

and that many have been employed for over 1 year.

In regard to articles that have been published about fears that welfare reform would result in incidents of children having to be placed in foster care due to neglect, as well as for other causes associated with changes in the welfare system, those concerns have been shown to be unfounded in Orangeburg County. In January 1996, the intake rate for children in Orangeburg County averaged 35 to 40 cases per month, and the DSS Office there reports that this rate has not changed.

According to the Orangeburg County DSS Office, most of the client families that they serve are headed by single parents who are female, with positions that have been traditionally held by females difficult to find there. In this County, which is the second largest geographically in the State, the unemployment rate is 10 percent, there is a high incidence of illiteracy, and there is no rural public transportation system. Yet, they are making inroads in helping their disadvantaged population to find work and improve their lives. I would like to take this opportunity to commend the staff of the Orangeburg County DSS on their dedication and wish them much continued success.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO ENHANCE CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, November 9, 1997

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced legislation to provide new tools for the enforcement of child support orders in this Nation. In the process of shaping the 1996 comprehensive welfare reform bill it became clear that effective child support enforcement was among the best means this Nation has to end welfare as we know it. The bill I introduced today will assist State and Federal officials in dealing with some of their toughest delinquency cases.

This legislation would establish tough enforcement measures for dealing with foreign nationals who are noncustodial parents with children living in this Nation. The bill would deny entry visas and residency status to those falling more than \$5,000 behind in court-ordered child support payments. In addition, naturalization could not take place until one is in compliance with support orders. The bill would allow these foreigners to attend court hearings and other related legal proceedings in this Nation. It also provides new authority for immigration officers to serve court orders, summons, and other legal process at the border—when we best know the whereabouts of foreign nationals.

These provisions are similar to existing child support enforcement measures imposed on U.S. citizens, such as the denial of drivers and/or other professional licenses, as well as passports. These penalties also generally become applicable when one is more than \$5,000 behind in payments. This issue was brought to my attention by a constituent who could not collect ordered payments from a foreign national, though the irresponsible parent regularly traveled in and out of this country on business. As we make it tough on Americans

who are irresponsible, we should do the same with foreign nationals.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this legislation to provide new tools for child support enforcement. I would also ask that the text of the legislation be printed in the RECORD at this point.

TRIBUTE TO MARILYN DONLIN

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, November 9, 1997

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an educator, and an exceptional community activist, Marilyn Donlin of Warren, MI.

I have known Marilyn Donlin and her husband Bert for many, many years. We first became acquainted through democratic Party activities in Metropolitan Detroit. I have since had the good fortune and pleasure of renewing our friendship and working relationship beginning in 1992, when I was first elected to represent the city of Warren in the new 12th congressional district.

After graduating from Cass Technical High School in Detroit, Marilyn Donlin received a bachelor of philosophy from the University of Detroit and a masters of arts from Saginaw Valley State University. In addition to her involvement in high school and college with the concert and marching bands, no one would be surprised to learn that Marilyn chose the debate team and national forensic league as her other extracurricular activities.

While Marilyn Donlin taught school for Warren's Fitzgerald Public Schools from 1957 to 1955, her pioneering spirit and strong personality assured that Marilyn would be a leader in her community. While serving as president of the Fitzgerald Education Association, [MEA-NEA] from 1984 to 1995, when she spoke of her work, her focus was on the children she taught, their individual lives and struggles.

Marilyn Donlin's institutional knowledge of community politics and activities is unparalleled. Her participation in Democratic Party activities are too numerous to name, spanning decades in the Metro Detroit community. Yet, even a chronological list of her involvement wouldn't do justice to the role Marilyn has played over the years. She is a leader. She is an organizer. She is a mentor. She is truly a pioneer and has been an important progressive force in her community.

Certainly, the results of her work and activism have benefitted individuals in her community—she cares about people and the issues which impact their lives. However, Marilyn's prominent role in politics and public life have had an impact far beyond policy and government action. She has played a significant part in advancing the role of women in politics and public service. She has done this quietly, yet effectively. I know she realizes the importance of this achievement and I hope she realizes the tremendous impact she has had.

