

County's Children's Court, and became the first woman and the first African-American to serve as a Wisconsin judge. In 1978, she ran a successful campaign for Wisconsin Secretary of State and became the first African American to be elected to a statewide, constitutional office.

The University of Wisconsin honored Judge Phillips' unparalleled contributions to our community and to Wisconsin history on May 14, 2000, by bestowing on her an honorary Doctorate of Laws. On May 28th, her friends and admirers will gather at the Community Brainstorming Conference in Milwaukee to congratulate Vel. I join them in commending Judge Vel Phillips on this latest distinction, and I celebrate her years of dedicated service to the people of Wisconsin.

AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT (NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS TREATMENT) TO PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SPEECH OF

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, greed has rolled like a bulldozer over all of the numerous logical reasons supporting the denial of a permanent trade agreement with China. The megaprofits to be realized by the corporate elite are so overwhelming that this juggernaut cannot be halted. This act will have tornado-like devastation on the employment of ordinary men and women in this nation. Workers on both sides of the world will be the victims of this agreement. Chinese laborers paid twenty five cents per hour or less will fill the bank accounts of multi-national corporations. American workers will be forced to struggle harder and work more hours as industrial and manufacturing jobs are moved to China. Only lower paying service jobs or hi-tech positions requiring a college education will be left here on our shores.

Trade agreements standing alone on the floor of the House should never be accepted in the future. We should be voting on a comprehensive bill which anticipates the consequences of this arrangement with a nation of 1.2 billion people. The legislation should cover provisions to compensate for the massive economic dislocations that will inevitably escalate over the next few years. A massive worker retraining is needed for adults who face the immediate loss of their livelihoods. We also need a thorough revamping of the nation's public school system, an institution which serves working families, to guarantee that the emerging work force will have the qualifications to fill the thousands of information technology and telecommunications vacancies.

Mr. Speaker, if this risky agreement is passed today, we must immediately develop legislation to establish Worker Technology Retraining Centers to be operated by unions and other worker organizations in all parts of the nation where a loss of jobs will take place.

We must also take advantage of the enormous 200 billion dollar surplus available this year and the anticipated two trillion dollar sur-

plus over the next ten years to revamp our public school system. To cope with the massive transformations of the future work places in America we must mandate that no less than ten percent of the surplus must be allocated to education for the next ten years.

We must vote no on this bill before us. At the same time, we must resolve not to desert our working families. Pledge now to adequately finance the world's greatest public education system.

TRIBUTE TO RAY PERRY, C.O.P.E. UNITY AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a distinguished American, a proud Californian and a great labor leader, Ray Perry, who has been chosen to receive the C.O.P.E. Unity Award at the 21st, Annual Committee on Political Education banquet.

Ray Perry has devoted more than two decades of his life in steadfast support of the San Mateo County California Central Labor Council. Since the beginning of his career as an apprentice mechanic at Alameda Naval Air Station in 1966, Ray Perry has brought his skills and energy to community activism and has become a leader of the labor community. First appointed as a Delegate to the San Mateo Central Labor Council in 1979, Ray Perry is now President of the International Association of Machinists, Local Lodge 1781, representing over 10,000 employees of United Airlines at San Francisco International Airport.

As a Delegate, he's worked tirelessly to guide and develop the COPE structure into one of the most well organized, innovative and effective political programs in San Mateo County. Because of his leadership in the campaign to gather signatures, the drive to restore CAL-OSHA was successful in preserving the toughest worker safety program in our nation.

Today, Ray Perry continues his extraordinary work. As Chairman of the U.A.L. Grievance Committee, he is currently working to strengthen the United Airlines Labor Coalition of Machinists, the Association of Flight Attendants, and the Airline Pilots Association. He is widely admired for his boundless energy and his effective work as well as his passionate crusade to improve the lives of those around him.

Ray Perry's life of leadership and community involvement is instructive to us all. His dedication to the ideals of democracy and public service stand tall. I ask my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, to join me in honoring this good man whom I'm privileged to know and call my friend. We are indeed a better community and a better country because of him.

FLOYD D. SPENCE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4205) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes:

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Chairman, the Navy resumed training on the Atlantic Fleet bombing range in Vieques after Federal Agents cleared the bombing range of protesters. Unfortunately, a very tense situation remains. Yet we in the legislature, instead of leaving in place the agreement reached by the President, the governor of Puerto Rico and the Secretaries of Defense and Navy, we tried to add fuel to the fire with a provision in H.R. 4205 that unilaterally undermined a deal where concessions were made on all sides.

