

enforcement officers and fire fighters who die as federal employees.

Under current CSRS and FERS law, certain employees (i.e. air traffic controllers, fire fighters, law enforcement officers, and nuclear materials couriers) qualify for an immediate enhanced annuity if separated from service after reaching age 50 and completing 20 years of service. The enhanced annuity, however, requires that they make retirement contributions that are 0.5 percent higher than employees generally.

The legislation addresses an inequity that occurs when an employee in one of these occupations is forced to retire because of a disability, or is involuntarily separated (not for cause), before reaching age 50, the employee only receives a regular annuity (and not the enhanced annuity), even if he or she has had 20 years of service in the occupation.

The bill fixes this problem by providing the enhanced annuity to employees, who after 20 years of qualifying service, regardless of age, are forced to retire due to involuntary separation, or for disability. The measure also provides for a refund of the additional 0.5 percent retirement contribution, with interest, when employees in these occupations retire or die before attaining eligibility for the enhanced annuity.

By supporting this legislation, you support federal firefighters, law enforcement officers, and others, who work in these very demanding occupations.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CHILD CARE CENTER ACT OF 1999

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 1999

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced a bill designed to ensure the continued ability of the Library of Congress to provide quality child care services to those who so ably serve that fine institution and other elements of the Legislative Branch, as well as to other federal government employees and private sector employees when space is available.

Similar to the general law applying to other federal child care facilities, this legislation would amend the Library of Congress Child Care Center's authorizing language to specify that the Center must have at least 50 percent of its enrollees from families of federal employees. The legislation also establishes priorities for enrollment in the Center: first priority would go to children (and grandchildren and dependents) of Library employees; second priority would go to children of other employees of the Legislative Branch; and third priority would go to children of employees of other federal agencies. Children of non-federal employees would then be admitted as space allows, subject to the 50 percent limit.

The 1991 law creating the Library's Child Care Center is ambiguous on the point of permitting the Center to admit children whose parents are employed outside of the Legislative Branch. The Library's General Counsel and the independent Library of Congress Child Care Association Board believe the clear authority provided in the bill I introduce today is

needed to continue the ability of the Library to provide affordable child care to Capitol Hill staff.

The proportion of Library and other Legislative Branch children enrolled in the Library's Child Care Center has steadily increased since the Center opened its doors in 1993. With nearly 50 percent of the Library's workforce becoming eligible for retirement by the year 2003, Library employees will have an even greater need for quality, convenient child care. Meanwhile, in order to remain self-sustaining, the Library's Center needs the same flexibility provided to other federal centers to admit a small proportion of children from families not employed by the federal government.

TRIBUTE TO ALEX AND SHIRLEY FAHN

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 1999

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Alex and Shirley Fahn, of Sacramento, California.

Mr. Speaker, the Sacramento community, and especially the community of the Keneset Israel Torah Center understand why Alex and Shirley deserve our recognition and our heartfelt thanks.

These extraordinary individuals display the inspiration of the Talmud and serve as examples to those near them. Alex and Shirley show us by their faith and commitment that this kind of courage is possible and they surround us with their strength.

Perhaps the most remarkable example of Alex and Shirley's commitment to build in our community is their belief in the Keneset Israel Torah Center. Mr. Speaker, Alex and Shirley's work to take a dream and make it a reality touched so many people that they will be honored with a gala dinner in Sacramento later this week. I know I speak for those back home when I say that one evening of recognition could not possibly repay Alex and Shirley for their constant sacrifice.

The Talmud say, "Every blade of grass has an angel that bends over it and whispers, 'Grow, Grow.'" Alex and Shirley have been the angels of the Keneset Israel Torah Center—dedicating their time and enthusiasm to every aspect of creating the Center. Since the initial planning stages, they never hesitated to offer their home to host meetings and events. They served on the Center's Board of Directors and began a tradition of generosity by donating to the building fund and dedicating classrooms. This amazing couple unconsciously grew into a leadership position in the development and life of Keneset Israel.

We are grateful for Alex and Shirley's involvement as congregational and community leaders in a variety of organizations and capacities. Their leadership experience and personal integrity provide an example for the rest of us trying to navigate a true course.

Over the course of their service in Sacramento, Alex has served as president of both the Jewish Federation and Mosaic Law Congregation. Shirley has been active in the philanthropic sorority Theta Delta Xi.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the constant contributions from Alex and Shirley Fahn and

their commitment to truly give all they can. It is with great pleasure that I honor them today and offer my most heartfelt gratitude and best wishes for the future.

TRIBUTE TO STANLEY "SKEETER" SHIELDS

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 1999

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, the citizens of East Tennessee are losing a true statesman. After 32 years of successful service, Stanley "Skeeter" Shields is retiring from his post as Mayor of the City of Maryville, Tennessee. Few people in the entire Nation have served one community for so long and with such dedication.

