

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
FOR OLIVE CROPS**HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation today which will allow the U.S. Department of Agriculture to continue publishing information on the American olive industry. The industry, composed of 1,000 olive growers and the olive processors in California, heartily supports this proposal and urges that we act upon it as soon as possible.

Under federal law, the Department has allowed publication of information on olive crops and inventory for years. These statistics have given farmers, processors and food buyers critical information about the state of the industry. The statistics cover crop outlook, including expected production, inventories and carryover stocks, sales and other matters.

These statistics are important for a variety of reasons. Farmers use them when they bargain collectively with processors to sell a crop. The crop information also helps set assessments growers will pay to support research, marketing and inspection in the industry. The inventory and quality information made available to potential buyers helps create a more efficient market for sales of processed olives.

These figures are important because olives are an "alternate bearing" crop—every other year, crop size varies substantially. In some years, the crop will be double what was produced in the year before. When you consider that olive farmers may see crops vary by as much as 100,000 tons, you can see why farmers, processors and food companies would want accurate information about stocks and future supplies.

We need to pass legislation to allow the statistics to be issued because California has seen the number of olive processors fall during the past decade. With only two processors left in the foreseeable future, the Department of Agriculture is unable to publish information as the law is written today. My bill will give the Department the authority to continue releasing information on the industry.

The bill I am introducing offers a simple, targeted solution to the industry's trouble. The bill will permit the Department to release information if both the remaining processors (called "handlers" under the law) agree in writing that statistics on their operations may be released. The amendment would apply only to olives.

The bill has the strong support of California and national industry groups. It has been endorsed by the Olive Growers Council, The California Olive Association, the California League of Food Processors and the National Food Processors Association. They hope as do I that Congress will complete action on the bill in the near future.

THE MOST MEMORABLE FLIGHT
OF 1999**HON. BOB BARR**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in March 1999 a flight crew from Lockheed Mar-

tin's Marietta, Georgia plant flew a C-130J into the record books. Aboard this flight was Lyle Schaefer, then Chief Experimental Test Pilot for Lockheed Martin, Pilot Arlen Rens, and Loadmaster Tim Gomez. They flew an unmodified C-130J with a payload of 22,500 pounds, and set 16 new world aviation records. Included in these was a record set in the Short Takeoff and Landing Category, where the crew took off and landed in less than the required 1,640 feet. For this and the many other records, the National Aeronautic Association dubbed this the "Most Memorable Flight of 1999," during a March 27, 2000 ceremony at the National Air and Space Museum.

The C-130J currently holds 54 world records and is the indisputable world leader in air-lifting capabilities. This is due in no small part to the men and women who build this fantastic aircraft, but especially the crew from Marietta, Georgia who piloted the "Most Memorable Flight of 1999."

TRIBUTE TO JUDY WHITBRED

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, a woman who has performed more than 30 years of service to this Nation is retiring, and I feel like I am losing my right arm.

Judy Whitbred has been my Chief of Staff the entire time I have been in Congress, and I am now in my 12th year in the House.

I have relied on Judy for thousands of things, big and small, day in and day out for all these years.

She has served with great dedication to the people of the Second District of Tennessee for almost 20 years, working first for my father and then for me.

She worked for more than a decade for Congressman John Hunt of New Jersey and Congressman Bill Young of Florida before starting to work for the people of Tennessee.

I have heard Judy Whitbred described by several people as "the best on Capitol Hill." I believe this to be true.

No one could have worked for the citizens of the Second District with more kindness and compassion than Judy. I know that no one would have worked harder.

Almost every night and most weekends, she took work home. I do not know how she was ever able to do nearly as much as she did.

Perhaps more importantly than simply working hard and putting in long hours, she produced results. She got the job done.

Many projects for the Second District and many problems that were solved for individuals, and for which I sometimes received credit, were really the result of Judy's hard work.

Judy unfortunately for me is taking early retirement to be able to spend more time with her husband, Andy, and help in the family business.

Judy's retirement is a great loss for me and my constituents, but it is very well deserved. I wish her the very best in the years ahead in every way.

To sum up, Mr. Speaker, Judy Whitbred is a young woman from the old school—dedicated to the Congress and to the American people.