I am pleased with the passage of Mr. SKELTON's amendment and celebrate our victory in striking out the deal breaking language in H.R. 4205 and reinstating our agreement with Pedro Rossello, Governor of Puerto Rico. Let us recall that the agreement reached last January is a deal where concessions were made by both sides—negotiators had worked in good faith to reconcile the vital need for training with the legitimate concerns of the people of Vieques. Mr. SKELTON's amendment leaves in place the compromise agreement for the orderly transfer of land on the Western side of Vieques, land not utilized by the Navy, to Puerto Rico. I urge the continuation of the President's deal as H.R. 4205 moves toward conference.

One thing is evident, our actions influenced the Navy's ability to continue crucial training on Vieques. We simply would have done a disservice to our sailors and their readiness if our legislative actions somehow led to more unrest in Puerto Rico. Let us not forget that the Navy has not been the best of neighbors to the American citizens of Vieques. Since the early days of World War II, the people of Vieques have been exposed to bombing raids 180 days of each year. Unfortunately, a little over a year ago, a bomb fell 2 miles off target, killing Mr. David Sanes Rodriguez, a civilian employee by the Navy and severely wounding four others. This tragic accident redefined and emboldened virtually all of Puerto Rico to demand for the safety, the security, and the well-being of the 9,311 Puerto Rico Americans who reside in Vieques.

Let me be clear on the point that the Skelton amendment is strongly supported by the Government of Puerto Rico. I have spoken with Governor Rossello. He told me that over 70 percent of the American citizens on Vieques live below the poverty level and that civilian residents reportedly suffer from a cancer rate 26 percent higher than that of Puerto Rico as a whole. Doctors also note high levels of birth defects, skin diseases, asthma and other respiratory diseases. Yet without this amendment the resources that these people need would have been jeopardized.

If you are concerned about the ability of the Navy and our sailors to be militarily ready, then you will support the continuation of the President's deal in conference because it represents the quickest way for us to resume a full spread of training activities which can include live fire exercises.

The bottom line is that we have already negotiated a deal that is supported by all sides in this debate. But without the Skelton Amendment we would have had no deal. And so whether you are coming at this debate from a military or Puerto Rican perspective you can be sure that supporting the President's deal is the right thing to do.

REMEMBERING LANCE CORPORAL
KEOKI P. SANTOS AND LANCE
CORPORAL SETH JONES

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, on April 8, 2000 nineteen U.S. Marines were killed in the Arizona desert when their MV-22 Osprey crashed during a training exercise.

Two of those Marines, Lance Corporal Keoki Santos and Lance Corporal Seth Jones, were citizens of Oregon.

Lance Corporal Santos—who was only 24 years old—was a native of Grande Ronde, a Native American confederation which I have the good fortune of representing here in Congress.

He was an outstanding Marine. Keoki was also deeply loved by his mother, Mrs. Christina Mercier.

Lance Corporal Jones, who was only 19 years old, was an equally outstanding Marine.

He too left behind grieving relatives—his mother, Ms. Michele Tytlar, lives in Portland, Oregon and his father, Mr. Daniel Jones, lives in Bend, Oregon.

Mr. Speaker, this Monday is Memorial Day. Most, if not every Member of Congress, will return home to participate in official remembrance ceremonies.

Yesterday, three flags were flown over the Capitol of the United States commemorating the bravery of Lance Corporal Santos and Lance Corporal Jones.

This Memorial Day, I will present these flags to the families of these two Marines at Willamette National Cemetery.

I will also read aloud and present each family a letter from the Commandant of the Marine Corps, General James L. Jones.

This letter shares the Commandant's thoughts on the service and loss of not just these men, but all nineteen of the Marines killed in this tragic accident.

We owe an enormous debt to every American soldier, sailor, flyer, and Marine.

As we all return home this weekend to observe Memorial Day, we must remember those who served our Nation in uniform and now lie in eternal rest.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR INCREASED APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE INS OMAHA DISTRICT OFFICE

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member would commend to his colleagues the following editorial from the May 12, 2000, edition of the Omaha World-Herald.

