

friends, the Township of Verona and the County of Essex in recognizing Mayor Nicholas M. Rolli's outstanding and invaluable service to the community.

THE COMPUTER INVESTMENT ACT—COMMONSENSE DEPRECIATION PERIOD FOR COMPUTER EQUIPMENT

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce important legislation that will return common sense to the Internal Revenue Code by changing the depreciation period for computer equipment.

Currently, for tax purposes computer equipment must be depreciated over a 5-year period. Ironically, rapid technological advancements now being made in the computer industry guarantee that the average useful life of this equipment is 14 to 24 months. Businesses in highly competitive markets must continually replace computer equipment if they are to remain competitive. Although a small business will often purchase a new system after 2 years, it must keep the outdated equipment on the books for 5 years.

This legislation will update the Tax Code to ensure that it acknowledges ongoing, rapid advancements being made in the computer industry. This measure will change the depreciation period from 5 years to 2 years, ensuring that businesses are not penalized for making investments that keep them competitive. This change will serve to promote economic growth and job creation within these competitive industries.

I strongly encourage my colleagues to join Representative BEN CARDIN, me, and other original cosponsors in support of this important legislation.

HONORING THE SAVE OUR YOUTH INITIATIVE, CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the members of my Save Our Youth Initiative's Congressional Youth Council.

One of the major challenges facing Brooklyn, and other parts of our Nation, is finding ways to open doors of opportunity for youth who constitute a disproportionately large share of the unemployed, underemployed, and incarcerated. Through the Save Our Youth Initiative, I am striving to eliminate this bleak outlook for our youth, and to provide the necessary resources so that youth can build successful lives. An important vehicle in this effort is my Congressional Youth Council.

Since spring 1996, the Youth Council's leadership role in the community encourages youth to become more active citizens. Through organizing community forums such as a Youth Town Hall meeting attended by over 200 youth and adults, participating in

public hearings and other local events, and discussing policy issues with public officials such as Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and Brooklyn Borough President Howard Golden, these youth blossomed into dedicated advocates. Each young leader—Macie Black, Keisha Walters, Jerome Jeffrey, Anjanee Pitambar, Alicia Lawrence, Francis Williams, and Akilah Holder—is a shining beacon of hope for the future of our community.

I am tremendously proud of their achievements in both school and the community. This month, five of these dedicated youth advocates will receive their New York State high school diplomas. They have truly shown that Generation X is a generation of excellence.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting all of the members of my Congressional Youth Council.

INTRODUCTION OF ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT AMENDMENTS

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to offer legislation on amendments to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to make certain clarifications to the land bank protection provisions, and for other purposes. Last year, the House passed H.R. 2505, however, the U.S. Senate did not consider this legislation in the 104th Congress.

This legislation is identical to H.R. 2505 from the 104th Congress. The Alaska Federation of Natives, the State of Alaska, the administration and members and staff of the Committee on Resources have spent the last year and a half to reach a consensus with non-controversial provisions.

For example, the bill would amend ANCSA to correct an inconsistency in current Federal law by allowing Regional Corporations to elect to acquire oil, gas, and coal estates reserved to the Federal Government beneath Native allotments surrounded or adjacent to subsurface lands conveyed to the Corporations pursuant to section 12 (a) of (b) of ANCSA.

Another provision would extend the exemption period from estate and gift tax for stock through its period of inalienability.

This bill would also amend ANILCA to extend the automatic land protections to land trades between village corporations, intraregional corporation land trades and Native Corporation land trades with the Federal or State governments.

Mr. Speaker, I offer this bill at this time to begin the process of reviewing each of these important provisions and others which affect Alaskans. I welcome comments on this important bill to ensure that we pass a non-controversial bill at a later date.

HONORING THE NATIONAL VICTORY OF THE MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS LEAGUES

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the achievement of the Minnesota State High School Mathematics League's statewide team. The team's Gold squad took first place in the Nation among Division I teams at the American Regions Math League Contest held in Iowa City, IA. This is a proud new achievement for the State of Minnesota, in that Minnesota has never finished first in this national competition which draws nearly 1,000 high school students representing nearly every State across the Nation.