A lifelong member of the Blount County community, Skeeter Shields has spent his career making life better for the citizens of Maryville and indeed all of Blount County. After graduating from Maryville High School, he attended Maryville College and went on to graduate from the University of Tennessee.

Mayor Shields has a beautiful family. He and his wife, Mary Frances, have two wonderful children and three grandchildren. Those who know Skeeter know that he is a true family man.

Skeeter Shields has been a devout member of the First United Methodist Church for many years. In fact, he has taught Sunday school for 44 years and is the past Chairman of the Church Board.

Mayor Shields is a model public servant. He was a member of the Maryville School board for 12 years, helping to improve the lives of young people through the education process. He was elected to the Maryville City Council in 1955, and in 1967 he was elected Mayor. He has served in that position ever since.

During his tenure, Mayor Shields demonstrated the true potential of a public servant. He was instrumental in getting several large industries to establish facilities in the Maryville area. Additionally, he helped develop a regional wastewater treatment plant, three public parks, two fire station facilities, as well as many other things that have greatly benefitted the citizens of Maryville.

Throughout the last 32 years, Mayor Shields has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for members of the Maryville and Blount County communities. I know that I join with everyone in East Tennessee in thanking Mayor Stanley "Skeeter" Shields for his outstanding service to this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I have included a copy of a Resolution adopted by the Tennessee General Assembly honoring Mayor Shields that I would like to call to the attention of my fellow Members and other readers of the RECORD.

A RESOLUTION TO HONOR STANLEY SHIELDS, MAYOR OF MARYVILLE, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

Whereas, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should recognize those citizens who in their years of work have performed with extraordinary dedication and unprecedented devotion; and

Whereas, Stanley Shields is one such outstanding person who has served with alacrity and acuity as the Mayor of Maryville, Tennessee for 32 outstanding years; and

Whereas, Mayor Shields exemplifies the spirit and dedication that is characteristic of a great Tennessean; and

Whereas, he is a graduate of Maryville High School, attended Maryville College and graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1938; and

Whereas, Mayor Shields was a member of the Maryville School Board from 1952 to 1964, serving astutely as chairman for four years; and

Whereas, his career in city government began in 1955 when he was elected as a member of the Maryville City Council. He was elected Mayor in 1967 and has served with distinction in that important position ever since; and

Whereas, during Mayor Shields' tenure, the city of Maryville has seen numerous improvements and great progress, including the development of a regional wastewater treatment plant; three public parks; two fire station facilities; a new library facility; an industrial park; Broadway Towers, a high rise elderly housing complex; and Maryville's Foothills Mall; and

Whereas, Mayor Shields' has also been instrumental in securing the location of several large industries in Maryville, including Denso Manufacturing and Ruby Tuesday Inc; and

Whereas, his illustrious service to his fellow citizens was appropriately recognized when he was selected Tennessee Mayor of the Year by the Tennessee Municipal League in 1979; and

Whereas, he has continued to serve adroitly the community in addition to his duties as mayor, as evidenced by his service on the Maryville Planning Commission, Recreation and Parks Commission, East Development District Board, Governor's Board, Maryville Rotary Club and Metropolitan Planning Organization for Knox and Blount counties; and

Whereas, throughout all his endeavors, Mayor Shields has shown his unwavering commitment to improving the quality of life for the citizenry of Maryville and Blount County; and

Whereas, he is most appreciative of the love and support he received from his wife, Mary Frances, their children, Steve and Karen, and grandchildren, Stephanie, Steve and Whitney; and

Whereas, Mayor Shields has evinced his devout faith as a member of the First United Methodist Church, where he has taught Sunday school for 44 years and is the past chairman of the church board; and

Whereas, the good people of Maryville are most grateful for Mayor Shield's devoted service and the sterling legacy he has built from Shields Stadium to the Greenbelt; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by Senate of the One Hundred First General Assembly of the State of Tennessee (the House of Representatives concurring), That we extend to Mayor Stanley Shields of Maryville our best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and continued success in his future endeavors. Be it further

Resolved, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

Greater Woodhaven Development Corporation on the occasion of its 20th Anniversary Celebration.

The members of the Greater Woodhaven Development Corporation have long been known for their commitment to community service and to enhancing the quality of life for all New York City residents.

This event is not only a festive happening, it is a chance for all of us to celebrate and pay tribute to a group of individuals who have dedicated their lives to helping their friends and neighbors. This year's honorees truly represent the best of what our community has to offer.

