

of Pediatrics, the Children's Defense Fund [CDF], Family Research Council, and many others. I am confident that this bill will aid parents with these decisions and encourage the broadcasting industry to adopt a content-specific rating system.

In an attempt to require broadcasters and manufacturers to help parents block shows they considered too objectionable, Congress passed the V-chip law to the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Until this law takes effect in 1998, this bill is the necessary next step in addressing the concerns of parents in the information age.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CONGRESSMEN REGULA AND MURTHA

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call your attention to a special award that was recently given to our distinguished colleagues and longstanding leaders of the Congressional Steel Caucus, RALPH REGULA and JACK MURTHA. Last month, RALPH and JACK were recognized by the American Iron & Steel Institute and the U.S. Department of Energy [DOE] during DOE's Industrial Efficiency Symposium in Arlington, VA.

On February 25, RALPH and JACK received individual awards testifying to their unflagging contributions to the future of the American steel industry. The awards were in recognition of the central role they have played, both as leaders of the caucus and as individual legislators, in creating the metals initiative program within the energy efficiency function of DOE. The metals initiative, a government-industry collaborative program designed to improve the competitiveness of steel and other metal industries, has received \$120 million in appropriations over the past decade to develop direct steelmaking, advanced process controls, and an optical sensor for measuring temperatures.

In their respective positions as chairman and vice chairman of the Congressional Steel Caucus, RALPH REGULA and JACK MURTHA have worked tirelessly over the years to promote and expand the economic viability of the American steel industry and the jobs of its workers. The Steel Caucus is a bipartisan organization, which has served as a forum since the 1970's for Members of Congress to exchange information and ideas with steel industry representatives, steelworkers and their representatives, and the administration. And their hard work has paid off handsomely: Today, the American steel industry and its workers are the most productive and efficient in the world.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you and my other House colleagues will join me in congratulating RALPH and JACK for receiving this award in recognition of their crucial support for the American steel industry and its workers.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PUBLIC RESOURCES DEFICIT REDUCTION ACT

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 1997

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, this year's budget debate promises another round of arguments over cutting programs and services to American citizens in order to balance the Federal budget. In that debate, it is time to take a serious look at the wasteful practices that drain the Treasury while subsidizing the developers of natural resources from the public lands.

Today I am introducing a bill, the Public Resources Deficit Reduction Act, that will terminate the very expensive subsidies that taxpayers have long provided to many of the nation's natural resource developers and require, instead, that taxpayers receive the fair market value of the public's resources.

While we often disagree about the precise way to allocate limited Federal resources, I believe we should all be able to agree that we should not waste billions of dollars in taxpayers' money and resources. Yet our natural resources policies, often formulated decades ago when it was necessary to induce people to settle the West, still give away billions of dollars each year in subsidies to mining conglomerates, timber barons and argibusinesses. The taxpayers' largesse benefits some of the wealthiest ranchers and farm operators in the United States, while subsidizing environmental damage that the taxpayers eventually pay to clean up as well.

This bill has a very simple goal: Companies and individuals who use natural resources from public lands—minerals, timber, water, hydropower and forage for grazing—would pay fair market value for those resources. In order to provide a transition period, it exempts all existing contracts and phases fair market pricing in over 5 years. But after 5 more years of taxpayer subsidies, this bill asks natural resource developers to pay the taxpayers what their assets are worth.

The bill also contains a number of specific provisions to ensure that particular programs are altered to eliminate unfair subsidies. It would amend the 1872 mining law to require that the taxpayers receive a fair royalty for gold and silver mined on public lands. It would alter programs in the national parks to ensure that the public receives a fair share of the profits made by the concessionaires. It would set standards for eliminating below-cost timber sales and charging fair market value for grazing and the use of utility rights-of-way across public land. It would move the income from timber and grazing programs on-budget, so that the receipts are accounted for in annual budgeting.

Another area addressed by this bill is the inconsistency of Federal irrigation and farm support policies, which often contradict one another or provide enormous combined subsidies. To address these inconsistencies, the bill would eliminate Federal irrigation subsidies to farmers already receiving payments under the Agricultural Market Transition Act. It also would require that the irrigation subsidies be counted into the cap on farm subsidies.

Mr. Speaker, we have asked all of our citizens to accept some cuts in Federal programs

in order to balance the budget. We told welfare recipients their aid would end after 5 years. This bill would tell our citizens that we can be responsible stewards of the assets they have entrusted to us, and that we will not longer demand that they tolerate wasteful subsidy programs.

