

mind that we must take advantage of what technology has to offer. Indiana is taking some important steps to improve its distance learning programs, and these need our support, especially for the rural areas of our state. We cannot afford to have another two-tiered population—those who have access to the information highway and those who do not.

But we need more than technology and hookups. We also need a sustained dialogue among students, teachers, businesses, and community leaders to formulate a workforce development policy that is best suited for the particular needs of our region. Businesses interested in expanding their operations in southern Indiana have to play a role in defining the skills they expect from potential employees. Similarly, teachers know our strengths as well as weaknesses, and are crucial in defending curriculum and teacher training in the new technology so it becomes an integral part of instruction. Combining these recommendations with inputs from the community, we can build on and enhance the various programs already in the works.

Few things are more important to me than the education of our children and good jobs for our communities. Distance learning and improved computer links will play an increasingly important role in our efforts to upgrade our students' and workers' skills. It is an investment in our future worth making.

SALUTE TO THE FEDERATION OF DODECANESE SOCIETIES

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues a philanthropic organization that traces its roots back to the Dodecanese Islands of Greece. The Dodecanese Islands include Rhodes, Kos, Patmos, Kasos, Symi, Kalymnos, Haiki, Tilos, Astypalea, Kastelorizo, Nisyros, Karpathos, and Leros. These historic islands housed the Colossus of Rhodes and are where Hippocrates, the father of medicine, founded the first western medical school. These islands are prominently mentioned in Greek history and legend.

When migrating to the United States, the Dodecanese Greeks brought with them their love of Hellenic culture and Democracy. They were the first to form an antifascist movement, in New York City, after Mussolini's ascension to power in Italy. The movement's members played a major role in the liberation of the islands from Italy and Turkey. The Dodecanesians who love democracy and freedom, not only fought in Greece, they served in the armies of Abyssinia, Spain, and the American military on all fronts in the Second World War.

On March 7, 1996, the members of the Dodecanese Societies in my district together with all the members and friends of the society will celebrate the 48th anniversary of the unification of the islands with Greece. The members of the Dodecanese Societies are unique individuals who love their Greek heritage and the United States. They take the best of both worlds, to create a true cultural blend, that is better than the individual.

Today, the society continues its positive role. The Federation serves as a link to the

Hellenic past and a springboard to the future. Under the presidency of Professor Christopher I. Koronieos, the organization is concentrating on its young since those individuals will play an important role in the growth and success of the United States. But, they do not forget their heritage and will always fight for freedom and human rights, be it in New York or Imia.

So I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Federation of Dodecanese Societies for their past accomplishments and future endeavors.

CELESTIAL ECONOMICS

HON. ANDREW JACOBS, JR.

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 1996

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, the great Sid Taylor of the National Taxpayers Union Foundation takes pen in hand once more, and hits the bull's eye.

CELESTIAL ECONOMICS

(By Sid Taylor, Fiscal Poet)

We had a bitter standoff
But, the controversy is through.
We're going to balance the budget
In the fiscal year of 2002.
So, now there's no need to worry,
Our national debt is fine,
The White House and Congress
Agree on a \$5 trillion credit line.
The deficits don't really matter,
They're just a little more red ink,
So, like the sinking of the Titanic
\$164 billion won't put us in the drink.
Now, about those interest payments
To finance our national debt,
They're only \$333 billion a year
So, there's no need to get upset.

SCHOOL PRAYER

HON. DAVID FUNDERBURK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 1996

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, I believe our leadership should express its concern about the despicable act of an Atlanta TV station toward one of our Presidential candidates. I, for one, regret the way Alan Keyes was treated by being handcuffed and shoved in a parking lot. While I have made no endorsement in this primary, the profamily and provalues message of Alan Keyes deserved to be heard in the Georgia debate.

The 104th Congress has spent its first year addressing economic issues. While these issues are of vital importance to American businesses and families, let us not forget the contract with American families. Especially in the absence of White House leadership, it is now time for us in the second session of the 104th Congress to address the moral and spiritual crisis facing America. The breakdown of families and the disregard of moral values are at the very root of our economic woes.

Many Federal programs may have contributed to increased drug use, promiscuity, breakup of the traditional family unit, alternative lifestyles, and reliance on Government rather than work and individual responsibility. It's time the Federal Government sends our

young people and families a clear message regarding values such as hard work, discipline, respect for human life, individual responsibility, and the sanctity of marriage. And since we can still begin each day with prayer in the U.S. House, it's time we return prayer to our schools.

