, DC, scheduler to arrange events in my district. She has scheduled all of my 569 town meetings, as well as several special seminars held over the years. And she has represented me at countless meetings that I was unable to attend. In short, Barbara's official job description is as dynamic and flexible as Barbara herself.

It's impossible to explain what Barbara's exact responsibilities are only because I've never asked her to do the same thing two days in a row. But to borrow a phrase, when something absolutely, positively needs to get done, more often than not, it's to Barbara that I turn. I trust her judgement, her maturity and her loyalty—and I always will.

In 1993, when I ran for the U.S. Senate in a special election, I asked Barbara to take a leave of absence from my official staff and join my campaign staff. As I told her at the time, her participation in my Senate campaign provided me with a comfort level that I would not have enjoyed had she not been with me. I lost that campaign, but Barbara's presence made the experience more enjoyable than it would have been without her.

More than most people, Barbara has her priorities straight. While she loves her job, her real joy in life is her family.

Her husband, Bill, deserves canonization for tolerating his wife's long hours and often erratic schedule. Despite that kind of schedule,

Barbara's children and grandchildren always come first, and she is always there for them.

When Bill or Deb Bowes need advice—or a good babysitter for Kelsey or William III—Barbara's there to help. When Susie or "Bo" Wilburn need advice—or a good babysitter for Haley Sue—Barbara's there to help. And when Tom Bowes needs some motherly advice—oftentimes on how to avoid getting into a situation that might, eventually, require a good babysitter—Barbara's there for him as well. And she has also always been there for her parents, C.T. and Harriett Williamsen of Houston.

Barbara Bowes is one of those hardworking women who make all of us in this institution look better than we deserve. She has done that for me, and I appreciate this opportunity to publicly thank her for the dedication, loyalty and professionalism she has exhibited as a member of my staff.

Mr. Speaker, I know you join with me in saying "thank you" to Barbara Bowes for her years of loyal service to me, to the men and women of Texas' Eighth Congressional District, and to this great institution. And I know you join with me in wishing Barbara, and her husband Bill, all the best in the years ahead.

TRIBUTE TO NINE OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

HON. JAMES M. TALENT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 1996

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize nine outstanding students from my district. These students set their sights high, and as a result, each student received a Congressional Award.

Congressional Awards are given to students who excel in the four program areas, including public service, personal development, physical fitness, and expedition and exploration. The awards are divided into three categories, based on age, accumulated hours, and duration of activities. It was my privilege to meet these outstanding youths and present them with their awards.

First, Dana Metzler of Kirkwood was awarded the Silver Congressional Award. Ms. Metzler was between the ages of 16 and 18 and had worked a minimum of 420 hours over at least 15 months to earn her award. Ms. Metzler attends Kirkwood High School.

Second, there were eight Bronze Congressional Awards, youths at least 14, who had worked 210 hours over the course of at least 7 months. These honorees included: Taniith Leigh Balaban of Chesterfield, who attends Parkway Central High School; Alyssa Barker of Fenton, who attends Rockwood Summit High School; Kevin Buckley of Bridgeton, who attends Christian Brothers College in Clayton; Kathleen Castello of St. Louis, who attends Rosati-Kain High School; Megan Connolly O'Keefe of Bridgeton, who attends Pattonville

High School; Kathleen Paige of St. John, who attends St. Thomas Aquinas-Mercy High School; Stephanie Schaller of Ballwin, who attends Cor Jesu Academy; and Christopher Slaten of St. Louis, who attends Parkway West of Middle School.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be able to recognize these extraordinary young people for their achievements. Their success is a true reflection not only of their drive and determination, but also on the parents, family members and teachers who have supported their hard work and determination. These students are an excellent example of what young people will achieve when given the opportunity.

LEGISLATION TO CLARIFY THE APPLICATION OF THE RETAIL TAX ON HEAVY TRUCKS AND TRAILERS

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 1996

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation to both correct existing law as well as practices in the administration of those laws that have proven to be quite burdensome and inefficient.

