

In the belief that its home city is UCLA's foremost partner and greatest resource, Chancellor Young has engaged the university in myriad ventures and partnerships with the surrounding community. Furthermore, just as Los Angeles has emerged as a world city, UCLA, too, has become a world university and a magnet to students and scholars from around the globe under the leadership of Chancellor Young.

As he prepares to retire, Chancellor Young deserves recognition for shepherding UCLA toward academic greatness, founded on the cornerstone of intellectual freedom. On this occasion we salute Charles "Chuck" Young, his wife, Sue, and his two children and seven grandchildren in celebration of a splendid legacy to American higher education.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO RESTRICT FLIGHTS OVER
CERTAIN AREAS OF HAWAII'S
NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation limiting adverse impacts of commercial air tour operations on national park units in the State of Hawaii. Natural quiet is as much an experience in our parks as enjoying the beauty of treasures the parks were established to protect and preserve.

A decade ago, Congress recognized that noise problems within our parks nationwide created by overflights had reached a point critical enough for congressional intervention, by passing the National Parks Overflights Act of 1987.

Not much happened since then to solve the problem until President Clinton on Earth Day 1996 called upon the Transportation and Interior Departments to issue regulations to restore quiet to our parks. As a result of this action, new regulations were released in January of this year for Grand Canyon National Park. To take effect May 1, these regulations would double the current flight-free area, limit the number of tour aircraft that may overfly the park, ban flights from sunset to sunrise, and develop rules requiring quiet aircraft technology.

The National Park Service and Federal Aviation Administration are currently constructing regulations for overflights above Hawaii's parks. However, I understand these could be years in coming and, in the meantime, air tours are operating under voluntary agreements that have not been effective in controlling overflight noise. I continue to receive complaints from hikers and visitors to Hawaii's parks, as well as residents living next to the parks. My bill is necessary to enforce noise controls on these operations.

Main provisions of my bill include prohibitions of flights over Kaloko Honokohau, Pu'u honua o Honaunau, Pu'u kohola Heiau, and Kalaupapa National Historical Parks, as well as sections of Haleakala and Hawaii Volcanoes National Parks. A minimum 1,500-foot altitude restriction is enforced for all other parts of Haleakala and Hawaii Volcanoes National Parks.

The need for restrictions on Hawaii's commercial air tour industry for safety reasons

was made clear in July 1994 with two helicopter tour crashes near the Island of Kauai and on the Island of Molokai, the former resulting in three fatalities. In response, the FAA put in place SFAR 71 emergency regulations applying to Hawaii's commercial air tour operators. As a byproduct, these regulations worked to partially alleviate noise problems in Hawaii's parks. However, the SFAR 71 will expire in October. My legislation is necessary to continue controls on Hawaii's air tour industry.

I strongly urge my colleagues' support of my legislation.

FOR THE RELIEF OF GLOBAL EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT CORP., KERR-McGEE CORP., AND KERR-McGEE CHEMICAL CORP.

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to right a longstanding wrong involving the Federal Government and Global Exploration and Development Corp. and Kerr-McGee Corp. Global and Kerr-McGee became embroiled in an ongoing dispute with the Department of the Interior more than 20 years ago. In January 1991, I introduced legislation for the relief of Global and Kerr-McGee for any damages incurred due to wrongful governmental actions. That bill was successfully referred to the U.S. Court of Federal Claims in July 1992.

The U.S. Court of Federal Claims ruled in September 1994 that the Government had, in fact, committed a wrongful act against Global and Kerr-McGee and that they would be entitled to equitable relief once damages were proven. After an evidentiary hearing, but before the court reached a decision, the parties reached a settlement, the terms of which are embodied in this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I am hopeful that successful passage of this legislation will bring long-awaited, and long-overdue, relief for the parties involved. If we are truly to be a government of the people, we must be ever vigilant in protecting private rights and rectifying public wrongs. I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation.

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE STENY H. HOYER COMMENDING THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY FOR THEIR PARTNERSHIP WITH THE D.C. PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the Department of the Treasury and Secretary Rubin for their efforts to support students of the District of Columbia Public Schools.

We have all read about the significant challenges the students in our Nation's Capital face daily, including substandard buildings and less than adequate education. I am pleased

that, with the support of Treasury and its employees, some students are benefiting.

