

State and local revenues come from sales taxes. With projections of online sales estimated to exceed \$300 billion annually by 2002, State and local governments could lose as much as \$20 billion in uncollected sales taxes under the present system.

Finally, the present system could significantly harm individual consumers. This could obviously be the case if individuals faced increasing income and property taxes or declining services as a result of the loss of sales taxes from remote sales. A separate concern is the adverse impact of the present bifurcated system on poor and minorities. According to a recent Commerce Department study, wealthy individuals are 20 times more likely to have Internet access, and Hispanics and African Americans are far less likely to have such access. This means that poor and minorities who only buy locally face a greater sales tax burden than their counterparts. Maintaining the present system will only serve to perpetuate that disparity.

Time is of the essence, and I look forward to the Judiciary Committee and the full House taking up this important issue.

INTERNET NONDISCRIMINATION ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3709) to make permanent the moratorium enacted by the Internet Tax Freedom Act as it applied to new, multiple, and discriminatory taxes on the Internet:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON. Mr. Chairman, as the Internet flourished during its infant stages and development, the importance of access and accessibility is key to America. It is my belief that the Internet should not be encumbered with burdensome taxation. However, sales through the Internet without paying taxes gets into another area, an area that could seriously effect the economy of states such as Texas. The Internet, a technology where America is the unquestioned world leader, should be allowed to develop and flourish without every state and locality burdening such commerce with taxation during its growth process.

The purpose of H.R. 3709, sponsored by my colleague, Representative COX, will extend for an additional five years the current three-year moratorium on the imposition of state and local sales taxes on Internet access, as well as any multiple or discriminatory taxes imposed on the Internet. With this legislation, Members of Congress are attempting to find a fair solution for traditional business and state and local authorities, while not stifling the growth of e-commerce. Though H.R. 3709 may be attractive, the extended five-year period may be too long. I find the amendment proposed by my colleague, Representative DELAHUNT, more appealing. His amendment will provide only a two-year extension of the moratorium on state and local taxes on the Internet. This two-year period will hopefully give us time to come up with a feasible and

fair solution to this troublesome problem for states that fund themselves through sales tax.

Let me end by acknowledging the work that each of you have and continue to do in order to ensure America's leadership position in the technological world. As Members of Congress and leaders, we must realize that ill-considered and disruptive new taxes could literally kill the initial growth stage of our most dynamic and innovative segment of our economy—the Internet. However, now is the opportune time to examine the relationship between taxes and the Internet. We must find ways that will allow the Internet to play its role as a valuable asset, while funding programs that will be beneficial for individual states, such as Texas, who rely on sales tax for the construction of its transportation systems and the education of our children.

A TRIBUTE TO PHYLLIS FULGINITI

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2000

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, "A teacher affects eternity. He can never tell where his influence stops."—Henry Adams.

Henry Adams may have been talking about a teacher like Phyllis Fulginiti. Phyllis Fulginiti has spent her life as a teacher, touching and molding students for nearly 40 years. She began as a high school graduate, when she began as a teacher in Catholic Schools as part of a special program designed to encourage young people to consider teaching as a career. Well, in at least this one instance, the program worked. After teaching in the Catholic schools for five years, Phyllis joined the Marlton School District and taught at Marlton Middle School for 33 years. She taught history, government and social studies to thousands of students between the second and the eighth grade. Along the way, she put her theories into practice by earning both a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Master of Arts degree at St. Joseph University. She did all of this while raising a daughter, Susan, and maintaining a 27 year marriage to her husband, Richard Fulginiti. Although she is about to commence a new phase of her life as a retired teacher, I would like to commend her for the work that she has done as a teacher. As I am certain that many of her students would agree, she has touched eternity, and our community, our state, and our nation, are better off because of her contribution.

GEORGE RUIZ OF CORPUS CHRISTI

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2000

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to an extraordinary patriot and citizen of South Texas, George Ruiz of Corpus Christi, whose support and promotion of the U.S. Armed Forces is unconventional, and which is a wonderful recruiting tool unto itself.

Since 1992, after the Persian Gulf War, George Ruiz began gathering up area young people to attend an exhibition he conceived,

"Dare to Dream." This exhibition includes flyovers, several Air Force planes, and booths from local law enforcement, NASA and the U.S. Border Patrol. George, a bus driver for the Calallen school district in the Corpus Christi area, does this each year out of the sheer passion he has for the military.

