

carrier(s), such as the use of consortia or reinsurance arrangements to ensure the financial stability of the program. OPM would have broad flexibility to determine appropriate benefits and to contract competitively for benefits with one or more private carriers, without regard to section 5 of title 41, United States Code, or any law requiring competitive bidding. OPM needs the flexibility to capitalize on complex market factors to procure the best value for federal enrollees. OPM will ensure that resulting contracts are awarded on the basis of contractor qualifications, price, and reasonable competition to the maximum extent practicable. Qualified carriers shall: (a) be licensed to do business in all States and the District of Columbia to offer long-term care insurance; (b) agree to provide coverage for all eligible enrollees consistent with requirements for qualified long-term care insurance contracts and issuers enacted under subtitle C of Title III of the HIPAA; (c) propose rates which in OPM's judgment reasonably reflect the cost of benefits provided; (d) maintain funds associated with the federal employees contract separate and apart from the carriers' other funds; and (e) agree to all risk.

The contract or contracts would be for a duration of 5 years, unless terminated by OPM. OPM will issue regulations to provide for opportunities to enroll and benefit portability. With this statutory and regulatory authority, OPM will have the flexibility needed to administer the program as the market for long-term care services and protection evolves over time.

The program would be available to federal employees and retirees, and other spouses; a former spouse who is entitled to annuity under a federal retirement system; parents, and parents-in-law. All participants other than active employees would be fully underwritten as is standard practice with products of this kind. Coverage made available to individuals would be guaranteed renewable and could not be canceled except for nonpayment of premium. Though each participant would be responsible for paying the full amount of premiums, based on age at time of enrollment, group rates will save an estimated 15–20 percent off the cost of individual long-term care policies.

OPM will be responsible for the administrative costs of the program, which is estimated to be \$15 million over a 5-year period. Initial year costs include developing and implementing a program to educate employees about long-term care insurance, procuring a contract or contracts, and validating the reasonableness of rate proposals. Employee and annuitant premiums would be withheld from salary or annuity and transmitted directly to respective contractors, and those enrollees could also elect withholdings for coverage of their spouses.

Any eligible enrollees shall, at the discretion of OPM, submit premiums directly to the appropriate contractor. As with the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, the bill would require participating contractors to provide benefits when OPM finds the individual is entitled to benefits under the terms of the contract. Participating carriers would be required to reimburse OPM's expenses for adjudicating claims disputes.

The proposal would provide a substantial benefit to federal employees and retirees by providing access to quality long-term care insurance products at cost savings, group pre-

miums. I urge members to support this important legislation.

RETIREMENT OF FORMER SATURN
CHAIRMAN RICHARD G. "SKIP"
LEFAUVE

HON. ED BRYANT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 1999

Mr. BRYANT. Mr. Speaker, as you may know, my district in Tennessee is the home of one of the most innovative automobile companies in the world—The Saturn plant of Spring Hill. Since its inception, it has changed the automobile industry enormously, from labor and management relations to how customers shop for cars on a showroom floor.

Former Saturn Chairman, Richard G. "Skip" LeFauve, has announced his retirement from the automobile industry. Mr. LeFauve was elected to a new position of senior vice president for Global Leadership Development and Global Human Resources Processes. He was also appointed president of the newly created GM University, effective April 1, 1997.

Richard G. "Skip" LeFauve was named President of Saturn, a wholly-owned subsidiary of General Motors on February 3, 1986, with additional responsibilities on October 4, 1994, when GM vice-president and group executive in charge of the North American Operations (NAO) Small Car Group, and a member of the NAO Strategy Board. He was appointed Chairman of Saturn Corporation on August 8, 1995.

Prior to joining Saturn, he was vice-president of Manufacturing Operations for GM's former Buick-Oldsmobile-Cadillac (B-O-C) Group.

He began his General Motors career in 1956 as an engineer with Packard Electric Division in Warren, Ohio. In 1957, he joined the United States Navy and earned his wings as a Naval Aviator in 1958. Following six years of active duty, he rejoined the Packard Electric Division of GM, becoming plant manager in 1968. He was appointed manager of Production Engineering for the division in 1969. Two years later, Mr. LeFauve became director of manufacturing engineering and was promoted to general manufacturing manager in 1978.

Mr. LeFauve was appointed general manager for the former Diesel Equipment Division, Grand Rapids, Michigan, in 1980 and in the following year, he was named general manager for the former Rochester Products Division (now AC Rochester), Rochester, New York.

In 1983, he was named general manufacturing manager for Chevrolet Motor Division. He joined the former B-O-C Group the following year, and was named a GM vice-president in 1985.

