

one of the speakers spoke of the contributions of these 105 historically black colleges. I went and I checked, I did a little research as to how it affects this particular body. I went through the list of sponsors of the resolution, my curiosity being: I wonder how many of them went to these black colleges.

I just want to put that in the RECORD how this forum, how this body benefits from the past efforts and future efforts of these colleges and universities. The gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) has an honorary degree from a number of these universities: Bishop State, Central State, Howard, Morgan State, Spelman College. There are others here.

The gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) graduated from Fisk University. The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS) graduated from Fisk University. The gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. BROWN), the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK) have degrees from Florida A&M University. The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) has a degree from Howard.

The gentleman from Alabama (Mr. HILLIARD), the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK), the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. WYNN) and again the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) have degrees from Howard.

The gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) has a degree from Jackson State University. The gentlewoman from South Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON), she has a degree from Johnson C. Smith University. The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP), the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. HILLIARD), and the gentleman from New York (Mr. OWENS) have degrees from Morehouse College.

The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON), the gentleman from New York (Mr. TOWNS), and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) have degrees from North Carolina A&T State University.

The gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) serves on the board of trustees for Oakwood College. The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) has a degree from South Carolina State University. The gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JEFFERSON) has a degree from Southern University A&M College. The gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), as I said, has a degree from Spelman. The father-in-law of the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) has a degree from Texas Southern University.

This is what America is all about, people taking their education and giving back. We have to go no further than the walls of this forum to find the positive benefit.

I thank the gentleman and his colleague for bringing this resolution forward. Something from nothing, we ought to put that on the face of this building, because it is so apt.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I want to thank the

gentleman from California (Mr. OSE) for what he just said, because I think that it sends the word out from this place that historically black colleges and universities have, indeed, made a tremendous contribution.

As the gentleman was talking, I could not help but think about my own history with a mother and father who never got out of elementary school because they were denied the very opportunities that I was given. But I will never forget going to Howard University and being embraced by the faculty there.

We have not talked a lot about the faculty and the administrators at these schools, but I can tell my colleagues, they are some very, very special people who look at each one of these children, not as a statistic, but as someone that is like their own child. They want to make sure that their children, that their children, and they see them as their children, are raised up to be the very best that they can be. That is not to say that that does not happen at other schools. But I can speak for Howard, and I ask speak for some other historically black colleges and universities.

The fact is that the gentleman from California is right. If we look just within the four walls of this chamber and look at all of those people who have been touched over and over again by historically black colleges and universities, it says a lot.

When I dropped my daughter off at Howard University a few weeks ago as she began her freshman year as a second-generation college-attending person, I said to her one thing. I said, Jennifer, I am excited about your possibilities. I think that, when we look at historically black colleges and universities, it is exciting, and we become excited about young people's possibilities because we know that they will be embraced. We know that they will be planted in soil that is firm and fertile so that they can grow and be the best that they can be. All of it boils down to opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COOKSEY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 293

Whereas there are 105 historically black colleges and universities in the United States;

Whereas black colleges and universities provide the quality education so essential to full participation in a complex, highly technological society;

Whereas black colleges and universities have a rich heritage and have played a prominent role in American history;

Whereas black colleges and universities have allowed many underprivileged students to attain their full potential through higher education;

Whereas the achievements and goals of historically black colleges and universities are deserving of national recognition; and

Whereas Senate Resolution 178 would designate the week beginning September 19, 1999, as "National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideas of "National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week"; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States and interested groups to conduct appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate support for historically black colleges and universities in the United States.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COOKSEY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

EPA MUST ENSURE THAT ALL STATES LIVE BY THE SAME EMISSION STANDARDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maine (Mr. BALDACC) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BALDACC. Mr. Speaker, I rise to talk about clean air, grandfathered smokestacks in the Midwest, air transport of emissions, and smog in the Northeast.

It is an especially good day to raise this issue. The summer has come to an end and the ozone levels in Maine exceeded Federal standards a dozen days this summer. This did not happen at measuring stations and traffic clogged cities.

I am talking about Port Clyde. It is a fishing village at the tip of a peninsula that juts out from the Gulf of Maine and a good 2 hours from the interstate.

I am talking about the top of Cadillac Mountain. It is the crest of Acadia National Park, and there is not a smokestack in sight. Acadia National Park has had a pollution level this year on par with Philadelphia.

This is all being created by ozone. Ozone is created in a complex chemical reaction due to smokestack emissions in the Midwest of exempted and grandfathered coal-fired generating plants. And as it travels through the weather patterns into the Northeast, along with the sun and the heat, the combination creates ozone. So as my colleagues may know, Maine is in the downwind of every State, and therein lies the problem. States upwind of the Northeast, which may be in attainment, contribute to the ozone pollution in our region.

With the clean air amendments that were passed in 1990, Congress acknowledged the phenomenon of pollution

transport and the political and scientific difficulty of the problem. A mechanism to find a workable solution was created. These tools permitted the EPA to establish the ozone transport assessment group to recommend ways to reduce ozone transport in the Northeast.

From these recommendations, EPA may issue rules requiring States to tighten ozone control to prevent the transport of ozone. These are known as the State implementation plans, or SIP. In addition, individual States may petition the EPA to force States suspected of contributing to their problem to reduce the offending emissions.

