

to Native Americans in my state of New Mexico. The legislation is simple and corrects deficiencies in current laws and regulations that apply to these two Pueblos. The two bills will further the case for self-sufficiency and for tribal self determination for our New Mexico Native Americans.

The Acoma Pueblo comprises some 380,000 acres located 56 miles of Albuquerque. The first bill deals with the sub-surface mineral rights of Acoma Pueblo trust lands. The Acoma Pueblo, like many Native American tribes, has sought to restore its reservation to its historic boundaries. Over 6,000 Pueblo members live on and around the Acoma Mesa which was originally referred to as the "Sky City". It is thought to be one of the oldest continually inhabited sites in the United States, first report by Fray Marcos de Niza in 1539 and then visited by Francisco de Coronado's army in 1540.

In 1988, the Pueblo purchased a large ranch that adjoined their reservation and subsequently the Secretary of the Interior took over 100,000 surface acres into trust and it became a permanent part of the reservation. This additional land is necessary as the Pueblo grows and prospers because of new economic activity.

When they purchased the ranch the sub-surface mineral rights were not part of land transfer. This is not an uncommon occurrence in the West where only the surface estate is sold from owner to owner. Much of this practice goes back to the settling of the West when the federal government awarded checkerboard pieces of land to railroads in return for their building lines across the nation. The railroads then sold the land off to finance their companies activities but kept the subsurface mineral estate.

Under this legislation, the current owner of the subsurface estate would enter into an exchange agreement with the Bureau of Land management for equal valued federal lands and rights. In return the BLM would receive the subsurface rights which would be placed into trust by the Secretary of the Interior for the benefit of the Acoma Pueblo unifying both the surface and subsurface estate.

This legislation amounts to a win-win for all of the stakeholders involved. First, the Acoma Pueblo does not have to worry about the subsurface mineral rights holder attempting to exercise its rights. This legislation gives them the total control over their lands that they need and deserve under the trust responsibility of the United States. The current third party owner of the subsurface mineral estate is made whole without having to exercise their rights and being placed in a conflict with the Acoma Pueblo. And finally the public wins because federal lands will go into the private sector and back on the tax rolls. I hope the Congress will act quickly on this important legislation.

The second bill amounts to a technical change in previous legislation passed during the 101st Congress. The Zuni Land Conservation Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-486) was signed into law on October 31, 1990. It was passed as part of efforts to settle a lands claim case that had kept land ownership issues in limbo for years in western New Mexico. Basically the bill settled compensation issues for lands taken without authority that were before the Court of Claims.

The Zuni Pueblo, with a reservation population estimated at over 9,000, is comprised of

over 460,000 acres of land located on the western border of New Mexico almost due west of Albuquerque. Sheep production is the top agriculture activity on the reservation. Crafts produced on the reservation are known worldwide, especially their famous jewelry, fetishes, pottery, paintings and beadwork. Most of the tribal businesses are centered around the arts and crafts industry.

The legislation authorized a payment of \$25 million into a Zuni Indian Resource Development Trust Fund. The Trustee of the fund was the Secretary of the Interior. Expenditures from the fund were limited both in the amount and also what the money could be spent for. The money, including the interest on investments, was to be used to carry out a resource development plan put together by the Tribe and by the Secretary of the Interior. Some of the money was used to purchase additional land for the reservation. The legislation I introduce today will allow the Zuni's to invest their funds rather than having the BIA do it. Provisions dealing with what the funds can be used for will remain unchanged. I hope the Congress will move quickly on this legislation also.

Both bills are relatively non-controversial. Both will lead to greater self governance by the respective pueblos and I would hope that the Clinton Administration will support these efforts to assist Native Americans in controlling their own future.

HONORING THE LATE CHARLES "CHARLIE" ISAMI TANIMURA

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise on this occasion to honor Mr. Charles "Charlie" Isami Tanimura who contributed not only to the city of Salinas, but also in the agricultural community as co-founder of Tanimura & Antle, one of the nation's largest independent produce growers. Charles Tanimura will be remembered greatly for his spirit of true innovation. On February 27, 2000, Mr. Charles Tanimura passed away at the age of 83.

Mr. Tanimura was born December 15, 1916 in San Juan Bautista, where his father had settled from Japan. One of 12 brothers and sisters, Charles saw farming as the family livelihood and later took on the farming operation with four of his brothers in the 1930's. As World War II began, many of the Tanimura family members found themselves being sent to internment camps. However, Charles had enlisted in the Army prior to the bombing. During the family's internment, the Tanimuras lost the leases on the land they were farming, however shortly after they were able to rebuild their operation to include thousands of prime agricultural acres.

