

community. Chief among these individuals are the past presidents of the Bayonne Community Mental Health Center including: Rose Donski, Gloria Koenig, Ethel Rosenthal, Harold Strohefer, Leonard Kiczek, William Downey, Mary Brennan, and Peter Anastas. Their work is continued by current president Agnes Mangelli.

I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the outstanding contributions made by the Bayonne Community Mental Health Center to the people of Bayonne. The well being of all residents of the area has been enhanced by the invaluable work of the center's dedicated individuals. It is an honor to have such an outstanding organization working on behalf of the residents of my district.

TRIBUTE TO CLOVIS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Clovis Unified School District [CUSD]. In a Joint Powers Agreement, CUSD and Fresno Unified School District [FUSD], will open the Center for Advanced Research and Technology in Clovis, CA [CART]. An extended branch of the educational system in Clovis, CART will allow students in the community to adequately prepare for the technological challenges of the future.

Scheduled to open in the fall of 1999, CART pilot programs have been slated to begin in fall 1997. CART was made possible by a combination of grants and a partnership between local businesses and the educational departments of the community.

As a center striving to meet the employment needs of the community and adequately prepare students to take advantage of postsecondary options, the course work presented at the center will be responsive to the changes in the industry. CART will offer courses that require sophisticated laboratory environments and interdisciplinary curriculum that integrates higher order mathematics, sciences, and technology education. This course work will focus on the intellectual processes of problem solving, analyzing, team building resource allocation, and self-assessment through a cognitive apprenticeship instructional model. The skills taught at CART will be invaluable in both interpersonal and technological growth throughout the students lives.

Striving to educate all segments of the community, high school students and adults will reap the benefits of CART. High school students will spend half of their day at the center receiving laboratory instruction. The State Center Community College District will offer postsecondary classes for students. Additionally, the Central California Business Incubator Program will also be located at the center.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to welcome a program of this nature to the 19th District. I look forward to monitoring the progress that CART makes as it works closely with members of the local community. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the Center for Advanced Research and Technology my best wishes for future success.

A TRIBUTE TO DOUG DOBMEIER

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a good friend of mine, Doug Dobmeier, the senior vice president of operations for Tharaldson Enterprises [TE] in Shelbyville, IL. Tharaldson Enterprises builds hotels and other businesses across the country, including over 30 hotels in the 19th Congressional District of Illinois. On behalf of southern Illinois I want to extend our appreciation for the many jobs and businesses that TE has generated over the past three decades, and for many pleasant stays during my own travels throughout the district.

Tharaldson Enterprises, Inc., was founded in 1982 by Gary Tharaldson. In 1984, as the company started to grow and the expansion of three new hotels was added, Gary decided to hire Doug Dobmeier to oversee TE's thriving business. With Doug's leadership TE became the largest hotel developer in the United States. Doug was soon promoted to senior vice president of operations and during his tenure has seen this company grow from 3 to 230 hotels located in some 20 States. Today this company witnesses 40 to 50 hotels added every year, which equates to an average of 1 grand-opening per week, and the company's number of employees has jumped from 33 to over 4,000. Doug's vision and leadership have steered this company to phenomenal success. Currently, Doug is the driving force behind the Extended Services Division overseeing their main goal of reaching 400 hotels by the year 2000. Doug has a dedicated and loyal staff working with him, including executive assistant Jill Gates and regional vice presidents Larry Davis, Don Klain and Tim Gefroh.

Mr. Speaker, Doug also has the overwhelming support of his wife, Sarah Dobmeier, and his three children, Andrea, Adam, and Amanda. Doug is a dedicated father and takes an active role in his children's schooling as a parent teacher association member. He is an anchor in his community, taking a leading role in the Hope Lutheran Church in Fargo, ND, where he serves as associate deacon. Doug and Sarah contribute to the youth advocate counselor for their parish and recently took a group of 20 teenagers to the Black Hills in South Dakota for a retreat. Doug also played an integral role in starting a youth traveling basketball team for the Boy's and Girl's club of Fargo, ND, serving as head coach. The support of Doug's community and family has allowed him to run such a successful business in southern Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, it's people like Doug who help stimulate the economy in the 19th Congressional District and inspire young people to give back to their communities. Doug Dobmeier is not only a team leader, but an example for all of us as we enter the 21st century.

