

medical center's development is its incorporation of user-friendly outpatient services into its overall design. Another hallmark of the new Sutter Roseville Medical Center is the accentuation of the natural beauty of the Placer County oaklands, which provide a healing environment for patients and their families.

It should also be noted that this remarkable facility would not have been possible without the tremendous commitment and support of the Roseville community. Forty five years ago, this community rallied to raise funds to make Roseville's first hospital a reality. Today, after years of planning and preparation and the raising of over \$1.8 million, the Roseville community has once again shown what can be accomplished when people join together toward a common and worthy cause.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, the residents of Placer County and the city of Roseville in celebrating the grand opening of the Sutter Roseville Medical Center.

#### A TRIBUTE TO THE REDLANDS HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL TEAM

#### HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 1997*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the fine achievements of an outstanding group of students from Redlands High School in San Bernardino County, CA. Earlier this year, the Redlands High School mock trial team participated in and emerged victorious from both the San Bernardino County championship and State championship competitions, earning the right to compete at the national level.

Under the fine coaching of Donna St. George of Redlands High School and legal coaching of Michael Knish, a deputy public defender for San Bernardino County, the 11-member mock trial team won the San Bernardino County championship on March 1. On April 6, these dedicated students defeated the best teams in the State of California to win the State championship in Sacramento. As a result of that victory, the Redlands High School mock trial team traveled to Nashville in May to compete in the national championship. They emerged from this competition with a 16th place finish putting Redlands High School among the finest in mock trial teams in the entire United States.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and our colleagues in paying tribute to Manuel Aguilar, David Burton, Christopher Carrillo, Jesse Dioquino, Angela Gi, Erica Hagstrom Kevin Hicks, Rachel Julagay, Grace Kong, Candice McNeil, and Tiffany Wang. To say the least, I am extremely proud of these fine students and it is only fitting that the House of Representatives recognize their achievements today.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE CARL D. PERKINS VOCATIONAL-TECH- NICAL EDUCATION ACT AMEND- MENTS OF 1997

#### HON. FRANK RIGGS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 1997*

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Carl D. Perkins Vocational-Technical Education Act Amendments of 1997. This bill reauthorizes and reforms the current vocational education statute.

Let me state for the record that this legislation is not, nor is it intended to be, comprehensive school reform. Neither is this legislation intended to be school-to-work or expansion of the School-to-Work Act. School-to-work is a separate freestanding act.

Seventy-five percent of our Nation's youth do not receive a 4-year college degree. It is imperative that our youth receive a high quality education whether they are bound for college, the military, further education or training or directly into the work force.

Too many high school graduates are functionally illiterate—unprepared to meet the needs of the next century. I believe this bill—which focuses on strengthening the academics of vocational-technical education—will work toward eradicating this problem. According to a witness who testified before my subcommittee on the legislation, functional illiteracy costs U.S. business \$300 billion annually.

Our Nation's youth deserve a quality education—whether they pursue a vocational-technical course of study or college prep. We should have high expectations of our students.

Education is the key to our Nation's future economic prosperity and the cornerstone of equal opportunity in American society. It is my hope that this legislation broadens the opportunities for vocational-technical students after high school. We held a hearing at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Fairfax, VA and were told by northern Virginia business leaders that 18,000 jobs are currently unfilled in northern Virginia because individuals do not have the skills to fill them. The average salary for these jobs is over \$45,000.

If we are going to ensure that America meets the next century as a world leader, we need to focus on making sure our citizens have the technological skills to compete. I want to eliminate the functional illiteracy that permeates our work force.

It is my intent with this legislation that we do not leave behind the 75 percent of students who do not receive a 4-year college degree. I truly think it is time that we stop telling 75 percent of our country they are not good people because they do not have a baccalaureate degree.

This bill would also send 90 percent of funds to the local level. If we are going to see true change in vocational-technical education, it is not going to come from the Federal level. It is going to come from the local level—from the teachers who are in the classroom making a difference.

I have been working very closely with the ranking member of the subcommittee, MARTY MARTINEZ, and hope that he will support the bill and that we can have a bipartisan bill with a broad base of support.

Concerns have been raised regarding the authorization level of the bill—that the number is too low. The 1990 amendments reauthorized the program at \$1.6 billion—a number that was never reached. Current appropriation amounts for vocational-technical programs are a little over \$1 billion. I believe we should authorize more closely to actual appropriations amounts. Some have suggested using such sums for an authorization amount. While I support this idea, I have been told that the Congressional Budget Office for scoring purposes recommends an actual dollar figure.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE LOCAL TELEVISION COMPETITION AND DIVERSITY ACT

#### HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 1997*

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer a substantive piece of legislation regarding the duopoly rules of broadcast ownership under the current law.