Currently, a 12-percent excise tax is imposed on heavy trucks, trailers, and tractors. The tax is on trucks weighing over 33,000 pounds, trailers weighing over 26,000 pounds, and all tractors used with a trailer or semitrailer for highway transportation. The IRS has crafted a registration, certification, and reporting regime that imposes a heavy paperwork burden and awkward procedures for proving compliance. Complex regulations and rulings issued over many years have added to the compliance burden.

I am introducing legislation today to remedy the most serious administrative difficulties brought to my attention with the following four proposed changes:

First, to clearly delineate taxable tractor sales and to eliminate uncertainty regarding when there is a tax on an incomplete chassis, my bill would make the tax apply only to tractors with a gross vehicle weight in excess of 33,000 pounds.

Second, similarly, to provide certainty regarding when an article is subject to tax, my bill codifies the clear and unequivocal test put in place by the IRS in Revenue Rule 91-27 which imposes the tax on the restoration of a worn or used truck, tractor, or trailer only where the cost of such restoration work exceeds 75 percent of the price of a comparable new vehicle. My bill expands this sensible test to cover the restoration of wrecked vehicles as well as changes or modifications of a truck's function such as the conversion of a tractor to a straight truck, the lengthening or shortening of a frame, or the addition or subtraction of axles.

Third, to foster greater uniformity in the application of the tax and to provide a more precise measurement of the reduction in tax that

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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.

should occur for tires that are part of a taxable sale and which have been previously taxed, my bill provides an offset to the truck excise tax equal to the tax already paid on such tires. Correspondingly, the bill eliminates the deduction now allowed for the fair market value of tires in determining the taxable amount of a retail truck sale.

Fourth, heavy truck dealers must register with the IRS and furnish exemption certificates for vehicles purchased for resale. A dealer who makes a sale for a resale must produce a valid exemption certificate obtained in connection with sales for resale. A dealer can be required to pay on an exempt sale where the IRS, long after the transaction has been completed, determines that verification of the claimed exemption is inadequate and there is no proof the tax was collected from the first retail user. Even though some sales have obviously been for resale, slavish application of the statute and regulations have nevertheless resulted in the collection of such taxes.

My bill would make it easier to more systematically obtain and retain the required certifications by permitting invoices used in transferring taxable vehicles to include a certification that the transfer is a sale for resale. Resellers would affirm under penalties of perjury, that there was no obligation to collect the Federal excise tax. The same penalties imposed under current law for fraudulent claims of exemption would remain in force. Because it has proven to be of minimal compliance value, my bill would also eliminate the cumbersome registration system now required for heavy truck dealers and other resellers.

THE ELIZA BRYANT CENTER: CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SUCCESS

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 1996

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to salute the Eliza Bryant Center which is located in my congressional district. One hundred years ago, in 1896, the Cleveland Home for Aged Colored People was opened at 284 Giddings Avenue. A century later, Eliza Bryant Center is located only a half-mile away from its original site. The center is a comprehensive provider of geriatric services including adult day care, senior wellness, transportation, and nursing home care.

The Eliza Bryant Center is one of the oldest black institutions in the country. It is believed to be the first black charitable organization in the Cleveland area. Its founder, Eliza Simmons Bryant, was a free black woman who moved to Cleveland from North Carolina. She established the center in 1896 after learning that nursing homes in Cleveland did not admit people of color.

Mr. Speaker, as it marks 100 years of service, the Eliza Bryant Center is enjoying great success. The center provides skilled nursing home and adult day care programs which include nutrition, health care monitoring, socialization and supervision. Eliza Bryant Center also provides Cleveland's only inner-city Alzheimer Disease Support Group.

The center's wellness activities include field trips, cultural events, arts and crafts and other

social activities for seniors. It also includes an intergenerational program involving Cleveland schoolchildren, and a special community garden for senior citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of my close association with the Eliza Bryant Center over the years. Under the direction of its executive director, Harvey Shankman, and his dedicated staff, the center is preparing to enter its second century of service. The center recently initiated a \$2.5 million centennial campaign to further address the growing needs for community seniors who wish to remain in their own homes.

I am also pleased to note that the Eliza Bryant Center was the recipient of the 1995 Excellence in Community Services Award from the Association of Ohio Philanthropic Homes for the Aged. The center enjoys a close affiliation with Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland State University, Ursuline College, Job corps and the Cleveland Public Schools.

