

unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Thursday, September 16, 1999 beginning at 2 p.m. in Dirksen 226.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD

• Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I respectfully request that the attached statement delivered by Governor Pedro Rossello, of Puerto Rico, before the Human Resources Committee of the National Governors' Association be printed in the RECORD. This statement was made in reference to S. 1364, the Promoting Responsible Fatherhood Act of 1999.

The statement follows.

REMARKS BY THE HONORABLE PEDRO ROSELLÓ, GOVERNOR OF PUERTO RICO AND CO-LEAD GOVERNOR ON FATHERHOOD IN THE NATIONAL GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION, DELIVERED AT A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION, SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI, AUGUST 8, 1999

Thank you, Mister Chairman.

Governor Tom Ridge and I are extremely enthusiastic about the duties we have been discharging as the N-G-A's Lead Governors on Fatherhood.

And in that regard, I certainly want to acknowledge the superb collaboration that we have received from the colleagues who serve with us as fellow members of the Governors' Task Force on Fatherhood Promotion.

As has been documented by the N-G-A Center for Best Practices, the efforts we've been undertaking have yielded a rich harvest.

That harvest encompasses: An intensification of public awareness campaigns—in nearly all of the states and territories—to promote positive father involvement; a sharper focus for programs, throughout the nation, that are aimed at developing the parenting skills of new fathers; and better targeted support services for disadvantaged or non-custodial fathers, so that they can learn how to improve their relationships with their children.

During this past year, our Task Force also expanded its outreach, while joining with the National Fatherhood Initiative, as a co-sponsor of the 1999 National Summit on Supporting Urban Fathers.

At the event 2 months ago, we helped spearhead the creation of a brand new Mayors' Task Force on Fatherhood Promotion.

As a result, Governors and Mayors are now pooling their resources and putting their heads together on multi-sectoral approaches that can meet the challenge of promoting responsible fatherhood in those urban communities where absenteeism and neglect place very large numbers of children at risk.

We Governors can take considerable satisfaction in the progress we have made since we last gathered to discuss the need for an aggressive campaign to foster conscientious fatherhood.

Nevertheless, it remains a fact that we still have a long way to go in this important quest to improve the home environments and—by extension—the learning environments of countless thousands of girls and boys and teenagers . . . all across America.

And with that in mind, I strongly recommend that this Committee renew its sup-

port for N-G-A Policy H-R 28, on the subject of Paternal Involvement in Child-Rearing.

However, I would also submit that we must go further.

In addition to re-committing ourselves to a policy statement which underscores our collective determination to enter the new millennium with stronger families and a brighter future for the nation's young people, we must likewise re-commit ourselves to a partnership with other elected officials who share those indispensable aspirations.

So it is that I hope each and every one of us will emphatically endorse Congressional enactment of the Responsible Fatherhood Act of 1999.

This bill, introduced less than a month ago by Senators EVAN BAYH and PETE DOMENICI, will empower states and communities with new tools to encourage the formation—and the maintenance—of two-parent households, as well as the acceptance by absent fathers of personal responsibility for their children. This bipartisan legislation will provide states and communities with flexible funding to promote responsible fatherhood, through alliances with news media, charities, community-based organizations and religious institutions.

The bill will also amend the "high-performance bonus" that was created by the 1996 Federal welfare reform statute; the amendment will establish that the formation and maintenance of two-parent families shall henceforward be taken into account as one of the factors considered when granting bonuses to states that are successful in obtaining private-sector jobs for welfare recipients.

These and other provisions of the Responsible Fatherhood Act of 1999 will lend tangible support to our own pioneering efforts on behalf of fatherhood promotion.

And I am confident that the initiatives contemplated under this bill can be put into effect without jeopardizing any of the existing appropriations that mean so much to our states and communities.

In summary, then, I invite your attention and your allegiance to both the renewal of our N-G-A Policy-Plank, H-R 28, and to this very promising new Federal legislation measure.

That concludes what I hope we can agree has been a report that was at once brief and to the point.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. •

NATIONAL PAYROLL WEEK

• Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge the efforts of thousands of hard-working Americans who are members of the American Payroll Association. As you may know, this week, September 13 through 17, has been designated National Payroll Week, a time to take note of the efforts of our nation's payroll professionals.

