

Mr. Speaker, that quote reminds me a lot of Bob Merkle, because for over 30 years, Bob Merkle has been organizing and educating and tirelessly fighting for the rights of working men and women in Michigan and our Nation. Through all of those years Bob has been guided by a fiery devotion to the interests of working families and a love of our community.

Bob started his career as an apprentice tool and diemaker at Enterprise Tool and Gear in 1956. Starting in 1960, Bob served as a plant chairperson and chief steward at Bendix Automation and Measurement. He was later elected vice president and then president of UAW Local 155. In 1979, Bob was appointed to the staff of UAW Region 1, where he served as CAP coordinator under Steve Yokich.

In addition to Bob's years of work with the UAW, he has also been tremendously active in local civic organizations. Bob has served his community on the board of Michigan Works, the Macomb Community Growth Alliance, and the Hamtramck Advisory Committee.

Bob and his wife Pat are both committed Democratic Party activists. Bob has served as a precinct delegate in Ira Township, on the Democratic State Central Committee and as a delegate to four Democratic Conventions. Both Bob and Pat have also devoted so much of their time to the 10th District Democratic Committee. And this year, Pat served as a delegate to the Democratic Convention in Chicago.

I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Bob Merkle for nearly 20 years. On issues like NAFTA, and employee rights and job safety, nobody has worked longer, fought harder or been more committed. I am proud to call Bob and Pat close friends.

After a distinguished career working with the UAW for the rights of middle-income families, Bob will now move on to other pursuits. But all of us who know Bob know that whatever he chooses to do, he will continue to be a leader and continue to be guided by the principal that all of us have a responsibility to look out for our neighbor, and to improve our community.

I am pleased to call attention to Bob's years of dedicated service and to congratulate him on his retirement. I know that he and Pat have many years of happiness ahead of them. I wish them both the best and look forward to continuing our friendship and our association.

RECOGNITION OF 22 YEARS OF CONGRESSIONAL SERVICE CON- GRESSWOMAN CARDISS COLLINS

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the commitment and dedication of a fellow Member of this body, Congresswoman CARDISS COLLINS, representative from the Seventh District of Illinois located in the city of Chicago.

After 22 years of distinguished service, Congresswoman CARDISS COLLINS has decided to retire from the House of Representatives. Her departure will be missed by those like myself who have come to appreciate her wisdom and quiet dedication to good Federal Government.

Congresswoman COLLINS should not only be remembered as being the longest serving African-American woman in Congress, but as a political "trailblazer."

Congresswoman CARDISS COLLINS has been a vocal advocate on the behalf of women, children, and minorities.

Throughout her tenure in Congress, Mrs. COLLINS has worked diligently to improve the quality of health care for women and minorities. To this end, she wrote the 1991 law which extend Medicare coverage for mammography screening, thereby allowing millions of elderly and disabled women to receive this vital service. She was successful in sponsoring legislation which expanded Medicaid coverage for pap smears in order to better provide for the early detection of cervical and uterine cancers. In each of the past 4 years, the House has adopted Mrs. COLLINS' resolution designating October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, which has lead to greater awareness of the threat to women's health that this disease poses.

Mrs. COLLINS' legislative agenda has also focused on the need for increased awareness and research into the poor health status of America's minority populations. In 1993, she authored legislation which amended the National Institute of Health Revitalization Act to establish a permanent Office of Minority Health within the National Institute of Health [NIH]. As a result of her efforts, funding and research into minority health concerns have increased sharply and the NIH has become more responsive to the health needs of all Americans.

Congresswoman COLLINS has always been a vocal advocate for the protection and increased safety of our Nation's children. As chairwoman of the former House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Competitiveness, she was successful in enacting both the Child Abuse Prevention Act, which provides Federal grants to train teachers and develop curriculum in child abuse prevention, and the Child Safety Protection Act, which requires warning labels on toys with small parts and establishes safety standards for bicycle helmets.

One of Congresswoman COLLINS' most active areas of interest has been her resolve to achieve title IX gender equity in college athletics and she conducted hearings and investigations into the practices of our Nations' colleges and universities to comply with the law. In 1993, she authored the Gender Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act, a law which requires colleges to disclose data on their spending and participation rates for both men and women's sports. As a result of her work, female participation rates in athletics have increased dramatically.

Congresswoman CARDISS COLLINS has indeed made a difference in the lives of many Americans.

Congresswoman COLLINS, I thank you for your leadership and visionary work as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE ANDY JACOBS FOR OUTSTAND- ING SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to pay tribute to the gentleman

from Indiana, the Honorable ANDY JACOBS, who has loyally served the residents of Indiana's Tenth District for 30 years as their Representative in the U.S. Congress.

