

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

Law 104-4. These provisions relate instead to the operation of the State Department's refugee and migration assistance programs. While states would face additional costs if more refugees and asylees are allowed to remain in this country, these costs would result either from state public assistance requirements that are not controlled by the federal government, or from an increase in the number of people eligible for federal entitlement programs. Because the bill would not increase the stringency of conditions for these entitlement programs, these provisions do not constitute mandates under the law.

Section 1256, the remaining provision of the conference agreement cited in your letter, falls within the section 4 exclusion, because it is necessary for the implementation of the international obligations of the United States under the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, and Degrading Treatment or Punishment. Therefore, pursuant to the provisions of the act, CBO did not analyze its potential impact on state, local, and tribal governments.

Please let me know if you have further questions or concerns about this estimate or about the implementation of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. The CBO staff contact is Pepper Santalucia, who can be reached at 225-3220

Sincerely,

JUNE E. O'NEILL,
Director.

DAMON WILLIAMS, 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 he has compiled in academics, leadership, and community service, that I am proud to salute Damon Williams, 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, Damon 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.

Damon Williams is an exceptional student at Homer High School and possesses an impressive high school record. Damon has been a member of the National Honor Society, and was listed in "Who's Who Among American High School Students". He has excelled academically and athletically. He participated in both the Science Olympiad and Quiz Bowl Team. Damon was a member of the track team, Future Farmers of America, and 4-H.

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

COMMONSENSE PRODUCT LIABILITY REFORM ACT OF 1996—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 104-207)

SPEECH OF

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of overriding President Clinton's veto of the Product Liability and Legal Reform Act and urge my colleagues to support this effort.

I think it's unfortunate that the President fails to understand the plight of small businesses and manufacturers—those entities that are the engines that drive our economy—who are the victims of unreasonable liability lawsuits. These lawsuits stifle innovation, erode competitiveness, and cost money that would otherwise be reinvested to increase productivity and job growth. Whether or not the President appreciates it, this plight is real and affects companies all across our Nation. I can point to a typical example from a small company in my own district, Mattison Technologies in Rockford, IL.

Mattison has been manufacturing machine tools for 100 years and presently employs 150 workers. Yet, despite establishing a stellar record for quality and craftsmanship, Mattison is facing liability lawsuits involving some of its products that are as old as the company itself. Recently, it was sued for a machine tool it built way back in 1917. In 1917—the year Americans went off to fight in World War I. Mattison's general manager, Robert Jennings, justifiably complains that they are being penalized for machines built 60 and even 70 years ago, "for building quality and longevity into our equipment, yet we believe this is what Made in America is all about."

The bill the President vetoed would help rectify this problem by preventing lawsuits against manufacturers of products more than 15 years after delivery. This is certainly a reasonable step and one that would have a tremendous impact on the approximately 1,800 companies in the district I represent.

Mr. Chairman, these types of liability lawsuits do not have to happen. They should not happen. The one obstacle that prevents them from stopping is the President's veto pen. Today, we here in this body have an opportunity to support small businesses and manufacturers and encourage productivity and economic growth. We can do this by voting to override the President's veto. I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort.

TRIBUTE TO ANGELO PETRINO

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, one of the pleasures of serving this legislative body is the opportunity we occasionally get to publicly acknowledge the outstanding individuals of our communities. I rise today to recognize one such individual, Angelo Petrino of Massachusetts, who was named

"Man of the Year" of the Belmont Men's Lodge #1094.

Mr. Petrino is a leading member of the Italian community in the Greater Boston area and has played an important role in preserving and promoting appreciation of Italian culture. His civic and community service is a testament to his rich Italian heritage and community spirit. He is an example of how one individual can truly make a difference in the lives of others. Mr. Petrino has always displayed exceptional dedication to helping those in need, and he will continue to be an inspiration to all.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed an honor and a pleasure for me to have this opportunity to recognize this outstanding humanitarian. I am sure I speak on behalf of many members of the community who have either worked with Mr. Petrino, or have experienced the benefits of his hard work, when I offer him my heartfelt congratulations.

COMBATING CHILDHOOD HUNGER

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of 10 organizations which are doing outstanding work to combat childhood hunger in our Nation. These organizations are the recipients of the Third Annual Victory Against Hunger Awards, presented by the Congressional Hunger Center and Victory Wholesale Grocers. Victory Wholesale Grocers is based in my district of Dayton, OH, and founded by my good friend, Milt Kantor.

Each organization receiving this tribute was nominated by a Member of Congress, and chosen from a pool of nominations by a panel at the Congressional Hunger Center. The following winners were selected based on their community participation, effective delivery of service, geographic diversity, and innovative ideas.

The Hunger Connection, of Rockford, IL, nominated by Representative DON MANZULLO, is a food bank and food rescue program, provides food baskets to families in exchange for a modest fee and community service. It also has distributed more than 17 million dollars' worth of donated food, free of charge, since it was founded 11 years ago.

The Hunger Task Force of Milwaukee, WI, nominated by Representative TOM BARRETT, distributes food through its Emergency Food Pantry and facilitates long-term solutions to the problem of hunger. It feeds children in cooperation with the School Breakfast Program, and its Kids to Kids Program provides antihunger and nutrition education.

The Free Market, of Los Angeles, CA, was nominated by Representative MAXINE WATERS. In this establishment families and individuals receive vouchers of up to \$350 to shop for groceries free of charge. The market in the neighborhood of Watts was burned down in the recent riot and had to be rebuilt. I am pleased that the Free Market's founders, Reverend Bynum and his wife, and five others were on hand to receive this well-deserved honor.

Food-PATCH S.T.E.P.S., nominated by Representative SUE KELLY, is a program which uses forward-looking strategies to feed families in Millwood, NY. They seek to help parents, particularly single mothers, achieve self-