

own strongly pro-life convictions, oppose partial birth abortion. This overwhelming opposition helped produce legislation during the last Congress that would have banned that morally troubling procedure. Unfortunately, that legislation was vetoed by President Clinton. Now it turns out that that veto was based in part on inaccurate information.

Mr. President, those who sought to defend partial birth abortion did so on the grounds that it was rare, undertaken only in cases of severe fetal deformity and strictly a late-term procedure. These arguments served to make the procedure seem less morally troubling to some in the pro-choice camp. But it turns out that these supposedly mitigating factors do not exist. Ron Fitzsimmons, executive director of the National Coalition of Abortion Providers, is quoted in the February 26 New York Times as saying that he "lied through [his] teeth" in making each of these claims.

It turns out, Mr. President, that literally thousands of partial birth abortions are performed in this country every year. It also turns out that the vast majority of these regrettable procedures are undertaken voluntarily—aborting perfectly healthy unborn children. And it turns out that partial birth abortions are being carried out on mothers in their second trimester of pregnancy.

I know that abortion is an issue that raises troubling issues for many people. I know that I cannot help but take a strong pro-life position, because of my faith and because of my own personal experiences. My experience, having witnessed the births of my three children and having just had a nephew born 12 weeks premature, tells me that the loss of an unborn life is a great tragedy. My nephew was born during a time in his mother's pregnancy when many unborn children are still subject to partial birth abortion.

I know that not everyone shares the pro-life position. But in my view it is clear that any reservations about restricting abortion need not and should not apply to partial birth abortion. The fact that the defenders of this procedure felt it necessary to mislead the public, Members of this body and the President, shows how little support their position really commands. Regardless of where one stands in the broader abortion debate, then, all of us should be able to see partial birth abortion for what it is: an unjustifiable and wholly unnecessary tragedy.

Mr. President, it is my sincere hope that we will return as quickly as possible to the issue of partial birth abortion. It is also my hope that my colleagues will keep in mind this incident as they consider the factors supposedly mitigating this unfortunate procedure, and vote to end it once and for all.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that an article from the Detroit News appear in the RECORD at this point.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Detroit News, Mar. 10, 1997]

IN DETROIT: MAIDA, OTHER CARDINALS URGE  
BAN ON PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTIONS

(By Oralandar Brand-Williams)

Cardinal Adam Maida urged President Clinton to reconsider a ban on partial-birth abortions during a public reading Sunday of a letter sent to the president by a group of U.S. Roman Catholic leaders.

"The public learned that partial-birth abortions are performed not a few hundred times a year, but thousands of times each year," Maida said during mass at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Detroit.

Last April, Clinton vetoed a bill that would have banned the controversial procedure in which a fetus is partially extracted, feet-first, from the birth canal. The brain is then suctioned out.

Critics call the procedure infanticide.

Congress failed to override Clinton's veto.

The letter to Clinton was also read Sunday by the six other American cardinals who also lead archdioceses in the United States and the head of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. All signed the letter with Maida, which Clinton received Friday.

"Mr. President, you are in a unique position to ensure respect for all human rights, including the right to me which is denied to infants who are brutally killed in partial-birth abortion," urged the letter.

The letter asks Clinton to acknowledge that he was misled about partial-birth abortion, and urges him to ask Congress to pass a bill banning them. The letter also seeks a pledge that Clinton will sign it into law.

Two weeks ago, Ron Fitzsimmons, executive director of the National Coalition of Abortion Providers, said he intentionally misled the public in previous remarks about the procedure. Fitzsimmons said he feared that if the truth were known about the frequency of partial-birth abortions, it would damage the cause of abortion rights.

Blessed Sacrament parishioner Canary Erving of Highland Park said she supports Maida's efforts to get a ban on partial-birth abortions.

"It's important that we keep our children," Erving said. "If you have to have it and give it away, it's better than destroying the life."

DR. ERNEST S. GRIFFITH

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the father of the Congressional Research Service, Dr. Ernest S. Griffith, who recently passed away at the age of 100.

Dr. Griffith came to the Legislative Reference Service—now the Congressional Research Service—in 1940, at a time when the U.S. political landscape was dominated largely by the executive branch. Legislation was enacted based on information provided by the President, with little opportunity for independent research and analysis by the Congress. Indeed, with an average of only two or three personal assistants per Member and a mere handful of committee staff, Members of Congress had nowhere to turn for accurate, reliable research and analysis. Nowhere, that is, until Ernest Griffith assumed the reins of the Legislative Reference Service.

Fueled by his belief that "the Congress of the United States is the

world's best hope of representative government," Dr. Griffith dedicated himself to transforming the fledgling LRS into a vital source of objective, non-partisan information and analysis for Members of Congress and their staffs. He recruited experts in disciplines ranging from tax policy to transportation, and greatly expanded the services offered by the LRS. He also appointed senior specialists who, under the terms of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, could be called upon by congressional committees at a moment's notice to work on important legislative initiatives. These senior specialists laid the foundation for our modern legislative information infrastructure, and, in so doing, with others enabled the legislative branch to reassert itself as the Nation's first branch of Government.

