

next two fiscal years, to enable NIST to finance computer security fellowships under an existing NIST grant program.

Requires the National Research Council to conduct a study to assess the desirability of, and the technology required to, support public key infrastructures.

It has been 10 years since Congress passed the Computer Security Act. Over that time, computer technology has changed at a breathtaking rate. The Computer Security Enhancement Act of 1997 will help NIST and the rest of our Federal civilian agencies adapt to those changes.

Mr. Speaker, ensuring that our agencies' computer systems as secure is a priority. H.R. 1903 is an important step toward this goal, and I urge all my colleagues to cosponsor this bipartisan bill.

THE COMPUTER SECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1997

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join Science Committee Chairman SENSENBRENNER and ranking committee and subcommittee members BROWN and GORDON in introducing H.R. 1903, The Computer Security Enhancement Act of 1997. H.R. 1903 is designed to improve the security of computer systems throughout the Government.

In 1987, Congress passed the Computer Security Act which gave the National Institute of Standards and Technology [NIST] the lead responsibility for developing security standards and technical guidelines for civilian government agency computer systems. H.R. 1903 updates this 10-year-old statute.

The networking revolution of the last decade has improved the ability of Federal agencies to process and transfer data. It has also made that same data more vulnerable to corruption and theft.

In February, the General Accounting Office [GAO] highlighted computer security as a government-wide, high-risk issue in its high risk series. Concurrent with the release of GAO's high risk report, I held the second in a series of briefing on computer security. During the briefing, members of the Science Committee heard from some of the most respected experts in the field of electronic information security. They all agreed that the Federal Government must do more to secure sensitive electronic data.

The Federal Government is not alone in its need to secure electronic information. The corruption of electronic data threatens every sector of our economy. The market for high-quality computer security products is enormous, and the U.S. software and hardware industries are responding. The Federal Government, through NIST, can harness these market forces to improve computer security within Federal agencies at a fraction of the cost of developing its own hardware and software.

The Computer Security Enhancement Act of 1997 will assist in this process. The bill reduces the cost and improves the availability of computer security technologies for Federal agencies by requiring NIST to promote the use of off-the-shelf products for meeting civilian agency computer security needs.

The bill also enhances the role of the independent Computer System Security and Privacy Advisory Board in NIST's decisionmaking process. The board, which is made up of representatives from industry, federal agencies as well as other outside experts, should assist NIST in its development of standards and guidelines for Federal systems which are compatible with existing private sector technologies.

Further, the bill requires NIST to develop standardized tests and procedures to evaluate the strength of foreign encryption products. Through such tests and procedures, NIST, with assistance from the private sector, will be able to judge the relative strength of foreign encryption, thereby defusing some of the concerns associated with the export of domestic encryption products.

The bill also clarifies that NIST standards and guidelines are to be used for the acquisition of security technologies for the Federal Government and are not intended as restrictions on the production or use of encryption by the private sector.

Additionally, H.R. 1903 addresses the shortage of university students studying computer security. Of the 5500 Ph.D's in computer science awarded over the last 5 years in Canada and the United States, only 16 were in fields related to computer security. To help address such shortfalls, the bill establishes a new computer science fellowship program for graduate and undergraduate students studying computer security. The bill sets aside \$250,000 a year, for each of the next two fiscal years, to enable NIST to finance computer security fellowships under an existing NIST grant program.

The provisions of the Computer Security Enhancement Act should help maintain a strong domestic computer security industry. A strong industry will not only help our economy but also significantly improve the security of Federal computer systems.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1903 alone will not solve the Federal Government's computer security problems. It is, however, an important step in the right direction. I commend Chairman SENSENBRENNER for crafting a bipartisan bill that should substantially improve computer security for the Federal Government, and I encourage all of my colleagues to join in cosponsoring the Computer Security Enhancement Act of 1997.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMPUTER SECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1997, H.R. 1903

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join Chairman SENSENBRENNER, Ranking Member BROWN, Chairwoman MORELLA and other members of the Committee on Science in introducing the Computer Security Act of 1997.

Not a day that goes by that we don't see some reference to the Internet and the explosive growth of electronic commerce. What was originally envisioned as a network for defense communications and university researchers is now an international communications network

of which we are just beginning to realize its potential.

Both Office of Technology Assessment and National Research Council reports have identified a major obstacle to the growth of electronic commerce—the lack of the widespread use of encryption products. The bill we are introducing today is the first step to encourage the use of encryption products, both by Federal agencies and the private sector. This in turn will support the growth of electronic commerce.

