

to create a foundation for future generations of Hispanics to build upon.

Therefore, it is reassuring to see the Hispanic community in Flint carrying on the work that Cesar dedicated his life to. It will be an honor for me to welcome Richard Chavez to Flint, MI on April 19, 1997. Richard Chavez is the brother of Cesar and is currently an executive board member of the United Farm Workers.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed an honor and a pleasure for me to rise today before my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to pay tribute to Cesar Chavez and all American workers who continue to fight for equal rights for all people.

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SALUTE TO REPRESENTATIVE  
WILLIAM "BILL" RICHARDSON

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 1997*

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Mississippi [MS] State Representative William "Bill" Richardson who was born December 26, 1951, in Indianola, MS.

Mr. Richardson suddenly departed his life on Tuesday, March 25, leaving a proud legacy as a husband, father, educator, community activist, and public servant. He was the faithful husband to Doris and the loving father to Hope and Tiffany. Words cannot describe the dedication and devotion he showed to his wonderful family.

He received his early education in the Sunflower [MS] County Public Schools and received a bachelor's degree from Mississippi Valley State University [MVSU] and did post graduate work at both MVSU and the University of Southern Mississippi.

Mr. Richardson served almost 20 years as an educator in the Indianola [MS] School District where he taught Social Studies and Civics. In 1992, after an active career in the Sunflower County community he was elected to the Mississippi State House of Representatives. While serving in the Mississippi Legislature he was appointed to the Committee on Education, the Committee on Agriculture and the Joint Legislative Parole Commission. During the 1995 Legislative Session, Representative Richardson was elected Sergeant-at-arms of the Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus.

During his illustrative career, he remained active in the Mississippi Association of Educators, the National Educators Association, the Indiana Association of Educators, the Board of Directors for Delta Housing, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Raspberry United Methodist Men's Club, and the Sunflower County Chapter of the MVSU Alumni Association.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring a devoted husband, father, and public servant for his outstanding contributions to the State of Mississippi.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 607: HOME-  
OWNERS INSURANCE PROTEC-  
TION ACT

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 1997*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Homeowners Insurance Protection Act which will amend the Truth in Lending Act and stop the abusive practice of overcharging homeowners for private mortgage insurance.

Private mortgage insurance has given millions of Americans the opportunity to become homeowners. This is a valuable service that mortgage industry provides; however, most homeowners are unclear about their rights under this insurance. Many Americans believe that private mortgage insurance insures them, when, in fact, it insures the lender while the homeowner pays the premium. As the practice stands, homeowners who have paid off 20 percent of their loan no longer need the insurance, but they do not realize it and continue to pay the premium throughout the life of their mortgage. In some cases, 20 to 30 extra years of payments. For an individual who pays \$350 per year on a 30-year mortgage, that can mean paying an extra \$7,000 to \$10,000 of unnecessary premiums.

This legislation will bring about two simple reforms. It will require full disclosure of a homeowners' right to cancel the insurance once they have down 20 percent on their home. It will also require the mortgage lenders to inform consumers at least once a year of their cancellation rights. Both of these requirements must be provided by the creditor at no extra cost to the consumer.

This bill will protect the rights of homeowners from overpaying unnecessary premiums while maintaining the important role of private mortgage insurance in promoting home ownership. Accordingly, I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

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TRIBUTE TO CIVIL SERVANTS ON  
THE 2-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE OKLAHOMA CITY TRAGEDY

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 1997*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, April 19, 1997 we mark the 2-year anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing, one of the most reprehensible tragedies in our Nation's history. I rise today to pay tribute to the fallen Federal workers and the other victims who perished in an event that continues to tug at the heart strings of the entire Nation.

The cowardly and meaningless act of terrorism against the civil servants and children in the Alfred P. Murrah Federal building has touched off a 2-year period of national soul-searching and introspection. Many of the victims families are attempting to move forward in their lives. In fact, the mother of Baylee Almon, whose limp body in the arms of a firefighter became the symbol of the heroism and heartbreak of the bombing, was recently mar-

ried and is taking steps to move beyond her daughter's death.

We lost many of these fine men and women 2 years ago and I want to once again extend my heartfelt sympathies to all of their families, their friends, their coworkers, their neighbors, and those they serve. As the old saying goes, "time heals all wounds"; but, the Oklahoma City tragedy will require significantly more than 2 years to diminish the effect it has had on the entire country.

