

And there's a myth that the reason that the health care system is in the ground is because it's the immigrants, it's the poor people that are just dragging it down. But really, immigrants use health care less than the general public. A 1992 U.S. Dept. of Justice report found that immigrants use federally funded services less than the general population, and there have been several studies that show that it's not immigrants that are pulling us down, it's everyone else's stupidity and ignorance about the immigrants. Most hospital care costs for undocumented immigrants were paid by private insurance, which was 47%; or by the immigrants and their families themselves, which was 45%. That only leaves 8% of the immigrants in the country that were paid for by the government.

This Bill would also deny immigrants benefits under any means-tested programs funded by the federal government, or by state government, as well as being ineligible to receive grants, to receive Earned Income tax credits, to receive SSI benefits, Medicaid, Food Stamps, housing assistance, unemployment benefits, college financial aid, among others. Although, undocumented immigrants alone paid \$7 billion per year in taxes. In 1990, undocumented immigrants paid \$2.7 billion in Social Security, and \$160 million in Unemployment Insurance; and this is according to a publication by the Urban Institute. (signal)

I'm just going to do a quick story about a man that I know. He's 18 years old, and is from Sudan, and is now lost in the "war zone" of the American immigration system. He's actually living in Woodbury; he is apparently some kind of dangerous criminal because he came here with a false passport; so, now he's in jail, and the first time I met him I asked him, "Well, how long will you be here?" meaning, how long would he be staying with family that he was staying with. And he misinterpreted me to mean, "How long will you be in the U.S.," and just said, "immigration," and shrugged his shoulders. And that was probably the saddest thing I've ever seen in my life, was this man—just lost.

Due to time restrictions, we are unable to address all the myths and . . . overstatements, but I can say that to blame immigrants is to scapegoat an easy, unpopular target, and to divert responsibility from more proper parties.

Congressman Sanders: Thank you very much. Let me ask you a couple of questions: what does political asylum mean, and why is that important?

Answer. Well, to me, it means someone who because of their benefits, because of their actions, needs to flee their home, needs to leave, whether it's because they were against their government in this country . . . like the [last] girl was saying, or the wrong color, in the wrong country; come to a place where they can be safe, where they can wake up in the morning and know that, "okay, nobody's going to shoot me today." That's what asylum means.

Congressman Sanders: Okay. Were you immigrants?

Answer. Yes, my family was . . . [there's] a history of immigrants in my family.

Answer. Being that we are white, I think we are all immigrants, in this country.

Congressman Sanders: so, essentially what you're saying is that everybody other than the Native Americans are immigrants if we are in this country?

Answer. That's true.

Answer. That's correct.

Congressman Sanders: Okay. Thank you very much—excellent presentation.

UN HABITAT MEETING: A BOOST FOR CIVIL SOCIETY IN TURKEY?

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 1996

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, Habitat II, the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements is now underway in Istanbul, Turkey. World leaders, international media, and thousands of NGO representatives from around the planet have assembled to address critical global issues related to sustainable development.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to Habitat II's global significance, the meeting offers an unprecedented opportunity to further develop civil society and democracy in Turkey and raise international awareness of the serious problems which prevent Turkey from realizing its great potential. The gathering affords Turkish NGO's—the building blocks of civil society—an unparalleled opportunity to network, organize coalitions, and develop advocacy strategies. Among NGO's attending the conference, there is a palpable sense that Habitat will catalyze efforts to advance civil society, democracy, and human rights in Turkey. Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that this important conference will also result in concerted international efforts to support human rights and democracy in Turkey and the NGO's which support these ideals.

Mr. Speaker, Istanbul is an appropriate venue to examine sustainable development. A former seat of empires and home to a multitude of cultures and people, Istanbul is a dynamic urban bridge between Europe and Asia, Christianity and Islam, antiquity and the 21st century. From modern high rises and opulent Ottoman palaces to sprawling shanty towns and exploding garbage dumps, Istanbul encompasses all that is wonderful and frightening about today's urban environments.

Mr. Speaker, Istanbul's unforgettable character owes much to a great Ottoman hero, the 16th century soldier-turned-architect, Sinan. During a prolific career that spanned six decades, Sinan-designed many of Turkey's most well-known landmarks. Yet he also built structures throughout the Ottoman empire which were critical to daily lives, including: bridges, wells, warehouses, tombs, aqueducts, baths, residences, and caravan stops. In Istanbul alone, more than 300 Sinan-designed structures have been identified.

Yet while Sinan's heritage provides an impressive Habitat backdrop, the travails of a contemporary Turkish architect reveal a not-so-proud legacy, one that reminds us that Turkey faces severe strains which threaten democracy and the development of civil society.

