

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO SOUTH CAROLINA
TEACHER OF THE YEAR, CHRIS-
TINE FISHER

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1997

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to South Carolina's Teacher of the Year, Christine Fisher. Mrs. Fisher is a constituent of mine, and a seventh and eighth grade band teacher at Southside Middle School in Florence, SC. She is in Washington DC, October 6-8 for the fifth annual National Teacher Forum.

This week, teachers across the Nation are being recognized for their leadership as well as excellence in teaching by participating in the National Teacher Forum. The forum is designed to tap the knowledge, experience, and insight that these teachers have gained with regard to Federal education programs and policies.

Mrs. Fisher has been a teacher for 21 years; 12 of which she has taught at Southside Middle School. Under her leadership, the Southside bands have been awarded outstanding performance awards for 12 straight years. Mrs. Fisher has also been the recipient of numerous awards including the Florence District One Teacher of the Year, Time Warner Cable Star Teacher, Lead Music Teacher at the Curriculum Leadership in the Arts, Outstanding Junior High Band Director of the eastern district of South Carolina, and Teacher of the Year at two schools during her teaching career. She has also been a guest conductor and clinician for the Berkeley County Honors Band, the Eastern District Honors Band and the Spartanburg County Honors Band. In addition to her musical experience, Mrs. Fisher has also helped in writing, and has received, numerous grants for music education and technology. Mrs. Fisher also has been a guest speaker for numerous music seminars, including university level classes. Aside from her mainstream curriculum, she also has a great interest and knowledge in music for the learning disabled student.

Throughout her 21 year tenure, Mrs. Fisher has taught music in schools through the Pee Dee area of the sixth congressional district. She is also a Member of the National Education Association, South Carolina Education Association, Music Educators National Conference, South Carolina Music Educators Association, and the South Carolina Band Directors Association.

Mr. Speaker, I know Mrs. Fisher will be an excellent resource for the National Teachers Forum, and I ask that you join me in saluting her as South Carolina's Teacher of the Year.

OUR LADY OF CONSOLATION
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH CELE-
BRATED 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to congratulate Our Lady of Consolation Roman Catholic Church in Merrillville, IN, in celebration of its 50th anniversary as a parish last Sunday, October 5, 1997. The anniversary celebration began with a Mass of thanksgiving, which was celebrated by Bishop Dale J. Melczek. Following the Mass, there was a banquet in the parish hall.

A parish of humble beginnings, Our Lady of Consolation, which was established as Immaculate Heart of Mary in 1947, celebrated its first Mass on October 5, 1947, in a town fire station. The parish was founded by Father Alvin Jasinski under the direction of the Fort Wayne Diocese to serve the needs of the growing Catholic population of Independence Hill, a section of what is now Merrillville, IN. In November 1947, 1 acre of land, which included a store and other buildings, was purchased as a more suitable site for the church. Many parishioners contributed their time, talent, money, and materials to transform the store into the first Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. Land for a permanent church site was acquired and a building fund was begun under the guidance of Father Leo Ambruster in the early 1960's. With the determination and patience of the parishioners, the cornerstone of the new church was blessed on August 27, 1967, only several years after the purchase of the land. The church was dedicated by Bishop Andrew Grutka as Our Lady of Consolation.

Our Lady of Consolation derived its name from the 2d century writer, St. Ignatius of Antioch. St. Ignatius was the first to express devotion to Mary as "Consoler of the Afflicted." In the 17th century, when an outbreak of bubonic plague ravaged and decimated the Luxembourg population, the people prayed to Mary, Consoler of the Afflicted, for relief in their anguish and fear of death. Bishop Grutka decided to change the parish name from Immaculate Heart of Mary Church to Our Lady of Consolation since Holy Trinity Church in Gary, IN, built a statute commissioned "Christ the Consoler." The bishop stated it was appropriate that Christ the Consoler have a Mother of Consolation.