In the historic Telecommunications Act that was introduced in 1995, the Commerce Committee of the House of Representatives included provisions in its version of the act that would have allowed ownership of two broadcast stations in a local market. The members of the House Commerce Committee who supported duopoly reform believed that allowing one person or entity to own two such stations would not have a negative effect on local communities, but would in fact promote programming diversity and would strengthen local broadcast owners who could not operate their businesses in a way that provided the best programming services to their local communities.

Unfortunately, our efforts were not agreed to by our Senate colleagues and the duopoly provisions were not a part of the final conference report to the Telecommunications Act, which was signed into law by President Clinton in 1996.

In order to rectify this situation, I have introduced this legislation to provide for real duopoly reform. The heart of the legislation would allow a person or company to own two stations in a local market, but one would have to be a UHF station. Therefore, such an entity could own two UHF stations or a VHF-UHF combination. Notwithstanding, however, the FCC still would have an override of that duopoly condition if they significantly harm diversity in their opinion.

This bill also would allow the FCC, under unusual and compelling circumstance, to allow a person or company to own two VHF stations. Relaxation of the duopoly rule will mean more local programming in the market, more news, more sports, and more children's programming. This change is necessary to ensure that free, over-the-air television continues in a multichannel world.

The communications marketplace today is vastly different than when the television local ownership rule was last examined in 1964. Since that time, there has been a substantial increase in the number of broadcast television stations and phenomenal growth in other video technology and outlets, including cable, DBS, wireless cable, and Internet broadcast.

There are now more voices in every market, and more competition for viewers and advertising dollars with these additional players. The competition for advertising dollars has been particularly formidable as cable systems increasingly cluster themselves over entire local markets, thus enabling them to offer advertisers the same buy as local broadcasters.

The sheer abundance of media outlets now available to consumers ensures that a relaxation of the duopoly rule to permit UHF-UHF and UHF-VHF combinations poses no threat to diversity and competition. Indeed, a revision of the duopoly rule will help preserve diversity and competition in local broadcasting markets.

Whether it is providing critical emergency information, as in the case of the recent North Dakota floods, or covering local sports teams, or reporting the local news, local stations serve a unique and vital role in their communities, all at no cost to the viewing public. But local programming is very expensive to produce. Duopoly rule revision will give stations flexibility to pool resources and provide more quality programs for their communities. At the same time, wireless broadcasters and Internet providers will still be competing with these broadcasters for consumers.

I strongly believe that this is good legislation, especially in light of the dramatic ownership changes already taking place in the field of telecommunications. Considering the Bell Atlantic-NYNEX merger, the MCI-BT announced merger, and the proposed AT&T-SBC merger, we are seeing clear consolidation in telephony. There is also multichannel ownership in cable services and cross-cable services, such as Viacom owning MTV, Nickelodeon, and other stations, as well as ABC owning 80 percent of ESPN.

The banning of ownership of two local broadcast stations is a glaring deficiency and unfair result of the Telecommunications Act. The multiple current instances in the industry of Local Marketing Agreements [LMA's], which allows two local broadcast stations to combine efforts and financial relationships in order to improve their stations' programming ability, reflect that such duopoly ownership could actually promote diversity in programming, as well as saving numerous local stations from bankruptcy enhancing the limited financial resources of many stations.

I am proud to sponsor this legislation and I look forward to the Federal Communications Commission supporting my legislation on duopoly reform through its forthcoming rule-making on this issue.

#### SUPPORT WWII ALLIED AIRMEN HELD AS POLITICAL PRISONERS

#### HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 1997*

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, 52 years is a long time to wait, but the Federal Government should finally recognize the bravery and sacrifice of a group of World War II airmen who were held as German political prisoners. These airmen were different from other Allied prisoners because they were held at Buchenwald, a Nazi concentration camp—and therefore not subject to the protections of the Geneva Convention.

Today I am submitting a bill that would give these airmen their long-overdue recognition, and I am proud to say that it has already garnered the bipartisan support of 21 of our House colleagues. Representative PETER DEUTSCH assisted me in this important effort, and I thank him for his early support of this bill. An identical bill will be introduced this week by Senators TIM HUTCHINSON and JOSEPH LIEBERMAN.

