

Wesley, Brown and Bartle finds America's leading corporations continue to maintain diversity employment practices.

Almost 2 in every 3 Fortune 100 companies (62 percent) responding to a survey by Wesley, Brown and Bartle Company, Inc. have hiring programs dedicated to diversity and 15 percent of them tie portions of executive compensation to achieving diversity leadership goals. A year ago, when WB and B first surveyed these companies, 64 percent said they maintained such programs and 17 percent said they included compensation incentives. These percentages were almost identical to the survey results of a year ago, despite the political assault on affirmative action programs in the intervening months.

WB&B founder Wes Poriotis notes the influence of a widely circulated study by the Hudson Institute on the effects of the marketplace to changing demographics in the United States. The study concluded that in the near future, companies with workforces that mirror the demography of their customers will prevail over competitors whose workforces do not. In short, diversity hiring is good business.

Wesley, Brown & Bartle is the oldest minority-partnered international search firm. It provides senior and middle management executive recruitment for major corporations and Federal agencies. Their innovative systems for identifying and maintaining contact with managers and professionals have been utilized by many of the Nation's leading corporations, including AT and T, DuPont, Northrop Grumman, The Prudential, Toy's R US, and Union Pacific.

Wesley, Brown and Bartle is to be commended for having been in the forefront of advancing quality executives from the ranks of the Nation's women and minorities for almost a quarter of a century. I salute this firm in my district and the truly inspirational results of their quarter-century of significant and innovative achievement.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN SCHARER

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 1997*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my district's most dedicated and caring public servants, John Scharer, who recently retired after more than 2 decades of public service.

John has served the city of Petaluma, CA for more than 24 years as an accountant, finance director, and, for the past 16 years, as city manager. His courage and creativity have helped to turn the city's economy around and prepare Petalumans to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Under John's leadership, the city built a beautiful 24,000 square foot community center, developed a wonderful marina and municipal airport, and converted a mortuary into a state-of-the-art police facility.

I was fortunate to have served on the Petaluma City Council for 8 years during John's tenure as city manager. Although we seldom disagreed on important issues, when we did, I never questioned John's commitment to the people of Petaluma. Through John's efforts, projects such as the Factory Outlet Village, the Auto Mall Plaza, and new industrial

parks have allowed Petaluma to grow without losing its small-town charm. He also brought a Santa Rosa Junior College campus to Petaluma and came up with the successful plan to turn an empty agricultural experimentation center into a shelter for homeless families.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay tribute to John Scharer this evening. It would be difficult to find a person as committed to the future of Petaluma as John. Petalumans owe a great deal of gratitude to him for his tireless efforts on their behalf. He will certainly be missed.

#### EXPLANATION OF MINK PRIVATE DELIVERY SERVICE BILL

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 1997*

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I have introduced legislation to provide consumers access and ease of transmission to Federal agencies where time of receipt is required to preserve a right or to meet a filing deadline. Currently, in many instances, documents required to be received by Federal agencies within a certain deadline are recognized as arriving on time by the date of postmark affixed by the U.S. Postal Service [USPS]. Such documents include grant applications, court notices, sealed bids, and several other types of official documents.

My legislation would provide the same recognition to the date affixed on such items delivered by private delivery services, such as Federal Express or United Parcel Service.

My bill uses the same definition of designated private delivery services as is used by the Taxpayer Bill of Rights II, Public Law 104-168, section 1210, which was passed by the last Congress and signed into law on July 30, 1996. This timely-mailing-as-timely-filing rule applied to filing of income tax returns has been adopted by my bill and extended to all documents filed with Federal agencies.

The date of receipt or date otherwise recorded on the item by the delivery company will constitute date of receipt by the Federal agency same as filing of Federal income taxes is deemed received by the postmark placed on the parcel or letter by USPS. With expanded delivery services now available, this procedure should be deemed applicable to these services as well.

I urge my colleagues to support my bill, to provide greater ease of compliance by our constituents in meeting filing deadlines.

#### HELLS CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

HON. ROBERT SMITH

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 1997*

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced legislation to clarify the eastern boundary of the Hell's Canyon National Recreation Area [HCNRA]. This legislation is necessary to correct an oversight that has lead to the closure of an important access

route. The bill will enhance the public enjoyment of the Hells Canyon region, while preserving the ecological value of the wilderness area itself.

