

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on May 16, 1997, for rollcall vote 138, which was final passage of H.R. 1385, the Employment, Training, and Literacy Enhancement Act of 1997. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I support this legislation, which will reform and streamline job training programs by consolidating over 60 Federal programs into three block grants to States and localities. I request that the RECORD reflect my position on this vote.

RECOGNIZING DEMOCRATIC
SUCCESS IN TAIWAN**HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 1997

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate President Lee Teng-hui and Vice President Lien Chan of the Republic of China on Taiwan on the occasion of their first anniversary in office, which is May 20, 1997.

Since entering office on May 20, 1996, President Lee and Vice President Lien have maintained a strong economic growth for their country, advanced democracy at home, and expanded Taiwan's official and unofficial ties abroad.

Today Taiwan stands as a dynamic economic power in the world. It ranks as the world's 14th trading nation, with a global trade of nearly \$200 billion in 1996. Under the leadership of President Lee and Vice President Lien, Taiwan has progressed rapidly towards democratization, providing a shining example for other nations striving to establish governments based on fundamental human rights.

With a diverse economy, low unemployment, and a commitment to establish itself as a democratic nation, Taiwan has a bright future. I wish Taiwan the very best as it prepares to celebrate this important anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO ALTHEA GIBSON

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 1997

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives a very special charitable event, the Second Annual Golf and Tennis Classic sponsored by the East Orange General Hospital Foundation.

This annual charitable event, which will be held on June 12, 1997, will honor Althea Gibson, one of the most highly recognized women in the world today. She is a pioneer in sports and is revered as one of the greatest tennis players of all time and recognized as a world class golfer.

Ms. Gibson was the first African-American to play tennis at the U.S. Open—1950—and Wimbledon, England—1951. She set the

stage for women in sports when beginning in 1957 she won the U.S. women's singles championship, followed by a three time championship in women's doubles at Wimbledon beginning 1956 and culminating with Ms. Gibson winning the coveted Wimbledon Women's Singles Championship in 1957 and 1958.

As a star athlete and a woman of character, integrity, and dedication, Ms. Gibson was undaunted in her quest for excellence in sports. She met challenges head on and broke down barriers so that others could enjoy the sport of tennis.

In addition to her worldly accolades Ms. Gibson has been a longtime resident of the city of East Orange, serving as director of recreation and cultural affairs. Ms. Gibson is a role model, an author, an athlete, an outstanding woman of courage and dignity. We are proud to be her neighbor, and her friend. Today, we salute Althea Gibson for her courage, her tenacity, her spirit, and for setting the stage for a Zina Garrison and a Martina Navratilova, a Lori McNeil and a Billie Jean King, a Monica Seles and a Steffi Graff, and for other girls and young women of all ages, colors, and creeds who have a tennis racket in their hands and a love for the sport in their hearts.

As the Representative of East Orange in Congress, I am proud of the accomplishments of Ms. Gibson, and I applaud the work of the East Orange General Hospital Foundation. Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in expressing our appreciation to Althea Gibson for her numerous outstanding contributions to humankind. She truly is a 20th century pioneer.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE
ELECTION OF PRESIDENT LEE
TENG-HUI IN TAIWAN**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is a most significant anniversary—an anniversary, we, in the Congress, wholeheartedly join in celebrating. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow marks the first anniversary of the direct election of Lee Teng-Hui as President of the Republic of China on Taiwan. One year ago the people of Taiwan went to the polls to cast their ballots for President in a free and open democratic election. One year ago, we witnessed a great triumph for democracy—a triumph in the face of threats and intimidation.

As my colleagues recall, 1 year ago, the people of Taiwan faced the threat of military attack by the People's Republic of China which conducted missile tests less than 50 miles off the coast of Taiwan. Beijing combined aggressive statements with threats of military action in a determined effort to coerce the people of Taiwan into abandoning their democratic aspirations. Despite these serious attempts at intimidation, voters turned out in the Presidential election in heavy numbers. President Lee was elected overwhelmingly in a race between three candidates in an election that was—by every account—free and fair and democratic.