George knows, as I do, that if young people are introduced to an organization which demands discipline, they are far more likely to succeed in life . . . to stay in school, to stay clear of gangs, and to remain drug-free. He also knows talking alone will not get it done. The driving force behind George's philosophy is that our only limit is our imagination.

The most important thing he does is inspire young people to dream. He uses the mystery and majesty of aircraft to invoke their dreams. He uses the time he has with young people on his bus to talk about the importance of staying in school, and the possibility of the military as a career.

It is not quite enough for George to only inspire young people through an air show exhibition; this guy lives it. He plasters recruiting posters inside his bus, he volunteers weekly at Driscoll Children's Hospital, arranges visits by military personnel to area schools, and takes youngsters to area bases to see first-hand the military facilities.

Just last year, the United States Air Force showed its formal appreciation to George in the form of an award, the Air Forces Recruiting Service's most prestigious and highest form of recognition, the American Spirit Award.

While the military has always been a part of his life, surprisingly enough, George has never served in uniform. His life-long interest in the military began when he was six while his father was stationed at Naval Air Station Kingsville. George's message to young people is clear: dream what you will, then work hard to see it happen, as part of the Armed Services of the United States if possible.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the best non-military recruiter in South Texas, a rare and decent patriot, George Ruiz.

HONORING THE HON. CHEDDIE B. JAGAN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on this the 34th anniversary of the independence of Guyana, I rise to honor the memory and celebrate the achievements of the Hon. Cheddie B. Jagan, the former President of Guyana, and one of the most committed and dedicated political leaders in the Caribbean region and in the Third World community. Dr. Cheddie Jagan, like his contemporary and compatriot, Forbes Burnham, enjoyed a political career that can only be described as unique and unprecedented.

Cheddie B. Jagan was born on March 22, 1918, in the village of Port Mourant, in the County of Berbice, in the nation of Guyana. He was the son of Jagan and Bachoni, indentured plantation workers who had migrated from the state of Uttar Pradesh in India. Dr. Jagan was to retain a profound commitment to the concerns of the rural sugar workers throughout his career.

Dr. Jagan was educated at Howard University and Northwestern University in the United States and returned to Guyana in 1946 to begin a remarkable political odyssey. In 1950, he founded the People's Progressive Party and, in April 1953, he headed the first democratically elected government in Guyana's history. In 1957, and again in 1961, he became Chief Minister of the Government. In 1964, he became a leader of the Parliamentary Opposition, and in October 1992, he was elected President of Guyana. On March 6, 1997, this monumental political figure passed away at the Walter Reed hospital in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Cheddie Jagan lived in a period of profound repression during the Cold War. Regrettably, the government of the United States played a significant role in destabilizing the government of Cheddie Jagan. In 1953, it persuaded the British Government to suspend the constitution; in 1955, it helped to split the national movement; and, in 1962, it helped to provoke civil disturbances. This tribute is a small attempt to atone for this gross miscarriage of justice.

Through all these political vicissitudes, Dr. Jagan maintained a constant and unwavering commitment to the cause of the Guyana working class, to the concept of working class unity and to the principles of constitutional democracy. In spite of overwhelming odds, Cheddie Jagan, like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., ultimately believed that "truth pressed to earth will rise again" and that "the arm of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice."

IN LOVING MEMORY OF ADOLFO RIBERA

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2000

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with much sadness that I inform my colleagues of the passing of a great individual, a person who graced our world and our lives with so much love and compassion and family value.

Adolfo Ribera, the husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, passed away on May 12, 2000 in Barstow, California. He was 76 years of age. Born in Walfenburg, Colorado and raised in Ribera, New Mexico and husband of Aurelia Ribera.

He was a member of the St. Joseph's Catholic Church, a WWII Veteran in the Philippines, worked for the Santa Fe Railroad for thirty one years and a former member of the Sheet Metal Workers Union. He was an avid baseball player and known as an outstanding softball fast-pitch player. He and I were teammates and the teams we played on won many league championships. We played for the City's Softball Fast Pitch League in Barstow, California.

Adolfo lived a full and a very fulfilling life, a life graced by his wife, whom they were blessed with eight children: Ralph, Veronica, Elizabeth, Adolfo, Frances (deceased), William, Tina; and also blessed with twenty-two grand children, nine great grand children. These children brought tremendous joy and inspiration into his life.