In recent years, Our Lady of Consolation has flourished under the guidance of Father Joseph Vamos who arrived at the parish in 1987. In 1988, the cornerstone was laid for a parish activity center, which consists of a chapel used for weekday Mass, small weddings, and funerals, a parish office, large social and banquet hall, fully equipped kitchen, and six large classrooms. The classrooms are being utilized for faith formation program classes, small parish meetings, and a pre-school serving approximately 40 children. The

entire parish complex, which also consists of a rectory, was paid for within 3 years of its construction. Currently, the parish has taken on other initiatives, which include the redecoration of the church, the purchase of a new sacristy, the addition of an atrium entry way to the parish center, and the installation of stained glass windows in the chapel. The recent prosperity of Our Lady of Consolation may be attributed to both the foresight of past parish pastors, as well as the success of the parish's annual festival. The annual festival is a tradition that dates back to the early days of the parish in Independence Hill.

Although Our Lady of Consolation has changed drastically over the years, some aspects have remained the same. For instance, some of the original members of the small church in Independence Hill are still parishioners. Also, the Holy Name Society and the Altar and Rosary Sodality, which were founded in the very beginning of the church's history, still work for the betterment of the church today. Other organizations within the parish include an Over 55 Club, a parish youth group, and a newly formed Knights of Columbus Good Shepherd Council. The original parish consisted of under 100 families. Today, the number is over 1,000.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me today in commending the parish family of Our Lady of Consolation, under the guidance of Father Joseph Vamos, as they celebrate the 50th anniversary of their founding. All past and present parishioners and pastors should be proud of the numerous contributions they have made out of the love and devotion they have displayed for their church.

HONORING WILLIAM T. HUSTON,
RECIPIENT OF THE SETON AWARD

HON. JAMES E. ROGAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1997

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my dear friend, William T. Huston. Bill has spent his career serving his family, his church, his community, and his country.

Our Nation was founded upon the principles of freedom, faith, and the pursuit of liberty. Bill is a man who exemplifies these qualities, and whose efforts to serve those around him are an inspiration to all.

As chairman of the Watson Land Co., Bill has proven himself to be a model of leadership. He tempers good business skills with a keen eye for serving his fellow man. As a community leader, Bill has led quietly by example, given countless hours of service, and encouraged those around him to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, tonight Bill Huston will be honored by the National Catholic Education Association for his commitment to American education. Bill also will be joined by another great

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

American, Dr. William Bennett, as they are presented with the prestigious Seton Award.

Named for Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton in recognition for her lifelong dedication to teaching, the award is presented annually to those who have dedicated their life to education. As a further tribute to Bill, the National Catholic Education Association will present a child in Bill's community with a \$1,000 scholarship to use toward their education.

Mr. Speaker, the importance of a sound education must be underscored. As we look to solve the problems of the future, we have before us a man who has provided the right example. For his efforts, and in recognition of a well-deserved honor this evening, I am privileged to commend and pay tribute to William T. Huston.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I regret missing votes on the afternoon of October 1. Due to the pressing nature of the Jewish holidays it was necessary for me to leave town in order to arrive in California by sundown for Erev Rosh Hashana.

SUBPOENA ENFORCEMENT IN THE CASE OF DORNAN VERSUS SANCHEZ

SPEECH OF

HON. MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 30, 1997

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Speaker, I hear over and over again that we are concerned about the integrity of our election process, and I agree with that, not only for the 46th congressional district but for all over the United States.

This is not the only place where voter fraud has occurred. But I hear interjected into the debate the reference to the number of fraudulent votes in the 46th district. Then our friend from Texas gets up and states that the Hermandad is the crookedest organization around and guilty of all kinds of wrongdoing.

The problem I have with that is an investigating committee trying to investigate someone who has already made up his mind lends itself to the idea that since they have already made up their mind, their investigation is going to conclude with the conclusions they have already made.

Let me say in the same breath that the gentleman speaks about the high level of debate that began this debate. He rushes in to chastise one of our Members for pulling a race card. What greater race card was there pulled when on that side of the aisle they chose as their closing speaker someone of Hispanic descent?

Finally, Mr. Speaker, Republicans have an 8-year history in southern California of intimidating Latino voters at the polls. The Republican Party paid \$600,000 to settle two voting intimidation cases, one stemming from 1988

and one from 1989, in which the Orange County Republican Party placed security guards and signs at the voting polls designed to scare Latino voters.