Mr. Speaker, President Lee's election is important to remember today because this marks the first time a Chinese head of state has ever

been elected by popular vote. It also marks the culmination of a 10-year process of transforming Taiwan into a vibrant market-oriented democracy. In 1986 the Republic of China on Taiwan embarked on a mission to empower all of its citizens to decide freely and democratically who would be the leaders of their government. That process led to the election of city councilmen, municipal officials, and national legislators, and it reached its ultimate conclusion in the first Presidential election last year.

Mr. Speaker, during President Lee Teng-Hui's first term as democratically elected President, Taiwan saw its economy remain strong and its stock market soar. I am certain that my colleagues join me in commending and congratulating President Lee on a most successful first year, and we wish him and all of the people on Taiwan continued peace and prosperity.

TRIBUTE TO THE SELDEN MIDDLE
SCHOOL CONCERT BAND**HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 1997

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to the Selden Middle School concert band led by band director Roy Hull. I am proud to announce to the House of Representatives that the Selden Middle School concert band, won the Superior/first place trophy and the overall Junior High/Middle School concert band award at the Festivals of Music competition in South Carolina.

Festivals of Music, part of the Educational Programs Network, holds 126 festivals in the United States and Canada. It is one of several organizations sponsoring such competitions. The trophies awarded to the Selden Middle School concert band carry with them the glory and pride of playing better than approximately 250 other schools that have participated in the Festivals of Music competition this year. Scott Dickson, program director for the Festivals of Music competition claimed that Selden's band score was so phenomenal. They were the first group to perform in the morning, and they set the tone for the day. The judges the others would come up to their level. They were such a spectacular group. Two musical pieces—"Eoncomium" by Stan Pethel, and "All Glory Told" by James Swearingen were the selections that led Selden to victory.

Selden's victory at the Festivals of Music competition is well deserved and hard-earned. The students practiced 2½ hours a week for 5 months to prepare for this competition. The 135 eighth-graders and their parents raised \$63,000 to pay for the trip so that no money from the middle country school district was used. They organized car washes, a craft fair, a raffle, and more to make competing in the Festivals of Music a reality.

I congratulate the Selden Middle School concert band on their prestigious accomplishment.

TRIBUTE TO THE DINUBA ROTARY CLUB, DINUBA, CA

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 1997

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Dinuba Rotary Club of Dinuba, CA. The Dinuba Rotary Club observed its 75th anniversary on May 16, 1997, at a hosted gala reception.

The Dinuba Rotary has been involved in Rotary International for three-quarters of a century. Operating under the slogan, "Service Above Self," the organization has been working with communities throughout northern Tulare County on a wide variety of community service projects and programs.

Rotarians in Dinuba have been instrumental in a wide array of community service projects. At a city and county level, they have been responsible for securing a new branch of the Tulare County Library for Dinuba. They have also equipped and supplied the Dinuba Police Department with a radio-controlled car as an educational tool to help the children in the community say "no" to drugs. Finally, the group has erected a plaque honoring the sons and daughters of northern Tulare County who made the supreme sacrifice of serving our country at times of war in this century.

Since its inception 75 years ago, the Dinuba Rotary has made its biggest impact in the field of education. Dinuba Rotary has provided scholarships for deserving graduates of local high schools. Recognizing that agriculture is the foundation of Tulare County's economy, Dinuba Rotary has also provided scholarships for its members of the Future Farmers of America to pursue their education at both the high school and college level.

Dinuba Rotary has been instrumental in bringing exchange students from foreign countries to Dinuba High School and has helped send Dinuba High School students to study abroad. The Dinuba Rotary has sent senior students from Dinuba High School to Camp Royal, a leadership camp sponsored by Rotary Clubs in central California. The organization also annually sponsors a spelling bee for students in elementary schools in northern Tulare County to promote literacy among its students.

Mr. Speaker, the Dinuba Rotary is an excellent example of individuals working together to create a stronger and more supportive community. I commend the Dinuba Rotary for their community activism and the contributions that they have made over the last 75 years. I ask my colleagues to rise and join me in congratulating them as they celebrate this milestone in the Dinuba community.

THE SUCCESS STORY OF REDWATER HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 1997

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a few minutes today to commend a school in my district that has bucked the trend, thwarted conventions, achieved the unlikely,

and taken great leaps to eradicate drug use among its students. The school is Redwater High School in Redwater, TX, a suburb of Texarkana. Members from all quadrants of the community have come together in unified support of this program and of their teenagers who are struggling against a sea of drugs and gangs.