In 1995, Treasury established a Partnership in Education program with two high schools in the District, Eastern and Woodrow Wilson. They initially offered internships for students after school, providing many of them their first exposure to a professional office setting. During the summer of 1996, they employed more than 100 students.

Based on that successful experience, they decided to institutionalize the program, and in addition to internships have added workshops in career planning, resume writing, college admissions standards, and related topics. These workshops are conducted by local university professionals from Georgetown, Howard, American, and George Washington University.

Treasury's mission is a commendable one—to fill those gaps in education that can help students acquire the necessary tools and skills to go on to college or a profession after high school graduation.

In addition to this work, Treasury also manages the Academy of Law, Justice and Security, a program with 200 students at Anacostia High School. I want to note that the Department of Justice and the Department of Defense also support this effort to prepare students for careers in law and law enforcement.

In addition, Treasury bureaus, like the Internal Revenue Service, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the Comptroller of the Currency, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, and the Secret Service are supporting D.C. students and teachers with activities including tutoring, mentoring, equipment, and employment.

Overall, 150 employee volunteers are involved in these activities. This is a great effort and I look forward to Treasury expanding it to include schools in Maryland and in my district.

I commend the work of Secretary Rubin and his staff and encourage other Federal agencies to become more involved in supporting their local school districts.

TRIBUTE TO BENJAMIN REZNIK

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to rise in tribute to Benjamin Reznik. Today Mr. Reznik is being recognized by the San Fernando Valley Interfaith Council for his outstanding work and enhancement of human relations within the San Fernando Valley.

Ben's parents were natives of Poland forced to leave their homeland under Nazi occupation. They were fortunate to escape to Israel, where Ben was born. As a 9-year-old boy his family overcame great obstacles and immigrated to America in search of a better life. As a young man Ben excelled in the public school system, and completed his undergraduate studies at UCLA. The culmination of his formal education came with his graduation from USC School of Law. Throughout his academic career Ben had to hold down jobs and take out loans to make ends meet. He has since served as a role model to those having to struggle through similar circumstances.

In 1976, upon graduation, Ben obtained a small loan from a local bank and opened his

own law office. Six years later his wife, Janice, joined him in the firm and they established their professional partnership of Reznik & Reznik. The firm has grown steadily since and today is one of the city's most respected law firms.

When not working in the firm, Ben gives freely of his time and resources to those less fortunate than himself. It is well known throughout the community that Ben constantly lends a hand to others facing adversity. His altruistic nature manifests itself in the very personal responsibility he feels to our community.

His service ranges from his current position as president of the Valley Job Recovery Corp., a nonprofit economic development corporation assisting our community in job creation and retention, to his past chairmanship of the Economic Alliance, a nonprofit group developing an economic strategic plan for the San Fernando Valley. His expertise and hard work were noted by Mayor Richard Riordan, when he appointed Ben to serve on the development reform committee which recommended ways of streamlining the development process. Ben was also asked by the mayor to oversee implementation of a Federal grant aimed at producing an economic development strategy for the changing economy of Los Angeles. Beyond work and various philanthropic pursuits, Ben and Janice are dedicated parents to their three wonderful children.

Ben is held in the highest esteem within our community, and is frequently looked to for his sage advice. Ben Reznik's life is truly a remarkable story, he is living proof that dedication and hard work are still the formula for success.

HOME-BASED BUSINESS FAIRNESS ACT

HON. LINDA SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mrs. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues, Representative TALENT from Missouri, and Representative PORTMAN from Ohio, in introducing the Home-Based Business Fairness Act. I also wish to compliment Representative TALENT for his unfailing commitment to relieving the tax and regulatory burdens affecting small businesses as chairman of the House Committee on Small Business.

With tax season upon us, most Americans are focused on one overwhelming problem: our antiquated and complex Tax Code. There is growing consensus on the need to change and simplify our tax system. It penalizes hard-working, responsible Americans, and inhibits their ability to save for themselves and for their children and grandchildren. The time is ripe, Mr. Speaker, for a commonsense approach to providing tax relief to individuals and to small and women entrepreneurs. Home-based businesses, in particular, need our attention and commitment.

