

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

the agency cannot make a determination that it is substantially equivalent to a marketed device, current law requires that the device be automatically classified as a class III—high risk—device, regardless of the actual level of risk posed by the new device. The manufacturer must then either complete costly and time-consuming clinical studies and submit a new device approval application to the agency or must petition the agency for reclassification, which is under current law a complex and time-consuming procedure.

Under my bill, the FDA would be given the statutory flexibility to classify a new device based on the risk posed by the device, at the request of a manufacturer whose device was determined to be "not substantially equivalent" to a marketed device. Under the bill, the FDA would retain full authority for determining the classification of a device. The agency would simply receive a new, risk-based classification option. Since class III devices require the most intensive review, this proposal should free up agency resources to focus on truly high-risk devices.

Second, this legislation will provide the FDA with a much simpler way to recognize device performance standards. Under current law, the FDA has the authority to promulgate standards, but the process for doing so is tortuous. As a result, the agency has rarely used this authority. Under our bill, the agency would retain the authority to promulgate its own standards, but could also recognize national and international performance standards by identifying and listing the standard in the Federal Register. Device manufacturers would then have the option of certifying to the agency that their products met the standard as a way of fulfilling all or part of the applicable statutory requirements which must be met before devices may be marketed. Device performance standards form the basis for device regulation in the European Community. Providing U.S. manufacturers with this option would move forward our efforts to harmonize our regulatory systems.

I would welcome additional cosponsors of this commonsense regulatory reform measure. If you would like further information or would like to cosponsor this legislation, please call me or Jane Williams, 5-3761, of my staff.

TRIBUTE TO KENNETH L. KHACHIGIAN

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 1997

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Kenneth L. Khachigian. A legend in the political arena and a jewel in the Armenian community, Khachigian has joined the Junior Achievement of Armenia's [JAA] Honorary Board.

As noted in the Saturday, March 22 edition of the Armenian Mirror-Spectator (see attached), JAA is an economics and business education program that offers Applied Economics classes and the student company experience in Armenia's high schools and institutions of higher learning. The purpose of the program is to introduce students to the free enterprise system, explain how it operates, and define its role in business and the global

marketplace. Additionally, JAA familiarizes students with the hands-on basics of running a business, and explains to them the importance of economics to their future.

Khachigian, a native of the Central Valley, has had a distinguished career in American politics. A farmer by nature and an attorney by trade, Khachigian has worked for former Presidents Nixon, Reagan, and Bush. In both campaign and executive roles, Khachigian has been instrumental in formulating and implementing the ideals and goals of the Republican Party. In addition to his advisory roles with Presidents Reagan and Bush, Khachigian played an active role in the successful campaigns of California Governors George Deukmejian and Pete Wilson. Most recently, Khachigian served as National Senior Advisor for the Dole for President campaign. In this position, Khachigian coordinated Senate Majority Leader Dole's Presidential bid in the State of California.

Khachigian has also been active outside the political arena. He has served as a member of the board to the Armenian Assembly of America. He also sat as a Presidential appointee on the National Institute of Justice Advisory Board. From 1986-1992, Khachigian served on the Board of Overseers at the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution and Peace. He currently resides on the Board of California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance.

Mr. Speaker, Ken Khachigian is a pioneer in the area of political advising and consulting. Khachigian's numerous accomplishments have been instrumental in advancing the agenda for a more responsible, independent, and productive America. I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Ken Khachigian, a man of impeccable character. Ken should be admired not only for his multitude of success in America, but also for his tremendous contribution to—and support for—the Armenian community.

KENNETH KHACHIGIAN JOINS JR. ACHIEVEMENT OF ARMENIA'S BOARD

LOS ANGELES, CA—Presidential campaign advisor and political strategist Kenneth L. Khachigian has recently joined Junior Achievement of Armenia's (JAA) Honorary Board, which also includes former California Governor George Deukmejian and Dr. Mihran Agbabian, President Emeritus of the American University of Armenia. The purpose of this distinguished body is to provide JAA with advice, support and guidance.

"I am particularly pleased to become a member of the Honorary Board of Junior Achievement of Armenia. The remarkable and rapid growth of the group has made it among the most successful non-government programs in Armenia," commented Khachigian. "I have great respect for grassroots organizations which promote education and demonstrate a vision for the future, and Junior Achievement of Armenia is just that organization," he said.

Khachigian's career has been highlighted by numerous achievements. Most recently, he served as National Senior Advisor for the Dole for President campaign. In this post, his top priority was coordinating Senator Dole's presidential campaign in the State of California. As a political strategist and advisor, he has led to victory three U.S. Presidents, including Ronald Reagan and George Bush, and several California State leaders, including Governors Pete Wilson and George Deukmejian. During his career, Khachigian has also served as chief speech-writer to President Reagan, and was a Nixon White House aide.

In addition to his professional activities, Khachigian has served as a Board member of the Armenian Assembly of America, and has sat as a Presidential appointee on the National Institute of Justice Advisory Board. During 1986-1992 he served on the Board of Overseers of the Hoover Institution of War, Revolution and Peace at Stanford University. Currently he sits on the Board of the California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance.

Junior Achievement of Armenia is an economics and business education program offering Applied Economics classes and the student company experience in Armenia's high schools, and institutes of higher learning. The program teaches young people how the free enterprise system operates, the role of business in the global marketplace, the hands-on basics of running a business, and the importance of economics on their future. Junior Achievement of Armenia is a non-profit organization.

READING CAN OPEN MANY DOORS

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 1997

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I joined several of my colleagues in introducing President Clinton's America Reads Challenge Act. This legislation will help mobilize reading specialists and trained volunteers to ensure that every child can read by the end of the third grade.

Today I want to share with the House an essay written by Adam Frankel, the 18-year-old grandson of two of my constituents. Adam writes eloquently about the joys and benefits of reading. As we pledge our efforts to ensure that all children enter fourth grade reading on their own, I thought it might be helpful to hear how one young American uses this gift to learn about the world.

I insert the text of Adam Frankel's essay at this point in the RECORD.

READING CAN OPEN MANY DOORS

(By Adam Frankel)

When I hold a book between my hands, I do not feel the paper and I do not see the words. I feel as though I am holding "knowledge" in my hands, and the more complicated the book, the better. That way, it is not just entertaining, but it is something far more enjoyable: challenging and revealing. After reading and understanding a complicated phrase or book, you feel a sense of accomplishment. When I hold in my hands William James and move my eyes slowly across each word, I know I am looking into the mind of James himself. The words he uses to describe things are as much a part of him as his fingerprint.

When writing, your words build up within and explode out onto paper with your own patent on them. A word can be so much more, if it is allowed to be. The difference between a word's various connotations determine the feeling of a character, or description of a scene. The word can even determine the future of a state, depending on whether it is used correctly or not in policy planning.

Walter Lippman once said that he wrote each sentence as if the article were to be judged on that sentence alone. It is this appreciation of the written word that I try to give to everything I read. And what I have chosen to read has largely defined not only my interests at the moment, but even my