

take up the idea in 1986. It was only when Treasury proposed section 7704 in mid-1987 as part of a list of acceptable revenue raisers that the proposal received any official endorsement. By that time, most of the affected PTP's were already in existence.

This raises what I believe is the most important issue in this debate: fairness to the PTP's and, more important, their owners. The process of converting from a corporation to a PTP is a costly and time-consuming one, easily taking over 1 year. The conversion process involved consultation with investment bankers, appraisals, planning by corporate finance, securities and tax lawyers, multiple filings with the SEC and State securities agencies, proxy statements and shareholder votes, etc. This process would not have been started or completed had there been any reasonable prospect that a change in the tax law would have applied retroactively or after a limited period of time.

To make matters worse, many of these same costs will be incurred once again if the 10-year grandfather is not made permanent. Grandfathered PTP's will be forced to convert to corporate form on January 1998. To do so, however, will require lengthy planning, and the same investment banking advice, appraisals, and attorney fees. The need for extensive, advance planning makes it essential that the matter be resolved this year.

More important, is the effect that loss of the grandfather will have on PTP investors. It is a virtual certainty that the value of PTP units will be affected adversely if the grandfather expires. Thus, the investor will suffer the most. Who are these investors? Most are average, middle-class taxpayers who have invested in PTP units because of their high yield, many before the 1987 act was passed.

We do not achieve any tax policy goal by honoring the 10-year grandfather. That goal was fully achieved by making section 7704 apply prospectively. Instead, all we would accomplish by retaining the 10-year grandfather would be harm to these PTP's and their investors. There is no doubt what our decision should be.

In conclusion, I want to note the diversity of the PTP's that would benefit from permanent extension of the grandfather. The PTP's affected are involved in a wide variety of industries, from motels and restaurants to chemicals, financial advising and macadamia nuts. Undoubtedly, these businesses operate in many of our districts. Of course, our districts are the homes to the individual investors in these PTP's. The most recent court indicates that there are well over 300,000 individual investors.

The 10-year grandfather hangs like a sword of Damocles over each one of these PTP's. We in Congress have the ability to remove that sword and there is no reason why we should not do so. We urge our colleagues to join with us to support this bill.

THE KINSHIP CARE ACT OF 1997

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a bill to encourage kinship care families,

families in which adult relatives are the preferred placement options for children separated from their parents.

Last year I introduced similar legislation, and I am pleased to report that a portion of it was incorporated as part of welfare reform—States must now consider relatives who are willing and able to care for minor children before placing them in other foster care situations.

The legislation I am introducing today would go one step further by giving States the flexibility to create a new type of foster care—kinship care—as a demonstration project. It would authorize States to examine and test how their child protection system could incorporate safe, cost-effective kinship care placements. States would have increased flexibility to waive portions of the IV-E foster care program in order to provide services and payments to kinship-care placements. It would help families to rely on their own family members as resources when a child is legally separated from his or her parents.

We clearly need this legislation. From 1985 to 1990, the number of children in foster care increased by 47 percent, while the number of foster families decreased by 27 percent. Furthermore, when a child must be removed from his or her parents, placing the child with a caring relative helps keep the family together and limits disruption to the child's life. Ironically, relatives who want to care for the child often find themselves burdened with legal and bureaucratic paperwork and regulation, and they lack the support services available to regular foster care families.

By giving States the flexibility to create a new type of foster care—kinship care—support services and payments could be made to kinship care placements. States would transfer custody of the child to the adult relative and then would have the flexibility to make some payments and provide services to these children under the IV-E program. Kinship care could be considered a long-term placement option for the States.

In order to be considered an eligible family for kinship care placements under this bill, certain criteria must be met. The child must be removed from the home as a result of a judicial determination that continuation in the home would be contrary to the welfare of the child, the child would otherwise be placed in foster care, and that there are adult relatives willing to provide safe and appropriate care for the child.

This legislation is revenue neutral because States would incorporate kinship care into their child welfare system. States would evaluate their kinship care system for outcomes for children and families, safety of the children, and cost savings. At the end of 4 years, the Secretary of Health and Human Services would evaluate the State kinship care demonstrations and recommend legislative changes based on their evaluations.

This legislation would also require States to provide relative caregivers with notice of, and an opportunity to be heard in, any dispositional hearing or administrative review held when considering the health and safety of a related child.

Mr. Speaker, I have heard from grandparents who desperately want to provide their grandchildren a loving, supportive, and safe home. Because of burdensome regulations, these children end up in the expensive foster

care system. Grandparent groups around the country support this legislation, I met with many of them today. I strongly urge my colleagues to cosponsor this bill and urge its swift passage.