A native of Orchard Park, New York, LeFauve was born November 30, 1934. He earned a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from Case Institute of Technology in Cleveland in 1956 and attended the Senior Executive Program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

LeFauve is a board member of the International Student Exchange Program—University of Illinois at Chicago, the Council of Competitiveness, and the Harley Davidson Board of Directors.

THE BANK EXAMINATION REPORT
PROTECTION ACT

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 1999

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation I am introducing, the Bank Examination Report Protection Act [BERPA] of 1999. This bill would establish that all confidential supervisory information shall be the property of the Federal banking agency that created or requested the information and shall be privileged from disclosure to any other person. The Federal banking agency may waive this privilege at its discretion. There are other appropriate exceptions in the bill, such as for the Comptroller General of the United States and for law enforcement.

Essentially, the issue of privilege is one that must be addressed. The fact that financial institutions may lose their privilege on information turned over to a regulator has made them more hesitant to share all relevant information with their regulators. This, in turn, makes it more difficult for the regulators to do a thorough job in their examinations of the institutions. In fact, this legislation is strongly supported by the affected Federal banking regulators.

I would like to make sure my colleagues are aware that this legislation would maintain existing privileges and protect any materials created by the regulators. This would not prevent litigants from discovering the underlying facts of any action. All nonprivileged sources would still be available in discovery. This would simply ensure that examination materials—the critically important function of which is facilitate free-flowing communication between the examiner and the institution to maximize the effectiveness of the supervisory process—are not turned into a weapon against the regulated financial institution.

BERPA would ensure that the safety and soundness of our institutions is maintained through a vigorous and thorough supervisory process. This process is not complete when institutions are not forthcoming with information for fear of having information that was at one time privileged suddenly become subject to subpoena. Therefore, not only does this help the supervisory process, but also the consumers and taxpayers that insure these institutions. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

IN HONOR OF MAESTRO RAUL
ANGUIANO

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 1999

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Mexico's greatest living muralist, the highly acclaimed artist, Maestro Raul Anguiano. It is also my great pleasure to welcome the Maestro to The Bowers Museum in Santa Ana, CA, where he will place the first brush stroke on a mural for the Museum.

The Maestro is known throughout the world as Mexico's ambassador of art. He has exhibited in major museums and galleries around

the world including the Palace of Fine Arts, the National Museum of Prints and the Museum of Plastic Arts in Mexico City, the Museum of Man in San Diego, the Carnegie Art Museum, the Institute Italo, Latino Americao (Rome), Casas Reales Museum (Santa Domingo), and the Armand Hammer Museum in Los Angeles. His solo exhibits include Moscow, Leningrad, Peking, Rome, Assissi and Venice. His work has also been exhibited at the Santora Arts Center in Santa Ana, CA.

His works are included in permanent exhibits in many major museums around the world. Most recently his painting the "Crucifixion" was accepted by Pope John Paul II and is now in the collection at the Vatican.

Raul Anguiano was born in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico, February 26, 1915. He began painting at the age of twelve. As a child, he would paint or draw on any space available; his creativity and genius could not be contained. His mother, Abigail, recognized her son's early signs of genius and encouraged him by providing him with sketch books. The young Raul was driven by sheer talent and desire to create the visions that were given to him.

Along with his contemporary, Diego Rivera, Maestro Anguiano has influenced other Mexican artists here in the United States. R.C. Gorman has credited Anguiano with his "aesthetic influence as well as subject matter."

Maestro Anguiano has given to the world a precious gift of beauty that will live on forever by creating a mural for the permanent collection of the Bowers Museum. I commend Maestro Raul Anguiano for his significant artistic contribution to the history of art and his impact on contemporary artists around the world.

USING CHILDREN AS HOSTAGES

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 1999

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to address a problem that is plaguing our nation—children being taken as hostages. Far too many scenarios have been documented in which children are exposed to violence, emotional trauma or physical harm at the hands of adults.

For example, in New York, a woman's estranged husband took her and their three children hostage at the point of a loaded shotgun. He held them for nearly four hours, and at one point, he even allegedly traded his seven-year-old for a pack of cigarettes.

In Texas, a man took 80 children hostage at an area day care facility, including two of his children. They were held at gunpoint and released over a 30-hour period before the standoff was brought to a non-violent conclusion.

In Florida, a suspected drug addict and murderer held two children, ages two and four, hostage for two-and-a-half days. An entire Orlando neighborhood was evacuated during the standoff. Only when he threatened to use the children as human shields did a SWAT team rescue the children in a raid that resulted in the death of the suspect.

