

over athletics, acceptable and unacceptable personal behavior, dealing with success as well as failure, and realizing that there is no easy way to success, as they were about blocking and tackling.

All the more remarkable is that this level of successful instruction has been sustained over a period of great change in society's values and society's attitudes.

Coach Fegan, his wife Barbara (Bunny) Fegan, and his children and grandchildren are all a vital part of Georgetown Prep's family. He has played a large role in preparing so many students for the practical challenges of later life. As one who was fortunate to benefit from his great lessons, I am proud to commend him to you as an exemplary educator and mentor.

HONORING RUBEN DIAZ ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE AFL-CIO

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ruben Diaz on the occasion of his retirement from the AFL-CIO after over 40 years of dedicated service.

At 17, Ruben became a member of Retail Clerks Local 770, while working at Bi-Rite Markets in Los Angeles. One year later, in 1952, he listed in the Army with the U.S. Army Airborne Division, serving our country until 1955. After leaving the Army, he began working for ITT Cannon, in Los Angeles. He then joined the United Auto Workers, Local 509 and immediately became involved in union-related activities. He served on the PAC Committee, COPE, was Recreation Committee Treasurer, FEPC Chairman, served as shop steward for three terms, on the Grievance Committee for one term, and was vice chairman of the bargaining unit for nearly two terms.

In 1966 he was appointed as an organizer to the Los Angeles-Orange Counties Organizing Committee [LAOCOC], AFL-CIO. Two years later, he was appointed to the AFL-CIO field representative staff. He moved on to become coordinator of the LAOCOC, AFL-CIO in June 1986.

In addition to his union activities, Ruben has served our community through his involvement with the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, where he served as executive director. He also served as vice president of the Catholic Labor Institute, member of A. Philip Randolph Institute, and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Ruben and his wife, Becky, have two children and two grandchildren. It is with pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Ruben Diaz as he retires from the AFL-CIO after over 45 years of involvement with the union.

THE HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITIES FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform my colleagues of legislation I am filing relating to financial responsibility at hazardous waste facilities.

I realize that we are close to the end of the 104th Congress, but I felt it was important to introduce this legislation now so we can get a head start on debating an issue vital to millions of Americans. That issue is: Will we protect Americans living near hazardous waste facilities from being caught holding the bag when a costly release of hazardous waste occurs?

The bill is titled the "Hazardous Waste Facilities Financial Responsibility Act," and it addresses three problems associated with existing financial standards for hazardous waste facilities. Current law provides for post-closure care for only a fraction of the period when the hazardous waste poses a threat to human health and the environment. Current law only requires hazardous waste facility operators to demonstrate the ability to pay for clean-ups after they occur, not before. And current law allows companies to provide corporate guarantees to cover clean-up costs which are easily circumvented by the maze-like corporate structures prevalent in the industry. By correcting these three problems, the Hazardous Waste Facilities Financial Responsibility Act provides the public with complete assurance that the costs of care and clean-up at hazardous waste facilities will be borne by the owners and operators of those facilities.

First, the bill sets up a procedure for post-closure care of hazardous waste facilities that will last as long as necessary to protect human health and the environment. Under current law, post-closure care lasts for 30 years, at which time the Administrator has the option to extend it for another 30 years. My bill requires the Administrator to continue the post-closure period until it can be conclusively demonstrated that such care is no longer needed. The bill requires the Administrator to hold hearings, so the public will have the chance to be heard before post-closure is terminated.

Second, the bill ensures that all costs associated with post-closure care of the facility are covered including responsibility for credible accidents and known corrective action, liability assurances, and changes in costs resulting from changes in the facility or its permit. This provision corrects a serious flaw in current law, which completely excludes these necessary adjustments from the amount which operators are required to show they can pay. In essence, operators aren't required to show their ability for the cost of clean-up until after a costly accident has occurred. At that point, it is too late. The full range of potential costs or these facilities must be provided for up front.

