

at its 22nd Annual COPE Benefit Dinner on July 27, 2001.

Alice Bulos has played an integral role in our nation's political arena and our community's heritage for decades. She has worked tirelessly to encourage the participation of minorities in the political process and the empowerment of Filipina and other Asian-American women in their personal and professional lives. As a long-time political activist and as an adviser to President Clinton on the Federal Council on Aging, Alice Bulos has given voice to the concerns of millions of disenfranchised and needy Americans.

Alice Bulos is known as the "Godmother of Filipino American Politics." Together with her late husband Dony Bulos, she founded the Filipino American Grassroots Movement, a voter registration drive designed to involve Filipinos in the political process. She continues to serve as Chair of the Filipino American Caucus and has been outspoken on the rights and benefits due Filipino veterans who served during World War II. Alice has also served as the Charter President of the Fil-Am Democratic Club in San Mateo County, the Regional Chair of the National Filipino American Women's Network, and as a Board member of the National Asian/Pacific Democratic Council.

Community work is synonymous with Alice Bulos. Very few have done as much. She's a Board Member of the San Mateo County Chapters of the American Heart Association, the American Lung Association and the American Red Cross. She also serves on the Board of the Community Initiative on Multiculturalism and the Northern California Disaster Preparedness Network.

Alice Bulos has been an effective advocate on behalf of a number of other under-represented groups. She has led the effort to secure rights for workers at San Francisco International Airport by helping them join and organize labor unions. Alice has also worked to organize a coalition for Asian Pacific women to provide them with forums for education and business, and she has also established a support group for widows, focusing on self-esteem, self-respect, and independence.

In 1993, President Clinton appointed Alice Bulos to the Federal Council on Aging where she advised and assisted the President on matters relating to older Americans. Recognizing her exemplary work, the President again called upon Alice Bulos to serve in another advisory role—this time as a delegate to the 1995 White House Conference on Aging.

Alice is the widow of Donnie B. Bulos, a distinguished lawyer, and fellow political activist. She is the proud mother of Elizabeth, married to Carlos Ramilo, and has three magnificent grandchildren, Charity, Charles, and Clarke.

Mr. Speaker, Alice Peña Bulos is an extraordinary individual, a respected political and community leader, and a dearly valued friend. We are a better county, a better country, and a better people because of her. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this distinguished woman for all she has done and continues to do to make the American dream come true for others and to help keep the promise of democracy to everyone.

TRIBUTE TO MS. KIMBERLY A. SHELLMAN OF THE D.C. CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Ms. Kim Shellman as she finishes her duties here in Washington and moves to Atlanta to continue her work with children. Kim has been the founder, the inspiration and the blood, sweat and tears of Safe Shores—the D.C. Children's Advocacy Center. Since she first began working to provide the District of Columbia with its own child advocacy center over five years ago, she has brought professionalism, a tireless enthusiasm and a heart bigger than this city to the task. The D.C. Children's Advocacy Center is a non-profit, private-public partnership that coordinates an inter-agency team approach to child abuse cases in the District. It is modeled after the National Children's Advocacy Center that I started in Huntsville, Alabama, when I served there as District Attorney before my election to Congress. It is a joy to see something you started take off. The D.C. Children's Advocacy Center has shown us that the model can be successfully adapted in urban settings and with the unique government structure of the District.

Kim has accomplished an amazing amount here in Washington, and I have no doubt she will continue to excel in her new position in Atlanta. She has the unique ability to work with a system and sort through the bureaucracy to ensure that what's most important—our children—are being taken care of. The Children's Advocacy movement believes in putting the needs of abused children first and Kim embodies that belief. Throughout her career, she has sought out ways to help children within the confines of the justice system. As an elementary school teacher, volunteer at a Dominican orphanage, the Director of a tutoring program, a legal intern with the Family Division, a law clerk for the Presiding Judge of the Family Division at D.C. Superior Court, and finally as the Executive Director of Safe Shores, Kim has given freely of her talents, wisdom and energy to children. She has been recognized for her work with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 1998 Commissioner's Award for Outstanding Leadership and Service in the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect.

Kim has done everything for Safe Shores from supervising staff and team agencies to accounting to drafting policies and procedures to coordinating capital campaigns. She has been on the frontlines of child abuse prevention and treatment for over five years. Her success can be measured through each child that has gone through her program and has benefited from Safe Shores' services. She has been a tremendous asset for the district and we are sorry to see her go. We do, however, wish her the best as she begins her new job working with the Fulton County District Attorney's office to build a model CAC program there in Atlanta, Georgia. The children of Atlanta are very fortunate to have Kim on their side. On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I wish Kim the best and sincerely thank her for going above and beyond the call of her duty on behalf of children.