Yavuz Onen is general secretary of the Turkish Architect's Association and president of the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey. The Foundation documents human rights abuses and operates four treatment centers for victims of torture in Turkey. In 1995, Mr. Onen accepted awards on behalf of the Foundation from the International Human Rights Law Group and the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights. Foundation leaders and doctors face constant prosecution and harassment. The Turkish Government's persecution of the Foundation and other NGO's reflect a larger effort to criminalize and silence groups

and individuals critical of government human rights practices, military abuses of the Kurdish population, Turkey's founder Ataturk, or state institutions.

Mr. Speaker, a more immediate attempt to silence criticism during Habitat is evidenced by the police closure of a building used by 35 NGO's boycotting the conference to protest government human rights and Kurdish policies. These groups have organized an alternative Habitat to publicly protest the destruction of almost 3,000 Kurdish villages and creation of almost 3 million refugees. These groups rightly contend that such policies are incompatible with the goals of Habitat and reflect serious threats to democracy and development of civil society in Turkey. Yet instead of allowing open discussion of these serious issues, the Government of Turkey has once again chosen to respond with repression—in full view of the international community.

Mr. Speaker, Turkey has ratified numerous U.N. and European human rights conventions, committed itself to OSCE standards and principles, and is seeking closer ties with the West. Unfortunately, efforts by successive Turkish governments to strengthen democratic institutions and institute legal reforms have failed to resolve underlying sources of human rights problems.

Mr. Speaker, Turkey is an important strategic and economic ally. As a NATO member proximate to the Balkans, Caucasus, Central Asia, and the Middle East, Turkey figures prominently in regional efforts to address water, energy, arms control, terrorism, and environmental issues. Yet while Turkey's government and people are poised to reap political, economic, and strategic windfalls, the potential perils for Turkey, should it move back on the democratic path, loom equally large.

Mr. Speaker, these dangers are very real. As Habitat II convenes, Turkey's minority coalition government verges on collapse, incapacitated since its inception by bitter personal rivalries and corruption charges. The Constitutional Court recently invalidated the parliamentary vote which approved the centrist coalition, and a no-confidence vote this Thursday will likely bring down the government. Turkey's military leaders, who seized power on three occasions since 1960, increasingly express dissatisfaction with the status quo and rising popularity of the Muslim-based Refah Party. Coup rumors abound in the Turkish press. As confidence in the government ebbs, support for Muslim fundamentalist and nationalist parties has increased. Should moderate, secular parties lose power, Turkey could turn away from the West, undergo a military coup or face deepening instability and political violence. All these scenarios set back democracy and civil society, threaten regional stability, and pose obstacles to Turkey's moving closer to Europe and the United States.

Mr. Speaker, the Turkish Government's intolerance of NGO's protesting village evacuations and other Kurdish or human rights issues has already marred Habitat. While participants in the official and NGO forums will reportedly not be prosecuted for remarks that violate Turkish law, it is unclear whether individuals and groups speaking outside the meeting will face charges. Mr. Speaker, this leads me to ask what will happen after Habitat, when NGO's energized by the experience attempt to utilize newly established links and implement strategies developed during the conference? It will be very important for all Habitat

participants, including U.S. delegation members led by Housing and Urban Development Secretary Henry Cisneros, to maintain links and support for groups they worked with during Habitat II. As human rights issues and the further advancement of civil society in Turkey have important implications for bilateral relations, this Congress should continue to closely monitor developments in Turkey after Habitat II.

EILEEN PECH RECEIVES WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH HONORS

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 1996

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding journalist in my district who was recently honored for her contributions to her community.

Ms. Eileen Pech, of Berwyn, IL, was recently named Woman of the Year by the Morton Township Women's History Month Committee. The committee recognized Ms. Pech, a reporter for the LIFE newspapers, for her working toward the betterment of the community.

Ms. Pech is widely respected in her community for her fair-minded, thorough, and often entertaining coverage of local events. She shuns the spotlight herself and in accepting the award, said she is "much more comfortable" sitting in the audience writing about the accomplishments of others.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Ms. Pech on receiving this prestigious award, and extend to her my best wishes on continued success.

THE IMPORTANCE OF AERONAUTICS RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

HON. MARTIN R. HOKE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 1996

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my appreciation to the distinguished chairman of the House Science Committee for his help in providing adequate funding levels in the area of aeronautics research and technology. In these times of severe budget constraints there was undoubtedly a strong temptation to slash spending in these critical programs, but the chairman demonstrated a real willingness to listen to and accept my vigorous defense of aeronautics at NASA, especially in high-speed research and advanced subsonics technology. I want to take this opportunity to thank the chairman for his commitment and foresight.