Mr. Speaker, it has long been my view that Federal workers are one of our Nation's greatest assets. As President Lyndon Johnson once noted:

So very much of what we are as a Nation—and what we are to achieve as a people—depends on the calibre and character of the Federal career people. In no other endeavor can you more directly serve our country's cause—or the values on which we stand—than in the public service.

Mr. Speaker, the people we lost in the bombing were not nameless faceless bureaucrats, and, Mr. Speaker let me be perfectly clear and to the point—I get angry over those who would denigrate our civil servants. All too often it is the prevailing habit of this body to attack the character and devotion of our Federal employees. Mr. Speaker, we must stop the senseless scapegoating and needless bashing of our civil servants.

Yes, there are nonperformers, just like there are at corporations and factories across our country. But, Mr. Speaker, the great majority of these men and women are Americans with a deep love for their Nation who, in many cases, have bypassed more lucrative careers to serve their fellow citizens.

Federal employees play an integral, albeit often invisible role in our daily lives. Federal employees make sure that our senior citizens get their monthly Social Security checks and that our veterans get the care and treatment they need. Federal employees are responsible for printing our money and insuring it when we make deposits at the bank. Federal employees protect our borders and make sure the food we eat is safe. The bottom line is that Federal employees devote their days, and often their nights, to ensuring that our Government and our country is a better place to live.

So, as we pay tribute to the victims and survivors of the Oklahoma City tragedy, I urge my colleagues and my fellow Americans to give great care and thought to those who would criticize our Federal Government. Yes, you get angry at the IRS; yes, you may get angry at law enforcement officials, but do not allow that anger to be directed at individuals. Let it be directed at policy. Let us all be a civil society and strive to make America the great Nation we all know it can be.

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TRIBUTE TO RICHARD  
HENDRICKSON

**HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 1997*

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Richard Hendrickson of Bridgehampton, Long Island, NY, an esteemed and accomplished meteorologist who has been bestowed the 1997 Albert J. Myer

Award for a career of dedicated service to the National Weather Service.

Mr. Hendrickson is an exceptional and worthy recipient of this honor, named for Brigadier General Myer who founded the National Weather Service in 1870. For 67 years, Mr. Hendrickson has provided an unbroken tenure to the National Weather Service, which operates a forecast facility at Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, Long Island.

During his highly distinguished career, Mr. Hendrickson has been awarded numerous honors by the National Weather Service for his accomplishments as weather forecaster. These prestigious awards include the Helmut E. Landsberg Award, named for the father of modern climatology; the Thomas Jefferson Award, named for America's third President who, among his many talents, was an accomplished weather observer; and the Edward H. Stoll Award, given to weather observers with 50 years of service.

Mr. Hendrickson is so clearly worthy of the many professional honors and recognitions bestowed upon him. He is also deserving of the personal gratitude of all Americans for a lifetime of superior service to the study of weather observation. Mr. Hendrickson's efforts have broadened our understanding of the science of weather observation, and has contributed greatly to the ability of all meteorologists to forecast the force of powerful weather systems. Thanks to the efforts of Mr. Hendrickson and weather observers like him, many lives have been saved because our neighbors have been able to take precautionary actions before destructive hurricanes or blizzards have struck their communities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in offering our collective praise and gratitude to Richard Hendrickson for his 67 years of dedicated, accomplished service to the National Weather Service.

#### ACT TO SAVE AMERICA'S FORESTS

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 1997

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, as a New Yorker, I feel strongly about a former New York Governor, Teddy Roosevelt's legacy: The National Forest System; 95 percent of America's forests have been cut down, just 5 percent remain standing—which is owned by the American people.

The practice of clearcutting forests and even aged logging is destroying one of America's most beloved resources.

It not only upsets the forest ecosystem by draining the soil of important nutrients. It weakens the land—creating the potential for dangerous mud slides.

The poor policing of loggers is also threatening the existence of the American grizzly bear, salmon, and common song birds.

Our legislation will:

Prohibit clear cutting and even aged logging and other abusive practices on Federal land.

Change the mission of the Forest Service by setting it up as the enforcement agency for preserving plants and animals native to forests. It actually requires the Forest Service to repair past damage either by program or by allowing the forest to heal itself.

And it brings Americans into the enforcement fold by providing rewards for citizens who report violations.

