

TRIBUTE TO SHARON WARNER

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, May 11, 1996, friends and relatives of Sharon Warner will gather to pay tribute to her on-going, remarkable efforts made in the face of adversity. Diagnosed only months ago with leukemia, Ms. Warner and her friends have taken it upon themselves to educate and assist others.

When she learned of her illness, Ms. Warner began the search for a bone marrow transplant donor. She soon found that the national pool of potential donors, especially minority ones, was very small.

And when she approached various public agencies for financial assistance after using all sick leave made available by her employer, she found the red tape to be overwhelming.

Ever the crusader, Ms. Warner did not give up. She spread the message of the need for minority bone marrow donors through local media outlets. She also formed the Helping Hands Organization to direct others seeking financial assistance through the maze of governmental bureaucracy.

I am sure that my colleagues across the United States will join me in honoring the work of Sharon Warner. Her efforts will certainly make a difference for years to come. Sharon Warner is a shining example of bravery and tenacity, and she deserves our admiration, our respect, and our support.

TRIBUTE TO CH2M HILL

HON. JOHN LINDER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize a company employing many of my constituents—the employee-owned, international project delivery and consulting engineering firm of CH2M HILL—for their current role as the environmental adviser to the 1996 Olympic games in Atlanta. Much of the Olympic work is being performed from CH2M HILL's long-established Atlanta office, one of the firm's 122 locations worldwide. CH2M HILL will supply on-call environmental counsel before, during, and after the games to the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic games [ACOG] as they complete the environmental framework for staging the largest peacetime event in history.

Thus far, the firm's activities have included: documenting innovative environmental approaches and achievements during venue planning and construction; assessing the impact of the games on environmental media—air, water, solid waste; linking sponsors to environmental management planning and addressing any sponsor-related circumstances, for example, heat, air quality, and supplying support in the areas of solid waste management, indoor air quality at the Olympic Village, and transportation operations. CH2M HILL will also develop an official environmental summary document for the 1996 games that will provide benchmark environmental data for future Olympic and other large sporting events.

To put CH2M HILL's involvement in context, when the International Olympic Committee [IOC] awarded the Olympic Games to Atlanta in 1990, environmental management was not a component of the Olympic bid process. One year later in 1991, the IOC in partnership with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) formally highlighted the importance of environmentalism as a new Olympic ideal. Atlanta is only the second host city to voluntarily address Olympic environmentalism in any pragmatic or operational manner. The 1996 Olympic games are being held in the United States, a nation with some of the highest environmental standards in the world. When you add Atlanta's contribution of sound environmental management in a sport setting to the above, there is little doubt that the environmental measure for future Olympic games has been significantly raised.

CH2M HILL is an innovator in environmental technology and integrated project delivery. The firm serves a diverse portfolio of public- and private-sector clients throughout the world in the fields of water, environment, transportation, industrial facilities, infrastructure, and facility operations. The year 1996 marks the employee-owned firm's 50th year in business.

I congratulate CH2M HILL for their involvement as the environmental adviser to the largest peacetime event in history and recognize the important role our Nation plays in championing environmental stewardship and helping to preserve the planet for future generations.

TRIBUTE TO SHELDON STIEFELD

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding educator and mentor in Brooklyn, Mr. Sheldon (Shelly) Stiefeld, who is retiring after 34 years of service to New York's public schools. Thousands of youngsters have learned a great deal from Shelly and his wife, Florence who is also retiring. The tireless work and energy exhibited by the education careers of Shelly and Florence Stiefeld has done much to ensure the success of Brooklyn students.

I am especially familiar with Shelly's outstanding teaching abilities as he was my world history teacher at James Madison High School in Brooklyn. As a fifth grader, I was dazzled by his animated lectures and became entranced by his knowledge of different cultures and traditions. I am deeply grateful to him for giving me a strong basis for a future career in Government.

