

vice-chairman of the board of directors of the Miami Children's Hospital, she certainly has done a lot to change that.

Even with her busy practice, Dr. Simpson has found the energy and the time to advance the cause of medical education. She served as the national president of Meharry Medical College, and was elected Alumna of the Year in 1975 and 1995. She is a life member of the NAACP, attesting to several years of continuous service.

In addition to her professional success and community efforts, Dr. Simpson is a mother of three children and an active participant in her church. And although she is a very accomplished woman, she is modest and reluctant to call attention to her achievements. It is in this spirit that, on the occasion of her retirement, I would like to pay tribute to a role model, for all Americans, Dr. Dazelle Dean Simpson.

RECOGNITION OF FRANK PEDONE

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 25, 1996

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Frank J. Pedone, executive vice president of the Bergen County—New Jersey—Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Pedone will be presented with the distinguished Eagle Scout Award January 19 at the council's Eagle recognition dinner. This is one of scouting's highest honors, presented to only 1,200 individuals nationwide. It is a fitting and well-deserved recognition of Mr. Pedone's many years of devoted dedication to scouting and to the young men for whom scouting helps build character and integrity.

The distinguished Eagle Scout Award was established in 1969 to acknowledge Eagle Scouts who have distinguished themselves in business, professions, or service to their country. Only Eagle Scouts who have earned the Eagle Scout Award a minimum of 25 years are eligible for nomination. The award is made by the National Court of Honor upon the recommendation of a committee of distinguished Eagle Scouts.

Among past recipients have been President Gerald Ford, astronaut James Lovell, and movie director Steven Spielberg.

Mr. Pedone, of Cliffside Park, NJ, achieved the rank of Eagle Scout in 1963 and has received many scouting awards since, including the Award of Merit, Silver Beaver, Vigil Honor, Silver Wreath, Distinguished Commissioner Award and Silver Antelope. He has served as a board member of the Bergen Council since 1988 and has held many leadership positions within the council. He also serves on the executive board of the Greater New York Council of the BSA, with which he has been active since 1972.

As president of Pedone & Associates Inc., an executive recruiting firm, Mr. Pedone has used his professional skills and contacts to bring numerous high ranking and talented executives into scouting service. He and those he has recruited—both as volunteers and for BSA staff positions—have helped tremendously with BSA fundraising and organization of scouting units and activities.

He was instrumental in establishment of the \$7 million Cub World facility built at Camp Alpine for Cub Scouts, among other projects.

Mr. Pedone's public service has not been limited to scouting. He has been active in the Catholic church, serving as Parish Council President, a district warden of the Knights of Columbus and chairman of a parish youth council. He has been president of three homeowners associations. He is a member of the New York University Fundraising Committee and has been cited by the New Jersey Assembly for his community service.

Mr. Pedone is a wonderful example of how a successful individual can give something back to his community. He has followed his scout's oath to do his best, to do his duty to God and country, and to help others at all times.

MARIA CHRISTINA ROSA, A DEDICATED COMMUNITY LEADER

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 25, 1996

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Maria Christina Rosa, who is retiring as the president of the Puerto Rican Society of Elizabeth. An event will be held in her honor on Saturday in Union, NJ.

Ms. Rosa came to the United States from her native hometown of Tao Alto, Puerto Rico, in 1956. As a graduate of the University of Puerto Rico, Ms. Rosa attended Edison State College and worked at John E. Runnell's Hospital in Union as a patient services coordinator for 20 years. In 1979, she began working with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and for 16 years she has devoted herself to helping individuals fight for their civil rights.

Despite her very busy work load, Ms. Rosa is very active within the community. She has dedicated her time and efforts to improving our educational system by serving as a member or delegate in numerous city and statewide committees related to education. She served as secretary for the Advisory Committee for Bilingual Education in Elizabeth and until recently was one of the members of the Elizabeth Educational Foundation.

As president, for the past 6 years, of the Puerto Rican Society of Elizabeth, Inc., Ms. Rosa has been able to raise funds for educational scholarships. The various ethnic, historical, and cultural celebrations hosted by the Puerto Rican Society of Elizabeth have given the community an opportunity to experience the rich cultural heritage of Puerto Rico. She has also volunteered her time for a variety of social and community organizations such as the Puerto Rican State Wide Parade of New Jersey, the Puerto Rican Association of Professional Women, the Puerto Rican Congress of New Jersey, and the Elizabeth Borinquen Lions Club.

Her service and outstanding dedication to her work and to the citizenry have merited her appointments as commissioner of the Elizabeth Welfare Board, commissioner of the Union County Advisory Commission on the Status of Women, and commissioner of New Jersey State Equal Employment Opportunity Advisory Commission.

