

aspect of the bill is the development of a nationwide public education campaign informing families of the health risks associated with chronic obesity that provides information on incorporating good eating and regular physical activity into daily living. Lastly, the bill provides resources for health care provider education and training on evaluation and treatment practices for obese children or children at risk of becoming obese.

Overall, this bill has many substantial provisions that will go a long way in improving the health and well-being of our children. This legislation not only expands the base of pediatric medical research currently ongoing, it also includes important enhancements in maternal and prenatal health as well as several other initiatives that will greatly enhance access to services to children with chronic and debilitating diseases.

I am pleased to join my colleagues today on introducing this important legislation, and I look forward to working to pass the bill through the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee and the full Senate this year.

Thank you, Mr. President.

PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today in support of S. 74, The Paycheck Fairness Act. Over 30 years ago, President John Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act into law. At that time women were making only 61 cents for every dollar that was earned by a man. Since that time, we have made significant strides to ensure equality in the workplace, however, the disparity in wages between men and women still exists.

Today, as a nation, women earn 74 cents for every dollar that a man earns. In Montana, the difference is even more significant, women are earning only 69 cents for every dollar that is earned by a man. This translates into more than \$5,000 a year. This is unacceptable. We must have pay equity.

In our state, and the country as a whole, women work a variety of jobs, from minimum wage jobs, to women who run their own businesses. The work that women do is not adequately reflected in the wages that they earn.

In Montana we are faced with a unique situation—we are ranked almost last in per capita income. The economic boom that has created tremendous wealth on Wall Street hasn't echoed on Main Street, Montana. It is necessary to invest our resources to maintain our quality of life while creating good jobs and boosting our working families standard of living. If women were paid equitably, Montana families would greatly benefit. Family incomes would rise and, poverty rates would fall.

Mr. President, pay equity is not the entire solution to the economic development challenge. It is part of a package, we must also invest in and protect our small businesses. After all, small business is the backbone of our econ-

omy. In order to improve jobs and wages in Montana and in the nation, we must maintain our educational systems. When we make additional investments in education and job training, we can attract new businesses to our state, increase our wages, and prepare our children for the jobs of tomorrow.

If we are willing to do these things, economic growth will improve the quality of life for all men and women of Montana.

CONSERVATION

Mr. REED. Mr. President, on September 3, 1964, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act. The Land and Water Conservation Fund, or LWCF, was created by Congress to use revenues from Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas development—a non-renewable resource—to invest in America's renewable resources by creating parks and open spaces, protecting wilderness, wetlands and refuges, preserving habitat, and enhancing recreational opportunities.

The LWCF has been a remarkable conservation success story. In its 35-year history, LWCF has supported the acquisition of nearly 7 million acres of parkland and the development of more than 37,000 park and recreation projects. In my state of Rhode Island alone, LWCF has invested over \$32 million in nearly 400 state and local parks projects, including \$1.7 million for development of Roger Williams Park in Providence, \$1.1 million for Scarborough State Beach in Narragansett, and \$536,000 for rehabilitation of the famous Cliff Walk in Newport. Because State and local governments provide at least half of initial project costs and assume all operation and maintenance costs in perpetuity, each Federal dollar leverages several dollars in non-Federal contributions.

But despite the LWCF's success, funding for the program has fallen well below its authorized level of \$900 million per year, and the stateside grant program was completely zeroed out in 1995, even as offshore oil and gas revenues increased and the need for parks and open space continued to rise dramatically.

Last year, President Clinton proposed an historic Lands Legacy budget initiative to fully fund the LWCF at its authorized level. Although appropriators did not fully fund the Lands Legacy budget request, Members of Congress are clearly getting the message Americans are sending to Washington about the need for major conservation legislation to promote open space and recreation.

On May 11, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 701, the Conservation and Reinvestment Act of 2000, by a vote of 315-102. The "CARA" bill, which would automatically set aside revenues from offshore oil and gas leases to fully fund the Federal and State LWCF grant programs for the first time in decades, was the product of an extraordinary bipartisan compromise between

the House Resources Committee chairman, DON YOUNG, and the ranking member, GEORGE MILLER. The CARA bill would provide nearly \$3 billion annually until 2015 to support conservation efforts across the country.