HONORING ILLINOIS MOTHER OF THE YEAR PAULA "POLLY" MYERS

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a woman in my congressional district who was recently named Illinois' Mother of the Year. Paula "Polly" Myers, from Petersburg, IL, has been chosen for her involvement in her church, school, and community, but mostly for the love and dedication she has shown in raising seven wonderful children.

Polly Myers has lived her life displaying the qualities that inspire this type of award. Even as she was working and going to school to provide better opportunities for her children, she found time to teach Sunday School, serve on the PTA board, and play an active role in all aspects of her children's lives. She dedicated herself to her four natural children, and her three step-children, whom she raised as her own.

To be selected for this award, a nominee must meet a very rigid list of criteria. The search committee looks at the character and accomplishments of her children, her involvement in religious and civic institutions, her adherence to the Golden Rule, and how she embodies traits such as courage, patience, kindness, and understanding. By all of these standards, Polly Myers is a deserving recipient.

Polly Myers said herself that "You never go into motherhood thinking you're going to get an award." She is certainly right about that. Still, I am glad that awards such as this are given, and I am proud to honor Polly Myers, a truly deserving recipient.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PELL GRANT STUDENT/TAXPAYER PROTECTION ACT

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce the Pell Grant Student/Taxpayer Protection Act. This legislation would prevent a postsecondary school from participating in the Pell Grant Program if that school is already ineligible to participate in the federally guaranteed student loan program. Plain and simple, this legislation will make sure that if you have high default rates, then you should not receive any title IV higher education funding period.

This is a critical time for our country. Congress is trying to save taxpayer dollars while improving the quality of postsecondary education that is available to all Americans. We have taken strong steps forward in achieving this when we reauthorized the Higher Education Act with nearly 100 sorely needed reforms that were good for students and good for taxpayers.

Reforms such as the 3-year 25 percent cohort default rate were intended to put an end to risk-free Federal subsidies for those unscrupulous, for profit trade schools who promise

students a good education that leads to a good job and then fail to deliver on that promise—at the expense of both students and the taxpayers. If these schools violated these rules, then they would be bounced from the program.

We have already determined that schools with unacceptably high student loan default rates should not be permitted to participate in the federally guaranteed student loan program. I submit that if a school is deemed ineligible to participate in the federally guaranteed student loan program, then it should also not be permitted to participate in the Pell Grant Program.

We were able to put this into effect by making it a part of the Omnibus Consolidated Revisions and Appropriations Act of 1996. After going into effect for 1 year, about \$8 million were redistributed to responsible schools.

If we could find a way to pay for an increase in title IV student aid programs, there would be very few Members, if any, who would be unsupportive. But, faced with a \$4.7 trillion debt and annual deficits exceeding \$200 billion, we do not have that luxury. However, today we have an opportunity to stretch our Pell grant funds by disqualifying those schools that we have already disqualified from the federally guaranteed student loan program.

I urge my colleagues to support this critical legislation. Make our Pell grant money go farther. Throw the scam schools out of the Pell program. Protect the taxpayer. Cosponsor the Pell Grant Student/Taxpayer Protection Act.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 1274, THE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS
AND TECHNOLOGY [NIST]
AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1997

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 1274, the National Institute of Standards and Technology [NIST] Authorization Act of 1997.

Mr. Speaker, NIST is one of our least known yet most important agencies. As part of the Department of Commerce, NIST performs for the Federal Government the vital role of standardization. This constitutionally mandated effort ensures that U.S. businesses have the ability to interact not only with each other, but in the global marketplace. Without an arbiter of standards, we would never know what even the simplest of measures represents. NIST laboratories are responsible for the maintenance and development of accurate weights and measures necessary for developing new technologies and carrying out commerce.

H.R. 1274 authorizes the NIST programs, the Under Secretary for Technology, and Office of Technology Policy for fiscal years 1998 and 1999. Unlike the administration's request, the bill prioritizes funding for NIST laboratory functions, increasing their funding by 5 percent in fiscal year 1998 and 3 percent in fiscal year 1999, while reducing funding for lower priority programs such as the Advanced Technology Program [ATP].

Specifically for fiscal year 1998, the bill authorizes \$278,563,000 for NIST laboratory activities. This total includes an increase of

\$2,500,000 above the administration's request for the physics laboratory program to support reengineering measurement services to simplify the delivery of measurement assurance at the point of use. This initiative should increase the accuracy and lower the cost of calibration for the end users of NIST standards.