In the last Congress, this legislation was introduced with dozens of co-sponsors, including Members of both political parties. It was not even accorded a hearing by the Committee on Resources. The last Congress utterly failed to reform any of the major resource subsidy programs that currently apply to billions of dollars in public resources.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot afford such indifference again in the 105th Congress. We cannot afford environmental indifference to the consequences of subsidized resource development and usage. And we cannot afford the fiscal burden of maintaining, on the eve of the 21st century, subsidy programs born at the end of the 19th century.

LINDSAY WASHICK WINS PARADE MAGAZINE AWARD

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 1997

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor Lindsay Washick, daughter of Bob Washick of Conyngham, PA, for winning first place in a contest sponsored by Parade Magazine and the Times-Leader newspaper of Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Lindsay is a 14-year-old ninth grader at MMI preparatory school in Freeland, PA.

Lindsay's article, entitled "Our President's Greatest Challenge," was chosen from six finalists. As a reward as part of the Young Columbus Program, Lindsay will act as a young ambassador on a trip to Ireland in April.

Lindsay is an example of the fine quality of students who are dedicated to learning and expanding their knowledge of the world they live in. The youth of today are tomorrow's future and I congratulate Lindsay on winning first prize.

I am inserting her article into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Text from Lindsay Washick:

With November fifth long and gone, the votes have been counted and tallied, and the leader of our country has been decided. Mr. William J. Clinton will be our president for the next four years.

With a new term starting, many people are anxious to see what he'll be concentrating the most on. Will it be drugs, health care, the environment, our involvement in foreign countries, or balancing the budget? All of these issues are very important but every time the very important issues do come up, there is always one that's overlooked—The Young People of America.

I think that the greatest challenge to our new President is to be getting in touch with our young people, and getting them involved.

I just recently turned 14, and am therefore an adolescent. I'm, involved in, and have a wide variety of liking, but when it comes to government, and politics, I'm always the last one to know and/or care. The rest of the nation is in such a tizzy about everything else, that they're overlooking us too. The President goes where the people go, and that's always away from us. But, every now and

again, when we are lucky enough to be brought up, the only things the politicians have to say, are, "Don't do drugs" and "Stay out of trouble." Nothing exciting about that. We hear it from our parents everyday. If it worked, there'd be a lot more happy people in the world.

But, seriously, the President has to get more in touch with the times. He's lacking the excitement we need to keep us interested, and he's boring us to death.

A great example of this would be the voter turnout among our youth. Very, very few young people vote, and why do you think that is? I know why; because we don't care about the politicians. Because we don't think they care about us. Why should we support them if they don't support us? It's not like I'm just gonna wake up one day when I'm 30, and just go, "WOW! I love politics! I think I'm gonna run for President!"

With so many teenagers with this attitude, it's gonna take a lot to get them to turn around and start getting involved and interested. With no signs of Mr. Clinton even pondering to make any changes, it's not looking too good.

I don't want our President to run around listening to Rage Against the Machine, or go to a Smashing Pumpkins concert, or dye his hair blue. That will get our attention, but in the wrong way. He just has to focus more on us. He's always preoccupied with something else, and since we don't vote that much anyway, why should we waste all that time?

It's a sad and vicious cycle that keeps turning and turning.

The President's greatest challenge this term is to get that cycle to stop. He has to—for the future of you, and your country. But since no one has said anything to him yet, it should, unfortunately, take a while.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

HON. MICHAEL D. CRAPO

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 1997

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation in favor of economic opportunity and vitality. The Fair Labor Standards Act [FLSA] was designed to promote economic opportunity. There have been instances, however, when unintended consequences are revealed. When they do, it is our imperative to correct them properly so that FLSA will be applied consistently and continue to promote basic economic fairness, its original goal. One unintended consequence, however, impacts a major economic force in our country as well as my home State of Idaho: Agriculture.

FLSA itself recognizes that agriculture is a special industry and consequently contains numerous exceptions to the applicability of FLSA's "time-and-a-half-overtime" provisions. Unfortunately, a sugar beet is deemed "not a vegetable" under FLSA. As a result, no overtime is due a farmer's workers if the farmer transports sugar beets from his fields to the processing plant. If a farmer stockpiles his sugar beets in an effort to be more efficient and then contracts transportation with a hauler to bring these same vegetables to that same plant, however, the hauler is nevertheless required to pay his drivers overtime. This occurs even though those plant workers are also exempt from FLSA's overtime provisions. The scenario is not hypothetical; it occurs regularly to one constituent of mine who has for years

been involved in the annual beet haul involving sugar beets. Ironically, applying FLSA to the beet haul actually lowers the compensation that his truck drivers are actually paid.