I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Maria Christina Rosa, an outstanding community leader and role model. I wish her the best

of luck on her retirement, may she always maintain that spirit of generosity and love that she has given to the public.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE AMERICAN TROOPS IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 25, 1996

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I enter the attached resolution, H.R. 791, from the House of Representatives of the State of Georgia, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

H.R. No. 791

By: Representatives Bunn of the 74th, Heckstall of the 55th, Hembree of the 98th, Mueller of the 152nd, Brown of the 130th and others

A RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the American troops in Bosnia and Herzegovina urging President Clinton and the Congress to give the troops sufficient resources to ensure their well-being; and for other purposes.

Whereas, President Clinton has dispatched American troops to assist in supervising the fragile peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina; and

Whereas, those American men and women along with their NATO counterparts are experiencing severe hardship and facing real personal danger in order to protect the former combatants and their respective civilian populations in that tragic region; and

Whereas, those brave men and women deserve not only our moral support but also the real material support necessary to ensure their safety in a hostile environment.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this body express their confidence that the American troops deployed in Bosnia and Herzegovina will acquit themselves professionally and honorably, pledge their unreserved support for the American troops, and pray that their mission will bring a return of peace and prosperity to the citizens of the region.

Be it further resolved, That the members of this body urge the President and Congress to provide the United States contingent with the resources and support necessary to ensure the success of their mission and their early safe return home.

Be it further resolved, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to President Clinton, the presiding officers of the House of Representatives and Senate, the majority leader of the Senate, and the Secretary of Defense.

TRIBUTE TO EIGHTH LEGISLATURE OF

HON. VICTOR O. FRAZER

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 25, 1996

Mr. FRAZER. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to pay tribute to the members of the eighth legislature of the Virgin Islands, with special recognition of Dr. Melvin Herbert Evans posthumously, the Governor of the Virgin Islands who signed this historic legislation into law.

The legislature of the Virgin Islands, in 1970 designated January 15, the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as a legal holiday, in the Virgin Islands. The legislation was proposed by the Committee of the Whole, which included senators John L. Maduro; Randall N. James, David Puritz; Earle B. Ottley; Augustin Doward; Louis P. Hestres; Horace A. Callwood; Alexander A. Farrelly; Santiago Garcia; David M. Hamilton; Arnold M. Golden; Frits E. Lawaets; Theovald E. Moorehead; Aureo Diaz Morales; and Percival H. Reese. It was received at the legislative desk February 2, 1970, reported, read in full and adopted February 2, 1970 transmitted to the Governor February 5, 1970 and approved February 16, 1970, to become effective in 1971.

This legislation became bill No. 4293 which states: It is most fitting and proper that the anniversary of the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. be set aside each year as a day to honor the memory of a leader who symbolized the freedom and faith of America. The life, works, and philosophy of Dr. King brings to Americans and Virgin Islanders the hope and dream that what he stood for will one day become a reality. All Virgin Islanders and particularly our youth, may take comfort and gain encouragement from the life of this great apostle of non-violence who sought through constructive measures justice and liberty for all mankind. We Virgin Islanders have long prided ourselves in having attained the liberty, justice, and brotherhood for which Martin Luther King gave his life. Therefore, let us annually, on January 15, commemorate Dr. King and examine our hearts to determine that we are honoring the dream and fulfilling the vision of brotherhood, justice, and individual liberty that gave true purpose to the life and works of Martin Luther King.

The passage of this legislation made the Virgin Islands the only place under the U.S. flag to legally celebrate the birthday of Dr. King, which also gives it historical significance. Mr. Speaker, on the 25th anniversary of the passage of this historic legislation by the eighth legislature of the Virgin Islands, I pay tribute to those individuals for their leadership and foresight. Because 13 years later in 1983, as outlined in Public Law 98-144, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday became a national holiday.

SUPPORT PEACE, DEMOCRACY,
AND JUSTICE FOR ALL OF TUR-
KEY'S CITIZENS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 25, 1996

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer a resolution advocating a peaceful end to the conflict between the Turkish Government and Kurdish militants. The ongoing war undermines the very foundations of both the Turkish State and our bilateral relations and its persistence challenges the desires of the United States and Turkish Governments to establish a secure, long-term relationship. For the sake of the people of Turkey, the end of the conflict will strengthen Turkish democracy, help eliminate the scourge of terrorism, resuscitate a shaky economy and promote regional stability.

Mr. Speaker, Turkey is home to half of the world's 25 million Kurds and has experienced 28 Kurdish uprisings in the past century. Since 1984, more than 20,000 people have died in clashes among security forces, the Kurdistan Workers Party [PKK] and shadowy Moslem fundamentalist groups. In the past 3 years, security forces forcibly evacuated or destroyed more than 2,650 villages in southeast Turkey and displaced more than 3 million people. Villagers have been rounded up by security officials and subjected to beatings, mass arrests and intimidation. Death squads, believed connected to security forces and fundamentalists, have been responsible for hundreds of extrajudicial killings and disappearances. PKK fighters have also snuffed out the lives of innocent civilians. Each month there are reports of individuals killed in detention and torture remains widespread in cases involving political charges. Eight southwestern Turkish provinces are under a constant state of emergency authorizing local authorities to curb political and media activity.