It has been my sincere pleasure to work with Marilyn Donlin through the years. I wish her the best as she embarks upon her third retirement. There is no doubt that as she immerses herself in her next endeavor, our communities will continue to reap the benefits of her work.

ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL BEVERAGE CONTAINER RECYCLING INITIATIVE ACT

HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, November 9, 1997

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the National Beverage Container Recycling Initiative Act. This comprehensive beverage container redemption bill is based on the current redemption law in my State, Maine.

There is one simple reason why I believe the Maine bottle bill should be the model for Federal legislation: it works. In fact, Maine leads the Nation with a 96 percent redemption rate on all types of returnables.

We have over 20 years experience with our Maine bottle bill. But then, we have over three centuries of experience with the basic Yankee values that underlie the concept of the bottle bill: common sense, frugality and a respect for the environment that sustains us.

After enacting the bottle bill through referendum with 54 percent of the vote in 1976, Mainers reaffirmed the law 3 years later when 67 percent of the voters opposed a repeal initiative. In 1989, to build upon the bottle bill's success, the Maine legislature extended deposits to all glass, metal and plastic beverage containers under 4 liters, except for milk cartons.

Mainers have grown so accustomed to returning their bottles and cans that recycling has become a way of life. In 1993, Maine people recycled over 425,000 tons of material, which equals one-third of the municipal waste generated statewide, and is 50 percent higher than the national average.

Recycling is a \$1.6 billion industry in Maine, employing 8,100 people in good jobs paying an average of over \$20,000 a year. Beaches and roads in Maine are cleaner, our volume of trash collected has been reduced, and jobs have been created, all due to the bottle bill.

My proposal would place a 5-cent deposit on regular beer, wine, and soda bottles. The bill would also extend the 5-cent deposit to so-called new-age beverage containers. These are mostly glass juice containers such as Snapple, Very Fine, and Gatorade. These beverages constitute over 20 percent of the national beverage market. Maine is currently the only State with a deposit and refund on these containers.

My bill would also place a 15-cent deposit on wine and spirit containers. As an incentive to implement the bottle bill, retailers would receive a 2-cent per container fee for their participation in the program. Unclaimed deposits would go to the States to help fund their environmental programs.

The benefits of a national bottle bill are obvious: cleaner highways, beaches and communities. But there is more to a bottle bill than improving the appearance of our country. Recycling creates jobs, reduces the volume of heavy solid waste at landfills and transfer stations, and saves energy. Moreover, a bottle bill engages all people in the task of protecting our natural resources.

I am convinced that a bottle bill modeled on Maine's extraordinarily successful program would benefit the entire Nation. Already nine

other States have some form of bottle bill in effect. The 77 million Americans who live in these bottle bill States already recycle more than the rest of the 186 million Americans in States without bottle bills. In 1995, EPA reported that the 10 bottle bill States recycled 1.63 million tons of beverage containers, 300,000 more tons than the 1.33 million tons recycled by the other 40 States combined.

As I introduced this important bill, I cannot help but offer an appropriate paraphrase of a timeless political adage, which I hope this legislation will bring to life: "as Maine recycles, so recycles the nation."

INTRODUCTION OF THE POST-SECONDARY ADULT VOCATIONAL EDUCATION ACT

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, November 9, 1997

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Postsecondary Adult Vocational Education Act [PAVE] to promote vocational and higher education as a means of helping welfare recipients to become self-sufficient.

Last year, Congress enacted a sweeping welfare reform law with my support. The new welfare system is designed to provide needy families with job preparation, work, and support services to enable them to leave the welfare program and become self-sufficient. In particular, it permits a limited number of adult welfare recipients to pursue vocational educational training—but only for 1 year. I believe this provision is inadequate. The fact is, nearly half of all jobs in the 21st century will require some postsecondary education.

That is why I have introduced the PAVE Act. This legislation would permit more welfare recipients to attend institutions of higher education for up to 2 years—enough time to earn a vocational or community college degree. In addition, those who attend college while on welfare would be permitted to fulfill their additional work requirements through college work-study. Working on campus will cut down on the time and expenses of commuting that make it so difficult for single mothers to meet their work and family responsibilities.