All eyes are now on the Senate, Mr. President. Across the country, Americans in cities, suburbs, and rural areas have joined State Governors, city and town planners, wildlife program managers, hunters and fishermen, and environmental organizations to call on the Senate to act on this historic legislation.

Several bills have been introduced in the Senate:

S. 2123, introduced by Senators LANDRIEU and MURKOWSKI, is identical to H.R. 701 as reported by the House Resources Committee;

S. 2567, introduced by Senator BOXER, is identical to H.R. 701 as passed by the full House;

S. 2181, introduced by Senator BINGAMAN, would support many of the same programs as the House bill but would distribute a greater percentage of LWCF stateside funds evenly among the states, benefitting states with small populations, such as Rhode Island. In addition, it would support a number of marine research and conservation programs;

And there are several more bills, all of which seek to fully fund the LWCF and preserve our natural heritage for future generations.

Mr. President, none of these bills is perfect; there is always room for improvement. Members of the Senate may disagree, for example, on how much funding should go to coastal assistance, or federal land acquisition in western states, or endangered species protection. I, for one, believe it is critically important that we provide \$125 million or more each year for the Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery, UPARR, program, as well as full annual funding of \$150 million for the Historic Preservation Fund. We should also avoid creating incentives for new offshore oil and gas drilling.

Whatever our differences over the details of this legislation, Mr. President, the important thing is that we pass a bill this year. Any one of these conservation bills would represent an unprecedented and desperately needed investment in our natural resources and our cultural and historic heritage.

But we have to act soon. There are, at best, 33 legislative days left in the 106th Congress. Many members of this body, myself included, are disappointed that the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee has postponed several markups of the CARA bill. But we understand that Chairman MURKOWSKI and ranking member BINGAMAN are working to satisfy a wide array of regional interests on the Committee, and we continue to hope that an agreement can be reached in time for the Committee to approve the bill next week. We would urge the Majority

leadership to move the bill expeditiously to the floor following the Committee's action.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to send to the President a bill that will respond to our constituents' overwhelming calls for Congress to make a substantial and reliable investment in the conservation of our Nation's wildlife, coastal resources, and open spaces. The momentum is with us, and we should not miss this rare opportunity to create a conservation legacy for generations to come.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Thursday, July 13, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,666,740,403,750.26 (Five trillion, six hundred sixty-six billion, seven hundred forty million, four hundred three thousand, seven hundred fifty dollars and twenty-six cents).

One year ago, July 13, 1999, the Federal debt stood at \$5,625,005,000,000 (Five trillion, six hundred twenty-five billion, five million).

Five years ago, July 13, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,933,342,000,000 (Four trillion, nine hundred thirty-three billion, three hundred forty-two million).

Ten years ago, July 13, 1990, the Federal debt stood at \$3,152,611,000,000 (Three trillion, one hundred fifty-two billion, six hundred eleven million) which reflects almost a doubling of the debt—an increase of over \$2.5 trillion—\$2,514,129,403,750.26 (Two trillion, five hundred fourteen billion, one hundred twenty-nine million, four hundred three thousand, seven hundred fifty dollars and twenty-six cents) during the past 10 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HONORING JANET R. STEWART

• Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to an outstanding representative of Washington State, Jan Stewart. Ms. Stewart will soon complete her year as national president of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA). I am very pleased that one of Washington State's own was tapped as the 1999-2000 president of this prestigious national organization.

The AANA is the professional association that represents over 27,000 practicing Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs). Founded in 1931, the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists is the professional association representing CRNAs nationwide. As you may know, CRNAs administer more than 65 percent of the anesthetics given to patients each year in the United States. CRNAs provide anesthesia for all types of surgical cases and are the sole anesthesia provider in over 65 percent of rural hospitals, affording these medical facilities obstetrical, surgical and trauma stabilization

capabilities. They work in every setting in which anesthesia is delivered, including hospital surgical suites and obstetrical delivery rooms, ambulatory surgical centers, and the offices of dentists, podiatrists, and plastic surgeons.