Friends described Tanimura as an, "unsuspecting individual who preferred to stay out of the limelight". Known as a member of the Japanese-American Citizens League, Tanimura will be remembered as generous in helping with the Buddhist Temple's annual festival in July.

As noted by many individuals in the community, "Just to be a Tanimura is to be famous." To be a Tanimura is to have left a valued contribution on society. Charles Tanimura exem-

plifies the spirit of resilience in his fight to persevere in the face of great obstacles. Mr. Speaker, it is with these words that I ask you and our colleagues to join me in honoring this example of a man. Mr. Charles Tanimura is survived by his loving wife, Fumiko; his three children, Gary Tanimura, Keith Tanimura and Bonnie Yokomata; his four brothers, George, John, Tom and Robert Tanimura; three sisters, Alice Sato, Betty Furushko and Rose Yuki; two grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

CONGRESS NEEDS TO ARM TAIWAN

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the record the attached editorial written by Phil Kent and published in The Augusta Chronicle.

[From the Augusta Chronicle, June 12, 2000]

CONGRESS NEEDS TO ARM TAIWAN

(By Phil Kent)

The story broke in the Taiwan press on May 25: The Communist Chinese military started live-fire artillery exercises for six days near the closest outpost maintained by the free Chinese, who recently inaugurated a new president who adheres to pro-free enterprise, anti-Communist policies.

What does the Clinton administration do? Next to nothing.

That same week, an unnamed top Clinton official with the National Security Council even said it was a mistake for the United States to issue a visa to new President Chen Chui-bian's predecessor so he could attend a reunion at his U.S. alma mater. Just before that insulting declaration, the Clinton administration decided against selling four Aegis destroyers to Taiwan. (It did, however, approve the sale of long-ranger radar designed to detect missile launches.)

Yet if the anti-Communist island can't defend itself, radar doesn't do much except perhaps tell them to duck. What Taiwan's tough-but-small military needs are missiles of their own to scare off the mainland from any attack.

According to a recent classified Pentagon report leaked to the Washington Post, Taiwan is far more vulnerable to invasion from the Communist Beijing government than was previously known. The island's military technology has fallen behind Beijing's, particularly in the area of defending itself from air and missile attack.

Since the May 20 inauguration of Chen, and his appointment of a hard-line anti-Communist from the previous ruling party as defense minister, the Red Chinese military has been rattling its saber even more frequently. Yet President Clinton is still reluctant to sell military equipment to the island.

This reluctance, and the administration's pro-Beijing slant, is thankfully drawing the attention of Congress, which is naturally concerned that the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act is being ignored. That legislation requires that all arms-sale decisions must be based solely on Taiwan's defense needs.

In light of the Pentagon report and current Chinese military provocations, those defense needs have never been greater.

A bipartisan block in Congress has drawn up new legislation, the Taiwan Security Enhancement Act. Among other things, this

legislation would order the executive branch to explain whenever it rejects, postpones or changes a military request from Taiwan.

This bill was introduced because key lawmakers of both parties value the island as a loyal ally and key trading partner. Taiwan deserves entry into the World Trade Organization, as does Mainland China, especially since Taiwan is free, open, and democratic.

How can Americans who live in a country that is the self-proclaimed "leader of the free world" ever abandon a free country to dictatorship? At the very least, the people's representatives in the legislative branch of our government can hold the executive branch to account when it comes to defensive armaments in Taiwan.

SENATOR PAT THOMAS—DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN LEGISLATOR, GREAT FLORIDIAN, AND GREAT AMERICAN

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Members of the House, today I pay tribute to Florida State Senator Pat Thomas. Pat was a genial, small-town, citizen legislator with a big heart and a folksy touch, who served in the Florida Legislature for nearly 30 years. Sen. Thomas passed away yesterday, after a bout with cancer. He was 66.

Senator Thomas leaves a legacy of integrity, loyalty, and good cheer. He was emblematic of an era when big-hearted, back-slapping country politicians were the rule rather than the exception.

He was remembered by his colleague State Representative Al Lawson as an "uncommon man who had the common touch. As a hero to his community, because he grew up there poor and knew what it was to have opportunity through education."

Pat began his political career as a teenager in the Future Farmers of America and was active in student politics at the University of Florida. Thomas became a power in the Florida Democratic Party during the heyday of the "Pork Chop Gang" of the early 1960s, and served as Party Chair from 1966–70. When I served in the Florida Senate from 1982–1992, he was still a powerful force to be reckoned with. He served as Senate President in 1992 and again in 1994.

Senator Thomas was equally at home in the tobacco barns of his native Gadsden County and fish fries of the campaign trail as he was in the back rooms and power suites of the Florida Capitol.