Payroll taxes are the largest source of revenue for the federal government. While I for one would like to see these rates reduced, we should not let this detract from the hard work which payroll professionals put into their efforts. Payroll work is also a vital component of facilitating child-support payments. It is my understanding that more than 60 percent of all child support collections are derived from payroll deductions for this purpose.

While many of us here often make note of Americans working in the factories, in our retail outlets, and on our

farms, many times we overlook those who monitor the systems that ensure Americans receive their wages quickly and efficiently. I encourage my colleagues to also acknowledge our nation's payroll professionals during this week. •

CONDEMNATION OF PREJUDICE AGAINST INDIVIDUALS OF ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLAND ANCESTRY

• Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I am a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 58, a sense of Congress resolution relating to the recent allegations of espionage and illegal campaign financing that have brought into question the loyalty of individuals of Asian Pacific ancestry.

Mr. President, I am concerned about the negative impact that the recent investigation of Wen Ho Lee, a scientist at Los Alamos, New Mexico, is having on the Chinese American community. Certain recent media coverage of this investigation has chosen to portray Chinese and Chinese Americans with a broad brush, using loaded words that are offensive and implying that certain people should be treated with suspicion solely because of their ethnicity or national origin. Cartoons exaggerate and poke fun at physical appearances of individuals by depicting slanted eyes and buck teeth.

In one particularly offensive example, a recent editorial in a Santa Fe, New Mexico, newspaper made fun of Asian accents, unnecessarily referred to the "Fu Manchu" character, and tried to link the allegations of stolen nuclear secrets and the bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade.

Mr. President, Asian Pacific Americans are an important part of our body politic. They have made significant contributions to politics, business, industry, science, sports, education, and the arts. Men and women like the late Senator Sparky Matsunaga, Olympic Champion Kristi Yamaguchi, Architect I.M. Pei, Maxine Hong Kingston, Ellison Onizuka, and many others have enhanced and invigorated the life of this nation.

Asian Americans have played a fundamental part in making this country what it is today. Asian immigrants helped build the great transcontinental railroads of the 19th century. They labored on the sugar plantations of Hawaii, on the vegetable and fruit farms of California, and in the gold mines of the West. They were at the forefront of the agricultural labor movement, especially in the sugarcane and grape fields, and were instrumental in developing the fishing and salmon canning industries of the Pacific Northwest. They were importers, merchants, grocers, clerks, tailors, and gardeners. They manned the assembly lines during America's Industrial Revolution. They opened laundries, restaurants, and vegetable markets. They also served our nation in war: the famed all-Nisei 100th/442nd combat team of World War II remains the most decorated unit in U.S. military history.

Despite their contributions, Asian immigrants and Asian Pacific Americans suffered social prejudice and economic, political, and institutional discrimination. They were excluded from churches, barber shops, and restaurants. They were forced to sit in the balconies of movie theaters and the back seats of buses. They attended segregated schools. They were even denied burial in white cemeteries; in one instance, a decorated Asian American soldier killed in action was refused burial in his hometown cemetery. Rather than receive equal treatment, Asians and Pacific Islanders were historically paid lower wages than their white counterparts, relegated to menial jobs, or forced to turn to businesses and industries in which competition with whites was minimized.

For more than 160 years, Asians were also denied citizenship by a law that prevented them from naturalizing, a law that remained in effect until 1952. Without citizenship, Asians could not vote, and thus could not seek remedies through the Tammany Halls or other political organizations like other immigrant groups. The legacy of this injustice is seen today in the relative lack of political influence and representation of Asian Americans at every level and in every branch of government.

Mr. President, as a member of the Energy Committee and governmental Affairs Committee, where I am Ranking Member on the International Security, Proliferation, and Federal Services Subcommittee, I have expressed my concern about the unfair and unwarranted negative impact this issue is having on the image of the Asian Pacific American community. We need to move quickly beyond the search for ethnic scapegoats. This is the lesson of the recent concern over national security leaks. We should not overreact.

