

and a system that detects a trapped obstacle in the door of the vehicle. The legislation requires the establishment of a national criminal history background check system to enable local education agencies, or contractors, to check the criminal background of any person applying for employment as a bus driver. It requires the Transportation Research Board of the National Academy of Science to conduct a study of the safety issues attendant to transportation of school children to and from school and school-related activities by various transportation modes, including public transit vehicles. And finally, my bill establishes a pilot program for one school district in the country to assess the benefits of equipping school buses with shoulder harness mechanisms, similar to the equipment used by flight attendants on passenger aircraft.

My bill makes modest common sense reforms to ensure that the children who ride our school buses each day have the safest mode of transportation possible. I urge my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent during rollcall vote 210. If present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall 210.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE NEGRO BASEBALL LEAGUE

##### HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I bring the attention of my colleagues to a very special event occurring in Atlanta, GA, next week. On the weekend of June 27, the Atlanta Braves and BellSouth will host a reunion and recognition event in honor of the legendary teams and players of the Negro Baseball League. Approximately 100 Negro leaguers from around the country, fans and friends will be convening in Atlanta to celebrate the remarkable achievements of an unheralded group of African-American men, members of the Negro Baseball League.

In this 50th anniversary year of Jackie Robinson's historic breaking of the color barrier in major league baseball, it is fitting and appropriate that Congress, citizens of Atlanta, and the entire Nation take a moment to pay tribute to the great African-American teams and players that made sports history. These were athletes who played with teams such as the Kansas City Monarchs, the New York Black Yankees, and the Baltimore Elite Giants. In the South, we had the Atlanta Black Crackers and the Birmingham Black Barons, to name but a few. Their daily triumphs were ignored by major newspapers of the Jim Crow era and their accomplishments have all but been overlooked in the annals of sports history. It cannot be denied, however, that the Negro Baseball League and the players that formed these

teams made immeasurable contributions to America's favorite pastime, our national sport, baseball.

The term "Negro Leagues" describes the all-professional, all-Negro baseball teams operating between 1880 and 1955, hundreds of which traveled throughout the United States during that time. The first Negro leagues started out in Kansas City, MO. Despite the hardships imposed by the Nation's rigid racial barriers, the Negro leagues managed not only to survive, but to thrive and grow. Even the prevailing myth of white supremacy could not deny the talents of these men. Author Robert Peterson, who chronicled the story of the leagues, perhaps summed it best with the title of his book, "Only the Ball Was White."

The league served as a showcase of talent and entertainment. The players were truly living legends. Many of the names of the great stars and the teams live on and form an integral part of our cherished sports history. The legendary Satchel Paige was a pitcher whose name is still synonymous with excellence. The league's Josh Gibson was one of the game's greatest hitters. Willie Mays, Roy Campanella, and the homerun king of all time, Hank Aaron, are all legends of the Negro Baseball League.

The significance of the leagues went far beyond the world of sports. The men who formed these teams were pioneers in nurturing and fostering self-pride among African-Americans. These sports heroes have left a powerful legacy that has enriched American history.

As some of the living legends of Negro baseball gather in Atlanta this month, I know my colleagues will join me in sending these outstanding men our appreciation for their glorious accomplishments and the enduring memories they have inscribed in the hearts and minds of millions of Americans.

#### IN HONOR OF BOB PRALLE ON HIS EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY

##### HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Bob Pralle on his 80th birthday, June 29, 1997.

Bob Pralle is a remarkable individual whom I am proud to call a friend. His birthday is an excellent opportunity to recognize the tremendous contributions that he has made to the Orange County community throughout those 80 years.

As a trustee at Chapman University in Orange, CA, which is my alma mater, Bob has given his time and resources to further the educational goals of many individuals. To this extent, he has provided scholarships for college students, including myself, who may not have otherwise had the opportunity to pursue their dreams.

Over the years, Bob has given freely of his time and energy. His contributions as a major benefactor for the Providence Speech and Hearing Clinic have increased the effectiveness of this organization. As a co-founder and major supporter of the Stanton Boys and Girls Club he has provided a place of recreation for young boys and girls while providing them with a sense of community.

His important gifts to society as a fundraiser and philanthropist for the United Way and nu-

merous other community charities in southern California have distinguished Bob as a generous champion of humanity. Time and again Bob has given tirelessly of himself.