When asked to describe his greatest achievement as the Director of the LRS, Dr. Griffith once responded: "I think I am proudest of the fact that we have operated independently of the executive branch in a technical age." Mr. President, I too am proud of Dr. Griffith's achievement in this area. It is something of which we should all be proud.

Dr. Griffith left the LRS in 1958 to become the founding dean of the American University School of International Service. A Rhodes scholar, he received his undergraduate education at Hamilton College and his Ph.D. from Oxford University. He taught economics at Princeton and government at Harvard, and was the undergraduate dean at Syracuse University before moving to Washington in 1935.

Among his many academic distinctions, Dr. Griffith was a Fulbright visiting professor at Oxford. He also lectured at New York, Birmingham, and Manchester Universities, Swarthmore College, the University of Oslo, and the University College of Swansea. He was visiting professor at the International Christian University and Rykko University in Japan, and lectured on American Government in Turkey and Brazil. He was professor of American Government at Alice Lloyd College in Kentucky in his middle eighties.

In his spare time, Dr. Griffith taught Sunday school and served as a delegate to the Third World Council of Churches. He founded the Pioneers, a forerunner of the Cub Scouts, and chaired the Council of Social Agencies, a predecessor of the United Way. He chaired the policy board of an inter-university training center for Peace Corps volunteers, was vice president of the American Political Science Association and president of the National Academy of Economics and Political Science. He climbed mountains into his nineties.

Mr. President, it is with great sadness that we bid farewell to Ernest Griffith, who was memorialized last Saturday at the Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church here in Washington. He was a pioneering public servant, a brilliant student of

American Government, and a true friend to the community around him. He will be sorely missed—not only by his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, but also by us.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

##### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:32 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, without amendment:

S.J. Res. 5. Joint resolution waiving certain provisions of the Trade Act of 1974 relating to the appointment of the United States Trade Representative.

The message also announced that the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House to the Joint Economic Committee: Mr. STARK, Mr. HAMILTON, Mr. HINCHEY, and Mrs. MALONEY.

The message also announced that the House has passed to the following bills and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 63. An act to designate the reservoir created by Trinity Dam in the Central Valley project, California, as "Trinity Lake."

H.R. 649. An act to amend sections of the Department of Energy Organization Act that are obsolete or inconsistent with other statutes and to repeal a related section of the Federal Energy Administration Act of 1974.

H.R. 651. An act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for the construction of a hydroelectric project located in the State of Washington, and for other purposes.

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H.R. 709. An act to reauthorize and amend the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992, and for other purposes.

H.R. 750. An act to support the autonomous governance of Hong Kong after its revision to the People's Republic of China.

H.R. 914. An act to make certain technical corrections in the Higher Education Act of 1965 relating to graduation data disclosures.

H.J. Res. 32. Joint resolution to consent certain amendments enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 16. Concurrent resolution concerning the urgent need to improve the living standards of those South Asians living in the Ganges and the Brahmaputra River Basin.

#### ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 6:05 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S.J. Res. 5. Joint resolution waiving certain provisions of the Trade Act of 1974 relating to the appointment of the United States Trade Representative.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 7, 1997, the enrolled joint resolution was signed subsequently, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill, previously received from the House of Representatives for the concurrence of the Senate, was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred ad indicated:

H.R. 497. An Act to repeal the Federal charter of Group Hospitalization and Medical Services, Inc., and for other purposes; to the Committee on Government Affairs.

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 63. An Act to designate the reservoir created by Trinity Dam in the Central Valley project, California, as "Trinity Lake"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 649. An Act to amend sections of the Department of Energy Organization Act that are obsolete or inconsistent with other statutes and to repeal a related section of the Federal Energy Administration Act of 1974; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 651. An Act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for the construction of a hydroelectric project located in the State of Washington, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 652. An Act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for the construction of a hydroelectric project located in the State of Washington, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 709. An Act to reauthorize and amend the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 750. An Act to support the autonomous governance of Hong Kong after its revision to the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 914. An Act to make certain technical corrections in the Higher Education Act of 1965 relating to graduation data disclosures; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

The following Joint Resolution was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.J. Res. 32. Joint resolution to consent certain amendments enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The following resolution was read and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 16. Concurrent resolution concerning the urgent need to improve the living standards of those South Asians living in the Ganges and the Brahmaputra River Basin; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-1387. A communication from the Acting Secretary of Energy, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation entitled "The Energy and Conservation Act Amendments of 1997"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1388. A communication from the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a status report relative to the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1389. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice concerning the National Guard; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1390. A communication from the Chief of the Programs and Legislation Division, Office of Legislative Liaison, Department of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, notice of a cost comparison; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1391. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-1392. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, case number 94-01; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-1393. A communication from the Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule relative to single-employer plans, received on March 11, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-1394. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Employment Standards, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule relative to migrant and season agricultural worker, (RIN1215-AA93) received on March 11, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-1395. A communication from the Director of Regulations Policy, Management Staff, Office of Policy, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of 53 rules including 1 rule relative to food labeling, received on March 11, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-1396. A communication from the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule relative to reduction in force, (RIN3206-AH64) received on March 11, 1997; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.