The Computer Security Enhancement Act of 1997, which amends the Computer Security Act of 1987 (P.L. 100–235) builds on the close collaboration and cooperation between the National Institute of Standards and Technology [NIST] and industry to develop standard reference materials and the standards that are key to the seamless commerce we take for granted today. This legislation highlights the need for NIST to expand its activities in the area of electronic commerce.

Our legislation also strengthens the NIST's role in coordinating Federal agencies' effort to utilize encryption and digital identification products. It encourages Federal agencies to adopt and use commercially available encryption technologies whenever possible. This legislation allows NIST to evaluate the technical merit of industry claims of the strength of generally available foreign encryption products. Hopefully, this will defuse some of the tension surrounding the issue of export of domestic encryption products.

Not only is this legislation consistent with the recommendations of the Office of Technology Assessment and the National Research Council, it is also in-line with a set of resolutions adopted by NIST's Computer System Security and Privacy Advisory Board on June 6, 1997. Finally, I believe this bill is consistent with the goals President's Clinton's upcoming policy announcement on electronic commerce.

It has been a pleasure working with Chairwoman MORELLA on crafting this piece of legislation and I look forward to continuing to work with her to move this bill through the legislative process.

HONORING ARABELLA MARTINEZ

HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, Arabella Martinez has been a leader in motivating, organizing, and improving the Fruitvale community. A graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, with a masters in social work, Arabella has been a strong clear voice articulating the dimensions of what must be done, and pulling together participation from both the private and public sectors.

As CEO of the Spanish Speaking Unity Council from 1969 to 1974, she immersed herself in the development of programs to build responsibility and economic preparedness in the Latino community. She built the organization into a strong economic development and community organization with considerable assets.

Her abilities and dynamism gained the attention of former President Jimmy Carter, who

appointed her Assistant Secretary, Office of Human Development Services, U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, in 1977. In 1980, she returned to Oakland as president of the Center for Policy Development.

Five years ago, when the Unity Council was on the verge of bankruptcy, Arabella was persuaded to come back. She immediately developed a plan to address the organization's complex financial problems. Through her enormous skills, hard work, and dedication, not only has the organization survived the crisis, but it is thriving once again.

The Spanish Speaking Unity Council's assets, including the Community Resource Center, the Education Para Adelantar Building, the Esperanza Center, the Infant Care Center, the De Colores Pre-School, were all saved.

Under Arabella's leadership, all eyes are now on the Unity Council because of its Fruitvale BART project and its sponsorship of the Fruitvale Community Collaborative, formed to bring together residents, community groups, churches, schools, merchants, and agencies to improve the quality of life for children and families who live in the area. Residents are learning organization skills, they're learning how to access services, how to plan a project, and much more. Their philosophy is, "Working together as neighbors and friends, we can make our neighborhood a healthy place to live and keep it that way."

Another effort now underway, spearheaded by Arabella Martinez and the Spanish Speaking Unity Council, is a transit village with a mix of new residential, retail open space and a regional cultural center—within the confines and adjacent to the Fruitvale BART station. A new residential base would help support these shops as would the foot traffic from BART. While the proposed transit village is far from being accomplished, we have confidence that Arabella's drive, determination, negotiation skills, and ability to make things happen, will cause the transit village to happen. It's only a matter of time.

In addition to her service to the Fruitvale area, Arabella has lent her talents to numerous community board and commissions, including: The Women's Initiative for Self-Employment, the Oakland Business Development Corporation, the Bank of America's Police Advisory Committee, the New Oakland Committee, the Oakland Housing Authority, the Oakland Parks and Recreation Commission, and the University/Oakland Metropolitan Forum.

In the civic and community realms, her sagacious leadership, foresight, and compassion have clearly earned her the Oakland Citizen of the Year Award for lifetime achievement.

IN MEMORY OF HARRY (BUDDY) W. CORMIER, JR.

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the memory of Buddy Cormier, who passed away last night after a long fight with cancer.

Buddy Cormier was a lifelong resident of DeWitt, AR, a little town not far from my home in Gillett. Buddy ran a small rice mill that his

father had founded many years ago and he epitomized the small businessman and community activist that has characterized so many small towns in Arkansas.

