

This legislation is a logical and necessary extension of the Unfunded Mandate Reform Act that Congress passed in 1995. The Unfunded Mandate Reform Act and the Federalism Act we are introducing today, seek to protect and enhance our federalism system of government. The process and discipline we set forth in the Federalism Act will make federal decision makers more sensitive to state and local concerns and prerogatives. Passage of this legislation will mark a milestone in improvements in our federalism system of government.

Having served in local government, I know first-hand how even the most well-intentioned federal laws and regulations can disrupt state and local programs and initiatives. Like the landmark National Environmental Policy Act, this legislation establishes a process that includes a federalism impact assessment on both the Congress and the executive branch to ensure that we make more informed and rational decisions on new federal laws and regulations that may affect state and local governments.

I will be the first to admit that much of the legislation Congress considers includes some type of federal preemption. I support strong national standards for clean air and water, fair labor standards and public health. Others in Congress may seek to federalize our criminal justice system. All are legitimate prerogatives of the U.S. Congress and under the Supremacy Clause.

I do not suggest we return to the days of the Articles of Confederation or endorse State Rights' advocates for a limited federal government. What I do suggest is that we establish a procedure to ensure that Congress is both well-informed and accountable for major actions that preempt state and local governments. We also need to set forth a process that provides the courts with greater clarity on congressional intent when legal disputes arise between federal and state law.

I know this legislation is not perfect. I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that this legislation defines the scope of judicial review and limits the potential for nuisance lawsuits as well as safeguards the rights of Congress to respond promptly to important national initiatives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 1999

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 191, H.R. 1401—final passage, “to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2000 and 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal years 2000 to 2001, and for other purposes,” I was absent from the above-referenced vote because I was in North Carolina attending the funeral services for the father of my district office director. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE WILLIAM
“BILL” PAVLIS

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 1999

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, our Nation has recently lost a great public servant. On Sunday, May 9th of this year, William “Bill” Pavlis passed away. Bill Pavlis was born in West Virginia and moved to Knoxville, Tennessee, where he lived for 60 years. He attended the old Knoxville High School and then went on to be one of our community’s best citizens.

Bill Pavlis was one of the most respected leaders in the Knoxville area. In 1972, he started a very successful specialty food distribution company in Knoxville.

In 1980, Bill Pavlis entered public service as one of the very first members of the newly created Knox County Commission. He spent six years on that body and even served as its Chairman.

In 1990, he was appointed to the Knoxville City Council to serve the remainder of the term of Councilman Milton Roberts.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Pavlis was a great friend to all that knew him. He was always available to the citizens he represented.

Above all, Bill Pavlis was a true family man. Bill and his beloved wife of 49 years, Jamie, raised a wonderful family. His sons, William A. Pavlis, Frank N. Pavlis, George S. Pavlis, and daughter, Christina Pavlis, comprise one of the finest families in East Tennessee.

Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to have known such a fine man. I have included a copy of a Resolution adopted by the Knox County Commission, as well as a statement from Commissioner Leo Cooper and an editorial from the Knoxville News-Sentinel that honor the memory of William “Bill” Pavlis. I would like to call these to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, former businessman, Knox County Commissioner and Knoxville City Councilman William “Bill” Pavlis recently passed away at the age of seventy (70), after many years of service and leadership in the Knox County Community; and

Whereas, Bill Pavlis was a native of Logan, West Virginia, where his parents had emigrated from Greece. He was to live in Knoxville for sixty (60) years, where he met his wife of forty-nine (49) years, Jamie, at Knoxville High School, where he was a football player. He founded a specialty food distribution business, A&B Distributing Company, Inc., in 1972, and the business has thrived since; and

Whereas, Bill Pavlis was a notable leader in the community. He served as one of the first nineteen (19) Knox County Commissioners upon his election in 1980. In his six (6) years on this body, he served as Commission Chairman and as Finance Committee Chairman. During his entire tenure of service on the Knox County Commission, he missed only one (1) meeting. He is said to have been proudest, however, of his six years (6) as a member of the Knox County Pension Trust Fund Committee and of his chairmanship of the employees insurance committee. Mr. Pavlis also served as a Knoxville City Councilman, and was considered a strong and popular candidate for mayor; and

Whereas, Commissioner Pavlis, with a reputation of straightforwardness and honesty,

also participated in countless civic and spiritual organizations and events. He attended two (2) churches, the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, with his wife Jamie, and the St. George Greek Orthodox Church. As a resident of Fountain City, where he was deeply loved, he contributed toward the construction of a gazebo in Fountain City Park. Always there to help, he often provided assistance to his employees at A&B Distributing; and

Whereas, Bill Pavlis leaves behind a wonderful family, itself carrying on the legacy of community service exemplified by the Commissioner. His wife Jamie was the first woman appointed to the Knox County Jury Commission. He also leaves behind four children, Christina “Tina” Pavlis, William A. Pavlis, Frank “Nick” Pavlis, also a Knoxville City Councilman, and George “Sam” Pavlis. Now therefore be it

Resolved by the Commission of Knox County as follows:

The Knox County Commission wishes to express its condolences to the family and many friends of William “Bill” Pavlis, upon the passing of its fellow Commissioner and great friend.