Jan has been a nurse anesthetist since 1982. She received her extensive anesthesia training at the Mayo School in Rochester, Minnesota. She is currently self-employed with an independent practice that encompassed several States and is based in Seattle. Jan has held various leadership positions within the field of nursing generally since 1985, and within the field of nurse anesthesia served on the Finance Committee, the Strategic Planning Committee and as a member of the AANA Board of Directors representing Region 5. She was elected Vice President of AANA in 1997 and is furnishing her service as the organization's President.

In addition to her service to the AANA, I would like to thank Jan for her input as a member of my local advisory committee. I have always appreciated her advice and interest in the health issues before the Senate.

Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Ms. Jan Stewart for her notable career and outstanding achievements.●

WILLIAM J. BECKHAM, JR. MEMORIAL TRIBUTE

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I want to pay tribute to the life of one of Michigan's great civic leaders, William J. Beckham, Jr. After living a remarkably accomplished life, sadly, Bill passed away April 27th while on vacation with his beloved wife, Mattie Maynard Beckham. This week, Bill's friends and colleagues and members of the Senate and the House will come together in our Nation's capital to celebrate his memory and his legacy.

Bill loved life and all the important things in it—his family, his friends, school kids, and his African American heritage. Bill loved the difference that he was making in Michigan through his work on school reform—enhancing and expanding the quality of education for all students in the Detroit public school system. Behind Bill's dignified, gentle yet deliberate manner was a fierce determination to help improve the everyday lives of families. Multitudes were beneficiaries of his visionary efforts. He showed that character and the principles of hard work, integrity and perseverance can transform one's dreams into reality. He has left a mark of great achievement in civil rights, education, economic and political reform.

Bill had a distinguished career of public service in Michigan, which included positions as Vice Chair of the School Board for the Detroit Public Schools, Chairman of the Schools of the 21st Century Corporation, President and Trustee of The Skillman Foundation, the first Deputy Mayor of

Detroit, and President of New Detroit, Inc. His successful career in the private sector included key leadership positions at Burroughs/Unisys Corporation, Envirotech Systems Corporation in Phoenix and the Ford Motor Company.

Bill also enjoyed a long and noteworthy career in federal service from 1967 through the early 1980s. Over a period of eight years, he served Senator Phil Hart in several capacities including Policy Adviser in his Washington office for 4 years, Chief of Staff of the Senator's office in Detroit for three years, and Campaign Assistant for one year. Bill subsequently served as Staff Director to the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Equal Opportunity, chaired by Representative Gus Hawkins. Sought out by President Jimmy Carter, Bill was nominated and confirmed first as Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Treasury and later as Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

During his tenure on Capitol Hill, Bill joined with several of his staff colleagues to establish the first minority congressional staff group to study and act on the political and legislative demands of minority communities nationwide. The group's pioneering efforts in Quitman and Cohoma Counties in Mississippi, along with civil rights leader John Lewis and, my brother, Sander Levin (both of whom now serve in the House) helped to mark a new and powerful political and participatory direction for the people of the Mississippi Delta. Wise and loyal colleagues—Gordon Alexander, Jackie Parker, Judy Jackson, Willa Rawls Dumas, Alan Boyd, Dora Jean Malachi, Mattie Barrow and Bob Parker—declared Bill their leader. The group moved ahead and soon designed the legendary mission to the Mississippi Delta; and, under the direction of Julian Bond of the then-Southern Elections Fund, pursued other worthy political initiatives.

Mr. President, I would like to include in the RECORD the names of the members of the William J. Beckham, Jr. Memorial Committee, all of whom were former staff colleagues of Bill's during his tenure of Federal service, including my current Deputy Legislative Director, Jackie Parker. These devoted friends and former colleagues organized this week's great tribute to Bill and will be attesting, along with others, to the truly incredible life that Bill led and the impact he had on their lives. I ask their names be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

WILLIAM J. BECKHAM, JR., MEMORIAL
COMMITTEE

Gordon Alexander, Legislative Assistant, former Senator Birch Bayh, *President, 40+ Parenting, Inc.

Robert Bates, former Special Assistant, Senator EDWARD KENNEDY.

Alan Boyd, Senior Aide, former Senator Clifford Case, *Charitable Games Control Board.

George Dalley, former Chief of Staff, Rep. CHARLES RANGEL.

Winifred Donaldson, Chief of Staff, former Rep. Andy Jacobs.