

the President really has little choice at this point. There is a shortage of federal funds; the American people do not want new taxes; and the major problems of government in recent years have been to restrain spending on current programs. Some criticize the address for not grappling with the tough problems that face the nation, like campaign finance reform, bringing entitlement spending under control, and improving the educational system. The President offered very few specifics, but I am not at all sure that such detailed proposals belong in an inaugural address. Those items are better left for the State of the Union address and other presidential speeches. The President wanted to use his second inaugural address to spell out his broad vision for our nation's future.

HONORING DR. SOLOMON STINSON
FOR 36 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING
AND CONTINUED SERVICE TO
DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 1997

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on February 26, Van E. Blanton Elementary School will honor Dr. Solomon Stinson, Chairman of the Dade County School Board, as a "Living Legend." It is my great pleasure to join Dr. Stinson's family, friends, coworkers, and students in recognizing his 36 years of outstanding and continued service to our community. I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating Dr. Stinson for his dedication as an educator, a role model, and a mentor who helped shape thousands of children in my district.

Dr. Stinson earned a Bachelor's degree in social studies, mathematics, and science certification from Alabama State University, a master's degree in school administration and supervision from the University of Iowa, and a doctoral degree in school administration from the University of Iowa. He also received a certification in elementary education from the University of Miami and a certification in adult education from Florida State University.

Dr. Stinson began his career by teaching at Holmes Elementary School. He quickly advanced to become the assistant principal at Rainbow Park and North Grade Elementary Schools, and later principal at North Grade and Lake Steven Elementary Schools. Dr. Stinson distinguished himself as an outstanding administrator in the position of assistant superintendent of the Bureau of Business Services with the Dade County school system. He served in several other important positions in the Dade County public school system, including area superintendent of the north central district; associate superintendent and later senior associate superintendent of the bureau of school operations; and deputy superintendent of school operations for Dade County public schools. Today, Dr. Stinson continues his outstanding record as a school board member for District 2 and Dade County school board chairman. We are fortunate that Dr. Stinson devoted his life to ensuring quality education for all our children.

In addition to his many years as an educator, Dr. Stinson has been extremely active in other areas of our community. He is a member of Mount Tabor Baptist Church, where he serves as chairman of the board of trustees

for the last 6 years. He also chaired the Hurricane Trust Fund and the Red Cross Committee. Dr. Stinson is a member of the board of directors of jobs for Miami, and a committee member and council advisory board member of the Boy Scouts of America. His exceptional, notable service, and commitment to Dade County has included dozens of positions in numerous organizations, earning more awards than I can list here.

Dr. Solomon Stinson has proven to be a "Living Legend," and an excellent role model for our children. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my entire community and as a former educator myself, I offer him my deepest thanks for his many years of dedicated service, and our best wishes for his continued success.

GEORGE FELDENKREIS AND
FAMILY TO BE HONORED

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 1997

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join with The Simon Weisenthal Center in recognizing the achievements of Mr. George Feldenkreis and his family.

On Sunday, March 16, 1997, the Simon Weisenthal Center will be celebrating this family's remarkable story. Thirty-six years ago, George Feldenkreis escaped the Castro dictatorship to come to the United States. With him were his one-year-old son, Oscar, and a daughter, Fanny, on the way.

Like the thousands of refugees from oppression who came before them, all the Feldenkreis family members brought with them was a capacity for hard work and the desire to realize the American dream. Years of struggle were rewarded by success in the business world and the respect of his peers. George Feldenkreis, as head of Supreme International, is a leader in the American apparel industry. Additionally, he heads Carfel Inc., which deals with the importation and distribution of auto parts.

George Feldenkreis chose to give back to his community by lending his considerable talent and energy to civic causes. He served as a leader for Temple Menorah and the Hispanic Heritage Committee, as well as president of the Cuban Hebrew Division of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation for 7 years. He currently serves as a vice president of the federation.

In addition to giving their father six grandchildren, both of George Feldenkreis's two children, together with their spouses, contribute to the success of the family enterprises. Oscar serves as president and CEO and Fanny and her husband, Salomon Hanono, also serve in prominent positions in the firm. Oscar and his wife, Ellen, together with Fanny and her husband also carry forward the family tradition of service. Fanny and Salomon give their time to the Michael Ann Russell Jewish Community Center and the Samuel Hillel Community Day School. Oscar and Ellen work on behalf of Temple Menorah, the Lehrman Day School and Israel Bonds.

Mr. Speaker I ask the House to join with me and The Simon Weisenthal Center in recognizing a family whose achievements have realized the American dream.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN
FRANK TEJEDA

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 1997

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is always difficult to say goodbye to dear friends, to those who have given so much and so unselfishly to their communities and to our Nation.