As the editorial correctly notes, the Omaha District Office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), which serves Nebraska and Iowa, has experienced a dramatic increase in demand for the services it provides. Despite the on-going efforts of the Nebraska and Iowa Congressional Delegations, on behalf of their constituents, to bring attention to this untenable situation and also to the lack of resources committed to the enforcement of immigration laws in this country's interior states, INS officials at the Federal and regional levels remain unresponsive. This Member and several of his colleagues from Nebraska and Iowa feel that the problems must now be addressed through the appropriations process.

This Member hopes that his colleagues in the House of Representatives will favorably review the requests outlined in the editorial and that they will increase assistance to INS operations not only in Nebraska and Iowa but in this country's interior region as a whole.

[From the Omaha World-Herald, May 12, 2000]

SHOW THEM THE MONEY

The figures are as solid as they are daunting: The Omaha office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service has a backlog of more than 5,000 cases. Over the last five years, it has seen a 400 percent increase in the number of documents processed. Workloads like that can't be handled with smoke and mirrors. Warm bodies must be in place, and that place needs to be safe and efficient. Some members of Congress clearly understand the problem, and they are commendably committed to solving it.

Last week the entire Nebraska congressional delegation, joined by Rep. Jim Leach of Iowa, wrote to colleagues whose committees oversee spending for the INS. The request was for them to earmark enough money (about \$119,000 yearly) to add two immigration information officers and two clerical positions to the local office.

This request for a direct appropriation wouldn't have been necessary if Mark Reed, director of the INS Central Region, had responded to these officials' 1999 request to flesh out the office's ability to respond to public needs. It's hard to fathom why he didn't.

Now, Nebraska's three House members have approached the chair of the appropriate subcommittee about getting a one-time injection of \$2 million to relocate the Omaha INS branch to new quarters, possibly near Eppley Airfield.

If the lawmakers are successful in these efforts, that will address the local agency's two biggest problems: a personnel shortage and an inadequate physical plant. It's about time something was done. The modern-day trend toward more and more newcomers argues that from an operational standpoint, things are likely to get worse before they get better.

For years, the local INS has operated piecemeal out of four buildings, the main one being at 3736 South 132nd St. Until last fall, clients had to wait outside in all kinds of weather. That was addressed when the local INS officials leased a 2,400-square-foot waiting area, but even that was a stopgap measure. Getting the 65,000-square-foot building envisioned by the local officials and community activists, along with an adequate number of people to staff it, would be the right thing to do.

What the lawmakers are attempting amounts to a fiscal end-run, asking for improvements the INS should already have requested on its own. There's no telling it will work, but let's hope so. Certainly, the intentions are honorable. The INS overload here has gone beyond embarrassing and is edging toward intolerable.

IT'S TIME THAT CONGRESS LOOK INTO THE FEDERALIZATION OF CRIMES

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, its high time that Congress takes a serious look at the federalization of crimes in the United States. The State and Federal Courts together comprise an intertwined system for the administration of justice in the United States. The two courts systems have played different but equally significant roles in the Federal system. However, the State courts have served as the primary tribunals for trials of criminal law cases.

The Federal Courts have a more limited jurisdiction than the State Courts with respect to criminal matters because of the fundamental constitutional principle that the Federal government is a government of delegated power in which the residual power remains with the States. In criminal matters, the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts should complement, not supplant, that of the State Courts.

The 1999 Year-End Report on the Federal Judiciary shows how its caseload has grown:

One hundred years ago, there were 108 authorized federal judgeships in the federal judiciary, consisting of 71 district judgeships, 28 appellate judgeships, and 9 Supreme Court Justices. Today, there are 852—including 655 district judgeships, 179 appellate judgeships and 9 Supreme Court Justices. In 1900, 13,605 cases were filed in federal district courts, and 1,093 in courts of appeals. This past year, over 320,194 cases were filed in federal district courts, over 546,000 in courts of appeals, and over 1,300,000 filings were made in bankruptcy courts alone.

It is apparent that some growth of the federal court system should occur over time due to increases in population. But what also has grown substantially is the scope of federal jurisdiction. Federalization of the states' criminal codes is something that politicians, especially here at the federal level, cannot seem to help but engage in from time to time. It has been over time, in response to criminal concerns nationwide, that Congress has again and again federalized crimes in the name of fighting crime and protecting the nation's populace. But, is the federalization of crime really an antidote for our nation's crime problems? Is it really proper to federalize crime so politicians can "prove" their effectiveness? These are important questions that must be asked. We all