

expenses. Second, it will provide additional opportunities for economic growth in communities which are suffering from dramatically reduced Department of Energy budgets. This is particularly important given the National Security Committee's decision to reduce section 3161 economic transition funding from \$70 million to \$22 million.

Mr. Chairman, the work force in my district has been cut by 31 percent in the past 3 years. Savannah River is seeing a reduction of 1,800 employees as we speak. And Oak Ridge, Rocky Flats, and Fernald have all seen work force reductions of between 20 percent and 30 percent.

This amendment will enable local economic development agencies to more easily acquire surplus Federal property and bring in private sector employers. I thank Mr. HALL and urge the adoption of the amendment.

CHILTON COUNTY ALABAMA CELEBRATES THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHILTON COUNTY PEACH FESTIVAL

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 1997

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Chilton County Peach Festival. Chilton County is known across the country for the fine peaches it produces. Each year the Chilton County Peach Festival pays tribute to these peaches and the growers who produce them. The Clanton Jaycees, the sponsors of the festival, work alongside the Chilton County fruit growers to make this event a success. This year is particularly exciting not only because of the bumper crop of peaches, but because this year marks the 50th anniversary of the Chilton County Peach Festival.

The first festival was held in 1947 in Thorsby, AL. It was sponsored by the Clanton Kiwanis Club, the Thorsby Business Men's Club, the Thorsby Civic Club, the Clanton Lion's Club, and the Clanton Chamber of Commerce. The Chilton County Chamber of Commerce has also sponsored the event. The festival was eventually moved to Clanton, the county seat. For many years the energetic young men and women of the Clanton Jaycees have devoted countless hours to this festival, making it the largest event in Chilton County.

The festival is celebrated each June with a parade, a peach queen contest, and a peach auction. The auction provides funds that allows the Clanton Jaycees to perform charitable work throughout the year, including furnishing Christmas presents for children from economically disadvantaged families. The parade has numerous entries, including the winners of the Chilton County Peach Queen contest and their courts. The three queens are chosen by judges during contests held the week of the festival. The winners are crowned as Miss Peach, Junior Miss Peach, and Little Miss Peach. We would like to extend our congratulations to the winners and to all the former queens returning for this anniversary celebration.

Chilton County peach growers truly deserve this annual tribute. These growers have worked through years of droughts, floods, in-

sect infestations, and bitter cold to protect the trees from harm and save the crop that is so valuable to the economy of Chilton County. In fact, the peaches these growers produce account for approximately 75 percent of the peaches grown in Alabama. The peach industry brings an estimated \$40 million dollars to Chilton County every year. These peaches are sold at local markets that attract many tourists who want to buy the famous fruit and mouth-watering products made from them, such as peach ice cream. Peaches from Chilton County also can be found in grocery store produce sections across the country.

We would like to extend our congratulations to the people of Chilton County on the 50th anniversary of the Chilton County Peach Festival. We would also like to pay special tribute to the Clanton Jaycees and the Chilton County peach growers, who make it all possible.

FORT RENO

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 1997

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to resolve a longstanding land dispute between the United States and the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma. This land, known as Fort Teno, was used as a military reserve and was later transferred to the Department of Agriculture. Currently, this Department has a small research station there.

The Fort Reno land were part of the original Cheyenne-Arapaho reservation created by Executive order in 1869. The lands were removed from the reservation, again by Executive order, in 1883. It was the understanding of the tribes that these land would be returned to the when the military no longer needed the lands, but this provision is not clearly documented.

Congress later transferred portions of the land to the Departments of Agriculture and Justice, and these departments continue to use the land to the exclusion of the Indians. Several attempts have been made in the House to return the land to the tribes, but no bill has ever been enacted into law.

A 1975 statute states Federal land located within original Indian territory which becomes excess to the needs of the agency maintaining jurisdiction over the land should be returned to the tribe whose reservation originally included the land. By operation of this statute, the lands should have been returned to the tribes 2 years ago.

While legal arguments can be made that the tribes have been compensated for this land in a prior land settlement, I am not persuaded that these two tribes have been treated fairly in their dealings with the U.S. Government, and urge my colleagues to support this legislation so that we may provide a final, equitable resolution to this dispute.

Mr. Speaker, a copy of the bill and a brief section by section analysis follows.

H.R. —

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) The original Cheyenne-Arapaho Indian Reservation in western Oklahoma, which included the land known as the Fort Reno Military Reservation, was established by the Medicine Lodge Creek Treaty of 1867 and reaffirmed by Executive order in 1869.

(2) The Fort Reno Military Reservation lands include sites used by the Tribe for the Sun Dance and other religious and cultural purposes, burial sites, and medicine gathering areas.