ANDY's service to our country began during the Korean war, when he served in the Marine Corps. In 1964, he was elected as a Representative from Indiana, a duty which he has honorably fulfilled for 30 years.

Throughout his service, ANDY has been a frugal and prudent guardian of Federal spending. He has supported the balanced budget amendment and the "A to Z" spending cuts. Furthermore, he played a key role in converting the Social Security Administration to an independent agency and in limiting employer's need to pay Social Security taxes for part-time domestic workers.

ANDY is a straightforward and unassuming leader who continually has demonstrated the ability to vote for what he believes is right. Political winds and pressure have not affected his decisions. ANDY's humor in the dining room and other places will be sorely missed. This body will be losing a great Representative and American when ANDY leaves here.

On behalf of the citizens of Wisconsin's Ninth district, I thank the Honorable ANDY JACOBS for his outstanding service to the people of the United States.

RETIREMENT OF CONGRESSMEN CLINGER AND WALKER

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tribute to two of the longest-serving members from the Pennsylvania delegation—BOB WALKER and BILL CLINGER—as the date of their retirement from this august body draws near. Their records of dedicated service to their country and their constituents are two of the most eloquent arguments against term limits that one could ever imagine.

While we represent very different constituencies and have very different views on a number of public policy issues, I have worked closely with Congressman WALKER and Representative CLINGER on a great many issues of importance to the people of Pennsylvania. The success of the Pennsylvania delegation in representing the interests of the residents of the Commonwealth is due in no small part to the ability of the Pennsylvania congressional delegation to repeatedly rise above partisan politics in order to serve our constituents.

BOB WALKER has served the people of Pennsylvania's 16th Congressional District for 20 years. He will long be remembered for his in-depth knowledge of the House legislative process. His parliamentary prowess was so well-known and admired that he was called upon to instruct House Republican freshmen in the rules and procedures of the House. I think that one of the highest compliments that one politician can give an adversary is that he effectively pursued his goals. BOB WALKER has certainly deserved that plaudit.

BOB is also known for his intense loyalty to his party and his friends. On the floor and off, he has labored tirelessly on behalf of his party—during the many years when House Republicans were in the minority as well as

the last 2 years when they were in the majority. BOB WALKER is no fair-weather friend; he is patient, dedicated, and persistent. The dramatic use of congressional special orders by Congressman WALKER and a number of his colleagues transformed the nature of the congressional deliberative process and brought Congress into the electronic age. As a result of his persistent service and leadership, Congressman WALKER was rewarded with the Office of Chief Deputy Republican Whip, in which capacity he served with great distinction.

Through all the skirmishing on the House floor, however, BOB has maintained a keen interest in the space, science, and technology issues that have come before Congress—an interest that found expression in many years of service on the House Space, Science, and Technology Committee. As the new chairman of this committee, renamed the House Science Committee in the 105th Congress, BOB WALKER has presided over the consideration of legislation that may well shape public and private scientific research for years to come. His chairmanship has often been controversial, but no one questions his enthusiasm for the advancement of science or the sincerity behind his legislative initiatives. In just 2 short years, Chairman WALKER has made a lasting mark on Federal research policy and priorities.

In short, we will not soon forget BOB WALKER. The U.S. science policies in coming years will bear testimony to his thoughtful leadership. And we, his colleagues, will certainly feel his absence.

Pennsylvania will also lose a tireless advocate and ardent Government reformer with the retirement of Congressman BILL CLINGER, chairman of the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee. Congressman CLINGER has served the people of Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District since he was first elected as their representative in 1978, and he has served his constituents well. He worked to have the upper Allegheny River designated a wild and scenic river. He fought to curb the dumping of out-of-State garbage in rural landfills in States like Pennsylvania. And he has labored tirelessly to secure important public works projects in Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District.

In his 2 years as chairman of the Government Reform and Oversight Committee, BILL CLINGER has attempted to address the thorny albeit unglamorous issues of Federal acquisition reform, unfunded mandates, and the burden of Federal paperwork on the public. In this regard he has worked tirelessly on the critical task of streamlining and otherwise improving the day-to-day operations of the Federal Government. Chairman CLINGER also spearheaded congressional efforts in the 105th Congress to enact a line-item veto, and he introduced legislation to reform the Federal budget process by establishing a separate capital budget and protecting the trust funds dedicated to particular purposes. The merits of the specific initiatives aside, they all serve as evidence of the seriousness and dedication with which he has endeavored to serve the public throughout the 18 years that he has served in Congress. He will be missed.