Third, the bill eliminates the practice of using a financial test or corporate guarantee to assure payment of closure and post-closure costs. Many operators of hazardous waste facilities are structured with a myriad of layers

between parent corporation and operating subsidiary. The availability of the corporate guarantee makes it too easy, and too tempting, for skilled lawyers to devise corporate structures in which both the operating subsidiary and the nominal parent corporation are thrown into bankruptcy by unforeseen post-closure costs. Meanwhile, assets elsewhere in the corporate structure are protected.

A perfect example is a hazardous waste dump owned by Laidlaw/GSX located just outside my district in Pinewood, SC. In 1989, the accounting firm KPMG Peat Marwick did a study of this facility which revealed no less than five corporate layers between the company operating the landfill, and the deep-pocket corporate parent. Should a major accident at this facility occur, what assurance do taxpayers have that they won't be caught holding the bag? The Hazardous Waste Facilities Financial Responsibility Act will give them this assurance. Furthermore, prudent business practice dictates that a company should avoid having large potential liabilities uncovered by any insurance or financial instrument. We should demand no less protection for citizens and taxpayers.

A PROPOSAL TO ENHANCE THE FINANCIAL SECURITY OF CHILDREN BY PROVIDING FOR CONTRIBUTIONS BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO CHILD RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I am joined today by my colleague, Mrs. KENNELLY, in introducing legislation, the Children's Financial Security Act of 1996, which would establish tax-advantaged savings accounts for children. The approach is similar to the current one for individual retirement accounts, except that the accounts would be funded by the Government with \$1,000 annual refundable credits for children from the year of birth through age 5—a total of \$6,000. The credits would be invested in mutual funds that are government approved, but managed by the private sector. The credit would be phased-out at the higher income levels, e.g. between \$100,000 and \$150,000 for a married couple filing a joint return. The proposal also provides for make-up nondeductible contributions by parents for children under 19 at the date of enactment.

Why is the bill being introduced at this time? Hopefully, this can be a first step in starting a dialogue for the 105th Congress to address the needs of our children for education and retirement—and, at some future point, making this proposal part of any privatization of our Social Security system. We are concerned, like many others, that we must come up with long-term solutions to our government health and retirement systems.

Although this proposal would constitute an entitlement program, still it is not opened, as the credit and cost of the government is a maximum of \$6,000 per child, plus deferral of tax on the earnings buildup. Distributions from such an account would be taxable. Also, the availability of the credit is phased out to individuals at the higher-income levels. Most importantly, it could be one leg of a four-legged

retirement stool, with the others being Social Security (adjusted for privatization), private savings and other retirement plans.

We need to do something to solve the long-term problems of our Social Security system. And of course, the crown jewel of this proposal is the effect of compounding earnings and contributions over the lifetime of an individual. The figures are impressive. For example, with an investment return of 10 percent, the \$6,000 could grow to \$2,350,000 by age 65. At 8 percent, the fund would total \$740,000. The secret is to invest early.

The funds would be used for retirement purposes—to supplement other retirement funds, as well as Social Security benefits. However, funds could be withdrawn for education expenses and the purchase of a first-time home. The current and prior withdrawals could not exceed 50 percent of the earnings and contributions at the end of the prior year. Other nonexcepted withdrawals would be subject to significant penalties. The primary purpose is to encourage savings for retirement and to discourage withdrawals.

In summary, the proposal would (a) help to increase our national savings rate, (b) instill in individuals the advantages of saving for retirement at an early age, and (c) begin to address the very real problem of providing alternative options to company pension plans and Social Security benefits.

We welcome our colleagues support of this proposal and look forward to their involvement in debating these issues in the 105th Congress.

TRIBUTE TO RABBI REUVEN BEN-YAIR

HON. FLOYD D. SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Reuven Ben-Yair, who has the distinction of being the first native-born South Carolinian to be ordained as a rabbi. Reuven Ben-Yair is a descendent of immigrants who came to South Carolina in the late 1600's. His family has contributed much to the Palmetto State and he has followed their example by leading a life that is dedicated to serving his fellow man.

