

years she has worked at the board of education in Public School 87 in the Bronx where she was a school lunch aide. But it was the personality and charm she brought to the kitchen which made it distinct. Mrs. DiMeo turned this into an area where teachers would come to relax, to talk about work and themselves, to take that vital time which reinvigorates us. That kitchen was such a center of the school that the principals would drop in to become a closer part of that small community. Mrs. DiMeo personifies the person we all remember who made school more like home than an institution, the one we always speak fondly of. As a former teacher I can appreciate the atmosphere created by such a person. I have also had the opportunity to witness first hand the warmth and charm of this caring individual. She is the mother-in-law of my administrative assistant, John Calvelli.

On the evening of Friday, April 11, 1997, members and friends of PS 87 will be hosting a dinner to celebrate a new chapter in Mrs. DiMeo's life: her retirement. I salute her and thank her for all she has given to the school, its teachers and its students, and consequently to our community. I look forward to sharing many special events in the coming years with her and the entire DiMeo family.

IN HONOR OF REV. THOMAS BOYD
OF THE SALEM MISSIONARY
BAPTIST CHURCH OF BROOKLYN,
NY

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound pleasure that I congratulate today an exemplary community and religious leader, Rev. Thomas Boyd of the Salem Missionary Baptist Church. He has devoted 50 years of his life to the church, 37 of those to the Salem Missionary Baptist Church alone.

Reverend Boyd has been an invaluable spiritual leader. He plays a vitally important role in the community to the many who over the years have come to depend on his warm heart and kind words. His dedication and service to the church is testament to what a commitment, in this case to the faith, requires of us all. His leadership is inspirational and extends well beyond the reaches of his congregation. As public servants we should draw from his example and strive to emulate this level of commitment.

I ask my colleagues to join me in extending a hearty congratulations to Reverend Boyd for his 50 years of religious service. And also to the Salem Missionary Baptist Church, for providing him a base from which to build a spiritual home for the people of Brooklyn.

TENNESSEE CLASS A
BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS

HON. ED BRYANT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mr. BRYANT. Mr. Speaker, may it be known that the Vikings of Perry County High School

in Perry County, TN, are Class A basketball champions. The feat gave Perry County High School its sixth State Championship Trophy for basketball since 1955.

Twenty-eight times during their regular season, these Vikings took to the hardwood floors of Tennessee's high school gymnasiums to measure their metal. And those 28 competitions brought upon them the inspiring thrill of success and victory. Indeed, their numerous regular season achievements, coupled with a sheer desire to win, would carry them to victory throughout the district, regional, sub-State, and the pinnacle of high school basketball, the State Tournament.

Coach Bruce Slatten is to be commended for such a fine year of coaching. Without his unwavering guidance and devotion to his players, this team would likely not have been the same. Seniors Phillip Carroll, Kirk Haston, Chris Jones, and Chad Marrs undoubtedly showed team leadership throughout the year. Other players who made this team a success include Cory Brown, Nick Coble, Shannon Hamm, Ben Mercer, Mitchell Rhodes, Blake Warren, Barton Coble, Clay Pope, Josh Warren, Dan McEwen, and Josh Walker. Team managers Kenny Tohn, Adam Trull, and Ryan Parnell lent helping hands, as did statisticians Jeremy Hester and Troy Himes, and cameraman Michael Jones.

Four Vikings would go on to earn All-State Tournament honors—Cory Brown, Kirk Haston, Chris Jones, and Mitchell Rhodes. Mr. Haston was named the Single A State Tournament's "Most Valuable Player," and for the second year in a row, was named "Mr. Basketball" in Tennessee Single A basketball.

I am proud to see Perry County High School uphold its winning and championship tradition in high school basketball, and wish this team the best of luck in all their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES FARMER

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, 55 years ago this month, the first sit-in took place. It was at the Jack Spratt Coffee Shop in Chicago, IL. It was conceived, organized, and led by James Farmer.

Fifty years ago, in 1947, in followup to the 1946 Supreme Court ruling that blacks could not be forced to sit in the back of buses traveling interstate, Farmer led CORE members in a challenge to the practice of segregated seating. On what he called the journey of reconciliation, they traveled through Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and West Virginia. Some members of that group, including Bayard Rustin, were arrested and served 30 days on a chain gang in North Carolina for having violated local segregation laws.

These are among the little known but critical events on the road to equal rights and equal protection under the law in the United States. Better known are the Freedom Rides. James Farmer orchestrated them, too.