In 1975, Congress created the HCNRA. The recreation area abuts the eastern border of the Hells Canyon Wilderness Area, and overlooks the Snake River and the Oregon-Idaho border. A road, Forest Service Road 3965, lies along the western rim of Hells Canyon. Most of this rim road lies within the recreation area. It provides access to several hiking trails, and to the most scenic overlooks of Hells Canyon itself. Unfortunately, a 6.5-mile stretch of the rim road is now closed. Despite the clear intent of Congress, and the long-standing practice of the Forest Service, an inaccuracy in the boundary definition has led to the inadvertent inclusion of Forest Service Road 3965 within the Hells Canyon Wilderness Area itself, forcing the road's closure.

The legislative history of the 1975 recreation area legislation evinces a clear congressional intent to maintain Forest Service Road 3965, the area's most prominent scenic route. Section eight of the original HCNRA Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to evaluate scenic roads within the recreation area. During Senate consideration of the bill, it was stated that "in no case [would Recreation Area lands] go back to the rim of the gorge."

In 1978, Rep. Al Ullman (OR) successfully sponsored legislation that changed the recreation area's eastern boundary by tying it to the Canyon's hydrologic divide. For 11 years, Road 3965 remained open to motorized vehicles. Then, in October 1989, during scoping for a proposed fire salvage timber sale, it was discovered that portions of a 7-mile stretch of the road were located on the Snake River side of the hydrologic divide. Despite longstanding practice, and the well-established intent of Congress, the Forest Service was compelled to close the road. After a thorough review of this issue in 1996, Jack Ward Thomas, then the Chief of the U.S. Forest Service, wrote a letter in which he addressed the assertion that the road closure was inadvertent. He concluded that "all indications are that this is the case."

For decades, Oregon residents have traveled Road 3965 to experience the natural beauty of Hells Canyon. Congress established the HCNRA to enhance and preserve public enjoyment of this valuable resource—not to cut off access to the area. This bill will restore Congress' original intent, facilitating public access to the recreation area while preserving the sanctity of Hells Canyon itself. I urge my colleagues to support this sensible legislation.

#### RECOGNITION OF REVEREND FINLEY SCHAEFER

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 1997*

Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. Speaker, one of the pleasures of serving in this legislative body is the opportunity we occasionally get to publicly acknowledge outstanding individuals of our Nation.

I rise today to honor Reverend Finley Schaefer for his forty years of dedication and leadership within the Methodist religion. For

over 25 years, Reverend Schaefer has served as Minister for the Park Slope United Methodist Church. Through his tireless efforts and the highest dedication to his religion, Reverend Schaefer has worked to create the most solid form of bond between all those within his congregation. The example of his high standard of commitment to the people within his church and to the people touched by his religious message is an inspiration to us all.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in wishing Reverend Schaefer all the best in his retirement from the ministry of the United Methodist Church. Even as Reverend Schaefer leaves the formal church behind him, there can be no doubt as to the joyous life which lies ahead for him and all those who cross his path.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE PERFORMANCE CLUSTER CHOIR

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 1997*

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Performance Cluster Choir and their 72nd observance of Black History Month.

The Chicago Post Office Choir reorganized in September 1994 under the direction of Carolyn Y. McQuarter. During this period of reconstruction, the choir was renamed the Performance Cluster Choir. The choir represents employees from all crafts, and includes a husband and wife, four sisters, and numerous cousins and friends.

The talent and tremendous sound of this choir has enabled them to perform at the installation of Rufus F. Porter, the District Manager/Postmaster in Chicago, and for Etta J. Williams, Postmaster in Oak Forest, IL. This gifted choir has also performed at the Annual Picnics of Alderman John O. Steele, and for the 1st anniversary of the Million Man March, celebrated at DuSable Museum.

Mr. Speaker, this choir has truly been a blessing to the Chicago District Post Office, and to the African-American community in the city of Chicago as well. I am proud to enter these words of recognition into the RECORD.

#### TRIBUTE TO VALDEMAR DELGADO AND BEN HOWARD FOR THEIR BRAVERY OF SERVICE TO THE CICERO POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 1997*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Valdemar Delgado and Ben Howard, two outstanding individuals from my district. It was on January 8, 1997, that two Cicero police officers, Andre Van Vegten and Matthew Koman, were in need of immediate assistance and Mr. Delgado and Mr. Howard stopped to aid in rescuing the two officers from a burning vehicle.