Mr. President, I applaud President Clinton's executive order of June 7, 1999, to establish a commission to study and suggest ways to improve the quality of life for Asian Pacific Americans. President Clinton rightfully stated that many Asian Pacific Americans are underserved by federal programs. The order outlines steps to ensure that federal programs, especially those that gather data on health and social services, are responsible to Asian Pacific Americans needs. It's a step in the right direction and it may focus on some of the more compelling issues involving Asian Pacific Americans in terms of improving the quality of their lives.●

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM B. GREENWOOD ON COMPLETION OF TERM AS PRESIDENT OF INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENTS OF AMERICA

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I rise today to commend a fellow Kentuckian and my friend, William B. Greenwood of Central City, who is completing his

highly successful term as president of the Independent Insurance Agents of America (IIAA)—the nation's largest insurance association—later this month in Las Vegas. Bill is president of C.A. Lawton Insurance, an independent insurance agency in Central City.

Bill's career as an independent insurance agent has been marked with outstanding contribution and dedication to his clients, community, IIAA, the Independent Insurance Agents of Kentucky, and his independent agent colleagues.

Bill began his service to his industry colleagues with the Independent Insurance Agents of Kentucky. He served as president of the State association in 1983, and was named its Insuror of the Year in 1986. He was Kentucky's representative to IIAA's national board of State directors for seven years beginning in 1985.

Bill also was very active with IIAA activities before moving into the organization's leadership structure. He was chairman of its communications and membership committees as well as chairman of the future one communications task force. Bill was elected to IIAA's executive committee in 1992 as an at-large member. Since that time, he has exhibited a spirit of tireless dedication to and genuine concern for his 300,000 independent agent colleagues around the country.

In addition to his outstanding work with IIAA and the Kentucky association, Bill also is involved with numerous Central City-area community activities. He is a past recipient of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the Year Award. He is on the boards of directors for the Leadership Kentucky Foundation, Kentucky Audubon Council Boy Scouts of America, and Central City, Main Street, Inc.

In the past, Bill served on the board of directors of the Muhlenberg Community Theatre, the Everly Brothers Foundation, and the Central City Main Street and Redy Downtown Development Corporation. Also, Bill is past president of the Central City Chamber of Commerce and the Central City Lions Club.

I laud Bill for leading the Independent Insurance Agents of America with distinction and strong leadership over the past year. Even though Bill will step aside as IIAA president soon, he will remain actively involved with the association because he is a concerned leader and wants to continue helping his colleagues build for the new millennium.●

THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND VENTURE CAPITAL ACT OF 1999

• Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I speak today in support of the Community Development and Venture Capital Act of 1999 introduced today by Senator KERRY. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this measure which, if enacted, will make a real difference in

the growth of small business, and the creation of quality jobs, in underdeveloped areas around the country.

I think the critical issue in communities which experience enduring poverty is job creation through promotion of business opportunities and entrepreneurship. This has been my experience when I have traveled to places like rural Appalachia, inner city Minneapolis or Chicago or the Iron Range in Minnesota. I also believe that an area can be made as pro-business as possible through tax policies and zoning ordinances, but at some point businesses simply need capital so that they can grow and create good jobs.

No business can grow without infusions of capital for equipment purchases, to conduct research, to expand capacity, or to build infrastructure. At some point all successful ventures outgrow incubation in the entrepreneur's garage or living room; additional staff must be hired and the complexity of managing supply and demand increases. Yet it is clear that throughout the country there are small business owners who are being starved of the capital necessary to take this step. They have viable businesses or ideas for businesses but cannot fully transform their aspirations into reality because of this financial roadblock.

Businesses can secure capital through loans, but there is a limit to the amount of debt that a business can safely carry and lenders are wary of businesses with low equity. Equity investment also differs from lending in that the equity investor acquires an ownership stake in the business. The fortunes of the investor rise and fall with the success of the venture. This means making an equity investment is riskier than making a loan, and it also means that the investor has a greater vested interest in promoting healthy growth. Investment of equity capital into an enterprise has a multiplier effect in that it allows the business owner to access necessary credit.

Traditional venture capital firms are not meeting the need for equity capital in disadvantaged communities. In addition, the Small Business Administration's Small Business Investment Companies program—with a few exceptions—has not reached into the most economically backward communities in the country. Such investments are risky in the best of circumstances, but they can and do succeed with adequate time and attention. These communities need patient investors who are willing to work closely with small business owners to realize a financial return over the long term. Often, the investments needed are smaller than those made by traditional sources.

There is no question that the lack of access to equity capital in disadvantaged areas around the country is a prime reason why those communities have been left behind by the historic economic expansion that the rest of the nation has enjoyed. But there are success stories in many states which I