Our colleague Frank Tejada was one of those men who are born to carry the torch for others to follow. His life is a testimony of courage, service, generosity, and integrity.

Throughout his life he stood up against adversity. After dropping out of high school, he enlisted in the Marines. His exceptional military training and courage served him well in Vietnam; he was awarded with the Bronze Star and Purple Heart, and most recently the Silver Star.

After 4 years of military service, Frank completed a bachelor's degree at St. Mary's University in San Antonio. He continued his education at the University of California at Berkeley, where he obtained a law degree. His desire to improve himself and to be of service to the best of his abilities encouraged him to obtain two masters degrees, one in public administration from Harvard University and a second one in law from Yale University.

As a lawyer serving in the Texas House and later in its Senate, he defended the rights of the most vulnerable. He fought for worker's compensation reform and for other initiatives for minorities.

His hard work and his understanding of his community in San Antonio, TX, gained him their overwhelming support to represent them in the U.S. House of Representatives. As a Member of Congress and of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, Frank works relentlessly to secure veterans' rights and access to education and health care for the poor.

Frank always stayed close to the people he loved: his family, friends, and his community back home. In his later years, he fought his terminal illness with the same courage and dignity that exemplified his life.

To Frank Tejada's family and friends, I would like to extend my deepest sympathy in this trying time. I would like to join all who had the privilege of knowing him in paying tribute to our American hero, Frank Tejada, for serving his community, his State, and his Nation with the courage, generosity, and dignity of great men of history.

WYOMING GRAZING PRIVILEGES

HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 1997

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, Jackson Hole, WY, is one of the most beautiful and unique areas of our Nation. Over 3 million visitors per year come to hike, camp, ski, and sightsee amidst the grandeur of the Teton Range and the winding Snake River in Grand Teton National Park and the greater Yellowstone area beyond. Many wildlife species such as moose, bear, eagles, and trumpeter swan make the

valley their home, while the largest elk herd in the lower 48 States annually migrates through it to winter on the wildlife refuge at its southern end.

While much of the valley is protected for perpetuity in Federal ownership, some of the most valuable wildlife habitat, migration routes, and scenic vistas remain in private ownership as working ranch lands. Conservation groups in Jackson Hole and around the country have worked for years to help protect these ranches from development through the use of scenic easements and other means and are to be commended for their good work.

Unfortunately, we now face a situation where some of the most scenic and valuable ranch lands adjacent to the park could be forced to sell and subdivide. In 1950, the law establishing Grand Teton National Park allowed local grazing permittees whose livestock had historically used the new park lands for summer range to continue that grazing for the life of the permittees' designated heirs. As a result, 14,000 acres were set aside, irrigated, and fenced for the benefit of these permit holders who, in turn, paid grazing fees at the required rate.

Since that time, development pressures have grown enormously. One of these permit holders has already sold his ranch, which became a major subdivision of middle-class houses. Meanwhile real estate prices continue to skyrocket and intense development pressure has focused on the remaining permit holders.

In June of last year, a dear friend of mine, Mary Mead, died in a tragic accident doing what she loved best: working on her cherished ranch. Mary was the designated heir to her family's grazing permit on the Grand Teton National Park. Legally, with Mary's death, the grazing permit would be terminated. However, without this permit the Mead family, along with former U.S. Senator Cliff Hansen—father of Mary—would no longer be able to maintain their cattle operation and ranch. Without the park's summer range on which all of their cattle depend, the family would almost certainly be forced to sell their livestock and the ranch, which would in all likelihood be immediately subdivided and developed. This tragic loss would not only destroy open space and scenic vistas but could also adversely impact wildlife habitat and migration patterns as well as the integrity of the park's greater ecosystem.

For these reasons, the family has requested consideration of an extension of their grazing privilege. In return, they are committed to working with the National Park Service and others to actively explore options to preserve their ranch lands. I, too, am dedicated to maintaining the highly valuable open space and ranching culture in this vicinity of the park. An extension of grazing privileges would allow time to explore a network of relationships and avoid the indiscriminate development that could occur on these pastoral lands.

The legislation I am introducing today, written in cooperation with Superintendent Jack Neckles of Grand Teton National Park, authorizes a study which will determine the significance of ranching and the pastoral character of the land, including open vistas, wildlife habitat, and other public benefits. It calls for the Secretary of the Interior to work with the Secretary of Agriculture, the Governor of Wyoming, the Teton County commissioners, affected land owners, and other interested mem-

bers of the public, to submit a report to Congress that contains the findings of the study.