TRIBUTE TO JACKIE DAVIS

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Arkansan and outstanding law enforcement officer. I am proud to recognize Jackie Davis in the Congress for his invaluable contributions and service to his community, to our state, and to our nation.

Cabot Police Chief Jackie Davis is a life long resident of northern Lonoke County, Arkansas and started his public service career as a volunteer firefighter with the Tri-Community Fire Department, where he served for approximately two years. Chief Davis then became a volunteer firefighter at the Cabot Fire Department, where he served until hired by the Cabot Police Department on August 1, 1985.

Since joining the Cabot Police Department, Chief Davis has advanced through the ranks of the Department, holding several positions including Patrol Officer, Senior Patrol Officer, Sergeant, and Lieutenant. Chief Davis has witnessed the rapid growth of the City of Cabot throughout his career as a police officer. Chief Davis was promoted to Chief of Police in 1997 and has demonstrated his proven ability to lead a progressive police department.

Chief Davis and his wife Kim are very active in the community, supporting various public programs and school activities. Chief Davis supports his children Todd, Alex, Tara and Stacy in their various hobbies and activities, specifically academic and athletic events.

Chief Davis is truly a "cop's cop" and his open door policy and listening ear have made him a positive mentor and leader for his officers. There is an old police saying, "every good cop stays a rookie at heart." Chief Davis is a fine example of what a Chief should be.

Jackie Davis is a law enforcement officer, a husband, a father, and a friend to many. He has dedicated his life to serving his fellow citizens as a leader in both his profession and his community, and he deserves our respect and gratitude for his priceless contributions. On behalf of the Congress, I extend congratulations and best wishes to my good friend Jackie Davis on his successes and achievements.

PENNSAUKEN HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate the hard work and effort of the Pennsauken High School Jazz Band. The Band has performed at the Inauguration of Christine Whitman, Penns Landing in Philadelphia, Lincoln Center in New York City and various colleges and universities. They have won the Dixie Classics Championship and several other distinguished honors such as Best Rhythm Section, Best Trumpet Section, Best Trombone Section, outstanding soloist awards and many overall outstanding band awards. The Pennsauken Jazz

Band secured 2nd place in the New Jersey State Finals, along with awards for the best trumpet section and rhythm section in the State. Additionally, the band has received a Superior Rating at every festival they have performed in. The members of the Spring 2000 Jazz band are: Zachary Andrews; Frank Cuccio; Kristin Cuccio; Julia DePasquale; Anthony DiDomenico; Steven Engel; Eli Ferrer; Steven Forrest; Tim Gerard; Rob Hill; Christine Hinton; Rich Johnson; Ken Juray; Brian Kilpatrick; Nathan Kranefeld; Joe Lucidi; Jim MacKenzie; Ben Markowitz; Corey Mossop; Louis Muzyczek; Dominic Natale; Jeff Rivera; Rich Slack; Ernest Stuart; Perry Sutton; Vincent Williams. I wish you all the best and continued success in your endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ROUND II EZ/EC FLEXIBILITY ACT

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Round II EZ/EC Flexibility Act of 2001, bipartisan legislation I introduced yesterday with my colleague from New Jersey, Mr. LOBIONDO.

The bill we introduced makes a number of small changes to the EZ/EC program that will provide these communities with greater flexibility in administering their economic development plans. Specifically, the bill authorizes \$100 million in appropriations for each of the fifteen urban Empowerment Zones, \$40 million for each of the five rural Empowerment Zones, and \$3 million for each of the twenty rural Enterprise Communities.

The legislation also ensures that Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities that apply for one of the new Renewal Community designations will continue to receive the EZ/EC funding they were promised in 1999. Finally, the bill allows these communities to use their funding as the local match for receiving grants from other federal programs. This will help EZ/EC communities leverage additional resources to undertake economic development initiatives and provide job training and other vital social services.

Mr. LOBIONDO and I have worked hard over the last several years to secure funding for the communities across the nation that were designated as Round II Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities. We both know first hand the successes of the EZ/EC program, and we will continue to work together in a bipartisan manner to ensure that these communities are allocated the resources they need to bring economic opportunity to all Americans.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CONTACT LENS PRESCRIPTION RELEASE ACT OF 2001

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today I join with several colleagues to introduce bipartisan legislation, the Contact Lens Prescription Release

Act of 2001. This bill would enhance consumer fairness in the contact lens industry by requiring eyecare professionals to release contact lens prescriptions after completing the fitting process.