When I ran my farming operation, there was no one that was more of a joy to do business with than Buddy Cormier. He was always fair in his dealings and was as concerned about my bottom line as he was about his own—a rare characteristic in today's business world. He was a leader in the rice industry in Arkansas and in the country because he cared about preserving our heritage.

Buddy Cormier was a big man in every sense of the word. He had a limitless appetite for life and for the well-being of those around him. When we did business together, I often found myself with him a little longer than would be normal, simply because he so lifted my spirits. He had boundless energy and a good humor that was simply infectious.

This is the way that I will remember my friend: As a man who embraced the world; who cared deeply about those around him; who worked to make his corner of the world a better place. His body may have succumbed to illness, but his spirit will always live on. Rest in peace my friend, we'll miss you.

A TRIBUTE TO ROBERT C. JASNA

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute today to one of Milwaukee's truly outstanding citizens, and one of America's top educators. As the Milwaukee Public Schools joins with friends throughout Wisconsin to honor superintendent of schools Robert C. Jasna on the occasion of his retirement, I would like to take a moment to reflect on Bob's remarkable career and his many contributions to public education in Milwaukee and our community as a whole.

A native of Milwaukee, Bob Jasna earned his degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and soon began his teaching career at Lincoln Elementary School in Appleton, WI. Bob then served his Nation as a platoon leader in the Army. Following his military service, Bob returned to Milwaukee and the classroom as a teacher at Juneau Junior/Senior High School, and quickly began to rise through the ranks of the Milwaukee Public Schools System. From 1973 to 1987, Bob served as principal at West Division, North Division, James Madison, and Riverside University High Schools, where the impact of his unique and innovative methods of teaching and leadership are still clear today.

In July 1989, Bob became associate superintendent of the Milwaukee Public Schools, and by 1991 he had become deputy superintendent. Since 1995, Bob has served as superintendent of the Milwaukee Public Schools, supervising all activities of the school system, and providing leadership and management expertise at every level of the system.

Let me be clear about the undeniable role Bob Jasna has played in the improvement of public education in Milwaukee's public schools. Under his steady hand, the Milwaukee Public School District has embraced a series of highly acclaimed reforms which have

already made a difference in the quality of education in our schools. Through the implementation of rigorous standards, students are now challenged to pass a series of proficiency examinations, and graduation requirements have been strengthened. Our students have met these challenges, and continue to achieve progress.

Anyone who has had the pleasure of working with Bob Jasna is immediately struck by his passion for education, and by his belief that all children should be able to receive a top notch education, regardless of their economic standing. Bob's hands-on approach to his job as the leader of the Milwaukee Public Schools has made a real difference in the lives of our teachers, and more importantly, our students. In an era of declining resources, aging school infrastructure, and student violence, Bob Jasna has been a beacon of leadership and hope for our schools.

I want to extend my good wishes to Bob's wife Judith, and his two children. Bob will be missed by our schools, but I have no doubt that Bob will enjoy his retirement and will continue to maintain an active presence in our community. Congratulations, Bob Jasna, on this most special occasion.

STATEMENT BY SARAH WACHTEL REGARDING ILLITERACY

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of my colleagues I would like to have printed in the RECORD this statement by a high school student from Vermont, who was speaking at my recent town meeting on issues facing young people.

Ms. WACHTEL. Two years ago an elderly New York City woman almost died. Why? She ingested too much medication because she could not read the prescription label on the bottle. This woman is not in the minority. One-quarter of the world's population, 905 million people, cannot read. One in five American adults is functionally illiterate and 44 percent of American adults do not read even one book in the course of a year.

Statistics clearly show that illiteracy is on the increase and that fewer than ten percent of those in need are being reached. In 1985 Proctor and Gamble spent more on advertising than the U.S. Government spent on adult basic education.

The truth is by cutting funding for literacy programs we are threatening the future of our nation. The cost of illiteracy to business and the taxpayer is estimated at 20 billion dollars per year.

President Clinton has made literacy a priority with his America Reads initiative. He says such efforts will help us to reach a critical goal, that every American child will be able to read on his or her own by the third grade, but there are large numbers of people who cannot even read to their own children.

Public awareness is key. Parents must realize the importance of education and of literacy. They must know they are their child's first teacher. Illiteracy is a very quite problem which needs attention.

Illiteracy plagues rural areas, not only urban ones. Literacy programs are needed not just in cities but all across the country. Programs for employees can be installed at large corporations. The library system must