As a member of the Board of Directors for the American Cancer Society, Queens Division, Douglas A. Gerowski helped raise more than \$50,000 in a five-year period through the organization's "Stepping Out Against Cancer" fund-raising campaigns. Douglas has served as a Chairman of the Greater Woodhaven Development Corporations Board of Directors and coined the slogan "Taking Care of BIDness" as the Woodhaven Business Improvement District's first 3rd Vice President. He currently serves as the President of the Merillon Athletic Association of Hew Hyde Park and is actively involved in coaching his children's baseball, basketball and hockey teams.

Born a few months after Pearl Harbor, Jeffrey Lewis grew up in Woodhaven and attended local public schools. At that time, Jeffrey's family already owned and operated a small store, Lewis' of Woodhaven, on Jamaica Avenue and 85th Street. While in high school, Jeffrey helped his family celebrate the opening of Lewis' of Woodhaven's second store on Jamaica Avenue between 90th and 91st Streets. Following his graduation from the University of Denver in 1963, Jeffrey got married and started working full time at Lewis' of Woodhaven. Within a few short years, Jeffrey and his loving wife Marlin were blessed with two daughters. Even though he moved his family to Westchester, Jeffrey's roots and time were all in Woodhaven. In 1989, Jeffrey became involved with the Woodhaven Business Improvement District Feasibility Committee and became the first President of the Woodhaven Business Improvement District in 1993 upon its creation. While most of Jeffrey Lewis' time is still spent running the family business, he makes sure to enjoy the time he has with each of his children and grandchildren.

Today's honorees have long been known as innovators and beacons of good will to all those with whom they come into contact. Through their dedicated efforts, they have each helped to improve my constituents' quality of life. In recognition of their many accomplishments on behalf of my constituents, I offer my congratulations on their being honored by the Greater Woodhaven Development Corporation.

a bill to free the National Labor Relations Board from being overburdened because bracket creep has forced them to accept cases from very small employers in this nation. Here is a copy of my "Dear Colleague" and a report from the Labor Policy Association that outlines the problem and why it is important to small businesses in America to correct this problem.

FREE THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD (NLRB). HELP REDUCE UNNECESSARY BURDEN ON SMALL BUSINESS

DEAR COLLEAGUE: This Congress, Mr. Istook is introducing legislation to help the NLRB manage their huge caseload. Each year the NLRB requests additional funding to help them administer and manage their caseload. This legislative reform simply makes adjustments for inflation in the financial jurisdictional thresholds of the NLRB, most of which were set in 1959. The NLRB can still adjudicate special cases below these thresholds, just as they can do today. It is crucial that we provide the NLRB with this freedom. We urge you to cosponsor this bill. Two former NLRB Chairs support this change.

The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) is the government agency designed to settle labor disputes between unions and management. In 1959, Congress passed a law to give NLRB jurisdiction over businesses based on gross receipts. Once a business passes that threshold of gross receipts, it is subject to intervention by the NLRB. Businesses below the threshold are subject to actions brought in state courts, instead of the NLRB.

Without an adjustment for inflation, businesses and the NLRB have been caught in "bracket creep," as inflation has increased since 1959, the NLRB has acquired jurisdiction over much smaller businesses than was ever intended, escalating the expense and workload for the NLRB as well as for business. These now include very small businesses, for whom the cost of such intervention is unbearable. Up to 20% of the NLRB's workload now is these very small businesses. For example, NLRB has jurisdiction over non-retail businesses with gross receipts over \$50,000, an inflation adjustment would raise that threshold to \$275,773. NLRB has jurisdiction over retail businesses and restaurants doing more than \$500,000 worth of business, but adjusting for inflation since 1959 would raise this to \$2.7 million. Congress never intended to subject smaller businesses to such a heavy regulatory hammer.

The NLRB is powerless to change its jurisdiction without an act of Congress. So this legislation will do exactly that. By indexing the jurisdiction to the rate of inflation, the NLRB could again focus upon the larger businesses for whom the law was originally written. Small businesses have been severely burdened by dealing with the far-off NLRB instead of their local state courts (Examples on Reverse).

This bill's simple adjustment both frees NLRB to deal with significant cases truly affecting interstate commerce, and also removes the problems very small businesses have with NLRB oversight (See Example on the Reverse). If you have any questions, please call Mr. Istook's office and speak with Dr. Bill Duncan at (202) 225-2132.

Tom DeLay, Bill Young, John Boehner, John Porter, Jim Talent, Henry Bonilla, Ernest Istook, Dan Miller, Jay Dickey, Roger Wicker, Anne Northup, Randy "Duke" Cunningham, John Hostettler, Chris Cannon.

EXAMPLES OF SMALL BUSINESS NLRB CASES

Larry Burns, of Houston, Texas, (8 employees), had 2 charges filed against his business

TRIBUTE TO THE GREATER
WOODHAVEN DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 1999

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to pay tribute to the

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS
BOARD

HON. ERNEST J. ISTOOK, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 1999

Mr. ISTOOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 1620,