

2. HOPE SCHOLARSHIP TAX CREDIT

The bill includes a nonrefundable and a refundable HOPE scholarship credit. The nonrefundable credit would be claimed by taxpayers on their income tax returns if they have sufficient tax liability to fully utilize the credit. This credit would be administered by the Internal Revenue Service. Taxpayers with incomes too low to receive the benefit of the full amount of the nonrefundable credit would be entitled to a refundable HOPE credit. The refundable credit would be paid by the institution at which the student is enrolled under procedures similar to those used in providing other Federal educational assistance.

For the first two years of college, the maximum amount of the credit would be \$1,500 for a full-time student and \$750 for a half-time student. For the third and fourth years of college, the maximum amount of the credit would be \$1,000 for full-time and \$500 for half-time. The limitations will be indexed for inflation.

The credit would be available for the first four years of post-secondary education. A part-time student would have to be at least a half-time student for the year.

The credit would be available on a per-student basis. To be eligible for the credit, the student would have to maintain satisfactory academic progress and remain "drug free" (not convicted of a felony involving drugs).

The credit would be available for qualified expenses incurred by the taxpayer, taxpayer's spouse, or taxpayer's dependent (as defined in Code section 151). Qualified expenses consist of tuition and fees required for enrollment or attendance. The credit would not be available to married taxpayers unless they file a joint return, and would not be available to nonresident aliens.

Expenses for this purpose would be net of grants, scholarships, and fellowships. Pell Grants and other nontaxable Federal scholarship assistance would not reduce the dollar limitation on the credit but like other scholarships would be offset against qualified expenses in determining the amount of credit.

The credit would be phased out over the following adjusted gross income levels: Joint filers, \$80,000-\$100,000; and Unmarried filers, \$50,000-\$70,000 (indexed for inflation beginning in year 2000).

The credit would be effective for expenses paid after December 31, 1996, for education furnished in academic periods beginning on or after July 1, 1997 (the beginning of the 1998 academic year).

COMMENDING JUDY AND HERB GALPERSON AS THE FIRST COUPLE OF SINAI TEMPLE

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Judy and Herb Galperson as the first couple of Sinai Temple. The Galpersons represent the best of family life, professional life, and community involvement. Mencius, an ancient Greek writer, said that "The root of the state is in the family. The root of the family is in the person of its head." Herb and Judy are the root of their family and community.

On the professional level Judy has worked in public service as a coordinator of volunteers for the Edelman for city council campaign and as a deputy to councilman Edmund D.

Edelman. She also makes use of her artistic talent and entrepreneurial spirit in her current position at an interior design company. Herb has had an existing career in law. Herb graduated from Brooklyn College in 1953, and then went on to New York University School of Law, where he received his J.D. and began practicing law. A short time later he followed his brother to Los Angeles and practiced on his own for a few years. Herb eventually joined the law firm of Rose, Klein & Marias.

The Galperson's most outstanding feature, an inspiration for all Americans, is dedication to community. Judy and Herb have been involved in every facet of community organization. She has been a member of the board of directors for the Otis Art Institute and a member of the Los Angeles County Music and Performing Arts Commission; He belongs to various bar associations and has been a officer and on the board of directors of several organizations, including president of the Southern California Applicants Attorneys Association. Judy and Herb have served together on several Jewish organizations and are life members of Southern California Hadassah. Recently, in recognition of Judy's contribution to the community, she was invited to the White House to participate in a dialog with First Lady Hillary Clinton and 12 other community members from across the country.

As for the Galperson's family life, Herb met Judith Arlene Harris in 1967 on a blind date and with a few short months they were married. Two years later, their first son, David, was born, followed by Robert. David received his J.D. degree from Southwestern School of Law, was admitted to the State bar of California, and currently practices law in San Bernardino. Robert received his B.A. from the Annenberg School of Communications, University of Southern California, and currently works in sales administration at Barth & Dreyfuss in Los Angeles. Their success in school and in their professional life would not have been possible without their parents' guidance and support. I congratulate Judy and Herb on raising two fine citizens.

The Galpersons have given an extraordinary amount of time and energy to serving the Los Angeles community. I honor them for their service and hope that they will serve as rolemodels for others. Once again I congratulate Judy and Herb Galperson as first couple of Sinai Temple.

SALUTING MISTY PUTMAN

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 1997

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a special East Texan, Misty Putman, a senior at Arp High School who recently was awarded the Horatio-Alger Scholarship for her uncommon valor and perseverance in the face of difficult circumstances. She was invited to Washington this week for a conference in recognition of this impressive award. Americans, young and old alike, could learn a great deal from this young woman.

