

leadership said that they will take up campaign finance reform early next year. The leadership also said that they will consider several small bills, rather than a comprehensive piece of legislation. Mr. Speaker that approach is inadequate.

As I have explained before, next year is going to be too late to consider campaign finance reform in time for the 1998 election. In addition, allowing a variety of small incremental bills will only result in more confusion and more loopholes for special interests to buy our elections. It is obvious that the leadership has no desire to see real campaign finance reform pass this year.

What we need is comprehensive campaign finance reform. We need reform that takes the big money out of campaigns. We don't need incremental bills that only add confusion to an already confusing system. The House of Representatives has to act soon.

Mr. Speaker, it appears that we have failed the people of this Nation by not passing a campaign reform vote this year, let's not let them down again next year.

#### TRIBUTE TO ALMA ANNA WELK

#### HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 13, 1997*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a very special individual who is residing in my congressional district in Michigan. Her name is Alma Anna Welk and next month she will be celebrating her 100th birthday.

I'd like to bring you back in history 100 years to the time of the Klondike gold rush, Joseph Stalin's birth, and the closing of the British Victorian period. It was during this era that Alma was born in Alpena, MI, on December 11, 1897.

Born to Millie and Charles Bromund, Anna was the second of six children. Not long after Anna's birth, the Bromund family made their way to Marinette, WI, where Anna attended Peshtigo Point School. In 1910, at the age of 13, she began working for families around the area. She left her jobs and her community when she was 17 to return with her family to Alpena. It was here, in 1917, during the Lenten season, that Anna met her true love, William Welk. They were introduced to one another by a mutual friend, Beulah Schultz. Beulah had put together a perfect match. Anna and William were married on November 23 of that same year.

On March 9, 1919, they had their first child—Laurine. During the next 15 years and all through the Great Depression, the couple bore five more children, three girls and two boys: Ethel, Margaret, Ruth Jane, William, and Richard. They were just getting over the effects of the Depression when the family was struck by tragedy with the death of their youngest child, Richard, at the age of three.

Years went by and Alma and William's children grew up and, one by one, they all married. The family expanded with the addition of 10 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. In 1967, the passing of William—loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather—was a tremendous loss to the entire family.

Mr. Speaker, next month we will be commemorating these 100 years of Alma Anna

Welk's life. My congratulations go out to Alma on this very special occasion. It is an event that has found her continuing to be a vigorous and active member of the Alpena community. It is always a pleasure for me to deliver a tribute of this kind to my constituents who are living legends of the Michigan area. Alma is an enduring witness of American history from the William McKinley administration to the William Clinton administration. As she celebrates this milestone with family and friends, I offer my best wishes for many more joyous years to come. In my personal life with family members and my professional life as a Member of Congress, I have found that age does indeed equate with knowledge, wisdom, and a profound respect for the value of tradition.

#### THE WELL CHILD OUTREACH PROGRAM OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY, MD

#### HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 13, 1997*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the first health outreach programs in the State of Maryland to deal with immunizing children. The Well Child Outreach Program in St. Mary's County is a partnership between private practitioners and the St. Mary's County Health Department that was created to reduce the fragmented care of children in southern Maryland. In addition to providing medical care to uninsured and underinsured children, the program coordinates with the Department of Social Services, St. Mary's County public schools, WIC and Head Start in order to immunize as many children as possible throughout the county.

In its 9 years in existence, child immunization rates have improved, 98 percent of children entering county schools have complied with the entry physicals and 90 percent of the clients have kept their appointments. The State of Maryland supports State and local health departments throughout the State that follow the well child outreach model. I applaud the St. Mary's County Health Department and the physicians who began the Well Child Outreach Program.

#### IN OPPOSITION TO THE DISPARATE TREATMENT OF HAITIANS

SPEECH OF

#### HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 12, 1997*

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the language in the conference report accompanying H.R. 2607, the District of Columbia Appropriations Act, that allows for the different and disparate treatment of Haitians. Last year, the Immigration Reform Act would retroactively allow for the wrongful deportation of hundreds of Central Americans—Nicaraguans, Guatemalans, and Salvadorans—and Haitians. Mr. Speaker, guess who, in the final analysis, was left out of the legislation? Haitians. That's right, Haitians. This is patently unfair, and although I am not

a member of the House International Relations Committee, I will do all that I can to ensure that this situation is rectified when Congress reconvenes for the second session of the 105th Congress.