He is survived by one brother: Eddie, and his brothers who are now deceased are: Hilario, Trinidad, Joe. Survived by four sisters:

Mary, Eloisa (daughter is Barbara married to Congressman JOE BACA), Piedad, Theresa and Frances who is now deceased.

Adolfo was and remains so much a tremendous person in our thoughts and in our memories. We appreciate so much and will long remember the many good and positive things he brought to his family and lives that he touched.

I join with Adolfo's friends and family members in honoring such a truly remarkable and outstanding person, a husband, father, grand father, great grandfather and to all those who loved him.

He was a strong person, the backbone to his family. He possessed honesty, strength, leadership and courage. He was considered a true friend in every sense of the word.

I join with all of those who loved Adolfo Ribera in extending our prayers to the family and hope that they find peace and comfort during this time of sorrow.

A Rosary will be cited at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, May 15, 2000, 7:00 p.m., 505 E. Mt. View, Barstow, California. The funeral will be at 9:00 a.m. also at the church.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES DALE WEST

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2000

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to pay tribute today to Los Angeles educator James Dale West for his more than four decades of service as a teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District. On Sunday, June 4, 2000, the Stovall Educational Uplift Foundation will honor Mr. West for his many years of dedicated service to the school children of Los Angeles. In recognition of his exemplary career, I am pleased to have this opportunity to publicly acknowledge his contributions to the school district, as well as to the Los Angeles community.

A native of Oklahoma, James Dale West graduated from Booker T. Washington High School, and attended Langston University, located in Langston, Oklahoma. He served in the United States military and after his tour of duty, entered California State Polytechnic University, where he met the woman who would become his wife, Ole Maye Daniel. The couple married in 1950, and James went on to earn two post-graduate degrees.

James Dale West began his career as an educator at Jackson High School in 1953. He remained at Jackson for fifteen years, before moving to Crenshaw High School and Manual Arts Adult School, where he still teaches today. In addition, he serves as the field representative for the Regional Occupational Program/Business Industrial School, which provides training for students at the job site. He also is president of the Association Career Education Center of Los Angeles.

Mr. West is a member of the Crenshaw United Methodist Church and is a chorister with the Crenshaw Sanctuary Choir; the Saint Mark United Methodist Sanctuary Choir; the United Methodist Men's Choir, and the Ecumenical Men's Chorus. He is also an avid traveler who has traveled to each of the fifty states, and visited forty country.

James and his lovely wife, Ole Maye, are the proud parents of three daughters: Dr. Gay

West Brown, Attorney Joy West, and Joil West. The couple also are blessed with four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to acknowledge the contributions of Los Angeles public school educator James Dale West. I ask that you join me in extending best wishes to him as he continues to impart his vast knowledge to the school children of Los Angeles.

MS. SANDRA MCGARY, PRINCIPAL,
HARMONY LELAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I recognize Ms. Sandra McGary, principal of Harmony Leland Elementary School in Mableton, Georgia.

"Ms. McBeautiful," as she is affectionately known, challenged her students to read 10,000 books. She promised to play a fiddle and sing from the roof of the school if the students could rise to the challenge. The students reciprocated by reading not just 10,000 books, but well over 19,500 books! Ms. McGary, much to the amusement of the students and faculty, fulfilled her end of the bargain, by putting on a wedding gown and playing her violin from the roof of the school.

Since her arrival at Harmony Leland, the school has seen a "[. . .] resurgence of energy, enthusiasm, and community involvement [. . .]" She is an active member of the community, serving as an Ambassador to the 1996 Atlanta Olympics. She also designed the Academics Before Athletics program at North Cobb High School. Under her leadership, the school has been the first school in the nation to be named a Leonard Bernstein School of the Arts. Every student is given a violin as well as first rate instruction.

Ms. McGary has made education and community involvement her life's endeavor. I join the Mableton community in congratulating her for her efforts and wishing her well for many years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2000

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I honor child care providers across the nation on Provider Appreciation Day.

Provider Appreciation Day, which is celebrated on the Friday before Mother's Day, was spearheaded by a group of volunteers in New Jersey in 1966 who saw the need for a day to appreciate and recognize child care providers.

The contribution that child care providers make to the quality of family life in this country is immeasurable. With the changing nature of the workforce, more mothers are working than ever before. Often times, this means that more children must be placed in child care. According to recent surveys, there are approximately 13 million children in the United States under