

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 this program to my congressional 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 both in supporting the Center for Advanced Research and Technology, and extending best wishes for its future success.

ADOPTION PROMOTION ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 867) to promote the adoption of children in foster care:

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the Adoption Promotion and Stability Act of 1997. I commend my colleague, Congressman CAMP, for bringing the important issue of adoption to the floor.

H.R. 867 would require officials to actively pursue adoptions for children who have languished in foster care for 18 months or more. In addition, this legislation would continue to require States to make "reasonable efforts" to keep families together unless returning a child to his or her family would involve "aggravated circumstances." These circumstances would include cases of chronic abuse, torture, or abandonment.

At the end of 1994, there were an estimated 462,000 children in family foster care, kinship care, or residential care—up 65 percent from only a decade ago. According to the Child Welfare League of America, half of all children who await adoption are minority children; these children typically wait longer for adoptive homes. In Cuyahoga County, of the over 3,000 children in the foster care system, nearly 65 percent are African-American. By actively pursuing adoptions for children who have remained in foster care for more than 18 months, H.R. 867 shares my belief that all children, regardless of age, sex, ethnicity, and physical and emotional health are entitled to a family.

Mr. Chairman, H.R. 867 would also require the Department of Health and Human Services to convene an advisory panel to report to Congress on the issue of kinship care. Currently, there are more than 3 million grandparents raising their grandchildren. According to census figures, in 1990, three times as many grandparents were raising their grandchildren than in 1980—just 10 years prior. In addition, many other relatives including aunts, uncles, and older siblings are left to care for

children who are not able or not willing to raise their children. This is an important step in helping to address the rapidly growing issue of kinship care.

Mr. Chairman, the promotion of adoption is one of the most important things we can do to strengthen American families. Adoption enables children, whose parents cannot or will not raise them, to become part of a permanent family. Furthermore, it serves as a second chance for the thousands of children who have been removed from their families because of abuse or neglect.

H.R. 867 represents a positive approach in finding homes for our Nation's needy children. I support this effort to facilitate the adoption of children, and to decrease the time that many of our children languish in the foster care system. Mr. Chairman, I join with my colleagues in support of this legislation.

NATIONAL LAW DAY

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, May 1, 1997, members of the legal profession throughout the lower Hudson Valley region will join with their colleagues in the national observance of Law Day. Law Day serves as an opportunity for all Americans to celebrate our liberties and to reaffirm our commitment to the ideals of justice and equality under the law.

Law Day will be celebrated in my district by the Orange County Bar Association and the Women's Bar Association of Orange and Sullivan Counties in a ceremony at the Orange County Government Center. This year's theme is "Celebrate Your Freedom."

Our Republic was founded on several key principles, many based on the English common law. Yet our Founding Fathers went further than their predecessors in England, and established a written Constitution with a codified Bill of Rights. They also founded a legal system which places the burden of proof on the accuser, not the accused, and in which everyone is entitled to having their day in court.

Moreover, they also established an independent judiciary, a first for the world at that time, which has safeguarded the rights and freedoms of our citizens for over 200 years.

Accordingly, liberty and equality under the law is one of the guiding principles of our Republic. Without any legal system, freedom quickly dissolves into anarchy. Yet, without liberty, the rule of law devolves into mere authoritarianism.

I am pleased to join my colleagues in the legal profession from the 20th Congressional District of New York in celebrating Law Day. This year's celebration reaffirms the fact that the principles upon which our country was founded upon are alive and well.

TRIBUTE TO BERTRAM GROSS

HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 1997

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory, as well as to celebrate the life of

Bertram Gross, who I designated a national treasure in 1995 on behalf of my constituents, for his lifetime of work and dedication to achieve full employment for the people of this Nation, for his writings, and for his teaching.

Among Bertram Gross' many achievements, I have special reason to acknowledge his work as the primary author of the first full employment act introduced in 1945, and passed in 1946, and the second full employment act introduced in 1976 and passed in 1978 by the U.S. Congress. My district and I are particularly indebted to him for his work as the primary author of the third bill, A Living Wage, Jobs for All Act, which was first introduced in 1993, in the 103d Congress, and has been reintroduced in the 104th, as well as in this, the 105th Congress.