HONORING PASTOR RODERICK MITCHELL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pastor Roderick Mitchell, one of my constituents who has had an invaluable role in the lives of many families in the Mississippi Delta.

Pastor Mitchell grew up in a troubled household and was forced to spend much of his childhood protecting his mother and younger siblings from his abusive father. He never forgot those mornings he passed crouching, hiding miserably in the cotton fields surrounding his home.

Pastor Mitchell now divides his time between his ministry in Cleveland, MS and his many initiatives to speak out against spousal violence, sexual assault, and child abuse. In 1995 he established a desperately needed rape crises program in his church that has evolved into a community-based organization, the Exodus Center for Life, which provides services to all victims of crime. Pastor Mitchell is perhaps best known for his educational programs that use puppets to teach children in Headstart programs about child abuse and also give information about date rape and domestic violence to youths in school. He has implemented a violence prevention program for teenagers called Preparing our Sons for Manhood, and he also serves as a counselor in Men Against Spousal Harm [MASH], a treatment program for batterers in the Mississippi Delta.

One of Pastor Mitchell's colleagues summed up his efforts recently, saying, "his experience as a victim of domestic violence and his deep belief in the power of education transcend cultural and denominational barriers, reaching all crime victims, young and old, as well as at-risk youth with inspirational messages that help to heal and prevent crime."

Mr. Speaker, Mississippi and this Nation owe a debt of gratitude to Pastor Mitchell. If we are ever to transcend the cycle of violence, hatred, and anger that plagues America, we will need to follow this shining example of selfless determination. I honor Pastor Mitchell, and I thank him for his work.

TRIBUTE TO THE CENTENNIAL OF ALLENHURST, NJ

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on April 26, 1997, the Borough of Allenhurst, NJ, will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of their community. A reenactment of the first meeting of the board of commissioners will take place at the Allenhurst Beach Club on

Saturday at 3 p.m. The celebration of the borough's centennial will continue with a variety of community events throughout the rest of the year.

Mr. Speaker, 100 years ago, in April 1897, the Borough of Allenhurst had the first meeting of its board of commissioners. Of course, this was not the beginning of the history of life in the area as we now call Allenhurst. A Scotsman named Gawen Drummond bought the land for native Americans. The land was for many years part of the Allen Farm, and there were two hotels, the Allen Hotel and the Crow's Nest. In 1896 the Coast Land Office was built at the corner of Page and Corlies Avenues, and in the next 20 months 58 cottages were constructed. The Coast Land Company placed ads in New York and Philadelphia newspapers extolling the borough's wise exclusiveness. The following year, the borough was incorporated.

Mr. Speaker, a lot has changed in Allenhurst, NJ, and America since the founding of Allenhurst. One hundred years ago, Grover Cleveland was President, San Francisco had a massive earthquake, the Spanish-American War was being fought, the first World Series was held and construction of the Panama Canal began. But much has remained the same: The beauty of the ocean and beaches of the Jersey Shore and the deep sense of community pride felt by the residents of Allenhurst.

On April 26 at 3 p.m., the minutes of the original meeting will be read. Mayor Coyne and Commissioners Ruocco and McCarthy will be dressed in 1896-style costumes. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the borough officials and all the residents of this beautiful oceanfront community on this historic occasion and look forward to working with them to make the next 100 years every bit as good as the first century.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, as we approach a new millennium we cannot forget the launching of the April 24, 1915 pogrom of some 200 Armenian religious, political and intellectual leaders from Constantinople [Istanbul]. For 8 years, 1.5 million Armenians suffered grave repudiation by the government of the "Young Turk Committee." This unfortunate history must be memorialized and remembered such that the world can understand that this tragedy represents the first example of genocide in the 20th century. This observation is not made lightly; but the facts about the destruction of the Armenian people cannot be ignored.

As Armenians and people of conscience throughout the world commemorate April 24, we must accurately depict history to ensure that it is never repeated. Continuing to deny the truth about an important part of world history creates the view that it was just an "unfortunate incident" and nothing else. This inaccuracy can be nothing further from the truth and allows for similar atrocities to occur.

Mr. Chairman, on this day I urge all of my colleagues to remember the horrible events

that occurred in the early part of this century. May they never be repeated again.

LEE HIGH SCHOOL'S SINGING LANCERS TOP THE CHARTS IN ATLANTA COMPETITION

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, the spotlight at the April Fiesta-Val Music competition held in Atlanta, GA was focused on the Choirs of Lee High School.