The League hosted two teams from Minnesota, the Maroon and Gold teams, in the tradition of the Golden Gopher spirit and the University of Minnesota's school colors. The Gold team consists of 15 all-star "mathletes," 5 of whom are from St. Paul schools in the Fourth Congressional District which I am honored to represent. The Minnesota Maroon team, which placed seventh in the Division II competition bracket, is composed of 15 excellent math students, 4 of whom also attend schools in my hometown of St. Paul.

As a life-long science educator, I am proud of all these students and feel that the high level of participation by so many students from St. Paul is testimony to the level of support from families, teachers, and the St. Paul community. I would especially congratulate the coaches of these teams, all of whom are teachers. As an educator in Minnesota, I well understand the hard work, dedication, and determination that added up to success for the Minnesota Gold and Maroon teams at this national mathematics competition.

I am sure my colleagues will join me in commending the fine, hard-working students of the Minnesota State High School Mathematics Leagues for national excellence in mathematics. In a time when budgets are tight, classrooms are overcrowded, teachers are overworked, and students are faced with increasing challenges both in the school and in the home, the national achievement of these Minnesota students and teachers are all the more encouraging. Successes like these serve to remind us of our national priorities and the importance of investing in our children through education.

Congratulations to all the Minnesota students and the students from across the Nation who participated in this year's mathematics competition.

Members of the Minnesota Gold team were: Matt Craighead, St. Paul Academy; Eugene Davydov, St. Louis Park; Dave Freeman, Blake; Keith Frikken, Winona; John Gregg, St. Paul Academy; Matt Hancher, St. Paul Academy; Jesse Kamp, Apple Valley; Tom McElmurry, Irondale; Andy Niedermaier, Benilde-St. Margaret's; Nate Ostberg, St. Thomas Academy; Bill Owens, Rochester Mayo; Lars Roe, St. Paul Central; Joshua VonKorff, St. Cloud Tech; Jin Wang, Rochester John Marshall; and Ben Zweibel, St. Louis Park.

Members of the Minnesota Maroon team were: Chris Arnesen, International School; Michael Born, Mankato East; Matt Colvin, Dassel-Cokato; John De Nero, Blake; Nate Dobel, Mounds View; Susan Dorsher, St. Cloud Tech; Ben Konkell, St. Paul Central; Yael Levi, St. Paul Academy; Sam Linsay-Levine, St. Paul Central; Jon Moon, St. Paul Central; Dan Owens, Rochester Mayo; Tim Rantasha, St. Cloud Tech; Leo Shklovskii, St. Louis Park; Tim Sjoberg, Rosemount; and Vishan Wong, Mounds View.

Team Coaches were: Tom Kilkelly, St. Thomas Academy; Bill Boulger, St. Paul Academy; Marlys Henke, St. Paul Central; and Mike Reiners, a three-time member of the State all-star math team.

IN HONOR OF SALLY A. DELSON

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a respectful tribute to Sally A. Delson, executive director of the State of Israel Bonds' Organizations Divisions. Ms. Delson, who is being honored this weekend at a State of Israel Bonds tribute luncheon, has played an integral role in the divisions' growth over the past 30 years.

For the past 30 years, the Israel Bonds' Organizations Division has grown tremendously under Sally's guidance. Originally comprised of Landsmanshaften groups, the division later grew to incorporate a variety of Jewish and Zionist organizations. The organizations division's success can be seen in the high volume of sales—more than \$200 million in bonds—sold in New York since 1952.

Sally's first foray into her work for a Zionist cause was prompted by her grandfather's prediction when she was just 9 years old. Her grandfather, a renowned Rabbi, told her that one day after the birth of a Jewish state, she would work for that state. After a visit to the Tomb of Rachel while in Israel following the Six-Day War, Sally remembered her grandfather's prophecy and renewed her commitment to work for the advancement and security of the State of Israel.

Over the 30 years that Sally has been with Israel Bonds, she has proven to be an invaluable crusader working to fulfill its mission of maintaining Israel's economic security. Her colleagues and supporters see her as a source of inspiration and credit her with the organizations division's success.

On Sunday, the State of Israel Bonds will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the First Zionist Congress and the eve of Israel's 50th anniversary of independence. They will also celebrate Sally Delson—wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and devoted daughter of the Zionist movement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to Sally Delson. The Division of Organizations of State of Israel Bonds and the Jewish community as a whole are fortunate to have a woman such as Sally working for their cause. I am thrilled to have Ms. Delson in my district.