In a sincere attempt to preempt the spread of drugs through their community and schools, businesses have given money and endorsements, parents have given their time and their hearts, and students have given their word and their enthusiasm. The result is that 100 percent of the class of 1997 at Redwater High School has volunteered to be tested for drugs and every one of them has tested drug free.

Four fathers in the Redwater community, concerned for their children's health and well-being, initiated this unique program, called DADS, which stands for Dads Against Drugs in School. They decided that, since there are so many incentives for students to do drugs in society today, from peer pressure to movie glamorization, they should offer students greater incentive to stay drug free and a chance to prove that they are drug free.

The program gives all Redwater students a chance for a voluntary free drug test at school with random followup tests. If they test drug-free, they receive a DADS photo ID card, which entitles the student to discounts at area businesses such as restaurants and clothing stores. No students who test positive for drugs will be criminally prosecuted as a result of their drug test. Instead, the students receive counseling from the school and, when appropriate, mentoring from volunteer fathers. As Redwater Superintendent Joe Dan Lee says, "This program will reverse the peer pressure attitude among kids by giving them something to show for being drug free."

To me this program represents many aspects of what is right in our communities today. They used only \$5,000 in government grant money for the program and funded the rest of the effort with community time, dollars, and concern. Through this program, the community has dedicated themselves to becoming a drug-free community, set high expectations and standards, and taken important steps toward protecting their children from the dangers of drugs.

They have done this without cracking down, threatening their students, hiring more police officers, or punishing more children. Instead of frightening them away from drugs, the parents, teachers, and community leaders have strengthened the support network for students and given them reasons to stay off of drugs, averting trouble before it begins.

I don't want the experience of Redwater High School to be an isolated incident. Schools across the Nation can replicate this effort if parents, teachers, businesses, and community leaders join efforts to help our children combat the peer pressure to become drug users. Keeping our students off drugs is one of our most worthwhile causes and an effective method of keeping our students away from a variety of other troubles.

If, with this program, we keep just one student from the downward spiral of drug use to delinquency, I would consider it a success. I think, with 100 percent of the seniors testing drug free, that the first year of this program was an enormous success.

I am proud of this community for their initiative, ingenuity, and determination. I am proud

to see so many members of the community come together to work for this cause. Most of all, I am proud of the Redwater High students and especially the Redwater High graduating class of 1997 for being 100 percent tested and certified drug free.

TRIBUTE TO DICK CARLSON

HON. W.J. (BILLY) TAUZIN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 1997

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the stellar work of Dick Carlson, who within the near future will complete 5 years as president of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Dick Carlson headed CPB during a time of turbulence and challenge, and has proven to be a steady guide.

People in my part of the country can tell you that a Louisiana bayou is both a beautiful and dangerous place. The same might be said of the job Dick Carlson has filled for the last 5 years. Fortunately for all of us who love public broadcasting, Dick brought the experience to know when to wade in, and when to stay in the boat. His communications skills and instincts are honed and have benefited the corporation.

Dick is an award-winning print and television journalist and anchor who served as director of the Voice of America for many years, as Ambassador to the Republic of Seychelles, and as an executive in the banking industry before taking over CPB. He's been a champion of commonsense reform, and we in Congress appreciated his strong leadership at a time when the very existence of publicly funded television and radio was under attack.

Those challenges will continue to arise. So, it is with sadness that we congratulate Dick Carlson for a job well done. And we wish him every success in his new endeavors.

A SPECIAL SALUTE TO DR. MARVIN FISK—1997 CONGRESSIONAL SENIOR CITIZEN INTERN

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 1997

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, each year during the month of May, our Nation celebrates National Senior Citizen Month. In communities throughout the United States, senior citizens are recognized for their contributions to their communities and the Nation. In conjunction with Senior Citizen Month, seniors are also gathering on Capitol Hill for the annual Congressional Senior Citizen Intern Program.

The Senior Citizen Intern Program provides seniors with a firsthand look at their Government in action. During their stay in Washington, DC, they attend meetings, workshops, and issue forums on topics which impact the elderly population in particular. The program also provides an opportunity for extensive dialog with congressional leaders, members of the Presidential Cabinet, and other policymakers.

I take pride in saluting Dr. Marvin Fisk, who has been selected as my congressional senior