I am proud to represent a State that has been a leader in the attempt to reduce ozone pollution, which may be more commonly known as smog. It rises when emissions from power plants and cars combine with heat and sunshine. In the Northeast, we have been reducing our emissions on an average between 2.5 and 2.6 pounds of emissions per megawatt hour, whereas in the Midwest it is still in excess of 6.6 pounds.

In the Northeast, we have complied with the regulations; we have made the investments. The industries have gone ahead and done what they were supposed to have done, and have been at a competitive disadvantage, but have followed the letter of the law. All we are asking for today, and tomorrow with a dear colleague to Members here in this body, and Members in the Senate that have completed a dear colleague, and signatures to the EPA, is to enforce the regulations which they already have on the books. We are not asking for any new laws. We are not asking for any new approaches. We are simply saying to adhere to the law that is there.

EPA deserves a pat on the back for the work that they have done in bringing this issue to the forefront. They have the administrative capabilities to implement and to finish the action which they started. As a matter of fact, today in a conversation in our office with the EPA, I was told that they have promulgated regulations, which I will submit for the record, which will take effect on November 30, 1999 and will allow for a 2- or 3-month window beyond that time period before they will require the States to have a plan to reduce their emissions so that we can reduce our ozone pollution, so that we can reduce the threat to respiratory asthmatics and others with health conditions not to mention the environmental conditions of our land and our watersheds and the infecting of our crops where we see that the continued pollution is causing tremendous economic and social and health costs to all of our citizens.

This is not just within Maine or within New England. We are looking at the New Jersey shore, an industrial park in Newark; we are looking at the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, a popular vacation spot on Lake Michi-

gan; we are looking at the remote Door County in Wisconsin, a popular vacation get-away in the Midwest, which has been plagued with twice as many dirty days as Milwaukee; and the Great Smoky National Park South by Atlanta.

So this is a problem that is national in scope. The EPA has the tools to do the work. My colleague, the gentleman from Maine (Mr. ALLEN), has initiated legislation, and in working towards that effort, we are going to continue to put the full focus and force on EPA to do their work.

Mr. Speaker, I am providing for the RECORD the information regarding EPA's promulgation of a rule.

The EPA expects to promulgate a final rule based on this proposal on or before November 30, 1999, when the interim stay expires. To address the possibility of any delay of this final rulemaking, however, EPA is also taking comment on an extension of the interim final stay of the April 30 NFR in the event that EPA needs more time to complete the final rule. The EPA does not expect to need to promulgate such an extension, but if it were necessary, EPA anticipates that a two- or three-month extension should suffice. Providing for a possible extension, if necessary, ensures that the automatic trigger deadlines now in place will not become effective through a lapse in the stay before EPA completes this rulemaking. Under this schedule, the 3-year compliance schedule for source subject to an affirmative finding would still be triggered in time to ensure that the intended emissions reductions are achieved by the start of the 2003 ozone season, as described in the April 30 NFR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. EHRLICH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. EHRLICH addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. LIPINSKI) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. LIPINSKI addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

INTRODUCTION OF THE "FIRST" ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, almost 2 years ago, the Congressional Caucus on Women's Issues held an important hearing on the subject of brain development from birth to age 3. One witness

said something that day that really hit home with me. That witness was Dr. Edward Zigler, the sterling professor of psychology at Yale University, commonly known to all of us as the father of Head Start. Dr. Zigler said that there is nothing more important to a child's development than the bonding between the infant and parents during the first few months after birth.

I remember how I felt listening to Dr. Zigler that day, because I knew how few babies get that kind of start in life. If today's children are lucky enough to have both parents living at home, chances are that both work outside the home, and it is just too hard, if not impossible, for new parents to take time off from work without pay for very long after the birth of a new baby.

I decided right then and there that I would introduce a bill to provide paid family leave to all parents. First, I met with Dr. Zigler, however, and got his support. Since then I have spent 2 years meeting with parents, meeting with parent and child advocates, meeting with doctors, researchers, business and labor representatives, and meeting with my colleagues to figure out what is the best way to provide wage replacement as well as job protection for new parents.

What I learned is that there is not one best way to meet the needs of new parents. In fact, there are many different opportunities to provide this benefit. Some States are already providing income-protected leave for new parents through their temporary disability insurance plans, such as my State, California. Several other States are looking into using a surplus in their unemployment insurance funds for this purpose. Others would like to build on the existing Family and Medical Leave Act. That is why I have introduced the Family Income to Respond to Significant Transitions Insurance, or the FIRST Act, which is a companion bill to legislation of the same name introduced by Senator DODD in the other body.

The FIRST Act gives States an opportunity to create paid family leave programs for new parents as well as paid leave for other family needs. The FIRST Act does not tell States how to provide income-protected leave, but it helps them carry out the program of their choice by authorizing \$400 million to share in the cost of providing wage replacement for new parents.

Mr. Speaker, the recent tragedies in our Nation's schools and communities compel me to ask the question, "Who is taking care of our children?" We all know that during those critical first months it should be the child's parents, the child's mom and the child's dad. But families are struggling to make ends meet, and our children are getting left behind.

Sure, the Family Medical Leave Act gives parents the right to take leave when a new baby joins the family. The fact is, however, that a recent study found that nearly two-thirds of the employees who need family and medical