TRIBUTE TO DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Paterson Alumnae Chapter. Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is a sisterhood of college educated women of color committed to public service. The sorority was founded at Howard University in Washington, D.C. on January 13, 1913 by 22 women. Chapters of the sorority reach throughout the United States, Germany, Korea, Haiti, and Liberia. Approximately 180,000 women have been initiated into Delta Sigma Theta and are sustained by the bond of sisterhood. The challenges and successes of more than 80 years have assured its members of the organization's endurance.

The Paterson Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. was chartered on November 12, 1978. It was the 13th chapter chartered in the State of New Jersey. The founders saw a need for a public service organization in the city of Paterson. The chartering ceremony held at the Paterson Boys Club was conducted by past regional director, Chappelle Armstead.

The Paterson Alumnae Chapter has maintained a consistent presence in the city of Paterson since its inception. Through its many projects and service activities, the chapter continually keeps an active interest in the welfare of the lives of Paterson citizens.

The Paterson Alumnae Chapter was a key in the organization of the local chapter of the Northern New Jersey Tri-County Chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council whose primary purpose is to coordinate the activities of the eight historically black Greek-lettered sororities and fraternities.

The Paterson Alumnae Chapter believes in coalition building and to that end, has worked with various community organizations on several service projects. A few of the projects and activities the Paterson Alumnae Chapter is involved with include a candidate's forum for local and State political candidates, an annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Celebration, a Kwanzaa workshop, Adopt-A-Black Business, a School America Literacy Project, and the 1997 Teen Summit.

The current officers of the Paterson Alumnae Chapter are Linda G. Smith, president; Ada Downing, vice president; Sharon Briggs, secretary; E. Florine White, treasurer; and Pamela Davis, financial secretary.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, the members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., their family and friends, and city of Paterson in recognizing the Paterson Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Sorority, Inc.'s outstanding and invaluable service to the community.

HONORING JOSEPH ANTHONY SWANICK

HON. JON D. FOX

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding individual and honored constituent, Joseph Anthony Swanick, who died recently in his Montgomery County, PA, home with his family all around him. I mention this, Mr. Speaker, because the fact that he was surrounded by those he loved the most, his family, is typical of the way he lived his life and was certainly the way he would choose to die.

During his 78 years on Earth, Joseph Swanick achieved much for which he could be proud. However, his greatest pride and joy came in the accomplishments of his wife, Catherine, and his two children, Patrick, born in 1957 and Anthony, born in 1960.

Joseph Anthony Swanick, a retired business owner and hospice volunteer, died on Monday, June 2, 1997, at 2 a.m. of complications due to emphysema and heart disease at his home in Penllyn, PA. But how he died is not nearly as important as how he lived his extraordinary life.

Mr. Swanick, a decorated veteran of World War II, was born on February 9, 1919, in Philadelphia to Harry and Molly Swanick. After graduating from Northeast Catholic High School, Mr. Swanick attended the University of Pennsylvania for 1 year before volunteering to serve in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II.

Stationed in Tibenham, England, during the war as part of the 445th Bomb Group, he participated in numerous air raids on Germany and the Nazi occupied territory as a waist gunner in a B-24 Liberator. Briefly injured during the war, Mr. Swanick returned to the United States after his tour of duty was completed. He received numerous decorations including the Distinguished Flying Cross, for his wartime service.

In his comments and reflections about his father during the funeral mass, Tony Swanick, who serves as my press secretary and has been my friend for many years, talked about his father's bravery. Citing John F. Kennedy's book, "Profiles in Courage", in which President Kennedy chronicled the lives of American statesmen who stood up for their beliefs against great opposition, Tony reminded us that "courage has many faces and heroes can come from anywhere."

"To me, my Father was a hero, in many ways—a 'profile in courage.' He was honest and kind. He lived his Roman Catholic faith as best he could. He loved his family with a passion I've never seen equaled. * * * Tony noted that the heroics of war came relatively easily for Joe Swanick. He, along with other brave, young Americans conquered that fear in their youth while defending our Nation against Nazi oppression, tyranny, and inhumanity. "But," Tony added, "the bravery of self sacrifice was something nurtured throughout a lifetime and perfected for his family's sake. He was the most selfless man I've ever known."

Mr. Swanick attended and graduated Temple University where he earned an associate degree in business. Later in life, when his