Bob Pralle is not only very special to me and to the numerous organizations to which he has given time and service, he is also very special to his family and his loyal friends. In so many ways, he has given time, hope, and inspiration to so many people.

I would like my colleagues to join me in wishing this very special individual, Bob Pralle, a very happy 80th birthday.

#### COLORADO AND THE TENTH AMENDMENT

##### HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the benefit of my colleagues and out of respect for the Colorado General Assembly, to enter Colorado House Joint Resolution 97-1027 into the RECORD. As the necessary and long-overdue process of welfare reform moves forward, I believe it is essential that Congress pay special attention to our State governments. Colorado House Joint Resolution 97-1027 passed by a vote of 59 to 6 in the House and unanimously in the State Senate, and I believe my colleagues should consider the opinions expressed by the people of Colorado through the following resolution:

#### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 97-1027

By Representatives: McPherson, Adkins, George, Kaufman, Pfiffner, T. Williams, Allen, Anderson, Arrington, G. Berry, Clarke, Dean, Epps, Gotlieb, Keller, Lamborn, Lawrence, Miller, Musgrave, Nichol, Paschall, Schwarz, Sinclair, Smith, Sullivant, Swenson, Tool, Udall, and Young.

Also Senators: Lacy, B. Alexander, Ament, Coffman, Congrove, Schroeder, Arnold, Bishop, Blickensderfer, Chlouber, Dennis, Duke, Feeley, Hernandez, Hopper, J. Johnson, Martinez, Matsunaka, Mutzebaugh, Norton, Pascoe, Perlmutter, Phillips, Powers, Reeves, Rizzuto, Rupert, Tanner, Tebedo, Thiebaut, Wattenberg, Weddig, Wells, and Wham.

Whereas, The federal "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996", Public Law 104-193, herein referred to as the "Act", was passed by the United States House of Representatives on July 18, 1996, and the United States Senate on July 23, 1996, and signed into law by President Clinton on August 22, 1996 and

Whereas, Article III of such Act addresses the several states obligation to provide child support enforcement services and mandates that the state adopt certain procedures for the location of an obligor and the establishment, modification, and enforcement of a child support obligation against such an obligor; and

Whereas, The members of the Sixty-first General Assembly recognize the importance of assuring financial support for minor and dependent children; however, the General Assembly finds that those procedures specified in the Act include such far reaching measures as the following:

(1) The necessity to implement the "Uniform Interstate Family Support Act", as approved by the American Bar Association and as amended by the National Conference of

Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, which uniform act allows for the direct registration of foreign support orders and the activation of income-withholding procedures across state lines without any prior verification, certification, or other authentication that the child support order or the income-withholding form is accurate or valid and without a requirement that notice of such withholding be provided to the alleged obligor by any specified means or method, such as by first-class mail or personal service, to assure that the individual receives proper notice prior to the income withholding;

(2) Liens to arise by operation of law against real and personal property for amounts of overdue support that are owed by noncustodial parent who resides or owns property in the state, without the ability to determine if a lien exists on certain property;

(3) The obligation of the state to accord full faith and credit to such liens arising by operation of law in any other state, which results in inadequate notice and the inability of purchasers to have knowledge or notice of such liens;

(4) A duty placed upon employers to report all newly hired employees, whether or not the employee has a child support obligation, to a state directory of new hires within a restricted period after the employer hires the employee;

(5) The requirement that social security numbers be recorded when a person applies for a professional license, a commercial driver's license, an occupational license, or a marriage license, when a person is subject to a divorce decree, a support order, or a paternity determination or acknowledgment, or when an individual dies, whether or not the person has an obligation to pay child support;

(6) A requirement that the child support enforcement agency enter into agreements with financial institutions doing business in the state in order to develop, operate, and coordinate an unprecedented and invasive data match system for the sharing of account holder information with the child support enforcement agency in order to facilitate the potential matching of delinquent obligors and bank account holders;

(7) Procedures by which the state child support enforcement agency may subpoena financial or other information needed to establish, modify, or enforce a support order and to impose penalties for failure to respond to such a subpoena and procedures by which to access information contained in certain records, including the records of public utilities and cable television companies pursuant to an administrative subpoena; and

(8) Procedures interfering with the states' right to determine when a jury trial is to be authorized; and

Whereas, the Act mandates numerous, unnecessary requirements upon the several states that epitomize the continuing trend of intrusion by government into people's personal lives; and