In America right now—Less than 6 percent of the original forests are still standing.

In the lower 48 States just 1 percent remain.

This legislation doesn't cost much—but it can save 100's of millions in road building subsidies.

The Act of Save America's Forest will effectively shift the focus of the forest management of Federal lands from corporate profit, to protection and nurturing of our rare and natural resources.

#### THE JOSEPHINE BUTLER UNITED STATES HEALTH SERVICE ACT

### HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 1997

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker: I rise to honor the memory of Josephine Butler by introducing the Josephine Butler United States Health Act. This legislation is named after a heroic African-American fighter who lived in this Nation's Capital. The Josephine Butler United States Health Service Act seeks a comprehensive, universal national health care system based on health care for people, not profits; on community control of health care, not corporate control; commits to the proposition that a health care system in the richest Nation in the world should be available to everyone living in this Nation, and that such a health care system must be dedicated to the whole person, their family, and their community.

Josephine Butler was a holistic activist, whose passion and tireless energy encompassed not only health care but statehood for the District of Columbia, the environment, the trade union movement, women's rights, the welfare of children, the arts, peace and justice for all nations, and neighborhood parks. Josephine Butler, called by some the Harriet Tubman of the District of Columbia, a founder and former chairperson of the D.C. Statehood Party, was guided by a fierce commitment to the right of self-determination for all peoples. Ms. Butler brought the D.C. statehood movement to people across the United States and to the United Nations.

Josephine Butler was an international and a courageous peace activist. She was founder of the D.C. chapter of the Paul Robeson Society, and a founder of the World Congress of Peace. Her concern for peace was worldwide—from the former Soviet Union, to the island of Grenada, the Middle East, South Africa, and back to the District of Columbia. In 1994 Ms. Butler received the National Partnership Leadership Award from President Clinton for the work she had done in transforming the once crime-ridden Meridian Hill/Malcolm X Park into a place of beauty. Her work as cochair of the Friend of Meridian Hill led the President to cite the group as a "shining example for the nation" of what community activism can accomplish.

Josephine Butler, born January 24, 1920, moved to Washington, DC, seeking medical treatment for typhoid fever as a young girl from the Brandywine area of Prince George's County where her father had been a sharecropper. She began working in a laundry and

took the lead in organizing laundry workers in the D.C. area into a union. She remained involved in union activities, committed to the rights of workers for the rest of her life.

In the late 1950's and early 1960's, Jo Butler was incapacitated with tuberculosis. Upon recovery, she became a volunteer for the D.C. Lung Association, and then the association's community health educator, where she worked from 1969 to 1980. Her deep commitment to adequate health care for all led her to serve as a founding board member of the Committee for a National Health Service formed in the 1970's. She died on March 29, 1997, but remains alive in our hearts, supporting our efforts to achieve universal health care for this great Nation.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING, AND LITERACY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1997

### HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 1997

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, today I am joining the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, Mr. GOODLING, and the ranking Democrat on the Postsecondary Education, Training, and Life-Long Learning Subcommittee, Mr. KILDEE, to introduce important, bipartisan legislation to reform this Nation's fragmented and duplicative array of employment, training, and literacy programs. The Employment, Training, and Literacy Enhancement Act will consolidate over 70 Federal programs through the establishment of three block grants to States and localities for the provision of employment, training, and literacy services, and through amendments to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

The bill would accomplish key reforms in this country's job training system by building on the three principles of individual choice; quality training for the 21st century; and the transfer of resources and authority for employment, training, and literacy programs to States and local communities. By amending, consolidating, and improving existing programs established under the Job Training Partnership Act [JTPA], the Adult Education Act, the Wagner Peyser Act, and other statutes, we hope to build on the many positive reforms that are already underway in States and local communities, while encouraging further reform and breaking down barriers to State and local program integration.

The three block grants that are established under division A of the bill would comprise each State's employment, training, and literacy system—an adult employment and training opportunities grant; a disadvantaged youth employment and training opportunities grant; and an adult education and family literacy grant. While the legislation separately amends the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, vocational rehabilitation programs are not block granted with job training.

Specifically, title I would drastically reform the current JTPA State and local delivery structure, as well as its fiscal and performance accountability provisions. The bill provides maximum authority to States and localities in the design and operation of their individual employment, training, and literacy systems.