Tireless and committed, Jim Farmer led 13 of us—an interracial group of young men and women whom he had helped train in the Gandhian principles of direct action and non-violence—on a journey toward freedom,

through the deep South. There was violence all around. Our buses were burned. We were beaten. But, we never turned back.

The Freedom Rides catapulted Birmingham police commissioner, Bull Connor, onto the front page of major newspapers around the world. The Freedom Rides opened Bobby Kennedy's eyes to the intransigence of Southern segregationists and the need for the Federal Government to intervene in the struggle for civil rights. And the Freedom Rides brought down the white only and colored signs that had been hung over every bus seat, terminal bench, toilet, and water fountain in the South.

Although he was one of the "Big Six" leaders of the civil rights movement, a planner of the 1963 march on Washington and scheduled to speak at the march, Jim Farmer didn't make it to the march. He was in jail in Louisiana at the time; and, while he could have been released, he chose to stay with the 200 others who had marched in Plaquemine earlier in the week protesting the inhumane treatment of black people in that parish.

Almost a month later, the Plaquemine protesters were released. However, the only way Farmer was able to escape Louisiana was in a coffin in the back of a hearse. The State troopers had vowed to find him and kill.

Referred to as a "young negro aristocrat," Farmer was born in Texas, where his father was the first black person to earn a Ph.D. degree. Today, he is 77 years old. He is blind. He has lost the use of both of his legs. He is not in good health.

He is still teaching at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, VA, where is he Distinguished Professor of History and American Studies. He continues to inspire his students and all those who come in contact with him to set goals, direct their actions, lead, be creative, have vision and keep the faith.

I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to James Farmer, one of our Nation's greatest heroes, his work, his legacy, and his life.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIR PAY
ACT OF 1997

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I reintroduce the Fair Pay Act [FPA], a bill that would require employers to pay equal wages to employees in comparable jobs in an effort to remedy the pay inequities which women continue to endure. I introduce the bill today, the day before Pay Inequity Day, because that is the day on which women finally earn what men earned in the previous calendar year. I have introduced this legislation each Congress with increasing support in both the House and the Senate, and I hope to have even more support in the 105th Congress. The bill already has 25 original cosponsors.

American families are becoming more and more dependent on women's wages. Today, 40 percent of all working women have children under 18. In two-parent families, 66 percent of the women work, and the number of female-headed households has more than doubled since 1970.

Although most American families today must rely heavily on women's wages, women continue to earn less than their male counterparts

with comparable qualifications. Women complete more schooling than men but earn only 72 cents for each dollar earned by men. Although the wage gap has slowly narrowed over the years, much of the gap is not closing for women at all but is due to the decline in men's wages. Much of the rest of the progress can be traced to earnings of a small group of professional or highly skilled women. The average woman has seen little if any progress. Over her lifetime, a woman loses over \$420,000 due to pay inequity, and collectively, women—and therefore often their families—lose more than \$100 billion in wages each year because of wage discrimination.

The Equal Pay Act (EPA) was passed in 1963, and by focusing on pay disparities where men and women were doing the same (or similar) jobs, its enforcement has helped narrow the wage gap between men and women. The Fair Pay Act takes the Equal Pay Act one step further and seeks to confront the pay disparity problem of the 1990's the way the EPA confronted the equal pay problem in the 1960's.

The FPA recognizes that if men and women are doing comparable work, they should be paid the same. If you are an emergency services operator, a female-dominated profession, for example, you should not be paid less than a fire dispatcher, a male-dominated profession, simply because you are a woman and he happens to be a man. If you are a social worker, a traditionally female occupation, you should not earn less than a probation officer simply because you are a woman.

The FPA, like the EPA, will not tamper with the market system. As with the EPA, the burden will be on the plaintiff to prove discrimination. She must show that the reason for the disparity between herself and a man doing comparable work in her workplace is sex—or race—discrimination, not legitimate market factors.

As women's employment becomes an increasingly significant factor in the diminishing real dollar income of American families, fair pay between the sexes for comparable employees escalates in importance. This new paycheck frontier must be conquered for women and their families. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO LOS LOBOS

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize the internationally acclaimed musicians Los Lobos for sharing their remarkable talents and their spirit of generosity with the people of America. The quintet has steadily gained fans internationally and earned a place as one of music's most uncompromising innovators. What is less known but equally as valuable about Louie Perez, Cesar Rosas, David Hidalgo, Conrad Lozano, and Steve Berlin is their roles as Ambassadors of goodwill. Los Lobos have become inspirational role models for the greater Los Angeles community, especially for our children.