Bert was born in 1913 and, when he became a young man in the 1930's in spite of hard-working, supportive parents, and his own capabilities could not find work, like one-half of the American labor force at that time. His personal experience, his knowledge of the misery of so many other Americans provided his earliest social education. These lessons in the fear generated by the destructiveness of joblessness was the marrow, the foundation of his life work.

Like Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Thomas Paine, and William Jefferson, Bert believed profoundly in the dignity of each human being. He fought against the momentum that only those who inherited wealth, or possessed large blocks of capital should have access to the wealth of our society and Nation. Fundamental to this belief was that we all must have the right to work at adequate wages to support ourselves and our children. Bert Gross believed that one of our national legacies was our sense of our basic right to a life of dignity and, that this basic right incorporated a right to work, to adequate housing, food, health care, and education. A legacy that Americans had earned and achieved through the Depression of the thirties and full employment in the forties and that we now appear to have forgotten and lost.

Bert Gross designed A Living Wage, Jobs for All Act, not only as a full employment bill; because the act incorporates basic elements of our economic life and provides specific remedies for many of these ills, this bill can be truly considered a party platform. A platform that is diametrically opposed to the destructiveness of the recent Contract With America.

I designated Bert a national treasure because of the passion that he brought to his life work to have the Nation consider full employment as a fundamental principle. He wrote, talked, cajoled, led, persuaded, and taught all who came into contact with him, with humanity, with humor, with great intelligence and most of the time, with great patience and appreciation for the possession of similar qualities in his students and audience.

In the last 3 years, Bert worked on a daily basis with members of my staff and with my constituents promoting A Living Wage, Jobs for All Act; to hone the bill so that it could be read as prose for a wider readership; to develop strategies to gain support for the ideas reflected in the bill, and to work toward our rediscovery of our lost heritage.

Bertram Gross, being wise, knew he was mortal. For the many of us who benefitted from his work, his wisdom, and his passionate commitment, we can best remember him by

continuing the work that he began so magnificently.

TRIBUTE TO S.M. SGT. WILLIS MULCEROY, M. SGT. ELDON RAUCH, AND T. SGT. HENRY ROMEO, JR., 144TH FIGHTER WING DIVISION, FRESNO, CA

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 1997

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to three outstanding individuals from the 144th Fighter Wing Division in Fresno, CA. These three men exemplify the bravery and consciousness that have earned them the Flight Line Safety Award of Distinction.

On the morning of October 10, 1996, an air carrier was taxiing for takeoff past the ramp of the 144th Fighter Wing. Technical Sergeant Romero heard a loud explosion and noticed what was one of the dual main landing gear tires and what appeared to be a rim fall onto the taxiway. It appeared that the pilots on the aircraft were not aware of the situation and continued toward takeoff. Meanwhile, in maintenance control, S.S.T. Mulceroy also heard the loud explosion of the landing gear tires. He used the flightline radio to direct the expediter toward Sergeant Romero. When Master Sergeant Rauch—the expediter—arrived, Sergeant Romero informed him of the situation and the need to stop the aircraft. Sergeant Rauch immediately used his UHF radio to contact the FAA tower and requested them to stop the airliner—which was quickly making its way towards an active runway. Sergeant Rauch and Sergeant Romero took the expediter truck to the disabled aircraft to assure themselves that the tire had indeed blown. They promptly notified the tower of their findings, and the flight was directed back to the terminal for repair.

Mr. Speaker, had the aircraft not been stopped, it would have taken off with major damage to its right landing gear. The swift action of these three fine men averted a potential major accident and saved the lives of more than 70 people. I commend, S.M. Sgt. Willis Mulceroy, M. Sgt. Eldon Rauch, and T. Sgt. Henry Romero, Jr. for their heroics, and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them for their actions. I extend to them my sincerest appreciation for a job well done.

HONORING RABBI MYRON FENSTER

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 1997

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my constituents and members of the Shelter Rock Jewish Center as they gather at this most renowned synagogue to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Rabbi Myron Fenster as the spiritual leader of the congregation.

Rabbi Fenster was schooled at the Yeshiva of Flatbush, Yeshiva College and Talmudic Academy, and was ordained at the Jewish

Theological Seminary of America. He enhanced his training with advanced studies at the University of Arizona and Columbia University's Graduate Department of Philosophy.

