

necessary to initiate discussion, to have hearings during which all points of view can be considered, and determine what action might be appropriate.

It is in that spirit that I join my colleagues, and I look forward to working with my fellow members, the White House, state and local officials and the industry to form a fair rational approach to these complex but important issues.

FULL FUNDING FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4055, the IDEA Full Funding Act, which I'm proud to be a co-sponsor of.

This bill is a prudent investment in our children that will finally put us on track to fulfill the Federal government's share of special education. It sets a schedule to meet the 40% Federal commitment by FY 2010 by authorizing increases of \$2 billion each year to reach the level of funding we should have been providing all along.

I'm proud to have supported House Concurrent Resolution 84 last year which urged the Congress and the President to fully fund special education. But we can do more and we should, by passing this important bill.

Everyone agrees that a good education is critical to our children's future and their success, yet we are not providing the financial resources to make this possible. It's hard for local school districts to reduce class sizes, build needed schools, or hire new teachers while still providing for special education services, especially when the Federal government doesn't pay its fair share.

School districts are struggling with how to provide the best education possible for all children within tightly constrained budgets. California has over 600,000 students who receive special education and related services at a reported cost of \$3.4 billion. Without Federal assistance, local school districts are forced to use their general funds to the detriment of other programs.

In a speech I gave almost one year ago in support of House Concurrent Resolution 84, I called upon Congress to fulfill its pledge for full funding of IDEA. I'm pleased that the leadership of the House heard my call and that of my colleagues to make good on the Federal government's obligation to the school districts and our children across our country.

I thank the House leadership for bringing this important piece of legislation to the floor and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4055.

THE NATIONAL COALITION FOR ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INAUGURAL CONVENTION: MAY 1-3, 2000

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of its Inaugural Convention, The National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development should be commended for its important work.

The National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development [National CAPACD] was formed to address a significant issue. It is dedicated to meeting the housing and community development needs of the Asian Pacific American population.

For more than two decades, the founding member organizations of National CAPACD have been providing effective services to Asian Pacific Americans, immigrants, refugees, minority and impoverished populations. The formation of National CAPACD will help coordinate the diverse work of the non-profit organizations that serve the rapidly expanding Asian Pacific American (APA) population. National CAPACD's mission is to enhance the capacity and ability of community based organizations to conduct community development activities for the Asian and Pacific Islander communities.

National CAPACD seeks to accomplish this mission by: Creating an information sharing network to provide mutual support for established and emerging community development organizations, and to define advocacy issues; Establishing a presence and voice to raise awareness and impact community development policies on a local and national level; Increasing public and private resources to build community development capacity. Pursuing activities that promote unity, trust, support, mutual assistance, empowerment, and inclusion.

Through this important work, National CAPACD seeks to strengthen affordable housing development; economic development activities, such as workforce and business development; community empowerment and cultural preservation; and neighborhood revitalization.

National CAPACD will increase representation, participation, and resources in Asian Pacific American communities.

SUPPORT FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS

HON. DAVID M. MCINTOSH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. MCINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of National Charter Schools Week and the resolution which highlights the success of this important institution. National Charter Schools Week was declared to recognize the achievement of charter schools across America. It is supported by more than sixty grassroots organizations including the Indiana Charter School Association. Hundreds of schools, governors, and legislators are participating in activities to honor the involvement, dedication,

and academic success of students, parents, teachers, and administrators.

Declared "one of the most promising education innovations in recent years" by the Indianapolis Star charter schools are an essential institution in a state which wants to bring the community together for education and give students greater opportunities to succeed academically.

Charter schools are an important step in engaging "edupreneurs"—people who care deeply about education, are able to replicate successful practice because of their knowledge of how results-oriented systems work, and have the potential to bring enormous financial resources to the table for the betterment of their students' education.

Charter schools create "social capital" by greatly expanding the opportunities for entire communities—particularly parents—to become involved with the life of the school. Parents tend to be involved more in charter schools, both because they are welcomed, and in some cases required to participate, but also because people tend to develop a vested interest in situations where they have made a deliberate choice. Choice leads to ownership and responsibility.

Choice also stimulates innovation. Charter schools tend to provide smaller and more "family-like" environments which some children need to succeed. Charter schools serve diverse groups of students including those of lower income and those with disabilities. These customized environment can provide extra attention, tailored curricula, new learning innovations, and other benefits.

As I said, charter schools are essential to building a successful education system. Thirty-six states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico have passed laws authorizing charter schools. It is my hope that Indiana will be the thirty-seventh. By adopting a strong charter school law, we will ensure that no child is left behind.

For these reasons, I am an original co-sponsor of this resolution and an enthusiastic supporter of National Charter Schools Week.

IN COMMEMORATION OF HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2000

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I commend Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day, which memorializes the six million Jews murdered during World War II.

This somber anniversary is a tribute to the memory of the victims of the Holocaust, the heroism of those who fought back, and the strength of those who survived. A national holiday in Israel, Yom Hashoah is also commemorated in communities across this country.

I strongly believe that we must act on our promise to "never forget" by acting on our responsibility to teach future generations about the lessons of the Holocaust. As we prepare our children for a new century, we must instill in them the tolerance and compassion to prevent the greatest terror of the past century

from ever being repeated in the next. The legacy of the survivors of the Holocaust and of those who perished will only live on if we educate people about this history.

It was only last month that British Courts exonerated historian Deborah Lipstadt of the libel charges brought by a Holocaust denier. Although the decision reaffirmed that Holocaust denial is false history and Nazi sympathy, it is unfortunate that such attempts to distort and trivialize the Holocaust abound. The release of the Eichmann diaries as evidence used in the trial only further establishes the reality of the Holocaust and the dangers of those who seek to deny it.

