

Church of the Resurrection was organized on September 19, 1922. Originally, Mass had to be said in the rented building of the former Christian Church of the Evangelist from November 1922, until the present church was purchased on December 29, 1924. Prime Bishop Francis Hodur performed the act of consecration on December 13, 1925.

Despite difficult early years in the parish's history, it went on to flourish. A Polish language supplementary school, a catechism class, the White Eagle choir, and numerous other societies and organizations formed around and in the church. On July 1, 1938, the parish acquired the rectory on 137 Meserole Avenue.

During the Second World War, 110 parishioners served in the Armed Forces, and three gave their lives. Chapters of the Red Cross, the Junior Red Cross, and the Boy Scouts were all active at the church during the war.

In 1958, the parish held services in English for the first time. On October 11, 1959, the mortgage was ceremonially burnt. And, as membership increased, the church made improvements to the parish hall.

In preparation for the Diamond Jubilee, the interior of the church has been completely renovated and repainted. The celebration will take place on Sunday, September 21, 1997, with a solemn Mass celebrated by the present Prime Bishop, Most Reverend John Swantek. His Excellency will bless the church and reconsecrate the main altar assisted by the clergy of the New York and New Jersey area.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to the Church of the Resurrection as it celebrates its 75th anniversary. I am proud to have such an important parish in my district continuing the Polish immigrants' traditions of their homeland and introducing them to the culture of their new home.

1996 IMMIGRATION REFORM BILL NEEDS CORRECTION

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 became law 1 year ago this month. Next year at this time, September 30, 1998, section 110 will be implemented and will adversely—and unintentionally—affect our Canadian neighbors. Today I am introducing an amendment to the Immigration Reform Act that will ensure that past regulations and procedures with respect to Canadian citizens' entering and exiting the United States will continue to be as document-free and hassle-free as it always has been.

Last year, Congress passed a well-intentioned provision of the Immigration Reform Act that requires the Immigration and Naturalization Service [INS] to develop an automated entry and exit system for the purpose of documenting the entry and departure of every alien arriving and leaving the United States. Prior to this act, the United States has had no departure management system. The consequence has been the inability of INS to identify lawfully admitted nonimmigrants who remain in the United States beyond the period authorized, the so-called overstay.

The oversight in this provision is the failure to exempt the Canadian nationals who previously have not been required to fill out INS documents, or I-94's, at the border. In 1996, more than 116 million people entered the United States by land from Canada. Of these, more than 76 million were Canadian or United States permanent residents. As anyone who has crossed the United States-Canada border knows, congestion is a problem. The more than \$1 billion of goods and services trade that crosses our border daily adds enormously to the daily traffic flow. If the United States were to implement the entry and exit procedure required by section 110, congestion would turn into a nightmare at the border.

After the Immigration Reform Act passed last year, Chairmen SIMPSON and SMITH of the Senate and House Judiciary Subcommittees on Immigration, respectively, wrote to Canadian Ambassador Raymond Chretien assuring him that "we did not intend to impose a new requirement for border crossing cards or I-94's on Canadians who are not presently required to possess such documents."

Mr. Speaker, consistent with the intent of the United States-Canada Accord on Our Shared Border to open and improve the flow of United States and Canadian citizens across our common border, and to prevent the intolerable congestion that would result from implementation of section 110 as it now stands, I am offering an amendment to the Immigration Reform Act. My bill simply exempts from section 110 Canadian nationals who are not otherwise required by law to possess a visa, passport, or border-crossing identification card.

This correction of an oversight in the 1996 Reform Act is the right thing to do, the practical thing to do, and it follows through on assurances made to the Canadian Ambassador that it was not congressional intent to reverse decades of practice with respect to Canadian nationals.

The text of the bill follows:

H.R.

To amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to clarify that records of arrival or departure are not required to be collected for purposes of the automated entry-exit control system developed under section 110 of such Act for Canadians who are not otherwise required to possess a visa, passport, or border crossing identification card.

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

SEC. 1. EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN ALIENS FROM ENTRY-EXIT CONTROL SYSTEM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 110(a) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1221 note) is amended to read as follows:

“(a) SYSTEM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall develop an automated entry and exit control system that will—

“(A) collect a record of departure for every alien departing the United States and match the records of departure with the record of the alien's arrival in the United States; and

“(B) enable the Attorney General to identify, through on-line searching procedures, lawfully admitted nonimmigrants who remain in the United States beyond the period authorized by the Attorney General.