Three years ago, Misty's father, Terry, died of a heart attack. As we know, the death of a family member can be a crippling blow, yet

Misty's response revealed her strength of character and resolve. She came to the assistance of her mother, Donna, who was facing difficult financial circumstances. Misty began working almost forty hours a week at Brookshire's Grocery in Overton and continued as a full-time student at Arp High School, while her mother also held three jobs in order to meet their expenses.

Misty's perseverance and hard work resulted in her being awarded the \$5,000 Horatio-Alger Scholarship. In doing so, she also gained the respect of her peers and her community, and she was recently honored during an awards ceremony at Arp High School. Misty plans to use this prestigious scholarship to attend either Tyler Junior College or Kilgore College in the fall, with plans for a future transfer to Stephen F. Austin University. She plans to major in sociology or criminal justice with hopes of becoming a probation officer, where she plans to use her life experiences to help those in need. We can anticipate that she will be most successful in whatever she pursues.

Mr. Speaker, there is no way to measure the positive impact Misty has had on her family, her school and her community. Young people like Misty are our Nation's future leaders, and their efforts will help keep America great. It is a privilege for me to represent such an outstanding young person from the Fourth District of Texas, Misty Putman.

COMMENDING OFFICER TIMOTHY J. MITCHELL

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, at a time when crime concerns are on every citizen's mind, those who have dedicated their lives to law enforcement are to be commended. I would like to make a special commendation to Officer Timothy J. Mitchell, a very devoted law enforcement officer from Indiana's First Congressional District. Officer Mitchell retired from the Schererville Police Department in April of this year. He will be honored by family, friends, and members of the Schererville Police Force at a testimonial dinner tomorrow night at Teibel's Restaurant in Schererville, IN.

Tim joined the Schererville Police Department on March 31, 1977, after receiving an honorable discharge with the rank of sergeant from the U.S. Air Force in 1976. He worked in both the patrol and detective division of the police force, and was promoted to the rank of corporal on February 15, 1984. During his career with the Schererville Police Department, Tim participated in the Officer Friendly Program. This program began within the northwest Indiana region in the early 1970's, and was designed to educate children on issues of safety and encourage communication between police officers and children. As Officer Friendly, Tim visited schools throughout the region, teaching lessons of safety to children during dangerous times of the year, such as Halloween and summer, and promoting such programs as Bicycle Safety.

Tim was also a participant in the Schererville Police Department's Drug Awareness Resistance Education program [DARE]

for 2 years. The first Schererville police officer assigned to the DARE Program, Tim was instrumental in charting the program's course since its implementation in the department in 1989. As a DARE officer, he presented a program designed to encourage youth to "say no to drugs" by means of explaining the harmful effects of drugs. In addition, Tim took the initiative in further promoting the "say no to drugs" campaign by serving as a drug and alcohol instructor at Grimmer Middle School in Schererville, IN, as well as speaking on the subject for various organizations. Tim has chosen to utilize his experience and talents in teaching children by earning his bachelors degree in elementary teaching at Purdue University-Calumet. He hopes to spend his retirement teaching at Grimmer Middle School.

In recognition of his efforts, Tim was selected Schererville's Man of the year by a local newspaper in 1991. Recipients of this honor are selected for their tireless dedication and service to their communities by means of public service, leadership, or simply caring for their town. Tim was especially honored for his dedication to the promotion of drug education among northwest Indiana's young people.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Officer Timothy Mitchell on his 20 years of service to the Schererville Police Department. His wife, Rhonda, and their children, Crystal and Terry, can be proud of his devoted service to the citizens of Schererville.

THE PUBLIC HAS A RIGHT TO KNOW ABOUT SECURITY BREACHES IN THE CLINTON AD- MINISTRATION

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, in light of continued revelations about the extent to which a political appointee of President Clinton's had regular access to classified information and contact with a foreign conglomerate, not to mention officials of the People's Republic of China, it's about time the President cooperated in getting to the bottom of this. I have tried to impress upon President Clinton the importance and severity of the potential breaches at hand which could have very well taken place on his watch. Since the Attorney General is unwilling to appoint an independent counsel to investigate these matters, it is the duty of Congress to act on its constitutional authority to uncover any violations or penetration of our national and economic security and determine the principals involved. I have every confidence in Chairman BURTON and his Committee to determine the answers to those critical questions, but the President needs to understand the full implications himself and assist in every way possible.

I recommend to everyone the following article by his predecessor, former Chairman Bill Clinger, about the lack of cooperation in getting the full story out of the White House. It appeared in the Wall Street Journal. The synopsis: The Clinton White House spells the public's right to know n-o.