Reuven Ben-Yair was born as Robert Tracy Schwartz in Kingstree, SC, in 1966. He has chosen to go by the name Reuven Ben-Yair, which is the Hebrew name that was given to him at birth. He was raised in Conway and graduated from high school there. In 1989, he received the Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of South Carolina, with a double major in religious studies and philosophy. He then entered a joint theological studies program conducted by Yeshivat Mercaz Ha-Rav Rabbinical Seminary and Hebrew University in Jerusalem. This summer, Reuven Ben-Yair was ordained as a rabbi.

In addition to his studies, Rabbi Ben-Yair has served in the Israeli Army in an elite paratrooper reconnaissance unit, where he attained the rank of lieutenant. He has also devoted much time to working with children.

Mr. Speaker, for the first time in the over 300-year history of our great State, a South Carolinian has been ordained as a rabbi. On

behalf of those of all faiths in our State, I would like to congratulate Rabbi Reuven Ben-Yair and wish him much success.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LADIES' ANCIENT ORDER OF THE HIBERNIANS, DIVISION I

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Ladies' Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division I, in St. Clair County, IL. They will celebrate their 100th anniversary on Sunday, October 20, 1996.

The women of Division I received their charter in East Saint Louis, IL, on October 30, 1896. Originally, the primary purpose of the Ladies' AOH was to assist young immigrant Irish girls coming to the United States in security employment, offering them protection, and moral support. Today, Hibernians are primarily a Catholic action group and service organization. The preamble of the constitution of the Ladies' order states the intent and purpose of the group is to promote the interests and welfare of Americans of Irish descent, to aid the people of Ireland to achieve independence, to promote Catholic action and to assist in mission work.

Throughout the years the Ladies' AOH has supported local social work agencies such as the Catholic Urban League, Poor Clare Sisters, the Radio Service, the Bishop's Burse, St. Jude's Hospital, and the Special Olympics. Division I also supports the national organization's Irish essay contest for middle and high school students in order to foster an interest in the history of Ireland among young people.

Irish-Americans have long been an integral part of our common history. The contributions that the Ladies' Ancient Order of Hibernians have made their community and their heritage are invaluable to the people of St. Clair County. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing them a wonderful centennial celebration and best wishes for the next 100 years.

INTRODUCTION OF H. RES. 518

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I am inserting into the RECORD correspondence and a resolution having to do with the CIA involvement in introducing crack cocaine into the Los Angeles area to help support the Contras.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, August 20, 1996.

Hon. JANET RENO,
Attorney General, Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM ATTORNEY GENERAL: It is with great alarm that I have read, in the San Jose Mercury News and other news publications, of the involvement of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency in the introduction, financing, and distribution of crack cocaine into the Compton and South Central areas of my District. As the elected representative of

these areas, I am both appalled and extremely distressed by these reports and am asking that the Department of Justice conduct a full scale investigation into these allegations.

As you are no doubt aware, crack cocaine is one of today's major problems facing not only the area that I represent but also hundreds of thousands of Americans nationwide. The mere idea that our government could have, in any way, been involved in the financing or distribution of this horrendous drug is repulsive to me. I believe that it is incumbent upon us, the elected federal representatives of the people, to look into this matter and determine what, if any role, the federal government played in ruining the lives of hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of people. I am sure you would agree that we need to determine the extent to which the government was involved in the cocaine trade in Los Angeles—or anywhere else for that matter—if we are to continue to hold the trust of the people.

Please advise me as soon as possible what you and your agency are doing to address these allegations. I will not allow this matter to rest until I am satisfied that we have the answers to the many questions that have been raised in the last few days. I look forward to working with you in investigating this matter as well as in addressing the larger question of how we help the millions of people whose lives have been adversely affected by this insidious drug. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD,
Member of Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, August 20, 1996.

Hon. JOHN DEUTCH,
Director, U.S. Central Intelligence Agency,
Washington, DC.

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