The Nazi concentration camps will forever occupy a ignominious place in our human history, and we have long recognized the bravery and daring of many prisoners who fought their Nazi oppressors and struggled to win political and religious freedom. But tragically, the United States has never formally recognized the service, sacrifice, and bravery of these American airmen while they were held as political prisoners at the Buchenwald Concentration Camp.

My bill, which is endorsed by the American Ex-Prisoners of War and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, would recognize these 82 American airmen and ask that the President issue a proclamation commending them, by name, for their service. I have also included a list of these airmen, by name, that I would ask be inserted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I encourage all of my colleagues to join us in support of this important measure, so that those veterans still living, and the families and friends of those who have passed on, can fully realize the public recognition these brave men so surely deserve.

#### LIST OF WWII AMERICAN AIRMEN HELD AT BUCHENWALD CONCENTRATION CAMP

##### NOT LOCATED

Freeman, E.C.	Scharf, B.T.
Hanson, J.T.	Scott, G.W.
Horrigan, R.J.	

##### DECEASED

Alexander, William	Smith, J.W.
Beck, Levit C.	Vance, Ira E.
Crouch, M.E.	Wilson, P.J.
Duncan, James H.	Zeiser, J.
Heimerman, L.A.	Chapman, Park
MacLenahan, J.H.	Suddock, D.E.
Mauk, W.E.	Horwege, G.L.
Pecus, Steve	Edge, W.L.
Pennel, Sam	

##### STILL LIVING

Bauder, W.F.	Moser, J.F.
Bedford, R.L.	Pacha, A.M.
Bowen, C.E.	Paxton, S.K.
Brown, R.H.	Powell, W.
Carr, F.W.	Raynolds, N.L.
Chalot, J.A.	Richey, G.T. Sr.
Chessir, D.	Ritter, E.W.
Coats, B.A.	Roberson, C.W.
Cowan, F.K.	Ryherd, W.H.
Coffman, J.D.	Shearer, D.R.
Dauteul, D.F.	Straulka, P.A. Jr.
Denaro, Joe	Sypher, L.H.
Fore, J.W.	Thompson, W.A.
Hastin, J.D.	Vratney, Frank
Hilding, R.D.	Watson, J.P.
Hunter, H.F.	Ward, Robert
Johnson, R.T.	Williams, W.J.
King, Myles A.	Zander, A.E.
Larson, M.E.	Phelps, B.F.
Little, B.S.	Pelletier, A.J.
Ludwig, E.F.	Friel, Edward J.
McLaughlin, D.G.	Petrich, M.R.
Mitchell, G.E.	

#### ON CONDEMNING PALESTINIAN DEATH PENALTY FOR LAND SALES

#### HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 1997*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, today the House agreed to an amendment to H.R. 1757, the Foreign Policy Act, which condemns the use by the Palestinian Authority of the death penalty for any Palestinian who sells land to a Jew.

Indeed, the statements cited in the resolution offered by the gentleman from New York [Mr. PAXON] cause great concern because those statements support a violent, divisive, and foolish policy which is based in prejudice and hatred. To condone, or worse yet promote, the execution of citizens for the sale of property to Israelis is wrong, and I support this body's assertion that this policy should be condemned.

I am troubled, however, Mr. Speaker, by the tone of the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York, as well as by the accusations that this behavior represents a unique and unilateral breach of the Oslo accords. Most knowledgeable individuals and observers understand that the breakdown of the Middle East peace talks plays prominently in the background of policies on all sides which have stymied constructive peace negotiations.

Both Israel and the Palestinian Authority have undertaken activities which have led to charges that each side has violated the peace agreements signed on the South Lawn in 1993. Following the recent insistence by Israel that construction of settlements in Har Homa must go forward, there has been a break in the peace talks which has greatly concerned our Government. Secretary of State Albright has concluded that a trip to the region makes little sense until Israel and the Palestinians do more on their own to break the impasse and resume a constructive dialog.

Given these many problems, Mr. Speaker, I must express my reservations with the parts of the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York which imply that only the Palestinian Authority must resume a responsible course. For when it comes time for the President to assure that the Palestinian Authority is meeting its commitments to Israel, will anyone be mindful of the commitments made by Israel to the Palestinians?

#### CLARIFYING THE TAX TREATMENT OF AVIATION MAINTENANCE COSTS—PREVENTING COST INCREASES OF AVIATION SAFETY

#### HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 1997*

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce legislation that will clarify in the Internal Revenue Code what has historically been and should continue to be the tax treatment of expenses attributable to certain FAA-mandated aviation industry maintenance checks.