In Idaho, the beet haul requires farmers to stockpile their crops in beet piles and await the processor's delivery instructions. Once processing begins, it is a 24-hour-per-day, 7 days a week affair, lasting from late September until early January. The most economically advantageous method—to both drivers and their employer—for compensating beet haul drivers is to pay them by the load.

Truck drivers who want to work, hustle loads; they are rewarded for the diligent work ethic. The less motivated worker earns less. Unfortunately, with respect to my constituent—and my constituent alone—the Department of Labor has insisted that FLSA's overtime provisions apply to the beet haul.

In theory, FLSA requires all beet haul operations to pay "time-and-a-half." In reality, my constituent's competitors never have been required to comply with this FLSA provision; that competitor still pays by the load. This is despite the fact that both hauling entities are regulated by the Federal Department of Transportation. The competitor hauls a small percentage from beet piles located in Oregon—that is the only difference. This circumstance harms my constituent since his diligent workers are paid less under this rule and he must still absorb higher labor costs. This disparate treatment has caused my constituent to lose his better drivers repeatedly to his competitor. They earn more working by the load; my constituent pays more because he is not treated the same as other beet haulers.

One might already assume that FLSA's agricultural exemptions would cure this inequity. It does not: a sugar beet as defined under the act is not a vegetable and therefore, the exemption does not apply, even though a sugar beet is, in fact, a vegetable. Consequently, the beet haul does not enjoy the FLSA agricultural exemption which applies to other agricultural endeavors. This inequality thus requires a definitional, that is, a legislative, solution. The legislation I propose is simple, direct, and in no way will interrupt the overall flow and impact of FLSA. This legislation seeks to include sugar beets as vegetables in FLSA. This legislation will level the playing field and enhance one of the actual goals of the statute: economic fairness.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES G. SANDMAN

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 1997

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Col. James G. Sandman, U.S. Air Force retired, for exceptional service to the community of Sacramento while serving as executive vice president of the Sacramento Association of Realtors since 1979. After 17 years of dedicated service, he and his wife, Barbara, are retiring.

A native Californian, Colonel Sandman's contributions have not been limited to his service with SAR. A member of a prominent Stockton family, he was graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1947 and went on to a distinguished career in the

U.S. Air Force until retiring in 1976. One of the highlights of Colonel Sandman's Air Force career was to be stationed at the newly opened Air Force Academy for the graduation of the first class of Air Force cadets.

While serving in the Air Force, Colonel Sandman contributed to his country in a number of very important roles. He served as a command pilot and navigator during the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, served on the Pentagon's Command and Control Staff, was part of a special exchange program and attended the Royal Air Force Staff College in the United Kingdom. His last tour of duty was commander of the Air Force Recruitment Wing for the Western Region. At one point, Colonel Sandman was chosen as the subject for a recruiting poster which was nationally distributed and displayed. During his military career, Colonel Sandman was honored with the Legion of Merit with an Oak Leaf Cluster, the Air Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Immediately following his Air Force career, Colonel Sandman established himself in the Sacramento community by working on various political campaigns and managing a highly successful shopping center development project.

As executive vice president of the Sacramento Association of Realtors, Colonel Sandman led the organization as it quickly established itself as a concerned member of the community at large. Under his leadership as its chief staff member, SAR became a major contributor to charitable causes in the community and could always be counted on in a crisis. Included among his significant accomplishments are the conversion of a board-owned book multiple listing service to a board-owned computer multiple listing service, the building of a state-of-the-art headquarters for Sacramento Realtors, complete with an auditorium that is used by many organizations in the community, and the initiation of discussion with six Realtor associations in the surrounding areas regarding a regional association system.

Within the broader Realtor community, Colonel Sandman represented SAR with the highest of integrity and dedication. He served as director of the management committee for the Real Estate Land Use Institute, member and chair of the California Association of Realtors' Executive Officer's Committee, member of the National Association of Realtors' Executive Officer's Committee, and several other NAR and CAR Committees, including a stint on the CAR Executive Committee. He has also served on the California Department of Real Estate Task Force on Professional Standards.

Locally, Colonel Sandman is a past trustee of the American Red Cross, is involved with the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, the Sacramento Area Commerce and Trade Organization [SACTO], and regularly contributes to a number of local charities and causes.

As an association executive, Colonel Sandman distinguished himself within that group's ranks as well. He is a past member of the American Management Association and is a member of the California Society of Association Executives. He served as a board member and president of CSAE and was awarded that group's Association Executive of the Year Award in 1987. He also earned the ASAE's highest designation, Certified Association Executive and just recently was awarded the first