While responding to a call of a man with a gun at 44th Street near Cicero Avenue, the officers were involved in an accident that

caused flames which protruded through the hood of the patrol vehicle. At the time, Delgado and Howard were passing by and saw the flames. Without any hesitation or regard for their own safety, they immediately attended to the two officers inside the burning vehicle.

With much bravery and commendation, Delgado and Howard attempted to pry open the door of the patrol vehicle with a crowbar without success. After many attempts Delgado was able to break the window and pull Officer Koman out to safety. At the same time, Howard was able to remove Officer Van Vegten from the vehicle.

Because of their quick response and thinking, Delgado and Howard were successfully able to remove both Officers Van Vegten and Koman from fatal harm. Both officers were then taken to area hospitals for life-saving treatment. Valdemar Delgado and Ben Howard were congratulated and honored on January 14, 1997, for their heroism and bravery by the mayor and City of Chicago Council.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate and commend these two fine individuals for their bravery and selfless act. I am very proud and honored to have people like Valdemar Delgado and Ben Howard who give so much to help with the safety of our community.

#### TRIBUTE TO RAUL A. BESTEIRO, JR.

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 1997*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Raul A. Besteiro, Jr., an adjunct professor with the alternative certification program at the University of Texas-Brownsville, for his recent election to the presidency of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools [SACS]. He was elected to this position at SACS' annual gathering in Nashville, TN, in December, after 38 years of membership.

SACS is a voluntary agency, one of six regional accrediting organizations in the United States. It boasts a membership of more than 11,000 accredited public and private educational institutions, from colleges and universities to elementary schools. The organization was founded in 1895, and works with schools across the South from Virginia to Texas.

As president of this prestigious organization, Mr. Besteiro will lead the formulation of policy for accreditation of the region's member schools and colleges. He was chosen to lead this association by virtue of his hard work on behalf of schools, children, and education over the years. He has been actively involved with the association's process of ensuring that member institutions meet established standards.

There is no one who can do a better job with this great responsibility than Raul Besteiro. Mr. B., as he is affectionately known throughout south Texas, has spent his adult life dedicated to the excellence of schools in Brownsville and to the cause of education in general. Mr. B. was an integral part of the Brownville Independent School District from 1958 to 1989, as a teacher, an administrator, and a superintendent.

He has proven himself to be a unique educator for the community of Brownsville with the example of his life's work. That dedication to education continues within the realm of his new position. In the 101 year history of SACS, Raul Besteiro is both the first Texan—and the first Hispanic—to lead the organization.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Raul for his life's work in the field of education. I hope you will join me in wishing him well as he furthers the cause of education as the president of SACS.

#### AMERICAN SAMOA DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1997

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 1997*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the American Samoa Development Act of 1997.

Over the past several months, I have had the opportunity to discuss with American Samoa's new Governor, the Honorable Tauese P.F. Sunia, the current economic status of American Samoa, and the direction he would like to move the territory's economy.

It is no secret that of all the U.S. insular areas, American Samoa has the weakest economy. The growing population coupled with its limited industrial base has hastened an economic downward spiral which if not checked, could result in the financial collapse of the local government. This would not be in the interests of the residents of American Samoa, the local government, or the United States.

American Samoa currently receives annual Federal assistance for both the operations of its government and for the construction of capital assets. Every elected Governor of American Samoa has attempted to develop a larger and broader economy for Samoa, but each has met with limited or no success because of Samoa's remote location, its limited transportation, and its devastating hurricanes.

To his credit, former Gov. A.P. Lutali negotiated a mutually beneficial agreement with an apparel company during his most recent term in office, and that company is now in operation and employing hundreds of American Samoans. The addition of this company gives American Samoa a total of three major businesses operating in the territory. I am concerned that with the termination of section 936 of the Internal Revenue Code, the implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement, and the phase out of tariffs under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the few trade incentives the United States has given American Samoa and the other insular areas are rapidly losing their value.

As of today, no new businesses in American Samoa, or any other insular area for that matter, can obtain the benefits of section 936. Should Federal law concerning the importation of canned tuna into the United States under the dolphin safe label be amended as proposed, I do not believe the two tuna canning plants in American Samoa will remain in Samoa beyond the end of this century. Should they leave, and I expect them to be forced to do so because of changes in the economics of international production of canned tuna,