TRIBUTE TO CARDINAL JOHN KROL

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 1996

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor Cardinal John Krol. One of the Philadelphia region's dearest religious leaders, Cardinal Krol passed away early Sunday morning at his home in Pennsylvania.

Born on October 26, 1910, in Cleveland, OH, Cardinal Krol's beginnings were humble and his aspirations never lofty. All that he ever wanted was to be a priest so that he could better serve God and people. During his 27 years as Archbishop of Philadelphia, the Nation's sixth largest archdiocese, Cardinal Krol accomplished that goal, helping to create a better life for the residents of the Delaware Valley and everyone whose lives he touched.

As Archbishop, his accomplishments in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia were great. During his tenure, over 100 new churches were built, the Catholic school system was extended far into the suburbs, and services for refugees, the elderly, youth, and the hungry were expanded.

Best known for his strict conservatism on matters of Church doctrine, such as his opposition to the ordination of women and his strong stand against abortion, Cardinal Krol was steadfast in his beliefs. However, he also pursued a social policy that championed the rights of workers and the poor. Additionally, Cardinal Krol reformed the confusing and cumbersome annulment process in the archdiocese for Catholics who were trapped in marriages without love.

Cardinal Krol is also well known as being a close friend of Pope John Paul II, and by some accounts was instrumental in his election as the first Polish pope by the Cardinal College in 1978. While Pope John Paul II is credited by some as playing a pivotal role in freeing Poland and Eastern Europe from communism, Cardinal Krol also worked to achieve those same goals. Of Polish ancestry himself, Cardinal Krol often made Polish-language broadcasts on Radio Free Europe. Additionally, Cardinal Krol, like Pope John Paul II, supported Lech Walsea and Solidarity in their ultimately successful anti-Communist activities.

A great religious and spiritual leader, Cardinal Krol will be remembered in the hearts of the people of Delaware Valley for many years to come. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the late Cardinal John Krol. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends, and all of the people of the Philadelphia area.

LEGISLATION TO REAUTHORIZE THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 1996

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss a bill I introduced to reform the Safe Drinking Water Act [SDWA]. This bill, which is identical to legislation passed unanimously by the Senate, would cut burdensome regulations, eliminate unnecessary testing requirements, and assist communities in making sure their drinking water is clean and safe.

Since I was elected to Congress, I have been working to pass legislation to reauthorize and reform the Safe Drinking Water Act. During the 103d Congress, I joined Congressman Slattery and others in introducing H.R. 3392 which passed the House and was the main bill around which negotiations centered. Unfortunately, Congress adjourned before final action could be completed. I am hopeful that with the overwhelming support this bill received in the Senate, swift action will be taken in the House in the near future.

Over the past 3 years, I have visited several small water systems in North Dakota. Through my visits and conversations with system operators, I have become very familiar with the workings of this law. Many small and rural water systems simply cannot comply with these mandates—they don't have the technology and they don't have the resources. This law has driven many North Dakota communities to the edge of bankruptcy, while others have had to ignore the law in order to survive financially.

I firmly believe the rules of SDWA should fit the communities it is designed to serve. The original law was based on large water systems and subscribes to a one-size-fits-all approach to the problem. I believe a more prudent approach is to take the actual threat to public health into consideration and allow communities to target scarce resources to those needs.

This bill does just that. It reduces the regulatory burden imposed on States and public water systems, increase State authority and flexibility, provides financial assistance for unfunded mandates, and directs the Environmental Protection Agency to consider costs and benefits when setting new standards. Importantly, small systems are given special consideration under the legislation. The bill requires the EPA to consider system size when determining the best available technology to address a risk, permits States to issue variances, and provides for technical assistance grants.

Of particular concern to me regarding the current law are the arbitrary numbers of specific contaminants that must be regulated—without regard to the risk they present. Currently, communities must monitor for 83 contaminants and the EPA will require monitoring for 25 more contaminants every 3 years. The bill passed by the Senate and which I have introduced eliminates this requirement and establishes a process for EPA to select and list contaminants for regulatory consideration based on occurrence and health effects.