Be it further resolved, That if any notifications are to be made to effectuate this Resolution, then the County Clerk is hereby requested to forward a copy of this Resolution to the proper authority.

Be it further resolved, That this Resolution is to take effect from and after its passage, as provided by the Charter of Knox County, Tennessee, the public welfare requiring it.

STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER LEO COOPER
HONORING FORMER COMMISSIONER WILLIAM
P. “BILL” PAVLIS

There are no words to truly express the profound sense of loss an entire community feels at the passing of Bill Pavlis.

Bill Pavlis was a man of enormous accomplishments; Bill was successful in virtually every endeavor he undertook in his lifetime. Bill founded and operated a successful business; married an exceptionally lovely woman and raised a beautiful family. Bill was elected to the Knox County Commission and chosen by his colleagues to Chair that body. Bill Pavlis was appointed to serve on the Knoxville City Council, having the distinction of being one of the few individuals ever to serve on both the city and county legislative bodies.

Bill Pavlis lived to see the affection of an entire community and the tradition of public service in the election of his son Nick as City Councilman At Large. One could truthfully say Bill Pavlis was a very lucky man, but I believe his friends were the luckier to have known him and had his friendship.

HE SERVED THE PUBLIC

Knoxville lost one of its finest public servants with the death on Sunday of William “Bill” Pavlis at 70.

Pavlis, who served terms on both the Knox County Commission and the Knoxville City Council, was known as someone who brought people together to work out solutions to problems—a characteristic soundly noted by Mayor Victor Ashe.

Pavlis’ parents emigrated from Greece to West Virginia, and Bill Pavlis was born in Logan, W.Va. He lived in Knoxville for 60 years, starting a specialty food distribution company, A&B Distributing Co. Inc., in 1972.

Pavlis was one of the first 19 members elected in 1980 to serve on the new County Commission, the local government entity that replaced the old county court. His six years on that body included a term as finance committee chairman and alter as commission chairman.

He ran unsuccessfully for mayor in 1987 but was appointed to City Council in 1990 to serve the remainder of the term of veteran council member Milton Roberts, who died in office. A run for mayor appeared in the offing in 1991, but Pavlis wisely chose family over a political campaign. "I feel my priorities are in order, and my intentions are good," he said in a News-Sentinel interview at the time. "In spite of that, I just want to spend more time with my wife."

Pavlis was the kind of citizen we all would like to be—working with quiet determination to improve the community, bearing the full responsibilities of a serious businessman, contributing to his places of worship and engaged in various civic endeavors.

We extend our sympathy to Jamie Pavlis, his wife of 49 years, and to his family and many friends. He will be missed, but our community is a better place for his presence among us.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. LAWRENCE
MEINWALD

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call to the attention of our colleagues the birthday of an outstanding American and resident of the Town of Goshen, New York, Mr. Lawrence Meinwald. This week Mr. Meinwald celebrates his 85th birthday, and I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating him and recognizing his incredible life.

Mr. Meinwald, along with his wife, Carolyn, have made lasting contributions to their adopted home of Goshen, New York. Recognizing the importance of preserving Orange County's and Goshen's historic past, and wanting to give back to the country that has given him so much, Mr. Meinwald gave his own money for the complete restoration of several village buildings. In that way he helped to preserve the historic nature of the area for many years to come.

Mr. Meinwald came to America in 1920 as a young boy from Warsaw, Poland. His first ten days in the United States were spent at Ellis Island where he waited to be welcomed into his new home. Ellis Island, the gateway to America and a symbol and part of the great state of New York, had a long lasting effect on Mr. Meinwald. He was so awed by his American welcome to New York that he decided to make that state his home. Mr. Meinwald, like so many others, had come to America to live the American Dream. His American Dream would be fulfilled by hard work and dedication. He built a successful and constructive business career, and as a mature adult, attended and graduated from the City University of New York.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I invite our colleagues to join with me in extending birthday greetings to this outstanding citizen of our nation and an irreplaceable citizen of Orange County, New York, Mr. Lawrence Meinwald.

THE BUILDER GENERATION TO
LEAD THE BRIDGER GENERA-
TION TO TRUST THE LORD

HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 1999

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of the House an address that was presented by my constituent, Dr. Al Lutz, to The Veterans' Club in Sun City Hilton Head, South Carolina. I believe that his remarks about the role of chaplains in our military, as well as about the importance of our faith in God, and our duty to train our younger generations of Americans deserve our careful consideration.