Mr. Speaker, successive Turkish Governments have viewed the PKK solely as a terrorist phenomenon undermining its sovereignty and dividing the country along ethnic lines. The Government has dismissed as propaganda recent PKK statements renouncing violence and separatism and calling for peaceful and lasting political solutions. Turkey's Government has given the military free reign in responding to the PKK, and its heavy-handed approach has also stifled legitimate Kurdish political voices.

Mr. Speaker, in southeastern Turkey, citizens are often forced to choose between supporting the guerrillas and risking violent reprisal by Turkish security—or not helping and facing equally harsh PKK retribution. Locals believed to be sympathetic to Turkish authorities have been executed by the PKK. Eleven years of violence has polarized Turks and Kurds and threatens to rend Turkish society along ethnic lines. Kurds, resentful of military abuses, become more supportive of the PKK. Turks, angered by the costs and brutality of terrorism, become increasingly intolerant of the rights of Kurdish citizens.

Mr. Speaker, no one disputes Turkey's key role in preserving U.S. strategic, political and economic interests in a critical region. However, the inability of successive Turkish Governments to resolve the Kurdish crisis remains an obstacle to improved ties and enables persistent human rights problems to stunt Turkey's democratic development. The time has come for Turkey's true friends and supporters to call on all sides in the conflict to abandon violence and settle their differences peacefully, democratically and within the framework of the territorial unity of the Republic of Turkey. Following recent elections, Turkey's Government finds itself in a state of protracted paralysis. Observers believe that any new government is unlikely to offer substantially new approaches to the Kurdish issue because of prevailing nationalist sentiments and the possibility of new elections in the near future. Additionally, Turkey's military supports the war in southeast Turkey, although its approach has failed to do anything but foster local support for the PKK.

Mr. Speaker, I have learned from our experiences dealing with the PLO and Israel, the ANC and South Africa, and the IRA and Britain, that the longer it takes to begin reconciliation, the harder it becomes to look beyond

the bloodshed and suffering. Mr. Speaker, violence will not resolve this conflict. The time for dialog is long overdue.

Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Government has often been instrumental in promoting peace in troubled areas. So too should we demonstrate our commitment to encouraging the resolution of this destructive and bloody conflict. The resolution which I am introducing, along with Mr. STENY HOYER, ranking minority member of the Helsinki Commission, is an important first step in this direction. I would ask our colleagues to join us in cosponsoring this resolution. I ask that the language of the resolution be printed in the RECORD at this time.

H. CON. RES. _____

Whereas armed conflict has existed in southeastern Turkey since 1984, and the entire region has been placed under a state of emergency since 1987;

Whereas the human toll of this conflict has been great, with the loss of more than 20,000 lives, the displacement of more than 3,000,000 civilians, and the destruction of more than 2,650 Kurdish villages;

Whereas free expression in Turkey is restricted by laws which criminalize non-violent expression, resulting in the incarceration of journalists, writers, academics, human rights activists, and others as political prisoners;

Whereas in the past 2 years, 13 Kurdish members of Turkey's parliament have been removed from office, jailed, or exiled for expressing political opinions or having alleged contacts with the illegal Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK);

Whereas Kurdish citizens of Turkey have been denied certain basic political and civil rights such as the right to full and free participation in political life, the right to be educated in their mother language, and the right to freely write and publish materials in the Kurdish language;

Whereas the conflict between Kurdish guerrillas and Turkish armed forces has spilled over Turkey's borders and threatens the stability of the region;

Whereas the escalating conflict poses grave threats to economic stability and the existing political order and prevents realization of full-fledged democracy;

Whereas international and local humanitarian organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, have been denied access to southeastern Turkey;

Whereas terrorism poses a grave threat to human rights and violates international law;

Whereas Turkey's leaders have made commitments to building a democratic society and have made significant progress in realizing this goal;

Whereas the Government of Turkey has acceded to upholding international human rights agreements, including the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Geneva Conventions, and the Helsinki Final Act;

Whereas Turkey, a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, is an important strategic and economic partner of the United States;

Whereas long-term strategic and economic interests of the United States are jeopardized by the continuing conflict in Turkey;

Whereas after 11 years, Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) guerrilla leaders have offered to lay down their weapons;

Whereas a military solution to the Kurdish question in Turkey is not possible, and only a nonviolent political solution can bring peace, stability, full democracy, and prosperity to Turkey; and

Whereas such a solution must be sought and implemented within the framework of