“(2) EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN ALIENS.—The system under paragraph (1) shall not collect a record of arrival or departure for an alien—

“(A) who is—

“(i) a Canadian national; or

“(ii) an alien having a common nationality with Canadian nationals and who has his or her residence in Canada; and

“(B) who is not otherwise required by law to be in possession, for purposes of establishing eligibility for admission into the United States, of—

“(i) a visa;

“(ii) a passport; or

“(iii) a border crossing identification card.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-208; 110 Stat. 3009-546).

TRIBUTE TO DR. JAMES
BILLINGTON ON THE 10TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF HIS SELECTION AS
LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying a well-deserved tribute to Dr. James Billington, a dear friend of mine, who has served our Nation with great distinction as the Librarian of Congress for the last 10 years. This week we mark the 10th anniversary of the appointment of Dr. Billington to this important leadership position. I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to him as we celebrate this important milestone.

Dr. Billington was appointed the 13th Librarian of Congress by President Ronald Reagan in 1987, and he was subsequently confirmed to that position by the U.S. Senate. Earlier, he served as the director of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, and before that he was a distinguished professor and scholar of Russian history and culture at Princeton University.

The Library of Congress is the largest and most comprehensive library in the world with more than 110 million items in more than 450 languages. Managing that immense collection is a major task in and of itself, but Dr. Billington assumed the position as Librarian of Congress at a critical time in the Library's history. The past 10 years have been a time of great change because of the rapid and complete transformation of information technology. At this critical time, Dr. Billington's vision, insight, and skills have been a tremendous asset for the Library, for the Congress, and for the American people.

Dr. Billington was one of the first scholars and cultural administrators to recognize the significance of the approaching information age and its importance for the Library of Congress. At his confirmation hearing in 1987, Dr. Billington voiced his hope that "the Library might furnish new technologies boldly" and share its catalog and national treasures by the year 2000 with citizens in local communities across America. In 1994, Dr. Billington's hope became reality when the National Digital Library was launched. That project, which has as its objective to digitize 5 million items from the Library's collection at a cost of some \$60 million, is being accomplished with private/public funding. Today, the Library's World

Wide Web site brings to tens of millions of people the Library's catalog, the American Memory collections of the National Digital Library, and Thomas—the Library's legislative information site. The Library's site is recognized as one of the most important content sites on the Internet, and it is quickly becoming a unique and popular educational resource for teaching and learning for students at all levels.

During his 10 years as Librarian, Dr. Billington has made a great contribution to the improvement of the Library in many areas, in addition to his incredible efforts in the area of technology. He has strengthened control of the Library's various collections, and increased the Library's acquisitions. For example, he was instrumental in the acquisition of the Leonard Bernstein collection, the Marion Carson collection, and the Gordon Parks collection.

Under the direction of Dr. Billington, the Library of Congress has undergone a period of tremendous growth and development. He has established the first office of development at the Library to raise private funds for scholarly activities, exhibitions, and the National Digital Library. He proposed and the Congress approved the establishment of the Madison Council, a group of private citizens who provide sustained financial support to the Library. In the 10 years that Dr. Billington has served at the Library of Congress, he has raised \$91.7 million, of which \$41.5 million represents the contributions from the Madison Council, which is chaired by John Kluge.

Additionally, Dr. Billington has made a major commitment to public display of the Library's own treasures as well as the priceless heritage of other nations around the world, and he has sponsored a series of widely acclaimed exhibitions at the Library of Congress. A few of the most spectacular exhibitions include "Rome Reborn: The Vatican Library and Renaissance Culture," "Scrolls from the Dead Sea," "Revelations of the Russian Archives," and "From the Ends of the Earth: Judaic Treasures of the Library of Congress."

Mr. Speaker, I am particularly appreciative of my association with Dr. Billington and his friendship. Shortly after he became Librarian of Congress, to mark the "Year of the Book," Dr. Billington and officials of the Library came to San Mateo, CA, in my congressional district, where they gave focus to the incredible resources of the Library and further emphasized the important outreach program that has been given great emphasis under Dr. Billington's leadership.

Mr. Speaker, in my remarks thus far, I have focused on the outstanding achievements and leadership of Dr. Billington over this 4-year period of his stewardship at the Library of Congress. I want to add a few personal comments about Dr. Billington as a friend. A number of our colleagues in the Congress and I, had the wonderful opportunity to travel with him on a visit to Russia a few years ago, under the leadership of Mr. GEPHARDT and Mr. GINGRICH. Dr. Billington added an incredible perspective and an understanding of Russia and the Russian people to those of us who participated in that important trip. He was not only a brilliant scholar, but also a delightful traveling companion. Dr. Billington also participated in meetings which I chaired at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire between delegations representing the Congress and the European Parliament.