[From the Wall Street Journal, May 1, 1997]

A PATTERN OF STONEWALLING

(By William F. Clinger)

As the former chairman of the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee, I have watched with a great interest and sympathy the efforts of any successor, Rep. Dan Burton (R., Ind.), to get the Clinton administration to comply with his legitimate requests for information and documents. At issue this time is the investigation of questionable White House fund-raising activities and related national security issues. It is clear—as it often was during my tenure—that the administration is consistently resisting Congress's oversight efforts and denying the public its right to know the facts.

We are seeing the same pattern of dissembling stonewalling and lack of cooperation that I endured for four years, first as ranking GOP member and then as chairman of the committee. This pattern was established during the Clinton administration's first months in office.

In conjunction with the first lady's effort to reform the health care system, a number of task forces were established. Many members of these task forces were not full-time federal employees, yet notices of the meetings were never published, and the meetings were closed to the public. The Federal Advisory Committees Act mandates that advisory panels that make policy recommendations to the president must advertise their proceedings and open them to the public if nongovernmental individuals are members. Yet when my committee requested the names of the people serving on the task forces, then-White House Counsel Bernard Nussbaum told me: "Congressman, I don't have to give you that information, and I'm not going to give you that information, and you can't make me give you that information."

This open defiance of the committee's legitimate requests continued throughout my tenure:

Commerce Secretary Ron Brown refused to explain discrepancies in his financial disclosure statement despite repeated requests.

A "damage control" unit was established in the White House by Special Counsel Jane Sherburne, who reported directly to Deputy Chief of Staff Harold Ickes rather than to the White House counsel. Apparently, the sole purpose of this unit was to deny the committee as much information as possible and drag out document production as long as possible.

The White House counsel's office, under four successive counsels, refused to comply with repeated requests for documents related to the firing of the White House Travel Office employees.

In fact, then-White House Counsel Jack Quinn sat in my office a little over a year ago and informed me he would go to jail before turning over certain Travelgate documents. Unknown to us at the time, these documents, which the president asserted were "privileged," included the White House request to the FBI for Billy Dale's file seven months after Mr. Dale was fired in the 1993 Travel Office purge. This single document led to the discovery that hundreds of FBI files of Reagan and Bush appointees had been inappropriately gathered at the White House. FBI Director Louis Freeh called this an "egregious violation of privacy."

Mr. Quinn finally turned over 3,000 pages of documents, which the White House had spent months trying to withhold, on the morning the House scheduled a floor vote to hold Mr. Quinn in contempt if he didn't turn over the documents.

These are just a few examples of the stonewalling and defiance that have charac-

terized the Clinton administration from the start and which continue up to my last days in office. Now this modus operandi continues in response to Chairman Burton's requests.

When the committee first opened its Travelgate hearings, I said: "If senior White House officials will bend the rules over so seemingly inconsequential an issue [as the White House Travel Office] and then spend two years keeping the true story from coming out, what lengths might they go to, to frustrate oversight of areas of far more serious consequence?" Now we are learning how the White House responds when serious national security matters are the subject of oversight.

The first hints of what is turning out to be a pattern of massive fund-raising abuses emerged in October 1996, when I first wrote Mr. Quinn asking for information about the activities of John Huang. His answer was conveniently delayed until after the election, and six months later the White House still hasn't fully responded.

In the passing months, key figures in this investigation, like John Huang and Webster Hubbell, have taken the Fifth Amendment, and others, such as Charlie Trie and DNC contributor Pauline Kanchanalak, have fled the country. With revelations that the Chinese Embassy in Washington may have been involved in funneling foreign funds into the 1996 campaign, serious matters of national security are at issue. The past patterns of obfuscation and hide-and-seek games with documents must not continue. The matters at issue simply are too serious.

For more than four years the president has promised cooperation with investigations—but his actions have been quite another story. As one who has walked this walk and listened to the president talk the talk, I encourage my former colleagues to continue aggressively pursuing the information to which Congress is entitled. You must expect that the Clinton administration will resist you at every step, but the issues at stake require the vigilance of serious congressional oversight and members of Congress committed to getting the facts to the American people.

A TRIBUTE TO BRIAN MAYER, OF MEDFORD, LONG ISLAND, RECIP- IENT OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS' SILVER STAR MEDAL FOR HEROISM IN BAT- TLE DURING THE VIETNAM CON- FLICT

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 1997

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Brian Mayer, a resident of Medford, Long Island, who learned just last week that he will be decorated with the U.S. Marine Corps Silver Star Medal for heroism during the Battle for Hue City, Vietnam, on February 22, 1968.

Though this recognition of Brian's remarkable courage under enemy fire comes nearly 30 years later, its significance to his family and the U.S. Marines whose lives he saved has not been lessened by time, for he has been credited with putting his own life in grave danger, several times exposing himself to enemy gunfire in order to rescue wounded comrades. Brian's heroism did not come without a price. While delivering wounded Marines to a medical aid station he was seriously wounded in action.