It gives me great pleasure to join all the parents, students and friends in honor of Shelly Stiefeld's commitment to public education and academic excellence. My educational training under Shelly left me with a positive view of Brooklyn public schools. My own children follow the same path, as they also attend public schools. The retirement of both Shelly and Florence will certainly come as a loss to those who were fortunate enough to grow under his tutelage.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIE JAMES

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Willie James, president of the Transport Workers Union of Greater New York, who will be honored tonight for his outstanding service to the community by members of the Society of African American Transit Employees at a dinner dance in the Bronx, NY.

Mr. Speaker, Willie James was born in Harlem Hospital, in New York City. He started working as a bus operator in 1967 for the Manhattan and Bronx Surface Transit Operating Authority. This position marked the beginning of his involvement with the labor movement.

Prior to his appointment as president, Mr. James served the transport union as director of education and training and later on as financial secretary-treasurer. Under his leadership in education and training, Mr. James developed training programs that enabled cleaning workers to advance their skills and attain higher paid positions within the industry.

Mr. James currently serves as vice president of the New York State AFL-CIO and vice president of the New York City Central Labor Council. He is also an executive board member of the New York Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, an executive board member of the Black Trade Union Leadership Committee, and a member of the board of directors of the Municipal Credit Union, on which he served as president from 1985 through 1991.

Throughout his life, Mr. James' philosophy has been one of helping those in need without expecting anything in return. He would often say: "Just ask that person who you are helping to pass the baton of love and concern to others in this race of life."

Besides his commitment to the labor movement, Mr. James was ordained deacon of the Harmon Baptist Church, and often serves as a soloist. He is married to Rosabelle and has two children, Daysey Moyd and Charles James.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Willie James for his outstanding contribution to the advancement of the labor movement and of the African-American community.

EILEEN ROCCHIO LEGRAND SMITH
SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let it be known, that it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership, and community service, that I am proud to salute Eileen Rocchio, winner of the 1996 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Eileen is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, MI.

Eileen Rocchio is an exceptional student at Coldwater High School and possesses an impressive high school record, President of both the National Honor Society, and her class, Eileen was also listed in "Who's Who Among American High School Students." She was co-captain of the girl's basketball team, and was the 1995 homecoming queen. Outside of school Eileen has been very involved with Girl Scouts of America and received the Gold Award.

In special tribute, therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Eileen Rocchio for her selection as a winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support, and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

HONORING SARITA SPIWAK, WIZO WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sarita Spiwak, a special woman who has dedicated herself to many humanitarian causes, most notably to the work of the Women's International Zionist Organization [WIZO]. This organization, founded in 1920, sets out to promote the welfare of women, children, the elderly, and immigrants, with the belief that this will strengthen and improve the quality of life for everyone in the State of Israel.

For her many years of hard work and commitment to the ideals of the WIZO, this Saturday, May 11, 1996, the organization will show its appreciation to Sarita by honoring her as its "Woman of the Year."

Sarita was born and raised in Bogota, Colombia. She married Dr. Jose Spiwak in 1967. In 1969, she and Jose moved to Israel with their newborn daughter, Daniela, fulfilling their Zionist dream. While in Israel, they studied and worked and also enjoyed the arrival of their second daughter, Yael, in 1971. Following Yael's birth, the Spiwaks moved back to Colombia. One year later, in 1972, the family moved to the United States. In 1976, their son, Allan, was born. Two years later, in 1978, Sarita, Jose, and their three children settled in Los Angeles.

In 1987, Sarita was asked, along with 10 other women, to begin a WIZO chapter in Los Angeles. For nearly a decade, Sarita's work with WIZO has led her to dedicate her time and resources to various other projects that support women, children and the elderly in Israel and throughout the world. She is a tireless advocate of efforts to preserving the State of Israel and an integral and prominent member of California's Jewish community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I ask my colleagues to join with me in saluting this

champion of human rights, Sarita Spiwak, for her commitment to the welfare of the less fortunate. I ask my colleague to congratulate her on being honored as the "Woman of the Year" by the Women's International Zionist Organization.

BALANCING THE BUDGET

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, as my Republican colleagues and I continue to work on the fiscal year 1997 budget resolution, we are committed to our course—a balanced budget.