Again, he contributed in a major way to both delegations' understanding of the complexities of our relationships with Russia and the republics of the former Soviet Union.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Billington should be congratulated for his exceptional successes during his 10-year tenure at the Library of Congress. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Dr. Billington and paying tribute to him for the service he has given to the Library of Congress and our Nation over the past decade.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, September 11, I missed the House vote applying the same the anti-choice Hyde amendment standard to health maintenance organizations as is currently applied to traditional fee-for-service arrangements between doctors and patients. Under the 20-year-old legislation, Medicaid money cannot pay for abortions except in cases of rape or incest or when the mother's life is at stake. The new language makes it clear that the ban also applies to Medicaid treatment through HMO's. During the time the vote was held, I was moderating a Congressional Black Caucus brainstorm that I initiated on environmental justice. Let me be clear—had I been present on Thursday, I would have voted against this anti-choice amendment.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO SPEED RISK ADJUSTMENT OF MANAGED CARE PLANS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, how many studies do we need before we act to correct a gross taxpayer overpayment of many health maintenance organizations?

The GAO has just issued another report in the long line of papers demonstrating that the public is paying HMO's too much for the Medicare beneficiaries that they enroll. In its report entitled "Fewer and Lower Cost Beneficiaries with Chronic Conditions enroll in HMOs" (GAO/HEHS-97-160) prepared for Ways and Means Health Subcommittee Chairman BILL THOMAS, the GAO examined the mature California HMO market and found:

About one in six 1992 California fee for service (FFS) Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in an HMO in 1993 and 1994. HMO enrollment rates differed significantly for beneficiaries with selected chronic conditions compared with other beneficiaries. Among those with none of the selected [5 chronic] conditions, 18.4% elected to enroll in an HMO compared with 14.9% of beneficiaries with a single chronic condition and 13.4% of those with two or more conditions.

Moreover, we found that prior to enrolling in an HMO a substantial cost difference, 29%, existed between new HMO enrollees and those remaining in FFS because HMOs at-

tracted the least costly enrollees within each health status group. Even among beneficiaries belonging to either of the groups with chronic conditions, HMOs attracted those with less severe conditions as measured by their 1992 average monthly costs.

Furthermore, we found that rates of early disenrollment from HMOs to FFS were substantially higher among those with chronic conditions. While only 6% of all new enrollees returned to FFS within 6 months, the rates ranged from 4.5% for beneficiaries without a chronic condition to 10.2% for those with two or more chronic conditions. Also, disenrollees who returned to FFS had substantially higher costs prior to enrollment compared to those who remained in their HMO. These data indicated that favorable selection still exists in California Medicare HMOs because they attract and retain the least costly beneficiaries in each health status group.

Since we pay Medicare managed care risk contractors [HMO's] 95 percent of the average cost of treating Medicare patients in an area, it is obvious that if they do not sign up the average type of Medicare beneficiary, but sign up healthier people, then the taxpayer will end up paying the HMO's too much. Many HMO's, of course, make a fine art of finding the healthier people to enroll—and encouraging the unhealthy to disenroll. Because we do not adjust the payments to HMO's to reflect the true risk they face of providing needed health care services, risk adjustment, we overpay. We overpay HMO's billions of dollars—and as enrollment grows, the Medicare trust fund will lose an escalating amount.

At the end of my statement I would like to include in the RECORD a recent summary from the Physician Payment Review Commission, a congressional advisory panel, that further documents the problem.

The just-passed Balanced Budget Act requires HHS to begin to collect data to correct this problem and in the year 2000, implement a risk adjustment system to stop the abuse and overpayment that plagues the current program.

The GAO report is just further proof that we need to move faster—and that even a partial risk adjustment program, which can be refined later, is better than the current hemorrhage of Medicare trust fund moneys. Therefore, I am introducing today—as part of our efforts to stop Medicare waste, and in some cases fraud, a bill to require that the risk adjustment changes be implemented January 1, 1999.

This amendment will easily save \$1 billion and probably more—and it will help force an end to the outrageous overpayment of those HMO's who have, for whatever reason, managed to avoid the average Medicare beneficiary.

PHASING OUT METERED DOSE INHALERS

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to offer my position on an issue that I know is of great concern to my constituents in Rhode Island and the Nation at large.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has recently proposed regulations which would impact the lives of thousands of Rhode Islanders