I am hopeful that the House of Representatives will follow the Senate's lead and take swift action to move this bill.

SPECIAL APPLICATION OF SEC- TION 1034 OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 1996

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a bill to provide for a special application of section 1034 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

According to section 1034 of the Internal Revenue Code: If a property used by the taxpayer as his principal residence is sold by him and, within a period beginning 2 years before the date of such sale and ending 2 years after such date, property is purchased and used by the taxpayer as his principal residence, gain from such sale shall be recognized only to the extent that the taxpayer's adjusted sales price of the old residence exceeds the taxpayer's cost of purchasing the new residence.

When Hurricane Iniki hit on September 11, 1992, the island of Kauai was totally devastated. Thousands lost their homes along with all of their possessions. The hurricane destroyed documents and caused numerous other problems. The crisis left the County of Kauai unable to process claims already in progress in the usual timely fashion. As a result, the 24 month IRS rollover period permitting nonrecognition of gain, on Ms. Rita Bennington's sale of her old principal residence, expired. The delays caused by the disaster are well documented, however the IRS code has no leniency for such unforeseen circumstances.

My constituent, Ms. Rita Bennington, purchased her new residence within the meaning of section 1034, however was unable to meet its requirements with respect to the sale of her old principal residence, due to the delays caused by Hurricane Iniki. This bill would allow her 2.5 years, instead of 2 years, to complete the transaction thereby allowing her to apply nonrecognition of gain provisions to the sale of her old principal residence.

Natural disasters are truly unfortunate. Nevertheless, individuals who suffer as a direct result of such destruction should not be additionally penalized with the denial of an expected tax deduction. Such circumstances should be given legislative relief.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the immediate consideration of this legislation.

IT IS TIME TO STOP THE FLOW OF ILLICIT DRUGS IN THE UNITED STATES

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 1996

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that will authorize the imposition of trade sanctions on countries which threaten the health and safety of U.S. citizens by failing to cooperate fully with the United States regarding the reduction and interdiction of illicit drugs.

The United States has been saturated by a flood of illegal drugs which has resulted in our national security being seriously threatened.

Startling new statistics reflect a resurgent drug crisis and a sharp increase in the use of heroin, cocaine, and crack cocaine, LSD, and marijuana by our children—usually between the ages of 12 and 17. We have attempted to fight the drug war by creating joint Federal-State-local task forces and with the Department of Justice's Weed and Seed sites, and by passing strict sentencing laws for drug traffickers.

Now it is clear, however, that we must not only have a tough domestic drug policy, such as by enforcing minimum mandatory sentences for drug traffickers, we must also take our fight across our borders into other countries. We need to send a strong signal to all foreign governments that we are serious about our war on drugs.

Despite the increase of drug use this past year, the administration continues to grant significant trade benefits to countries whose governments have failed to cooperate with the United States in drug interdiction efforts. Clearly, Members of Congress must now assume this responsibility and ban together to protect our country and children from these drugs.

My bill authorizes the imposition of trade sanctions on countries that fail to cooperate fully with us to stop the flow of illicit drugs. Reducing U.S. trade benefits will make foreign governments that willingly allow these drugs to end up on American streets and in American schools to think twice before they look the other way while drug kingpins in their country cultivate and or transport cocaine right before their eyes.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this important legislation and send a strong message to foreign countries that the United States is serious about halting the flow of illicit drugs.

EXTENSION OF AGENCY RULE- MAKING PERIOD UNDER TITLE I OF THE INDIAN SELF-DETER- MINATION AND EDUCATION AS- SISTANCE ACT

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 1996

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a simple bill that amends title I of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act. The act, which was enacted in 1975, empowers tribes and tribal organizations to take over the operation of Federal programs that directly benefit American Indian and Alaska Native tribes. In giving tribes greater control of the programs which affect their lives on a daily basis, we sought to foster true Indian self-determination as well as to limit the growth of the attendant Federal bureaucracy which had sprung up around the Federal Indian programs.

In the 103d Congress, we amended the Indian Self-Determination Act in response to the 6-year refusal of the Departments of the Interior and Health and Human Services to promulgate rules to carry out certain provisions in the act. Through the Indian Self-Determination Act Amendments of 1994, we streamlined the contracting process, curbed the Departments' rulemaking authority, and required the Departments to negotiate new regulations with the Indian tribes.