

has a crew of eight cabin servicemen, whose responsibility is to ensure that United flights leaving LaGuardia Airport are fully supported and maintained. In an era of heightened awareness regarding airline safety measures and concerns his belief is to encourage his crew to review and follow all safety rules and procedures. This type of positive reinforcement to be safety conscious in the workplace reflects his concern about the passengers and crew that board his flights.

In 1993, Fausto was recognized by United Airlines and 80,000 of his fellow employees as he was nominated to receive the Cabin Service Employee of the Year Award. His dedication reflects a lifelong pursuit of happiness that he strives for every day. Fausto philosophy of life "Primero la obligacion despues la devocion."

Fausto Rosero's life here in the United States began like many others who came to the United States of America seeking a better life for themselves and their family. Throughout history, America has been known as the land of opportunity. We have welcomed people with great pride from all over the world and from all walks of life. The diversity of people and nations is our country's greatest strength. Immigrants have long been the lifeblood of this great city of New York, making it flourish because of their hard work and dedication.

On September 9, 1962, Fausto Anibal Roser emigrated from his native homeland of Quito, Ecuador, to pursue and begin living the American dream. Like the previous waves of immigrants, Fausto left his family to settle down in his new life. He soon sent for his wife, Ana Beatriz Medina, whom he married on April 20, 1959. Beatriz arrived in this country not only with great enthusiasm and ambition but also with their daughter, Amparito Rosero on May 9, 1962. The Rosero family settled in the same community in which they still call home, Corona, Queens. Having firmly planted the seeds in their new home, their family began to expand.

On September 27, 1963, Fausto Gerardo Rosero was the first American citizen born to the family. This not only represented the first generation of American citizens but also the beginning of a new culture.

In the fall of 1966, the Rosero and Moya families moved into a 102-25 46th Avenue, Corona, NY 11368. This address represents the gateway, our families "Ellis Island" to all those who followed. Every single family member and friend has crossed through those doors staying until they could establish themselves and ultimately their own place in this country. We have always called Corona home, up until the present day. Growing up and living together represent the close emphasis placed on "La Familia." Together both families have struggled, prospered and stayed together throughout the years. Although Edgar and Maria Moya now live up the street, four houses away, at 102-11 46th Avenue. They continue to share in the joys of each others families. Their sons Francisco Paul Moya and Edgar Ivan Moya have just celebrated their graduations from St. John's University on September 21, 1997.

Francisco "Ponch" received his bachelor of arts degree in Asian Studies and Edgar his masters degree in Spanish Literature. Edgar is also a member of my staff. He is my congressional aide in my Corona office.

Fausto and Bachi saw three more of their children born; Alex Antonio Rosero born on

October 20, 1968, Daisy Violeta Rosero born on January 29, 1970, and finally Luis Alberto Rosero born on December 8, 1972. All five children grew up in this household and in Corona. With a firm emphasis placed on education he sent his five children to St. Leo's Roman Catholic Elementary School. Prior to arriving in this country, Fausto was a teacher in Ecuador. He taught for 6 years in El Normal Catolico de los Hermanos LaSalles. He taught first thru fifth grades. In addition, he also taught music, including guitar and the accordion to the senior high school class. His love for music has been lifelong and is evident as he continues to play the piano. Fausto taught in the same school he received his own education and the same church where he married Beatriz Medina in over 38 years ago.

Their children are working and are in the process of beginning their own lives. Amparito Rosero attended Queens College, she now is married to Hector Raul Cadena and have two sons, Christopher Mark Alexander Cadena, who was the first born of the second generation, and Jonathan Gerardo Cadena, they above all represent his legacy as they begin the second generation.

Gerald Rosero, a former U.S. Marine, graduated from Queens College with a bachelor of arts in economic. He is now married to Elizabeth del Toro and has a beautiful daughter, Miranda Nicole Rosero, the first granddaughter of the family.

Alex Rosero, attended the State University of New York at Albany. He also graduated with a bachelor of arts in economics. He now lives abroad in Amsterdam, Netherlands, while working for Pepe Jeans International.

Daisy Rosero, also has attended Queens College concentrating on art history and Spanish secondary education. Daisy now works for Rainbow Chimes, a nonprofit child care organization.

Luis A. Rosero attended and graduated from the State University of New York, College at Purchase. He studied political science with a minor in Latin American politics. He currently works for my Washington office as my office administrator. He began his congressional career as an intern in my office during college. Luis also worked in my Queens office before returning to SUNY Purchase for his senior year. He returned to Washington, DC, 6 days after graduation.