Currently, consumers throughout the United States enjoy unobstructed access to their eyeglass prescriptions. That's because back in 1973, the Federal Trade Commission issued a regulation requiring the automatic release of eyeglass prescriptions. Through this regulation, the FTC recognized that possession of both the prescription and the product constituted an unfair advantage for eye doctors and that consumers could safely manage their eyeglass prescriptions.

At the time, it made sense that this rule was not extended to contact lenses, which were a brand new technology. Furthermore, most were hard lenses that needed to be ground and fitted to each particular eye. Today, the contact lens market looks very different. Thirty-four million Americans wear contact lens and 85% of them choose soft contacts.

Contact lenses are fast replacing eyeglasses as the corrective instrument of choice for consumers. Yet despite this trend, in most states, prescribing eye care professionals can refuse to release contact lens prescriptions—even after patients complete the initial fitting process and even to longtime contact lens wearers who simply need their time-limited prescriptions renewed.

Eye doctors cite health concerns, yet the reality is they have a strong financial incentive to restrict consumer access to the contact lens market. Without their contact lens prescription, consumers are often forced to purchase contact lens from their prescribing eye doctor.

With contact lens wearers effectively denied the right to receive their own prescriptions, anti-competitive behavior has flourished. In fact, the American Optometric Association and Johnson & Johnson's, maker of the popular ACUVUE disposable contact lens, just reached a preliminary settlement in an anti-trust lawsuit filed by the attorneys general of 32 states.

The attorneys general alleged that defendants conspired both to force consumers to buy replacement contact lenses from eye care professionals only and to eliminate competition from alternative distributors, including pharmacies, mail-order, and Internet retailers. Contact lens manufacturers CIBA Vision and Bausch & Lomb have previously reached settlement agreements on the same charges.

While the resolution of these anti-trust lawsuits is a step toward putting contact lens wearers on equal footing with eyeglass wearers, more action is needed. Contact lens wearers must be assured the same access to their prescriptions that eyeglass wearers currently enjoy. Yet the FTC has repeatedly failed to update its rule and extend prescription release requirements to contact lenses. This does not bode well for consumers. It means that in many states, people who wear contact lens cannot shop around for the best value and quality products.

In fact, this is exactly what happened to my wife back in 1994. Despite her request, this doctor refused to release her prescription, but was more than happy to sell her contacts through his professional office. At the time, it struck me as fundamentally unfair that eye doctors stand to profit from holding their patients captive. It still does.

My wife's predicament is hardly unique. Over the past few years, Consumers Union has issued several reports detailing similar problems in Texas. A 1997 survey found that 65% of Texas optometrists refused to release contact lens prescriptions upon request, yet 91% of these same individuals did not hesitate to fill a prescription released by another eye doctor. Where are the health concerns here?

The time has more than come for contact lens wearers to enjoy the same rights as eyeglass wearers. The Contact Lens Prescription Release Act would require the FTC to promulgate a prescription release rule for contact lenses paralleling the 1973 rule for eyeglasses. This would require eyecare professionals to release a patient's contact lens prescription to the patient after completing the fitting process. Upon request, contact lens prescriptions must also be released to an agent of the patient, such as an alternate contact lens distributor. Furthermore, eyecare professionals must promptly verify the information contained in a patient's prescription when an agent of the patient contacts them for such verification. To ensure that consumers are protected from misleading advertisements, the contact Lens Prescription Release Act would also make it an unfair trade practice to state or imply that contact lenses can be purchased without a valid prescription.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in support of this important legislation, what has been endorsed by Consumers Union. There is absolutely no reason for the law to be inconsistent relative to vision correction by eyeglasses vs. contact lenses. More fundamentally, there is no reason why any American should be denied the basic right to receive their prescription, whether they wear eyeglasses, contact lenses, or both.

NASA GLENN: A REGIONAL ECONOMIC ENGINE

HON. TOM SAWYER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, Northeast Ohio is home to an outstanding NASA Agency Center bearing the name of one of our nation's true heroes, and our former colleague from the other body, John H. Glenn.

Just as John Glenn was a leader in space exploration, the NASA Glenn Research Center is a leader in aeronautics, space transportation, spacecraft technology, materials science, and even microgravity research.

NASA Glenn is an integral part of the NASA mission. But while it serves a national mission, it also serves as an incubator for industries and ideas throughout the Cleveland-Akron region and the state. The Greater Cleveland Growth Association estimates that the annual statewide spin-off from NASA Glenn comes in at nearly \$1 billion and 12,000 jobs.

In my district, one of the results has been more than 30 grants to the University of Akron, which is itself a national leader in polymer science and engineering. Polymer technology, including nanopolymer technology which builds advanced materials at a molecular level, holds great promise for NASA programs.