She is a truly great American, and this Country would be a much better place if we had more people like my friend, my boss, my pal, Judy Whitbred.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN
ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM DeMINT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. DeMINT. Mr. Speaker, during the great debates between Senator Stephen Douglas and Abraham Lincoln in 1858, Lincoln stood before thousands of hostile spectators to contest the moral issue of slavery in America. He warned of a nation that treaded upon the principles of equality and freedom, "Let us," Lincoln said, "united as one people throughout this land, until we shall once more stand up declaring that all men are created equal." His words, and dreams, renewed the heart of the nation to fulfill our promise to all people no matter their color, creed, or class.

Today, we too stand at a moment of decision. The debate on banning partial birth abortion provides us an opportunity of a lifetime—to protect the most innocent lives among us. This debate strikes at the very heart of who we are as a people—the core of our conscience and the character of our nation. It is our time, just as Lincoln answered the call of his convictions, to defend the defenseless and speak for those without voices.

What a privilege it is to make the right decision today.

Some in this House have cheapened this debate through distortions and distractions—not willing to unveil the reality that only seconds and inches separate thousands of children from life and death every year.

In Lincoln's time, our nation deemed slaves sixty-percent human. We shackled their legs and beat their backs. We disposed of them as mere chattel, auctioning them like cattle and demanded they give their life and labor for our prosperity. Are we much different today? We deem innocent babies—with kicking feet and beating hearts—less than human. We dispose of them as useless, in pretentious compassion discarding them as "unwanted."

Abortion is the civil rights issue of our time. This partial-birth abortion ban rescues our children from the slavery of choice.

I ask this body to make the right choice. Join Lincoln in the hallmarks of history as people who shall once more stand up declaring that all men are created equal. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the ban on partial birth abortions.

DESIGNATION OF APRIL 9, 2000 AS
WILLIE AND BERNICE RUCKER
DAY IN THIRTIETH CONGRES-
SIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON. Mr. Speaker, I proclaim April 9, 2000 as "Willie

and Bernice Rucker Day", in the Thirtieth Congressional District of Texas. This distinction marks the fiftieth wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Rucker.

Mr. and Mrs. Rucker grew up, met and married in New Orleans, LA. Mr. Willie Rucker retired from the United States Army in 1971 after serving over 21 years. He worked for the Regional Transportation District in Denver CO, taught ROTC for Denver Public Schools, and, upon moving to Dallas, worked for Dallas Area Rapid Transit, retiring in 1996. Mr. Rucker can attribute much of his successful career to the support of his wife. Mrs. Bernice Rucker has been a constant companion, friend and mother. Mr. and Mrs. Rucker are the parents of six wonderful children, Vernon, Rodney, Clyde, Candace, Debra, and Patrick, who have become productive members of society.

Mr. Speaker, The Ruckers are a prime example of true family values. They are a testament to the virtue of marriage and an asset to Texas. I ask the citizens of the Thirtieth Congressional District of Texas to unite with me in paying tribute to these great Americans. Please join me in celebrating "Willie and Bernice Rucker Day" on April 9, 2000.

RECOGNIZING THE WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS CHAMPION LUDLOW HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SOCCER TEAM

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the accomplishments of the 1999 Ludlow High School girls soccer team. The Ludlow girls soccer team won the program's third Western Massachusetts title last year by defeating defending State champion Cathedral High School. The Lions defeated Central Massachusetts Champion Shrewsbury en route to the State final match, where they fell just short of their goal.

The Ludlow girls soccer team finished the year with a record 19–2–1. Ludlow was able to dominate a tough league in Western Massachusetts in 1999 by employing a highly skillful style of play. A team that was tough when it needed to be, Ludlow was capable of outclassing most of its opponents. As a result of their high class style, the Lions enjoyed the fervent support of the residents of the Town of Ludlow throughout the season.

Head Coach Jim Calheno has built a very successful program at Ludlow High School. Coach Calheno is well-respected in the teaching community and his team is duly feared. The Ludlow talent pool runs very deep, and the Lions are certain to be the team to beat in 2000. A group of talented Juniors, including All-American selection Liz Dyjak and All-New England selection Stephanie Santos, will be looking to claim the State title next season.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to recognize here the players, coaches, and managers of the 1999 Ludlow High School girls soccer team. The Seniors are: Melissa Dominique, Sandy Salvador, Angela Goncalves, Jen Crespo, Marcy Bousquet, Lynsey Calheno, Jenn Genovevo, and Leana Alves. The Juniors are: Nicole Gebbo, Lindsay Robillard, Lindsay Haluch, Kara Williamson, Sarah Davis, Liz Dyjak, Stephanie

Santos, Tina Santos, and Jessica Vital. The Sophomores are: Michele Goncalves, Lindsey Palatino, and Kristine Goncalves. The Freshmen are: Natalie Gebbo, Lauren Pereira, Beth Cochenour, Darcie Rickson, and Amy Rodrigues. The Head Coach is Jim Calheno, and he is assisted by Saul Chelo, Nuno Pereira, Melanie Pszeniczny, and Mario Monsalve. The managers are Melissa Santos and Elizabeth Barrow.