The performance given by the 20-member Madrigal Choir earned them a superior rating by the judges, placing Lee first in their division. Achieving a superior rating over their 15 competitors, the Fiesta-Val Champion Trophy was presented to Lee Madrigals for reaching the highest numerical score of any choir in their division.

The next group to be called into the winners' spotlight was Lee's Ladies' Chamber Choir. The chamber choir gave another outstanding performance before the panel of judges who rated this choir superior. The Concert Choir was the next to be honored with an excellent rating for their performance.

Noteworthy is the selection of Lee's Singing Lancers as the Fiesta-Val's recipient of the 1997 Grand Champion trophy. To receive this distinctive recognition as overall champions, the Singing Lancers marked the highest combined scores of all choirs competing in the festival.

The awards cited above have become a tradition for Lee's choral program through the hard work and dedication of its director, Mr. Lindsey Florence. Were it not for this outstanding director, the students may never have reached this plateau in their high school music experience. This remarkable contribution was recognized when the festival sponsors presented Mr. Lindsey Florence with the coveted Award of Distinction in recognition of his notable contribution to musical excellence.

Congratulations to the director, Mr. Florence, and his wonderful students: Shely Abbott, Matt Aberant, Denise Absher, Karen Albers, Jessica Alonzo, Alex Arndt, Mary Assad, Nicki Baugher, Ashley Bush, Nicki Clark, Amy Cole, Cindy Craig, Elizabeth Crego, Rachel Cully, Abigail Dosch, Kelly Drier, Mary Fitzgerald, Heather Flemming, John Goff, Craig Goheen, Brian Gresham, Rachel Griffin, Kristen Hampton, James Hare, Brandon Henrich, April Holloman, J.P. Javier Wong, Erlend Johnson, Kim Johnson, Mary Kim, Peter Laver, Mike Lazear, Corrine Leahey, Darcie Lee, Dan Lee, Ruth Leeds, Chrisina Lewis, Anna Lipari, Courtney Mallon, Tara McCabe, Caroline McClaugherty, Heather McDonald, Darin McMillion, Dave McMullin, Abby Meyer, Jamie Michaud, Michelle Montvai, Carrie Moore, Shawn Newman, Ty Oxley, Vanessa Pannell, Alicia Peretti, Corey Perrine, Jessica Piansky, Sara Poh, Alicia Powell, Anna Ramdeo, David Reynolds, Terri Richards, Miranda Romero, Julie Saholsky, Beth Silvola, Leslie Simpson, Justin Smallwood, Julie Stoops, J.R. Stratton, Damara Thompson, Nhien To, Kristin Unger, Melissa Wilkerson, and Audrey Wright.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, April 23, 1997, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall votes Nos. 86 and 87. Had I been present and voting, I would have voted "yes" on each of the amendments to H.R. 400 as offered by Mr. CAMPBELL of California.

RETIREMENT OF CAPT. CHARLES CONNOR, U.S. NAVY

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, over the past 25 years, Capt. Charles D. Connor has been a leading force in the Navy's public affairs community. His efforts, through a wide variety of assignments, played an integral role in articulating the Navy story, and ensuring public support for our policies and programs.

His early public affairs assignments, including U.S.S. *John F. Kennedy*, Armed Forces Bicentennial Program, Navy Recruiting Region Pacific Northwest, Navy Public Affairs Office Midwest, and Navy Recruiting Command laid the groundwork for stellar performance in the most challenging and influential billets in the PAO community.

In the late 1980's, Captain Connor went on to lead the public affairs efforts of the U.S. Third Fleet, following that success with 3 years at U.S. Space Command. His most recent assignments put him truly at the top of his field, where his broad professional expertise has been of incalculable benefit to the U.S. Navy.

As public affairs director of U.S. Navy European Headquarters, 1992-1994, Captain Connor, created, planned and executed the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Normandy Invasion, the centerpiece of which was the globally televised Presidential embarkation aboard Navy ships. This special event successfully underlined the fact that American power projection relies on a forward-based Navy, a vital communication objective which was brilliantly conceived and implemented. His efforts were personally commended by the White House.

As the Deputy Chief of Information, 1994-1995, Captain Connor directed national and international Navy public affairs programs, managing global day-to-day media, community and internal relations operations involving hundreds of people and a multimillion dollar budget. He also created the first standardized manual on the operation of nine regional public affairs offices and introduced digital photography transmission to media, producing significant savings in processing costs.

Captain Connor's outstanding public affairs acumen culminated in his assignment as public affairs officer for the Secretary of the Navy in 1995. During a time of great change and volatility due to downsizing, he spearheaded the Secretary's communications program targeting both internal and external audiences. His efforts resulted in a greater understanding