In my district there are a number of effective higher education programs that are helping welfare recipients find and keep good jobs, including the JobSTAR Program at Westchester Community College and the CLOUT Program at Pace University. Programs around the country are having similar success. By expanding the vocational and higher education opportunities available under the new welfare law, the PAVE Act will enable more welfare recipients to gain the knowledge and employment skills they need to support their families on their own and leave the welfare rolls once and for all.

The Postsecondary Adult Vocational Education Act is a commonsense proposal that will help pave the road to self-sufficiency. I invite my colleagues to join me and cosponsor this important legislation.

FEDERAL CHILD CARE CENTERS,
H.R. 2982

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, November 9, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2982, the Quality Child Care for Federal Employees Act. With the topic of child care on every news program and magazine cover, we here in the House need to look at this problem and begin to bring about changes in child care throughout America, especially in federally owned buildings.

Unfortunately, these Federal child care centers are not forced to maintain the same standards as privately owned facilities. Not only do these centers not have to comply with the State or local codes regarding child care centers, but in addition they do not follow basic fire and health codes because they are Federal facilities. This legislation will mandate that all Federal child care centers comply with State and local fire and health ordinances in addition to all other child care center codes.

This is an important first step in improving our Nation's child care and in ensuring the safety of our children who spend a great deal of their formative years in such centers. I urge my colleagues to join in supporting the thousands of children in day care by supporting my bill, H.R. 2982.

APPLAUDING HOUSE COLLEAGUES FOR CHINA VOTES

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, November 9, 1997

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud my colleagues for passing by overwhelming majority nine separate bills assailing China's human rights record, its weapons sales, its treatment of religious minorities, its support of compulsory abortion, and its relationship with Taiwan. Virtually all Americans share the same goals with regard to ending China's oppressive practices, but many disagree on the means necessary to accomplish those goals. These bills strongly show the anger and frustration of this Congress toward the Communist Chinese regime.

As former President Ronald Reagan did with the "Evil Empire," I believe the United States must continue to maintain firm dialog with its adversaries, contain them militarily, and saturate them with Western, pro-freedom influences. I believe a similar combination will work on China. I am tough on China and any country that allows human rights abuses and religious persecutions.

As a subcommittee chairman, I denied President Clinton's ill-thought plan for a \$50 million coal plant for China. I also recently took part in an event sponsored by the Congressional Human Rights Caucus and "adopted" Gyaltsen Choezom, a Tibetan nun, and Qin Musheng, and evangelical pastor, who are imprisoned by the Chinese Government for

the peaceful expression of their political beliefs or the practice of their religion. I will join other colleagues in advocating for the release of their adopted prisoners with the Chinese Government. I am committed to improving human rights and establishing true religious freedom for all of the people of China.

CHARTER SCHOOL AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT SMITH

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 7, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2616) to amend titles VI and X of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve and expand charter schools:

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to offer additional comments regarding an amendment I offered to the Charter Schools Amendments Act of 1997 that will enable Oregon to continue its efforts to give students and parents broad choices in public education.

I would like to thank the Chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, Mr. GOODLING, and the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Youth and Families, Mr. RIGGS, for their work in bringing this important legislation before us today.

I also appreciate the work of my colleague from Oregon, Ms. HOOLEY, for her hard work on this issue. I want to thank her for her efforts.

Charter schools are innovative public schools that are held accountable for academic results in exchange for freedom from burdensome regulations. The Charter Schools Amendment Act will carefully target funding for the Federal Public Charter Schools Program.

Currently, Oregon has implemented the charter school concept under enabling State statutes. This State legislation gives local school boards broad authority to establish new schools or restructure existing schools to be innovative and flexible in the way they educate children. However, my home State of Oregon does not have a specific charter school law.

Therefore, under this bill, Oregon, which this year received the final year of a 3-year Federal Public Charter Schools Program grant, would be ineligible for continued funding.

Mr. Chairman, my amendment simply makes it clear that States, which have received a 3-year grant, are not prohibited from receiving a 2-year grant extension. This amendment would extend Oregon's eligibility until 1999, when our State legislature, which meets every 2 years, convenes again and has the opportunity to pass a specific State charter school law.

My amendment will enable the State of Oregon to apply for continued support to provide creative, flexible educational options for students and families.