

serves as district 5 school board trustee. Dr. Roark attends home education activities and is actively interested in the accomplishments of homeschool students.

Dr. Roark is a past president of the Northeast Civitan Club and past district governor for the Great Southwest District of Civitan International. He is also a past president of the Northeast Civic Leaders Council. Dr. Roark continues with his active involvement in boys' baseball and other youth activities in Northeast El Paso. He received the highest certification that can be obtained in the health care administration as a Fellow American College of Health Executives. Dr. Roark is also active in his local church community.

Dr. Roark is a man of integrity, honesty, and dedication. His love of El Paso and his willingness to give himself should be a model for all El Pasoans to follow. I am proud to recognize Dr. Roark as the Northeast El Pasoan of the Year 1997. He shines as bright as the star on our mountain.

CONGRATULATIONS, REVEREND
EDWARD ALLEN

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. PAYNE Mr. Speaker, I would like my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring a man of remarkable dedication and commitment to the community he serves in my home city of Newark. Rev. Edward Allen, Sr., pastor of the Philemon Missionary Baptist Church.

On November 21, Reverend Allen will be honored by his many friends at a special event to celebrate 20 years in the ministry. It is fitting that we offer our congratulations and appreciation for his many contributions.

During the 10 years that I served as a councilman representing the South Ward in Newark, I often held town meetings to give local residents the opportunity to speak out about issues of concern. Because Reverend Allen always encouraged community involvement and participation, a town meeting that I hosted at his church was highly successful and well-attended. Philemon Missionary Baptist Church also hosted one of the most famous African-American women in modern history, the former Member of Congress and candidate for the President who was on the ballot in 12 primaries in 1972, the Honorable Shirley Chisholm.

Reverend Allen shared with Mrs. Chisholm a passion for justice and equality in our society. In fact, at a breakfast sponsored by a member of the Newark Municipal Council and candidate for the New Jersey General Assembly, the Honorable Donald Tucker on November 2 of this year, Reverend Allen spoke out with characteristic eloquence and inspiration about ensuring that residents of Newark share in the economic development efforts underway in our State, so that the urban center could become a catalyst for positive change.

Reverend Allen cares deeply about improving the quality of life in our community and ensuring that all people are treated with fairness and dignity.

Among his many accomplishments and contributions to the community are: founding

board member, Rainbow/Push Coalition chapter, Operation Push; lecturer and teacher of urban education and equal education opportunity; active involvement in the Jersey City community; cochair of the Clergy for Jesse Jackson for President in 1984 and 1988; counselor to youth and families in distress.

A graduate of my Alma Mater, Seton Hall University, Reverend Allen also pursued studies at Jersey City State College, New York Theological Seminary, Union Professional School of Business, and Saint Peter's College.

His professional career includes service as the director of the office of affirmative action compliance at the Jersey City Board of Education; college administrator, assistant to the educational opportunity fund director, and adjunct professor of the Afro-American Studies Program at Saint Peter's College.

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Allen is a man who has truly made a difference in many lives in our community. Let us join in honoring him for his two decades of dedicated service and in wishing him many more productive and successful years ahead.

DISTORTING SUBSIDIES
LIMITATION ACT OF 1997

HON. DAVID MINGE

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. MINGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Distorting Subsidies Limitation Act of 1977 [DSLA]. The DSLA is a comprehensive legislative initiative which will attempt to curb the use of economic subsidies by state and local governments to lure or retain new or existing businesses. These governmental entities have engaged in the use of targeted subsidies which include grants, below market loans or rent, and tax deferrals, aimed at a particular private business entity in an attempt to entice a business to a particular municipality. State and local governments are being forced to compete against one another using scarce tax dollars that would otherwise be used for essential public goods and services such as schools, police and fire protection and road improvements. When this state and local competition takes the form of preferential treatment for a specific business, it interferes with interstate commerce, distorts the allocation of resources, and leaves states to provide too few public goods and services. This bill will encourage economic competition among states based on factors such as quality of services, reasonable and efficient regulatory policies and fair tax structures.

Specifically, the legislation will do the following:

TAXABILITY OF SUBSIDIES

The bill creates a federal excise tax on businesses benefitting from these special targeted economic subsidies. If a business accepts the economic subsidy offered by the state or local government, the subsidy will be subject to the excise tax which will be computed on the aggregate value of the subsidy for calendar year in which it was received. The rate of the tax will be the same that applies in determining the regular income tax of a corporation. The excise tax will not apply if the subsidy is part of the long-term taxing and spending policies of the governmental unit or if the subsidy is available to all business entities.

The economic subsidies which will be subject to the excise tax will include: any grants; any contribution of property or services; any right to use property or services; any loan made available to a business at rates below those commercially available to others; any tax deferrals or payment of any tax or fee; any guarantee of any payment of any loan or lease; or any reduction for fees or other charges for the use of governmental facilities such as roads, sewage treatment facilities and the like.

