

important and lasting legacy in the general assembly is his commitment to passing labor legislation. Dom worked on the passage of legislation which assured that Connecticut's minimum wage is always higher than the Federal minimum wage requirement. This permitted Connecticut public employees to be covered for the first time, and also provided them coverage under the Connecticut Fair Labor Standards Act. Dom worked to pass legislation which eliminated the waiting period for qualifying for unemployment compensation benefits, expanded the number of people covered by the law and included public employees under the law for the first time, as well as employees of nonprofit institutions. His legislation established a benefit level at 60 percent of taxable wages earned and expanded the number of unemployment compensation offices.

Dom has been an untiring advocate of public employees. His efforts and leadership won public employees the right to collective bargaining. He also saw to the enactment of the Connecticut Municipal Employees Relations Act, the State Employees Relations Act, and the Teachers Collective Bargaining Act. In addition to being a champion for public employees in the general assembly, Dom has been a leader of the AFSCME Connecticut Council 4. Dom became a staff representative for AFSCME in 1961 and, in 1968, was elected to the post of executive director, a position he still holds. What is clear is that the issues that affect public employees have remained central to Dom's work and life.

I am proud to join Dom's friends, family and colleagues as they honor his extraordinary commitment to the workers of the State of Connecticut. He has truly embodied the spirit of what it means to be a public servant and I applaud his unparalleled dedication.

TRIBUTE TO HERB AND CHARLOTTE REED

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, one of the remarkable qualities of Indiana's First Congressional District is the harmony between its massive industries and its exquisite natural treasures. One of the northwest Indiana's jewels is the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore [IDNL] on the shores of Lake Michigan. Two outstanding individuals, who have dedicated their lives to successfully preserving the beauty of northwest Indiana, are Herb and Charlotte Reed. Herb and Charlotte are two of a select few people in the country to be named "American Heros" for their work to protect our national public lands.

Herb's direct involvement with the Indiana Dunes began in 1952, when he joined the Save the Dunes Council. Save the Dunes was formed to establish a dunes national park, as well as to preserve the Indiana Dunes, which were threatened by powerful political and economic interests trying to industrialize all of Indiana's Lake Michigan shoreline. As a result of the fine work of the Save the Dunes Council, the 5,800-acres Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore was established in 1966. Today, the park consists of approximately 15,000 acres,

2,182 of which are located in Indiana Dunes State Park and managed by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

In 1966, Charlotte joined the fight after Congress agreed to authorize the IDNL. She served as one of the very first park rangers and later became the Save the Dunes Council's first paid staffer. Since that time, Charlotte served as the Council's executive director from 1974 to 1992, and she currently serves as its assistant executive director.

Over the years, Herb and Charlotte have been actively involved in several other environmental organizations. In the late 1950's, Herb founded the Porter County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League, which is one of the region's strongest voices for environmental action. Charlotte is cofounder of the Hoosier Environmental Council.

Charlotte is a recipient of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's [IDEM] Environmental Impact Award. She was chosen for this honor as a result of her advocacy on behalf of environmental protection issues during IDEM's formative years. Herb and Charlotte have both been recognized by several organizations for their joint efforts to preserve our natural treasures. Awards bestowed upon them include the 1990 Gold Cup Award from the Hoosier Environmental Council, the 1991 Gold Cup Award from the Hoosier Sierra Club, and two industry-sponsored awards.

As a result of the Reeds' work, a State and national park will forever protect 15,000 acres of Indiana's dunes, home to giant sand dunes, river forests, prairie lands, and bogs. The national lakeshore contains 1,400 plant species—only four national parks contain more plant diversity.

TRIBUTE TO RAYMOND SAVEL

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a hard-working Pennsylvanian who has endlessly devoted his time and energy to a noble cause. Raymond Savel has been president for 20 years of the Mosquito Creek Sportsmen's Association located in Frenchville, PA. The mission of this organization was described by a member, as well as a Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission official, as being, "dedicated to conservation, sporting ethics, education, and accountability of our natural heritage."

The Mosquito Creek Sportsmen's Association began as a small club in 1946. The stage was set after World War II to look ahead for a brighter future after 4 years of sacrifice, struggle, and global mayhem. A town meeting in Frenchville was called on May 26, 1946, and 40 sportsmen from the area attended the first meeting to discuss setting up a club that would serve the area and pay tribute to their most esteemed and valued outdoor sports: hunting, trapping, fishing, and other related outdoor activities. A club charter was signed by the new members and the organization was named after the premier trout stream in the area at the time, Mosquito Creek.

By 1976, after 30 years of existence, the club had grown to 650 members. In the year of our Nation's bicentennial, Ray Savel took

over as president of the club. Under Savel's leadership the organization's number has grown to an incredible 5,016 members today. However, the success of Mosquito Creek is truly measured in their accomplishments thus far.

Clearfield County and the surrounding area is a better place to live because of President Savel's and Mosquito Creek's efforts. For 20 years, Ray Savel has organized massive cleanups, annual rallies for support and education of the surrounding area, letter writing campaigns, and newsletters. Also they perform activities such as stocking lakes and streams, fishing derbies, hunting events and safety, and just about every other outdoor sports activity.

Perhaps one of the greatest accomplishments by Mosquito Creek and President Savel has been their tireless efforts to save and preserve one of Pennsylvania's most pristine wildlife areas, the Quehanna Wild Area. Thanks to Ray and Mosquito Creek, the wild area has been preserved and nearly restored to its original State.

Mr. Speaker, I will close by once again thanking Ray Savel for his outstanding service to the area in which he lives. President Savel is a true community leader and his continuous efforts are a testament to his firm commitment to the sportsmen of Pennsylvania.