In Baltimore, a man broke into a second-floor apartment, stabbing a young mother and holding her nine-month-old child hostage for two hours before a Quick Response Team

could rescue the baby and apprehend the suspect.

Situations like these are unacceptable, and should not be tolerated by anyone. All over the country, children are being used as pawns in actions played by violent adults. We in Congress must do our part to help prevent these scenarios from developing in the first place.

My legislation will give new protections to children—our nation's most precious resource. I have joined forces with Senator OLYMPIA SNOWE to establish the strictest punishments for those who would evade arrest or obstruct justice by using children as hostages. This bill will toughen penalties against any person who takes a child, 18 years of age or younger, hostage in order to resist any officer or court in the United States, or to compel the federal government to do or to abstain from any act. Such a person would serve a minimum sentence of ten years to a maximum of death, depending on the extent of injury to the child.

Please join me in this important effort to protect the lives and well-being of our nation's young. I hope that together we can make our nation a safer place for everyone, especially those in our society least able to protect themselves.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NOLAN RYAN ON HIS ELECTION TO THE BASEBALL HALL OF FAME

HON. RICHARD K. ARMEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 1999

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to a true Texas legend. Yesterday, former Texas Rangers pitcher Nolan Ryan was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame.

During Mr. Ryan's illustrious career, he became not only one of the greatest pitchers to play the game, but also one of the most beloved and respected. He struck out a record 5,714 batters, won 324 games, and played for 27 years—longer than any other player in history. These accomplishments earned him the second highest voting percentage ever for a Hall of Fame nominee.

His most important accomplishment, however, was the way he conducted himself as a player. Nolan Ryan played baseball with dignity and sportsmanship second to none. He showed our children that good guys do win. Tom Schieffer, President of the Texas Rangers, said it best: "Players like Nolan Ryan are the way the game endures. They renew people's faith in the sport."

Congratulations to Nolan Ryan, a true gentleman of sport. I know if he picked up a baseball at his ranch today, he'd still be good for twenty strikeouts a game.

HELP COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY BASE CLOSURE

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 1999

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that will facilitate the

swift transfer of closed military bases to local communities. This action is necessary because current law hinders the large and complex transfer of military base property with economic redevelopment in mind.

Many of the laws governing the reuse of military bases are antiquated and filled with confusing terms and conditions. One major existing hindrance is a clause prohibiting the obtainment of profit by local communities. This is a problem because it prevents local communities from generating profits through subleasing for the purpose of reinvestment to maintain and improve landscaping, maintenance, and infrastructure. The remedy for this situation is to replace the clause with legislation embodying the provisions of the base closure laws and amendments of the 1990's.

The interim lease provisions have not been as successful as planned because many of the terms and conditions act as disincentives to economic development conveyance. For example, there is no commitment for final ownership by federal agencies upon assumption of control or occupancy of transferred property. Commercial firms are willing to enter into leases, but are refusing this option because of the lack of commitment for final ownership. In addition, the new occupants of closed base property are unable to conduct major renovations unless they agree to restore the property to its original condition. Many of the facilities require major alterations from their original condition just to bring them to local code standards. Why are we requiring restoration of undesired conditions? This makes no sense and ultimately results in taxpayer waste.

Prior to 1996, departure of federal agencies reverted property to the federal government for disposal by GSA. A "leaseback provision" was established in the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year '96 to protect communities from a federal agency revolving door. Under this law, property approved for federal usage would be transferred to the local redevelopment agency, then leased to a federal agency at no cost for up to fifty years. The reasoning behind this is to ensure transfer of property to local communities in the event of departure by federal agencies. The lack of a mandatory requirement for leaseback acceptance allows for circumvention of the legislative intent. In Orlando, Florida, the Veterans Administration (VA) requested Orlando Naval Training Center property through the federal screen process. VA refused to enter into a long-term lease with the city. This created major problems for community redevelopment authorities as it limited their ability to finalize reuse plans. My legislation guarantees an option for communities to obtain reuse property after the departure from the property by the first federal agency lessee.

We must allow common sense to prevail in this base reuse process. There are some instances where it makes sense to lease to organizations affiliated with the branch of service that previously occupied the base property. This is currently prohibited; yet doesn't it make sense to relocate recruiting stations, reserve centers, and military processing centers onto closed base property?

The four branches of the U.S. Armed Forces are currently able to contract with local governments for fire and police services for only the last six months prior to the closure of a base. Many times a base is phased out over a long period of time and the military eliminates military fire and police services much