SEC. 2. LAND TAKEN INTO TRUST.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The land described in subsection (b) is hereby taken into trust for the Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma.

(b) LAND DESCRIBED. The land taken into trust pursuant to subsection (a) is that land in Canadian County, Oklahoma, described as follows:

(1) All of sections 1, 2, 3, and 4, Township 12 North, Range 8 West, Indian Meridian.

(2) Those portions of sections 25 and 26 lying south of the North Canadian River, Township 13 North, Range 8 West, Indian Meridian.

(3) That portion of section 26 lying west of the North Canadian River, Township 13 North, Range 8 West, Indian Meridian.

(4) All of sections 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, and 36, Township 13 North, Range 8 West, Indian Meridian.

SEC. 3. USE OF PORTION OF LAND BY BUREAU OF PRISONS.

The Secretary, with the consent of and on terms agreeable to the Business Committee of the Tribe, may lease to the United States for use by the Bureau of Prisons of the Department of Justice in connection with the Federal Reformatory at El Reno, Oklahoma, all or part of the land described as the south half of section 1 and the south half of section 2, Township 12 North, Range 8 West, Indian Meridian.

SEC. 4. PRIOR EASEMENTS, LICENSES, PERMITS, AND COMMITMENTS.

(a) NONREVOCABLE; TIME-LIMITED.—(1) A nonrevocable easement, license, permit, or commitment with respect to the lands described in section 2 shall continue in effect for the period for which it was granted or made if such nonrevocable easement, license, permit, or commitment was granted or made—

(A) on or before the date of the enactment of this Act;

(B) by the Secretary of War or by the Secretary of Agriculture; and

(C) for a specified, limited period of time.

(2) An easement, license, permit, or commitment described in paragraph (1) may be renewed by the Secretary upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary considers advisable.

(b) REVOCABLE; INDEFINITE DURATION.—An easement, license, permit, or commitment which exists on the date of the enactment of this Act with respect to the lands described in section 2 may be continued or renewed by the Secretary if—

(1) the easement, license, permit, or commitment is revocable or of indefinite duration, and

(2) the Secretary considers such continuance or renewal to be in the public interest.

(c) USE OF LAND BY BUREAU OF PRISONS.—

(1) In the case of lands described in paragraph (2), the Secretary may continue or renew an easement, right-of-way, or permit to land, only if such easement, right-of-way, or permit is—

(A) in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act;

(B) limited to use or maintenance of water lines, roads to and from the sewage disposal plant, or sewage effluent lakes from the sewage disposal plant located on the land;

(C) granted for use by Bureau of Prisons of the Department of Justice; and

(D) useful to the Bureau of Prisons for purposes of maintaining the sewage disposal plant located on the land.

(2) The land referred to in paragraph (1) is that land described in section 2 that is located in—

(A) section 1, Township 12 North, Range 8 West, Indian Meridian; and

(B) the southeast quarter of section 36, Township 13 North, Range 8 West, Indian Meridian.

SEC. 5. BUILDINGS AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS.

The Secretary may—

(1) make any Federally owned buildings, improvements, or facilities (including any personal property used in connection with such buildings, improvements, or facilities) located on the land described in section 2 available to the Tribe for their use; and

(2) convey any Federal owned buildings, improvements, or facilities (including any personal property used in connection with such buildings, improvements, or facilities) located on the land described in section 2 to the Tribe in accordance with the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey to Indian tribes certain federally owned buildings, improvements, or facilities on tribal lands or on lands reserved for Indian administration" approved August 6, 1956 (25 U.S.C. 443a).

SEC. 6. ELIGIBILITY FOR FEDERAL SERVICES AND BENEFITS.

For the purposes of the eligibility for and delivery of all services and benefits provided to Indians because of their status as federally recognized, those members of the Tribe residing in Canadian County, Oklahoma, shall be deemed to be resident on or near an Indian reservation.

SEC. 7. EFFECT ON TREATIES.

No provision of this Act shall be construed to constitute an amendment, modification, or interpretation of any treaty to which the Tribe or any other Indian tribe is a party nor to any right secured to the Tribe or any other Indian tribe by any treaty.

SEC. 8. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act:

(1) The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(2) The term "Tribe" means the Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1: Describes the lands originally part of the Fort Reno reserve to be transferred from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of the Interior in trust for the tribes.

Section 2: In addition to the land retained by the Bureau of Prisons, this section authorizes use by the Bureau of Prisons of part of the transferred lands, subject to the approval of the tribes.

Section 3: Authorizes the continuation of current easements, licenses, permits and other current uses by the Bureau of Prisons for as long as the current uses continue.

Section 4: Authorizes, but does not require, that ownership of the buildings currently located on the lands may be transferred to the tribes.