MEMORIAL DAY, MAY 31, 1999

THE BUILDER GENERATION TO LEAD THE
BRIDGER GENERATION TO TRUST THE LORD
MESSAGE GIVEN AT THE VETERANS' CLUB MEMO-
RIAL DAY CELEBRATION—SUN CITY HILTON
HEAD, SOUTH CAROLINA

I appreciate this opportunity to speak today in regard to honoring The Four Immortal Chaplains, because an Army chaplain was very helpful to me. While I was on active duty in Ft. Huachuca, AR, 1955–1957, I came under the ministry of Chaplain John MacGregor, who had been an infantry officer, was converted to Christ, and entered the chaplaincy. He was a man who believed the Bible, preached it and lived it. Seeing his Christ-like character prompted me to enter the Christian ministry forty years ago. The other special help that this chaplain gave was to introduce me to Julie. This year we will celebrate our 40th wedding anniversary.

My wife and I are nearing our one year anniversary residency here in Sun City and enjoying every minute of it. I also have the privilege of being a part of the Veterans' Club.

The Veterans' Club of Sun City has chosen to honor The Four Immortal Chaplains whose brave sacrifice is an inspiring story of personal honor and patriotism. Their heroism of 56 years ago stands today as an eloquent and enduring example of service, fellowship and love.

Chaplains are a very vital part of the United States armed forces. Just as the United States was founded by those who believed in the God of the Bible as the true and living God, so our country has continued in that belief, especially in our military forces.

It is very heartwarming to know that our government considers the ministry of chaplains so vital, that our government pays the salaries of all military chaplains who receive church or synagogue endorsement.

It is also important to know that our government has ordered that each military chaplain is free to practice and teach his own faith as he ministers to the men and women in the military.

Before Desert Storm was initiated, the President of the United States called the nation to prayer, as General Schwartzkopf was preparing the strategy for war. When American troops landed in Saudi Arabia and the General met with the Saudi officials, he was told that Jewish and Christian chaplains would not be allowed on Saudi soil. The General's response to that was basically this, "We will engage in this war only if we have our full chaplain force to go with us." As I mentioned when I spoke for the Veterans' Day program last November, I told of the General calling in his head chaplain, Col. David Peterson, and giving him the orders to work it out so that the chaplains, of all

faiths, would be allowed to go with the troops. That was accomplished quickly. Not only that but the General knew that the success depended on the blessing of Almighty God.

He may have been reminded of Proverbs 21:31 which states, "The horse is prepared for the day of battle, BUT deliverance comes from the Lord."

Or Psalm 20:7 "some trust in chariots, and some in horses, BUT we will trust in the name of the Lord our God."

In the early hours before Desert Storm was launched, the General with his command staff present, asked Chaplain Peterson, to lead in prayer for the blessing of Almighty God. Chaplains have been, and I trust always will be, a vital part of our military.

What was it that prompted the Four Immortal Chaplains and what is it that prompts our present day chaplains to volunteer for military duty?

It is obviously a love for country and a desire to serve.

It is also a love for people who need spiritual guidance in peace time, but especially in the time of war. Probably the underlying motivation was and is a sense of God's love for them and their love for God that prompts them to put their lives on the line to minister to the troops. So we honor them!

We can also honor those Chaplains by learning from their motivation and applying it to our lives. Somehow there must be a return to a reverential fear of the true and living God. The Bible states that one of the greatest sins of mankind is this: There is no fear of God before their eyes.

Let me share with you some sobering statistics about those in America, who claim to be Christians:

Among the Builder Generation (Born 1910 to 1946) 61% of them claim to be Christians.

Among the Boomer Generation (Born 1946 to 1964) 39% of them claim to be Christians.

Among the Buster Generation (Born 1965 to 1976) 25% of them claim to be Christians.

But what about the generation Born 1977 to 1995?

Some are calling this generation, the Bridger Generation. They will take us into the 21st Century.

It is estimated that ONLY 4% of them claim that they are Christians.

If those figures are anywhere close to being correct, do we see what lies before us, unless a mighty spiritual awakening takes place?

Somehow a sense of * * * who the true and living God of the universe is, who should be the true and living God of our nation, and who should the Bridger Generation have as its God, must be again instilled in people of our nation.

Somehow we must see that the disrespect for God, the disregard for human authority, and the devaluation of humanity, brought about to a large extent by the Supreme Court officially ruling that God, the Bible and prayer are no longer allowed in the public schools, must be counteracted.

No one can be neutral about his or her religious beliefs. If the true and living God is left out, other false gods of self and pleasure and power, which are often pushed on us by Hollywood and others, will take God's rightful place.

A father of one the murdered teenagers in Littleton, CO was testifying before the government in Washington last Thursday about gun control. What I heard him say was something to this effect, "Returning prayer to the classroom is far more important." We must deal with the root cause and give the root answer rather than just talking about the symptoms or superficial answers. Senator John McCain stated it clearly what is needed: "Faith in God."

It is sad to say that even our country as a whole is feeling the effect of trying to remove God from society by the fact that not