misleadingly labeled this pill an "emergency contraceptive," it operates not as a true contraceptive but as an abortifacient. That is, it does not prevent conception, but instead ensures the expulsion of the unborn child from the womb, causing its death.

As Congress reviews the free trade negotiations currently underway between the United States and Chile, the Chilean government's apparent failure to comply with its own benign laws regarding protection of human life from the moment of conception has become a factor in my consideration. For pro-life Members of Congress, admiration for Chile's continuing commitment to unborn children is an important reason to want to have a close and positive relationship with Chile. We believe Chile and other countries that still protect their unborn children should be commended and rewarded for setting an example to other nations, including the United States, whose courts or legislatures have imposed a legal regime that treats unborn children not as human beings to be nurtured and protected, but as disposable objects. I am sure that other Members of Congress who admire Chile's legal protection of unborn children will share my concern about reports that the government has taken actions in violation of that legal protection.

As the United States moves forward in our relations with Chile, I hope the Chilean government will consistently follow its own enlightened pro-life laws. I commend Chile for these laws, which reflect a consistent ethic of life over death.

BAXTER HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to rise and recognize an important international company whose headquarters are located in my congressional district, Baxter Healthcare Corporation. Baxter is a global medical products and services company with a mission of delivering critical therapies for people with lifethreatening conditions. Their products and services are used to treat patients with many conditions including cancer, trauma, hemophilia, immune deficiencies, infectious diseases, kidney disease and other disorders.

Baxter was named one of the 100 Best Corporate Citizens by "Business Ethics" magazine and just a few weeks ago received the Business Ethics Award from DePaul University for its special dedication and innovative approaches to integrating ethics into everyday business practices. Baxter has also received more than 250 awards from the government or outside organizations for its environmental, health and safety initiatives in the last ten years.

I stand here today welcoming Baxter employees from my district and others who are arriving in Washington, DC today to share their experiences and personal stories. They will be meeting with me and other Members to inform and discuss with us the important work they are doing to assist individuals with lifethreatening conditions. I look forward to their presence on Capitol Hill and I send out my sincere welcome.

HONORING KATHLEEN MASTBETH

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a woman who has dedicated her life to the pursuit of learning and sharing the gift of knowledge with her students. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Kathleen Mastbeth, an educator in East Rutherford, New Jersey, who was recently honored by that town for her service. In fact, June, 2001 has been declared "Kathleen Mastbeth Month" by the East Rutherford Education Community.

For 33 years, Kathleen Mastbeth has brought her creativity and imagination to the profession of teaching. She was well loved by both her colleagues as well as the many students whose lives she touched. There is no doubt that her work will be greatly missed by the students of East Rutherford.

However, her efforts will always be felt. I am reminded of Henry Adams' saying that, "A teacher affects eternity; they can never tell where their influence stops."

People who give so much of themselves, as Kathleen Mastbeth, do not do so for the recognition. However, she certainly deserves to receive it.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate Kathleen Mastbeth as well as her family on the occasion of this well deserved tribute from the town of East Rutherford, New Jersey, and wish them health and happiness in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO KIM KIMBERLY McDANIEL

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to your attention the good work of Kim Kimberly McDaniel. Ms. McDaniel passed away on March 28, 2001. I was contacted by several constituents in my home town of Albuquerque, New Mexico wishing to honor her life and work. She is missed by friends, family and those she served through her street ministry.

Kim was a life-long resident of Albuquerque, well known in the community for the past 25 years for ministering to the homeless. She gained pleasure and contentment by serving and giving to others. No job was too big or too small for her to take on—collecting clothing, driving people to doctor appointments, assisting in job searches, distributing food—all with a focus on getting people back into society through kind and compassionate treatment.

Through her work Kim Kimberly McDaniel made a difference in the lives of many, one person at a time. Please join me in honoring her life and her memory.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVER-SARY OF SAINT JAMES CHURCH IN MILLSTADT, ILLINOIS

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 150th Anniversary of Saint James Church in Millstadt, Illinois.