One of the most exciting trends in small business today is the burgeoning of home businesses. The majority of them are created and operated by women. There are now more than 9 million home-business owners, and, according to the Small Business Administration, an estimated 300,000 women in this country

are starting home-based businesses each year. The entrepreneurial spirit of these men and women is breaking through existing barriers to work, and driving economic growth and jobs. These jobs give parents greater freedom and flexibility to balance and meet their families' needs, including those of their children, grandchildren, and aging parents.

While the technology explosion in our world is facilitating this new phenomenon, our Tax Code is hindering it. We must treat women-owned and home-based businesses more fairly. The Home-Based Business Fairness Act is a strong, commonsense approach to providing tax relief for this dynamic and vital sector of America's working families. It would allow small entrepreneurs to deduct their health insurance costs and the expenses of their home offices. It would give them the freedom to use independent contractors to grow and expand their operations without the fear of onerous back taxes, penalties, and interest small entrepreneurs too often face because of subjective and inconsistent reclassifications of independent contractors as employees by the IRS.

With this bill, Representative TALENT and I have tried to address the three problems which we believe are critical to helping self-employed men and women succeed in home business. I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House on this important legislation.

COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, in this very Chamber, during his State of the Union speech, the President spoke to us of his commitment to education and his desire to increase its Federal funding. Many Americans support any effort that would improve our Nation's schools and our students' ability to meet the challenges of the future.

Mr. Speaker, many Americans also want to be certain that the educational bureaucracy does not waste the money that we seek to invest in our Nation's children. Too often when Members of Congress question the effectiveness of some of these costly Federal programs and mandates, we are accused of being against education. Frankly, that accusation is not true.

In fiscal year 1997, Congress appropriated \$14 billion for elementary and secondary education. What was the result? In one case, it was motivation for the Oakland, CA, school board to declare Ebonics as a language worthy of Federal bilingual education funding. While Oakland claimed it would not seek new Federal funds for this program, the school system is using Chapter I education funds for Ebonics classes.

There is a larger point to be made here, Mr. Speaker. When the American people hear that the Government will spend more money on education, they believe the money will be spent for needed items such as textbooks, computers, and new desks. Unfortunately, we squander the taxpayers' hard earned money on bureaucracy and social engineering schemes.

We have seen this done for 30 years in our bilingual education programs. We were told

such programs would teach immigrant children English. Thirty years later, we are told that the research is still inadequate to determine whether these programs are successful. Meanwhile, the children and parents relying on us to help students learn English are cheated of a proper education. Now, through Ebonics programs, education bureaucrats want to rob African-American children of an appropriate education. They want to create what is effectively a program of bilingual education for English-speaking African-American children by declaring Ebonics their native language.

Supporters of Ebonics instruction claim that the children already speak Ebonics and that they are merely teaching the children the particulars of their chosen language. Evidently, they do not equate teaching Ebonics with teaching about Ebonics. Rather than learning the grammar of Ebonics, these children deserve to be learning math, science, and English. The parents of the children involved agree.

That is why I am introducing legislation that will get Washington out of the vernacular English instruction business for good. My bill assures the taxpayers that we will not waste their money and our students' time teaching regional dialects that are not recognized foreign languages. Every child deserves a challenging curriculum that prepares them for the 21st century rather than a feel-good program designed to enhance self-esteem. This legislation is simply common sense and merits all Members' support.

THE DEFENSE OF THE ENVIRONMENT ACT OF 1997

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago Congress adopted procedural steps that ensured that unfunded mandates and tax increases could not be enacted unless specifically considered and approved by the House. Today I am introducing the Defense of the Environment Act of 1997 with Representative GEPHARDT and Representative MILLER of California. This legislation would extend this same protection to environmental policies.

The Defense of the Environment Act is a commonsense safeguard that could dramatically improve the consideration of environmental legislation at virtually no cost. Nothing in the Act would prevent Congress from weakening or eliminating any existing environmental protection, even though a December 1996 Roper poll indicates that only 19 percent of our constituents favor rolling back environmental policies. Instead, the Act only takes the modest step of requiring a brief time for debate and a vote on any weakening legislation.

This is a practical measure which will simply ensure that environmental legislation receives adequate consideration before becoming law. I encourage my colleagues to consider the Defense of the Environment Act. I believe it is one environmental bill that we can all agree on.