But that is only part of Pat Thomas' legacy. He genuinely loved people and delivered the kinds of basic services that they needed—roads, sewers, and education. He kept a black and white photograph in his office showing two small children in his district getting water from a creek. He once used that photo during debate to persuade the Legislature to extend water service to parts of Gadsden County that had not been served. That's the kind of person he was, always looking out for the "little people."

History books will likely remember him for his major legislative accomplishments, what some derisively refer to as "turkeys or pork." But, his major strength as a legislator was

finessing a good deal, so it's no surprise that he himself considered local projects such as water towers and schools to be among his top achievements.

Pat Thomas worked with great diligence in serving the best interests of his constituents and the people of Florida. But, above all, he was a fine gentleman whose good nature and passion for life and public service endeared him to so many.

Mr. Speaker, few have achieved the success that Senator Pat Thomas has known in his profession. Few have achieved such universal respect and love. He was a compassionate giant who did common things, uncommonly well.

Mary McLeod Bethune was fond of saying, "service is the price that we pay for the space that God lets us occupy." Mr. Speaker, we have lost not only a great public servant, but a great Floridian and, indeed, a great American.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HAINES FALLS FREE LIBRARY

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a small group of citizens dedicated to the maintenance of an important public institution in the Twenty-Second Congressional District of New York. One hundred years ago, a small group of residents from Haines Falls and Twilight Park began an effort to establish a small public library to serve their residents. Their mission was simple: "to maintain a circulating library and reading room for public use of residents of Haines Falls and vicinity."

Much has changed since this original mission statement was written. The library has seen significant growth over the years. The original gift to two hundred books, by Stephen P. Sturges in 1900, has grown to include over 10,000. A book mobile has come and gone and the library is now filling the growing demand for new technology by offering fax and internet capability.

The Haines Falls Free Library is truly a treasure. It offers a unique collection of out-of-print books, photographs and slides of the area. The numerous local family genealogies alone are priceless.

Mr. Speaker, while change is inevitable in today's fast paced society, one thing has remained exactly the same as it was one-hundred years ago—the local commitment to the Haines Falls Free Library. The dedication of Haines Falls residents to maintaining and expanding a fully functional library is extraordinary.

Indeed Mr. Speaker, the commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the Haines Falls Library is truly a cause for celebration. From its inception, this endeavor to provide a public service available to all citizens, symbolizes the altruistic spirit that has built our great nation.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating this very special occasion. May the next hundred years allow the residents of Haines Falls and Twilight Park to continue the

friendly and specialized services that the Haines Falls Free Library has offered for the last century.

WORLDCom-SPRINT MERGER

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to address a couple of very recent news articles about the WorldCom-Sprint merger. I have been a supporter of the proposed merger since its announcement in October of 1999. My reasons for supporting the merger are the same now as they were then. When we wrote and passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996, we predicted many things, among them some consolidation in the telecom market. One of the major reasons for this urge to merge is to accommodate positive changes in the industry both domestically and internationally. These changes would be the direct result of greater competition and the resulting growth in the telecommunications sector.

The distinctions between local and long distance have begun to blur and almost disappear. Telecommunications companies, in order to survive and compete on a global basis need to have global size and reach. The fastest and most practical way to achieve such economies of scale is through strategic unions. The new world telecom company must provide services that will go beyond local or long distance. They must offer a wide range of services including at the very least local, long distance, high-speed Internet access, and wireless.

I believe the proposed WorldCom-Sprint merger is a textbook example of what we in Congress envisioned when we passed the Telecom Act. The combination of these two corporations would create an American company suited to compete with anybody and everybody on a global basis for the foreseeable future. Its size and offerings will create jobs, encourage technological innovations, and promote competitive pricing for consumers.

Given that, you can see why I am so concerned about the recent articles I've read in the Washington Post and the Wall Street Journal stating that the European Commission is on the verge of recommending against approving the merger. While I'm not privy to the technical reviews conducted by the E.C. and don't know why they may have reached their reported conclusion, I find it disconcerting to see actual quotes attributed to "senior EU officials" before the member states have voted. I also find it troublesome to read in the papers statements made by U.S. Department of Justice officials stating that they are inclined to recommend that the merger be blocked. Does the merger review process encourage the publication of intentions, real or imagined, which could have an effect on the final outcome of the review? I doubt that it does, and I am confident that it is not productive to do so. I believe it is important that the all merger review panels have an established and fair process to which they strictly adhere. Perhaps if that can still be done, they will find that this merger brings a great deal to the economy, the telecom industry and the consumers it seeks to serve.