Like many of my colleagues, I listened with rapt attention during the debate late last night on the District of Columbia conference report. The citizens of the District of Columbia—hard-working, taxpaying citizens—have a hard-working, but non-voting representative in the House of Representatives. Because of this fact, the District of Columbia appropriations bill is historically laden with riders that are totally unrelated to anything regarding how the District of Columbia should spend its annual Federal appropriation. One of these riders in the conference report would prevent the wrongful deportation of Central Americans but not for Haitians. While yesterday's CONGRESSIONAL RECORD delineated the agreement, that the U.S. Attorney General will temporarily suspend the deportation of Haitians while Congress deliberates legislation to provide similar relief to Haitians, this is not part of the current law. And all of us know the weight and importance of the law in the U.S. house of Representatives.

It disturbs me greatly that this great Nation, under God, indivisible, is incapable of treating all persons fairly. More than 18,000 Haitians were admitted to the United States after being processed in Guantanamo Bay in 1991. Many of these persons fled a violent military dictatorship, led by General Cedras and Michel Francois. These persons were determined to have credible, bona fide claims for political asylum, and were permitted to enter our sacred shores. Now, we find out that the law has unfairly excluded these persons.

I will do all I can to bring justice to the Haitian people and to the citizens of America. I demand hearings on this legislation, and the expeditious consideration and adoption of this bill when Congress reconvenes.

#### ON THE DEATH OF JOHN N. STURDIVANT

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 13, 1997*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, it was my privilege to speak at the funeral for John Sturdivant on November 4, 1997. I knew John as a friend and as the leader of one of America's great trade unions. His death from leukemia impoverished all of us who knew him and the countless number of Americans who benefited from his work. The foundation he laid was so strong it is bound to be lasting. Many Members of Congress knew and respected John Sturdivant. I know they will join me in paying tribute to his work and his lasting legacy.

Mr. Speaker, I am submitting these comments that I made at the funeral.

Working people have lost a champion before the fight is over. It was not a fair fight. John never lost those.

There was a reason that John was such a winner. Look at what John had to fight with—just about everything, beginning with that disarming, broad grin. He had it all—the talent, the sophistication, the charisma, the energy, the ability to think outside the box, and the unfailing dedication to workers.

John Sturdivant represented the same people I represent: federal and D.C. government employees. John's work often wasn't much different from mine. If so, I knew I'd hear from him.

When I first met John, however, we were not on the same side—at least not structurally. I was cast as the manager of a troubled agency, John as the local union president. President Carter had named me to chair the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission when the Commission had gone through perhaps the most troubled period—a huge backlog, firings by the President at the top of the agency, the whole ball of wax. Though entirely a management problem, it could not be fixed without top to bottom change and a wholesale make over. As a civil rights lawyer and a veteran of the movement, I did not look forward to tension with the employees, and there inevitably was some. The union never missed a beat, but John had a lot to do with the mixture of wit and determination that made it all work. In the end, the agency got rid of most of its backlog, not by fighting the union, but by empowering the workers with new, upgraded duties.

John Sturdivant rose through the ranks of his own union the way unions insist that employees should move up in the workplaces that unions represent. But, John rose the way that yeast makes bread rise—because, by conviction and ability, he could not be contained. John Sturdivant was made for the modern era of American unionism. He knew how to do it by fighting, he knew how to do it by negotiating, and he knew how to do it in ways nobody had thought of. He was a strategic thinker who knew how to pick his fights while keeping the others alive to be fought another day. Without that kind of smarts, he would never have achieved the landmark changes that occurred when I chaired the old Subcommittee and that John wore on his sleeves like stripes; the political empowerment of government workers through Hatch Act reform, locality pay, and the first government-wide buyouts.

In the end, John Sturdivant, who was a leader in reinventing modern unionism, was not about to let government reinvent itself without the union as a partner. And the man who had risen to leadership with the rise of public sector unionism was not about to preside over its decline. John Sturdivant had a quality union leaders seek in these tough times for workers and that public officials with a movement background like mine most admire. John knew how to work the inside with the vision of an outsider. Now if the rest of us could only learn to beguile our opponents with a broad, disarming grin.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN STURDIVANT

##### HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, our Nation has lost an outstanding labor leader. The late John Sturdivant was a loyal public servant who faithfully served our Nation's public servants. As president of the American Federation of Government Employees, John Sturdivant deeply believed in the importance of Government service and deeply valued our system of Government.