There will be no excise tax rendered on the value of an economic subsidy which is provided for employee training or other educational programs. The legislation shall apply to any economic subsidy provided to a business 30 days after the date that this bill is enacted.

TAX EXEMPT BOND FINANCING

The DSLA will also deny the exemption from tax for interest on bonds providing targeted state or local government development subsidies for a specific business entity. The legislation shall apply to bond obligations issued after the enactment of this bill.

FEDERAL FUNDING

The legislation will prohibit the use of federal funds by a state or local governmental unit for any targeted subsidies. The DSLA is not intended to deny the use of federal program dollars for economic development if the federal program dollars are available to all businesses or are used for an established federal economic development program such as an enterprise zone. If it is determined that federal funds have been used for targeted subsidies, the bill provides for recovery of those funds from the governmental unit or the business entity. The legislation shall apply to funds provided after the enactment of this bill.

CLOSING

The Distorting Subsidies Limitation Act of 1997, would reduce the ever-increasing financial burdens placed on the citizenry of various taxing jurisdictions who are exploited by the race for business development. When enacted, it will allow state and local officials, who face exploitation by companies' threats to relocate, the ability to negotiate with businesses on a level playing field. The ever-increasing practice of giving targeted subsidies to demanding businesses is having a very detrimental effect on both the employment stability and fiscal stability of cities and states. We cannot allow the this short-term, targeted favoritism for a particular business to continue to skew the long term economic health of our communities.

A TRIBUTE TO HENRY B. GONZALEZ, AN EXEMPLARY LEADER
FOR ENSUING GENERATIONS

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, the Honorable HENRY B. GONZALEZ, Dean of the Texas Delegation and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, will be honored by his community on November 23 at the Henry B. Gonzalez Archival Library Dinner in San Antonio, TX. Although I will not be able to join his family and friends

at this gathering, I take this opportunity to pay high tribute to his 44 years of public service and thank him for blazing a path for subsequent generations of Americans, especially Hispanics, pursuing the nobelist ideals of public office.

The accomplishments of the Honorable HENRY B. GONZALEZ in public office, particularly in the last 36 years in Congress, are substantial. He shepherded 71 bills through enactment, ranging from abolishing the poll tax, which was still in effect in the early 1960's, to restoring the strength of our Nation's deposit insurance system. While he was chairman, the House Banking, Finance, and Urban Affairs Committee held more than 500 hearings on financial issues that affected consumers, small businesses, and banks. Through his investigative powers Chairman GONZALEZ wielded substantial influence in combating financial crimes. Chairman GONZALEZ championed legislation enabling small businessowners to secure credit essential to the prosperity of their enterprises. And let us not forget that Dean GONZALEZ was instrumental in reauthorizing Federal housing laws, providing shelter for thousands of families throughout the country.

Always doing what he believed to be right rather than what was popular, Dean GONZALEZ made superlative use of special orders in the House Chamber. He alerted all of us to the impending savings and loan crisis years before the industry collapsed; he educated the Nation about the culture and contributions of Mexican-Americans. In recent years, his most popular special orders were about history: his own, the history of San Antonio and Texas, and the history of the founding of our Federal Government.

The Honorable HENRY B. GONZALEZ' accomplishments are many and his legacy is an inspiration to us all, but especially our youth. As the chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, I thank Dean GONZALEZ, for blazing a path for ensuing generations of Hispanic leaders. His dedication to public service and the many contributions to his community, the State of Texas and our Nation were accomplished with tenacity, passion, and a tireless work ethic. Integrity was his hallmark. Our youth, who are certain to achieve great accomplishments of their own, will 1 day look upon the legacy of HENRY B. GONZALEZ for inspiration and pride.

Mr. Speaker, on this auspicious occasion I ask my colleagues to join me and the people of San Antonio in saluting a great friend and grand American: the Honorable HENRY B. GONZALEZ. He will always be an exemplary leader * * *. He will always be HENRY B.

WALTER GREFFE: SELFLESS
CITIZEN

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN
OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to pay tribute to my friend and constituent, Walter Greffe, who passed away this Veterans Day weekend at the age of 71. Walter Greffe was a special individual who will be greatly missed but fondly remembered.

After graduating from Morristown High School in 1944, Walt served our Nation as a

sergeant in the Army Air Corps during World War II. However, his service did not end when the bombs stopped falling and the troops came home. I have the pleasure of being a member of the same VFW and American Legion posts to which Walt dedicated so much of his time. In particular, his service to the Veteran of Foreign Wars Watnong Post 3401 was extraordinary. Walt was twice the commander of the Watnong Post, one of New Jersey's largest VFW posts. Walt, along with his wife, Mae, continued to volunteer their time and talents for the hundreds of events at the Watnong Post, including many events for senior citizen groups and even some of my own Medicare town meetings.