This event is truly a milestone in the history of the St. James Parish. The parish was founded in 1851 in Millstadt. In 1863, a brick structure was completed to house the church. In 1881, a fire consumed the church leaving only the bell tower intact. Soon after that, the present church was constructed around what remained after the fire.

The parish serves over 600 families representing 1300 parishioners. St. James is also active in the community, sponsoring a Parish Festival in August and a Dinner Auction in November. St. James also boasts an active quilting group, an Over 50 Club and sponsors numerous blood drives. The school has over 150 students enrolled and last September, the parish opened an early childhood center.

Churches are the backbone of every community. With each church spire that dots our area, each one represents a community of people. St. James has served the community of Millstadt for the past 150 years and will serve the community far into the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Saint James Church on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary and to recognize their service to the community.

TRIBUTE TO MELVYN J. KATES, SPECIAL AMBASSADOR OF GOODWILL

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, the International Visitors Council of Metropolitan Detroit is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to present the unique culture of Metro Detroit to distinguished visitors from around the world through its social, economic, and educational diversity. This year, as the International Visitors Council held its Gala Celebration on May 18, 2001, they honored Melvyn J. Kates as Special Ambassador of Goodwill, for his outstanding dedication and support of the IVC mission.

Longtime IVC advocate and distinguished lawyer, Melvyn Kates has demonstrated remarkable commitment and support throughout the years to both the American and International communities. With an interest in social and civic activism, Kates has served his community well through positions as a Precinct Delegate of the 13th Democratic District, an Alternate State Central Committee Member, and with professional affiliation with the American Bar Association, the Michigan Bar Association, the Wolverine Bar Association and the Polish Bar Association. His hard work and leadership efforts have earned him several awards, among them the Office of Wayne

County Executive Distinguished Service Award and the YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit's Community Service Award, as well as proclamations and tributes from the Detroit City Council, the City of Detroit Office of the Mayor, the State of Michigan House of Representatives, and the State of Michigan Senate.

As a Citizen Ambassador faithfully committed to the mission of the International Visitors Council, Kates has dedicated his time and talents to hosting meetings, fundraisers and receptions for Detroiters and honorable guests from around the world. Opening his home and his heart to international visitors from Europe, Asia and Africa, he has taken it upon himself to ensure that visitors leave Detroit with a positive impression of the city and its citizens.

I applaud the International Visitors Council of Metropolitan Detroit and Special Ambassador Melvyn Kates for their leadership and commitment. I know that Melvyn is honored by this recognition and I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting him for his exemplary years of service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, due to pressing legislative matters in my district, I will not be present for this weekend's series of votes. Please excuse my absence,

and thank you for your understanding.

THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2002

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a bill to authorize the operations of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) for Fiscal Year 2002.

Patents, and intellectual property in general, have been part of American jurisprudence and our national economy since the founding of the Republic. George Washington signed a patent bill early in his first term as President, and Abraham Lincoln (himself a patent owner) was quoted as saying that the patent system "added the fuel of interest to the fire of genius." But for the most part, this subject matter—dry and arcane, the province of engineers armed with law degrees—has never inspired great interest for the public. In fact, I am hard-pressed to identify two words which are better suited to induce sleep in the average lay person than "patent law."

My good-natured jab at patent lawyers notwithstanding, Lincoln got it right, as he so often did. The Founding Fathers were prescient enough to understand that for the young nation to survive, its economy had to flourish. This is why our Constitution (Article I, section 8) actually includes provisions authorizing Congress to protect patent owners and their rights. More than 200 hundred years and six-million patents later, the economy and the country are the better for it. Our patent laws have enabled individuals and businesses to produce marvelous inventions that touch us in ways which we take for granted but which enhance the quality of our lives on a daily basis. For that matter, patents are the very life's blood of certain industries, as any biotech executive will acknowledge. Try raising a half-billion dollars in capital to bring a cancer treatment to market without patent protection for the underlying work.