Their achievements and successes cannot only be attributed to Fausto but also to their loving mother Bachi. Beatriz is, has, and always will be responsible for them. She has worked and sacrificed her entire life to raise her children. It was her love and affection for her family throughout the years that kept them together. Their children should never forget the sacrifices and hard work that was needed for their upbringing. Fausto and Bachi have always stressed following the right path in life, no matter how difficult it may seem. If there is one lesson that should follow us for the rest of our lives and we should pass onto future generations, is the love and respect for one's family. Without having your family by your side one cannot stand alone. Loving your family for all their accomplishments is easy, loving them with their faults is what makes us one.

It has been a long road from Quito to Corona. The Rosero family has been granted a very special gift by an extremely special and devoted father. What has been achieved, what has been gained, what will be, is due to him.

We will be his living legacy that he himself has planted many years ago. May we never let you down.

Mr. Fausto Rosero Basantes, you should be very proud of all your lifelong achievements and accomplishments. It is now time to sit back, relax, and enjoy yourself. Fly those friendly skies, let them take you places you have always wanted to visit. After 30 years of hard work at United Airlines you are entitled to sleep late and do whatever you please, but remember one of your sayings, "El Tiempo Es Oro" make the most of it.

HELPING OTHERS

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, quite often as Members of this House, we need to take a moment to step back and look into the hearts of our communities. There, sitting on the steps of our schoolhouses and talking on our parkbenches are individuals working to help their neighbors in need. Such folk can be found in all parts of the country, and today I wish to honor a group of individuals who dedicate their lives to making others happy in Hattiesburg, MS. For it is there that the Civitan Camp for Citizens with Mental Retardation makes uncommon acts of kindness everyday occurrences.

Mrs. Abbie Rogers, director of the camp for more than 37 years, began working with handicapped children many years ago. She had a dream of providing the benefits of group recreation, crafts, friendships, and all the fun a camp can provide to these individuals who overcome adversity with tremendous human spirit and strength of heart. With the generous support of the Hattiesburg Civitan Club and the Ili Kana Girl Scout Camp, Mrs. Rogers' dream is now a reality for many children.

Her volunteers range from teenagers to business people and include doctors, nurses, musicians, craftsmen, and artists. These individuals give of their time and energy, yet benefit just as much as the campers in terms of the experiences they treasure for the rest of their lives. My daughter April has volunteered for many years beginning in high school. I believe that her experiences at the Civitan Camp truly epitomize the beauty of this magical place. The following is one such recollection.

Flashlight . . . check, raincoat . . . check, junk food . . . check. Definitely junk food, camp meals are always the pits. I am so excited I can hardly pack. OK, show down, April, or you're going to forget something important like your toothbrush.

Bright and early tomorrow morning I'll be "on the road again."

For two glorious weeks, I'll be roughing it in the great outdoors. Camp doesn't officially open until Monday, but counselors have to suffer through the long, boring orientation. You know, the stuff you already know, and if you didn't you wouldn't be here, right?

As I sit eagerly waiting to discover who my wild camper will be for this session, I try to catch up on all the missed time with my Mississippi friends. "April Collins," Becky shouts clearly over the loud rumble in the small room. She is the camp director's right leg.

"Here," I reply half worried and half relieved that I am at the beginning of the alphabet. I met Becky nervously midway across the room and receive the personal file on my mysterious camper.

Aha! I got a baby. The 14-month-old girl is blue-eyed Alicia Bounds. Oh, my goodness, I am certainly going to get a workout; she is 30 heavy pounds and can't walk. As I quickly and anxiously scan the rest of her file, I learn she is blind, 90 percent deaf, has no muscle control, and has a lot of other complications. It seems as if the list of disabilities goes on forever. I fear I am going to have a very challenging week.

But I can handle it. Last year I had a 9-year-old boy who had to be fed through tubes in his stomach. I'll never forget the night I was feeding him supper and his tubes eased out. The doctor had to insert the tubes back in, which wasn't the most pleasant procedure to witness.

It's about time Monday got here! I am on pins and needles with 50 other psyched counselors waiting for our campers to arrive. The moment I saw Alicia, my heart went out to her. Her eyes are bluer than blue, and her cute chubby cheeks are perfect for a Grandmother to pinch. Now my job begins. I am her so-called mother for a week. I bathe her, feed her, change her, comfort her, take her to arts and crafts, swimming, fishing, canoeing, music, and leisure. Alicia and I are going to be the best of pals for seven days. I can tell her parents are ready for a vacation, because her dad is giving signals to his wife to hurry up. I try to imagine the pain they have been through.

Alicia used to be the everyday normal child, until three months of age when she was diagnosed with having spinal meningitis. After all the treatment and medication, this is what has become of Alicia. She almost died during her illness, and sometimes even I wonder if it would have been better if she had.

First on "our" agenda was to take Alicia on a tour of the camp, ending with a dip in the pool. My ears are still ringing from her temper tantrum. I guess I would have been pretty scared too, if I were blind. But by the end of the week, she enjoyed cooling off in the water. Alicia absolutely adored the outdoors. We'd stay outside from dawn to dusk. She quickly soaked up a savage tan.