It has been an honor to serve with them both, and to work with them on issues important to our great Commonwealth. I wish both of them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

ARMORED CAR INDUSTRY RECIPROCITY IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. CARDISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3431, amends the Armored Car industry Reciprocity Act of 1993, of which I was an original cosponsor. In the previous Congress, as chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Competitiveness, I authored the Armored Car Reciprocity Act, after receiving testimony on the problems in obtaining appropriate weapons licenses for armored car personnel driving across State lines. We learned of two typical problems. In one case, drivers routinely cross State lines, such as between Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia, or between Illinois and Indiana. In other cases, the Federal Government may contract with drivers to carry cash or food stamps across many States.

It was an administrative nightmare to license a driver for a weapons permit in each State. As a result, drivers often drove into States without a proper permit, and were sometimes detained. Our solution was a simple one, requiring each State recognize weapons of other States provided minimum requirements were met. These minimum requirements included periodic weapons training and background checks. I would note that even in the last Congress, we were cognizant of not placing new mandates on States, and the law was entirely voluntary for States. It was not an unfunded mandate.

I was pleased that the legislation did not get caught up in any battles over gun control, but was instead supported by organizations on both sides of that issue. It was particularly important to me that the law gave an incentive to States to improve their licensing process so that their weapons permits would be honored by other States. That is what happened in my State of Illinois, where weapons training had not been required in the past. The law was changed with the support of the industry to require such training.

In implementation and compliance with the Reciprocity Act of 1993, Public Law 103-55, certain technical issues have arisen, in large part due to the fact that between the time the armored car industry first approached Congress and now, there have been changes in the laws covering this industry, which are addressed by this bill before us today. Issues of licensing, training, renewal cycles, and details of background investigations are clarified and addressed by this noncontroversial bill.

H.R. 3431, makes changes in the statute regarding: First, the granting of reciprocity for the weapons license and all other necessary licenses so long as the armored car crew member has met all the requirements in his or her primary State; second, requiring a criminal record background check only when granting the initial license; and, third, eliminating the requirement that renewal applications be reissued annually. Nothing in the legislation affects any gun ownership laws, nor does it alter Federal law regarding requirements for the possession of a weapon.

I am pleased this vital legislation has been developed in a bipartisan fashion and I urge

my colleagues to support H.R. 3431. I yield back the balance of my time.

A SILENT KILLER

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, State Representative Dorothy Pelote of Savannah, GA has been educating the members of the Georgia General Assembly, as well as the entire State of Georgia, about the dangers of a silent killer, carbon monoxide poisoning.

In an effort to assist Representative Pelote, I am submitting the following information to educate my fellow Members of Congress as well as the Nation about the dangers of this deadly gas.

A SILENT KILLER

In September of 1995, tennis star Vitus Gerulaitis died in his sleep in his home from carbon monoxide fumes from a pool heater.

A Cleveland, Ohio man, John Reed, his three children, a family friend and the family dog all died shortly before Christmas from carbon monoxide poisoning as the result of a bird's nest blocking their home's furnace flue.

While deaths such as these are shocking, I was even more astounded to learn that more than 250 people die in their homes each year from accidental carbon monoxide poisoning and another 3,900 are made ill. (According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.)

Most of the victims of this "silent killer," like Gerulaitis and the Reed family, fall asleep and never wake up.

According to an article by Cora Daniels, staff writer for the Asbury Park Press, carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas that is a byproduct of incomplete combustion, or burning with limited oxygen. When it is inhaled, it is absorbed into the blood and displaces oxygen by latching onto hemoglobin, the molecule that carries the blood's oxygen throughout the body.

While early symptoms can seem like a case of the flu, increased exposure can cause heart attacks, brain damage, coma and death. The humans do not detect carbon monoxide until they have already been poisoned.

The gas is especially harmful to an unborn fetus, which can be permanently damaged while the mother goes relatively unaffected. Young children, the elderly, smokers and those with heart or respiratory conditions are also more at risk.

Better insulated houses resulting from the fuel crisis of the 1970's has led to the increased dangers of carbon monoxide buildup. In most instances, carbon monoxide seeps into the home through faulty heaters that use fuels like oil, natural gas, kerosene, coal or wood. Carbon monoxide can also come from fireplaces with inadequate ventilation, clothes dryers, water heaters, and cars warming up in attached garages.

Since 1973, carbon monoxide detectors have been available, with approximately 20 different kinds of detectors on the market, costing anywhere from \$50 to \$100.

I urge the American public to be more aware of the hazards of this silent killer and learn how to prevent it from happening to themselves and their loved ones.