In 1953, Walt moved to Morris Plains and immediately became an integral part of this close-knit community of 5,000 inhabitants, aptly called the community of caring. No one in Morris Plains epitomized this more than Walt Greffe. Upon his death, one Morris Plains resident remarked, "Walt was a kind and considerate man who was always willing to do everything for anybody." That is the Walt Greffe I knew as well.

Aside from his involvement with veterans organizations, Walt worked for United Parcel Service in Parsippany for 27 years, and was graduate of the Stafford Hall of Business. He also dedicated untold hours to the Morris Plains Seniors Monday Group, the Rotary Club of Morris Plains, and the Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains. As you see, Walt touched every part of the community.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask all of my colleagues to join me as we remember Walt in our prayers; Mae, his wife of many years; his son, John; his daughter, Diane; and the many other close family and friends Walt leaves behind. Walt was truly a selfless citizen and an outstanding veteran.

OHIO STATE TREASURER J. KENNETH BLACKWELL ADDRESSES
PROPOSED GLOBAL CLIMATE
TREATY

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I want to insert in the RECORD today an insightful speech delivered at the recent Global Change Conference here in Washington by Ohio's State Treasurer J. Kenneth Blackwell.

As my colleagues know, despite considerable uncertainty about the significance of global warming, the Clinton administration is moving ahead with plans to reduce carbon emissions, or greenhouse gases in the United States to 1990 levels by the year 2010. The costs of achieving that goal, of course, will be absorbed by the American people in the form of higher energy costs and higher taxes.

Mr. Blackwell very eloquently addresses the global warming issue and the fundamental flaws in the Kyoto Climate Change Treaty. I commend his speech to my colleagues.

THE CLIMATE TREATY—THE RIGHT ANSWER TO
THE WRONG QUESTION

As I began preparing for my part in today's discussion, I recalled a remark attributed to J. Pierpont Morgan. A woman is said to have approached him at a social gathering rough-

ly 100 years ago and asked, "Mr. Morgan, what is the stock market going to do?"

Morgan hesitated a moment and then gave the woman the full benefit of his years of money-accumulating experience. "Madam," he said, "the stock market will fluctuate."

If J. Pierpont Morgan had been born 100 years later and specialized in climate instead of money, and if he were asked now what the climate is going to do, the same answer would be appropriate. "Madam, the climate will fluctuate."

I do not mean to suggest by this that we can ignore the possibility that this time Henny Penny may be right. The sky may be warming. The seas may rise. And it would be irresponsible to sit idly by doing nothing if there is a real chance that all the world's coastal cities will go under water in the next 50 or 100 years.

Neither, however, do I believe it responsible to rush to the binding international agreement the Administration is proposing to replace the voluntary approach we agreed to in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

The administration's proposal is a fast answer to incompletely formulated questions based on inadequate data. Fast answers all too often are half-baked. In this case, the kindest thing we can say about the fast answer is that it is not fast at all. At best, it is half fast.

Just for starters, we do not know whether global warming is taking place now. It is true that surface temperature readings have gone up by about one degree Celsius over the past century. Some evidence suggests that over the past decade, however, modest global cooling may have occurred. At this point, we simply do not know. What we do know is that the Climate Treaty will not answer this question. Only time and serious scientific study will produce an answer.

If global warming is taking place, we do not know the extent to which greenhouse gases may be responsible. For years, climatologists believed that the sun's energy output was constant, but I have read recently that some now believe the solar constant may not be constant at all. Variations in solar activity may well account for the one degree rise in global temperature recorded over the past 100 years. This one degree change may be an entirely natural progression following the Little Ice Age which ended about the time Mr. Morgan was sharing his wisdom on the stock market, and it may well prove to be cyclical.

Even if in the face of all the scientific uncertainties, we could properly conclude that capping CO₂ emissions would remove the potential threat of global warming, there is little reason to believe that the Administration's proposal will accomplish that objective. Even its supporters concede that emissions from China and India alone are likely to overwhelm the proposed reductions by the U.S. and Western Europe.

Although the proposed Climate Treaty is not an answer to either the objective of understanding global warming or capping CO₂ emissions, we can be certain that it will accomplish several other objectives. I think it will be helpful to consider some of them.

First, if we want to hasten the day when the United Nations will be transformed from an association of sovereign states into a one-world governing body, the Climate Treaty will work! Some international entity will be necessary to enforce emission mandates. Many Americans bridle at the 55 mile per hour national speed limit. Imagine that fast answer expanded to cover all matters involving energy consumption, and imagine it administered out of Geneva instead of Washington, D.C. That's the path we are on if we accept binding international mandates.

Second, many people complain about the fact that combined federal, state and local