

deductions for public schools; extends the enhanced deduction to libraries, local governments, community centers, and other organizations, such as boys and girls clubs, that promote the education of children; expresses the sense of Congress that donations to underprivileged schools should be a priority; allows nonmanufacturers the same enhanced deduction as manufacturers, so long as the original use of the computer originated with the taxpayer seeking the deduction. Provides that charitable contributions must be made within 3 years from the date the corporation purchased the computer; and clarifies that tangible personal property includes software.

Mr. Speaker, computers can be the most important new learning tool in our classrooms since the chalkboard. Studies show that children with access to computers learn faster and better than those who don't. Their scores on standardized tests go up 10 to 15 percent. They master basic skills in significantly less time. And they stay in school more often. But computers will never realize their full potential in schools unless we figure out better ways to get them in the hands of our children.

Silicon Valley has been blessed with several private-public initiatives to improve the technology available in our schools. Efforts like Challenge 2000, Net Day 96, the 21st Century Education Initiative, and Smart Valley's SmartSchools project continue to improve educational opportunities for students in our community.

To better educate children, our policies should encourage and reward businesses to produce winning outcomes. The Computer Donation Incentive Act would accomplish these goals by encouraging corporations to donate computers to schools, libraries, local governments, and other organizations dedicated to children's learning.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING THE BERLIN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Berlin Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in fire-fighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and

qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

WILLIE B. BROWN, SR., HONORED

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, May 25, 1996, friends and relatives of Willie B. Brown will gather to honor his ongoing commitment to the South Dade community. I am sure that my colleagues will agree with me that Mr. Brown is truly a man of distinction.

Willie B. Brown graduated as the salutatorian of Mays Senior High School, offering a glimpse of the excellence he would continue to achieve. As an adult, Mr. Brown wasted no time getting involved in his community. He organized the Homestead Southwest Home Owners Association and formulated a youth advisory committee in the area. He has served on the Florida City Foundation community advisory board and worked to improve the Dade County criminal justice system. He has founded the Homestead Martin Luther King parade as well as the area's African heritage parade.

Professionally, he has worked on behalf of migrant workers as the community service director of the Management Health Clinic of South Florida and has provided job training and housing information in his role as area director administrator of the Economic Opportunity Program Incorporated.

Ever since I have known Mr. Brown, he has always been resilient and visionary in all the activities he has forged for our community's well-being. He is imbued with a sense of commitment to any cause he takes up or any crusade he embarks on. His belief in reaching out to his fellow human beings is legendary.

The numerous awards with which he has been honored represent an unequivocal testimony of the utmost respect he enjoys from our community. His countless efforts on behalf of others bespeak of his enduring legacy to those who would choose to dedicate their God-given talents to ensure a better future.

I am proud to have active in my congressional district a man of the talent of Willie B. Brown. He serves as a living example of taking pride in one's community.

WATER AND ENERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE VITAL TO MAINTAINING GUAM'S WATER QUALITY

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the House has passed H.R. 1743, which reauthorizes the Water Resources Research Act and provides funding for the water research institutes program.

H.R. 1743 authorizes funds for the 54 water resources research institutes located at land-grant universities in the states and territories. The institutes are an effective way for the Federal Government to assist local communities in solving local and regional water problems. No other source of funding provides this kind of assistance to water research efforts which directly address water quality and supply problems.

These institutes conduct research on water resources which are valuable to the nation and vital to areas struggling with a limited water supply. Because of Guam's small land mass and growing water demand, our water lens is being stretched to maximum capacity. Potential contamination of this water lens mostly due to contaminated soil on military and former military lands, has heightened concern over our already limited water supply.

In addition, this program's modest Federal investment leverages significant state and private sector funding. In fiscal year 1995, Federal funds for the institutes helped secure \$65 million in additional funding from a variety of sources.

The research is provided by the Water and Energy Research Institute of the Western Pacific (WERI) is applied to real and ongoing water management problems on Guam. Our understanding and use of modern water technology will be vital in our effort to increase Guam's water capacity. These institutes are integral to the proper protection and development of our water resources.

I am pleased that the members of this body have recognized the importance of these institutes and afforded them the opportunity to continue their outstanding work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, on May 21, 1996, I was unavoidably detained and missed Rollcall vote No. 180. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall No. 180.

HONORING THE BELFAST VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

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INTRODUCTION OF BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT FOR SNOQUALMIE NATIONAL FOREST

HON. JENNIFER DUNN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Ms. DUNN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to adjust the boundary of the Snoqualmie National Forest to allow private lands owned by the Weyerhaeuser Co. located next to the Snoqualmie National Forest to become a part of the National Forest.

This boundary adjustment will facilitate a land exchange which involves approximately 7,200 acres of National Forest land and 33,000 acres of private land owned by the Weyerhaeuser Co., of which about 6,278 are outside the present boundary of the Snoqualmie National Forest. This boundary adjustment is known as the Huckleberry Land Exchange.

This landmark agreement has been several years in the making and was brought about by a collaborative and cooperative effort between the Sierra Club's Checkerboard Project and the Weyerhaeuser Co. The Huckleberry Land Exchange includes acreage that is west of the Cascade Crest in King and Pierce Counties and will add a substantial donation of land by Weyerhaeuser into the national Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area.