Whereas, the Act offends the notion of notice and opportunity to be heard guaranteed to the people by the Due Process Clauses of the 5th and 14th Amendments to the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas, the Act offends the 10th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which provides that "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."; and

Whereas, the United States Supreme Court has ruled in *New York v. United States*, 112 S. Ct. 2408 (1992), that Congress may not simply commandeer the legislative and regulatory processes of the states; and

Whereas, the Act imposes upon the several states further insufficiently funded mandates in relation to the costly development of procedures by which to implement the requirements set forth in the Act in order to preserve the receipt of federal funds under Title IV-D of the "Social Security Act", as amended, and other provisions of the Act; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives of the House of Representatives of the Sixty-first General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:* That we, the members of the Sixty-first General Assembly, urge the Congress of the United States to amend or repeal those specific provisions of the federal "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996" set forth in this Resolution that place undue burden and expense upon the several states, that violate provisions of the Constitution of the United States, that impose insufficiently funded mandates upon the states in the establishment, modification, and enforcement of child support obligations, or that unjustifiably intrude into the personal lives of the law-abiding citizens of the United States of America. Be it further

*Resolved* That copies of this Resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and the President of the Senate of each state legislature, and Colorado's Congressional delegation.

Charles E. Berry, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Tom Norton, President of the Senate.

Judith Rodrigue, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Joan M. Albi, Secretary of the Senate.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE FRESNO CITY COLLEGE VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTER

**HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Fresno City College Vocational Training Center. The guidance and teachings supplied by this organization improves the economic health of the community, providing high quality education to students and top quality technical workers for employers.

The Vocational Training Center of Fresno City College has been serving residents of Fresno, CA and the surrounding area for more than 20 years. During that time, hundreds of local people have learned new technical skills to improve their careers and become gainfully employed in the business community.

The Vocational Training Center stresses practical skills that are directly employable in local industry. It is the belief of the center that a "hands-on" approach to training best prepares students for their respective careers. In addition, the "on-the-job" atmosphere teaches students the proper care and maintenance of tools, facilities, and work-place discipline.

Businesses recognize the quality of training graduates receive, and students are learning the skills the industry needs. This has been one of the most important components of the Vocational Training Center's success and is demonstrated by its remarkable placement record, as approximately 80 percent of its graduates move directly into jobs upon graduation.

The Vocational Training Center owes its success to the cooperation between the staff of Fresno City College Vocational Training Center and local business leaders who have worked to make the Center's program reflect the requirements of local industry, while meeting the educational needs of its students. This relationship will ensure the success of future Vocational Training Center graduates.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to the Fresno City College Vocational Training Center. The education provided by this center contributes to the betterment of the community while providing individuals with resources needed in the industry today. I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to an organization that satisfies the employment and educational needs of the community.

#### WE MUST BE FAIR TO OUR DISABLED VETERANS WHO WORK FOR OUR UNIFORMED SERVICES

**HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to state the reasons why I am a cosponsor of H.R. 303, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have service-connected disabilities to receive compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs concurrently with retired pay, without deduction from either. The bill efficiently states that it will permit certain veterans with service-connected disabilities who are retired members of the uniformed services to receive compensation concurrently with retired pay, without deduction from either.

I believe that additionally we need to articulate why this bill was introduced and why we need to support it. Recent military engagements and conflicts have highlighted again the contributions of this Nation's military and retired veterans. Integral to the success of our military forces are the servicemen and service-women who have made a career of defending their country, who in peace time may be called to places remote from their families and loved ones, and who in war or peace keeping actions, face the prospect of death or disabling injury as a constant possibility.

Present law, enacted in the nineteenth century, forbids veterans who are both retired and disabled from receiving concurrent receipt of full retirement pay and disability compensation pay. This law rules that the veteran may receive one or the other or must waive an amount of retirement pay equal to the amount of disability compensation pay. It should be noted that no such deduction applies to the Federal civil service so that a disabled veteran who has held a nonmilitary Federal job for the requisite period receives full longevity retirement pay undiminished by the subtraction of disability pay.

H.R. 303 urges Congress to make the necessary statutory change to correct this injustice and discrimination so that America's occasional commitment to war in pursuit of national and international goals may be matched by an allegiance to those who made sacrifices on behalf of those goals.