Mr. Speaker, once again, allow me to congratulate the Ludlow High School girls soccer team on a season well played. I wish them the best of luck for the 2000 season.

TRIBUTE TO MONSIGNOR SCANLAN HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. JOSE E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to and congratulate the Monsignor Scanlan High School Girls Varsity Basketball Team for a very successful year. This group of 13 young women finished their season with a record of 29 wins and 1 loss.

With this record they have demonstrated that they have the ability and the desire to be assets and role models in our community. We are proud of their accomplishments and I hope they will continue to be successful both on and off the basketball court. They are terrific examples for young women throughout our communities.

Again, I congratulate them and wish them the best of luck in their future enterprises.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to and congratulating Monsignor Scanlan High School Girls Varsity Basketball Team.

HONORING DEYOSSIE HARRIS

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Deyossie Harris, Vice President of the Galveston County AFL–CIO and former Galveston County Democratic Precinct Chairperson. I unfortunately will not be able to be with him when he receives the award this Saturday, but I want to congratulate him as he is recognized by the AFL–CIO for his many year of loyal service.

Deyossie is not only a great Galvestonian, but is a great American. He meets the description of a leader, and has been involved with every aspect of the community. Deyossie has contributed so much to the community of Galveston and the people who live here. He believes in Galveston and its residents, and has unfalteringly placed his time and energy into their well being.

He is a champion of the American worker, and has truly lived up to the mission of the AFL–CIO: to improve the lives of working families by bringing economic justice to the workplace and social justice to the nation. As an officer with the NAACP, Deyossie has

unfalteringly put his energy into creating a better America for all people.

A proud veteran, Deyossie served this country during World War II and was part of the forces that invaded Italy. He continued his service as a letter carrier, and upon retirement went to the University of Houston at Clear Lake and received both his bachelors and masters degrees. After graduation he taught history at the College of the Mainland. He is truly an inspiration to all, and is an example that education is something that can touch anybody, at any age. He epitomizes the phrase "education is for a lifetime."

Deyossie is a man who has committed his life not to himself, but to the people of Southeast Texas. He is a true believer in the democratic process and the idea that every body has a voice, and fought to make sure the working family's voice was strong. As an officer of the Central Labor Council, he created a tie between the community and local workers.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to speak on behalf of Mr. Deyossie Harris and all of his accomplishments. He is a man that I look to for inspiration as I continue to work for the communities and neighborhoods of Texas. While I can not be with him when he receives his award, I am proud to recognize him now.

RECOGNIZING BRADLEY FAY'S CRUSADE TO CURE DIABETES

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Mr. Bradley Fay, a nine year old hero, who inspires residents from my district through is tireless efforts in support of increased funding for diabetes research. Bradley, from Chatham, New York, was diagnosed with Type I Diabetes four and one half years ago. Since that time, Bradley has led a local crusade to educate citizens about the disease and raise additional funds to find a cure for diabetes.

Bradley fights to live a normal life in his upstate New York home—as normal as possible around the daily ritual of finger prick blood sugar tests, five insulin shots, and a strictly regimented diet. He actively participates in soccer, swimming, track, and the Boy Scouts. He also sings and plays the drums and bass.

Bradley recently visited my Washington, DC office in his role as Diabetes Ambassador for the American Diabetes Association. He won the trip by collecting 2,500 signatures on a petition in support of finding a cure for the disease. Bradley spent countless hours speaking to local citizens enroute to achieving his goal. I thank Bradley for educating the citizens of my district, as well as bringing his enthusiastic message to Capitol Hill.

Bradley's determination and desire to cure diabetes is commendable. I join Bradley in advocating a \$1 billion budget increase for diabetes research at the National Institutes of Health. Diabetes is a serious, debilitating, and deadly disease that must be cured.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the accomplishments of Bradley Fay and his Herculean efforts to increase funding for diabetes research. Also, please join me in advocating a budget increase to find a cure for this disease.