Today is an opportunity to recommit ourselves to stand against anti-Semitism, discrimination, and intolerance in all forms, at home and abroad. We reflect upon the murder of 6 million innocent Jewish men, women and children, and the systematic destruction of families and vibrant communities. We reestablish our determination to confront the past, and our dedication to perpetuating the memory of those who suffered.

GREEN UP DAY

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to salute the citizens of Vermont who are celebrating the 30th anniversary of Green Up Day.

In the 1960s and 70s, Vermont was on the cutting edge in environmental sensitivity. As U.S. Senator George Aiken's remarks revealed in the May 5, 1971 CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

"Mr. President, several times recently, I have advised the Senate of things going on in Vermont which have lent and can lend encouragement and inspiration to the other States. I now have to report another event which could have far-reaching results. Last Saturday, May 1, a successful demonstration occurred in my State. This demonstration—called Green Up Day—was put on largely by our young people and extended into every community throughout the length and breadth of Vermont. About 75,000 people collected virtually every glass bottle, every metal can, every scrap of paper which had been cast onto the roadsides by careless and unthinking people. The result was that by Saturday evening, Vermont was undoubtedly the cleanest State in the Nation."

Mr. Speaker, this May Day ritual continues to be an expression in the finest American tradition. People—young, old and in between—businessmen, farmers, workers, students, families, all working together to clean up the state. Vermont's clean up, the Vermont way, continues to inspire others, and it should serve as a model for dealing with litter nationwide.

Though all other states address litter with "Adopt-A-Highway," and 21 states now designate a day for statewide cleaning, none matches Vermont's long-standing Green Up Day community tradition. I salute the citizens of Vermont for their commitment to the environment, to our state and to the tradition. Happy 30th anniversary Green Up Vermont.

A TRIBUTE TO WAYNE REED

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to Wayne Reed of Harrisburg, Illinois on his 80th birthday. Wayne's birthday was two weeks ago on April 23, 2000. He has born to Mr. and Mrs. Howard Reed in Harrisburg, and has lived there all of his life. He has three sisters and two brothers still living. Wayne and his wife Jeanne, who sadly passed away last year, raised three wonderful sons: Ray, a firefighter in Dallas, Texas; Ron, a letter carrier and ordained minister who resides in Harrisburg; and Randy, a mortician and owner of Reed Funeral Chapel in Harrisburg.

The Reed family has a long tradition of military service. Wayne is a United States Army veteran of World War Two. Two of his brothers are also veterans of the United States Army and his son Ray is a Vietnam-era veteran. His grandfather, Lewis Reed of Hardin County, Illinois was a Civil War veteran. Wayne was also a volunteer fire fighter with the Harrisburg Fire Department for over thirty years. He is a carpenter by occupation.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to encourage all of my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to congratulate Wayne Reed on a happy eightieth birthday. I do not know Wayne personally, but I have met with his son Ray, and from his biography I can tell that Wayne is a proud American and a good father to his family. I hope he enjoys his birthday and I wish him God's Speed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, due to inclement weather and the inability to arrive in Washington DC yesterday, I was unable to vote during the following rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as indicated below.

Rollcall No. 131—Yes; rollcall No. 132—Yes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, I apologize for my absence from the House of Representatives on May 2, 2000. I was unavoidably detained in Indiana for my Primary election, and unfortunately missed two recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "Aye" for both Rollcall votes 131 and 132.

LETTER CARRIERS WORK TO STAMP OUT HUNGER—A NATION-WIDE FOOD DRIVE

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, May 13, 2000, the largest one-day food drive in the country will take place. Letter carriers from across the country will be collecting non-perishable food items from their customers and the food will then be taken to local food pantries for distribution. In Milwaukee, the Hunger Task Force feeds approximately 35,000 individuals each month through a network of more than 80 food pantries.

Sponsors of this worthwhile project are the National Association of Letter Carriers, in conjunction with the United States Postal Service, the AFL-CIO, United Way of Greater Milwaukee and Hunger Task Force of Milwaukee.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, to ask that my colleagues lend their support to the letter carriers' food drives in their hometowns and districts. To my fellow residents in Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties, in order to meet the high demand for food over the summer, I ask that you consider buying a few extra canned goods and nonperishable items while doing the weekly grocery shopping. Let's make this year's food drive better than ever.

Our food pantries are counting on drives like this to help keep their shelves filled. Let's all try to do our part to stamp out hunger.

RECOGNIZING GUS McLEOD

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a courageous explorer. On Monday, April 17, Gus McLeod, a former CIA agent, successfully flew his 1939 Boeing Stearman Biplane over the North Pole. Completing this journey, he became the first person to fly over the North Pole in an open-cockpit aircraft.

Mr. McLeod undertook this expedition for the sake of adventure. He wanted to help people truly appreciate the challenges that the earliest pioneers of aviation faced. And what challenges he faced!

Leaving Montgomery County Air Park in my district on April 5, Mr. McLeod flew his 60 year old aircraft, which has most recently been used as a crop duster, through freezing cold temperatures as low as 34 degrees below zero and winds as harsh as 100 miles per hour. At 6-foot-1, and 285 pounds, he had very little mobility in the cockpit of his old Army training plane. He wore a special electric suit to keep his body warm which left a burn the size of a silver dollar on his stomach which he didn't even notice at the time. He faced "white-outs" as he flew through snowy weather in Canada. At one point during the journey, the extreme cold caused the plastic engine gaskets to burst, causing his aircraft to leak oil and forcing a delay in his journey. But circling three times at the very top of the globe made him forget the cold and left only the feeling that all the hardships and challenges he endured were worthwhile.