Unfortunately, the PTO is not currently providing adequate service to individuals and businesses. Innovators must obtain prompt and reasonable evaluations from the PTO on whether they can acquire patents if they are to make sound businesses decisions. The PTO is now taking more than 25 months from filing to process a patent application to a patent, and the latest projections show it will take an average of 38.6 months by 2006. I am fearful that the agency simply does not have the resources that will allow it to provide quality patents, especially in such emerging areas as biotechnology and business methods. On top of these problems, the PTO has been unable to adopt the latest information technology that could allow it to provide better service to the public and more efficient patent and trademark processing.

If one accepts my point—that patents are vital to the sustenance of our economy—then I hope another point begins to resonate more forcefully among my colleagues. Since 1992, the U.S. Congress, with the participation of each Administration, has steadily diverted money out of the PTO to other programs. This practice imposes an unfair tax on inventors. because unlike most federal programs, the PTO does not receive stipend from the General Treasury. Instead, it raises all of the avenue needed to operate through the collection of user fees imposed on inventors who file for patent protection and businesses that file for trademark registration at the agency. In addition, the diversion of revenue from PTO to other programs only inhibits the expeditious issuance of patents and occasionally compromises the actual quality of some patents granted, thereby subjecting them to challenge in legal and administrative settings.

The bottom line is that time is money in the patent world; and with more money, the PTO can issue quality patents faster, which means more investment, more jobs, and greater wealth for American industry. The same is true for trademarks. When businesses develop new products or new brand names for existing products, early federal registration of the name, logo, or symbol is necessary to protect rights and avoid expensive litigation.

My bill would help to correct this problem by authorizing the agency to keep all of the fee revenue it raises in Fiscal Year 2002. At the same time, however, this authorization would still be subject to the availability of appropriations, meaning that the PTO must still convince the appropriators that the agency needs and will properly spend any extra funds. In addition, and consistent with this emphasis on oversight, the legislation sets forth two problem areas that PTO should address in the coming year, irrespective of its overall budget: First, the PTO Director is required to develop an electronic system for the filing and processing of all patent and trademark applications that is user friendly and that will allow the Office to process and maintain electronically the contents and history of all applications. Fifty-million dollars are earmarked for this project in each of Fiscal Years 2002 and 2003 for this purpose. Second, the Director, in consultation with the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees, must develop a strategic plan that set forth the goals and methods by which PTO will enhance patent and trademark quality, reduce pendency, and develop a 21st Century electronic system for the benefit of filers, examiners, and the general public.

Mr. Speaker, the Patent and Trademark Office Authorization Act of 2002 will allow the patent and trademark communities to get more bang for their filing and maintenance buck, while enhancing the likelihood that the agency will receive greater appropriations in the upcoming Fiscal Year. It is a bill that benefits the PTO, its users, and the American economy. I urge my colleagues to support it.

TWENTY YEARS OF AIDS

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, on June 5th of 1981, the first official report on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome was published. Twenty years later, the AIDS pandemic has claimed the lives of more than 20 million people worldwide. In my home state of Illinois alone, over 15,000 people have perished in the last twenty years.

36 million people worldwide are presently living with HIV/AIDS. Nearly 70% of those reside in Sub-Saharan Africa. In Zimbabwe, one out of every four adults has HIV. The HIV infection rate in Asia will out-pace that of Africa within the next decade.

In Illinois, 35,000 people are living with HIV/ AIDS. HIV infection is growing at an alarming rate among women and African Americans. The demographics of those infected with AIDS in Illinois mirrors that of our nation.

There is hope. Twenty years ago, surviving the AIDS virus was impossible. Today, people in developed countries can manage living with HIV, while it is still a death sentence in the developing world. In 1986, I suggested to Congressman John Porter that the U.S. Congress start an International AIDS Control Program. He joined forces with Representative Bob Mrazek, and the program was born. Today, the United States is the leader in the fight against AIDS with so much more to do. Twenty years and we are finally fighting AIDS.

HONORING LYNN SULLIVAN

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a woman who has dedicated her life to the pursuit of learning and sharing the gift of knowledge with her students. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lynn Sullivan, an educator in East Rutherford, New Jersey, who was recently honored by that town for her service. In fact, June, 2001 has been declared "Lynn Sullivan Month" by the East Rutherford Education Community.