With the participation of the interested parties I am hopeful that the study will find open spaces to be an essential dynamic for wildlife in and around the greater Grand Teton National Park system and for all of us who live and desire the wide open spaces.

I commend this legislation to my colleagues and urge their support for its prompt enactment.

TV RATINGS

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 1997

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I am inserting my Washington Report for Wednesday, January 22, 1997 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

THE NEW TV RATINGS

The television industry is now implementing a voluntary plan to rate TV programs. Concern about violent and vulgar programming is broad and well-founded: studies have indicated that over half of all television shows contain violence which can encourage children to behave violently.

But there is far less agreement on how to best limit children's exposure to violent programming. I think it is important to alert parents to sensitive material that they may not want their children to view. My hope is that a good rating system coupled with technological advances will help parents monitor their children's television viewing.

The rating system: With my support, Congress last year enacted a law which gave broadcasters until February 8, 1997 to establish a voluntary rating system. The law also requires all newly manufactured TVs with 13-inch or larger screens to include a "v-chip." A TV program's rating could then be electronically transmitted to the v-chip, allowing parents to program their television sets to block certain shows. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) must develop regulations to implement the v-chip requirement.

The TV rating system, developed by the broadcast and cable networks, is modeled on the motion picture rating system, and includes six different ratings: two for programs designed for children, and four for other programs:

TV-Y: Programs with this rating are considered suitable for children of all ages and specifically designed for a very young audience, like "Barney and Friends."

TV-Y7: Designed for children age 7 and above, whose developmental skills generally enable them to distinguish between make-believe and reality, these programs could include mild physical or comedic violence. An example could be "Mighty Morphin' Power Rangers."

TV-G: This rating is intended for programs not specifically designed for children, but which most parents would find suitable for all ages. Programs contain little or no violence, no strong language, and little or no sexual dialogue or situations. Example: "Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman."

TV-PG: Parental guidance is suggested for programs with this rating. The programs could contain some suggestive sexual dialogue and situations. Many situation comedies might fit into this category.

TV-14: Parents are strongly cautioned against letting children under the age of 14 watch these programs unattended. These

programs may contain sophisticated themes, sexual content, strong language and more intense violence, like "ER" or "NYPD Blue."

TV-M: These programs are suited for adult audiences only, due to mature themes, profane language, graphic violence and explicit sexual content. Unedited R-rated movies, which run on some cable premium channels, would likely get this rating.

The ratings apply to all programs except sports and news, shown on broadcast or cable channels. Each episode of a TV series is rated separately. Ratings appear in the upper-left hand corner of the television screen at the beginning of a program is more than an hour in length. The television industry has requested that newspapers and TV Guide include the ratings in their TV listings.

One of the greatest challenges in implementing the new ratings is the volume of programming. Motion pictures are rated by an independent board which reviews about two films per day. In contrast, TV ratings must be assigned to 2,000 hours of programming each day. For this reason, television networks, producers, and distributors are responsible for assigning ratings to their programs. An oversight board will review the application of the ratings for uniformity and consistency. The board will also solicit comments from the public.

Potential pitfalls: The new rating system has been criticized on several fronts. Some fear that advertisers will be leery of sponsoring programs that receive certain ratings, thereby driving some critically acclaimed programs off of the air. Others argue that the rating system will lead producers to show even less restraint than they do now.

Some critics favor a more detailed rating which would indicate the levels of sex, violence, or foul language contained in a program, using a scale of 0 through 5. Under this system, a program might receive a rating of S-2, V-1, L-3. Supporters of this system contend that it would give parents more useful information, and offer as examples Showtime and HBO, two premium pay cable channels which offer similar ratings. However, supporters of the current rating system counter that the S-V-L system is logistically impossible, given the volume of programming, and also more difficult to apply consistently. They also argue that paralleling the familiar movie-rating system assures that parents will understand the ratings, and note that Canada recently abandoned S-V-L ratings because they were too complex.

Commercials will not be covered by the new ratings system, though critics point out that even children watching "family friendly" shows can be inappropriately exposed to advertisements for violent movies or alcohol. Some critics also believe the TV industry is incapable of rating its own programs fairly.

Assessment: Given the pervasive influence of television, I think we should do what we can to make that influence positive for children. The proposed system is far from perfect. My guess is that parents are going to need more information; the age-based format of the ratings simply will not alert parents sufficiently to the specific violent or sexual content of TV programs. But I do think the new rating system represents at least a good first step, and it should be tested. It is far more desirable for the industry to devise the rating system than have government censorship.

Monitoring children's television viewing is no small task. After all, most parents want not only to steer their kids away from harmful programming—which ratings can help them do—but towards programming that is educational and meaningful. And television