Messrs. Perez, Rosas, Hidalgo, and Lozano were born and raised in east Los Angeles and

were friends at Garfield High School. They came of age during the 1960's rock movement but have never abandoned their Mexican folk music heritage. The band's 20-plus-year history incorporates traditional rhythms, American folk, rock-and-roll and R&B among its influences. However, the strongest pull for Los Lobos derives from their east Los Angeles roots.

Los Lobos have released 10 albums and collaborated on numerous film, television, theatrical, and commercial productions. In 1985, the group received the distinction as "Band of the Year" by Rolling Stone. It was their hit "La Bamba," one of eight Ritchie Valens remakes recorded for the namesake movie soundtrack, that thrust them into America's eye and brought the band international acclaim. The song was Billboard's No. 1 pop single in 1987.

In 1988, Los Lobos received a Grammy Award for "Best Mexican-American Performance" for "La Pistola Y El Corazon." They have received other accolades ranging from MTV Music Video Awards to "L.A. Times Album of the Year."

All of what I have just recited explains the fame. But, one of Los Lobos' most recent perhaps most cherished achievements has been their support of Broadoaks Children's School in Whittier, CA. The group has raised considerable funds during three sold-out benefit concerts at Whittier College. All of these funds have enabled the school to expand its services to children, families, and teachers throughout Los Angeles.

In 1996, Broadoaks dedicated its newest building the "Los Lobos Learning Center," honoring the groups commitment to this first through sixth grade elementary school. The Los Lobos Learning Center includes two classrooms for fourth through sixth grade students, many of whom require special education services. All students in this center are required to participate in public service projects to instill the value of volunteerism—a reminder and tribute to their benefactors.

Mr. Speaker, on Friday, April 11, 1997, friends and family will gather at a dinner to pay special tribute to Los Lobos to acknowledge the group's commitment and generosity toward the children at Broadoaks Children's School. It is with distinct pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting these exceptional individuals for their outstanding contributions to the music world and for their lasting gesture of goodwill toward our community.

THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND MEDICAL MARIJUANA

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, the American Medical Association and all health care providers should be alerted that legislation I am introducing today will require the Attorney General to revoke the Federal license to prescribe medication to any health care practitioner who recommends to a patient the use of smoked marijuana. This bill is a response to the fraudulent efforts of the pro-drug crowd in the States of California and Arizona where they

now allow for the medical use of marijuana. This bill will be offered as an amendment to the first available authorization or appropriations bill.

The organizations which promoted the California and Arizona medical marijuana initiatives—Drug Policy Foundation/NORML—intentionally exploited the pain and suffering of others as part of their back door attempt to legalize marijuana.

As we know, Mr. Speaker, it is a Federal offense to sell, use, or possess a controlled substance, such as marijuana. The Federal Government, or more specifically, the Food and Drug Administration has repeatedly rejected marijuana for medical use because it adversely impacts concentration and memory, the lungs, motor coordination, and the immune system.

There is increasing scientific evidence that smoked marijuana would be the last medication you would want to prescribe to persons with AIDS since this drug further compromises their immune system, thereby increasing the risk of infections and respiratory problems.

Specifically, my bill, the Medical Marijuana Prevention Act, requires the DEA to revoke the Federal license of a physician to dispense approved medication, under the Controlled Substance Act, if they recommend the use of smoked marijuana for a medical treatment.

Federal law (21 U.S.C. S. 824) provides the President authority to deny a doctor's registration to dispense controlled substances—medication—if the doctor is found to commit acts inconsistent with the public interest. In other words, the President already has the authority under existing law to end the medical marijuana fraud.

As I have said on countless occasions, the only legacy of the Clinton Presidency will be a dramatic increase in the use of illegal drugs in America. There is still time for the President to reverse this trend but it would require decisive action on his part. Unfortunately given his record on this most important of issues it may again be left to Congress to take the initiative.

HELP COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY BASE CLOSURE

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that will facilitate the swift transfer of closed military bases to local communities. I am happy to be joined in this endeavor by my colleague, Mr. SAXTON, the primary cosponsor of this legislation. This action is necessary because current law hinders the large and complex transfer of military base property with economic redevelopment in mind.

Many of the laws governing the reuse of military bases are antiquated and filled with confusing terms and conditions. One major existing hindrance is a clause prohibiting the obtaining of profit by local communities. This is a problem because it prevents local communities from generating profits through subleasing for the purpose of reinvestment to maintain and improve landscaping, maintenance, and infrastructure. The remedy for this situation is to replace the clause with legislation embodying the provisions of the base closure laws and amendments of the 1990's.