Aeronautics research and technology helps promote a high-technology industry, one that is of critical importance to our national economy and international balance of trade. Even conservative estimates show that the aerospace industry has annual sales of over \$60 billion and produces a positive balance of trade of \$25 million. In Ohio alone, the aerospace industry is responsible for approximately 300,000 jobs and injects \$13.5 billion into the State's economy.

But it's not just a question of dollars and jobs. Aeronautics research and technology

helps address safety, fuel efficiency, and environmental impact concerns. Anyone who has ever expressed concern about air travel can fully appreciate the importance of this scientific work. Research and development in the areas of aging aircraft safety, air traffic management, advanced technologies, and wing and engine icing are just some of the ways in which aeronautics directly touches our lives. Moreover, scientific work in aeronautics has also led to the development of thousands of spinoff technologies that we see every day. The NASA Lewis Research Center in my district in northeast Ohio, along with Wright Labs at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, are responsible for developing or refining many everyday conveniences such as medical equipment, orthopedic advances, microwave ovens, automotive brake discs, high-temperature paints, fire-resistant fabrics, and graphite composite sporting goods.

Despite all of the industry's successes and contributions to our way of life, the future of America's preeminence in aeronautics is threatened. Our trading partners continue to pour billions into their domestic research and development programs, while our national effort, led by the extraordinary work of the men and women at NASA, has suffered from declining levels of investment. The President's budget request for NASA, in fact, recommends a cut of \$4.9 billion over the next 4 years when compared to this year's funding. Although I take a back seat to no one when it comes to battling our budget deficit, I have serious reservations about making such deep cuts in an agency that is at the forefront of technology research and development on which our Nation's future competitiveness depends. The House Budget Resolution, by contrast, represents some \$2 billion more than the President over the same time period by making responsible choices in establishing agency priorities, and targeting resources to where they will best be utilized.

While there might be a temptation to cut aeronautics research and technology resources in the pursuit of short-term budget savings. I believe the long-run interests of our Nation require that an adequate level of investment be made in aeronautics. That is why it is so important that the funding levels recommended in the House Budget Resolution be honored.

CELEBRATING THE EDWARDS/WARD FAMILY REUNION

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 1996

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, family reunions are an important part of the American fabric. I recently sent a letter to Ms. Allene Farmer Hayes concerning the reunion her family has planned for July. Many of the family members live in my congressional district, and I want to share with my colleagues the text of my letter to Ms. Hayes.

It is my understanding the Edwards/Ward Family will hold its sixth family reunion during the weekend of July 4th, in Washington, D.C.

As you gather to celebrate, remember the ties that bind you. Your theme, "Family

Matters" is an excellent one. I am convinced that you cannot move ahead in life if you do not know from whence you came. All too often, we forget those who came before us, their struggles, and even their achievements, even though it is they who have helped mold the future of those in attendance.

This occasion at this time in our Nation's history reminds us of the rewards of toil and hard work. Your family reunion marks yet another step in your commitment to continue to build upon a strong and solid foundation. It also reflects the value of loving husbands and wives, devoted fathers and mothers, attentive grandfathers and grandmothers, dutiful sons and daughters and loyal uncles, aunts, cousins and other family members. This reunion is but another stepping stone in a brilliant path that the family has blazed, leaving a legacy from which all can learn.

At this special time, permit me to borrow from the words that are found in Saint Matthew 16:18, "And I say also unto thee . . . upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." We face difficult and uncertain times as many are challenging the very foundations that have made this Nation strong. It is important, now more than ever, that the family stand together and assert your rightful role. Ecclesiastes 4:12 is instructive, "And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him. A threefold cord is not quickly broken." This reunion should be a time for rekindling the spirit, re-igniting the energy and reestablishing the unity that has made your family a pillar of strength.

I am a strong believer that family is one of the most precious gifts we have; a gift that we must treasure. So, as you gather together, reflect into the history of the Edwards/Ward Family, and learn from that history. And remember, that it is the past which brought you together, but it is the future generations that will keep the Edwards/Ward Family together.

Please know that as a member of the North Carolina Congressional Delegation, I am proud to be of service to such celebrated citizens and to have the opportunity to greet you and the distinguished members of your family. May you be richly blessed as you strive to perfect that which God has bestowed upon you.

Congratulations on this event. I wish for each of you many years of health, happiness, and prosperity.

TRIBUTE TO BRUCE CORWIN

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 1996

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, we are honored to pay tribute to our good friend Bruce Corwin, whose company, Metropolitan Theaters Corp., is this year being given the H.E.L.P. Group's Corporate Philanthropy Award for ongoing dedication to children with special needs everywhere. Anyone who knows Bruce and his work knows that he is an ideal choice for this award. We can think of few others who have done so much for children and the larger community.

This is the second time Bruce has been honored by the H.E.L.P. Group; in 1988, he received its humanitarian award. Indeed, the