The Republican budget plan will balance by the year 2002. It will protect priority programs with proven track records. It will privatize, eliminate, and reduce others that are inefficient and ineffective. It will provide middle-class families and small businesses with much-needed tax relief. And, it will take the power, money and influence out of Washington, emphasizing local solutions to local problems.

In contrast, President Clinton's budget only balances by raising taxes—on top of his historic 1993 tax hike. He would spend billions more of America's hard-earned dollars, perpetuating the big Government tax-and-spend policies that have characterized this administration. In fact, the President's budget creates at least 14 new Government programs and continues status quo welfare programs. If the current deficit was not enough, the President's budget would saddle future generations with at least \$119 billion more in deficit spending.

Mr. Speaker, the President's budget amounts to nothing more than higher taxes, more spending and bigger Government. American families do not want more added to their already unwieldy tax bill. They want smaller Government. They want less intrusive Government. Most of all, they want to keep their money—the money they work hard for so they can take care of their families, not the Government.

UNFUNDED MANDATES AND CBO ESTIMATES

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 was intended to assist Congress in its consideration of proposed legislation by providing information about the nature and size of possible mandates in those proposals. The Congressional Budget Office is directed by that statute to help in developing such information.

I wrote to the Congressional Budget Office to express my concerns about serious problems with the unfunded mandates information CBO provided on the conference report on H.R. 1561, the America Overseas Interest Act. That correspondence appears in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of March 22, 1996, at E426.

I would now like to submit the CBO response to my earlier letter. I am pleased that

CBO acknowledges that it would be more useful to the Congress for CBO to provide the full cost estimate for any bill at one time, rather than in select parts, and that three of the four provisions in the conference report on H.R. 1561 would in fact increase costs to the States. I hope that in the future CBO will include such information in a single estimate at the time a bill is under consideration.

U.S. CONGRESS,

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,

Washington, DC, April 18, 1996.

Hon. LEE H. HAMILTON,

Ranking Minority Member, Committee on International Relations, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN: I am writing in response to your letter of March 20, 1996, concerning CBO's intergovernmental mandates cost statement for the conference report on H.R. 1561, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1996 and 1997. Our mandates statement concluded that the conference report contained no intergovernmental mandates as defined by the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-4).

In your letter, you raised two major concerns about CBO's estimate. First, you suggested that separating the mandates cost statement from the federal cost estimate for a bill or conference report diminishes the usefulness of the information for Members. I fully agree. As a general rule, CBO attempts to send out all information on a bill—the federal cost estimate, the intergovernmental mandate statement, and the private sector mandate statement—at the same time. Sometimes, however, we cannot complete all those statements at once, and in the interest of providing information in a timely manner, we send them separately.

Second, you questioned CBO's conclusion that H.R. 1561 would impose no intergovernmental mandates. Because the definition of mandate in Public Law 104-4 is a narrow one, a bill can increase costs for states and localities without imposing a mandate upon them. In fact, H.R. 1561 is just such a case. As you suggest, states would face additional costs if more refugees enter the United States and receive benefits from AFDC, Medicaid, or other public programs. CBO's estimate should have indicated the likelihood of such costs, even though they would not be the direct result of new mandates imposed on the states.

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act defines a federal intergovernmental mandate as any provision in legislation, statute, or regulations that would impose an enforceable duty upon state, local or tribal governments, except as a condition of federal assistance or a duty arising from participation in a voluntary federal program. Under the act, a provision that related to large federal entitlement grant programs constitutes a mandate only if that provision would increase the stringency of conditions of assistance to state, local, and tribal governments under those programs, and only if the affected governments lack authority under that program to amend their financial or programmatic responsibilities to continue providing required services that are affected by the provision. Furthermore, section 4 of Public Law 104-4 specifically excludes from CBO's analysis certain kinds of legislative provisions, including any provision that "is necessary for the national security or the ratification or implementation of international treaty obligations."

Three of the provisions cited in your letter as having the potential to expand the states' burden of caring for refugees (sections 1104, 1253, and 1255) do not meet the definition of an intergovernmental mandate in Public