A \$4,000,000 increase from the levels recommended by the administration is included for the Computer Science and Applied Mathematics Program to augment NIST work in the field of computer security; and \$500,000 has been added for the Technical Assistance Program to support improving measurement standards to facilitate international trade and provide additional funding to implement the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995. The bill authorizes a total of \$286,919,890 for the NIST labs in fiscal year 1999.

The bill also authorizes funding for both the Advanced Technology Program [ATP] and the Manufacturing Extension Partnership [MEP] Program in fiscal years 1998 and 1999. ATP is authorized at \$185,100,000 in fiscal year 1998 and \$150,000,000 in fiscal year 1999. The program's match requirements are also altered by the bill, with new requirements for a 60-percent match from the private sector awardee replacing the program's traditional 50-50 split. This change should enable ATP grant funding to be further leveraged. To ensure that ATP grants are not simply displacing private capital, the bill also contains language requiring review of ATP applications to ensure that the ATP grant is actually required in order to enable the project to go forward.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1274 includes \$117,800,000 for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership [MEP] Program in fiscal year 1998 and \$111,300,000 in fiscal year 1999. These totals will allow for full funding of all 75 existing MEP centers and will cover the administrative costs associated with running the program. The bill also includes language which will allow MEP centers slated to sunset during the life of the bill to continue to receive funds for an additional 2 years if they meet the program's performance criteria.

The bill also authorizes \$4,134,500 in fiscal year 1998 and \$5,289,000 in fiscal year 1999 for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Program. The increases are sufficient to allow for the program's expansion into education and health care over the next 2 years.

Finally, the bill authorizes funding for NIST critical maintenance and construction needs. The bill includes \$16,692,000 in fiscal year 1998 and \$67,000,000 in fiscal year 1999 for construction and maintenance of NIST facilities. The funding is sufficient to cover the administration's request for maintenance in fiscal year 1998 and fiscal year 1999 and \$50,000,000 in fiscal year 1999 for NIST's top new facility priority, the Advanced Metrology Laboratory [AML]. In order to ensure that the construction funding is used in the most appropriate fashion, H.R. 1274 includes a certification requirement precluding the Department from obligating any money to new construction unless it meets the requirements of NIST's new facilities plan.

Along with the authorization language, the bill includes provisions to reduce scientific research earmarks, to require the Science Committee to receive notice of any reprogramming of NIST funds, and to express the sense of Congress that NIST should address the year 2000 computer date field problem.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1274 is a sound bill. It is fiscally responsible and will help ensure that some of our Nation's most important technology research and development programs are adequately funded for the next 2 years. I encourage all my colleagues to join me in supporting the National Institute of Standards and Technology Authorization Act of 1997.

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNITED
STATES FIRE ADMINISTRATION
AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1997,
H.R. 1272

HON. STEVEN SCHIFF

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues Messrs. SENSENBRENNER, BROWN, and BARCIA to introduce a bipartisan bill to authorize the programs of the United States Fire Administration [USFA]. This small agency, housed in the Federal Emergency Management Agency, provides vital assistance to the Nation's fire and emergency services communities which helps them to save lives and property. The USFA is able to perform this service through its four primary missions: fire service training; fire-related data collection and analysis; public education and awareness; and research and technology.

Through the efforts of the USFA as a partner with State and local fire and emergency service communities, fire deaths and injuries and property losses are down. For a relatively small amount of money, these programs provide the men and women of the fire service the necessary leg up that enables them to achieve the seemingly insurmountable obstacles they face every day as the first line of defense in the fight against fire and arson.

This 2-year authorization bill establishes funding levels sufficient to preserve all the missions and functions of the United States Fire Administration and the National Fire Academy [NFA], which is administered by the USFA. Specifically, the bill provides a 3-percent increase over the administration's fiscal year 1998 requested level and a 3-percent increase in fiscal year 1999. We believe this additional money is necessary in order to ensure that the agency can continue its current mission activities as well as perform a new counterterrorism training function.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the efforts of the USFA and the NFA, and I believe this bill, as a reflection of the bipartisan support for these agencies, will enable them to continue their missions and accomplish their goals.

IN HONOR OF FATHER FRANCIS
DOLS, T.O.R.: CELEBRATING 50
YEARS OF SERVICE TO HIS FEL-
LOW MAN BOTH IN EUROPE AND
AMERICA

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional man, Father Francis Dols, who is celebrating the 50th anniversary of his ordination as a priest in the