Mr. Speaker, Hispanic-Americans have served in every branch of our military. They have fought and died in our wars, defending the cherished principles of freedom and democracy. Hispanic-Americans have earned the right to vote without being intimidated at the polls. It may come as a surprise to some of my friends on the other side of the aisle, but there are millions of Americans of Hispanic origin, many with surnames like de la Garza, Gonzalez, Torres, Rodriguez, Menendez, Becerra, and even Martinez who voted, and voted legally, in the last election.

THOMAS R. BROWN, SOUTH TEXAS VETERANS HEALTH CARE SYSTEM, SAN ANTONIO, TX, RECEIVES OLIN E. TEAGUE AWARD

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1997

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, in a ceremony on Thursday, September 18, 1997, in the House Veterans' Affairs Committee hearing room, Thomas R. Brown, chief, Recreation Therapy Service, South Texas Veterans Health Care System, San Antonio, TX, received this year's Olin E. Teague Award for his efforts on behalf of disabled veterans.

The Teague Award is presented annually to a VA employee whose achievements have been of extraordinary benefit to veterans with service-connected disabilities, and is the highest honor at VA in the field of rehabilitation.

Under Mr. Brown's pioneering leadership in the area of wheelchair sports, an extraordinarily effective recreation therapy program has been developed in the VA system. Due to Mr. Brown's career as a national and international wheelchair athlete and his success as a coach, teacher, and motivator, in 1980 he was asked to help establish a national wheelchair games program for VA in conjunction with the International Year for Disabled Persons. In 1981, the first National Veterans Wheelchair Games were held in Richmond, VA, with 74 veterans participating. Under Mr. Brown's continuing guidance and advice, the games have expanded with tremendous success as a rehabilitation tool. Veterans travel from all over the Nation to participate, many of whom have never before competed in organized sporting competitions. The games now boast of over 550 competitors giving veterans an excellent opportunity to interact with their peers, to experience the thrill of victory, and to participate with a level of exuberance many had thought was lost forever.

Mr. Speaker, the name Olin E. "Tiger" Teague is synonymous with exemplary service to the Nation's veterans. The late Congressman Teague served on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee for 32 years, 18 of those years as its distinguished chairman. No one who opposed him on veterans' issues ever had to ask why he was called Tiger. He set the standards by which we can best serve all veterans. I know my colleagues join me in offering our deep appreciation to Mr. Brown for his concern, dedication, and innovation in

meeting the special rehabilitation needs of disabled veterans. We congratulate him for the excellence of his work and for the distinguished award he received.

SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAMS RE-AUTHORIZATION AND AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 1997

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2261 and to thank the bipartisan leadership of the Committee on Small Business for their cooperation in folding H.R. 2429, as reported from the Committee on Science, into the bill currently before the House. I also would like to thank our committee's leadership Chairman SENSENBRENNER, Chairwoman MORELLA, and Ranking Member GORDON for working so hard in the limited time we had available to us to make the STTR program a more effective resource for our Nation's small businesses.

I would like to address my remarks today to the Small Business Technology Transfer [STTR] program amendments which were reported from the Committee on Science and folded into this legislation.

The STTR program was begun as an experiment 4 years ago to help small businesses move ideas from our Nation's universities and national laboratories into the commercial marketplace. It is clear that this experiment has not been underway long enough to prove itself, and it needs to be extended for an additional 3 years. Hardly any of the STTR grantees have had enough time to move a promising idea to a commercial product or government purchase through the STTR process. It was also painfully clear during the committee's hearing on the STTR program that information is not available to answer the most basic question about the effectiveness of the STTR program or the SBIR program on which it was modeled. Witnesses did not have statistics available to them to counter the assertion that the STTR and SBIR programs are paying for research that the private sector would have been done anyway if the Government grants had not been available. The anecdotal evidence which was available to us suggests that the programs are providing major assistance to specific small businesses, but we have much to learn about the program's overall effectiveness. This situation must be rectified before the programs are extended again 3 years from now.

The Committee on Science accepted an amendment offered by Mr. SENSENBRENNER and me that may help solve this problem by bringing the STTR and SBIR programs under the Government Performance and Results Act, GPRA. Agencies will be required to develop performance measures for their SBIR and STTR programs, to collect information on the performance of grantees, and to analyze that data in light of program goals. Our committee report to accompany H.R. 2429 suggests a variety of possible measures which could be used for these programs. Each time agencies participating in STTR or SBIR submit a report under the GPRA Act, they will be required to