THE ANIMAL WELFARE ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1996

HON. STEVE GUNDERSON

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. GUNDERSON. Mr. Speaker, on August 1, 1996, the House Livestock, Dairy and Poultry Subcommittee, which I chair, held a hearing on two different versions of the Pet Protection Act—H.R. 3393 introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FOX] and H.R. 3398 introduced by the gentleman from Florida [Mr. CANADY].

At that time, I asked USDA to provide me with draft legislation that would enhance and expedite their enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act. Today I am introducing the language I received from USDA in fulfillment of that request.

I should note for the record that this language was furnished by USDA without comment or endorsement. They have not indicated whether they will support or oppose the same at some future date.

While we do not have time remaining in the 104th Congress to move pet protection legislation this year, I am introducing the Animal Welfare Act Amendments of 1996 today to preserve these proposed changes for future Congresses and commend the attention of my colleagues to this legislation.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO COMMERCE TOWNSHIP

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend Robert H. Long who

will retire next week after 29 years of dedicated service to Commerce Township, MI. A lifelong resident of Commerce, public service has come naturally to Bob, just as it did for his father, a former township supervisor and State legislator. After being appointed as Commerce Township supervisor in 1967, he was elected in 1968 and began his distinguished career. Bob has also served as a member of several boards and associations, including the Michigan Townships Association and the Oakland County Board of Commissioners.

For over a quarter of a century, Bob Long has been a model supervisor. He has balanced the budget with one of the lowest tax rates in the area, still managing to implement impressive improvements in the roads, sewers, drainage, and other infrastructure projects.

In the years of development and growth, Bob Long has met the challenges of the times with professionalism and compassion. He has maintained Commerce Township's environment by securing the preservation of vulnerable wetlands areas and acquiring a 500-acre natural park with 15,000 newly planted trees. Bob led the fight to prevent annexation of sections of Commerce to neighboring cities. And he was instrumental in bringing a senior center and full-service hospital to the Lakes area.

Bob Long is a model citizen and public servant. His hard work and dedication are reflected not only in the books, but the beauty of Commerce Township. Congratulations, Bob. We wish you a long and healthy retirement.

IN HONOR OF THE KERN COUNTY
HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COM-
MERCE

HON. CALVIN M. DOOLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. DOOLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise before my colleagues today in order to pay tribute to an organization that is known in California's central valley for its wonderful entrepreneurial spirit. This organization is the Kern County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

More than a decade after its inception, the Kern County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce has diligently served owners of minority businesses and has proven its effectiveness as a

leader in the greater business community of Kern County.

The Hispanic chamber came from rather humble beginnings—just 15 members attended its first meeting in 1985—but its founders were not lacking in vision nor in perseverance. The Hispanic chamber now proudly boasts an impressive 250 members and is still growing strong.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the Kern County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for providing the Latino business community with such outstanding leadership. I hope that Kern County residents will continue to support vigorously the members and businesses of this well-respected organization.

UNITED STATES FRIENDSHIP WITH
TAIWAN—THE NATIONAL DAY OF
THE REPUBLIC ON CHINA ON
TAIWAN

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, since we all expect that the Congress will adjourn within the next few days, I want to take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to the Republic of China on Taiwan just a few days early. The national holiday is celebrated on October 10. October 10 of this year marks the 85th anniversary of the Chinese revolution of 1911 and the formation of the Republic of China.

Mr. Speaker, this past year was an important but a difficult one for the people of Taiwan and the Government of Taiwan. The people of Taiwan faced a severe test when the Government went forward with open and democratic presidential elections while the People's Republic of China launched missiles less than 50 miles off the coast of Taiwan in an effort to intimidate the voters and the Government.

Despite the Beijing government's attempts to bully and intimidate the voters of Taiwan, the Taiwanese electorate ignored the threat of military attack and participated in that election in overwhelming numbers. More than two-thirds of the eligible voters went to the polls. President Lee Teng-Hui won 54 percent of the vote in a four-way race and became the first popularly elected President in the history of the Republic of China.

Mr. Speaker, Taiwan's continued independence and security is crucial to the United States economically, militarily, and politically. Economically, Taiwan is the sixth largest trading partner of the United States, and Taiwan is one of the only nations in Asia that has successfully reduced its trade deficit with our Nation every year for the past 10 years—an action that has been taken with the active support of the Taipei government.

Militarily, Taiwan's survival is important to maintain balance in the Pacific region, and its continued military strength is an important element in contributing to the reduction of tensions throughout the region. Politically, Taiwan represents one of the finest examples in the world of the success of efforts to foster democracy and freedom and respect for human and civil rights. Taiwan began as a country desperately in need of American assistance for food, infrastructure, and military assistance. Now Taiwan is an example of incredible success—Taiwan now is an important source of assistance to other emerging democracies. Simply put, it is in the United States' interest to help maintain the independence and integrity of the democratic Republic of China on Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to take this occasion to welcome the new Representative of Taiwan in the United States, Dr. Jason Hu. Dr. Hu previously served as the head of the Government Information Office in Taipei and was a principal advisor to President Lee Teng-hui. His presence here is a clear signal that the Government of Taiwan greatly values a continuing, strong relationship between our two countries. I would also like to note that two of Taiwan's best diplomats are leaving positions here in Washington to take new senior positions in the Foreign Ministry in Taipei—Dr. Lyushen Shen and Mr. James Huang. Both of these senior have served their country well here in Washington and those of us who have had the opportunity to work with them will miss their knowledge, skill, and commitment.

I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan on the occasion of the National Day this October 10. May the friendship and strong relations that have bound our two countries for many generations continue for many, many more.