Section 5: Recognizes members of the tribes who live near the tribal reservation as eligible for tribal benefits.

Section 6: Specifies that this legislation will not be construed as amending any treaty between the United States and any federally-recognized Indian tribe.

Section 7: Defines the term "Secretary" and "Tribe" with respect to the subject legislation.

THE IMPORTANCE OF MEANINGFUL HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 1997

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, the bipartisan budget deal that President Clinton and Congress have agreed to includes a \$16 billion fund to extend health care coverage to 5 million children over 5 years. The proposal before us, however, extends coverage to only 500,000 additional children a year. This is clearly insufficient.

One reason why so few children would obtain coverage is that the current proposal contains loopholes that allow the \$16 billion fund to substitute for new cuts in Federal Medicaid spending. States would also be permitted to use the fund as a source of general revenue to cover costs totally unrelated to health care, such as paving roads and financing tax cuts. The funding intended for children essentially creates a new State slush fund with no accountability.

The proposal before us represents a wasted opportunity. Approximately 20 million children lack health insurance for at least part of the year. In California, almost 20 percent of all children lack health insurance. These are children of working families. Nearly 9 out of 10 uninsured children have at least one parent who works. Almost two-thirds of these parents work full time.

Changes must be made before we invest billions of dollars in a block grant that does not achieve its intended purpose. The Child Health Insurance and Lower Deficit Act (H.R. 1364) and the Child Health Insurance Act (H.R. 1363), legislation that I have cosponsored with Representative NANCY JOHNSON, contain provisions that, if adopted, would add necessary structure to the block grants and truly enable children to receive needed health insurance.

Proposals in these bills ensure that allocated funds would be appropriately directed to deliver solid health care coverage to more children. For example, States are directed to contract with insurance companies or community health center networks to provide services directly to children. Coverage would include access to pediatric primary and specialty care providers, including centers of pediatric specialized treatment expertise. In addition, the bills make sure that States provide a benefits package either equivalent to the Medicaid package or comparable to a standard plan currently offered under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program. These basic requirements would not handcuff states; rather, they would create a structure that would guarantee that children in working families finally obtain meaningful health care.

We have a unique opportunity to achieve the laudable goal of insuring children. Yet if we do not add necessary safeguards and enhancements, we will not accomplish this goal. Let's not waste this opportunity.

A TRIBUTE TO THE BERNARDSVILLE NEWS

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 1997

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to The Bernardsville News, an institution that has brightened the lives and expanded the horizons of north central New Jerseyans for the past century. This Saturday, June 28, 1997, The Bernardsville News and those that print it will celebrate its 100th anniversary. Mr. Speaker, I am honored and proud to be included in this wonderful celebration.

In the era of media moguls and mega mergers, where corporate behemoths like Disney and Ted Turner battle over billions, it seems nothing is consistent anymore. That is precisely what makes this hallmark so significant. For 100 years, the journalists and editors at The Bernardsville News have recorded the current events of New Jersey—the people, the places, and the effects they've had on our lives and communities.

The newspaper has been a mainstay of the community since its debut as The Bernardsville Beacon in February, 1897, followed by its second issue on March 6, 1897, when it appeared as The Bernardsville News.

The News has been guided by a series of five publishing families, starting with a local Presbyterian minister and his son in 1897, who founded the newspaper before selling it in 1902 to the H.C. Rowell family who in turn sold it to Levi and Helena Trumbull in 1907.

Levi Trumbull, 74 at the time of his purchase of the paper, ran the newspaper until poor health forced him into an ill-fated sale of the paper in 1915 to its competitors, The Bernardsville Recorder newspaper whose owners ran the paper for about 7 months, accumulated massive debts and disappeared.

That merger created the Recorder Publishing Co., however, which is the corporate name of the newspaper's publishing company today.

The Trumbull family reclaimed the newspaper in February 1916 and their son Carl Trumbull ran the newspaper until 1955 when his family sold to Charles McDermott.

McDermott added a second newspaper, The Mendham-Chester Tribune, and sold both newspapers to The Bernardsville News' current owners, Cortlandt and Nancy Parker, in 1957.

The Parker family is celebrating its 40th anniversary of ownership this year and has expanded the newspaper group from two community newspapers to 14 weekly newspapers, including two newspapers serving large condominium complexes in the area, with paid combined circulation of about 50,000 households in northern Somerset County, Morris County and northern Hunterdon County in central New Jersey.

The Parkers' four children follow the Parker tradition by maintaining an active involvement in producing these newspapers. This tradition of service has brought us a vivid chronicle of history and a record of events both current and past, and it has helped preserve many public and private institutions in New Jersey. For this we can only say thank you.

Readership is testament to initial quality of product. But longevity is testament to the commitment and dedication of professionals who