Mr. Speaker, as it marks a historic 100 years of service, I am pleased to salute the Eliza Bryant Center. It continues to be a beacon of light and a model of excellence.

TRIBUTE TO ADM. RONALD J. "ZAP" ZLATOPER

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 1996

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a truly outstanding naval officer, Adm. Ronald J. "Zap" Zlatoper, who will soon be completing his assignment as the 27th Commander in Chief of our U.S. Pacific Fleet and retiring from active naval service. It is a pleasure for me to recognize a few of his many outstanding achievements.

A native of Cleveland, OH, Admiral Zlatoper was commissioned in 1963 through the naval ROTC program at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY. He was assigned to Attack Squadron 65 from 1965 to 1968, where he flew the A-6 Intruder on combat missions over North Vietnam. In subsequent assignments, he served in Attack Squadron 42 and Attack Squadron 34. In 1978 he served as executive officer and then commanding officer of Attack Squadron 85.

In senior operational assignments during the 1980's, Admiral Zlatoper commanded Carrier Air Wing 1 aboard U.S.S. *America* (CV-66), served as senior Air Wing Commander of Carrier Air Wing 15 in U.S.S. *Carl Vinson* (CVN-70) and was chief of staff to commander Seventh Fleet aboard U.S.S. *Blue Ridge* (LCC-19).

After selection for rear admiral in 1988, he was assigned to the staff of the Chief of Naval Personnel. In July 1990 he took command of Carrier Group Seven, homeported in San Diego. Five months later, commanding the eight ships of the U.S.S. *Ranger* (CV-61) battle group, he deployed to the Arabian Gulf for operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Under his leadership, the battle group executed the first cruise missile and aircraft attacks on Iraqi forces. As the antisurface warfare commander, he was responsible for the destruction of the Iraqi Navy, receiving the Distinguished Service Medal for his accomplishments.

In 1991 Admiral Zlatoper was promoted to vice admiral. He became the Chief of Naval Personnel and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Manpower and Personnel. In 1994 he was promoted to admiral, and he was assigned as Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet. Admiral Zlatoper brilliantly led naval forces in the Pacific. Admiral Zlatoper's genuine concern for the quality of life of sailors and their families was evident in notable improvements in their working and living conditions throughout the Pacific.

During his stellar naval career, Admiral Zlatoper has been awarded over 20 personal decorations including the Defense Distinguished Service Medal; Navy Distinguished Service Medal; Legion of Merit; Distinguished Flying Cross; Meritorious Service Medal; Air Medal; and Navy Commendation Medal (with Combat "V"); plus various campaign and unit awards.

Admiral Zlatoper, his wife Barry, and their two children Ashley and Michael, have made many sacrifices during his 33-year naval career. "Zap" Zlatoper is a tremendous credit to the U.S. Navy and the country he so proudly serves. As he now prepares to embark on a second successful career, I call upon my colleagues to wish him every success as well as fair winds and following seas.

WESTON, BECOMES A MUNICIPALITY

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 1996

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the city of Weston on becoming Broward's 29th municipality. Through the valiant efforts of the city's new mayor, Mr. Harry Rosen, council members Eric Hersh, Mark Myers, John Flint, and Cindy Fishbein, State Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz, State Senator Howard Forman and the entire Broward delegation, Arvida/JMB Partners, Broward County, and the Indian Trace Community Development District, residents of Weston now live in a thriving incorporated community. This is an exceptional opportunity for Broward County because it will increase community development, create economic growth, and provide essential municipal services to residents and businesses in Weston.

Emerging in the mid-1970's, the Weston area has come to represent a mix of residential, commercial, and industrial uses. Since that time there has been a considerable amount of long-range planning and development in this unincorporated area of Broward County. In 1994, the Board of the Indian Trace Community Development District recognized the need to incorporate the area so that future delivery of municipal services would effectively serve the expansion. Recently, the residents voted to enact the Charter for the City of Weston. This monumental decision will greatly impact the citizens and businesses that reside in Weston because it will improve the quality of life as well as protect the identity of the community.

Situated on more than 10,000 lush acres, Weston is the largest area adjacent to our priceless Florida Everglades. Because of its unique landscape and distinct urban planning,