Oh, and how Alicia loved to be rocked. I pampered her as though she was my first born. Sure I got frustrated at times, as when she would cry for almost an hour straight. But I drew in three big breaths and counted to 10 very slowly.

Alicia learned to sense my nearness to her. She would become upset when she felt my absence. I was one of the few who could comfort her. I can still picture her first and only smile. I don't recall what I did, but I had tried so hard all week to change her facial expression. And finally, a little smile.

We had a ball that week. Alicia was certainly a handful. I feel for her parents; I only had seven days of it. They have it the other 358 days.

Each year I have a feeling of accomplishment. But this past year I believe was the most challenging and rewarding. The fact that I could communicate and show my affection to her successfully has been my most satisfying experience.

Mr. Speaker, as the long hours of our days pass by at a blistering pace often leaving us with a sense of being totally overwhelmed, we need only take a moment to look at individuals

such as Abbie Rogers or my daughter April, to put things in perspective and think in terms of what really is important—helping others. This can be done in many and varied ways, but I hope that at the end of the day, we in Congress share the sense of accomplishment that our efforts, though on a broader scale, are rooted in the very same goal, which is to help and serve the American people.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2264) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Chairman, the amendment which Representative RIGGS offered to the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and related agencies appropriations bill regarding the enforcement options available to the Department of Education pertaining to youth with disabilities in adult correctional facilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is an ill-advised and inopportune amendment. As a member of the bipartisan working group which developed the IDEA amendments of 1997, I am strongly opposed to this amendment, as it would contravene the carefully crafted bipartisan, bicameral legislation signed into law only 3 months ago.

The IDEA ensures that all children with disabilities receive a free appropriate public education. During the bipartisan negotiations on the IDEA amendments, several provisions were added to the statute to give States increased flexibility in serving the portion of disabled youth who are incarcerated in adult correctional facilities. These provisions are: Through State statute or Executive order a State may assign any public agency in the State responsibility for ensuring compliance with the obligation to provide a free appropriate public education to youth with disabilities incarcerated in adult prisons; States are permitted to exempt the participation of youth with disabilities incarcerated in adult prisons on State-wide assessments; States are permitted to exempt youth with disabilities whose eligibility under part B will end, because of their age, before they will be released from prison from transition planning; and States may modify a youth's individualized education plan or the act's provisions related to least restrictive environment if the State has demonstrated a bona fide security or compelling penological interest.

In addition to the exemption of these planning and administrative requirements which

will result in huge cost savings, States no longer have to serve those youth with disabilities, aged 18 through 21, who were not identified, or did not have an individualized education program, prior to their incarceration in an adult correctional facility. With these additional provisions there should be no obstacle to serving this population.

Despite the acceptance of these numerous provisions, Congressman RIGGS, having signed off on this deal during the bipartisan negotiations on this bill, has sought to reopen the debate over whether youth with disabilities in adult correctional facilities should be served purely due to political pressure from the Governor of our State, Governor Wilson of California. The Riggs amendment would reduce the enforcement options of the Department of Education under the statute, thereby completely contradicting the bipartisan manner used to craft the amendments. Section 616(a) of the statute provides two enforcement actions available for use by the Department to ensure that States serve youth with disabilities in adult correctional facilities: The withholding of a pro-rata share of Federal funding attributable to the population of youth with disabilities in adult correctional facilities and the referral of the matter for appropriate enforcement action, including referral to the Department of Justice. This amendment would limit the enforcement action available to the Department to only the reduction of funds thereby ensuring that many States would forgo the vital funds, and violate the act, to avoid serving this vulnerable population.

Throughout the exchange of debate over this issue both prior to and during floor consideration, Mr. RIGGS asserted that the Department is overstepping its bounds by considering which option, reduction of funds or referral to Justice, to use in enforcing compliance with the statute. As Members can see, this assertion is clearly false. The statute clearly provides for the Department to use either option in ensuring that this population will be served. I will remind Members that since the act requires that all children with disabilities, including those incarcerated in adult correctional facilities, receive a free appropriate public education, the Department is required to use every means at its disposal to enforce the law. Congress should not be in the practice of limiting the enforcement options, especially through the appropriations process, of this vital civil rights legislation. For too long, disabled individuals have been left without assurance of educational opportunity. Now is not the time to turn the clock back and lessen our commitment.

The process used to reauthorize the IDEA during the early portion of the 105th Congress was strongly bipartisan and produced legislation which received nearly unanimous support because Democrats and Republicans worked together. I am strongly disappointed that Mr. RIGGS has sought to mischaracterize and undermine the bipartisan process we used to craft this historic legislation through the statements he has made regarding this amendment.