By entering into this cooperative agreement with the Sierra Club's Checkerboard Project, the public will benefit from a substantial donation of land. This donation will be one of only a few added this year into our Nation's wilderness areas. By consolidating ownership, an additional connecting corridor of wildlife habitat between the Alpine Lakes Wilderness and the Mount Si Conservation Area will be created. Also, we will be able to add substantial acreage to the I-90 viewshed—the area visible to the public from I-90—to support the objectives of the Mountain to Sound Greenway Trust. The Trust is a nonprofit organization whose sole purpose is to create and permanently protect a multipurpose greenway along Interstate-90 from the foothills of the Cascade Mountains across Snoqualmie Pass to Puget Sound.

To accomplish the land exchange through the administrative process, an Environmental Impact Statement must be completed. This document is expected to be published at the end of May. After the public comment period,

a final Environmental Impact Statement will be released. In order to give the Forest Service authority to administer the exchange area, introduction and passage of congressional boundary modification legislation is necessary in 1996.

The Huckleberry Land Exchange is a win-win proposal that enhances both parties land ownership patterns administratively and environmentally. By consolidating ownership the Forest Service will be able to implement a more effective ecosystem-based management that will allow for wetland protection and long-term protection for wildlife. It is of importance to note that the land acquired by Weyerhaeuser will be managed for long-term timber production, and will include specific measures to protect water quality, aesthetics, and other resources as required by the Washington State Forest Practices Act and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, this land exchange is a text book example of how land disputes can be resolved between parties that are willing to look for areas of agreement rather than differences.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Resources Committee to bring this measure to the whole House for passage this session.

TRIBUTE TO ADM. MIKE BOORDA

HON. TILLIE K. FOWLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mrs. FOWLER. Mr. Speaker, today I attended a beautiful and moving memorial service for Adm. Mike Boorda, our Chief of Naval Operations. Like all such services, it was an occasion to shed some tears. However, it was also an occasion to celebrate the life of a good man and to recognize the extent of his contributions to both the Navy and our Nation.

Admiral Boorda had all the qualities of a good leader. He was intelligent, creative, practical, and forward looking. He had a wonderful sense of humor that delighted everyone he met, and he was a person of great integrity. What took him from the level of good leader to the level of great leader, however, was the fact that he never forgot that he was a sailor long before he was an admiral.

Although he rose to the Navy's highest post, Mike Boorda never forgot what it was like to be an enlisted man or a junior officer, and he consistently put the needs of those men and women ahead of his own. He was a genuinely warm and humble man, and his love and respect for the Navy and for those under his command were boundless. Those feelings were warmly reciprocated, as we saw today.

In my opinion, Admiral Boorda was one of the greatest CNO's the Navy has had. I was proud to call him my friend, and I will miss him very much. As his friends and colleagues honor his memory today, I ask my colleagues to join me in praying for his family, for his beloved Navy, and for our Nation, which has lost a great leader.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 178) establishing the congressional budget for the U.S. Government for fiscal year 1997 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 1988, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002:

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Chairman, the Republican budget resolution continues the assault on civilian research and development initiated in the first session of the 104th Congress. As compared to the President's request, House Concurrent Resolution 178 cuts over \$3 billion in fiscal year 1997 and nearly \$18 billion over the 6-year period from civilian science agencies. A summary of some of the anticipated impacts follows:

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

If implemented, the Fiscal Year 1997 Republican Budget Resolution would have a deeply negative impact on the nation's civil space program. Not only does it cut the national Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) budget by almost three quarters of a billion dollars more than the Administration over the six-year period, but it makes those cuts in a manner that would fundamentally destroy the balanced program that has been a hallmark of the space program since its inception almost four decades ago.

Specifically, the Budget Resolution would slash the funding for the Mission to Planet Earth (MTPE)—a major national environmental research and monitoring initiative—by a third (i.e., by almost \$2.8 billion over six years), effectively canceling the project as currently conceived. In addition, the Budget Resolution would cut NASA's aeronautics budget by almost \$900 million over the same period. A cut of that magnitude will jeopardize important research initiatives in aircraft safety; improvement of the nation's air traffic management system; development of quieter, more fuel-efficient aircraft; and many other important areas. The aeronautics funding cut is particularly troubling in view of the fact that the aviation sector has traditionally made a huge positive contribution to the U.S. trade balance and has been the source of hundreds of thousands of high-tech jobs for American workers. In sum, implementation of the Budget Resolution would do damage to NASA and to the nation's R&D capabilities.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Although the Republicans have proclaimed that they assign the highest priority to basic research in the federal R&D budget, NSF, the agency with the broadest charter for support of basic research and science education, would decline in actual buying power. Although there is proposed a 3% growth for NSF's research accounts, the resolution provides for no growth in its education directorate and other critical operations. In addition, the increase proposed for the research account is about \$40 million below the President's request, which would provide 4.7% growth. This translates into nearly 500 fewer research projects being funded in fiscal year 1997.

The Budget Committee's report language continues the indirect assault begun last