From 1991 through 1994, as the chairman of the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee, I was privileged to work with John Sturdivant on a variety of issues. I respected

John as an aggressive advocate of the rights of Federal workers. He was very actively involved in the successful effort to enact the landmark Family and Medical Leave Act. And, John fought tirelessly to protect the salaries and benefits of his members as those on the other side sought to balance the Federal budget on the backs of Government workers. He worked closely with the members of the Post Office and Civil Service Committee staff and took a strong personal interest in all legislation affecting the retirement and health benefits of Federal workers. He and his fellow union members worked closely with the Post Office and Civil Service Committees to develop legislation to mitigate the effect of defense downsizing and base closings on Federal workers. John Sturdivant also helped to establish a Federal employee buyout program that became the model for civilian government agencies experiencing downsizing.

John Sturdivant was at the forefront of the effort to ensure that Government, itself, lives up to the promise of equal opportunity for its own workforce. No one worked harder to bring about reform of the Hatch Act. Until it was amended, the Hatch Act precluded Federal employees from engaging in any effort to campaign in a partisan election campaign. John Sturdivant clearly understood the dangers of Hatch Act restrictions on Federal workers and was outraged that anyone should be required to sacrifice this most vital right of free speech in order to work for the Federal Government.

When John Sturdivant became president of the American Federation of Government Employees, he worked diligently and successfully to lobby the Congress to amend the antiquated Hatch Act. Then he encouraged his members to exercise their new rights and take an active interest in the politics of this Nation and the affairs of Government. John Sturdivant helped bring out the voice of Government workers. He understood that in a democracy, the ballot was the ultimate power and that the surest means of self-protection for AFGE members was active, informed political participation. John Sturdivant made certain that those he represented understood their rights and responsibilities. That by itself is a significant legacy.

I will miss John Sturdivant as I cherish his memory.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN STURDIVANT

##### HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the late, great American labor leader, John N. Sturdivant. John passed away on October 28 after a long and courageous battle with cancer. He will be forever remembered and missed, especially by those of us who worked alongside him on issues of critical importance to America's working men and women.

John was the National President of the American Federation of Government Employees [AFGE] since 1988. An AFGE activist for more than 30 years, he worked his way up the ranks, serving as president of Local 1754 in Winchester, VA, from 1968 until 1976, when he joined the union's national office. Upon his

election as national President in 1988, he had the proud distinction of being the first African-American to hold that office and to serve as president of a major AFL-CIO union.

John was born in Philadelphia on June 30, 1938 and raised in Bridgeport, CT. In 1956 he enlisted in the Air Force, where he served our country until 1960. In 1961 he went to work as an electronics technician with the Army Interagency Communications Agency in Winchester, VA, where he became active in AFGE.

When he was elected National President of AFGE, John inherited an AFGE that was in dire financial straits. Although the union was near bankruptcy, John was determined to save it and continue its long history of service to Federal employees. He made the difficult financial decisions needed to stabilize the union, and succeeded in saving the organization from disarray. Today, AFGE has about 178,000 active members in 1,100 locals and represents over 700,000 workers in 68 Federal agencies, more than one third of the Federal workforce. Under John's leadership AFGE became a watchdog against inefficiency in government and a champion of workers' and human rights both at home and abroad.

John was well known and highly respected on Capitol Hill, where he worked tirelessly on behalf of better pay, improved working conditions, and higher quality health and retirement benefits for federal employees. He helped win the locality pay system that will bring Federal salaries in line with those in the private sector. And he led a long battle for the Health Act Reforms that now permit Federal employees to participate in our democratic process.

In the aftermath of the Oklahoma City bombing, John worked closely with President Clinton and Federal, State and local officials to provide aid and comfort to survivors and to the families of those who died. Once the grieving had subsided, he was instrumental in bringing increased security measures at Federal installations so this tragedy would never be repeated.

As a member of the President's National Partnership Council, he was a full partner in the effort to create better employee-management relationships and to reinvent the Federal Government. He understood that the best way to improve service to the public is by giving those who do the work a voice in how the work is done.

During the partial shutdowns of the Government in 1995 and 1996, John's voice was a powerful one in support of reopening the government and providing workers with back pay when they returned.

John, who lived in Vienna, VA, had been an at-large member of the Democratic National Committee. He was a vice president of the AFL-CIO and a trustee of the George Meany Center for Labor Studies. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Labor Studies from Antioch University in 1980 and later studied law at George Washington University.

John Sturdivant devoted his life to championing the causes of working people in America. His courage, honesty, dedication and vision made him the model of a great union leader. I was proud to know and work with him. All of his many friends and colleagues join me in remembering his passing, and praising his many contributions to improving our Government and Nation.