Rabbi Fenster's calling has taken him well beyond the borders of the Shelter Rock Jewish Center into positions of responsibility that have ranged from local to international areas. He is past president of the New York Board of Rabbis, and a member of the faculty of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. He is widely known for his educational and leadership skills, and has served as visiting rabbi of the Moriah Congregation in Haifa, Israel, and as president of Histadruth Ivrit of America.

Rabbi Fenster is a past editor of Conservative Judaism, the quarterly publication of the Rabbinical Assembly of America. He has also chaired the Assembly's Social Justice program. He currently serves as cochairman of the Education Committee of the Long Island Holocaust Commission.

Mr. Speaker, Rabbi Fenster's knowledge and wisdom is in great demand. He has been published in many magazines, periodicals and newspapers including Newsday, the Jerusalem Post, Hadassah Magazine and Midstream. In addition, he has visited Jewish communities throughout the world, in all of the major capitals of Europe and the former Soviet Union. In 1993, he led a rabbinic delegation to the Jewish communities of Morocco.

For the past 30 years, Rabbi Fenster and his wife Ricky have been a most potent force in organizing and uniting the Shelter Rock Jewish Center into a proactive synagogue that has effectively serviced its membership and has, most readily, enhanced, and enriched this great community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to rise and join with me in celebrating the 30th anniversary of Rabbi Myron and Ricky Fenster at the Shelter Rock Jewish Center.

INDIANA OPTOMETRIC ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES CENTENNIAL

HON. STEPHEN E. BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 1997

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, in December 1896, a number of opticians from across the State of Indiana met in Indianapolis for the advancement of the profession. A motion was carried to form the Indiana Optical Society. Over the years, the organization has been known by different names, but this was the beginning of the Indiana Optometric Association.

The organization has significantly enhanced the profession by formulating a code of ethics; by seeking a school of optometry—the School of Optometry at Indiana University—and by adopting standards and methods of practice. The organization is a strong advocate of education among its members.

The Indiana Optometric Association also contributes significantly to the welfare of Hoosiers. As early as 1922, it held the first Save Your Vision week. It has participated in industrial vision research programs as well as vision awareness activities in schools and among the general public.

It is my pleasure to congratulate the Indiana Optometric Association for its 100 years of service to the eye health and vision care needs of Hoosiers. I also ask unanimous consent that the resolution passed by the Senate in the Indiana General Assembly be printed in the RECORD.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A Concurrent Resolution Celebrating the Centennial Anniversary of the Indiana Optometric Association

Whereas, the Indiana Optometric Association (IOA) was founded in 1897 and will be celebrating its Centennial Anniversary during the year 1997, and

Whereas, the IOA is marking 100 years of successful advocacy for the profession of optometry in Indiana, and

Whereas, the IOA has provided 100 years of service in the public interest on behalf of the eye care and eye health of Indiana's citizens, and

Whereas, the IOA was instrumental in the decision of the Indiana General Assembly that established the Indiana University School of Optometry in the early 1950s, and has forged an ongoing professional relationship with the School of Optometry that is a national model, and

Whereas, the IOA commends the Indiana General Assembly for its continuing support of the profession of optometry and the patients it serves, and

Whereas, the IOA has historically distinguished itself as an exemplary professional optometric association in the United States, and

Whereas, the IOA rededicates itself and the profession of optometry to serving the eye health and vision care needs of the citizens of the state of Indiana for the next 100 years,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:

SECTION 1. That, on behalf of the people of the State of Indiana, we extend our sincere appreciation to IOA for its dedicated service to the people of the State of Indiana and the profession of optometry.

SECTION 2. That the Secretary of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Indian Optometric Association.

THE MEDICAL DEVICE REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ACT

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 1997

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, during last year's Food and Drug Administration [FDA] reform deliberations, two proposals stuck me as particularly innovative, commonsense approaches to simplifying the regulation of medical devices while fully protecting public health and saving agency resources. Today, with my colleagues Representatives ESHOO, GREENWOOD, TOWNS, and HALL of Texas, I am introducing the Medical Device Regulatory Flexibility Act, legislation incorporating these proposals, to highlight them and ensure that they are central to FDA reform efforts.

First, this legislation would provide the FDA with greater flexibility in classifying devices than current law provides. Under current law, lower risk—class I and class II—new devices may go to market if the FDA finds that they are “substantially equivalent” to ready marketed devices. If the new device is unique and